



Cruise the Venetian Lagoon & the Po Valley
Aboard the 20 passenger La Bella Vita
A truly unique experience

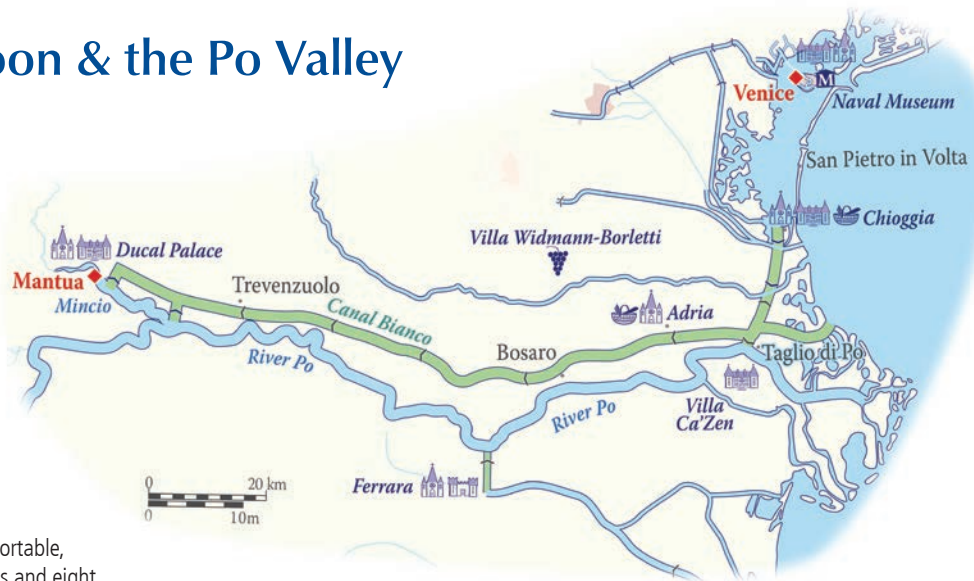


Cruise the Venetian Lagoon & the Po Valley

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The charming waterways between Venice and Mantua offer a magical cruising experience. The itinerary includes fascinating excursions that offer an insight into the many cultures – Renaissance, Roman, Etruscan, Byzantine - that have influenced the region for centuries, and the opportunity to enjoy diverse landscapes and nature en route, from colourful lagoon islands, to wild beach dunes and pine woods full of birdlife; from the charming Venetian port of Chioggia via the River Po and Bianco Canal to the captivating lakeside setting of the Renaissance city of Mantua.

La Bella Vita is a stylish twenty-passenger vessel offering comfortable, air-conditioned accommodation in two upper deck junior suites and eight lower deck staterooms, all with en suite facilities. There is a bright, spacious dining room and bar area and louvre doors open to the side to give a perfect view. Above, there is a huge sun deck with comfortable loungers to relax on and watch the world drift by.



OPERA CRUISE

Join us on Saturday 25 August 2018 for a special 7 night Opera holiday to include 1 night at the Hotel du Torri in Verona, a performance of Bizet's 'Carmen' at the Arena di Verona (best seats in the House) with dinner before inside the Opera Museum. Followed by an Opera themed 6-night cruise on Sunday 26 August between Venice and Mantua.

Opera itinerary, see pages 4 & 5

Typical Cuisine Aboard

Regional Specialities

Fegato alla Veneziana; Baccalà Mantecato; La Polenta; Sarde in Saor; Risotto al Prezzemolo; Lagoon Seafood

Cheese Board

Gorgonzola; Mozzarella di Bufala; Pecorino; Taleggio; Provolone; Grana Padano; Lombardy Quartirollo; Bagos



The Italian
good life -
in style



Chioggia



Venetian Lagoon,
Bianco Canal, Po Valley

La Bella Vita

STANDARD ITINERARY*

Sunday, Day 1 Venice

Guests are met at the Hotel Laguna Palace in Mestre or Piazzale Roma in Venice and transferred by private chauffeured minibus to La Bella Vita for a Prosecco welcome. An afternoon cruise takes us along the Giudecca Canal past some of Venice's most famous monuments: the Chiesa del Redentore, the impressive Basilica di Santa Maria della Salute and the Punta della Dogana to our mooring outside the Naval Museum. Then time for a stroll to St Mark's Square and a brief tour of the Doge's Palace before dinner on board.

Monday, Day 2 Venice to San Pietro in Volta

Guided walking tour to the Castello District, perhaps discovering some hidden parts of the city of Venice: the gardens of the Biennale Exhibition of Modern Arts, Palladio's Church of San Pietro in Castello, the Naval Museum with a model of the Bucintoro (Doge's Boat) and the Pavilion of Gondolas housing Peggy Guggenheim's own vessel. Late afternoon cruise to Pellestrina, which separates the Venetian Lagoon from the Adriatic Sea, along the Canal of the Orphans passing lagoon islands with their ancient monasteries, painted fishing boats and tiny churches. Dinner on board.

Tuesday, Day 3 San Pietro in Volta to Taglio di Po

After a stroll or cycle along the 18thC Istrian sea wall in Pellestrina, we cruise to Chioggia, city of Goldoni's plays. Here we visit the picturesque town centre and colourful fish market. We also see the Cathedral and the Piazzetta Vigo before rejoining La Bella Vita. Passing through a nature reserve with flamingos and occasional heron, snipe and other wetland wildfowl, we travel upriver to Taglio di Po for dinner ashore hosted by the owners at the beautiful 17thC Villa Ca'Zen, a private stately home by the river where Lord Byron courted the Countess Giuccioli and wrote some of his best poetry.

Wednesday, Day 4 Taglio di Po to Bosaro

This morning we cruise to Adria, an ancient Etruscan town and visit the Archaeological Museum. After lunch on board, we drive to the Bagnoli Estate where we tour the Renaissance gardens and wine cellars of the 17thC Villa Widmann Borletti, for a private tasting of their renowned estate-grown vintages. This winery has been supplying Venetian society for centuries. Afternoon cruise to Bosaro. Dinner on board.

Thursday, Day 5 Bosaro to Governolo

Morning excursion with guided tour of the Renaissance city of Ferrara, including the Schifanoia Palace, renowned for its fabulous 15thC frescoes. We also admire the 14thC Estense Castle and its moat and the magnificent cathedral façade with its sculpted images described as an illustrated Bible. Return to the hotel barge for an afternoon canal cruise past villages and farmsteads to Trevenzuolo and dinner on board.

Friday, Day 6 Governolo to Mantua

Our final cruise has a dramatic approach to Mantua, home of the poet Virgil, artists Mantegna and Donatello and a captivating lakeside setting. Mantua displays extraordinary neo-classical and baroque architecture, portrayed in the 14thC Ducal Palace housing some 15 gardens and courtyards, a museum, basilica and theatre. The intricate frescoes, Gallery of Mirrors, exquisite Rivers Room and 12,000 paintings and sculptures all create a Grand Finale to our Italian Renaissance adventure. Captain's Farewell Dinner on board.

Saturday, Day 7 Mantua

After breakfast, guests are transferred by private chauffeured minibus to the Hotel Laguna Palace in Mestre or Piazzale Roma in Venice.

**This is a sample itinerary and is subject to change. On alternate weeks the cruise will be in the reverse direction. Some cruises may be on the River Po instead of the Canal Bianco, depending on the water level.*

Note: Biking is limited on this cruise.

La Bella Vita is operated by Delta Tour snc.

A Small Selection of the Wines Served Aboard

- Chianti Classico Castello d'Albola
- Vespaiole Maculan Breganze
- Malvasia Passito Valtdone
- Rosé Blanc Brut Sanfeletto
- Pinot Grigio St. Michael - Eppan
- Rosso di Montepulciano Sabazio
- Vino Nobile di Montepulciano La Bracesca
- Prosecco Millesimato Valdobbiadene Sanfeletto
- Rosé Millesimato Brut Riserva Bortolomiol

Cruise Highlights

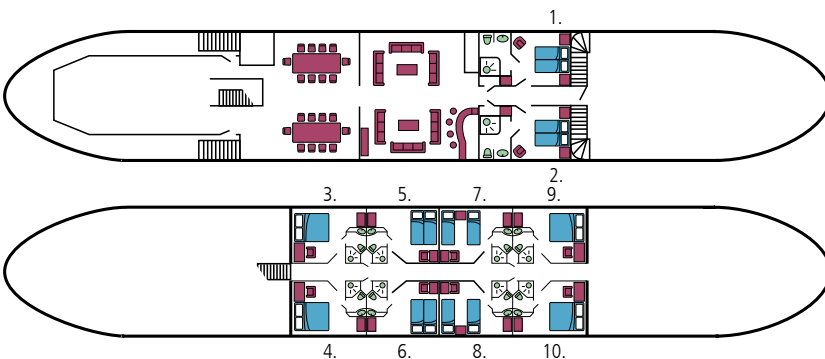
- Tour of historic Venice, The Naval Museum and the Pavilion of Gondolas
- Cruise on the Canal of the Orphans past picturesque lagoon islands
- Tour of Chioggia with its Roman, Etruscan and Byzantine history
- Visit to Chioggia's colourful fish market
- Dinner ashore at the 17thC stately home Villa Ca'Zen
- Private visit to the wine cellars of Villa Widmann-Borletti
- Tour of the Schifanoia Palace in Ferrara
- Visit Mantua's Ducal Palace and gardens, or the Doge's Palace in Venice

Deck Plan

First Class | 20 Passengers | 6-10 Crew

Cabin Names

1. Leonardo
2. Michelangelo
3. Tiziano
4. Mantegna
5. Canaletto
6. Boldini
7. Tintoretto
8. Veronese
9. Tiepolo
10. Caravaggio



- 140 Feet Long, 3 Decks
- 20 Passengers (Plus Tour Leader)
- 2 Twin/Double Junior Suites (135sq ft. incl. en suite)
- 8 Twin/Double Staterooms (103 sq ft. incl. en suite)
- Wi-Fi (Subject to Local Reception)
- PC with Internet, Piano
- Air-Conditioned
- Centrally Heated
- 6-10 Crew
- Upper Sun Deck
- 10 Touring Bikes
- Air-Conditioned Coach



SPECIAL OFFER: Save 10% if booked by 15 December 2017

ITINERARY*

Saturday, 25 August 2018. Venice, Verona

Guests are met at the meeting point in Mestre or Venice on Saturday afternoon and transferred to the Hotel due Torri in Verona. Early evening, we drive to Verona for a visit to the fascinating Arena Muse Opera, a wonderful museum in the magnificent setting of Palazzo Forti and devoted to the history of opera. There, we also have dinner in the delightful courtyard restaurant, before making our way to the nearby Arena di Verona, a Roman Amphitheatre built in 30 A.D., where we watch a performance of Bizet's "Carmen" from the top-priced front stalls seats. At the end of a memorable evening, we drive back to the hotel.

Sunday, 26 August 2018. Verona, Venice

After breakfast in the hotel, we enjoy a guided tour of Verona, before driving to Venice to board La Bella Vita for a Prosecco Welcome. After lunch, an afternoon cruise takes us along the Giudecca Canal past some of Venice's most famous monuments: the Chiesa del Redentore, the impressive Basilica di Santa Maria della Salute and the Punta della Dogana to our mooring outside the Naval Museum. There is time for a stroll to St Mark's Square and a brief tour of the Doge's Palace before dinner on board.

Monday, 27 August 2018. Venice to San Pietro in Volta

This morning, a guided tour of the magnificent opera house, the Gran Teatro La Fenice, where the premières of operas by composers such as Rossini and Verdi were performed. It was destroyed by a devastating fire in 1996, but after a complete refurbishment of its spectacular interior, the opera house re-opened in 2004. After lunch back on board, we cruise to Pellestrina which separates the Venetian Lagoon from the Adriatic Sea, along the Canal of the Orphans, passing lagoon islands with their ancient monasteries, painted fishing boats and tiny churches. Enjoy a walk at sunset before dinner on board.

Tuesday, 28 August 2018. San Pietro in Volta to Taglio di Po

After a stroll or cycle along the 18th century Istrian sea wall in Pellestrina, we cruise to Chioggia, city of Goldoni's plays. Here we visit the picturesque town centre and colourful fish market. We also see the Cathedral and the Piazzetta Vigo before cruising on to the River Po delta. Passing through a nature reserve with flamingos and occasional heron, snipe and other wildfowl, we travel upriver to Taglio di Po for dinner ashore hosted by the owners at the beautiful 17th century Villa Ca'Zen, a private stately home by the river where Lord Byron courted the Countess Giuccioli and wrote some of his best poetry.

Wednesday, 29 August 2018. Taglio di Po to Zelo

This morning we cruise to Adria, an ancient Etruscan town and visit the Archaeological Museum. After lunch on board, we drive to the Bagnoli Estate where we tour the Renaissance gardens and wine cellars of the 17th century Villa Widmann Borletti, for a private tasting of their renowned estate grown vintages. This winery has been supplying Venetian society for centuries. Afterwards, we rejoin La Bella Vita moored at Zelo. Dinner on board.

Thursday, 30 August 2018. Zelo to Governolo

Morning excursion with a guided tour of the Renaissance city of Ferrara. Here, we tour the Teatro Communale, built in the late 18th century and boasting a majestic 5-tiered auditorium. We also visit the 'Camerino delle Duchesse', a truly delightful private room in the Ducal Palace decorated in the 16th century for Eleonora and Lucrezia d'Este. We see the 14th century Estense Castle with its moat, drawbridges and marble balconies, the fabulous 15th century frescoes in the Schifanoia Palace and the cathedral façade with its sculpted images described as an illustrated Bible. Return to the hotel barge for an afternoon cruise past villages and farmsteads to Governolo and dinner on board.

Friday, 31 August 2018. Governolo to Mantua

Our final cruise has a dramatic approach to Mantua, a Renaissance city with a captivating lakeside setting and home to Verdi's opera Rigoletto. Mantua displays extraordinary neo-classical and baroque architecture, portrayed in the 14th century Ducal Palace housing some 15 gardens and courtyards, a museum, basilica, intricate frescoes, the Gallery of Mirrors and the exquisite Rivers Room. We explore the city further, finding "Rigoletto's House" near the cathedral, then finally, we visit the intimate Teatro Bibiena, a delightful baroque theatre with a bell-shaped interior that opened with a concert by a 13-year-old Mozart in 1770. A wonderful finale to our Italian opera adventure. Captain's Farewell Dinner on board.

Saturday 1 September 2018. Mantua, Venice

After breakfast, disembark La Bella Vita and transfer to your drop-off point in Mestre or Venice.

This is a sample itinerary and is subject to change.

Price: ~~From €3,290.00 pp twin/double share Plus €800 Opera Supplement~~

10% savings offer: From €2,960.00 pp twin/double share Plus €800pp Opera Supplement

€850pp deposit required within 5 days of booking, no later than 15 December 2017

Travel Trade Bookings in New Zealand: Eurolynx Travel, Ph: 09 361 3661 E: info@eurolynx.co.nz