Join us on a two-week exploration of stunning art and architecture in Venice and its hinterland, Ferrara, Padua, Ravenna, Bologna, and Modena, experiencing quintessential Italian operas in historic venues (***Adriana Lecouvreur*** at La Fenice and ***Nabucco*** at Bologna's Teatro Comunale), as well as the intimate connection between music and the city of Venice, immersed in a **Baroque concert** at the magnificent Scuola Grande dei Carmini!

Space is limited to 22 participants; reservations will be accepted on a first-come basis.

To pre-register for the tour, please click on the "reservation" link below and enter the required information. We will send you a reservation form. Your space will be reserved when we receive the signed form and deposit.

DO NOT MAKE ANY NON-REFUNDABLE FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS UNTIL YOUR RESERVATION HAS BEEN CONFIRMED BY US!

Prices per person for the two-week tour:

$5,995 sharing a double/twin
$7,495 single occupancy

♦ ♦ ♦

Prices are stated in US Dollars, calculated at an exchange rate of $1.12 to the Euro.

Day-by-Day Tour Itinerary

DEPART FOR VENICE (October 25, 2027)

United/Lufthansa, Delta/Air France/KLM, British Air, and ITA offer convenient, one-change flights from Houston to Venice, returning from Bologna. At least one of them will provide similar service from major hubs.

VENICE (October 26 to 31)

We start in Venice, the modern world's oldest and longest lasting republic, which in its heyday attracted Europe's finest architects, sculptors, artisans and dreamers, including Casanova, Marco Polo, Tintoretto, Titian, Canaletto and Veronese.The city is filled with Byzantine, Gothic, and Renaissance treasures everywhere you look.

During our four full days (5 nights) in Venice, we will offer two guided tours by our favorite guide/art historian Dr. Susan Steer, a representative of the **Venice in Peril Fund** (the leading British charity dedicated to safeguarding the rich cultural heritage of Venice). The tours led by Susan will focus on Venetian art and architecture, including the **Scuola di San Giorgio degli Schiavoni**, which has a wonderful cycle of paintings by 15th-century master Carpaccio; the magnificent historic residence of the **Querini Stampalia** family, offering an extraordinary insight into the lifestyle, tastes, and mindset of the 18th-century Venetian aristocracy; **S. Zaccaria**, which boasts an outstanding altarpiece by Bellini; **S. Maria dei Miracoli**, considered an architectural masterpiece of early Renaissance; and **SS. Giovanni e Paolo**, a vast Gothic church containing magnificent Renaissance funerary monuments and paintings by prominent Renaissance artists such as Bellini, Veronese, and Bassano; and by special entry, **Chiesa della Pietà**, once part of Ospedale della Pietà, an institution for unwanted and abandoned children. Between 1703 and 1740, Antonio Vivaldi, the "Red Priest," concertmaster and violin teacher at the Pietà, wrote unparalleled music for the orchestra of young women. Our visit includes the galleries where the choir of girls would perform during liturgical celebrations, hidden behind a gilt metal grille, and the exceptional collection of Baroque musical instruments from Vivaldi's era.

You will also have the option of taking one or both of two additional tours in Venice: **a basic tour (St. Marks, the Doge's Palace, Rialto bridge)** and an art-focused itinerary including the **Franciscan church of Sta. Maria Gloriosa dei Frari**, which has outstanding artworks including Titian's *Assumption*, and the **Scuola Grande di S. Rocco**, with dramatic paintings by Tintoretto.

Prices include

5 nights at the
Barocci Palace
Venice

♦

3 nights at the
Annunziata Hotel
Ferrara

♦

4 nights at the
Hotel Internazionale
Bologna

♦ ♦ ♦

Breakfast each day

♦

Lunch or dinner on 7 days

♦

Ground transportation by private coach and motorboat

♦

Visits and tours as described in the right column

♦

TIckets to two operas, one each at La Fenice in Venice and at the Teatro Communale in Bologna, and to a Baroque Concert in Venice

♦

Additional performances as available and at extra cost

♦

Airport transfers from Marco Polo Airport, Venice on October 26 and to Marconi Airport, Bologna on November 7

We will also offer an optional trip to the small islands of **Torcello, Mazzorbo,** and **Burano** in the Venetian lagoon. Once the rival of Venice, virtually all that remains of Torcello is the magnificent Veneto-Byzantine cathedral with its 12th-century mosaics. We will indulge in a wine tasting in Mazzorbo before strolling through the colorful streets of Burano, known for the "Burano lace" created by the expert women of the island.

Our musical offerings in Venice include:

- On October 28, we attend Francesco Cilea's ***Adriana Lecouvreur*** conducted by Riccardo Frizza, in a co-production between the Teatro Lirico di Cagliari and Abao Bilbao Opera.
- On October 30, a concert by the **Venice Music Project** will allow us to experience the intimate connection between music and the city of Venice, immersed in the magnificent**Scuola Grande dei Carmini**, where melodies from the past resonate in a space that amplifies their beauty. Before the performance, you can visit the halls of the Scuola, admiring paintings by Tiepolo and carvings that decorate the interiors — a unique chance to "listen" to Venice's visual and architectural history.
- On October 29, you have the option of attending a symphony concert at La Fenice. Under the baton of Riccardo Frizza, La Fenice Orchestra performs Respighi's *Fountains of Rome*, Alfredo Casella's *The Jar, and* Shostakovich's 10th Symphony.

FERRARA (October 31 to November 3)

The Veneto region is famous for its splendid villas. At the end of the 16th century, some patrician Venetian families chose to invest their immense riches into major agricultural enterprises in this area, and villas arose along the banks of the Brenta river. Later, villas were also built as summer getaways for rich and powerful Venetians, designed primarily to impress. On our way to Ferrara, we will visit **Villa Widmann-Rezzonico**, an 18th-century architectural jewel; and **Villa Foscari,** the only one along the Riviera del Brenta designed by the famous architect Palladio. Known as "La Malcontenta" ("the sorrowful lady"), this suburban residence looks like an ancient Roman temple; its subdued exterior appearance, centered on symmetry and classical proportions, conceals sumptuous interior frescoes.

Under the rule of the powerful Este family, **Ferrara** flourished as an intellectual and artistic center that attracted the greatest minds of the Italian Renaissance. In its heyday, the city state was on a par with Florence and Venice or with other great European courts in France or Spain. Our guided tour of its historic center will include the beautifully preserved **Ferrara Cathedral** and **Palazzo dei Diamanti**, home to the **National Gallery of Ferrara**, displaying important Ferrarese art with a special focus on the Renaissance.

One day is dedicated to **Padua**, the city of St. Anthony and the site of Italy's second oldest university. We will explore its most treasured landmarks including the **Scrovegni Chapel** (frescoed with the most complete and best-preserved work by Giotto) and the **Basilica of Saint Anthony**, boasting a stunning blend of Romanesque, Gothic, and Byzantine architecture and housing a treasure trove of artworks by Giotto, Donatello, Titian, Pietro, Antonio and Tullio Lombardo, and Tiepolo.

Ferrara's Teatro Comunale has not announced its season; we hope for a musical performance while we are there.

BOLOGNA (November 3 to 7)

We have secured the services of a PhD art historian to guide us in and around Bologna to make our visits even more special.

Home to the world's oldest university in continuous operation (founded in 1088), Bologna is renowned for its medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque charm. Our walking tour will take us to the main square, **San Petronio Basilica**, **Archiginnasio Palace** (seat of the university and its Anatomical Theater), the leaning **Two Towers** (symbol of Bologna), and the **Quadrilatero** area (the historic market district).

One day is reserved for **Ravenna**, a city renowned for its extraordinary artistic heritage. In 402 AD, Emperor Honorius moved the capital of the Western Roman Empire there, which transformed the provincial town into a powerful religious, cultural, and political center. On our agenda are masterpieces of Byzantine art: **Basilica of San Vitale**, **the mausoleum of Galla Placidia**, and two landmarks of early Christianity, the **Neonian and Arian Baptisteries**.

A free day will allow you to spend time as you wish in Bologna. You might want to visit the collections of the National Gallery (boasting paintings by Raphael, Giotto, Guido Reni, Tintoretto, Perugino, Titian); the Santo Stefano complex of "seven churches;" or the International Music Museum and Library, housed in the 16th-century Palazzo Sanguinetti, among the finest examples of architecture from the Napoleonic period in Bologna. Home to one of the most prestigious collections of historic printed music, the museum also features manuscripts, opera librettos, autographs, letters, rare instruments, and a faithful reconstruction of the workshop of the famous Bolognese luthier Otello Bignami, donated by his heirs. Among the most precious treasures are the exam paper of a very young Mozart and the original portraits of giants such as Bach and Farinelli.

Bologna is widely known as the culinary capital of the country, earning the affectionate nickname La Grassa ("The Fat One"). If there's interest, we can arrange for a cooking class.

On November 5, we attend a new production of Verdi's ***Nabucco*** at the 18th-century **Teatro Comunale**, the first public opera house in Italy. The cast includes Amartüvshin Enkhbat as Nabucco, Marta Torbidoni as Abigaille, and Luca Tittoto as Zaccaria. The theater has been undergoing extensive renovation and restoration since 2022 and will reopen to the public in early 2027; time permitting and subject to activities taking place in the theater, we will offer an optional guided tour of the historic venue.

Our last day together is dedicated to **Modena**, where we'll visit the Cathedral and the **Galleria Estense**, dedicated to the eclectic art collections accumulated by the Dukes of Este. Its 16 rooms comprise Italian paintings and marble and terracotta sculptures; decorative arts; as well as drawings, bronze statuettes, maiolica pottery, medals, ivories, and musical instruments. Among the most significant works are Conegliano's *Pietà*, Correggio's *Madonna and Child*, the Portrait of Francesco I d'Este by Velázquez, the El Greco *Modena Triptych*, Bernini's marble bust of Francesco I d'Este and the *Crucifixion* by Guido Reni.

An exceptional wine tasting lunch at an agriturismo winery in the hills above Bologna caps off this two-week Italian adventure.

DEPARTURES FOR HOME (November 7)

Please note:

We will offer two group transfers from Marco Polo Airport
to our hotel on the Grand Canal
only on October 26 – one mid-morning and
the other mid-afternoon.
Please avoid arrivals scheduled later than 4:00 PM.

We will provide individualized airport transfers
from our Bologna hotel
to the airport only on November 7.

DEAN DALTON TOURS
Custom Music and Art Travel

Italy's Rich Musical and Artistic Heritage: Venice to Bologna
October 25 to November 7, 2027

Reservations will be honored in the order deposits are received.
Payment in full is due by June 25, 2027

Prices per person	Sharing a double	Single occupancy
Two-week tour (12 nights in Italy)	**$5,995**	**$7,495**

For details, visit DeanDaltonTours.com or email DD@DeanDaltonTours.com or call 713-213-6447.

You should be prepared for plenty of walking, including on hills, steps, and uneven pavement.
To participate in our included guided tours, you will need to be capable of walking at least a half mile in 15 minutes and to be on your feet most of the time for periods of up to three hours.
You will also need to be able to get onto and off from boats safely and comfortably.
If your mobility is impaired, please travel with a companion who can assist you and be prepared to sit out some activities.

Complete and return this form with your deposit of $1,500 per person payable to **Dean Dalton Tours** to:

Dean Dalton Tours
1904 Banks St.
Houston, TX 77098

Name 1 as it appears on passport (LAST/First): _____

Name 2 as it appears on passport (LAST/First): _____

Street address: _____ Mobile phone: _____

City: _____ St. _____ Zip _____ Email: _____

Passport # 1: _____ Issue date _____ Date and **place** of Birth: _____

Passport # 2 _____ Issue date _____ Date and **place** of Birth: _____

Name and phone of emergency contact: _____

If reserving for two: ❒ prefer one bed ❒ prefer two beds

If reserving for one: ❒ prefer a private room ❒ will be sharing with _____

❒ I/we would like descriptions and pricing of available upgrades.
(N.B. Sizes of the included rooms are 195 sq.ft. in Oxford and 160 sq.ft. in London.)

❒ **I/we wish to pay by credit card; please send an electronic deposit invoice.** (add 3.2% merchant fee)

Special needs: _____

I have read the brochure and accompanying "Terms and Conditions" and agree to their contents.

Signature (required): _____ **Date:** _____

We strongly encourage all participants to be covered by a travel protection plan, whether just for this trip or annual coverage. You should be covered at the very least for medical emergencies and evacuation. Since group policies are no longer available, we now offer a variety of individual plans through Travel Insured International, one of which can almost certainly provide coverage appropriate to your situation. Click or copy and paste this URL: www.travelinsured.com/agency?agency=49076 into your browser address bar to compare coverage and costs, specific to you and this tour. We encourage you to explore other providers as well, to find the coverage that suits your needs. Once you have returned this reservation form and deposit check for the tour and have determined which plan you prefer, you should purchase it directly from Travel Insured International using the link above (or other provider) within the time limit indicated. **If you have questions,** Dean will do his best to answer them. Email him at dd@deandaltontours.com or call 713-213-7447.

If you are more comfortable dealing with these issues by phone than online, you may call Travel Insured International at 855-752-8303. Please identify yourself as a client of Dean Dalton Tours, agency # 49076.

Terms and Conditions of Sale — 2027 Venice to Bologna Tour

A deposit of $1,500.00 per person is required to guarantee your reservation; the date of receipt will determine the order in which travelers are booked, in the event of a sold-out tour. The balance of the tour price is due on or before March 15, 2027.

More than 120 days prior to departure: the deposit will be refunded,
less the cost of any unsaleable performance tickets and a service charge of $100
From 120 to 90 days prior to departure: full deposit is forfeited
89 to 45 days prior to departure: 30% of tour cost is forfeited
44 to 30 days prior to departure: 60% of tour cost is forfeited
30 days or less, prior to departure: 100% of tour cost is forfeited

Included in quoted tour prices: All ground transportation by private vehicle, from arrival at Venice Marco Polo (VCE) airport on October 26, 2027 to departure from Bologna Marconi (BLQ) airport on November 7, 2027; luggage handling (1 piece, maximum 50 pounds, at owner's risk); accommodations in hotels listed in the itinerary or comparable, including taxes and daily breakfast; lunches and dinners, sightseeing, entrance fees, performance tickets, guide and escort services, only as indicated in the online itinerary.

Not included in quoted tour prices: Costs of passports, visas, or other travel documents; laundry; meals or beverages, optional performances and sightseeing not included in the itinerary; room service; travel protection; gratuities to drivers and guides; communication charges.

Exchange Rates: Dean Dalton Tours reserves the right to adjust prices to reflect fluctuations in foreign exchange rates and any fuel or inflation surcharges imposed by providers. The listed prices for this program were calculated at an exchange rate of 1 EUR = 1.12 USD.

Dean Dalton Tours also reserves the right to withdraw a tour or any part of it, to make such alterations in the itinerary as it deems necessary or desirable, to refuse to accept or retain as a member of any tour any person at any time, and to pass on to tour members any expenditures or losses caused by delays or events beyond its control.

Passports and Visas: Passports and an ETIAS (online) are required; visas are not required for U.S. citizens.

Itineraries: Hotel accommodations, performances, and sightseeing are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

Dean Dalton Tours guarantees the operation of this tour with a minimum of 15 participants, with exception only in case of "force majeure." That term refers to any major event, including but not limited to civil unrest, natural catastrophe, military action, public health emergency, etc. that adversely affects international travel patterns, or other circumstances beyond Dean Dalton Tours' control. In case of such cancellation by Dean Dalton Tours, refunds will be based on the actual cost of each traveler's tour package, less a proportionate share of any unrecoverable expenditures and a small overhead charge.

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Claims and Refunds: Except for verifiable extenuating circumstances, refunds are not made for any missed tour services. For claims to be considered, they must be received in writing within 30 days of the termination of the tour and be accompanied by supporting documentation. Any adjustment will be based on the actual cost of the services involved and not on a per diem basis. Adjustments will not be made for sightseeing trips or meals not used at traveler's choice. Dean Dalton Tours will not accept any liability for any claims not received within 30 days of the termination of this tour.

Photography: Dean Dalton Tours reserves the right to take photographs or videos during the operation of any tour or part thereof, and to use the resulting photography for promotional purposes. By booking a reservation, tour members agree to allow their image to be used in such photography; tour members who prefer that their image not be used are asked to identify themselves to their tour escort at the commencement of the tour.

Limits on Responsibility: Dean Dalton Tours, LLC is a Texas corporation based in Houston. It purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from various independent suppliers that are not subject to its control. Dean Dalton Tours CANNOT, THEREFORE, BE LIABLE FOR DEATH, PERSONAL INJURY OR ANY OTHER LOSS that may occur (1) due to any act or omission of any such supplier, (2) by reason of any other event over which Dean Dalton Tours has no control.