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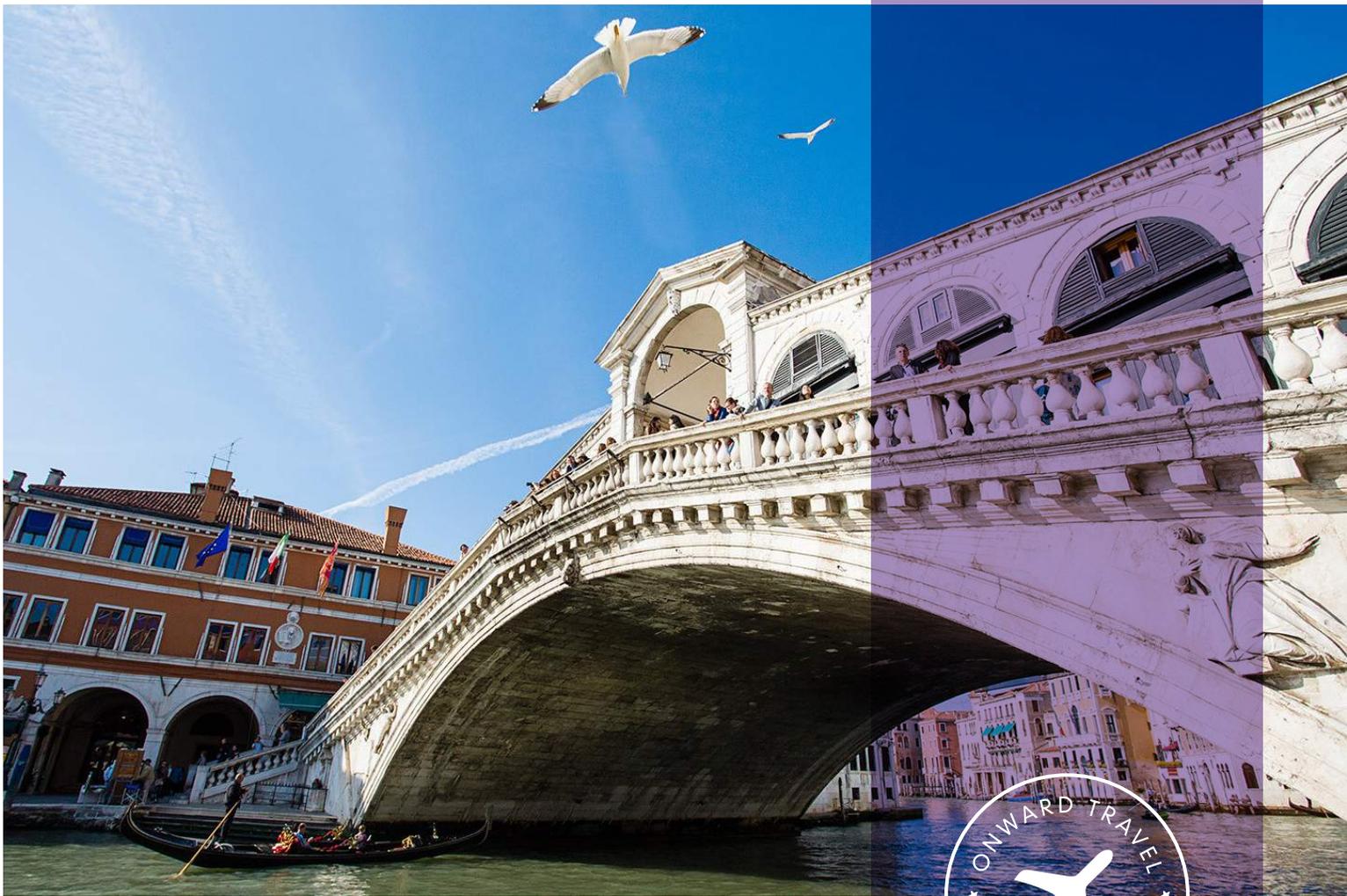
ITALY

A Culinary Adventure in the Veneto
April 22—29, 2018
Hosted by Amore Trattoria Italiana + Onward Travel

ONWARD TRAVEL



EST 2014



The great maritime Republic of Venice was once the Italian capital of trading, art and finance, and today it's one of the world's most alluring destinations.

Prepare to be enchanted by the watery topography of Venice: the city is comprised of 117 islands floating in the Venetian Lagoon! We'll explore the legendary art and opulent architecture of the City of Bridges, traverse its canals, ride the Vaporetto (water bus), meet lots of friendly locals and eat plenty of delicious food. Venice is an absolutely amazing place, and it's no secret, so the city can have a reputation of being overrun with tourists. While at times we'll feel a part of the crowd, Onward has taken care to arrange lots of special exclusive experiences and find the best local guides to make sure our group gets a real behind the scenes look at "The Queen of the Adriatic."

Then we'll make our way inland to the foothills of the Alps, just an hour's drive north of the city of Venice, to spend two nights at a gorgeous villa hotel in the heart of the Prosecco region, the epicenter of Italy's bubbly production. We'll enjoy cooking classes with a Michelin-starred chef and also set out to sip some fizz at the wineries on the "Prosecco Road." The Veneto region is as beguiling and special as it sounds, and we invite you to experience it all with Chef Jenna Arcidiacono of Michigan's acclaimed Amore Trattoria Italiana.



Imagine yourself...

Cooking (and eating!) Venetian specialties in an island villa.

Sipping bubbly on the picturesque "Prosecco Road."

Marveling at Venetian opulence as you float along its canals.

Welcome to Italy!

DAY 1: SUNDAY APRIL 22

- Take in the beauty of Venice from its canals and grand waterways.
- Settle in at an elegant hotel in the heart of Venice.

Benvenuto! Upon arrival at Venice's Marco Polo Airport your Onward Travel guide will be waiting to meet you. We'll set out together in a private water taxi headed straight for the heart of Venice. There are no cars in Venice, the canals serve as streets for this floating metropolis composed of 118 small islands.

Let's pop some bubbly and take the long way to the hotel, marveling at this floating metropolitan wonderland as our little boat weaves its way through the city's tiny canals and grand waterways. Eventually we'll arrive at the water door of Hotel Al Ponte Mocenigo. Our home for the next five nights is this elegant and comfortable residence, tucked into a quiet neighborhood just far away enough from the tourist center of Venice to feel relaxed, yet still in the heart of the city and convenient to everything we'll want to do. Expect old world, Venetian style opulence - 18th century furnishings, grand beds and Murano glasswork adorn the rooms.

We'll leave our bags and set off for a casual lunch together before checking in to our rooms. Enjoy a little time for R&R or wandering in the city's picturesque alleyways before we reconvene for a welcome aperitivo followed by a delicious gourmet dinner together.

Meals Lunch, Dinner

Venetian Immersion

DAY 2: MONDAY APRIL 23

- Get to know Venice from a local's perspective.
- Tour one of the world's best art private collections.

Enjoy a delightful breakfast at the hotel this morning as you will each day of the trip. Put on your walking shoes and bring your sense of humor, Venice has a reputation for being crowded in places and today we're joining the masses to experience the can't miss sights with a charming local guide. We'll begin at the famous St. Mark's Square, the former political centre of the Venetian Republic, containing many famous and beautiful buildings. The star of the square is St Mark's Basilica, a 900 year old church complete with golden Byzantine and Medieval mosaics and an alluring architectural blend of east meets west. Our guide will lead us through the back streets and teach us about the history of this magical city, culminating in a walk across

the Rialto Bridge, the oldest crossing of the splendid Grand Canal. When we reach the Rialto area our guide will take us to a nice osteria for a glass of wine and to taste some *cicchetti*, the Venetian version of tapas.

Then we'll hop on a *vaporetto* (water bus) together and make our way to the Peggy Guggenheim Collection: one the most important museums in Italy for European and American art of the 20th century, located in Peggy Guggenheim's former home, Palazzo Venier dei Leoni, on the Grand Canal. Ms. Guggenheim was a New York heiress, prominent art collector, and lover of the good life who spent the last 30 years of her life in Venice. Her collection is as one of a kind as she was and it will be a real treat to enjoy it on a private guided tour.

Let's continue to explore the opulent good life on offer here in Venice with afternoon aperitivo on the terrace at the next-level-luxurious Hotel Danieli. Take in the magnificent view of the Venice Lagoon as you sip on a spritz, a bellini, or a simply perfect glass of prosecco. The rest of the evening is yours to enjoy - maybe you'd like to find some more *cicchetti* or settle in for dinner at a delightful local *osteria*. You'll have a pass to ride the *vaporetto* for your stay here so Venezia is your oyster.

Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Aperitivo



The water door entrance where we'll arrive at Hotel Al Ponte Mocenigo.

Fun in the Island Kitchen

DAY 3: TUESDAY APRIL 24

- Tour iconic Rialto Market with a local chef and a sommelier.
- Spend the day in an island villa learning to cook Venetian classics.

Roll up your sleeves today and get in the kitchen yourself... it's time for an exciting Venetian cooking class. A local chef and a sommelier will meet us at the iconic Rialto Market to select fresh seafood and other ingredients. Then a private boat will whisk us off to a villa on Lido Island, the famous Venetian beach destination, for an unforgettable cooking class experience. We'll spend the whole day cooking in the villa where you can expect to learn all about the local culinary tradition with our friendly local chef instructor and then enjoy a delightful, elegant sit down meal with thoughtful wine pairings.

Meals Breakfast, Lunch

Into the Venetian Lagoon

DAY 4: WEDNESDAY APRIL 25

- Take turns rowing a gondola through the city canals.
- Stroll among the brightly colored houses of Burano & Murano.

This morning we'll take to the water with a group of local guides and enjoy the opportunity to get our bodies moving a little bit – because this isn't just a sightseeing tour, it's also a chance to learn to row a traditional, hand-crafted all-wood Venetian *batellina* boat ourselves.

Then our watery adventure continues, with a *vaporetto* ride to two of Venice's most iconic islands: Murano and Burano. Murano is the famous home of both the Venice glass and lace making traditions and there are many little shops where you can purchase a wonderful souvenir to take home. We'll sit down for lunch together at a local trattoria here. Then we'll venture even farther out into the lagoon to visit Burano, with its pastel colored houses, tiny canals and many bridges it's hard to imagine a more picturesque location.

Tonight we'll enjoy a festive pizza party together near our hotel.

Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Market & Cooking Day

DAY 5: THURSDAY APRIL 26

- Visit a floating market and later have a blast preparing dinner with Chef Jenna.

The artsy quarter of Castello, home to the world famous Venice Biennale, is the location of a tucked-away floating market. It's an Amore in Italy tradition to visit a local market to scoop up some fresh Italian goodies to cook for dinner together with Chef Jenna. So we'll head to the floating market after lunchtime today to pick up supplies to prepare a delicious meal together this afternoon. Join Chef Jenna in the kitchen, glass of wine in hand, to prepare and enjoy a dinner party to remember!

Meals Breakfast, Dinner

Toward the Alps

DAY 6: FRIDAY APRIL 27

- Transfer to a villa hotel in the agricultural region north of Venice.
- Roll up your sleeves for a class with a Michelin-starred chef.

This morning it's time to bid Venice farewell... we're off to the foothills of the Alps to the region where prosecco is produced, time moves a little slower, and everywhere you look is another beautiful vista.



It's remarkably easy to get used to noshing on Venetian *cicchetti*...

DAILY ITINERARY amore in italy 2018: venice

We'll stop on the way for lunch at a country trattoria, and then check in at our regal villa hotel with an onsite restaurant run by a Michelin starred chef. Less than an hour and a half from Venice, Hotel Villa Abazia feels worlds away. It's time to relax and you'll love the quirky, country elegant furnishings at this palatial hotel. Have a soak in the outdoor jacuzzi, or contact Onward to arrange a massage during your free time here.

Half of our group will have a very special hands on cooking class with the chef this afternoon. The other will set out to explore the "prosecco road," a string of wineries where the delicious fizzy white wine is produced. We'll visit two wineries today to see how prosecco is produced, meet the makers, and of course enjoy some bubbly!

This evening you're on your own to relax and explore Follina, the historic hamlet where we'll spend the next two nights. There are a number of nice little local restaurants here for you to enjoy, or make a reservation at the hotel's Michelin-starred eatery, La Corte.

Meals Breakfast, Lunch



Prepare to fall in love with the stunning scenery in the Prosecco hills.

Prosecco, grazie!

DAY 7: SATURDAY APRIL 28

- Eat your way around the Eternal City.
- Celebrate the week over an 8-course farm to table dinner.

After a wonderful breakfast this morning you may enjoy walking the scenic country roads, a visit to the stunning 12th-century Follina Abbey right across from the hotel, or just sitting with a cup of tea and a good book in the hotel's lovely drawing room.

In the afternoon we'll swap activities from the day before – that means you'll be heading into the kitchen with a Michelin recognized chef, or popping bubbly on the Prosecco Road.

Tonight we'll reconvene for aperitivo and then we'll dine together in the hotel's dining room. And what will we feast upon? Our own cooking class creations! *Delizioso!*

Meals Breakfast, Dinner

Arrivederci...

DAY 8: SUNDAY APRIL 29

- Head home with wonderful memories!

After breakfast we'll be whisked off to Marco Polo Airport, one hour away, for flights back to the States. Expect to return with a heart full of wonderful memories, lots of new knowledge and plenty of amore for Venetian culture, food and wine. *Ciao!*

Meals Breakfast

TRIP INFORMATION amore in italy 2018: veneto

BEGINS	Venice Marco Polo Airport (VCE) on April 22, 10:00 AM Transfer provided from VCE to Hotel Al Ponte Mocenigo
ENDS	Venice Marco Polo Airport (VCE) on April 29, 10:00 AM Transfer provided from Hotel Villa Abazzia to VCE
MOBILITY	Venice is a walking city and this tour includes plenty of walking for 15-30 minutes at a time, plus stairs and cobblestones. If you have limited mobility, we can accommodate you, but it is essential to let us know at the time of registration. Travelers may always opt out of activities they deem too physically challenging but refunds will not be provided.
TRIP LENGTH	8 days, 7 nights
TOUR DATES & PRICE	April 22–29, 2018 Double Occupancy \$3,650 per traveler Single Supplement \$600 additional Please note that air travel is not included and a current passport is required for travel to Italy. Please ensure that your passport is valid at least six months past the dates of travel.

"If I were not King of France, I would choose to be a citizen of Venice." – Henry III

"Venice is like eating an entire box of chocolate liqueurs in one go." – Truman Capote

AIR TRAVEL:

For travelers coming from Grand Rapids Onward Travel recommends the following American Airlines itinerary:

21 APR 2018: AA 5516 departs GRR 15:25, lands PHL 17:16
AA 716 departs PHL 18:40, lands VCE 09:10

29 APR 2018: AA 715 departs VCE 12:15, lands PHL 15:55
AA 5518 departs PHL 20:19, lands GRR 22:15

If you'd like assistance making arrangements, Onward Travel is happy to help!

Trip price includes the following:

- Airport transfers and ground transportation to/from all scheduled activities.
- Five nights accommodations in the heart of Venice and two nights accommodations at a country villa hotel.
- Most meals: daily breakfasts, five lunches, and four dinners. Expect fantastic gourmet experiences, wine included, of course!
- Local guide services throughout the tour to truly understand Italy. Plus Jenna speaks Italian and your Onward guide keeps your wine glass full.
- Activities, tastings, cooking classes, and tours as detailed in the itinerary.
- Pre-trip dinner at Amore Trattoria to get to know fellow travelers and post-trip reunion dinner to relive the memories. Plus an Amore hoodie!

Visit onwardtravel.co to complete the registration form and submit payment. \$1250 deposit due upon booking, balance due by February 12, 2018.

TRIP INFORMATION amore in italy 2018: veneto

About Onward Travel

Onward Travel is a boutique travel planning company that carefully crafts itineraries to create an authentic, engaging trip that exposes the destination and roots travelers to the place.

Onward was founded by two sisters, inspired by their family's cooking school on a farm in Bucks County, PA that has offered culinary-focused travel to customers for over two decades.

This is Onward's fifth year planning and hosting *Amore in Italy*.

Veneto in April

Late April is a wonderful time to visit Italy. The weather is warming up and spring is in full swing, but tourist crowds are still at a minimum. The temperature ranges in April from the high 40's at night through the 60's and low 70's during the day, so plan to bring layers and prepare for possible rain. Onward Travel will provide packing notes in advance of the trip.

Miscellaneous Travel Information

- Passports are required for American citizens travelling to Italy. Visas are not required. Note your passport should be valid for at least six months beyond the date of travel.
- To determine the current exchange rate, Google "USD to EUR."
- Travel Protection: Onward Travel recommends that you purchase a travel protection plan to help protect you and your travel investment against the unexpected. Travel protection plans include coverage for Trip Cancellation, Trip Interruption, Emergency Medical and Emergency Evacuation/Repatriation, Trip Delay, Baggage Delay and more. For more information on the recommended plans or to enroll, contact Travelex Insurance Services at 800-228-9792 and reference location number 32-0704. For a summary of plan details on benefits, coverages, limitations and exclusions, please refer to the applicable Description of Coverage. Travel Insurance is underwritten by Transamerica Casualty Insurance Company, Columbus, Ohio; NAIC #10952. 1308294

Get in Touch!

Contact Onward Travel with questions or special requests.

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#amoreinitaly

Want to see what Amore in Italy is all about? Hop on Instagram and search #amoreinitaly and to see photos from past tours. You can also view the photo album on Amore's Facebook page to get a virtual taste of the fun and adventure we have.