MUNICH, VENICE, FLORENCE AND ROME

10 days | Germany | Italy
MUNICH, VENICE, FLORENCE AND ROME

INCLUDED ON TOUR

Round-trip flights on major carriers; Full-time Tour Director; Air-conditioned motorcoaches and local transportation for included activities; Superior tourist-class hotels with private bathrooms; Select meals with a mix of local cuisine; Connect to your travel experiences with weShare, our project-based online educational tool.

Guided Sightseeings: Venice; Florence; Ancient Rome; Vatican City

Entrances: Doge’s Palace; Glass-Blowing Factory; Duomo, Florence; Colosseum; Forum Romanum; Sistine Chapel; St. Peter’s Basilica

Optional Excursions: Dachau; Neuschwanstein; Uffizi; Accademia

Overnight Stays:
Munich* (2)
Venice* (2)
Florence* (2)
Rome* (2)

*Denotes Central Location

NOT INCLUDED IN PROGRAM PRICE

Optional excursions; Global travel protection; Beverages and lunches; Transportation to free-time activities; Customary gratuities (for your Tour Director, bus driver and local guide); Porterage; Adult supplement (if applicable); Weekend supplement; Shore excursions on cruises; Any applicable baggage-handling fee imposed by the airlines (see eftours.com/baggage for details); Expenses caused by airline rescheduling, cancellations or delays caused by the airlines, bad weather or events beyond EF’s control; Passports, visa and reciprocity fees
YOUR ITINERARY

Day 1: Fly Overnight to Germany
Board your overnight flight to Munich!

Day 2: Munich
Arrive in Munich
Welcome to Munich! This center of culture boasts over 45 museums, 10 university buildings and two opera houses. The city is also home to the Olympic center with full facilities and more than the occasional beer-hall.

Free Time in Munich (time permitting)
Wander through the Marktplatz, sampling the wares of local farmers and craftsmen—here you can also pick up a Weisswurst, the traditional white sausage of the region. You might also choose to visit the Spielzeugmuseum (toy museum) just off Marienplatz.

Optional Excursion to Dachau
Once merely another sleepy German village, Dachau has since 1933 gained notoriety as Germany’s first Nazi concentration camp. Today, the old administration building houses a museum documenting the rise of Hitler and the horrors of camp life. Commemorative chapels and memorials have also been built on the site, which stands as an eternal memorial to those who endured life here until liberation by Allied forces.

Day 3: Munich
Free Day in Munich
Enjoy today to explore Munich on your own.

Optional Excursion to Neuschwanstein
Visit “Mad” King Ludwig’s fairy-tale castle of Neuschwanstein, the real-life model for the Disney World castles. Ponder the young king’s mysterious death as you learn the story of one of Europe’s most eccentric rulers. King Ludwig so preferred dreams over reality that his servants could address him only from behind a screen. In fact, the original plans for the castle were drawn up by a theater set designer, not an architect.

Day 4: Munich | Venice
Transfer to Venice
Arrive in magical Venice, home of Marco Polo. Known globally for its gondoliers and glassware, Venice is also a heady mix of busy piazzas thronging with pizzerias and cafes, as well as deserted streets alongside canals that often lead to hidden gems such as churches or local restaurants serving regional delicacies.

Day 5: Venice
Guided Sightseeing of Venice
Begin your tour of La Serenissima (the city’s nickname meaning “the most serene”) on the island of Giudecca, where you will attend a glass-blowing demonstration and discover why Venice is famous for its glassware. Then cross the lagoon to the city’s main island for a visit to St. Mark’s Square, “the finest drawing room in Europe,” according to Napoleon. Allegedly buried under the altar of the basilica are St. Mark’s remains, which were smuggled out of Alexandria in a barrel of salt pork to prevent a thorough search by the city’s Muslim guards in the 11th century. Also see the Grand Canal and the 324-foot Campanile (Bell Tower), whose steps were originally built so that a noble could ascend on horseback. Look for the clock where two bronze figures have been striking the hour for more than 500 years. That a noble could ascend on horseback.

Visit the Doges’ Palace
Visit the grand 14th-century, pink and white Doges’ Palace, from which mighty Venetian dukes once ruled. Here you’ll stroll over “the Bridge of Sighs,” connecting the palace and its prison. As they crossed the bridge, prisoners supposedly sighed with perfect sadness as they regarded their beautiful city for the last time. Casanova made a daring escape from this prison in 1756. (Please note that your ticket also includes free entrance to Museo Correr, the National Archaeological Museum and the Monumental Rooms of the Biblioteca Nazionale Marciana).

Day 6: Venice | Florence
Transfer to Florence
Set deep in the heart of Tuscany is one of Italy’s jewels. The city of Florence has delighted visitors for centuries with its remarkable architecture. Whether sitting by the River Arno, strolling the beautifully housed streets or viewing the renaissance masterpieces that fill the city’s churches and museums, one can only be astonished by the feeling of true beauty.

Guided Sightseeing of Florence
Fall under the spell of the powerful Medici family on your guided tour. See Giotto’s Bell Tower and the imposing marble cathedral in the Piazza del Duomo. Stand before Ghiberti’s legendary Gates of Paradise (so dubbed by Michelangelo), and pass the classical statues of the Piazza della Signoria. Here you can see where Michelangelo’s David originally stood.

Day 7: Florence
Free Day in Florence
You might take a moment to soak in the cobblestone birthplace of the Renaissance with a cup of cappuccino in one of the small cafes throughout the city. Maybe you would prefer to peruse the luxurious shops of the Ponte Vecchio, or take a stroll up through the Boboli Gardens to Forte di Belvedere, where you might chance on a sculpture exhibition as you take in the spectacular panorama of Florence.

Optional Visit to the Uffizi
Originally created as offices (uffizi) for Cosimo de Medici, the building became a gallery in the 17th century. Today it houses one of the finest collections of Renaissance work anywhere in the world. The three-sided gallery is a treasure-chest of pieces in a perfectly-lit opulent setting, truly a gallery of special taste.

Optional Visit to the Accademia
This simple building, located on Via Ricasoli, houses one of the world’s true masterpieces in Michelangelo’s statue of David. Elsewhere, you can see unfinished works by the great artist along with other Renaissance treasures. Make sure to visit the ‘workroom’ and learn more of the skills required to bring images out of marble.

Day 8: Florence | Rome
Transfer to Rome
Welcome to Rome, the Eternal City. The city is an incredible mix of archaeological gems, Roman genius, Renaissance art and religious treasure. As Italy’s capital, it is also the bustling heart of this exciting country. With its fashionable shopping and café-culture, Rome really is a unique European experience.
Guided Sightseeing of Vatican City
The world’s largest dome is located in the world’s smallest country. See both as you tour St. Peter’s Basilica, erected in Vatican City on the site where the saint was martyred. Enter the basilica under the watchful eyes of the brightly dressed Swiss Guard. Inside, admire Michelangelo’s Pietà and try to find the artist’s signature (it is the only sculpture he ever signed). Then continue on to the Vatican Museum, where elaborate galleries packed with one artistic masterpiece after another lead you directly to the Sistine Chapel. Between 1508 and 1512, Michelangelo painted some of the world’s finest pictorial images on the Chapel’s ceiling. This was his first attempt at working in fresco, which he did by standing up and craning backwards from a scaffold.

Day 9: Rome
Guided Sightseeing of Ancient Rome
Your guided sightseeing of ancient Rome takes you into the Forum Romanum, once the heart of the Roman Empire. You will also visit the Colosseum, where gladiators once battled for their lives in front of 50,000 spectators.

Free Time at the Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain and Piazza Navona
Enjoy free time in Piazza di Spagna. Climb the staircase to view the city below, or take the time to wander through one of Rome’s most popular shopping areas. Alternatively, snag a moment to relax amongst the hustle and bustle of the city while enjoying a traditional Italian treat—gelato. You should also make sure to wander over to the famed Trevi Fountain and toss in a coin to ensure your return to Rome.

Day 10: Depart for Home
Transfer to the Airport for Your Return Flight
Your Tour Director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you’ll check in for your return flight home.

Itinerary is subject to change
For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions at www.eftours.com/bc.
“As a parent I am very grateful that I was able to give this opportunity to my child. It was worth every penny to see her smiling face in the pictures on the trip. Encourage your child to embrace the moment; be open to new cultures, foods, and just a new way of life and looking at things.”

– KATHLEEN, DAUGHTER TRAVELED APRIL 2013

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