

# 2025 SPLENDORS OF ITALY



Escorted by Mick and Diane Smith • April 4-14, 2025

Join our tour hosts Mick and Diane Smith on one of our most popular tours and discover the timeless beauty of Italy. This unforgettable journey takes you to many famous Italian cities with the highlights being Venice, Florence, and the magnificent ROME! Begin your adventure in Venice, where you'll glide along its famed canals on a gondola ride, explore narrow sidewalks, and admire hand-blown glass on the charming islands of Murano and Burano. Experience the magic of this floating city, steeped in history and romance. From Venice, we travel to the picturesque hills of Tuscany. While in Florence we will encounter many great works of art, including a favorite stop to see the statue of Michelangelo's David. We will see the famous Leaning Tower of Pisa and visit the ancient marble quarry visited many times by Michelangelo and other Renaissance sculptures. Come and fall in love with Italy on this incredible tour!

Date	Daily Schedule
04/04 - Fri	Depart USA - Venice
04/05 - Sat	Venice, Italy
04/06 - Sun	Murano Island and Gondola Ride
04/07 - Mon	Venice to Florence with Ravenna
04/08 - Tue	Florence Tour
04/09 - Wed	Carrara Quarry and Pisa
04/10 - Thu	Florence to Rome with Siena
04/11 - Fri	Optional LDS Temple Visit and Ancient Rome
04/12 - Sat	Rome Vatican and Old Town
04/13 - Sun	Rome, Italy
04/14 - Mon	Rome Airport - Home Cities

Price from **\$3,998**  
per person/double occupancy  
11 Days/10 Nights)

**MORRIS MURDOCK**

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or Morris Murdock Escorted Tours:  
**(800) 809-9910**

Scan the  
QR code for a  
full detailed  
itinerary!



### Your Tour Host:



**D. Mick Smith and Diane Spencer Smith** are parents of seven children and are currently serving as Mission Presidents in the Scottsdale, Arizona Mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Mick has worked in the Church Educational System for 29 years as Adjunct Professor of Religion, Institute Director, and Seminary Teacher. Diane has served in many callings including a former Stake Relief Society presidency counselor, temple and family history consultant, ward Young Women and Primary president, temple ordinance worker and seminary teacher. The Smiths call Springville, Utah home.

### Highlights of the Tour:

- 1 tour-bus experience for the whole tour
- LDS Tour Director on for the whole trip along with local guides for in depth location detail and history
- Advance timed entry tickets to attractions included = less time waiting in lines
- We include all tipping for hotels and restaurants where meals provided
- Scheduled visit to the newly dedicated Rome Temple

### Price Includes:

- 2 nights in Venice Mestre, 4 STAR HOTEL MERCURE MARGHERA
- 3 nights in Florence, 4 STAR GRAND HOTEL BAGLIONI
- 4 nights in Rome, HOTEL MEDITERRANEO
- Buffet Breakfast, city taxes, In/Out portorage
- Welcome dinner in Venice city centre, local restaurant, 4 courses meal with soft drinks and water
- Dinner at hotel in Venice, 3 courses meal with water
- Farewell dinner in Rome, local restaurant, 4 courses meal with soft drinks and water
- Professional English speaking Tour Manager throughout
- Private motor coach for all transfers, tours and excursions as per itinerary
- Private boat services in Venice, transfers to/from Venice and Murano excursion
- Half day guided tours in Venice, Ravenna, Florence and Siena
- Half day guided tour of Ancient Rome, Half day Vatican guided tour
- Half day guided tour of Old town Rome
- Visit of Murano Island with Tour Manager, Glass blowing factory included
- Gondola Ride
- Visit of Pisa with Tour Manager only, no guided tour
- Visit of Marble Quarry and Workshop studio in Carrara with lunch, arranged by MMET
- Visit of Rome LDS Temple
- Admission fees: Ravenna Mosaics, Florence Academy, Siena Cathedral, Colosseum with Roman Forum, Vatican Museums with Sistine Chapel
- Whispers set during the tour

### Price Does Not Include:

- International Airfare to Venice home from Rome
- Any private sightseeing not included on the itinerary during free time
- Tour gratuities for bus drivers guides and special host
- Items of a personal nature
- Travel insurance
- Meals not included in tour outline

**Pricing Options:**

- \$3,998 per person for double occupancy (two people sharing a room)
- \$5,130 for single occupancy (private room)
- \$3,998 per person for triple occupancy (three people sharing a room)

**Payment Terms:**

- **\$500 per person deposit due at time of booking**
- **Final payment due December 5, 2024**
- **Cash discount of \$100 per person available! Please inquire for more details**

**Introductory Terms and Conditions**

*(Full Terms & Conditions available on our website and included with each booking)*

**HEALTH & HYGIENE, MOBILITY and CANCELLATION POLICIES:** By signing up for this or any of our tours, you are expressly agreeing to be bound by the TERMS & CONDITIONS contract that will be provided to you with your confirmation, specifically that you understand: i) All policies outlined therein regarding current health and hygiene requirements that may be required by the countries and locations visited; ii) The required mobility needed for the tour; and, iii) The Morris Murdock Escorted Tours cancellation policy may be more restrictive than a vendor or cruise line with which you are traveling.

**INTERNATIONAL TRIPS:** For all tours and cruises that include international air, a valid passport is required and must be valid for at least 6 months from the return date of the trip. Morris Murdock Escorted Tours must receive a copy of your passport information page by final payment date. Airlines have strict policies concerning name changes/corrections after tickets have been issued. If a name change/correction is required on your ticket, you will be required to cover the cost of any fees.

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS:** Morris Columbus/Morris Murdock Escorted Tours, ("Agent") gives notice that all services, reservations and arrangements for transportation, cruise, conveyance, hotel or lodging of any type, meals, sightseeing services, or any other activities made by Agent, are made by Agent as dual agent for the traveler/passenger and for the air carriers, hotels, sightseeing companies, transportation companies, cruise lines, and other companies (Suppliers) providing services for this program. As such, Agent shall not be liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, or irregularity which may be occasioned either by reasons of defect in any vehicle or mode of transportation, through the acts, defaults, financial difficulty, bankruptcy, or omissions of the Supplier or person engaged in carrying out the arrangements of the trip or otherwise in connection therewith. Agent is not liable for delays and/or cancellations of services and resultant expenses or loss caused by acts of God, weather, disaster, government regulations, sickness or death, quarantine, strikes, war, terrorism, social or labor unrest, local laws, mechanical or construction difficulties, curtailment or disruption of transportation, abnormal conditions or other situations, actions, omissions or conditions outside Agent's control. Agent is not liable for loss of, or damage to, baggage or personal possessions. Agent and Supplier reserve the right to alter or cancel the itinerary or substitute services as conditions require or for the safety of traveler/passenger. Passengers must be in good health and able to care for their own needs. Please contact us regarding any health concerns you may have or if you need to bring any specialized medical equipment such as wheelchairs, oxygen tanks, C-Pap, etc. so that we can determine if Supplier can accommodate your equipment. Tour directors on the trip cannot be of assistance with such needs. We reserve the right to remove travelers/passengers from the group at their own expense if the care of or actions of a traveler/passenger become detrimental to the functioning of the tour. Payment of deposit(s) as outlined in this agreement shall be deemed consent to be bound by the terms and conditions of this agreement. Airline schedule changes, mechanical or weather delays may affect flight times. Your connecting flights and/or transportation to and from the tour start and end point, whether issued by Morris Columbus Travel/Morris Murdock Escorted Tours or on your own arrangement, may be affected. Morris Columbus Travel/Morris Murdock Escorted Tours is not responsible for misconnections, delays, and/or cancellations.

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**Tour ID #9225D04 • Tour Manager: Carol Alegre • phone#: (801) 483-6165, email: [calegre@morrismurdock.com](mailto:calegre@morrismurdock.com)**

### Day 1: Friday, April 4, 2025

*Depart USA - Venice*

Today we depart the US and fly overnight to Venice, Italy. See you soon! **Meals: In-flight**

### Day 2: Saturday, April 5, 2025

*Venice, Italy*

Welcome to Italy! Our Italian experience begins upon arrival at the Venice airport when we are greeted by our local tour director. We have a short transfer to our hotel to freshen up and then continue to the mainland boat terminal for a private transfer to St. Mark's Square. Here we experience a delightful walking tour of the 'City of Islands.' Along the way, we see St. Mark's Square and Basilica. Next, we see the Bell Tower, the Clock Tower, the Doge's Palace and the Bridge of Sighs to name some favorite sites. This evening we enjoy a wonderful welcome dinner and have a chance to get to know each other better before making our way back to the hotel for overnight. **Meals: Dinner**

### Day 3: Sunday, April 6, 2025

*Murano Island and Gondola Ride*

After breakfast, we board our coach, travel to the boat terminal, and board our private boat for a cruise past the island of San Giorgio Maggiore, the Public Gardens, the tip of Sant'Elena, and the famous Lido Beach Resort on our way to Murano Island. Known worldwide for its colored glass, we can see mouth-blown glass-making in progress and enjoy a factory tour. We enjoy the area before cruising back to the main island. This afternoon we complete our Venice experience with a Gondola ride before making our way back to the hotel. Dinner at hotel and overnight.

**Meals: Breakfast, Dinner**

### Day 4: Thursday, August 14, 2025

*York via Jedburgh*

Say goodbye to the rolling hills of Scotland while traveling south through the Borders Region, stopping at Jedburgh, an historic royal burgh dating back to the 17th century. Visit the archeological site of Vindolanda, an Ancient Roman fortress built along Hadrian's wall in the 2nd century to protect Roman Britain from the tribes of Scotland. Arrive in the medieval city of York. Surrounded by historical city walls.

**Meals: Breakfast**

### Day 4: Monday, April 7, 2025

*Venice to Florence with Ravenna*

This morning we leave Venice and begin our scenic journey to



Florence. We stop in Ravenna to find a treasure trove of art, history, and culture waiting for us. Here is one of the richest collections of mosaics in the world, preserved in the basilicas and baptisteries of the city; clear evidence of the extraordinary art that flourished in this area. Eight monuments of Ravenna have been included in the UNESCO World Heritage List for their universal value and unique mosaics. After reveling in these amazing sites, we continue our journey to Florence, known as the Cradle of Renaissance. Dinner on own and overnight. **Meals: Breakfast**



### **Day 5: Tuesday, April 8, 2025**

#### *Florence Tour*

After breakfast, we enjoy a walking tour of Florence, taking in all the amazing outdoor art and sculptures along the route. Our guided tour includes the Cathedral of Santa Maria dei Fiore, known as the Duomo, and the home for Giotto's bell tower and Brunelleschi's famous Dome. We also tour the Academia featuring Michelangelo's statue of David. Balance of the day is at leisure. Dinner on own and overnight. **Meals: Breakfast**



### **Day 6: Wednesday, April 9, 2025**

#### *Carrara Quarry and Pisa*

Today is unquestionably another tour highlight as we make our way out of Florence to the mountains, visiting the historic Carrara marble quarry. We enjoy a jeep ride up the hill to the quarry opening where Michelangelo, and other famous sculptors of his day, picked their marble that we still marvel at today. We get to try our hand at the chisel and see many works of art. After a wonderful local lunch (arranged by MMET), we continue to Pisa and its iconic "leaning tower" for a city tour before returning to Florence. Dinner on own and overnight. **Meals: Breakfast**



### **Day 7: Thursday, April 10, 2025**

#### *Florence to Rome with Siena*

This morning we bid farewell to Florence and head south to Rome. Before leaving the city, we drive up to the overview spot of Piazzale Michelangelo, to enjoy a breathtaking view over the city and its skyline made of famous monuments, churches and buildings. We then drive through the beautiful Tuscan countryside to Siena, notice the medieval ramparts greeting us with the Latin inscription 'Cor Magis Tibi Sena Pandit' (Siena opens its heart to you). We walk through the maze of narrow streets, see the Piazza Del Campo where the famous 'Palio Horse Race' is held, and view the 13th century Cathedral. We end our day in Rome. Dinner on own and overnight. **Meals: Breakfast**



## Day 8: Friday, April 11, 2025

### *Optional LDS Temple Visit and Ancient Rome*

After breakfast for those who choose, we board our coach and transfer to the newly dedicated LDS Temple, and enjoy attending a session and touring the grounds. Later in the day we return to the hotel. This afternoon we will start exploring the Eternal city with an Ancient Rome guided tour. After we arrive at the Colosseum grounds, we walk underneath the Constantine Arch and then enter the huge arena dating from 79AD. Our next stop is the Roman Forum, where the ancient market place seems to jump to life as we stroll through the ruins. Dinner on own and overnight. **Meals: Breakfast**



## Day 9: Saturday, April 12, 2025

### *Rome Vatican and Old Town*

This morning we tour the Vatican, the world's smallest independent state. Our guide provides an overview of the history of the Vatican Museums, with the highlight of the tour being the Sistine Chapel, where the ceiling is covered with Michelangelo's most famous paintings. As the tour continues, we explore St. Peter's Square, with Bernini's 284 columns, before entering St. Peter's Basilica, the largest church in Christendom. In the afternoon we will see more famous places as the Spanish Steps, the Pantheon, built over 2,000 years ago to honor Caesar Augustus and later converted to a Christian church, Trevi Fountain and Piazza Navona. Dinner on own and overnight.

**Meals: Breakfast**



## Day 10: Sunday, April 13, 2025

### *Rome, Italy*

Today for those interested, we attend a local LDS Sacrament Meeting or other local church service. Balance of the day is at leisure to explore Rome on own or to make some souvenir shopping. Tonight, a farewell dinner is served at a local restaurant including live music entertainment.

**Meals: Breakfast, Dinner**



## Day 11: Monday, April 14, 2025

### *Rome Airport - Home Cities*

Bidding a fond farewell to Italy, we will be boarding our private coach to the airport for our homebound flight.

**Meals: Breakfast, In-flight**

