

# TourCrafters

AN AMAZING GOURMET CRUISE ON LA DOLCE VITA BARGE





## Venice, the Islands, the Hidden Venetian Lagoon the Brenta River on board “La Dolce Vita “ barge

*Our cruise around the Venetian lagoon and along Brenta river is as unique as Venice herself. Our itinerary combines 4 very different landscapes: from that of the picturesque islands of the northern lagoon to the charm of romantic Venice, from the beaches of Lido and Pellestrina to the splendid architectures of the countryside villas along the Brenta. This mixture of culture, art and nature is unparalleled in hotel barge cruising terms.*

*The Venetians have a very special way of life, transporting everything and everybody everywhere by water. To fully appreciate this aspect, our barge cruise mostly includes transportation on boats, but on some occasions it is possible to ride bicycles.*

*This fairytale adventure allows time to explore the history and legend of the baroque, the renaissance, the middle ages and before. The islands of the northern Venetian lagoon, Murano, Burano and Torcello, exude a charm and intrigue of their own, surpassed only by the Old Lady of the Lagoon, who in her prime ruled much of the Mediterranean.*

*Delicious seafood, local culinary specialties, fine wines and attentive service complete the picture. La Dolce Vita is the only hotel barge cruising this exceptional region.*

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# FEATURES and PRICES

## What's Included

- 7 days and 6 nights on the barge, all cabins with private bath
- transfers from Venice to the barge and return
- all meals beginning with dinner on Sunday through breakfast on Saturday
- all wines with lunches and dinners
- open bar
- all escorted side-excursions
- use of bicycles

**Air tickets available on request**

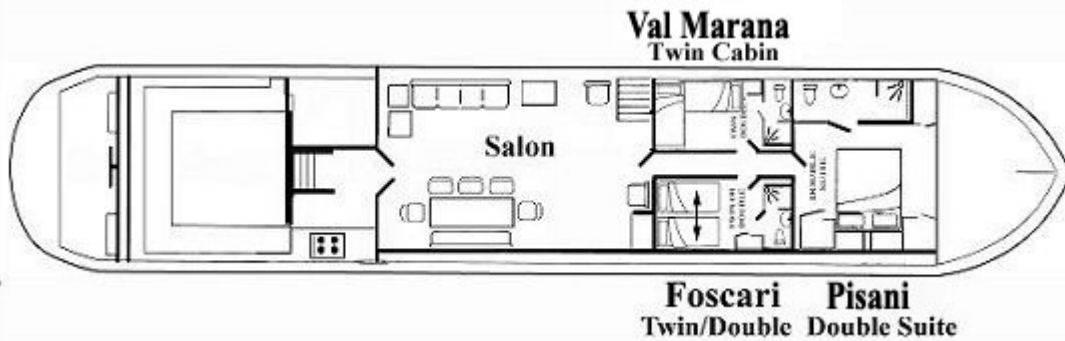


## SCHEDULED DEPARTURES

Departures	SUITE	STATEROOM	
April 1st	\$2.506	\$2.324	extra value \$\$
April 8-15	\$2.784	\$2.582	
April 22nd	\$2.896	\$2.501	extra value \$\$
April 29th	\$3.645	\$3.139	
May 6th -20th-27th	\$3.281	\$2.825	extra value \$\$
May 13th	\$3.645	\$3.139	
June 3rd	\$3.281	\$2.825	extra value \$\$
June 10-17-24	\$3.645	\$3.139	
July 1-8	\$3.645	\$3.139	
July 15-22-29	\$3.341	\$2.886	
August 5-12-19	\$3.341	\$2.886	
August 29th	\$3.645	\$3.139	
September 2-9-16-23-30	\$3.645	\$3.139	
October 7-14	\$3.645	\$3.139	
October 21-28	\$3.341	\$2.886	
November 4-11	\$2.784	\$2.582	

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## YOUR BARGE



*La Dolce Vita has one bow suite with double bed, and two staterooms -- one with two twin beds and the other with two twins or one double bed. All have private bath, there is air conditioning throughout and there is a good sized sundeck for outside dining or just watching all that fantastic Italian architecture as you cruise past.*

**Size of barge:** 68.9 by 16.1 ft

**Number of Passengers:** 6

**Number of Cabins (all with private bath):** 3

**Crew:** 3

**Air Conditioning and Central Heating:** Individual heating and air-conditioning units in cabins and salon

**Salon:** The salon has 1 sofa seating 3, 3 armchairs, dining table and 4 large windows.

**Bar:** Open bar

**Deck:** Sundeck with reclining wood chairs, table and chairs and large parasol

### **Cabin Features:**

*Pisani suite at the bow: approx 129 sq ft with double bed.*

*Foscari stateroom: approx 57 sq ft with twins or double bed.*

*Val Marana stateroom: approx 55 sq ft with twin beds.*

**Vehicle for Transfers/Excursions:** Watertaxi or vaporetto

**Accessibility:** Steps to salon and cabins. Steps to deck.

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## Your Itinerary

### **Sunday, Lido – Burano**      **From Venice to the Fishermen's Island**

Guests are met at 5 PM at Villa Laguna Hotel in Venice Lido, where the barge is moored and the crew is ready to serve you a welcome drink of Prosecco. Sailing past the Fort of Sant'Andrea, the ancient Venetian artillery defence base, La Dolce Vita hugs the coast of Sant'Erasmus, Venice orchard and vegetable garden and then arrives in Burano, a fishermen's island in the northern lagoon, where we moor for a superb fish dinner.

### **Monday, Torcello – Burano – San Francesco**

### **The Still Waters of the Smaller Islands**

In the morning we walk through the colourful streets of Burano and visit the Lace Museum. We have lunch while cruising on Siloncello canal and in the afternoon we visit Torcello, the first island of the lagoon to be colonised 2000 years ago. We see the Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta, a beautiful example of Veneto-Byzantine style. We finally cruise to Murano passing by San Francesco Monastery island. We moor on the Grand Canal of the island of glass, where we have dinner on board and spend the night.

### **Tuesday, Murano - Venice - Lido**      **Cruising the Grand Canal and Walking in Venice**

We visit a glass-blowing workshop in Murano. Then we move on for a tour of the Grand Canal in Venice aboard a water taxi and reach San Giorgio island for our lunch facing Saint Mark. In the afternoon you have some free time to visit Venice. We moor for dinner on Lido island at Villa Laguna hotel.

### **Wednesday, Venice - Valle Zappa**      **Venetian Architectural Masterpieces**

This morning we take you on a guided tour of the Doge's Palace and Saint Mark in Venice. In the afternoon we have a relaxed and flexible program according to the weather conditions and preferences of our guests. We can spend a couple of hours in Venice, then ride the bicycle or navigate along Lido island to reach our evening mooring at Alberoni or Pellestrina.

**Thursday, Brenta River to Dolo**

***Barging along the Venetian Villas***

*This morning we cruise up river Brenta to Mira, passing by Villa Foscari in Malcontenta, a masterpiece of the Renaissance architect Palladio. Short after lunch we visit Villa Widmann, a typical Venetian luxurious villa with wonderful frescos. Before dinner we move on for 2 more hours to Dolo, where we moor for the night. For those who like cycling, it is possible to follow the barge on a bicycle Before dinner we take you for a glass of wine at the old water mill of Dolo.*

**Friday, Dolo – Stra - Mira** ***Cruising up the River Surrounded by Masterpieces of Architecture***

*Further ascent of river Brenta to Stra, where we visit Villa Pisani, an 18<sup>th</sup> century masterpiece of Venetian architecture with frescos from Tiepolo. During most of the day it is possible to follow the barge by bicycle along the river. A short afternoon cruise brings us back to Dolo for the Farewell Dinner at Villa Goetzen restaurant.*

**Saturday, Dolo – Venice**

***A Drive Along the Brenta After Our Farewell Breakfast***

*After breakfast you are transferred to Venice or to Marco Polo airport. By that time you will be able to say if you truly appreciated the Venetian style of living and... of barging!.*



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*& the best of Italy*

## *La Dolce Vita* Chef's Profile

*Eros Libero Ameduri joined La Dolce Vita in September '06. A young talent, Eros comes from Calabria in southern Italy, where he started learning the art of cooking from his grandmother. As a teenager he attended professional cooking school in Locri. After getting his degree in his twenties he refined his style at Pim's in Tropea and at the Rikaroka in Gioiosa Ionica, two famous restaurants of Calabria.*



*His relationship began with La Dolce Vita when moving north to work in Venice a couple of years ago. Seeing the barge moored near his employers' restaurant, Eros approached the boat and got to know the crew. Briefly afterwards, he was hired!*

*Eros' style of cooking is truly Mediterranean and even though he likes to invent his own recipes, his dishes are always faithful to his Italian roots. The base ingredients of Eros' dishes are olive oil, capers, basil, Mediterranean herbs, fresh produce from the garden and fish from the sea and the lagoon.*

*While the captain leads the guests to explore Venice and the region, Eros takes them on a parallel food cruise around Italy. Cheese is also part of this culinary journey and Eros regularly serves a selection of different mozzarellas, a dozen varieties of aged cheeses, as well as a few creamy ones. Appetizers include different hams from Parma to San Daniele. The desserts range from freshly made Tiramisù to traditional Venetian pastry.*

*If you are planning to come on board La Dolce Vita, Eros will delight you not only with his talent in cooking, but also with his joy of explaining how the food is prepared. Remember not to ask Eros where his white chef's hat is - he only wears a black chef's hat while cooking!*

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*For reservations call 1-800-621-2259 - 1-800ITALY95*

*Open Mon-Fri 8 am-6.30pm Central Time*

*Saturday 9am-2pm Central Time*

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*<http://www.tourcrafters.com>*