

Travelogue Italy

Paula and Bill Gerling

17 Places - 13 Days

- Rome - Vatican City
- Pompeii - Sorrento
- Capri - Assisi
- Verona - Venice
- Murano - Burano
- Milan - Lake Maggiore - Lake Como
- Pisa - Florence
- American Florence Cemetery - San Gimignano

Italy Map of Cities



Rome

- Rome was founded around 625 BC in the areas of ancient Italy known as Etruria and Latium. It is thought that the city-state of Rome was initially formed by Latium villagers joining together with settlers from Etruria. According to tradition, Romulus was the first of seven kings.
- The Roman Republic which commenced in 509 BC when kings were replaced with rule by elected magistrates. The period was marked by vast expansion of Roman territory. (Three Punic Wars>North Africa)
- The Roman Empire followed the Republic, which waned with the rise of Julius Caesar, and concluded after a civil war and the victory of Caesar's adopted son, Octavian (Augustus)

Vatican City and St. Peters

- The history of the St. Peter's Basilica begins in the 4th century when the Emperor Constantine decides to build a basilica where the St Peter had been buried. In 329 the construction of the basilica was completed. The church was used for the celebration of the religion.
- Old St. Peter's was torn down in the early 16th century and replaced by new St. Peter's Basilica which exists today.
- The Vatican separated from Italy to settle a political problem.
- The dispute between the Italian government and the Catholic Church ended in 1929 with the signing of the Lateran Pacts, which allowed the Vatican to exist as its own sovereign state and compensated the church \$92 million (more than \$1 billion in today's money) for the Papal States. The US has an embassy there.

Vatican Etruscan Museum



Ajax and Achilles - Dice-like game



St Peter's Altar



Worshippers



Dome of St Peter's



Pope John XXIII



Sistine Chapel-Creation of Adam



Swiss Guard



Colosseum



Arch of Constantine



Trevii Fountain



Pompeii

- During the excavations of Pompeii, the remains of over one thousand victims of the 79 AD eruption have been found. The bodies of these victims remained in the same position as when the pyroclastic flow hit them and being covered by calcified layers of ash.
- The form of their bodies was preserved even after their bodies decomposed. Thanks to the method perfected by Giuseppe Fiorelli, since 1863 over a hundred casts have been made. The bodies of these victims remained in the same position as when the pyroclastic layers hit them and were calcified in layers of ash.

Street Steppingstones



Streets of Pompeii



Volcanic Victim



Volcanic Victim



Volcanic Victims



Horse Victim



Floor Mosaic



Alexander the Great vs Darius III



Wedding of Alexander the Great/Roxanne



Capri - The Island

- Capri is famous for its dramatic coastline and is the playground for the celebrities and jet setters.
- One of the best-known features is the Blue Grotto where the sea glows an electric blue.
- The Bay of Naples also contains the Fraglioni rocks which translates as “lighthouse.”
- They are dolomite limestone which is somewhat the same type of rock you see on many road cuts in Missouri.

Blue Lagoon



Three Sisters



Paula sails through Arch Rock



King of the Hill



Real Italian Pizza (with tourist assistance)



Exploding Lemon Cake



Assisi

- The **Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi** , is built into the side of a hill and comprises two churches (known as the Upper Church, Lower Church) and a crypt, where the remains of the saint are buried. His remains were hidden because of the fear they would be stolen and disbursed as relics. The interior of the upper church is an early example of Gothic style in Italy. Both are decorated with frescoes by Giotto, Simone Martini and others. Both churches were consecrated by Pope Innocent in 1253.
- The land that was donated was previously known as the “Hill of Hell” where criminals were put to death. It was renamed as the “Hill of Paradise” when the basilica was completed.
- St Francis founded the Franciscans and lived a life of ascetic poverty. He considered all creatures as a mirror of God. He considered all creatures his brothers and sisters. That is probably why his image is surrounded with birds and animals.

Basilica of St Francis



Arched Entrance




Panoramic View



Friar's Apartments and Courtyard



Pope Francis - supports favorite football team but carries his values.



SUPER POPE

2014, originale rimosso - Roma, Via Plauto

Apparso nel 2014 a Borgo Pio nei pressi delle Mura Vaticane, l'iconico papa Bergoglio viene raffigurato nella posa tipica di un supereroe ma con le fattezze di un uomo semplice: indossa gli occhiali da vista, ha la "pancetta" e tifa per la squadra di calcio della sua città natale senza mai dimenticare di portare con sé la borsa contenente i veri *valori*.

2014, original version removed - Rome, Via Plauto

Appeared in 2014 at Borgo Pio near the Vatican Walls, the iconic pope Bergoglio is depicted in a typical superhero pose but with common features of a simple man: he wears glasses, has a paunch and supports his hometown football team without ever forgetting to carry the briefcase containing real *values*.

PAPALE PAPALE
Maupal nella città di Francesco

Verona

- The northern city of Verona has been synonymous with love for generations. The ancient city has attracted scores of lovers and heartsick romantics for being the setting of William Shakespeare's infamous 1597 play "Romeo and Juliet."
- The reality of the story behind Juliet's balcony is much less glamorous than what it's portrayed to be. Shakespeare reportedly never visited Verona, and the characters and the star-crossed love they so tragically portray in his play are completely fictional. The balcony itself was only added to the existing building in the 20th century.

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Juliet's Balcony



Verona Piazza



Fiercavalli - International Horse Show



International Horse Show



Venice - Murano - Burano

- Venice is built on a group of 118 small islands that are separated by expanses of open water and by canals; portions of the city are linked by over 400 bridges. The islands are in the shallow Venetian Lagoon, an enclosed bay lying between the mouths of the Po and Piave Rivers.
- The city was historically the capital of the Republic of Venice for almost a millennium, from 810 to 1797.
- It was a major financial and maritime power during the Medieval and Renaissance periods.

Doge Palace



Bridge of Sighs



Grand Canal



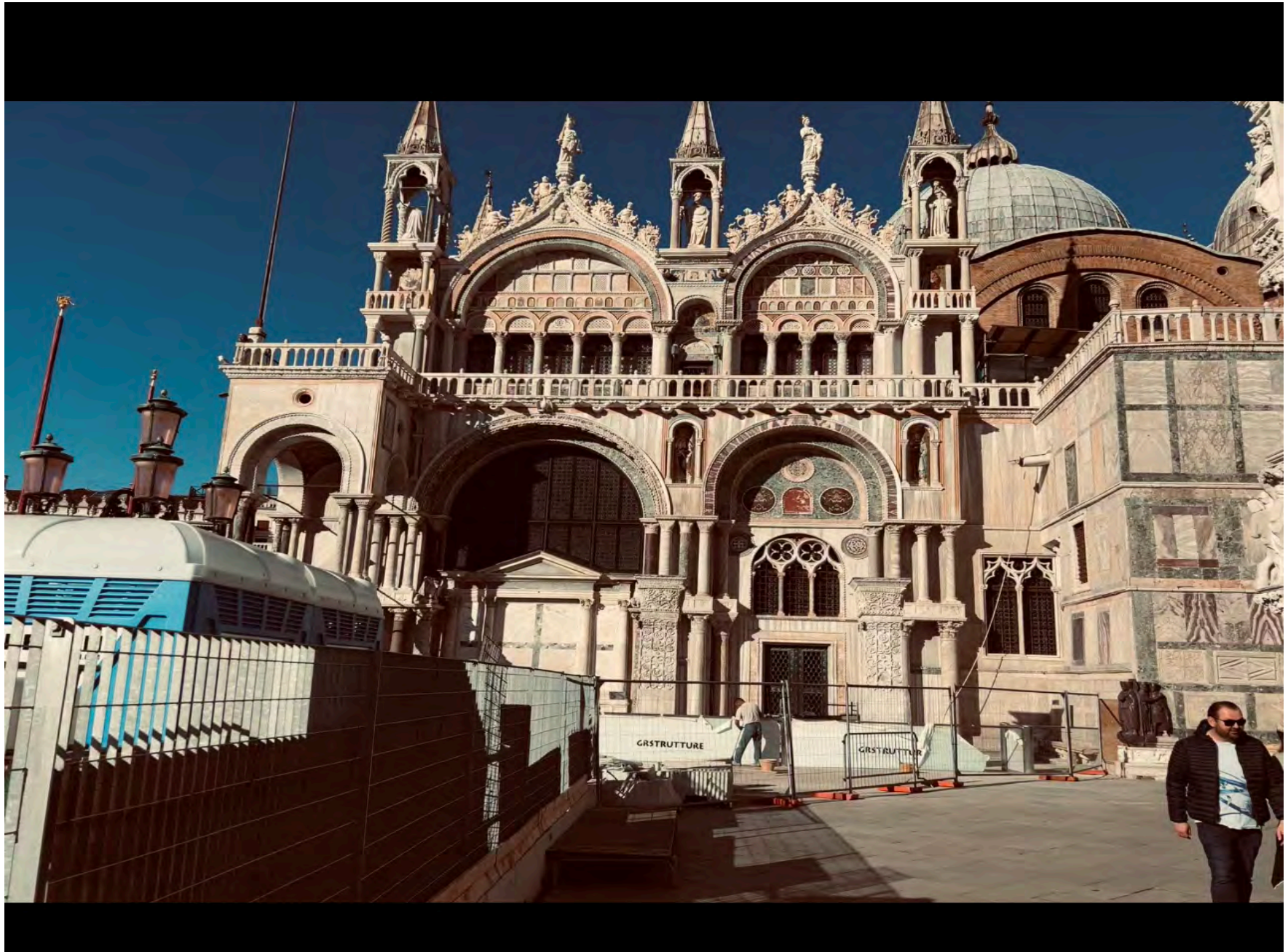
Bridges - 391 - Rialto



Gondoliers



St Marks - Outside



St Marks - Entrance



**ASILICA CATTEDRALE DI
UN MARCO EV ANGELISTA**
ORARI DELLA LITURGIA
S. MESSA DOMINICALE
18.45
S. MESSA FESTIVE
8.30 - 10.00 - 12.00 - 18.45
VESPERE 17.45
S. MESSA FAMILIAR
8.30 - 10.00 - 18.45
Venerdì 14.15

Giuseppe Maria
CANTORI
1. Donato B. B. B.
2. Donato B. B. B.
3. Donato B. B. B.
4. Donato B. B. B.
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19. Donato B. B. B.
20. Donato B. B. B.

St Mark - Golden Dome



Altar - St Marks



St Mark - Mosaic



Murano - Glass Making



Murano - Glass Horse



Burano - Colorful Island City



Chef Letizia



Milano - Lakes Maggiore - Como

- The importance of Milano is nothing new. By the 4th century, it was the capital of the western half of the Roman Empire. It was from here that Emperor Constantine issued the Edict of Milan, which legalized Christianity in the year 313.
- Milan has been ruled under Romans, Lombards, Austria, France, and Mussolini. Mussolini's excesses also led to the bombing of Milan in WWII. Mussolini and his mistress were hung upside down in a piazza in Milan.
- The city's centerpiece is its magnificent Duomo or cathedral...the fourth-largest in Europe. The church is a good example of the flamboyant, or "flame like," overdone final stage of Gothic.

Victor Emanuel II-Arch



Victor Emanuel-Shopping Mall



Victor Emanuel II



Nativity of St Mary Basilica



Lake Maggiore-Machiavelli-Political Pundit



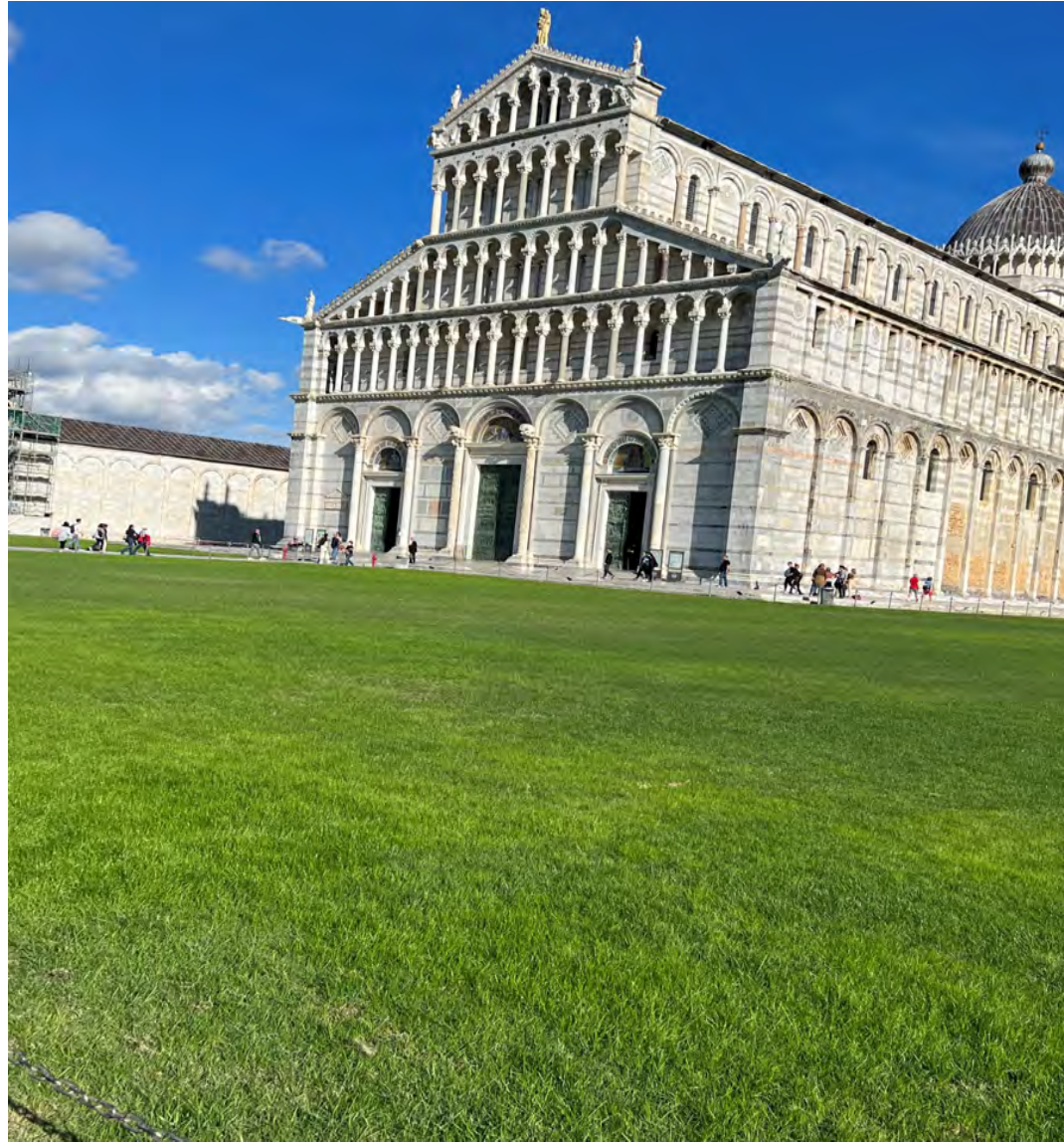
Lake Como



Pisa-How many tourists to push the tower upright?



Saint Maria Assunto Cathedral



Florence - Birthplace of Renaissance

- It was birthplace of the Renaissance, becoming a major artistic, cultural, commercial, political, economic and financial center. During this time, Florence rose to a position of enormous influence in Italy, Europe, and beyond.
- The Florentine dialect forms the base of Standard Italian, and it became the language of culture throughout Italy due to the prestige of the masterpieces by Dante, Petrarch, Machiavelli.
- The city attracts millions of tourists each year, and UNESCO declared the Historic Center of Florence a World Heritage Site in 1982.

Florence Medieval Wall



David-Michelangelo's masterpiece



Abduction of Sabine Women-Luca Giordano



Leonardo da Vinci



Loggia-Gallery



Santa Maria del Fiore-Basilica



Saint John Baptistry



Saint John - Gates of Paradise Doors



Dome - Santa Maria del Fiore



Inside - Santa Maria del Fiore



Florence American cemetery and San Gimignano

- The cemetery has 4,392 Americans buried. Most were killed in the battle for Rome and battles in the Apennine Mountains.
- San Gimignano was named in 450 AD after their Bishop- the Saint of Modena- who intervened to spare the castle from destruction by the followers of Atilla the Hun.
- People stopped in San Gimignano on pilgrimages to Rome.
- The town lost about half of its population in the Black Death of 1348.
- The town submitted to the rule of Florence.
- The present wall dates from the 13th century.

Florence - American cemetery



Gate to San Gimignano





Paula, Gelato at the Piazza del Cisterna



ARRIVEDERCI!!

