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## Explore Venice: Your Complete Handbook

## Trip Summary

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Venice - The City

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## Venice - The City



### Venice - The City

Historical pieces of evidence suggest that refugees founded Venice. When Germanic tribes ravaged northern Italy in the 5th century, many mainlanders escaped to this difficult-to-access area on the Adriatic Sea.

Over the centuries, the refugee community grew into the most powerful trading port in the Mediterranean. At its peak, Venice counted 3,000 trade ships and 300 navy vessels. After Napoleon's fall, it became part of the Austrian Kingdom of Lombardy-Venetia, but after the uprising in 1848, the city reached its independence once again. Shortly after, in 1866, Venice was annexed to the Kingdom of Italy. 1932 saw the opening of the motor and rail bridge between Venice and the mainland, which led this city to come out on top as a tourist destination.

It can be a bit hard to navigate around the city, but don't let that put you off, as this is part of Venice's charm. Leave the other tourists at St Mark's Square and the Rialto Bridge and explore the maze-like little neighbourhoods instead. The most interesting areas and islands are Cannaregio, San Polo/Santa Croce, Dorsoduro, San Marco, and Castello.



## Venice - Do & See



### Venice - Do & See

Venice is the only city of its type in the world, a UNESCO World Heritage site representing a cultural absolute, demanding preservation and transmission to future generations. The whole city is a unique sight in itself, and to enjoy its exceptional beauty, the best way to explore it is on foot.



### St Mark's Basilica

Basilica Cattedrale Patriarcale di San Marco, Piazza San Marco  
+39 041 270 8311

Located in St Mark's Square (Piazza di San Marco), next to the Doge's Palace, The Patriarchal Cathedral Basilica of Saint Mark — commonly known as St Mark's Basilica — is the most important religious temple in the city, as well as one of the finest examples of Italo-Byzantine architecture.



### St Mark's Square

Piazza San Marco, Venice

St Mark's Square is the biggest and the most well-known square in Venice. If you truly want to comprehend the power of the former Venetian empire, this is the right place to visit. The square is full of striking and inspiring sights, like the bell tower, from which you can grasp a splendid view of Venice.



### Doge's Palace

Palazzo Ducale, Piazza San Marco  
+39 041 271 5911

Built in Venetian Gothic style and one of the most iconic landmarks of Venice, the Doge's Palace or Palazzo Ducale used to be the residence of the Doge of Venice, as well as the seat of power for the Venetian Republic, which lasted more than 1,000 years. Both the court and the prison were located within the palace walls, but since 1923 the building is better known as a museum.



### Gondola Ride

There are several tour operators offering different types of Gondola tours. You can choose between a more romantic style with serenades sung to you and your beloved partner or a more classical sightseeing tour with a guide telling you the history of all the beautiful buildings around. There are even tours where you can learn how to row the Gondola yourself. Whichever tour you end up choosing, you're sure to have a memorable experience.



### Burano Island

Burano Island, Venice

Burano Island is famous for its brightly coloured houses, picturesque canals, and peaceful atmosphere. Other attractions include the Church of San Martino with its leaning bell tower and the Lace Museum – lacemaking is a fruitful industry in Burano, and you'll find many artisan lace shops on the island.



### Murano Island

Murano Island, Venice

Murano Island is a popular tourist destination in Venice renowned for its glassmaking industry, which is the result of a centuries-old tradition. You can learn more about it by visiting the Murano Glass Museum or any of the numerous glasswork studios on the island.



### Glassmaking Workshop

The island of Murano in Venice is famous worldwide for its long tradition of glassmaking. And if you're looking for a fun and unique way to spend an hour and a half on Murano and then leave with a glass treasure you made yourself, consider taking a personalised glassmaking lesson.

In this 90-minute glassmaking workshop with a local artisan, you'll learn how to craft your own glass artwork while discovering the secrets of Murano glassmaking techniques. The best part is that you get to take your glass creation home.



### Venice Carnival Mask-Making Class

A fun activity for both kids and adults while visiting Venice is to craft your own Carnival mask. Enjoy a course on mask making from a master artisan in Venice while learning all about the history of this ancient tradition. Choose between a production class, decoration class, or both. Whichever option you choose, you get to bring home your creation as a souvenir from this unique experience.



### Food Tasting Walking Tour

A great way to eat your way around Venice and discover the local cuisine is by booking a guided food tour. And in this 3-hour food-tasting walking tour, you'll get a chance to sample an array of local specialities, including fresh seafood, homemade gelato, traditional Venetian cookies, and regional wines, plus get tips on the best places to drink and dine in the city.



### Bridge of Sighs

Ponte dei Sospiri, Venice

The Bridge of Sighs (Ponte dei Sospiri) has inherited its sad name from the condemned prisoners crossing it on their way to the execution. The covered bridge connects the prison to the interrogation room in the Doge's Palace and crosses Rio di Palazzo. If you happen to pass under it at sunset, at the time the bells of St Mark's Campanile ring, remember to kiss your loved one: as the legend goes, your love will be eternal.



### Rialto Bridge

Ponte di Rialto, Venice

The Rialto Bridge is one of the several bridges crossing Canal Grande. Be prepared to meet many other tourists here since this is one of the most well-known landmarks of Venice. The architecture is impressive, especially considering it was built on approximately 12,000 wooden pilings over 400 years ago.



### Rialto Market

Campo della Pescaria, Rialto

This fish and vegetable market has been around since the year 1097, and there is frantic activity here, especially early in the mornings. The fishmongers, the bustling scenes, the old facades, and the fascinating canal combine to create a great experience for all senses.



### Torcello Island

Torcello, Venice

Torcello is a small island that is usually not included on the typical tourist path in Venice. On this sparsely populated island, you'll find the oldest Byzantine church of Venice, which is truly amazing during the sunset, after which it even gets a little spooky.



### Grand Canal

Canal Grande, Venice

Canal Grande is the largest canal in town, almost 4 km long and 90-metre-wide in some parts, with an average depth of 5 metres. Public transport is available in the form of gondolas, water taxis, and the popular vaporetti — water buses. Along the canal, which is crossed by three stunning bridges, you'll discover plenty of famous buildings.



### Teatro La Fenice

Gran Teatro La Fenice, Campo San Fantin

+39 041 786 654

La Fenice is a world-renowned opera house and a symbol of the Italian theatre tradition. Its name means "the phoenix", which suits the theatre very well, as it happened more than once that it burned down and had to be reconstructed. La Fenice was originally built in 1755 and witnessed several world-class performances, like the premiere of Verdi's *La Traviata*. Nowadays, you can either visit the theatre to see its magnificent interiors and learn about its rich history or enjoy a show there during the opera season.



### Peggy Guggenheim Collection

Sestiere Dorsoduro, 701-704

+39 041 240 541 1

Peggy Guggenheim, the wife of the artist Max Ernst, once resided in Palazzo Venier dei Leoni, which now serves as a museum that houses her remarkable art collection, featuring works from Europe and America dating back to the first half of the 20th century.



### Scuola Grande di San Rocco

San Polo, 3054

+39 041 523 4864

Let yourself be swept away by the beautiful Renaissance paintings in this gallery. The Venetian painter Tintoretto was paid to provide art for the halls of the Scuola and his masterpieces are still there to be admired. Take the audio tour to get a deeper knowledge of the artist and his works.



### Interpreti Veneziani

San Marco, 2862/B

+39 041 277 0561

Whether or not you're a fan of classical music, the Interpreti Veneziani is a welcome break from the city's pulsating core. After its inauguration in 1987, its concerts have been performed all over the world, in countries such as the US, Japan, Canada, and across Latin America. Take one evening to enjoy the harmony brought to you by the orchestra.



### Ca' Rezzonico

Sestiere Dorsoduro, 3136  
+39 041 241 0100

Standing on the right bank of the Grand Canal, Ca' Rezzonico is one of the most magnificent buildings in the whole city, as well as a remarkable example of 18th-century Venetian baroque and rococo architecture. It was completed in 1756 and today serves as a public museum with an interesting display of 18th-century Venetian artefacts, including furniture, paintings, and sculptures.



### Basilica di Santa Maria Gloriosa dei Frari

Campo dei Frari, San Polo  
+39 041 272 8630

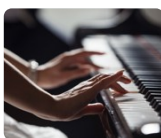
Built in the 13th century and dedicated to the Assumption of Mary, the Basilica di Santa Maria Gloriosa dei Frari, usually called the Frari, is the largest church in Venice and an important example of Venetian Gothic ecclesiastical architecture. It holds many masterpieces of Venetian art from the Renaissance period, which is simply a delight for the eye. Titian, the most renowned member of the Venetian school of painting of the 16th century, not only has paintings here, Assumption of the Virgin (1516–18) and Pesaro Madonna (1519–26), as this is also his final resting place.



### Ca' Pesaro

Santa Croce, 2076  
+39 041 721127

Ca' Pesaro is the city's modern art museum, located in an old baroque palace facing the Grand Canal. The first floor houses 19th and 20th-century paintings and sculptures, while the upper floor is dedicated to the Oriental Art Museum, exhibiting 30,000 objects from Japan, China, and Indonesia.



### Musica a Palazzo

Palazzo Barbarigo Minotto, Fondamenta Duodo o Barbarigo  
+39 340 971 7272

Musica a Palazzo is a cultural association created in 2005 and housed within the elegant Palazzo Barbarigo Minotto. Its primary goal is to convert this historic palace into a captivating and intimate setting, perfect for delving into the rich world of opera culture. If you plan to visit, be sure to visit their website to discover the program offerings.



### San Giorgio Maggiore

Isola San Giorgio Maggiore, Venice

Occupied in the Roman period, San Giorgio Maggiore is one of the several islands around Venice. At the beginning of the 19th century, after the Republic fell, the island became a free port housing Venice's artillery. This is another perfect opportunity to capture a gorgeous panoramic view of Venice, especially from the top of the Basilica of San Giorgio Maggiore's bell tower.



### Lido

Lido di Venezia, Venice

Lido is a big island featuring the city's only public beaches as well as some private ones. It can be reached by ferry, and the journey can last from ten minutes to half an hour depending on the starting point. The famous Venice Film Festival takes place here every year in September.



### Marciana Library or Library of Saint Mark

Biblioteca Nazionale Marciana, Piazzetta San Marco  
+39 041 240 7211

The Marciana Library or Library of Saint Mark (Biblioteca Nazionale Marciana) is located in a beautiful Renaissance building and takes its name after St Mark, Venice's patron. Being one of the most ancient manuscript depositories of the city, it is an exquisite place to become more familiar with the history of Venice.



### **Church of Saint Mary of Miracles**

Chiesa di Santa Maria dei Miracoli, Campiello dei Miracoli  
+39 041 275 0462

Santa Maria dei Miracoli is the most requested church for weddings in Venice, and if you step inside, you'll easily see why. It is said to be built from the leftovers of St Mark's Basilica. Being one of the best examples of early Venetian Renaissance architecture, its nickname is "the jewel box" due to its striking beauty.



### **Museum of Natural History**

Museo di Storia Naturale di Venezia, Salizada del Fontego dei Turchi  
+39 041 270 0303

For families with children, this is an ideal destination to explore. It features an assortment of botanical exhibits and animals, including fossils and well-preserved creatures that will keep the whole family engaged.



## What To Visit When All Touristic Highlights Are Covered



### What To Visit When All Touristic Highlights Are Covered



#### Concerto vivaldi

Venice, Veneto, IT, 30135

Enjoy classical music in the city where Antonio Vivaldi composed many of his masterpieces. Look for concerts in churches or historic venues for a memorable experience.



#### Libreria Acqua Alta

Castello 5167, Venezia, Veneto, Italia, 30122  
+39 041 296 0841

This unique bookstore is known for its creative displays of books, including a staircase made of old encyclopedias leading to a gondola filled with books. It's a quirky and charming place for book lovers.



#### Squero di San Trovaso

1097 Dorsoduro, Venezia, Veneto, IT, 30123

Visit the Squero di San Trovaso, a historic gondola boatyard. While gondola construction is not as common as it once was, you can still see the craftsmanship and learn about the history of these iconic boats.



#### Doges palace

1 Piazza San Marco, Venezia, Veneto, IT, 30124  
+39 041 2715911

Explore the hidden chambers and passages of the Doge's Palace by taking a Secret Itineraries Tour. This guided tour provides access to areas not open to the general public.

The tour is accompanied by a specialized guide, for a minimum of 2 people and a maximum of 25. in English at 10.00, 11.30 and 13.00

Further departures are available on demand

Info: Call center +39 041 42730892 Monday to Friday 09:00-16:00, Saturday and Sunday 09:00-13:00.

prenotazionivenezia@coopculture.it



#### Torcello, San Francesco del Deserto, and Sant'Erasmo

Via Giudecca, Venezia, Veneto, IT, 30035

Go beyond the city and explore the surrounding islands in the Venetian Lagoon. Torcello, San Francesco del Deserto, and Sant'Erasmo offer a more tranquil and nature-focused experience.

PLEASE NOTE: Since this is a non touristic activity these islands can be reached by a private boat or a taxi. Torcello can be included in your Murano and Burano tour.

## Venice - Dining



### Venice - Dining

Venice has a large variety of restaurants, and as usual with Italian cities, the best dining experience can be enjoyed at a simple neighbourhood trattoria off the tourist rabble. The city boasts many culinary specialities, like bigoli in anchovy sauce or castraure — tiny artichokes with Parmesan shavings and olive oil.



#### Vini Da Pinto

Campo de le Becarie, 30125  
+39 041 522 4599

Ristorante Vini Da Pinto is situated right across from the Rialto Fish Market, which means a daily fresh selection of locally caught fish and crustaceans — just ask for the special of the day. Seafood specialities served all year round include spaghetti alle vongole (clams), tagliatelle all'astice (lobster), and seppie al nero (squid in its ink). You can choose to enjoy your meal either outside or in its rustic-chic interior featuring ancient stone pillars, bare brick walls, and beams from the 14th century.



#### Osteria Da Fiore

Campo San Polo, 2002  
+39 041 721308

Once a neighbourhood tavern fit for "un' ombra" (Venetian slang for a glass of wine), today Da Fiore could possibly be the city's best restaurant, with sober décor, elegant rooms, and delicious dishes like misto crudo (marinated raw fish) and pennette with crayfish and broccoli.



#### Ristorante Ca' Dolfin

Calle Seconda del Cristo, 5903  
+39 041 528 5299

Fresh, unpretentious seafood dishes are the focus of this traditional restaurant located in a small piazza, just a few minutes from the Rialto Bridge. That combined with impeccable service and affordable prices is what keeps visitors coming back to Ristorante Ca' Dolfin.



#### Cantine del Vino Già Schiavi

Fondamenta Nani, 992  
+39 041 523 0034

Cantine del Vino Già Schiavi is the perfect place to go if you're looking for Italian-style tapas accompanied by a glass of wine. This 19th-century tavern offers the most inventive cicchetti in Venice. Don't miss the crostini-style layers of bread, smoked swordfish, and slivers of raw zucchini, or pungent slices of Parmigiano, fig, pistachio and toast.



### **Al Nono Risorto**

Bettina, Santa Croce 2338  
+39 041 524 1169

Al Nono Risorto serves simple and authentic Italian cuisine in the heart of the city. Enjoy classic Venetian dishes like sardine in saor (sardines preserved in a sweet and sour marinade) along with baccalà (dried and salted cod), pasta, and homemade pizza. During the warmer months, you can dine al fresco in their spacious and lovely wisteria-covered courtyard.



### **Da Mamo**

Calle dei Stagneri o de la Fava, 5251  
+39 041 523 6583

Italy is world-famous for making great pizza and pasta dishes. Da Mamo offers those Italian classics along with traditional local dishes such as creamy salted codfish with polenta in a cosy, candlelit setting.



### **La Zucca**

Sestiere Santa Croce, 1762  
+39 041 524 1570

Located near San Giacomo Square, La Zucca is a small and welcoming restaurant serving seasonal Venetian dishes with a focus on vegetarian options. Some of their specialities are pumpkin flan and pumpkin soup, hence the name La Zucca, which means "the pumpkin" in Italian. In summer, the restaurant offers 12 canalside seats.



### **Algiubagio Restaurant**

Fondamente Nove, 5039  
+39 041 523 6084

This restaurant's watchword is "detail". The romantic atmosphere and the elegant and refined design go hand in hand with the enchanting terrace overlooking the lagoon. The sophisticated menu featuring modern Italian dishes leaves prices on the higher side, but once you've tried the food and enjoyed the chic, rustic-style setting, you'll find it to be worth your visit.



### **Riviera**

Fondamenta Zattere Al Ponte Lungo, 1473  
+39 041 522 7621

Facing the Giudecca Canal, Riviera encompasses magic views of Venetian domes. The spectacular sight combines with soft music to create the perfect atmosphere for a sensational dinner. High-quality seafood is on focus here and the sommelier will help you find a wine that best matches your dishes.



### **Osteria Antico Giardinetto**

Calle dei Morti, 2253  
+39 041 722 882

Osteria Antico Giardinetto is a homely family-run restaurant, close to the Rialto Fish Market, serving exquisite Mediterranean food and typical Venetian cuisine with fresh fish, meat-based dishes, and homemade pasta and desserts.



### **Locanda Cipriani**

Piazza Santa Fosca, 29  
+39 041 730150

Born to be a rural "maison d'hôte" (a guest house), the restaurant Locanda Cipriani is part of the world-famous luxury hotel of the same name, welcoming guests in a very simple environment where the atmosphere is cosy and relaxing. The menu includes dishes created by the Cipriani family, which are now considered classics, such as carpaccio of raw meat and Sampietro fish 'alla Carlina', a variety of fish-based dishes, and homemade pasta. To accompany your food, a fine selection of Italian and particularly Friulian and Venetian wines.



### **A Beccafico Arte**

Fondamenta Trapolin, 2289c  
+39 041 275 9220

A Beccafico Arte is a casual establishment with canalside tables and a terrace, serving a delightful selection of seafood dishes, pastas, and pizzas.



### **Hostaria Bacanera**

Campiello de la Cason, 4506  
+39 041 260 1146

Spacious restaurant with an authentic Venetian charm in a secret hidden corner of the city. Hostaria Bacanera offers fresh and perfectly executed dishes, mostly seafood. The chef goes daily to the Rialto Market to choose the catch of the day. Pair the divine food offered here with a high-quality wine and you've got yourself a memorable dining experience.



### **Trattoria Alla Rampa**

Fondamenta Sant'Anna 1135, Venezia, Veneto, Italia



### **Trattoria Dalla Marisa**

Cannaregio 652, Venezia, VENEZIA, IT, 30121  
041 720211



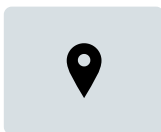
### **Osteria Da Alberto**

Cannaregio 5401, Venezia, VENEZIA, IT, 30121



### **Gislon**

San Marco 2629, Venezia, Veneto, Italia, 30124  
+39 041 522 6795



### **Ristorante Da Ivo**

1809 Calle Fuseri, Venezia, Veneto, IT, 30124

## Venice - Cafés



### Venice - Cafés

Coffee is as important as pasta for the Italians. And as the place where it all began — coffee was introduced to Europe through the port of Venice — it is no surprise the city is full of cafés.

If you want to act like a local, there are some unwritten rules you should keep in mind when ordering your coffee.

- Cappuccino or any other kind of coffee based on milk should only be drunk in the morning.
- When ordering an espresso, do not use the word espresso, which is actually just a technical phrase. Ask the barista for simply "un caffè".
- And last but not least, when ordering "un caffè", you do not usually sit down, you simply stand at the bar and enjoy your cup of coffee.



#### Caffè del Doge

Calle dei Cinque, 609  
+39 041 522 7787

Located in a quiet side street, out of the way of the tourist crowds, yet only a short walk from the famous Rialto bridge, Caffè del Doge is a cosy espresso bar offering excellent coffee prepared by expert and friendly baristas along with fresh and tasty pastries. We suggest you try the cappuccino Veneziano, which is made with dark chocolate.



#### Caffè Florian

Piazza San Marco 57, Venice  
+39 041 520 5641

Caffè Florian opened its doors in 1720, and it's the oldest coffee house in continuous operation in Italy as well as one of the oldest in the world. Located in the famous Piazza San Marco, Caffè Florian offers coffee, cocktails, and snacks in a gorgeous Neo-Baroque setting, plus a daily permanent orchestra that livens the elegant cafe with the sounds of classical music. There are also tables outside on the square if you prefer to people-watch.



#### Torrefazione Cannaregio

Fondamenta dei Ormesini, 2804  
+39 041 716371

For any coffee lover, this is the place to come to get your caffeine fix while in Venice, plus its lovely location on a side canal makes the trip even more worth it. Torrefazione Cannaregio offers an amazing range of house-roasted coffees along with sweet treats in a rustic-chic setting with exposed bricks and bags of coffee beans. The pistachio cream croissant comes highly recommended.



#### La Mela Verde

Fondamenta de l'Osmarin, 4977A

La Mela Verde is a small, artisanal ice cream shop as well as a charming creperie. Ice creams are produced with first-class products such as the Sicilian pistachio, the Piedmontese PGI hazelnut, and a great selection of seasonal fresh fruit. You can't miss the divine stuffed crepes either.



### Rosa Salva

Sestiere di San Marco, 950  
+39 041 521 0544

Being one of the city's best patisseries, especially recommended for breakfasts or coffees, Rosa Salva offers several local specialities like zaleti and baicoli, which are typical Venetian cookies, as well the famous tiramisu, as well as a vast patisserie selection. At lunchtime, they also offer light meal options.



### Gelato Fantasy

San Marco 929, Venice  
+39 041 522 5993

Gelato Fantasy opened in the space of a blacksmith's former workshop. Since 1998, it has been an artisanal ice cream shop where workers share a deep love for tradition. Here you can try the cream of the Doges — a Venetian speciality — as well as tasty fresh fruit sorbets, seasonal flavours, and crepes.



### Majer - Piazzale Roma

Santa Croce 287/A, Venice  
+39 041 406 6568

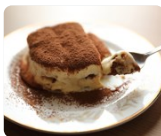
Majer is a combined bakery, café, and wine shop located in a quaint alleyway facing the Rio Novo Canal. You can try fresh pastries, cookies, and typical Venetian cakes, or buy fresh bread and baked products.



### Gran Caffè Quadri

Piazza San Marco 121, Venice  
+39 041 522 2105

Dating from 1638, Quadri is a traditional and luxurious café opening onto St Mark's Square offering breakfast, dinner, and everything in between. It's an excellent venue to either sit down during the day and have a sandwich and a cup of coffee or enjoy martinis in the evening.



### Pasticceria Rizzardini

Campiello dei Meloni, 1415  
+39 041 522 3835

Established in 1742, Rizzardini is the oldest Venetian patisserie and as such, values tradition and quality. The interiors may be tiny, but the offer of sweet treats is huge. Here, you'll be able to choose among many types of biscuits and pastries and be sure to either try their signature tiramisu or indulge in some frittelle during Carnival time.



### Pasticceria Tonolo

Calle San Pantalon 3764, Venice  
+39 041 523 7209

This corner patisserie is a Venetian institution, and you'll always find it bustling with people. Having a cup of coffee and a sweet pastry standing at the counter might be exactly what you need to start the day off right. The types of pastries, cakes, and baked goods you can choose are numerous, and the prices are kept affordable.

## The Best Local Places by Venetians



### The Best Local Places by Venetians



#### Osteria Ae Saracche

847/D Fondamenta di Rio Marin, Venezia, Veneto, IT, 30135  
+39 041 309 9283

Cute little place with a great atmosphere and amazing wine and food, Offers outdoor sitting.



#### Cantina Do Spade

Sestiere San Polo 860, Venezia, VENEZIA, IT, 30125  
041 521 0583

One of the oldest Venetian taverns, a stone's throw from Rialto, is the Cantina Do Spade, a bacaro full of "cicheti", typically Venetian appetizers such as fried calamari, meatballs, mozzarella in carrozza, creamed cod, spienza, nerveti.



#### Il Paradiso Perduto

Cannaregio 2540, Fondamenta de la Misericordia  
+39 041 720581

Traditional neighbourhood tavern serving hearty Venetian fare plus regular live readings & music



#### Osteria Al Squero

Dorsoduro 943, Venezia, VENEZIA, IT, 30123  
335 600 7513

Traditional small plates (cichetti) & wines are served in this cozy, canalside destination with a rustic vibe.



#### Al Timon

2754 Fondamenta dei Ormesini, Venezia, Veneto, IT, 30121  
+39 041 5246066

Informal restaurant in a rustic space serving seafood, steak & pasta, plus wine & outdoor seating.



#### Panificio Giovanni Volpe

1143 Cannaregio, Venezia, Veneto, Italia  
+39 041 715178

A soulful bakery with traditional Venetian-Jewish sweets and savory treats, perfect for a snack to go.



#### Bar Tiziano

5747 Salizada San Giovanni Grisostomo, Venezia, Veneto, IT, 30121  
+39 041 523 55 44

Here you can try a very underestimated Italian snack tramezzini! Bar, fresh tramezzinos, quick lunches and snacks.



#### Bacareto da Lele

Fondamenta Tolentini, Venezia, Veneto, Italia, 30135  
+39 347 846 9728

The most local place ever. If don't know about it most likely you would pass by. The concept of "bacaro" (tiny bars in wich enjoying a glass of wine or spritz with some "cichetto" or tapa) is one of the best for tasting a real Venetian snacks and feel like a local.

## Venice - Bars & Nightlife



### Venice - Bars & Nightlife

Bacaro (plural bacari) is the term Venetians use for bars. Traditional establishments featuring simple furniture and serving ombre (small glasses of wine) along with cicchetti (small appetizers).

Venice has many good bars, primarily in the Dorsoduro district. However, it's not a party scene city. Youngsters and party-seekers often hop over to Venice's modern sister city, Mestre, on the mainland. In the summer, they prefer to travel to the seaside town of Jesolo, where they can enjoy tanning and swimming.



#### Skyline Rooftop Bar

Giudecca, 810  
+39 041 272 3316

Elegant rooftop bar offering high-quality cocktails, summer pool parties with DJ sets, and quite possibly the best panoramic views in Venice.



#### Harry's Bar

Calle Vallaresso, 1323  
+39 041 528 5777

Birthplace of the Bellini — a mix of Prosecco and white peach juice — and Carpaccio, Harry's is an iconic 1930s bar near St Mark's Square, which focuses on creating an inviting atmosphere that welcomes everybody with open arms. Having a cocktail where Humphrey Bogart, Truman Capote, and Ernest Hemingway drank is definitely something of an experience.



#### Osteria Ai Pugni

Fondamenta Gherardini, 2836  
+39 346 960 7785

In an overly touristic city like Venice, Osteria Ai Pugni is a local gem. A rustic, wood-beamed wine bar serving cicchetti (small snacks or side dishes), plus wines and cocktails in a lovely location by a canal.



#### Vineria all'Amarone

Calle dei Sbianchesini, 1131  
+39 041 523 1184

Vineria all'Amarone is a lovely wine bar, tucked away in a quiet alley, offering an extensive selection of Italian wines both by the bottle and by the glass, with a focus on the Valpolicella region, to be paired with cicchetti finger food, pizza, or seafood pasta.



#### Piccolo Mondo Disco

Sestiere Dorsoduro, 1056A  
+39 041 887 8154

Piccolo Mondo is the oldest and only disco club in Venice. Born as an art gallery in 1963, today, El Souk (its original name) is a club with a bar vibe where university students meet, dance, and have fun until the early hours of the morning.





### Venice Jazz Club

Sestiere Dorsoduro, 3102  
+39 340 150 4985

Low-lit and cosy jazz club featuring live music from the Venice Jazz Club quartet as well as guest acts. You can also book the VJC for private parties and dinners.



### The Irish Pub Venezia

Corte dei Pali, 3847  
+39 041 639 6692

Hole-in-the-wall-type pub serving a variety of beers, including Guinness, whiskey, and sandwiches in a friendly and welcoming atmosphere, plus sports on TV and outdoor tables.



### Devil's Forest Pub

Calle dei Stagneri o de la Fava, 5185  
+39 041 520 0623

Venice is not generally associated with pubs, but if you're in the mood for traditional pub grub, cocktails, and beers, then this is the right place to go. Live football and rugby matches will accompany the food and drinks.



### Chet Bar

Sestiere Dorsoduro, 3684

Chet Bar is a cosy and laid-back bar serving classic cocktails, spritzers, and bar fare, plus retro music every night of the week.



### Bacaro Jazz

San Marco, 5546  
+39 041 528 5249

Right between the two main tourist attractions of Rialto Bridge and St Mark's Square, you can find this quirky cocktail bar and restaurant, where visitors' lingerie decorate the ceiling. Attracting a mix of locals and tourists, Bacaro Jazz has been around since 1997 and offers cocktails, a wide selection of beers, plus tasty food and a jazz soundtrack.



### Aurora Beach Club

Lato Blue Moon, Lungomare Gabriele D'Annunzio  
+39 340 813 2984

Right on the beach on the island of Lido, this large bar and nightclub give the jet-setters of Venice the right summer vibes. Coloured lights, popular DJs, large white sunbeds, and fruity cocktails contribute to creating just the right atmosphere.



### Bar Dandolo

Calle Seconda de la Fava, 4196  
+39 041 522 6480

At the award-winning Bar Dandolo, in the 14th-century luxury Hotel Danieli, guests can relax in a beautiful setting embellished with the famous Murano chandeliers and sip perfectly-made classical cocktails. Live music performances take place several nights a week.



### Margaret DuChamp

Campo Santa Margherita, 3019  
+39 041 528 6255

Even if the party doesn't go on until the very sunrise, this vibrant, student-friendly hangout does come to life after midnight. The drink menu includes a wide array of beers, wines and cocktails, and the food list comprises snacks like burgers, club sandwiches, piadina and antipasti, all at fair prices. And if you're a football fan, you can watch live matches on the big screens.



### LondraBar

Riva degli Schiavoni, 4171

+39 041 520 0533

To add an international atmosphere to your evening cocktails, head to LondraBar at the four-star Hotel Londra Palace overlooking the St Mark's basin. Take a seat on the beautiful terrace and contemplate, or mingle with fellow bar-goers.



### AquAlta

Piazza Barche, 37

+39 041 972208

AquAlta has a modern and fresh interior and young and trendy people meet here over a glass of chilled Prosecco and delicious appetizers. It is located in Mestre and is known locally as a good pre-party bar. There is also a basement space and a menu of snacks such as cheese and salami.



### Molocinque

Via Elettricità, 8

+39 346 606 2950

Molocinque lies in a former theatre complex in Porto Marghera, and, since 1999, this large club equipped with several bars, a pizza restaurant, and dance floors has gathered a fashionable crowd. The music is mostly techno, pop, 70s, 80s, and Latin dance.



### Orange

Campo Santa Margherita 3054a, Venice

+39 041 523 4740

Once you step inside this vibrant bar, the origin of its name becomes evident — the walls are entirely awash with a funky hue of orange. House music sets the lively tone, while a terrace provides a picturesque view of Campo Santa Margherita — one of Venice's most enchanting squares. Catering to the tastes of Venice's trendsetting crowd, the bar offers an extensive array of wines and cocktails, alongside a diverse menu of bites and burgers.



### El Refolo

Calle Giazzo, 1580

+39 041 000 0000

El Refolo is a bustling but welcoming wine bar where locals come to enjoy a spritz and some appetizers. Sit down outdoors and watch people passing by while sipping on a glass of good Italian wine, possibly accompanied by salami or cheeses.



### Osteria Al Squero

Sestiere Dorsoduro, 943

+39 041 296 0479

Al Squero owes its name to its location in front of Squero di San Trovaso, one of Venice's traditional gondola boatyards. It is a traditional bacaro — the term Venetians use for bars — offering a vast selection of cicchetti (small bites) and other snacks. As for drinks, you can order wine, beer, or cocktails like the typical Venetian Spritz. There is little seating inside, but people usually consume outdoors, on the picturesque side of the canal.

## Venice - Shopping



### Venice - Shopping

Walking through the labyrinth of streets in Venice, you'll come across many interesting shops that are certainly worth a visit. From traditional markets selling local specialities like prosciutto and a variety of Italian cheeses to shops selling Venetian treasures like a gondolier's hats and colourful glass items made on the island of Murano.

If you're after high fashion shops, they're located at Via XXII Marzo and neighbouring streets. Via XXII Marzo stretches from St Mark's Square towards Academia, and it's one of the main streets for luxury shopping in Venice, where you'll find renowned brands like Prada, Valentino, Etro, Chanel, and Gucci. There's also a designer outlet located about 40km from Venice.



#### **Drogheria Màscari**

Sestiere San Polo, 381  
+39 041 522 9762

Drogheria Màscari is the oldest traditional food and spices store in the centre of Venice. The shop was opened near the Rialto Bridge in Calle degli Spezieri, the spices merchants' street. It offers a wide range of the best distinctive products of traditional Italian cuisine, including truffles, teas, dried mushrooms, and balsamic vinegar, as well as cookies, typical sweets, candies, and more than fifty types of honey.



#### **Banco Lotto n.10**

Salizada San Antonin, 3478/A  
+39 041 522 1439

By the will of the Municipality of Venice, Banco Lotto 10 was opened in 2003 in an attempt to exhibit the fruit of a retraining program at the women's prison on Giudecca. The stylish clothes and accessories you'll find here are all designed and hand-made by inmates who work in the boutique assisted by many volunteers.



#### **Libreria Acqua Alta**

Calle Longa Santa Maria Formosa, 5176b  
+39 041 296 0841

Even if you're not looking for a new book, this unique, offbeat shop is well worth a visit. This self-proclaimed "most beautiful bookstore in the world" contains thousands of books, magazines, and maps lying helter-skelter in cluttered rooms or inside bathtubs, waterproof bins, and gondolas. Do not be afraid if you see cats prowling, they're on a friendly footing with the owners.



#### **Elle Elle - NasonMoretti store**

Fondamenta Manin, 52  
+39 041 527 4866

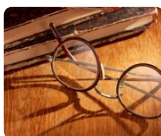
At this small but elegant glassware shop, you can revel in colourful and uniquely designed glass pieces, innovative vases, and other types of glass works of art. All of them are original pieces directly from the glass factory NasonMuretti, a Venetian company in business for over 12 years.



### Giuliana Longo

San Marco, 4813  
+39 041 522 6454

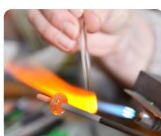
This tiny shop is officially recognised as a historical location of the Veneto Region. In this small boutique, you can find all kinds of hats of the highest quality. If you need a gondolier's hat in your wardrobe, you'll find it here along with wool hats, hats for the carnival, wedding hats, and original Panama hats imported directly from Ecuador.



### Ottica Vascellari

Rughetta del Ravano o Ruga Rialto, 1030-31-32  
+39 041 522 9388

The Vascellari family has been in the world of optics for several generations, and the shop on Ruga Rialto has been around since 1964. They design their own eye-wear brand and pay close attention to finding the perfect pair of glasses for every customer, taking into account their individual face shape and personal style.



### Marina e Susanna Sent

Fondamenta Serenella, 20  
+39 041 527 4665

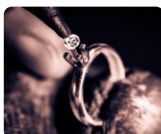
Located on the island of Murano, Marina e Susanna Sent is a jewellery workshop specialising in the production of glass pieces such as sculptures, plates, and lampshades. The combination of innovation and traditional methods renders the Sent sisters' creations unique even though their work embraces simplicity. Don't miss two other shops in Dorsoduro and St Mark's Square.



### Prosciutto e Parmigiano

Calle del Mondo Novo, 5793A  
+39 338 312 0284

Italy is known for its good food made from local high-quality products, and of the best places to get them is at Prosciutto e Parmigiano, a little Italian gastronomic speciality shop near Piazza San Marco. Don't miss the dry-cured Prosciutto di Parma and the Prosciutto di San Daniele, or the 30-month-aged Parmigiano Reggiano, among over 150 varieties of traditional Italian cheeses.



### Cipolato Sigfrido

Calle de la Cortesia, 3717  
+39 041 522 8437

As a city on the water, Venice could not be spared from the passage of pirates. Master jeweller Sigfrido has been creating rings, necklaces, and other jeweller's masterpieces combining experience, originality, and craftsmanship techniques perfected since the XVII century. Every piece of art is enriched with details like skulls and colourful stones.



### Gilberto Penzo

Calle Seconda dei Saoneri, 2681  
+39 041 524 6139

The Venetian fleet is among the oldest in the world. Should you find yourself in love with the typical Venetian boats or gondolas, make your way to Gilberto Penzo, where you can buy an elaborate miniature to take home with you. And if you wish to build one by yourself, you can also buy a kit with full instructions included.



### Designer Outlet Noventa di Piave

Via Marco Polo, 1  
+39 0421 5741

Located about 40km from Venice, this outlet offers fashion's most luxurious brand names at reduced prices (35% to 70%) throughout the year. Brands like Armani, Gucci, Prada, Bottega Veneta, Valentino, Burberry, Versace, and many more can all be found at the Designer Outlet Noventa di Piave. On-site, there are also a few eateries in case you want to grab a bite between shopping.

## Venice - Tourist Information



### Venice - Tourist Information



### Best Time to Visit

The best time to visit Venice and enjoy sightseeing is mid-spring, particularly the first half of May when the cold winter gives way to sunny days and comfortably warm temperatures. With less boat traffic on the canals and calm waters, this season is best for relaxing on a gondola ride.

If you want to avoid the stress of the high tourist season, December through February may do the trick with quiet and peaceful local areas. Low season also provides discounted accommodation rates. Moreover, the famous Venetian Carnival takes place annually in February, which gives visitors the chance to join in on the festivities and try on a traditional ornate mask.



### Venice Marco Polo International Airport (VCE)

L'Aeroporto di Venezia-Marco Polo, Viale Galileo Galilei  
+39 041 260 9260

Venice Marco Polo International Airport (VCE) is situated 7 km north of the city. There is a wide selection of transport from the airport to the city. Choose between buses, taxicabs, and boats.

If you choose a boat, be prepared for a short walk first. The water bus is operated by Alilaguna and the journey takes about 1 hour and 20 minutes. There are also motorboats and the price varies from company to company.

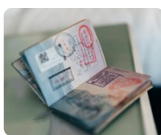
A land route to Venice is offered too. The two transport companies ACTV and ATVO have direct buses between the city and the airport. The journey takes approximately 20-25 minutes.



### Treviso Airport (TSF)

Aeroporto di Treviso – Antonio Canova, Treviso  
+39 0422 315111

Treviso Airport (TSF) is located 30 km north of Venice and it's used mainly by low-cost airlines. ATVO and Barzi buses depart from/to Venice and the journey takes about 40 minutes. There is a ticket office located at the arrivals hall.



### Passport / Visa

Italy can be visited visa-free for up to 90 days by citizens from Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Malaysia, Israel, UAE and most countries in America. If you are not sure whether or not you need to apply for a visa, we recommend you to contact the embassy or consulate in your country. In order to enter the Schengen zone, international (non-Schengen) travelers need a passport that is valid for at least 3 months after the end of their intended trip. Citizens from Schengen countries can travel without a passport, but they must bring with them a valid ID during their stay.



## Public Transport

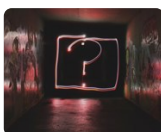
The ACTV operates ordinary buses together with the bus boats, the so-called vaporettos. Tickets can be purchased at the stations, from newsstands or on board the boats. There are also several travel cards to choose from, but remember that you need to swipe them before boarding. If you need to cross the Grand Canal, you can catch a traghetto, a large gondola leaving from different places between the bridges.



## Taxi

+39 041 240 671 1

Taxis in Venice are mainly boats of different sorts. Travelling by gondola is rather expensive and it is better used for sightseeing or special excursions. The boat taxis are slightly cheaper. One of the premier boat taxi operators in Venice is Consorzio Motoscafi Venezia.



## Frequently Asked Questions About Venice (FAQs)

Does Venice smell?

Unlike what you might have read or heard, Venice does not smell. If anything, what you will smell in the city is the salt water from the canals, just like you would at any seaside destination. However, what can happen on the hottest days of summer is that the low water levels in smaller canals allow for the contact of algae from the lagoon with the atmosphere and its consequent deterioration. But other than that, Venice is not smelly at all.

Is Venice safe for tourists?

Despite being one of the most visited cities in the world, Venice is a fairly safe city for travellers. However, as with most major tourist destinations, pickpocketing is the biggest concern here. So be careful with your belongings around the city's main attractions, such as Piazza San Marco and the Rialto Bridge.

Is Venice sinking?

Yes, Venice is progressively sinking. A combination of factors is causing the city to continuously drop in elevation. From the city's inadequate foundations — the ground beneath Venice has slowly compacted over time — to the subduction of the Adriatic tectonic plate beneath the Apennine mountains to the rising sea level caused by global warming. Studies suggest that Venice could be underwater by the year 2100. In addition, studies have also shown that Venice is gradually tilting slightly to the east.



## Post

Stamps can be purchased from tobacconists that carry either the blue and white "Tabacchi" sign or that are simply marked with a "T". There are a couple of post offices across the city and you find one of them at:

Merceria San Salvador, 5016

+39 041 240 4149

Opening hours: Mon–Fri 8:20am–7:05pm, Sat 8:20am–12:35pm, Sun closed



## Pharmacy

Pharmacies have alternating opening hours during weekends and nights. Addresses of pharmacies on duty at night are posted at every pharmacy. You find one of the local pharmacies called Farmacia Santa Margherita at:

Sestiere Dorsoduro, 3692

+39 041 522 3872

Opening hours: Mon–Fri 9am–12:30pm / 3:45pm–7:30pm; Sat 9am–12:45pm, Sun closed



## Telephone

Country code: +39

Area code: 041 (also dialled in Venice) If you call Italy from abroad, you must always dial zero in the area code (do not omit it as is the general practice when making international telephone calls), e.g. +39 041 + the number.



## Electricity

240 V, 50 Hz