

Venice

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1000 ft
500m

Quick Talk Italian

The official language of Italy is Italian.
The following are a few words to help you out.

Yes Si	Exit Uscita	Two Due
No No	Entrance Ingresso/Entrata	Three Tre
Hello Buongiorno/Ciao	Men Uomini	Four Quattro
Goodbye Arrivederci/Ciao	Women Donne	Five Cinque
Please Per Favore	How much? Quanto costa?	Six Sei
Thank you Grazie	Do you speak English? Parla inglese?	Seven Sette
Open/Closed Aperto/Chiuso	One Uno	Eight Otto
Toilets Gabinetti/Bagni		Nine Nove
		Ten Dieci

Topdeck

trips for 18 to 30 somethings

City Guide Venice



Eating & Drinking

There are no shortage of places to sample traditional fare in Venice. You'll be paying generally a little more than average but when you see the barges pulling ingredients into the city and men heaving crates up and down the steps of Venice's 400 bridges to deliver, you'll know why! The most popular places to eat are St Mark's Square and around the Rialto Bridge. St Mark's has a great atmosphere and at night there are sometimes bands serenading you while you eat, but beware, restaurants can charge up to a 50% service charge for this privilege! Around the Rialto Bridge there are many restaurants lining the Grand Canal, many have set menu deals for lunch. Alternatively, pick a direction, walk for a while, find a secluded square with a little restaurant and eat with the locals!

Venetians like to start their day, finish their meals and end their day with an espresso and you'll find many little bars serving it all over the place.

Safety

Pickpockets are fairly common in Venice, so be wary!

Money

The official currency of Italy is the Euro (€). Euro banknotes are available in denominations of 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200 and 500 euros while Euro coins come in 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50 Euro cent and 1 and 2 euro denomination coins.

There are plenty of banks and exchange bureaux in Venice. There are two Travellex offices, one in St Mark's square and another by the Rialto bridge. There is no shortage of ATMs.

Shoppers

There are many little shops dotted around Venice selling typical Venetian souvenirs. Among the most popular and famous of the souvenirs are Venetian masks, Murano glass and lace.

There are two places that you can go to buy your souvenirs, one is the large markets around the Rialto Bridge which is definitely the more affordable option, though it is touch and go that you will be buying anything authentic. The other is the huge amount of smaller, and more expensive, shops dotted around the city. These shops will usually be able to show you a locally made and historically accurate product.

If it is Murano glass you are after then a trip to Murano Island is definitely worth it. The vaporetto from St Mark's Square makes this journey.

Things to do in Venice

St Mark's Square

The square has always been seen as the centre of Venice. Coffees cost anything from €6 upwards. Watch out for the pigeons!

St Mark's Basilica

Free entry into the Church, Museum Approx €4, Tomb €2 and Altar €2

This is the most famous of the city's churches and one of the best known examples of Byzantine architecture.

Remember that you will have to cover knees and shoulders to get in.

Open: Mon to Sat 9.45am - 5pm, Sun 2pm - 4pm, open til 5pm on Sundays from Apr to Nov

St Mark's Campanile

Approx €3

The Bell Tower. It can be very windy at the top but offers the best views of the Venetian islands.

Cover your ears on the hour!

Open: Apr to June & Oct 9am - 7pm, July to Sep 9am - 9pm, Nov to Mar 9.30am - 3.45pm

Doges Palace

Approx €17, Audio Guide €5

See how the Royals used to live.

Open: Nov to Mar, 8.30am - 5.30pm, Apr to Oct 8.30am - 7pm

Accademia

Approx €11

A fine art collection and includes works from local Venetian artists.

Open: daily 8.15am - 7.15pm, Mon 8.15am - 2pm

Rialto Bridge

A great place to take a break and watch the world go by. Enjoy the market shopping!

Murano Island

Vaporetto ticket €6.50

Famous for its glasswork, take the vaporetto over the one mile stretch of water and see Venetian glass made up close.

Lido

Vaporetto ticket €6.50

Another island that is home to Venice's film festival in September. At least half the Adriatic side of the island is constituted by a sandy beach ideal for swimming.

Peggy Guggenheim Museum

Approx €12, students under 26 years €10

The Peggy Guggenheim Museum is the most important museum in Italy for European and American art of the first half of the 20th century. This museum features art from prominent American modernists and Italian futurists.

Open: Daily 10am - 6pm, closed Tuesday

Bridge of Sighs

A 17th century bridge connecting the Doges Palace with the city's old prisons. The views that the convicts saw from this bridge was the last they would see before imprisonment.

Remember! Entrance fees and opening times in Europe can change at any time.

Topdeck Top Tip:
Being a car-free area, Venice's businesses are served by burly delivery men who transport goods through the streets and alleys. They don't enjoy giving way or stopping, so if you hear a booming "Attenzione!" behind you, be sure to hop out of the way!

Getting around Venice

There are no cars allowed in the city of Venice so the only traffic you will encounter will be gondolas, boats and other pedestrians. Venice is built on 117 small islands and has around 150 canals. There are only 4 bridges which cross the Grand Canal. The best way to explore Venice is to wander around and get completely lost. Start at St Mark's Square and work your way around all of the major sights like Rialto Bridge, the Bridge of Sighs and St Mark's Basilica.