

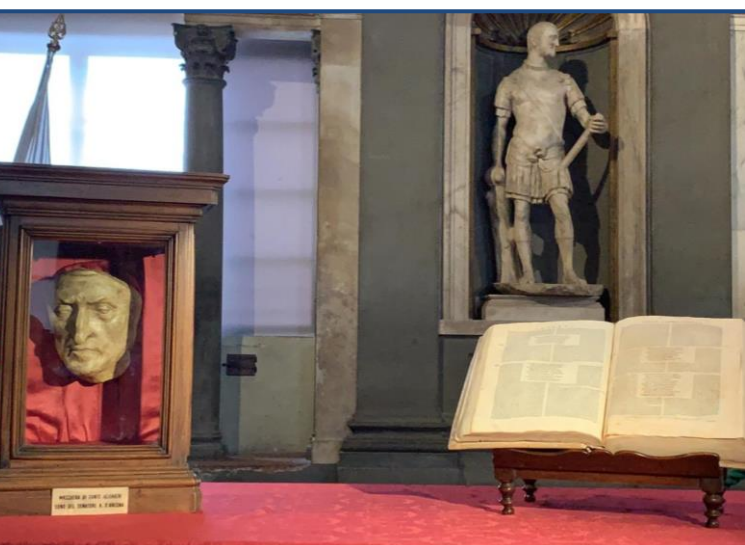


Dante, the father of the Italian language!

GADIS

If you are brave, Dante Alighieri will take you on a journey to hell, purgatory and paradise in his Divine Comedy, one of the greatest masterpieces of world literature. This year marks the 700th anniversary of his death and hardly anyone will doubt that he spent the last seven hundred years in his paradise... Modern Italian began with him: today our language is the fourth most studied language in the world, surpassing French, and brings to our country many travellers and tourists who, after reading and studying Italian, want to put their knowledge into practice.

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Services:

- 2 nights B&B in a 3* superior hotel in the centre of Florence
 - 1 dinner in a restaurant (within walking distance) with ½ L. Water and ¼ wine included
 - 3 nights HB in 4* Grand Hotel Mattei in Ravenna
 - 1 Full day guided tour in Florence on the 2nd day
 - 1 Entrance to Palazzo Vecchio
 - 1 Visit to the church of Santa Maria Novella
 - 1 Aperitif break at the "Buchetta del vino" (wine bar)
 - 1 Half-day guided tour in Florence on the 3rd day
 - 1 Entrance to Santa Croce Church
 - 1 Full day guided tour in Ravenna on the 4th day
 - 1 Visit to the following monuments:
 - San Vitale Church
 - Galla Placidia Mausoleum
 - Neoniano Baptistery and Archiepiscopal Chapel
 - 1 Visit to Dante's tomb, the Franciscan Cloisters, the San Francesco Basilica (where Dante's funeral was held)
 - 1 "Crescione" take-away (regional piadina-flatbread with ham & cheese or vegetables) with a drink
 - 1 Entrance to the TAMO museum - Dante Mosaics section
 - 1 full-day guided tour in Ravenna on the 5th day
 - 1 Entrance to the following churches:
 - Basilica of Sant'Apollinare in Classe
 - Basilica of San Giovanni Evangelista
 - Basilica of Sant'Apollinare Nuovo
- Audio guides for the whole stay

Packageprice per person
6 days, from € 436,00

Program

Day 1

Arrival and accommodation in a Hotel in Florence.
Dinner at a traditional restaurant within walking distance of the hotel.

Day 2 - Florence

A full day guided tour starts from Piazza Santa Maria Novella. Walk through Via Tornabuoni, Piazza Santa Trinità, Ponte Vecchio, the Uffizi Gallery up to the Palazzo Vecchio. There will be a guided tour of the Palazzo Vecchio where "The Mask of Death" is located. It is considered by some to be a copy of Dante's face just after his death; recent studies however, seem to affirm that it was sculpted in the late 1400s, i.e. 150 years after Dante's death!

At the end of the tour a pleasant stop with an aperitif at the special "Buchetta del Vino" in Florence (there we can choose among non-alcoholic drinks, a Spritz, a glass of red or white wine or a beer.)

Day 3 - Florence

The half day guided tour starts from the Piazza del Duomo and continues through the small alleys of the city, passing in front of Dante's Tomb to Beatrice's house up to Piazza Santa Croce. We visit the church; then, in the afternoon, we go to Ravenna.

Arrival at the Hotel, accommodation in the rooms and dinner.

Day 4 - Ravenna - Full day visit

We start the day with a visit to some "classical" monuments: the church of San Vitale, the Mausoleum of Galla Placidia, the Neoniano Baptistry and the Archiepiscopal Chapel in the homonymous museum.

We stop for a "Street Food" lunch break and taste the "Crescione", a half-moon of richly stuffed thin pasta.

The afternoon is dedicated to "the Poet": we visit Dante's Tomb, the Franciscan Cloisters, the Basilica of San Francesco (where Dante's solemn funeral was held), the "Dante's Room" of the Classense Library (site of the centenary celebrations of 1921) and the TAMO museum with the section of Mosaics dedicated to Dante made in 1965. To end the day, at 6 pm (from April to October), in front of Dante's Tomb, we attend a reading of a "canto" from the Divine Comedy.

Day 5 - Ravenna - Full day visit

With a guide, we visit the Basilica of Sant'Apollinare in Classe, then by coach we reach San Vitale, one of the remaining pinewoods, and take a panoramic tour which can show us the Basilica of Santa Maria in Porto Fuori, mentioned by Dante in his work "Paradise, Canto XXI".

To finish our full immersion tour of Ravenna dedicated to The Great Poet, we visit the Basilica of San Giovanni Evangelista and the Basilica of Sant'Apollinare Nuovo. The tour ends with a walk along Via di Roma up to the Basilica of Santa Maria in Porto (the seat of the Porto Fuori Monastery). We end our tour at the so called House of "Francesco da Polenta" in Via Zagarelli alle Mura" which is the only remaining property of the "Da Polenta" family in Ravenna. (Francesca Da Polenta was one of Dante's characters; see the famous story "Paolo and Francesca").

Day 6 - departure



Important :

Optional - extend the tour "In the footsteps of Dante Alighieri" by 2 nights and, after leaving Ravenna, continue towards Bologna and Verona.

Program as follows:

Day 6 - Bologna

Departure from Ravenna to Bologna. Half day guided city tour in Bologna where Dante spent a part of his youth. Bologna represented a "beloved nest" of poets and philosophers: a place where his intellectual enthusiasm and curiosity were encouraged.

You then reach Verona, the city of lovers.

Arrival at the hotel and overnight stay.

Day 7 - Verona

Full day guided tour in Verona. Verona was Dante's first destination after his exile from Florence. He stayed there for at least seven years and wrote part of the Divine Comedy in which there are many citations to the city and its historical characters.

The tour in Verona ends at the Montecchi house. On the facade of the so-called Romeo House you can read the quote from the enigmatic passage from the Divine Comedy, in which Dante speaks next to Shakespeare's verses about Montecchi and Cappelletti (Romeo's and Juliet's family names). Dante's heirs still live in Verona.

Overnight stay.

Day 8 - Departure

Price on request

