

Indagare

NOBLE BEAUTY: ART & HISTORY IN FLORENCE & SIENA



INSIDER JOURNEYS ITINERARY

APRIL 3 - 9, 2022

Dear Traveler,

The health and safety of our guests is our No. 1 priority. We are committed to upholding the highest safety standards, while providing world-class hospitality and a seamless travel experience. We are in close contact with all of our partners to ensure that they are committed to the health and comfort of our travelers by practicing enhanced disinfecting procedures, respecting social distancing guidelines, and remaining as low-contact as possible. Itineraries and activities will be modified as needed, on the ground, to accommodate the health safety precautions that are called for at that time.

Additionally, we are thrilled to announce a new partnership with Global Rescue, to provide all Insider Journey attendees with 24/7 complimentary access to medical assistance, security assistance and advisory services, as well as emergency evacuation assistance, for the duration of this trip. You can learn more about these health and safety benefits on pages 12-13.

Regarding specific protocols that have been put into place to make your trip as safe as possible, as well as the current entry/exit requirements for Italy, and for any further questions, please reach out to our team at the phone number or email provided below.

Warmly,



Indagare Founder Melissa Biggs Bradley
and the Insider Journeys Team



Journey Overview

BEST FOR

→

HISTORY/CULTURE

ART/DESIGN

FOOD/WINE

The cradle and muse of mythical masters of art, architecture and culture (Dante, Da Vinci, Botticelli, Michelangelo—to name a few), Florence reverberates with a beauty and depth of feeling that is centuries-deep, and beyond compare. Often referred to as a “living museum,” the City of Lilies enchants visitors with its timelessness: Frescoed Medici palazzos and glittering Gucci storefronts share the same ancient Roman streets, which are dotted by family-owned workshops as well as contemporary artworks. On this journey, led by expert art historian and local Elaine Ruffolo, travelers will study these many features of Florence’s noble beauty, with unparalleled private access to iconic monuments like the Duomo Cathedral and the Uffizi, invitations into magnificent private homes and estates, exploration in the trendy Oltrarno and a day trip to nearby UNESCO World Heritage site Siena. And with plenty of time for savoring culinary and viticultural pursuits, this is a journey that the aesthete and epicure should not miss.

AT-A-GLANCE DETAILS

DATES	FROM *	HOTEL
Sunday, April 3– Saturday, April 9, 2022 (6 nights)	\$8,450 (per person, double occupancy); \$11,090 (single occupancy)	Hotel Savoy Florence, a Rocco Forte Hotel (Executive Room or Junior Suite)

** Travelers may also wish to upgrade their stay from an Executive Room to a Junior Suite, priced from \$9,650 per person, double occupancy or \$13,450 per person, single occupancy.*





YOUR HOST

Elaine Ruffolo is a Renaissance art historian, with a special interest in 15th-century patronage. She has lectured for Syracuse and Stanford University in Florence, and she has designed academic travel programs for the Smithsonian, the Clark and Telfair Museums, Atlanta High Museum, Yale University Alumni, the College of William & Mary and the Patrons of the Vatican Museums. Elaine also sits on the advisory board of the Friends of Florence and consults for CEO and YPO programs throughout Europe.



ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS

Immerse yourself in the art, history and architecture of **Florence and Siena on private, expert-guided tours with Elaine Ruffolo**. Explorations will focus on the creativity of the Renaissance and the rule of the Medici, from Cosimo to Lorenzo Il Magnifico.

Enjoy **exclusive, privileged access** to Florence's top monuments, including the off-limits top floor of the **Orsanmichele gallery**, the world-famous **Uffizi Museum after-hours** (where you can find works by Botticelli, Caravaggio and many others) and the staggering **Duomo**, with **special entrance to the cathedral's terraces** for unforgettable views.

Explore the wonderfully renovated **Opera del Duomo Museum with its director**, who will provide behind-the-scenes insight into the fascinating collection.



With special permission, go underneath the tombs of the Medici Chapel in the Basilica di San Lorenzo to a **secret underground chamber covered in charcoal wall drawings by Michelangelo**, who lived there for a month in 1530 while hiding from the pope.

Attend **receptions at historic residences** for a view into private life in Florence—including the **Renaissance-era Palazzo Gondi**, where the Count and Countess Gondi will welcome you, and the **wine estate of Alessandra Bindi Sergardi**, who will share the rich history of her family, going back to the 14th century.

Visit the **Castello di Nipozzano winery in Chianti** for a tasting dinner, with other culinary experiences including a meal at the famed **Antinori** restaurant in Florence.

Explore the backstreets of the **artistic Oltrarno neighborhood**, where many of Florence's traditional artisans still live and work. **Visit with these masters in their workshops** and enjoy hands-on experiences of such traditional Florentine arts as gilding and silk weaving.



Connect with your host and fellow travelers—and gain a deeper understanding of the itinerary—before the trip with **complimentary enrollment in Elaine's new Indagare Art Club: The Medici, Power and Patronage** (four virtual sessions, \$650 value).

Worry less, experience more: Indagare's expert Insider Journeys team will help you **navigate a safe and rewarding travel experience**—and help plan custom trip extensions. Plus: You'll have **complimentary 24/7 access to the emergency medical, security and evacuation services of Global Rescue**, while on the ground (see pp. 12-13).

“This is the fairest picture on our planet, the most enchanting to look upon, the most satisfying to the eye and the spirit. To see the sun sink down, drowned on his pink and purple and golden floods, and overwhelm Florence with tides of color that make all the sharp lines dim and faint and turn the solid city to a city of dreams, is a sight to stir the coldest nature, and make a sympathetic one drunk with ecstasy.”

MARK TWAIN



Photo courtesy of Manifattura Florence (top left)

Day 1: April 3



Arrival in Florence

AFTERNOON AND EVENING

Upon arrival at the Florence airport, you will be met for your private transfer to the Hotel Savoy Florence for check-in and some time to refresh.

In the afternoon, meet your guide Elaine Ruffolo for a walking tour that will introduce you to the historic center of Florence. As you stroll in the footsteps of Michelangelo, the Medici, Leonardo da Vinci and Dante, you'll gain an understanding of the many architectural periods that continue to live and evolve in this layered city, from its Roman foundations and medieval towers, to ornate Renaissance palaces decorated with the famous *fleur-de-lis*.

In the evening, enjoy a welcome reception and dinner at the home of Indagare members and Insider Journey alumni Alatia and David Bach, who moved to Florence from New York in 2019.

OVERNIGHT

Hotel Savoy

MEALS INCLUDED

Dinner

Day 2: April 4



Renaissance Firenze

MORNING

After breakfast, meet Elaine and your fellow travelers for a tour of the meticulously restored Palazzo Davanzati (a preserved 14th-century residence that provides a window into the life of Florentine nobility), the gothic church of Santa Trinita, and Orsanmichele, a converted 13th-century granary that now contains extraordinary Renaissance sculptures that commemorate the merchant guilds of the city. You will be welcomed for private access to the top floor of the building, which is normally closed to the public, for breathtaking panoramic views of central Florence.

Day 2: April 4



Renaissance Firenze (Continued)

AFTERNOON AND EVENING

Stop for lunch at the Gucci Osteria, which was opened on the famous Piazza della Signoria in 2018 by *Michelin*-starred chef Massimo Bottura. Here, Bottura draws inspiration from international cuisine to craft fresh and unique Italian dishes—a modern culinary experience that is less commonly found in this traditional city. The stylish interiors are Gucci-approved, with bright velvets of green and golds, patterned plates and eye-catching art. There is also a Gucci boutique next door for a little post-lunch shopping. Later, head to the storied Uffizi Gallery for a private tour of the collection after it has closed to the public. Originally built as state rooms of the Grand Duke Cosimo I de' Medici, the Renaissance palace—which is itself a work of art thanks to its beautifully frescoed ceilings—now holds some of Italy's finest paintings and sculptures. On this inside-access tour, revel at works by Botticelli, Da Vinci, Michelangelo, Titian, Caravaggio and others as the Medicis would have—without the presence of other visitors. Afterwards, enjoy the evening at leisure for independent exploration and dinner on your own. Indagare will be happy to provide restaurant recommendations.

OVERNIGHT

Hotel Savoy

MEALS INCLUDED

Breakfast, Lunch

Day 3: April 5

Cathedral Complex



MORNING

After breakfast, begin the day with an unforgettable visit to the Duomo Cathedral, Florence's central monument that was designed in the Gothic style between the 13th and 15th centuries by architects including Brunelleschi and Giotto. Its staggering height and intricate façade of green, pink and white marble are mesmerizing from below—and then, you'll be able to take in the building from new heights thanks to special access passes to the terraces of the cathedral, which are closed to the public. After, head next door to the Duomo Museum, where you will meet with the director, art historian Monsignor Timothy Verdon, for a special tour that will include the chance to admire Ghiberti's original *Gates of Paradise*, Donatello's *Mary Magdalene* and Michelangelo's *Pieta*.

Photo courtesy of Hotel Savoy Florence (bottom)

Day 3: April 5



Cathedral Complex (Continued)

AFTERNOON AND EVENING

Enjoy lunch and the afternoon at your leisure. Later, drive for 40 minutes into the Chianti region for a private tour, wine tasting and dinner at Frescobaldi's Castello di Nipozzano. The castle dates back to the 11th century and overlooks the Arno river valley.

OVERNIGHT

Hotel Savoy

MEALS INCLUDED

Breakfast, Dinner

Day 4: April 6



Siena: a Gothic Dream

MORNING, AFTERNOON AND EVENING

After breakfast, enjoy a scenic 75-minute drive through rolling hills of Tuscany to the famed UNESCO World Heritage site, Siena. With its intricate brick-laid city center and massive ancient walls, Siena is as beautiful as it is historic (the legend goes that the city was founded by the son of Remus, one of the wolf-raised twin brothers who are said to have founded Rome). The iconic black-and-white striped Duomo di Siena is one of Italy's finest gothic cathedrals and boasts magnificent mosaic floors, which you will explore. After strolling through the bustling Piazza del Campo and Palazzo Pubblico, where Elaine Ruffolo will share information about the city's history, and a private visit to a *contrada*, stop for lunch on your own at one of Siena's many authentic osterias. Before returning to Florence, enjoy an *aperitivo* (the Italian cocktail hour) at the vineyard estate of Alessandra Bindi Sergardi. Alessandra will share her family's noble history of winemaking (dating to 1349), with the chance to taste their Chianti Classico. Upon returning to Florence, enjoy the evening and dinner at your leisure.

OVERNIGHT

Hotel Savoy

MEALS INCLUDED

Breakfast, Aperitivo

Day 5: April 7

Michelangelo and the Medici



MORNING

After breakfast, meet Elaine Ruffolo and your fellow travelers to learn about one of Florence's most influential families: the Medici. These affluent merchants and bankers famously expanded their dynasty through a series of royal marriages and papal appointments. Under their leadership, Florence enjoyed a period of peace and prosperity—while the Medici used their wealth to commission some of the greatest Renaissance works from the period's artists, including Michelangelo Buonarroti. As you survey the many treasures purchased by the Medici that still live in Florence today, you'll visit the Galleria dell'Accademia to see Michelangelo's *David* statue, as well as his unfinished *Prisoners*, intended for the tomb of Pope Julius II.

Continue on to the Palazzo Medici-Riccardi, the 15th-century Medici palace-turned-museum. It was here that Lorenzo the Magnificent began his Neoplatonic Society, here that Michelangelo spent the early days of his youth, and here that Benozzo Gozzoli painted his procession of the Magi murals, celebrating both the birth of Christ and the greatness of the Medici. Next, visit the impressive marble-laden Medici Chapels at the Basilica di San Lorenzo, where Michelangelo designed tombs for the dukes. Plus: You will also be invited to go underneath the chapels to a secret chamber, where Michelangelo was once forced to hide for a month to evade the pope over a political disagreement. Here, he covered the walls of his imprisonment with sketches previously not seen by the public.

After, discuss all you have seen over a lively group lunch at the Antinori restaurant in Florence, where local produce and the respected Antinori estate wines take center stage, within a magnificent 15th-century palazzo.

AFTERNOON AND EVENING

Enjoy the rest of the afternoon for independent exploration or shopping and dinner on your own. Indagare will be happy to provide touring and restaurant recommendations.

OVERNIGHT

Hotel Savoy

MEALS INCLUDED

Breakfast, Lunch

Day 6: April 8



Oltrarno: Art and Artisans

MORNING AND AFTERNOON

Today, venture to the Oltrarno neighborhood on the other side of the Arno river. Here, the quiet, winding streets are home to Florence's traditional artisans. You will visit a variety of workshops to meet these masters and learn about their traditional work with leather, textiles, jewelry, paper and more—with the chance to try such hands-on experiences as learning how to gild. Conclude the morning with a behind-the-scenes visit to the historic Antico Setificio Fiorentino silk atelier, where the owner Stefano Ricci will guide you through the manufactory and introduce you to the types of silk made there. Afterwards, enjoy lunch on your own and the rest of the afternoon for independent exploring.

EVENING

Meet for an unforgettable private tour and farewell dinner at the historic Palazzo Gondi, a Renaissance-era residence that is now the home of Count and Countess Gondi, who lovingly maintain the building and will welcome you in to share its history.

OVERNIGHT

Hotel Savoy

MEALS INCLUDED

Breakfast, Dinner

Day 7: April 9



Departure

MORNING, AFTERNOON AND EVENING

After breakfast, check out of the hotel. Wave goodbye to Florence and meet your driver for your transfer to the airport for your departure back home or connection on to your private, Indagare-planned extension within Italy or beyond.

MEALS INCLUDED

Breakfast

** Please note that elements of the itinerary may change.*

Trip Inclusions

- Six nights' accommodation at Hotel Savoy (Executive Room or Junior Suite). Indagare can arrange room upgrades, subject to availability.
- All meals and beverages, as detailed in the itinerary
- All guided touring, admission fees and activities, as detailed in the itinerary
- Group airport arrival and departure transfers, as well as group transfers throughout the itinerary to all scheduled activities, in small luxury vehicles
- Expert guides and drivers, including your host and the 24/7 support of Indagare's partners on the ground
- The services of Indagare's expert travel team to plan all trip details, international flights and trip extensions (costs not included)
- 24/7 access to Global Rescue emergency medical services for the duration of the trip (see pp. 12-13)
- Complimentary enrollment in the Indagare Art Club: The Medici, Power and Patronage, hosted by Elaine Ruffolo (four virtual sessions, \$650 value)



TRIP EXCLUSIONS

- Transportation to/from Italy and airport transfers outside of group arrivals and departures
- Meals not specified and premium or alcoholic beverages
- Optional activities and personal items and expenses
- All gratuities
- Covid testing fees and trip insurance (highly recommended—please let us know if you would like to see quotes)

Introducing: Indagare Insider Journeys x Global Rescue

FIELD RESCUE | EMERGENCY EVACUATION | CRISIS RESPONSE

To help you travel more safely, responsibly and seamlessly, Indagare is now including complimentary membership to Global Rescue as an added benefit for all Insider Journey attendees. For the duration of any Insider Journey that you join, you will now have 24/7 access to emergency medical, security, advisory and evacuation services while on the ground.

Your complimentary Global Rescue membership includes access to:

24/7 medical assistance and advisory services

- You'll speak to a real expert at Global Rescue on the first call. Global Rescue operations centers are staffed by experienced nurses, paramedics and military special operations veterans. Global Rescue also has partnerships with the Johns Hopkins Emergency Medicine Division of Special Operations, Elite Medical Group and Partners HealthCare to provide additional assistance and reviews during every operation.
- Additional services include: referral to local hospital or clinic, urgent/emergency message relay, telephonic support, health information services, replacement of lost medical supplies & medical triage.

Evacuations from the point of injury/illness to home country hospital (at no additional cost)

- You'll get help from the point of emergency—regardless of where you are. Field rescue means that Global Rescue will send help if you are unable to get to a hospital.
- If you do have to be hospitalized, Global Rescue has the ability to transport you to your home hospital of choice. Their in-house staff can travel to you to help improve your care and coordinate your evacuation.

24/7 security assistance and advisory services

- Security evacuation services are available for events like natural disasters, terror attacks and civil unrest when you are in danger. Evacuations are processed from the point of distress to the nearest safe area (upon request; costs passed through).
- Additional services include: local security recommendations, referrals to local pharmacies, travel document support, local crime and threat assessments and telephonic translation services.

Travel intelligence services

- Powered by Global Rescue's in-house intelligence analysts, all Indagare travelers and employees have access to Global Rescue's event alerts and real-time destination reports for 215 countries and principalities worldwide (also including entry requirements, detailed health and security assessments and required immunizations).
- You can access these reports through the Global Rescue Intelligence Delivery (GRID) travel platform. Indagare Insider Journey attendees can register for GRID at globalrescue.com using the code "IndagareGRID".

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How it works:

Help is only a phone call away. If you are traveling while on an Insider Journey and have a medical or security emergency, call Global Rescue's Operations Center (+1.617.459.4200) or connect via email at operations@globalrescue.com. Provide your name, identify yourself as an Insider Journeys Global Rescue member and relay information about your request or emergency. Prior to the trip's departure, the Indagare Insider Journeys team will have shared the trip details, as well your contact information and emergency contact information (with your permission), with the Global Rescue team to facilitate immediate communication between organizations. In partnership with the Indagare Insider Journeys team, Global Rescue's specialists will immediately begin working on your case.

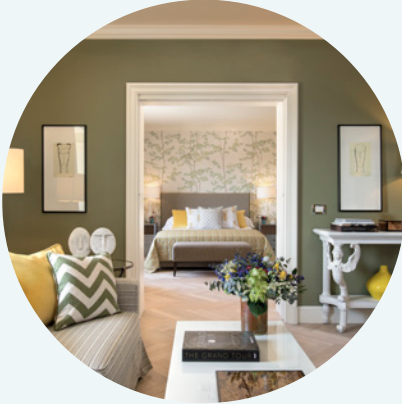
Global Rescue's medical personnel are available on the first phone call to provide symptom triage, medical assistance and advisory support; to direct you to local medical facilities or pharmacies; and to initiate medical evacuation procedures. Their paramedics and nurses are supported by their in-house and partner physicians for medical consultations and case management throughout every transport operation.

Global Rescue's security personnel are available on the first phone call to provide security advisory support, assistance services, and to initiate extractions. Global Rescue's security personnel include current and former U.S. and Allied Special Operations personnel to provide you with safe travel recommendations and to provide peace of mind, no matter where you may be traveling.

Should you be interested in extending your Global Rescue membership beyond the scheduled length of the Insider Journey, for private travel, our team can assist you with purchasing membership upgrades.

Global Rescue was founded in 2004 and has five operations centers and offices in five countries, with 200+ medical centers of excellence worldwide and 20,000+ operations globally.

Your Accommodations



HOTEL SAVOY FLORENCE, A ROCCO FORTE HOTEL

After a six-month closure, Florence's most storied hotel reopened in 2018 looking chicer than ever. Sitting right on Piazza della Repubblica, in walking distance to all of Florence's most iconic attractions, the Savoy has always been considered the city's *grande dame*, but its new interiors showcase a youthful soul. In the generously spaced rooms (the refurbishment downsized from 100-plus rooms to 80, including 30 suites), interior designer Olga Polizzi boldly combines a Florentine-inspired color palette and patterned wallpapers with such whimsical furnishings as mirrored side tables and televisions in white-painted wooden frames.



The aesthetic is light and contemporary; amenities include Illi coffee makers and organic bath products; and the latest technology has been unobtrusively incorporated. The terrace of Irene restaurant, on the ground floor of the historic building, remains the perfect spot for people-watching, while the fashionable small lobby, designed in collaboration with Pucci, was conceived for escaping the crowds.

Piazza della Repubblica 7, Florence

39-055-27-351

www.roccofortehotels.com



Post-Trip Destinations

Indagare can offer post-trip packages and arrange tailor-made adventures to any destination. These are some of our favorite suggestions for this itinerary. Email us for details and pricing at insiderjourneys@indagare.com.



ROME

Rome is a place where ancient history and contemporary life breezily coexist, where you can sip cocktails at a trendy bar while gazing upon a temple colonnade from the year 145 (that would be at Salotto 42, on Piazza della Pietra). Italy's bustling, chaotic Rome continues to inspire today's visitors precisely because of its many faces: historic, cultural, religious, culinary, contemporary.

Suggested Number of Days: 2–4



VENICE

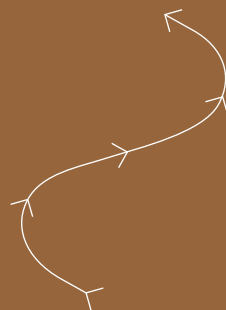
Quiet but powerful, crumbling yet proud, Venice continues to cast a captivating spell. The moment your water taxi turns into the Grand Canal and the faded, pastel-colored *palazzi* rise from the lagoon like pillars of another era is always breathtaking, whether it's your first or fifteenth visit to Italy's fabled city.

Suggested Number of Days: 2–3

Ready to experience Florence & Siena?

Pay for this special trip online:

[BOOK NOW](#)



Photos courtesy Hotel Savoy, Rocco Forte (top left) and Il Santino (bottom left)

Why Insider Journeys?

FOLLOW YOUR PASSION

The people, places and guidance we bring together for each Insider Journey is a magic formula for discovery. We curate each trip around personal passion points, whether you're a design or contemporary art aficionado; whether you're seeking the next frontier or in search of a wellness getaway that allows you to reset.

ACCESS THE HIDDEN

On each Insider Journey, we pull back the curtain on exclusive access and unique cultural experiences. We take our travelers behind-the-scenes during curator-led museum tours after-hours, we go to designer-hosted trunk shows and visit incredible private homes for dinners and discussions.

TRAVEL DEEPER

Every Insider Journey is curated to offer maximum immersion in our destinations. We have taken travelers on a foraging tour with the farmers that supply Copenhagen's legendary Noma, as well as on a preview visit to the conservation labs of the not-yet-opened Grand Egyptian Museum in Cairo. We have vetted the details of our itineraries so that you can enjoy being in the moment.

CONNECT WITH OTHERS

Discover once-in-a-lifetime experiences with like-minded travelers who share your passion for exploring and learning while being led by insiders, including renowned authorities in their respective fields, from art history to conservation. Traveling on an Insider Journey means finding joy together and being fully present with others.

To learn more and book now, contact us:

+1 646-780-8383 or insiderjourneys@indagare.com



How you travel matters.

At Indagare, we believe that the most memorable travel experiences are built around personal passions, shared experiences and those moments that stay with us long after we return home. Our experts get to know our members beyond their airline preferences and favorite hotels. We partner with you to develop a personalized roadmap for a lifetime of meaningful travels, so your time on the road is time well spent.

INDAGARE

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