



Tour: **ITALIAN ARTS - DANCE & DRAMA**
 Destination: Italy – Lake Garda, Verona & Venice
 Specialization: Dance, Drama & Art
 Itinerary: 8-days / 7-nights total trip

Spotlight On Italy - A Master Class Tour						
Day	Morning		Afternoon		Evening	
1	Travel to Italy					
2	Arrive Italy, clear customs, meet coach and transfer to Lake Garda			Welcome, Safety & Orientation		Welcome Dinner
3	<i>Workshop 1</i>	Free Time	<i>Workshop 2</i>	Free Time	Dinner	Bowling Evening
4	<i>Workshop 3</i>	Free Time	Verona - Guided City Tour including Juliet's Balcony & the Arena		Dinner	Presentation Evening
5	<i>Workshop 4</i>	Transfer to Bardolino - free time for exploration			Pizza Making Class / Dinner	
6	Travel to Venice; check-in to hotel		Venice Guided Walking Tour		Dinner & Free Time	
7	Murano Excursion & Glass Blowing Demonstration		Venetian Mask-Making Workshop		Dinner	Vivaldi Four Seasons Concert
8	Free time; transfer to airport and depart					



As with all sample itineraries, please be advised that this is an 'example' of a schedule and that the activities and hotels shown may be variable dependent upon dates, weather, special requests and other factors. Itineraries will be confirmed prior to travel.



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 51 Hillcrest Way
 Bluffton, SC 29909 USA
 P: 984.223.9866
www.HammockExpeditions.com
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Day 1

Meals in flight (dependent upon carrier)

Fly 'across the pond' today and into the night. Dependent upon your airline, meals may be provided complimentary or may be available for purchase. Sit back, relax and get ready for a week of incredible fun!



Day 2

Lunch & dinner at hotel

Travel to your hotel located in beautiful Lake Garda, the gateway to the Italian Alps. Upon arrival, your Ambassador will conduct a welcome, safety and orientation meeting followed by a resort tour and later, dinner in the hotel.

Lake Garda - Lake Garda is Italy's largest and most visited lake. Picturesque villages, medieval castles, and lakeside promenades dot the shoreline. The lake has a diverse landscape with beaches along the southern shores and rocky cliffs above the northern shoreline. Lake Garda is known for its clear water; great for swimming in the summer. Windsurfing, sailing, and hiking in the many parks are popular activities.



Lake Garda is situated in northern Italy between Venice and Milan and set in an alpine region formed by glaciers at the end of the last ice age. The lake and its shoreline are divided between the provinces of Verona (to the south-east), Brescia (southwest), and Trento (north). The Dolomite Mountains are not far away and can be seen towering above the lake.

Sample Hotel: Hotel Touristico – Located in the vineyard country near Bussolengo and surrounded by the greenery of a natural park, Hotel Touristico is an excellent property for schools with a superb pool complex and outstanding facilities including workshop rooms and theatre. Students sharing beds will sleep three or four to a room; teachers sleep two to a room. The resort features an excellent restaurant and café on premises.



Sample Hotel: Hotel Antares – Located in the beautiful area of Villafranca, only a few miles from the old city of Verona, the Hotel Antares is a stylish, modern and spacious European 4-star hotel set on its own impressive grounds. The superb on-site facilities include an outdoor swimming pool and ample workshop space making the Hotel Antares a real winner with arts groups!



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After checking in, take the afternoon to unwind and prepare for a full itinerary tomorrow! Enjoy the pool and resort amenities, or even practice some dance or drama in small groups outside. Tonight, groups will enjoy a Welcome Dinner at the hotel and get caught up on some overdue rest!

Day 3

Breakfast, lunch & dinner at hotel

Good morning Italy! After a leisurely breakfast, we'll meet our tutor and embark upon our first Master Classes!

Master Classes 1 & 2 – Before the start of the tour, teachers will have spoken to our specialists to discuss and agree upon the program contents of all Master Classes, the goals and the specific instruction given. Teachers may opt to have all classes in one discipline or may elect to have a variety of disciplines inclusive of Dance, Drama or Art. All classes are in English, instructed by our European team of tutors and are approximately 2-hours in length.



Today will be a nice and easy day for us to get acclimated. Most workshops will be held on the resort grounds so very little travel, if any, will be necessary. After our workshops, we'll be able to enjoy a brilliant dinner in the hotel leaving the late evening open for a fun night out of **bowling**! Are you ready?

Day 4

Breakfast, lunch & dinner at hotel

Good morning Italy! After a great breakfast, we'll start the day off with a Master Class.

Master Class 3 – Choose from disciplines in Dance or Drama instructed by our European team of professional tutors. We encourage all school groups to delve into the unique culture of Italian Arts and the Commedia dell'Arte, allowing for instruction in the areas that correlate to this wonderful destination!

Following our workshops, we'll have a leisurely lunch and then this afternoon, we'll be heading to another of Italy's great sights – Verona!

Verona – Well known as the setting for the story of Romeo and Juliet, historic Verona is a tangle of its storied past and modern industry. One of the most powerful cities during the early rule of the Roman Empire, the old city of Verona is one of the best-preserved sections in the country. The city of Verona has much to offer for sightseeing, even for those who are not Shakespeare enthusiasts. Unlike most of the larger cities in the country, you are likely to find only a small percentage of tourists in historic Verona.



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Built along the Adige River and the later home of Dante Alighieri, the city boasts a number of beautiful sights amongst its circuitous streets. The scenic mausoleum of Arche Scaligere houses outdoor tombs bordered by evil-looking iron gates and is the final resting place of the Scaligeri princes, city leaders, great warriors and great patrons of the arts. The Arena di Verona is the third largest arena in Italy and one not to be missed! Despite being constructed in 30 AD, much of the original architecture remains, and the amphitheatre still houses opera productions throughout the summer. Castelvecchio is a military fortress that has been transformed into an art museum, renowned for providing shelter to many significant works of art in a strictly medieval setting.

Juliet's House (Casa di Giulietta) - "Two households, both alike in dignity, in fair Verona, where we lay our scene, from ancient grudge break to new mutiny, where civil blood makes civil hands unclean."

Who doesn't know about the love story between Romeo and Juliet? Immortalized by Shakespeare in the first line of his play, Verona holds the claim to having the house of perhaps the greatest lovers in history. Of course, there is much debate as to whether the lovers existed or not but that hasn't stopped hundreds of thousands of tourists from wanting to see the Casa di Giulietta, or Juliet's House.



The dell Capello family owned the house on Via Capello for many years. In fact, it is the similarity of their name that spurred the popular belief that this was the house of the Capulets in Shakespeare's play. The dell Capello's coat-of-arms can still be seen on the keystone of the inner archway in the courtyard. From the courtyard you can see Juliet's Balcony. This is supposedly the very same balcony where the tragic heroine cried out to her Romeo. These days, do not be surprised to see many a young girl standing on the balcony, probably dreaming her own dreams.

This evening we'll have dinner in the hotel and then save some free time for fun. Perhaps a presentation evening or talent show? A moonlit walk or a quiz night? If you want a little something extra, feel free to talk to your representative who can set you up for a night at Benacus (an amusement arcade with bowling, go-carting and laser tag) a karaoke night, or even a disco night.

Day 5

Breakfast & lunch at hotel; Italian pizza dinner

Rise and shine Lake Garda! Today we'll have our Master Class and then it's off to explore beautiful Bardolino!

Master Class 4 – Choose from disciplines in Dance, Drama, Music & Art instructed by our European team of professional tutors.

Bardolino - Bardolino is one of the best-known of the Lake Garda resorts, mainly due to the wine made from the grapes grown in the surrounding hillsides. The resort is one of the more popular destinations on the southern



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end of the lake and is located just south of Garda. Remnants of dwellings built by previous inhabitants long ago reveal that this village has long been used by fishermen as well as to produce wine and olive oil.



Archaeological excavations have proven the presence of humans in the area since prehistoric times, in the area of Cisano. There also traces of ancient Romans, though the modern settlement dates to the early Middle Ages, when Berengar of Italy (983) had a castle built here. In the 12th century Bardolino is mentioned as a free commune, and later was under the Scaliger of Verona, who enlarged the fortifications to encompass the whole village. After their fall, it became part of the Republic of Venice which had a marine base here. Under the Lombardy-Venetia, it was an Austrian administrative center: in 1848 it revolted against them in the wake of the first Piedmontese victories in the First Italian War of Independence. It was annexed to the newly formed Kingdom of Italy in 1866.

Groups will have time to browse, explore and shop Bardolino. **In the evening, we'll have a special class to learn how to make Italian pizza!** Of course, we'll get to eat what we make! When we get back to the hotel, we'll start to pack up as we leave Lake Garda, say goodbye to our tutor, and prepare for our next adventure.



Day 6

Breakfast & dinner included; lunch on own

Rise and shine Italy! Today we'll check out of our hotel and head to one of the most incredible places in the world – Venice!

After breakfast, we'll board our private motorcoach and head to Venice, approximately 2-hours, to discover this incredible region. Home to gondolas and mask making, beautiful blown glass and unbelievable history, this city is fabulous! Once there, we'll hop on our Water Taxi who will deliver us to our hotel.

Venice – Venice, once called the gateway to the Orient, is one of the few cities in the world that can be truly described as unique. Over an extraordinarily long period, the city was embellished with monuments of rare splendor that today make it a tourist attraction like none other in the entire world... Venice makes you a believer in fairy tales. Cars are banned, so the only way to get around the 1,500-year-old city is by foot or by water. From these vantage points, you'll be awed by its magical beauty! La Serenissima, 'the most serene one', is filled with palaces and art, fine shopping and excellent food. Relax in Saint Marks Square, visit the basilica, have an Italian Ice and wander the alleyways and bridges.



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After getting settled in our hotel, we'll have a bit of time to explore and grab lunch. In the afternoon, we'll embark on a guided walking tour to give us the history of these beautiful streets!

Venice – Guided Walking Tour – After making your way to St. Mark's Square to meet your guide, you'll be entertained with a **3-hour guided walking tour** with a professional Venetian Guide. Learn about the history and see the sights. Venice is simply incredible!

Afterwards, we'll have time to explore on our own. The shops are incredible, the food fantastic. What's not to love! This evening, we'll enjoy a local dinner and then free time to discover Venice at night.

Day 7

Breakfast & dinner included; lunch on own

Hello Venice! Today will be just fabulous and include a stop at Murano, a mask-making segment and an incredible musical concert in the evening!

Murano Excursion & Glass Blowing Demonstration - Take a private water taxi to the island of Murano for fun, shopping and to learn more about the incredible art of glass blowing. Explore the intricacies of famed Italian handicrafts by watching centuries-old glassblowing techniques in Murano, and marvel at the detailed stitches of exquisite Burano lace. Learn about the history of this artisan island while you visit local blowers and wander the picturesque streets.



We'll have lunch at leisure, some free time for exploration, then in the afternoon, we'll embark upon a Venetian mask making class!

Venetian Mask-Making Workshop – Expert craftsmen share the secrets of how to decorate a traditional mask. Choosing from models, the workshop explores how to create and make the masks, different techniques and materials and also reviews the significance of the carnival masks in the years of the Republic of Venice, including the bauta mask, perhaps the most famous and recognizable of all Venetian masks!



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This final evening we'll have dinner at the hotel and then we're off for a very special evening!

The Vivaldi Four Seasons Concert - Hear Antonio Vivaldi's magnificent 'Four Seasons' performed by Venice's acclaimed I Musici Veneziani. The 1.5-hour show will whisk you back to 18th-century Venice, with performers dressed in traditional Venetian costumes and a spectacular setting in the exclusive Salone Capitolare at the Scuola Grande di San Teodoro. The well-known orchestra I Musici Veneziani is comprised of virtuosic musicians. The orchestra is joined in concert by operatic soloists from all over the world. The musicians perform in typical 18th century Venetian costume, enhancing the concert's festive atmosphere. A wonderful way to make music a part of your visit to Venice.



Afterwards, it's back to our hotel to get packed up and ready to travel home tomorrow.

Day 8

Breakfast

Good morning Italy! After breakfast and dependent upon travel times, we'll start to begin to say goodbye to this awesome region as we head off for home; taking memories with us that will last forever!



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ADD-ON ADDITIONAL DAYS WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCURSION OPTIONS

Day Excursion to Milan, Italy – Milan is a city that arouses a restless rhythm. Maybe for this reason, Milan makes itself indispensable as they say it is impossible to feel so alive and full of energy when you are away from this city. Milan is always one step ahead: a laboratory of artistic experiments and a building site for social behavior that is continuously changing. A city full of contradictions, ancient and modern, trends and counter-trends, fashion and underground, middle class and working class, but always simply ‘cool.’

Day Excursion to Gardaland Theme Park – Situated on the banks of Lake Garda and in the center of northern Italy, Gardaland has represented an important point of reference for entertainment for more than twenty years, suitable for all ages for both Italian and foreign visitors. Located only 12 miles from Verona, Gardaland is the biggest amusement park in Italy and attracts more than 3 million visitors every year. Blending all the attractions of a top-class water park with roller coasters, shows and family attractions, it is a perfect day out for anyone visiting the north of Italy.

Day Excursion to CanevaWorld Aqua-Paradise – CanevaWorld’s Aqua-Paradise is one of the biggest water parks in Europe with water games, super slides, huge swimming pools, lagoons, acrobatic shows, restaurants and bars. It’s probably the most beautiful Italian waterpark and it definitely is the best place to be if you want to enjoy a truly sunny, exciting and water filled summer’s day! There are a lot of water attractions to experience along with relaxation areas and hydro-massage pools and quiet shady places to linger. Coming here you will feel the atmosphere of a tropical island supported by real palm trees! **The water park is open May to September.**



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ITALIAN ARTS

Lake Garda, Verona & Venice

Minimum Booking Numbers:

20 students

What's Included:

Round-trip international flights
6-nights' accommodation – 4-nights in Lake Garda + 2-nights in Venice
Breakfasts, lunches & dinners in Lake Garda starting with lunch on arrival and ending with breakfast on Day 6, as per above itinerary
Breakfasts & dinners in Venice starting with dinner on Day 6 and ending with breakfast on Day 8 (provided hotel breakfasts are available for your departure time)
Motorcoach/shuttle transportation to Lake Garda, Venice and activities
Public Water Taxi passes in Venice + Water Taxi to Murano
4 Dance or Drama Master Classes with professional tutors (or a combo)
½-day Guided Verona tour
Admission to Romeo & Juliet's Balcony area
Bardolino town visit & exploration
Bowling evening
Italian Pizza Making Class
Guided Venice Walking Tour
Murano excursion & Glass Blowing demonstration
Venetian Mask-Making Workshop
Vivaldi Four Seasons Concert
Personal Tour Director

What's Not Included:

Fully comprehensive insurance (**mandatory**)
Transfers to/from home airport
Cost of passports nor required visas
Cost of inoculations or medication required for travel
Baggage handling - each student should be able to carry/load their own suitcase
Fees for activities not shown as included
Additional sightseeing / entertainment options
Hotel incidental bills – meals, mini-bar items, purchases billed to room
Any gratuities – drivers, hotel services, tour ambassador, specialty Guides (Verona & Venice), etc.
Personal expenditures
Credit card fees if individuals wish to pay via credit card instead of ACH (online check)

As always, our staff are always available to you to answer any questions you may have regarding programming. If we may serve you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.



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