



Venice

A DESTINATION GUIDE

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HISTORY



Venice has a history that spans thousands of years, but that history, technically took place before the city was known as Venice. Venice, as the tradition of the town goes, was founded in 421 A.D. Throughout its history, Venice has seen a lot of things. Venice was originally a part of and controlled by the Byzantine Empire.

There have been a host of invasions since the beginning. Attila the Hun invaded in 453, the Lombards in 568, the Franks in 810, and the Turks in 1453. This region was seen as strategic due to its geographic location right on the Adriatic Sea.

Throughout all of the invasions, Venice continued to be a thriving trade city and port. Its geographic location was also how the economy of Venice was able to flourish as well. Many don't know that Venice was under Austrian rule until 1866. In 1866, Venice was allowed to become part of Italy's newly formed nation following the defeat of the Austrians by the Prussians. Throughout its history, Venice maintained itself as a leader in the arts and as a cultural expression center.



MONEY

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Italy is part of the European Union, and, thus, the Euro is the accepted currency in Venice.

Credit Cards

Credit cards are accepted in most places. Mastercard and Visa are the most commonly accepted credit cards in the city. Travelers also can exchange their money at post offices, Bureaux de Change, and banks.

ATMs

ATMs are not hard to find in Venice, especially in the major hotels, tourist attractions, and shopping areas. Many of the ATMs are multilingual, and they accept international cards. Travelers should be aware of any international transaction fees that their bank may charge them.



HELPFUL INFO

Climate

Venice experiences a relatively continental climate with humid, warm summers and wet, cold winters. December and January are the coldest months of the year with an average low around 33 degrees Fahrenheit as these are averages it can, and does, get colder. July and August are the warmest months with an average high around 82 degrees Fahrenheit, but Venice does experience heat waves where the highs can reach into the 90s. Because of the lagoon location of Venice, they can experience flooding in the winter and spring months, of which travelers need to be aware.

Electricity

Italy adheres to the European standard when it comes to electrical outlets. The outlets accommodate 2- or 3-prong round plugs. Adapters are available for travelers in the major hotels. Italian outlets also run on 220 volts, where U.S. outlets run on 110 volts. Travelers will need to make sure that they get an adapter that will convert the power as well.



Technology & Communication

Travelers will have access to wifi networks in the major hotels in the city, the airport, and major train stations as well. There are also public wifi hotspots around the city. There is a list of these wifi hotspots available on the Autostrade website. Travelers can use these hotspots for up to 3 hours a day without a fee.

These hotspots are going to be a much more economical way to access their phones and other devices. Roaming can get expensive. They will be able to make calls, but they will have to activate international service with their providers first.

Infrastructure & Transportation

Water dominates Venice when it comes to architecture, infrastructure, and transportation. The canals of Venice are a sight to behold, and they are also the highways of the city.

Water is the best way to get around this city.

Venice is a unique city because there are no cars that operate within Venice. Venice is a city that is dictated by water, and transportation is no different. Venice is the only pedestrian city in the entire world. When getting around Venice, your options are to go on foot or by water.

There are plenty of water buses and water taxis available. Water taxis are going to be more expensive than water buses. Travelers can purchase travel cards if they will be in the city for a few days or a week visiting. A travel card is an excellent alternative for international travelers.



In Case Of An Emergency

The emergency number for Venice is 112 (police, fire department, and medical services)

Ambulance: 118

Language

Italian is the dominant language in Venice, as more than 95% of the population speak it as a first language.



LGBT Travel

Venice is a gay-friendly destination where LGBT travelers should have no worries about feeling safe and comfortable. Venice doesn't have many clearly defined gay areas or neighborhoods, as the gay scene is well integrated into the city.

Religion

More than 85% of the population identifies as Catholic, with small pockets of Muslim and other religions.



Getting There

Marco Polo International Airport is the most common way to get to Venice. It is located only about seven and a half miles from Venice by land and just over 6 miles from Venice by water. You can reach Venice from the airport by land via bus (Piazzale Roma terminal ACTV lines) or by water bus (Alilaguna motoscafi).

Driving

The narrow streets and bridges of Venice are open to foot traffic only. If you are planning on driving to Venice from another part of the country, you can plan to leave your car in a garage just outside of the city. If you are traveling with luggage, water taxis can drop you off at your hotel.

THE EXPERIENCE

Culture

Venice is a city that is known for uniqueness and its rich history as a center for European culture. Venice is widely known to many as "La Serenissima," meaning the most serene republic. It is a place that puts a significant emphasis on the importance of family, food and being together, as all Italians do.

Venetians are proud of their city, and they take pride in sharing it with the world. One of the best times to see Venice is during their Carnival celebration. It is a way to see the most beautiful parts of the Venetian culture on full display through costume, food, music, and merriment.



Bucket List

Ponte di Rialto

Venice Lido

Doges Palace

Bridge of Sighs

Murano

Torcello Island

St. Mark's Basilica

St. Mark's Square

Canale Grande (take a ride through it on a Vaporetto)



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Family Travel Highlights

Carnival (A Mardi Gras-like festival)

Gelateria Nico

Gondola Ride

Venetian Lagoon

Explore the city on foot to see what gems lay hidden amongst the winding cobblestone streets

PEPERONCINO
PICCANTE
MAZZO

2.00
€/kg

ZUCCHINI
PRIMO FIORE

2.50
€

3.80
€

ZUCCHINI
S. CLASSICO
2.00
€

Tourism Authority

Castello 5050

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Foods To Try

Sarde in Saor

Baccala Mantecato

Risotto al Nero di seppia

Risi e Bisi

Moleche

Fritole

Bigoli



Drinks To Try

Any of the regional wines

Prosecco

Aperol

Camari

Italian beers/craft beers

Photography Hot Spots

St. Mark's Square

Doge's Palace

Bridge of Sighs

Rialto's Bridge

San Giorgio Maggiore

The "Support" Sculpture on the Grand Canal



This store
guarantees to
this product
is hand made
with
original Venetian
techniques

Souvenirs To Buy

Murano Glassware

Burano Lace

Gondolier Hats

Marbled Paper

Traditional Venetian Masks

