

# ***ITALY RAIL TOUR & MED CRUISE***



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1300 168 910



Italy Rail Tour with MSC Cruise on *World Europa* & Flights

Duration: 16 days

Stay: 7 nights hotels, 7 nights cruise cabin, overnight flight

Travel style: Tour & cruise with flights from Australia

Booking code: CRTRWE16M

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# 16 Days Italy Tour & Mediterranean Cruise with Flights

## About the holiday

This is Italy and big ship cruising through the Mediterranean at its best!

Begin the exciting journey with flights to Venice, where a walking tour will introduce you to the iconic city's prominent sites. Board the first train ride bound for Florence and following a local tour to get your bearings, spend time discovering the world's finest art and architecture at your leisure. Finally, high-speed rail whisks you to Rome, where you're free to explore the 'Eternal City', dive into the city's sumptuous culinary delights and visit the magnificent ancient sites like the Pantheon, or take an optional tour to Pompeii. The last day of the tour ends on a high, with a guided tour of the Vatican Museums and Michelangelo's breathtaking Sistine Chapel.

Next, it's time to board the impressive new MSC World Europa for a round-trip voyage from Rome. The week that follows will take you through Sicily, Malta, Spain and France.

MSC's first World-class ship began sailing in December 2022 and features seven pools, 33 restaurants, bars and lounges. The 6,774-passenger ship (at full occupancy) is more than 1,000 yards in length; spans 21 decks; has 430,000 square feet of public space, becoming the longest, tallest and biggest in the fleet - it's one of the largest cruise ships at sea but also the most environmentally-friendly.

## Why you'll love this cruise...

Discover Italy's iconic highlights on a rail tour to Venice, Florence & Rome

Enjoy MSC's amazing onboard experiences & the care-free advantages of cruising

Full days to explore Palermo, Valletta, Barcelona, Marseille & Genoa

It's great value for a luxury cruise and flights from Australia!

## Travel dates...

**2024 & 2025** - Depart select dates from October to March

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for current prices & available departures.



## Tour & Cruise package includes...

- Return economy airfares to Venice & from Rome
- Fly from Australian capital cities with a full-service airline
- Airline taxes & fuel surcharges
- 7 nights hotel accommodation with daily breakfast
  - 2 nights Venice - Hotel Carlton Capri Venice
  - 2 nights Florence - Grand Hotel Mediterraneo, Florence
  - 3 nights Rome - Hotel Villafranca Rome
- Rail Transportation between cities via Standard rail with reserved seats
- One-way transfer from Rome to cruise port
- 7 nights MED cruise on MSC World Europa round trip from Rome
- All meals and non-chargeable entertainment on cruise

## Package excludes:

Airport transfers

Meals, other than those specified & onboard the ship

Entrance fees on walking tours in Venice & Florence

Optional tours, shore excursions & speciality dining

Personal items, such as drinks, snacks, laundry, WiFi etc.

Cruise gratuities, as well as tips for guides & drivers

Travel insurance with cruise cover is essential

Prices are based on twin share, please contact us for single rates

***Subject to confirmation by airlines, hotels, cruise line & local operators.  
Cancellation fees & booking conditions apply.***

## Itinerary:

### DAY 1 - Fly to Italy

### DAY 2, - Arrive in Venice

Arrive in glorious Venice with its astonishing treasures and make your own way independently to your hotel. Spend the rest of the day at leisure, in this city built on over a hundred small islands and connected by 400 bridges

**Overnight:** Venice

### DAY 3, - Morning Walking Tour of Venice

Today, travel independently to Venice Santa Lucia Train Station, meet just outside on top of the staircase to begin a morning tour\* of Venice. Start with a boat ride to the Island of Murano, known for its artistic and colorful Murano Glassware, and witness a glass blowing demonstration. Return to Venice for a walking tour, beginning with an orientation of St. Mark's Square where you will learn about the Square's most prominent monuments including the Golden Basilica of San Marco, the Doge's Palace, the Bell and Clock Towers. Proceed to Santa Maria Formosa Square and Campo SS. Giovanni e Paolo, the second largest square in Venice. Continue to the corner of Marco Polo's House and Malibran Theater. Then, return to St. Mark's Square through the Mercerie, a series of interconnecting streets that link Rialto Bridge and St. Mark's Square, and are the main streets in the city for shopping. The remainder of the day is at leisure or you may choose an *optional* Gondola ride *\*This is a walking and orientation tour of Venice that does not include entry into any landmarks.*

**Optional:** Gondola Ride (PM)

**Overnight:** Venice

**Meals:** Breakfast

### DAY 4, Thursday - Travel to Florence by Rail and Florence Walking Tour

Travel to Florence, birthplace of the Renaissance, by high-speed rail. After check-in, travel independently to the Perseo Statue inside the Loggia dei Lanzi in Signoria Square to begin your walking tour\* of Florence in the open-air art museum. Admire the statues of the Loggia dei Lanzi, the Palazzo Vecchio before continuing to the splendid Ponte Vecchio. Walk to the magnificent Duomo, celebrated for its dome designed by Brunelleschi, and view the Baptistery's renowned "Gates of Paradise" by Ghiberti. Florence is indeed the center of the world's finest art and architecture *\*This is a walking and orientation tour of Florence that does not include entry into any landmarks.*

**Overnight:** Florence

**Meals:** Breakfast

### **DAY 5, Friday - Full Day in Florence**

Spend the entire day exploring Florence on your own, or choose to join the *optional* tour of the Accademia Gallery, where Michelangelo's David is housed; stand in awe of this glorious work of art

**Optional:** Accademia Gallery (AM)

**Overnight:** Florence

**Meals:** Breakfast

### **DAY 6, Saturday - Travel to Rome by Rail**

Today, travel via high-speed rail to Rome, the astonishing city built on seven hills. After check-in, the rest of the day is at leisure. Enjoy the ancient Roman architecture or dive into the sumptuous culinary delights which abound citywide

**Overnight:** Rome

**Meals:** Breakfast

### **DAY 7, Sunday - Full Day in Rome**

Spend the entire day exploring "The Eternal City" at leisure. Perhaps, visit the Pantheon, a magnificent ancient temple, the world's best-preserved ancient monument, that was later converted into a church and view Raphael's tomb. From here, take a stroll to the nearby beautiful Piazza Navona, to get a glimpse of the famous fountains by Bernini. Perhaps, join the *optional* tour to Pompeii. Depart Rome this morning and drive along the Sun Route to Pompeii, passing by the bay of Naples and majestic Mt. Vesuvius. After lunch, visit Pompeii, the city that was frozen in time under a thick carpet of volcanic ash almost 2,000 years ago. Return to Rome in the early evening

**Optional:** Pompeii and its ruins with lunch from Rome

**Overnight:** Rome

**Meals:** Breakfast

### **DAY 8, Monday - Vatican Museum Tour**

Today, travel independently to Caffè Vaticano, opposite the Vatican Museum entrance, to begin the guided tour of the Vatican Museums and Michelangelo's incomparable Sistine Chapel. Upon arrival, your guide will lead you into the museums where you will visit one of the most important art collections in the world. Admire the Gallery of Tapestries and the Geographical Maps before arriving to the famous Sistine Chapel with its great frescoes by Michelangelo. Stroll through St. Peter's Square, passing Bernini's famous colonnade to view St. Peter's Basilica. Afternoon is at leisure or choose to join the *optional* Ancient Rome tour to visit the fabled Colosseum and the legendary Roman Forum

**Optional:** Ancient Rome (PM)

**Overnight:** Rome

**Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 9, Tuesday - Board MSC Mediterranean Cruise

Check out of your hotel this morning, then transfer to Rome's port of Civitavecchia to check in for the 7-night MSC Mediterranean cruise aboard World Europa.

**Meals:** Breakfast

Day	Port	Arrive	Depart
Day 9	Rome (Civitavecchia), Italy		7:00pm
Day 10	Palermo, Sicily, Italy	9:00am	5:00pm
Day 11	Valletta, Malta	10:00am	6:00pm
Day 12	At Sea		
Day 13	Barcelona, Spain	7:00am	6:00pm
Day 14	Marseille, France	8:00am	6:00pm
Day 15	Genoa, Italy	8:00am	6:00pm
Day 16	Rome (Civitavecchia), Italy	7:00am	

## DAY 16: Disembark in Rome, Fly to Australia

Disembark this morning and catch a taxi from the cruise port to the airport for flights to Australia.

**Please note: The day-by-day schedule is intended as an indicative guide only. Travel by nature is unpredictable. Weather patterns, ocean conditions, public holidays, travel restrictions and many other factors may necessitate itinerary changes that are ultimately for the client's benefit. It is essential that clients are flexible in this regard.**

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## About the MSC cruise

MSC World Europa marks a new class of ship for MSC Cruises. The line's first World-class ship began sailing from Doha in December 2022 and features seven pools, 33 restaurants, bars and lounges. The kids' club and MSC Yacht Club are the largest in the fleet. Additional new venues include the Panorama Lounge (Deck 8) and the 300-seat Luna Park Arena (Deck 5 & 6) for movies, kids entertainment and game shows.

MSC World Europa deck plan and design reflects one of the world's biggest and most environmentally friendly ships. The 6,774-passenger ship (at full occupancy) is more than 1,000 yards in length; spans 21 decks; has 430,000 square feet of public space, becoming the longest, tallest and biggest in the fleet - and one of the largest cruise ships at sea.

One of the first things passengers will notice about MSC World Europa is its striking design from the exterior. As well as the Y-shaped aft, the bow takes a futuristic bulbous shape, contributing to the ship's efficiency in the water. In addition to being LNG-powered, a source of electricity and heat onboard, the ship also taps into shore-to-ship power where possible and employs enhanced recycling and waste management systems.

MSC World Europa embraces a carnival-style ambiance with nearly round-the-clock entertainment. There's a buzzy new 113-yard World Promenade on Deck 8 and the impromptu performances that pop up here. Reminiscent of Royal Caribbean's Boardwalk, the half-open space is centered on the 11-deck dry slide - the largest of its kind at sea - called Venom Drop @ The Spiral. This coiling dry slide in the middle of the deck is spectacular.

Also on Deck 8, World Galleria is a beautiful space filled with drinking, dining and entertainment venues, with the LED-sky screen featured above similar in design to those on the Meraviglia class of ships.

Deck 8 is bookended by the ship's two main show spaces, the all-new Panorama Lounge for music and dance shows, and the World Theatre, where five new shows will be on the program (Eko, Amelia, A Night on Broadway, Cadmo The Landwalke and Yellow Submarine).

If you're travelling with children, don't expect to see much of them onboard. The ship's Deck 19 kids club, Doremiland, is the largest in the fleet, while the 300-seat Luna Park Arena (Deck 6 & 7) also offers kids' activities and movie showings. There's more: Bumper cars; roller-skating; arcade games; drone masterclasses, waterslides and an addictive zombie-themed VR game.

MSC World Europa features 13 dining venues, including six specialty restaurants, two of which are new:

- Chef's Garden Kitchen (Deck 8), replacing L'Atelier Bistrot, features an open kitchen and a glass-encased floor-to-ceiling growing space where micro herbs and other greens are grown onboard.
- La Pescaderia (Deck 8) has a focus on Greek and other Mediterranean dishes with an outdoor seating area for alfresco dining on the World Promenade.
- The inclusive Luna Park Pizza & Burger (Deck 6) serves outstanding slices of pizza and other fast food options opposite the new Luna Park Arena.
- Returning regulars include American-style steakhouse Butcher's Cut, Asian-inspired Kaito Teppanyaki Grill and Sushi Bar, Latin American street food-inspired Hola! Tacos & Cantina and Jean-Philippe Chocolate & Cafe.
- Masters of the Sea Pub is split across two decks and three craft brews on board in special copper vats installed as a showpiece in the bar.

Another new concept is Elixir -- Mixology Bar with elaborate signature cocktails, a South Asian-style tea room filled with perfumes from the East, an authentic Emporium coffee bar with selections from around the world, a widely stocked Gin Project inspired by a real distillery, a zesty juice bar made from fresh ingredients and a gelateria. There's also a new cafe, Coffee Emporium, serving bean-to-cup coffee and indulgent pastries and cakes.

Among the new venues on this super-size ship is the Raj Polo Tea House (Deck 8), which reminds us of a lounge you might find at the Raffles Singapore or a luxurious Four Seasons hotel. There's no sign of bling or sparkles here; simply muted colours, plush furnishings and a relaxed vibe where soothing cups of chai and afternoon tea are served. Follow the passage to the left of the venue to see a gallery of teas, tea traditions, a map showing where the teas are produced and artifacts relating to this much-loved drink.





## **BOOKING CONDITIONS**

### **Please read the following information prior to making your reservation**

Our full set of terms and conditions can be [viewed and downloaded on our website](#), or supplied on request from our office. We highly recommend you read My Travel Experience booking conditions prior to making your holiday reservations. This is the contract under which both parties enter, therefore we request that you only make a booking if you agree with these conditions.

#### **This is a summary in brief for our customers:**

1. Upon making a reservation with My Travel Experience you will receive a booking form, which needs to be filled out and signed to confirm that you agree to the terms and conditions.
2. Your booking will then be confirmed to you in writing and you will be required to pay a deposit to hold your reservation.
3. At this time, you must take out travel insurance for your holiday to protect you against any unforeseen circumstances.
4. 120 days prior to departure you will be asked to make the balance payment for your trip (the exact due date for your travel supplier will be advised at the time of booking).
5. 10 days prior to departure you will be sent your travel documents via email.

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If you wish to cancel you must notify us of your cancellation in writing. We will then write to the Suppliers to cancel your booking and request a refund (if applicable) for any elements of your holiday that are refundable. You will need to make an insurance claim for any travel arrangements that are non-refundable. If you have any issues during the refund or cancellation process, you have 30 days to contact our office in writing to lodge a complaint so an immediate resolution can be found for you.

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