

# TRAVEL TIPS

# Visit of Venice in one day

Of course, you can visit Venice, Italy in only 24 hours. However, as the most interesting sites are mostly located less than a kilometer from the famous St. Marc Square, it is possible to see many things in a short time.

Tourist center of the city, St. Mark's Square is surrounded by magnificent monuments including the Doge's Palace and the Basilica. Even out of season, the queue can be very long to visit these historic sites. It may take several hours to wait and visit.

Of course, Venice is one of the most romantic cities in the world. But it is also, and I would say above all, a very tourist town.



One will soon discover that Venice is similar to all the major tourist cities in the world. In its streets you will see countless souvenir shops, famous brand stores, luxury jewelry shops and restaurants.

Souvenir shops all sell similar merchandise. In Venice, it is carnival masks, Murano glass and leather bags.

As far as luxury brands, Vuitton, Chanel, Hermes, Cartier and all the others have a storefront around the

St. Marc Square. Restaurants offer all the usual pizza and pasta. The shop of Venetian masks Ca Del Sol rents carnival costumes, should you wish to dress up for a picture.

A little further you can find decent restaurants and reasonably priced.

People gather around the entry station for gondolas. They are so numerous that they follow very closely, as if they were attached to each other. On each deck, numerous tourists take pictures as they pass by.



On the Grand Canal, we find the Basilica Santa Maria della Salute of Venice and the Bridge of Sighs, everywhere there are pretty pictures to make.

In the north-east of Venice you will discover the residential districts of the city. There are no souvenir



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shops or restaurants with soliciting hotel masters.

It is in these areas that you will find schools, churches, tiny pubs, grocery stores and alleys decorated with clotheslines. In some streets, it feels like a post-war Italian film. Nothing has changed for ages.

The streets of the "real" Venice are filled with screaming children leaving school. Away from the crowds of tourists, we finally see the real Venice, the one that belongs to Venetians. In residential Venice, the alleys are decorated with clotheslines. It looks like an Italian film after the war.



## **Venice in one day – Nice to know:**

## Lodging

You may have to pay 150 euros or more for a double room in a middle class hotel located near the St. Marc Square.

### **Food**

In a small grocery store, a bottle of good Chianti, a big beer Moretti, a large slice of pizza and delicious olives cost us 30 euros. It is a good meal totake in the hotel room after a long day exploring the city. As in all tourist cities, the more we move away from tourist centers less expensive are the restaurants. For example: a spaghetti Bolognese sauce costs 14 euros in a restaurant located just steps from the St. Marc Square, and about the same for a pizza.

A few blocks away, the average is between 7 and 8 euros for the same dishes.

#### **Carnival masks**

The less expensive are mostly made in China. Some models less than 10 euros are made in Venice, but in production-line work.

The most beautiful masks are individually crafted by Venetian artisans using traditional methods in small shops.

### The crowd

Dense on St. Marc Square and around the most famous attractions, the tourist crowds can be overwhelming. Very early in the morning and evening or when it rains, there are fewer tourists.



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## **Gondolas on the Grand Canal in Venice**

### **Gondolas**

In fact, the classic gondola ride costs 80 euros. Beware of scammers, one of them offered a ride ... 200 euros!

It is possible to share the price of the ride between two couples to save money, but it is less romantic! Better to do this in the early morning or dusk. In the afternoon, the gondolas are so numerous that they follow almost glued to each other.

## **Vaporettos and taxis**

Venetian taxis are elegant and comfortable boats often made of mahogany. It costs 80 euros for the trip from the ferry terminal (cruise ships dock) to St. Marcs Square by taxi. The trip from Marco Polo Airport to St. Marc Square, will cost 110 euros.