**PRE-EXTEND YOUR CRUISE WITH 2 NIGHTS IN VENICE \$899** - Discover canal-laced Venice at a slow and leisurely pace, by foot or aboard one of the local vaporetto water buses.

## Day 1 - Venice

Discover the former capital of the mighty Venetian Republic, the beautiful city of Venice. Famous for the canals that crisscross this "floating" city, Venice is ideal to explore on foot or by one of the excellent local water buses, or vaporettos. You will be met at the airport for a short transfer to your hotel. The Hilton Molino Stucky is situated on the banks of the Giudecca canal. Enjoy views across the city from the rooftop pool. A regular shuttle boat runs from the hotel door right to the heart of Venice, St. Mark's Square.

## Day 2 - Venice

Today will afford you ample time to explore this storied city at your own pace. Discover the myriad hidden passageways and courtyards of Venice, and watch the ancient and modern worlds unfold over the perfect cup of cappuccino. Make sure to visit the magnificent Doge's Palace and its works of art and the elegant St. Mark's Square or take a boat over to Murano to glimpse the work of its legendary glassmakers. (B)

## Day 3 - Venice

On your final day, you will transfer by coach to the ship. (B) The following meals are included for all days as listed: B = Breakfast ALL THIS IS INCLUDED: 2 nights in Venice, 2 breakfasts, Services of a Viking Host, All transfers

**PRE-EXTEND YOUR CRUISE WITH 3 NIGHTS IN VERONA AND LAKE COMO \$1,899**-Explore the romantic city of Verona and the villa-lined shores of Lake Como during our fully escorted extension. Your Viking Tour Director will lead you into the romantic ambience of Verona's Old City, fictional home of Shakespeare's fated heroine, Juliet, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site of sublime medieval architecture. Amid the pristine splendor of Como and its glimmering lake, embark a private boat to Bellagio, a charming village set on a lush promontory, and take in Como's historic center. The distinct cuisine of northern Italy flavors your experience throughout, during an exclusive cooking class and at restaurants brimming with local character, while historic accommodations enhance your evenings.

## Day 1 - Verona

Arrive at the Milan Malpensa Airport and transfer to the beautiful Lake Como, where you will check in to the First-Class Albergo Terminus (or similar) for a two-night stay. Located in the picturesque Lombardy region, Como paints a stunning canvas anchored by its shimmering namesake lake encircled by soaring alpine peaks and elegant villas. Your Viking Tour Director is available to help you plan your time at Lake Como so you can make the most of your visit. (D)

## Day 2 - Como

After breakfast, board your private boat for a scenic cruise on Lake Como. The lake's beauty has long been a draw for poets, artists and actors—George Clooney keeps a summer residence, Villa Oleandra, on its shores. You will cruise past historic villas such as Villa Carlotta, renowned for its lush botanical gardens and the graceful statues created by Italian neoclassical sculptor Antonio Canova. See the village of Bellagio, the "Pearl of Lake Como," its stone lanes and cobblestone stairways lined with graceful, century-old buildings and inviting shops. Then return to Como for lunch on your own and time to shop at your leisure. Later, join your Tour Director on a guided walking tour of the city. Admire the Gothic-style Como Cathedral and its marbled, 14th-century facade. Filling nearly one side of the Piazza Duomo, this continued......remarkable structure is adorned with detailed stone carvings and statues that surround its stunning rose window. In the evening, enjoy a hands-on, personal cooking class. Working with locally sourced ingredients, you will learn about Italy's northern culture through food, then enjoy an appetizing meal of the delicious dishes you have prepared. (B, D)

#### Day 3 - Verona

After breakfast, embark your motor coach for romantic Verona, the famed setting for Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. For lunch, savor traditional Veronese recipes at a local restaurant in the heart of the Old City. During a guided walking tour of this UNESCO World Heritage Site, you will see the balcony of Juliet's House, proclaimed by city officials as the legendary home of the Capulets. You will also view the city's iconic Verona Arena, a Roman amphitheater with an acoustic structure that has survived two millennia. Stroll through Piazza delle Erbe, a quaint square overlooked by old mansions and towers, and the open air Piazza dei Signori. Contemplate the monumental, Gothic-style Scaliger Tombs, designed for the lords of Verona, the della Scala family. In the evening, enjoy a traditional Veronese dinner at a local restaurant, then return to the First-Class Hotel Accademia (or similar) for your overnight stay. (B, L, D) **Day 4 - Como** 

After breakfast, check out of your hotel and travel to the 16th-century Villa Giusti outside of Verona, temporary residence of King Victor Emmanuel III during World War I. Its lush palace gardens are considered one of the finest examples from the Italian Renaissance. Stroll among the age-old trees, gargoyles, fountains and echoing grottoes of this tranquil setting. After, depart for Venice and your awaiting ship. (B)

The following meals are included for all days as listed: B = Breakfast; L = Lunch; D = Dinner <u>ALL THIS IS INCLUDED</u>: 3 nights' accommodations: 1 night in Verona; 2 nights at Lake Como, 7 meals: 3 breakfasts, 1 lunch & 3 dinners, 3 guided tours: Verona Walking Tour, Lake Como Boat Cruise & Como Walking Tour, Fully escorted by your Viking Tour Director, All transfers.

**PRE-EXTEND YOUR CRUISE WITH 3 NIGHTS AT LAKE MAGGIORE \$1,899**-Discover the Italian lakes as you explore the quaint islands of Lake Maggiore and the villa-lined shores of Lake Como. Immerse yourself in a bygone era of decadence as you visit the picturesque Borromean Islands, owned by Milanese nobility since the 16th century. Step on the shores of the "Pearl of Lake Como" during a visit to Bellagio, and stroll its graceful promenade.

#### Day 1 - Lake Maggiore

Welcome to Milan. Meet your Viking Representative and transfer to your First-Class Hotel Splendid (or similar) on the shores of Lake Maggiore, where you can spend the rest of the day at your leisure. Enjoy dinner this evening with your fellow guests. Your Viking Tour Director is available to help you plan your time at Lake Maggiore so you can make the most of your visit. (D)

#### Day 2 - Lake Maggiore

After breakfast, depart your hotel and board your private boat for a cruise across the lake to the Borromean Islands. Owned by the Borromeo family since the early 16th century, this small group of islands lie in the western arm of Lake Maggiore. On Isola Madre, you will visit the Palazzo Borromeo and explore the family's fine collection of 17th-century furniture, paintings and tapestries. Admire the Venetian-style decor of its living quarters and take a stroll through the botanical garden, brimming with rare vegetable plants from across the world. Next, cruise to Isola dei Pescatori, the only inhabited island, and enjoy free time for lunch on your own in its quaint harbor. This afternoon, explore Isola Bella, named after Countess Isabella Borromeo. Here, you will visit the beautiful baroque-style summer palace. Walk through its grand halls and view exquisite collections of paintings, shining armor and Flemish silk tapestries flecked with gold. Return to your hotel for dinner at your leisure. (B)

#### Day 3 - Lake Como

Board your motor coach after breakfast and transfer to Como, a city that has long been a draw for poets, artists and actors; even George Clooney keeps a summer residence, Villa Oleandra, on its shores. Admire the beauty of your surroundings as you enjoy a scenic cruise on the city's eponymous lake. Disembark at the village of Bellagio, the "Pearl of Lake Como," and see its stone lanes and cobblestone stairways lined with graceful, century-old buildings and inviting shops. You will have free time to explore

independently. Perhaps browse its array of goods, including local foods, quality leather accessories and beautiful clothing. Or you can choose to while away your time by the shore as you enjoy a leisurely lunch over a chilled beverage and watch the world go by. Return to Lake Maggiore for dinner. (B, D)

### Day 4 -Venice

This morning, check out of your hotel and transfer to the ship in Venice. (B)

The following meals are included for all days as listed: B = Breakfast; D = Dinner

<u>ALL THIS IS INCLUDED</u>: 3 nights at Lake Maggiore, 5 meals: 3 breakfasts & 2 dinners, 2 guided tours: Borromean Islands; Lake Como Cruise & Bellagio, Fully escorted by your Viking Tour Director, Hotel & ship transfers

**POST-EXTEND YOUR CRUISE WITH 2 NIGHTS IN ROME \$799**-Spend two days discovering beautiful Rome, the "Eternal City." Explore its ancient buildings and ruins, tour the Colosseum, see the Trevi Fountain and sample traditional Italian food.

### Day 1 - Rome

Discover beautiful Rome, the "Eternal City." You will be taken from the ship by a Viking Representative and transfer by motor coach to your hotel. After checking in, enjoy the rest of your day at leisure. You may consider a visit to one of the city's many fine museums as well as a dinner of local specialties. A Viking Host is available to help you plan your time in Rome so you can make the most of your visit.

### Day 2 - Rome

After a leisurely breakfast, you have a full day to explore on your own. You may want to learn more about the city's storied history by visiting a number of the its landmarks, such as the Trevi Fountain, Arch of Constantine, Pantheon, Spanish Steps or Colosseum, the largest amphitheater ever built. Or perhaps you would prefer a trip to the Vatican, a city within a city and home to the pope. Sample regional favorites as you enjoy lunch and dinner on your own. (B)

#### Day 3 - Rome

After breakfast, transfer by motor coach to the airport (B)

<u>ALL THIS IS INCLUDED</u>: 2 hotel nights in Rome, 2 meals: 2 breakfasts, Services of a Viking Host, All transfers

## POST-EXTEND YOUR CRUISE WITH 3 NIGHTS IN TUSCANY, FLORENCE & SIENA \$1,699-

Explore the delights of Tuscany, from its legendary cuisine and delicious wines to the Renaissance treasures of Florence, where the breathtaking works of Michelangelo, da Vinci and Brunelleschi took glorious shape and changed the world.

## Day 1 - Tuscany

At the conclusion of your cruise, disembark your ship and transfer by motor coach to Tuscany. Stop for lunch at a farmhouse, then continue through the scenic countryside of the Chianti region. Upon your arrival, check in and enjoy dinner at your well-preserved, historic villa. Your Viking Tour Director is available to help you plan your time in Tuscany so you can make the most of your visit. (L, D)

#### Day 2 - Florence

Gear up for the day's activities with breakfast at your villa. This morning, board your motor coach and drive to Florence, where you will take an unforgettable walking tour of the city center, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. You will see the Duomo, as well as Giotto's Bell Tower and the Baptistery with its beautiful doors that Michelangelo called the "Gates of Paradise." You will also visit the Piazza della Signoria, continued...Palazzo Vecchio and the Basilica di Santa Croce. After a three-course lunch, you will have free time to sample a gelato or an espresso, shop or explore the birthplace of the Renaissance on your own. Then, you will proceed to a Tuscan winery-tour the wine cellar and taste local wines before enjoying a typical Tuscan dinner. After dinner, your motor coach will take you back to your villa. (B, L, D)

#### Day 3 - Siena & San Gimignano

After breakfast at your villa, your motor coach will transport you to the mystical walled city of Siena, located in the heart of the Chianti wine region. On your walking tour, you will see the exterior of the exquisite marble cathedral, the beautiful Mangia Tower, the Town Hall, the Piazza del Campo and other historic sites that provide a glimpse into the city's medieval past. Next, you will drive to San Gimignano, a charming medieval village, and have lunch at a typical farm. Following lunch, you will walk back in time as you explore the village's ancient squares, narrow streets and an elegant cistern built in 1273. You will return by motor coach to your villa, where you will have dinner. (B, L, D)

### Day 4 - Tuscany

Enjoy breakfast at your villa before you check out. Then, board your motor coach and transfer to the airport in Florence for your flight home. (B)

The following meals are included for all days as listed: B = Breakfast; L = Lunch; D = Dinner <u>ALL THIS IS INCLUDED</u>: 3 nights' accommodations: Tuscan villas based on double occupancy. 9 meals: 3 breakfasts, 3 lunches & 3 dinners, 3 guided tours: Walking tours of Florence, Siena & San Gimignano Fully escorted by your Viking Tour Director, All transfers

## POST-EXTEND YOUR CRUISE WITH 3 NIGHTS IN UMBRIA \$1,699-In the Footsteps of St. Francis

Discover the lesser-known region of Umbria in a small group, with no more than 20 guests. During a fully escorted extension, your Viking Tour Director will accompany you as you explore the rolling hills, quaint villages and old-world traditions of the region, providing you invaluable local insight. Veering off well-trodden roads to experience Italy at its most authentic, you will visit the stunning hill towns of Spoleto and Todi; inspirational Assisi, birthplace of St. Francis; and clifftop Orvieto with its rich medieval warrens. Traditional Umbrian cuisine and a unique accommodation full of local character immerse you further into this famously rustic culture.

#### Day 1 - Orvieto & Perugia

Disembark your ship and transfer to Orvieto for an enriching walking tour. Perched atop a volcanic plateau and surrounded by scenic vineyards and olive and cypress groves, Orvieto produces Umbria's finest wine and is home to a magnificent Gothic cathedral. You will uncover its exquisite details during a tour, admiring its ornate facade and equally impressive interior with lush frescoes and jewel-like mosaics. Enjoy traditional Umbrian flavors during lunch at a local restaurant before proceeding to the First-Class Castello di Monterone (or similar) in Perugia. This evening, enjoy a wine tasting and dinner at a picturesque vineyard in the rolling Umbrian hills. Your Viking Tour Director is available to help you plan your time in Umbria so you can make the most of your visit. (L, D)

#### Day 2 - Spoleto & Todi

This morning, journey to the medieval city of Spoleto, a visually arresting hill town at the foot of a scenic valley. Surrounded by ancient walls, Spoleto is brimming with Roman and Lombard remnants. Visit the magnificent amphitheater which dates to the 1st century AD. In Piazza del Duomo, see the Romanesque cathedral. Dedicated to the Assumption of St. Mary, it holds the grave of the famous Italian painter Filippo Lippi and a letter written in St. Francis's own hand.

After lunch at a local restaurant, explore the medieval town of Todi, a magnificent canvas of stone houses, palaces and campaniles. Begin your walking tour in the heart of the city at Piazza del Popolo, where the 12th-century cathedral dedicated to the Annunciation of St. Mary boasts one of Italy's most iconic stairways. As you stroll with your Tour Director, discover the influence of the Etruscan civilization that flourished here between the 8th and 3rd centuries BC, the impact of the Romans and the riches of economic growth during the Middle Ages. (B, L, D)

## Day 3 - Assisi

After breakfast, discover the glorious city of Assisi, birthplace of one of history's most influential religious figures, St. Francis of Assisi, and a grand repository of UNESCO-listed Franciscan structures. At

continued....the enormous Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels, see the small chapel where St. Francis first took refuge, starting the Franciscan movement. Visit the stunning Basilica of St. Francis, one of the most important places of Christian pilgrimage in Italy. Within, admire the frescoes painted by medieval painters from local Roman and Tuscan schools. At the Basilica of St. Clare, view the remains of St. Clare of Assisi, a follower of St. Francis. After free time for lunch, return to your hotel for an afternoon at leisure and a delicious dinner of Umbrian cuisine. (B, D)

## Day 4 - Rome

After breakfast, check out of your hotel and transfer to Leonardo da Vinci–Fiumicino Airport in Rome for your return flight home. A Viking Representative will be available to assist you with the check-in process. (B)

The following meals are included for all days as listed: B = Breakfast; L = Lunch; D = Dinner <u>ALL THIS IS INCLUDED</u>: 3 nights in Umbria, 8 meals: 3 breakfasts, 2 lunches & 3 dinners, 4 guided tours: Spoleto, Todi, Assisi & Orvieto, Fully escorted by your Viking Tour Director, All transfers

## POST-EXTEND YOUR CRUISE WITH 3 NIGHTS IN PARMA & BOLOGNA \$1,699-Explore the

historically important and culturally refined cities of Parma and Bologna, and learn more about two of the region's iconic exports—cured meats and Ferrari sports cars.

## Day 1 - Parma

After breakfast, disembark your ship for a scenic drive through the beautiful northern Italian landscape of the Emilia-Romagna region. Stop for lunch in the charming Tuscan city of Lucca, then enjoy free time to explore at your leisure. Afterward, you will continue on to your hotel in Parma. Arrive late this afternoon and take the rest of the day to relax before dinner. Your Viking Tour Director is available to help you plan your time in Parma so you can make the most of your visit. (L, D))

### Day 2 - Bologna

Today, travel to Bologna, the vibrant capital of Emilia-Romagna. Considered one of Italy's most beautiful cities, Bologna is renowned for its endless porticoes and is dominated by well-preserved buildings from the medieval, Renaissance and baroque periods. Your guided walk will take you through the expansive Piazza Maggiore, where you can admire the Gothic facade of the Palazzo del Podestà, the Fountain of Neptune and the Palazzo dell'Archiginnasio. See the famous leaning Due Torri (Two Towers) and looming Basilica di San Petronio, the world's largest church constructed from brick. After lunch, travel to Maranello, birthplace of the Ferrari sports car, for a guided tour of the Ferrari Museum. Learn about the company's history and view its rotating collection of iconic road and race cars. You can also opt—at your own cost—to slip behind the wheel of a Formula 1 race car and test your skills in a racing simulator. Afterward, you will return to Parma. (B, L, D)

#### Day 3 - Parma

This morning, embark on a scenic drive into the rolling hills of the Italian countryside as you head to a local farm to learn about the production of cured ham and *culatello* (salami) from start to finish. Meet the black pigs that are still raised in the traditional way—roaming free to dine on wild grains, legumes, fruits and acorns. Then, see how the meat is cured and seasoned using ancient methods. Enjoy a sampling of the finished product, along with local cheeses, before returning to Parma. After lunch at your leisure, meet your knowledgeable local guide for a stroll through Parma's historic city center. See the Parma Cathedral, a fine example of the Po Valley Romanesque style, and the Baptistery, its octagonal facade constructed from pink marble. Pass by the Palazzo della Pilotta, commissioned by the powerful Farnese family and home to a library, theater and several museums exhibiting works by Italian Masters. End your tour back at your hotel, where you will have the evening to spend at your leisure. (B) **Day 4 - Bologna** 

After breakfast, check out of your hotel and transfer to the airport for your return flight home. (B) The following meals are included for all days as listed: B = Breakfast; L = Lunch; D = Dinner

<u>ALL THIS IS INCLUDED</u>: 3 nights in Parma, 7 meals: 3 breakfasts, 2 lunches & 2 dinners, 3 guided tours: Walking Tour of Bologna & Ferrari Museum; Working World Farm Visit; Walking Tour of Parma, Fully escorted by your Viking Tour Director, Hotel & airport transfers

NOTE: confirm availability when booking. Activity order may vary. Accommodations are subject to change depending on availability; if advertised hotel is not available, a similar hotel will be confirmed.

Pre and post tour extensions are paid for when you make your final payment. Prices are subject to change until booked. The order of visits and/or tours may vary.