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TAILOR MADE RAIL

Florence to Rome via Umbria

From £1,549 per person // 12 days



Travel down to Florence via Zurich and the Gotthard Pass route through the Alps. Then enjoy a leisurely journey south through the stunning scenery of Umbria to Rome, with stops in Perugia and Spoleto. Return via the Italian Riviera to Nice, before catching a TGV to Paris and Eurostar back to London.

The Essentials

- London to Zurich and then through the Alps to Florence
- Umbrian capital Perugia, dating back to 300BCE
- Lovely Spoleto with its Roman remains and magnificent Duomo
- Rome, the world's largest outdoor museum

Tailor make your holiday

- Decide when you would like to travel
- Adapt the route to suit your plans
- Upgrade hotels and rail journeys
- Add extra nights, destinations and/or tours

What's included

- Standard Class rail travel with seat reservations
- 11 nights' handpicked hotel accommodation with breakfast
- Comprehensive directions to your hotels
- Clearly-presented wallets for your rail tickets, hotel vouchers and other documentation
- All credit card surcharges and complimentary delivery of your travel documents

- Suggested Itinerary -



Day 1 - London To Zurich

Leave London St Pancras today and catch a Eurostar service to Paris where you connect to the Gare de Lyon for a high-speed TGV service through France to Zurich. On arrival, check in for an overnight stay at the Hotel Adler (or similar). Enjoy an evening stroll along the River Limmat or through Zurich's pretty Old Town area, where there are plenty of options for an evening meal.



Day 2 - Zurich To Florence Via The Gotthard Route

After a leisurely start today, it's time to head back to Zurich's main station for a scenic journey through the Alps via the Gotthard Base tunnel. If you would rather go 'over the top' to make the most of the scenery, you can do this – but it will involve an extra change in Cadenazzo in southern Switzerland. Arrive into Milan and change onto a Trenitalia service bound for Florence. Here, check in for a 2-night stay at the centrally located Hotel Berchielli (or similar).



Day 3 - Florence

Spend a full day discovering the sights of Florence. Known as the 'Birthplace of the Renaissance', Florence was one of the most important cities of the Middle Ages both in terms of economy and culture. You can explore some of the latter at the famous Uffizi Gallery (for which we recommend you buy tickets in advance to beat the queues). Also well worth a visit are the iconic Duomo and the Boboli Gardens, where you can escape the crowds and be rewarded with fantastic views of the city skyline.



Day 4 - Florence To Perugia

Your rail journey today takes you along the Arno River Valley with a backdrop of sweeping Tuscan countryside. Soon after Arezzo, the train crosses into Umbria and you arrive into Umbrian capital Perugia. Here, check in for 3 nights at the Sangallo Palace Hotel (or similar). TMR RECOMMENDS: There are a couple of stops that we would recommend. You can stop for a visit (or even an extra night) in the beautiful city of Arezzo. Or perhaps have a lunch stop at Lake Trasimeno (pictured), between Arezzo and Perugia. Tuoro sul Trasimeno is the best stop for a visit here.



Days 5 & 6 - Perugia And Day Trip To Assisi

Enjoy plenty of time to soak up the scenery of Perugia with its magnificent medieval centre. Don't miss a visit to the 10th century Basilica of St Pietro or the city's cathedral, said to be home to the Virgin Mary's wedding ring. On one of your free days, you might like to take a day trip to Assisi, just a short journey from Perugia (tickets payable locally). Best known as the birthplace of St. Francis, Italy's patron saint, Assisi occupies a stunning position amid Umbria's rolling hills. Wander narrow lanes lined with shops and restaurants and enjoy the hilltop views.



Days 7 & 8 - Spoleto

Another short and pretty rail journey takes you from Perugia to Spoleto. Here, you have 2 nights at the Hotel Dei Duchi (or similar). Founded in the 6th century BCE, Spoleto boasts some magnificent Roman and medieval remains, including a huge 14th century castle called the Rocca and the Ponte delle Torre, an amazing feat of engineering from the Middle Ages. From the bridge, you can get dramatic views of the gorge below.



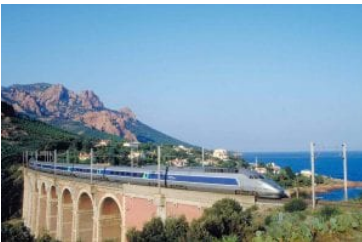
Days 9 & 10 - Rome

From Spoleto, the train line cuts through the hills to reach the Neva Valley and then follows the Neva River to its confluence with the Tiber. Not long after, you reach Rome's central station and check in for 2 nights at The Guardian Hotel (or similar). Rome offers a bewildering array of attractions, from the famous landmarks of the Colosseum, Spanish Steps and Trevi Fountain to the endless Vatican Museums and colourful ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. If you've not been to Rome before, we would certainly recommend an extra night here.



Day 11 - Rome To Nice

Your journey back to the UK begins as you return to Rome Termini station and catch a direct train up the spine of Italy to Milan. Here, an easy connection will see you following the coastline and crossing the border into France. On arrival into Nice, check in at the conveniently located Hotel Excelsior (or similar) where you have an overnight stay. The famous Promenade des Anglais and the tempting restaurants of Vieux Nice (the old town) are within easy reach this evening.



Day 12 - Nice To London

Leave Nice after breakfast this morning and catch a TGV service back up through France to Paris. Here, use your metro tickets to cross to the Gare du Nord for your return Eurostar to London.

Pricing

From £1,549 per person

Low season (Nov – March) from £1,549pp

High season (April – Oct) from £1,849pp

These prices are based on two people sharing a twin or double room. Single supplements will apply for sole occupancy. It is based on Standard Class rail travel and includes seat reservations as necessary. It is based on the best fares on the trains. If you travel during a peak period, particularly at short notice, then supplements may apply.