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TAILOR MADE RAIL

Italian Operatic Trilogy in First Class

From £1,399 per person // 9 days



Combine a memorable visit to the Arena di Verona with the famous opera houses of Venice and Milan to complete a relaxing northern Italian tour with the comfort of First Class rail travel.

The Essentials

- Verona Opera: An unforgettable performance under the stars in the iconic Arena di Verona
- Teatro La Fenice in Venice: Tour backstage and take in the majesty of the setting
- Tour Milan's La Scala: The world's most revered opera house
- Beautiful scenic travel to and from Italy via the Swiss and French Alps

Tailor make your holiday

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

What's included

- First Class rail travel with seat reservations
- Opera tickets for an al fresco performance at the Arena di Verona
- Tours of the Teatro La Fenice in Venice and Teatro alla Scala in Milan
- 8 nights' handpicked hotel accommodation with breakfast
- City maps and 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 Lausanne

Your operatic adventure begins in the grand setting of London's St Pancras station today, as your Eurostar train whisks you over to Paris in little over two hours at speeds approaching 190 mph. You will need to change from the Eurostar at Gare du Nord to the Train a Grande Vitesse (TGV) at Gare de Lyon, to continue your onward journey. After speeding down the high-speed line towards Dijon, you will twist and turn through the beautiful Jura Mountains and arrive into the Swiss lakeside town of Lausanne in time for a raclette or fondue for dinner.



Day 2 - Lausanne To Verona

After an early start, you will board your direct service to northern Italy shortly after 8am. Travel past Chateau de Chillon (pictured) along the Rhone Valley, under the Simplon Tunnel and alongside Lake Maggiore, before stopping in Milan and Bergamo, eventually calling into Verona, the home of Italian opera, at lunchtime. Check in at the Giberti Hotel (or similar) and head out to catch your first glimpse of the wondrous Arena di Verona, which dates back to the 1st century AD and is now home to spectacular summer performances.



Day 3 - Verona And The Opera

Today you are free to discover Verona at your own pace. No visit to the city is complete without a trip to Juliet's balcony, or the Torre dei Lamberti, which is a large clock tower completed in 1463 – views from the top are spectacular and well worth the climb! After heading back to the hotel for a freshen up and a meal, it is time for the highlight of your holiday – an unforgettable performance at the Roman Amphitheatre, the Arena di Verona. As the sun goes down and night falls, the arena is lit up as the operatic story is played out in front of 15,000 enchanted spectators in the open air of a barmy Veronese summer's evening.



Day 4 - Verona To Venice

After a delicious breakfast in your hotel, board another Italian Intercity train and make your way across the north-eastern plains of Italy, through the town of Padua and across the lagoon into Venice. Arriving in Venice is unlike anywhere else in the world, with the only possible onward travel from the station being by boat. After checking in at the Hotel Gabrielli (or similar), head down to the square itself, take in the Bridge of Sighs or go headlong into the Doge's Palace to see the masterpieces from a bygone era when this city was a vitally important trading capital.



Days 5 & 6 - Venice And La Fenice

With such a vast array of attractions, you have two full days to take in as much as possible. However, we have included a guided tour of the fabulous La Fenice opera house, which has been destroyed twice since the original was constructed back in 1774. The current version, reconstructed after a devastating fire in 1996, houses 1,000 spectators. TMR RECOMMENDS: Extend your holiday and stop in Lake Garda. Lake Garda is a short distance from Venice and Verona, perfect for some rest and relaxation after your opera extravaganza. Ask us for details.



Day 7 - Venice To Milan

Boarding a comfortable Italian intercity train this morning, you leave Venice behind and cross the fertile plains of northern Italy, arriving in the Lombardian capital Milan midway through the afternoon. Famous for finance, fashion and football, Milan is also home to one of the world's most famous opera houses, Teatro alla Scala. Check into your hotel, the Best Western Galles (or similar) and then head out to the Duomo (Cathedral) and admire the facade of La Scala opera building itself.



Day 8 - Milan And La Scala

Take part in a guided tour of La Scala itself and visit the adjacent museum, full of fascinating artefacts relating to the building's rich history. Going backstage, you will see a variety of costumes, musical instruments and portraits that are dedicated to great Italian composers such as Giuseppe Verdi and Gioachino Rossini. If you are lucky, you may be in town while a performance is playing later that evening – we can arrange for tickets in advance so that you can really make your Milanese sojourn all the more memorable.



Day 9 - Milan To London

In the morning, make your way from Milan to Paris on a French TGV train, passing through the Frejus Tunnel and stunning alpine scenery, arriving into Paris Gare de Lyon in the afternoon. Transfer across to the Gare du Nord and take a Eurostar service back through the Channel Tunnel to London St Pancras.

Pricing

From £1,399 per person

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These prices are based on two people sharing a twin or double room. Single supplements will apply for sole occupancy. It is based on First 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.