Venice
SMART TOURISM GUIDE
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Welcome
A little bit of history

Venice was founded in 421 AD.

**AD** means after the birth of Jesus.

421 **AD** means 421 (four hundred and twenty-one years after the birth of Jesus).

Venice was one of the four Italian Maritime Republics, together with Pisa, Genoa and Amalfi. The Maritime Republics were cities by the sea. These cities were important because ships came and went with goods from all over the world. Many important trades started from these cities.
Venice is also called Repubblica Serenissima.

**Repubblica Serenissima di Venezia** was the name of an ancient independent state with Venice as its capital city. The Repubblica Serenissima ended in 1797 with Napoleon’s invasion. The head of the republic was the Doge.
Venice

Venice is an island in the sea. Venice is shaped like a big fish. It is divided into 6 districts: Venetians call the districts sestiere. The districts (or sestieri) are:

- Santa Croce,
- Castello,
- Cannaregio,
- San Polo,
- San Marco,
- Dorsoduro.
The address of the houses and buildings in Venice is as follows:

- The name of the district (for example San Polo) and the number of the house.
- The houses are numbered by districts so the numbers can be very high.

**Example:**

**San Polo 1234.**

It means that the district is San Polo and the house number is 1234.
Connection with the mainland

Venice is connected to the mainland through the Ponte della Libertà (The Bridge of Freedom). Cars, bikes, buses and trains cross the Ponte della Libertà.

The bridge is 4 (four) km long and so we advise you not to cross it on foot!
It is too long to walk.

The bridges

There are 416 bridges connecting the 118 islands of the lagoon.
The three most important bridges are Rialto, gli Scalzi, and the Accademia.
Rialto

Scalzi

Accademia
These bridges and the new one, the Calatrava Bridge, are the only ones that cross the Grand Canal.

**The symbol of Venice**

The symbol of Venice is the winged lion holding between its’ legs an open gospel on which is written the phrase that an angel said to San Marco, patron of the city:

“Peace to you my Marco evangelist”

During the wars the lion was represented with the gospel closed and a sword to defend the city.
Campo, campiello, calle... But what are they?

**Campo:** (the field) is a Venetian square and is called “field” because it was once covered with grass.

**Rio:** is a channel crossing Venice.

**Fondamenta:** (the foundations) is a road that runs along the channel.

**Calle:** a street or a road in Venice

**Calletta:** is a narrow road much smaller than the calle

**Ramo:** indicates a short calle and is often a closed road.

**Riva:** runs along the entire lagoon and the channels.

**Sottoportego:** is a short covered passage
**Salizada:** it is an important street. It is different from the calle because it was built with a different kind of stone. On this street there are many shops.

**Piscina:** indicates an old wetland that today has been filled in.

**Ruga:** indicates a street where there are a lot of shops.

**Corte:** is a small square shared by different houses.

**Rio terà:** a channel that was filled in and became a road.

**Stazio:** indicates the dock where the boats moor.
**Language:** Italian

**Currency:** Euro

**Voltage:** 230 V

**Type of plug**

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**Useful telephone numbers**

If you need help you can call the Carabinieri or the Police:

Carabinieri: **112**

Police: **113**

In case of fire you can call the fire department: **115**

If you or a friend need to go to the hospital just call the ambulance: **118**
Museums and churches

Be careful, when visiting museums and churches, sometimes it is forbidden to:

- Take pictures
- Keep your mobile phone on
- Bring food
- Bring large bags
- Wear sleeveless tops and shorts
- Litter
Transportation
Waterbus (Vaporetto)

When you are in Venice you can only move around by waterbus or on foot. To get to Venice from the main land you can take the bus or the train. The public service that brings you to Venice by bus is the ACTV. You can buy your tickets in tobacco shops that show a big T sign outside. You can also buy bus tickets from bars that have the ACTV sticker on the door. The ticket is electronic and must be stamped in the electronic stamping machine. You will find these machines at the bus stops and the waterbus stops. You can also buy your ticket on the bus, but it costs
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The time-ticket is the most comfortable way to travel in Venice. The time-ticket includes an unlimited number of travel also for waterbuses and buses in Mestre, which is on the main land, close to Venice. You cannot use the time-ticket to go to the airport.
Taxi boats

If you sleep in Venice and you want to easily get to your hotel with your heavy suitcases, you can catch a taxi boat.

Call the taxi boat service number 041723112 (open 24 hours a day).

However be careful! In Venice taxis boats are very expensive.

Our advice is to use buses and waterbuses and to walk as much as you can.
On foot

When walking around Venice you can ask people for information and directions. Venetians are very helpful people. They are used to tourists and know how to give good directions. The only problem with asking for help is that each Venetian uses different routes. Therefore they will give you different, but always good, directions to get the place where you need to go.
Gondolas

Venice is divided into six districts (sestieri) which are also represented in the Gondolas’ comb (the iron decoration).

The gondola is the typical boat of Venice.

Be careful! Gondola rides are very expensive!

To see the city from the Grand Canal we recommend that you catch the waterbus number 1 from Piazzale Roma to Piazza San Marco. This costs much less than a Gondola.
Climate
The best period to visit Venice is in spring and summer (from mid-March till September). During the spring the climate is fresh. You can find beautiful sunny days but also some rain.

We recommend you to have in your backpack an umbrella or a k-way. Light dressing is good but you always need to have something warm to cover up if the wind gets stronger. Comfortable shoes are very important in every season because you will walk a lot. Summer is usually hot, but if you want to visit museums and churches, remember that you cannot enter dressed with very short shorts and sleeveless tops.
Autumn and winter are not recommended because it is cold.
But in winter there is the Carnival, famous all over the world, so cover yourself and stay around and have fun.
Autumn is cold and there is the risk of high water. High water is something characteristic of Venice. Due to the wind and tides the water of the sea invades all the roads of the city. If you visit Venice in this period we suggest you to buy rubber boots.

Winter is very cold and wet.
Traditional Venetian food and wines
Typical food

In Venice you eat very good fish.
Attention! It is a little expensive.
Typical foods are:
The baccalà is salted codfish.
The sarde in saor are sardines with onions and vinegar.
The risotto con il bisatto is rice with eel.
Risi e bisi is rice with peas.
Risotto ai fegadini is rice with liver.
The fegato alla veneziana is liver cooked with onions.
Other traditional dishes are rice with various herbs and vegetables.
There are also cold cuts of meats and sausages, as well as pork and venison stew.
The typical sweets of Venice, the **baicoli** are dry thin biscuits.
When there is the Carnival you have to taste the **castagnole**, the **frittole** and the **galani**!

Many good wines are produced in the region. The Venetians enjoy their **spritz** time. This is usually before a meal. It is a tradition for us.

**Spritz** is a drink made with water, Aperol or Campari and Prosecco (sparkling white wine).
If you are in Venice stop and taste the **cicchetti** (small portions of various foods, little sandwiches or fried fish) in one of the many places called **“bacari”** all around the city.

The **bacari** are small shops where you can taste typical Venetian food and wines.
Events
All major festivals are those linked to the religious calendar.

The first event of the year is the Carnival. It takes place in the two weeks before Ash Wednesday (usually in February or March). Concerts and masked parades enliven the city in particular Piazza San Marco where every year there is the traditional flight of the Angel (Volo dell’Angelo), two Sundays before the Shrove Tuesday (Martedì Grasso).

In the flight of the angel an artist, attached to a metallic rope, flies from the Bell Tower down to the square.
The Carnival ends on Shrove Tuesday with big celebrations.

On the **Sunday of the Ascension** (in May or June) there is the celebration of **“the marriage of the sea”**. The event recalls the ceremony during which the Doge (the head of Venice) threw a gold ring into the sea and pronounced the phrase “We marry you, sea, as a sign of true and everlasting domination”. By doing so we remember the importance of the sea for Venice. A wreath is then thrown into the water to remember all the people who died during the wars. The ceremony takes place close to San Nicolò at the Lido.
The third Sunday in July is the feast of the **Redeemer** (Redentore) that is among the most loved by the Venetians. On Saturday evening the boats gather in the Giudecca Canal and at St. Mark’s Basin and around 11.00 p.m. (eleven in the evening) and a show of fireworks lights up the whole lagoon. The tradition of the Redeemer dates back to 1577 (one thousand five hundred and seventy seven) and commemorates the end of a terrible plague. To thank God for having saved them, the Venetians built the church of the Redeemer on the Giudecca island. During that day you can reach the island of Giudecca by a bridge of boats built each year in that weekend.
The celebrations (in addition to fireworks) include the Mass celebrated by the Patriarch (the bishop of Venice) and the religious procession. The festival ends with a gondola regatta.

The 21st of November is the Festival of Our Lady of Health (Madonna della Salute).
Where to sleep
Venice is a very expensive city.
If you want to stay in the historical centre we suggest:

**Casa per Ferie Patronato Salesiano**
It is just a few minutes away from Piazza San Marco.
The address is Castello 1281.
For reservation and information call +390415227277 or email to info@salesianivenezia.it.
The facility offers bed and breakfast in single rooms or with 2-3 beds.
All rooms have their own bathroom, air conditioning and telephone.
The **price** for a night is:

- **50** (fifty) € for a single room
- **55** (fifty-five) € for a double room

It has a lift.

A cheaper solution could be the youth hostel. **Yha Hostel of Venice** in Fondamenta delle Zitelle 86. It is on the Giudecca’s island, in such a position that allows you to enjoy the city in all its charm. For reservation and information call the number +390418778288 or email to info@ostellovenezia.it
On the mainland

The cheapest option is to sleep in Mestre.

We recommend Casa per Ferie alle Lagune in Viale San Marco 172, Mestre.
It is a cheap place to stay.

The price (including breakfast) is:

- Single room 40 (forty) € per night.
- Double room 44 (forty-four) € per night.
- Triple room 60 (sixty) € per night.
It is easy to get to Venice from Casa per Ferie alle Lagune. The bus-stop is only 50 (fifty) metres away from the hotel in Viale San Marco. To get to Venice take bus number 12 (twelve). It will get you in Venice in about 10 (ten) minutes.
Entertainment in and around Venice
If you want to spend an evening in a disco we recommend:

**Piccolo Mondo “El Suk”**
This disco is in Dorsoduro, close to “Accademia”.

It is open from 10.00 pm (ten in the evening) to 4.00 am (four in the morning).

Telephone +39 041-5200371.

**The Piano Bar Martini Scala**
It is located in San Marco 2007 near the Fenice theatre.

It is open from 10.00 pm (10 in the evening) to 3.00 am (three in the morning).
Different musical duos play every night. Telephone +39041-5224121. Closed on Tuesday.

If you would like an alternative, go to the **Casinò**

The **Casinò** is a place where you can play cards or other games whilst betting money.

**Casinò Ca’ Vendramin Calergi** is on the Grand Canal (Waterbus line 1 (one) and get off at San Marcuola). Entry is forbidden if you are under the age of 18 (eighteen).
To enter you pay 3 (three) € for the slot machine hall.

It is open from 3.00 pm (three in the afternoon) to 3.00 am (three in the morning).
Theatres

**Gran Teatro la Fenice**
Campo San Fantin, Venezia.
Telephone +39 041786511.
www.teatrolafenice.it.

**Teatro Toniolo**
Piazzetta Cesare Battisti, 30174 Mestre - Venezia.
Telephone +39 041971666.
www.culturaspettacolovenezia.it/toniolo.
Beaches

If you visit Venice in the summer you can spend a day at the seaside. The place to go is called Lido di Venezia. To get to the Lido take the waterbus n 5.1 (five and one) from Piazzale Roma or San Zaccaria.

Parco San Giuliano

Parco San Giuliano is a park on the mainland, in Mestre. In summer there are various musical events and many attractions and stalls.
How to get there:

**Bus:**
from Venice - Piazzale Roma:
Lines 5 (five), 12 (twelve), 12 / (twelve bar), 19 (nineteen), 24 (twenty-four), 24h (twenty-four H), n1 (N one). The stop is near Parco San Giuliano.

**From Mestre:**
Lines 10 (ten), 12 (twelve), 12/ (twelve bar), 12L (twelve L), 29 (twenty-nine) – the last stop in Viale San Marco.

**By waterbus from Venice:**
Line 21 (twenty-one) runs from Venice to Parco San Giuliano.
10 Top things to see
1. Palazzo Ducale

To get to Palazzo Ducale you have to take the waterbus n. 1 (one) or 2 (two) and get off at the Vallaresso or San Zaccaria stop.

Palazzo Ducale was the house of the Doge.

The Doge was the head of the Republic of Venice.

As you enter Palazzo Ducale, you will see a courtyard surrounded by arches.

A courtyard is an open space on the inside of a building at ground level.
Palazzo Ducale has many floors. On each floor you will find big rooms that are decorated with beautiful pictures. There are many staircases that will take you to the different levels.

The **gold staircase** is the most beautiful of all. It is so called because it is decorated with gold. The gold staircase was used by very important people in the past, like judges.

One of the most beautiful rooms is the **armoury room**.

There are many types of old weapons and guns inside this room.
As you continue your visit you will pass across the **Bridge of Sighs**. This will take you to the prison. The name of this bridge was given because prisoners would sigh before arriving at the prison.

**OPENING TIMES**

From April 1st to October 31st
from 8.30 am (half past eight in the morning) to 7.00 pm (seven in the evening).

From November 1st to March 31st
From 8.30 am (half past eight in the morning) to 5.30 pm (half past five in the evening).

It is closed on December 25th and January 1st.
Full ticket 16 (sixteen) €. This allows you to visit the Correr Museum, the National Archaeological Museum and Monumental rooms of the Marciana Library as well.

The reduced ticket costs 8 (eight) € for:
• Children from 6 (six) to 14 (fourteen) years of age
• Students from 15 (fifteen) to 25 (twenty-five) years of age.

The ticket is free for:
• residents of Venice
• persons with a disability and their carers.

Palazzo Ducale can only be partially visited by those with a physical disability.
2. San Marco’s basilica

To get to San Marco you have to take the waterbus line 1 (one) or line 2 (two) and get off at Vallaresso or San Zaccaria – San Marco stops.

THE BASILICA

The Basilica in ancient roman times was a public building used as a meeting place and for the administration of justice. This means it was like the law courts. Later on Basilicas became important churches.

San Marco is the most important church in Venice.
It is dedicated to Saint Mark, the patron saint of the city.
It was built for the first time in 828 (eight hundred and twenty eight).
It was used to house St. Mark’s relics stolen by two Venetian merchants in Alexandria, a city in Egypt.

The relics are the remains of the body of a saint.

**EXTERIOR OF THE BASILICA**

The Basilica is made of bricks covered with marble from Syria, Egypt and Palestine.
On the front of the Basilica there are 5 (five) entrances.
There are glittering mosaics above these doorways.

**Mosaic** is an image created with small pieces of glass, stones or other material.

The mosaics of the basilica of Venice are famous because they are made with precious stones and gold.

**INTERIOR OF THE BASILICA**
Inside the Basilica, the walls and ceilings are covered with mosaics.
The mosaic designs represent some of the stories from the Bible.

**THE GOLDEN SHOVEL**
The Golden Shovel is located behind the main altar.
Inside the altar there is the tomb of St. Mark.
The body is in a special case called the sarcophagus.
The beautiful Golden Shovel is made up of 2000 (two thousand) precious stones: emeralds, amethyst, sapphires, rubies, pearls and other gems.

TICKETS

The visit to the basilica is free.
To see the Golden Shovel you must pay 3 (three) € for a ticket.
To avoid the queue you can book your tickets online (on the website): www.venetoinside.com.
It will cost 1 (one) €.
OPENING TIMES

The Basilica is open from 09.30 am (half past nine in the morning) to 5.30 pm (half past five in the afternoon).

On Sundays and holidays it is open from 2.00 pm (two in the afternoon) to 5.00 pm (five in the afternoon).

THE MUSEUM

The treasures of the Doges are kept in the museum that is located on the first floor of the Basilica.
TICKETS

The ticket costs 4 (four) €.

OPENING TIMES

It is open from 09.45 am (nine forty-five in the morning) to 5.00 pm (five in the afternoon) from Monday to Sunday.

On Sunday from 2.00 pm (two in the afternoon) to 5.00 pm (five in the afternoon).
3. The Rialto bridge

To get to Rialto bridge you have to take the waterbus n. 1 (one) or 2 (two) and get off at Rialto stop. The Rialto Bridge is one of the four bridges that cross the Grand Canal. It was the first to be built. The original Rialto Bridge was in wood and it was the only connection between the two parts of the city. It was a bridge made of boats, that is to say a floating bridge. In that period the bridge was also called “bridge of money” due to its proximity to the place where money was issued (Zecca).
The first construction in wood was built around 1250 (one thousand two hundred and fifty). It was called Rialto because it was close to the Rialto market.

Later the bridge suffered much damage and collapsed twice.

In 1503 (one thousand five hundred and three) it was decided to build it with stone and that is what we still see today.

The Rialto Bridge is always open.

It is not accessible for people with a physical disability.
4. Museo Correr

To get to the Museo Correr you have to take the waterbus line 1 (one) or 2 (two) and get off at Vallaresso or San Zaccaria stop. The Museo Correr is in St. Mark’s Square. The Museo Correr is one of the Venetian municipal museums.

A visit to the Museo Correr starts off from the Napoleonic side. The Napoleonic side is the building in St. Mark’s square, just in front of the Basilica. It is so called because Napoleon Bonaparte wanted it built.
In the gallery there are many paintings and maps of Ancient Venice.
After the Napoleonic side you can walk to the Sala del Trono (Throne Room).
There are many sketches and works of Canova (a Venetian artist) including “Dedalo e Icaro”.
The style of the furniture is Empire style, which is the style from the time of Napoleon.
In the other rooms you can see collections of old paintings, clothes, sculptures and many other interesting things which represent the history of Venice.
TICKETS

Full ticket 12 (twelve) €.
Reduced ticket 10 (ten) € for:
• Children from 6 (six) to 14 (fourteen) years of age
• Students from 15 (fifteen) to 25 (twenty-five) years of age
• Senior citizen over 65 (sixty-five) years old.
The entrance is free for people with disabilities and their carers.
OPENING TIMES

From April 1st to October 31st: from 10.00 am (ten in the morning) to 6.00 pm (six in the evening).
From November 1st to March 31st: from 10.00 am (ten in the morning) to 5.00 pm (five in the evening).
Closed on December 25th and January 1st.
5. Ca’ Pesaro

To get to Ca’ Pesaro take the waterbus line 1 and get off at San Stae. This palace overlooks the Grand Canal. Ca’ Pesaro today is the headquarters of the international gallery of modern art. The palace was built in the seventeenth century by Baldassarre Longhena. The palace has housed in the past many art works of some very important artists such as Giorgione, Tiziano, Tintoretto, Bellini and Tiepolo. Today the main attractions of Ca’ Pesaro are those works of art purchased during the first editions of the Art Biennale.
Art Biennale is an art exhibition which takes place every two years in the gardens of Venice. These are two of the paintings you can see at Ca’ Pesaro:

• The Judith II (Also known as the Salome) by Klimt

• The Rabbi of Vitebsk by Chagall
There are also the works of artists such as Kandinsky, Klee, Matisse, as well as some Italian artists. On the third floor there is a museum of oriental art that you can visit with the same entrance ticket.

**TICKETS**

Full ticket 8 (eight) €.
Reduced ticket 5.50 (five € and fifty cents) for:
- Children from 6 (six) to 14 (fourteen) years of age
- Students from 15 (fifteen) to 25 (twenty-five) years of age
- Senior citizen over 65 (sixty-five) years old.
Admission is free for children under 6 (six) years of age.
OPENING TIMES

From April 1st to October 31st: from 10.00 am (ten in the morning) to 6.00 pm (six in the evening).
From November 1st to March 31st: from 10.00 am (ten in the morning) to 5.00 pm (five in the evening).
Closed on Mondays and on December 25th, January 1st and May 1st.
6. Ca’ Rezzonico

To get to Ca’ Rezzonico you have to take the waterbus line 1 (one) and get off at Ca’ Rezzonico. Ca’ Rezzonico is the eighteen-century museum of Venice.

You can see Ca’ Rezzonico from the Grand Canal. The building has a courtyard. The palace has many floors and many rooms. The floors are connected by the Staircase of Honour.
On the first floor there are 11 rooms with painting, sculptures and **frescoes**.

**Frescoes** are paintings painted directly onto the wall.

This is the great ballroom.
It has very high ceiling.
On the second floor you will find the Portego dei Dipinti where you can see two paintings of Canaletto, a very important Venetian painter.

Grand Canal from Ca’ Balbi to Rialto.

The view of Rio of Merchants.
On the same floor there are many rooms with many paintings by important artists such as Giambattista Tiepolo.

**TICKETS**

Full ticket 8 (eight) €.
Reduced ticket 5.50 (five € and fifty cents) for:
- Children from 6 (six) to 14 (fourteen) years of age
- Students from 15 (fifteen) to 25 (twenty-five) years of age
- Senior citizen over 65 (sixty-five) years old.

Admission is free for disabled people and residents.
OPENING TIMES

From April 1\textsuperscript{st} to October 31\textsuperscript{st}: From 10.00 am (ten in the morning) to 6.00 pm (six in the evening).

From November 1\textsuperscript{st} to March 31\textsuperscript{st}: From 10.00 am (ten in the morning) to 5.00 pm (five in the evening).

Closed on Tuesday and on December 25\textsuperscript{th}, January 1\textsuperscript{st} and May 1\textsuperscript{st}.
7. **Santa Maria della Salute**

To get to the Santa Maria della Salute (Our Lady of Health) you have to take the waterbus line 1 (one) and get off at the Salute stop.

Santa Maria della Salute (or Chiesa della Salute) is the Venice Basilica built on Punta della Dogana.

Santa Maria della Salute was built by the Venetians to thank Our Lady for freeing them from the plague in the 1630 (one thousand six hundred and thirty). Every year the Venetians go to pray Our Lady to thank her for freeing them from the plague.

The festival of the Madonna Della Salute is on November 21st.
The outside of the church:
The front of the church was decorated by Tommaso Rues with marble statues. The statues represent the 4 (four) evangelists: St. Matthew, St. Mark, St. Luke and St. John.

The inside of the church:
The main altar is higher than the rest of the church. There is a sculpture of Our Lady with baby Jesus representing the Salute (Good Health) that defendes the Venetians from the plague. On the side of the church there are chapels where you can see many paintings and sculptures such as:
• The Descent of the Holy Spirit by Tiziano.

• The Altar of the Assunta.

• Various statues by Tommaso Rues.
In the dome you can see some wooden statues of the prophets.
Other works of Tiziano are in the **sacristy**.

The **sacristy** is a church service room open to everybody.

**TICKETS**

The entrance is free.

**OPENING TIMES**

Every day from 9.00 am (nine in the morning) to 12.00 pm (midday) and from 3.00 pm (three in the afternoon) to 5:30 pm (five thirty in the afternoon).
8. Peggy Guggenheim’s Collection

To get to the Guggenheim’s Collection you have to take the waterbus line 1 (one) and get off at the Salute stop.
The art collection of Peggy Guggenheim can be found in the Palace Venier dei Leoni. This is in the Dorsoduro District and overlooks the Grand Canal not far from the church of the Salute. Peggy Guggenheim was a very rich American lady who bought the Palazzo Venier dei Leoni and collected many works of art. The collection includes works of less-known artists as well as works of great painters such as Kandinsky, Picasso, Mondrian, Dalì and many others.
In the garden there is a nice coffee shop, a library and an exhibition space.

**TICKETS**

 Adults: 14 (fourteen) €.
 Reduced ticket: 8 (eight) € for:
• Children from 10 (ten) to 18 (eighteen) years old
• Students up to 26 (twenty-six) years with valid student card
• Persons with disability.
OPENING TIMES

From 10.00 am (ten in the morning) to 6.00 pm (six in the afternoon).
Closed on Tuesday and on December 25th.

For information: +39 0412405411
9. Punta della Dogana

To get to Punta della Dogana take the waterbus line 1 (one) and get off at the Salute stop.

The Punta della Dogana has a triangular shape and separates the Grand Canal from the Giudecca Canal. This was the place where, in the old times, the customs checked all the goods entering Venice and where taxes were paid. From the Punta della Dogana you can see Saint Mark’s basin, the Grand Canal and Saint Mark’s Basilica. The Punta della Dogana was previously called Punta del Sale (salt point). This is because salt used to be stored here.
At Punta della Dogana, there is a tower with a sculpture representing two mythological characters: the Atlas, who were giants, which hold a gilded bronze ball on their shoulders. On the top of the ball stands the statue of Luck which moves with the wind, showing us from which direction the wind is blowing.

Today the Punta della Dogana is the home of Francois Pinault’s Foundation contemporary art collection.
TICKETS

Full ticket: 15 (fifteen) €.
With a 20 (twenty) € ticket you can visit both the Punta della Dogana and Palazzo Grassi (see page 85).

OPENING TIMES

From 10.00 am (ten in the morning) to 7.00 pm (seven in the evening).
Closed on Tuesday and on December 25th.
10. Palazzo Grassi

To get to Palazzo Grassi you have to take the waterbus n. 2 (two) and get off at San Samuele stop.

Palazzo Grassi overlooks the Grand Canal. It is one of Venice’s most beautiful and important palaces. It was built by Giorgio Massari and was the last palace built before the end of the Republic. Today Palazzo Grassi belongs to the French entrepreneur Francois Pinault and houses his collection of contemporary and modern art works. It is fully wheelchair accessible.
TICKETS

Full ticket: 15 (fifteen) €.
Reduced ticket: 10 (ten) €.
The entrance is free for:
• Children up to 11 (eleven) years old
• Persons with a disability.

OPENING TIMES

From 10.00 am (ten in the morning) to 7.00 pm (seven in the evening).
Closed on Tuesday.
A day in Venice
If you are staying in Venice for only one day we suggest that you take this tour.

Start from Piazzale Roma and take the waterbus line 2 (two).
Get off at Rialto.
The Rialto Bridge is the oldest bridge in Venice.
Go up the bridge to admire the Grand Canal and stroll around all the little shops.

Return down to the waterbus stop where you got off and walk straight forward.
On your right you will find a Campiello (a little square) with the church of San Giacometto, probably the oldest church in Venice.
If you continue to walk straight you will find the characteristic fish and vegetable market. Go back and cross the bridge again and turn right toward San Marco. Walk on to Piazza San Marco.

You can ask for directions or follow the directions on the nizioletti.

The nizioletti (in venetian dialect “nizioeti”) are the typical signs of Venice.

Instead of road signs the names of the calli and the directions are painted directly onto the walls of the houses.
Once you arrive in Piazza San Marco visit the Basilica of San Marco. In Piazza San Marco you can also visit Museo Correr, Palazzo Ducale and the Bell Tower.

If you do not have a lot of time we suggest you choose one of these places to visit.

Then take the waterbus line 1 (one) at Vallaresso stop. Get off at the Salute stop. Here you can visit the Chiesa della Salute. In the same area you can also visit the Punta della Dogana and the Peggy Guggenheim Collection.
For dinner we suggest you to go to Campo Santa Margherita and taste the typical cicchetti (small portions of various foods, little sandwiches or fried fish) in one of the many osterie (simple restaurants) around.

Along this tour you will find a lot of museums and other interesting places, but it will be difficult to visit all of them in just one day.
Another day in Venice: the islands
The tour of the islands

The most famous islands near Venice are Murano and Burano.

**Murano** is the island just in front of Venice. To visit Murano take the waterbus line 3 (three) from Piazzale Roma or from the railway station of Santa Lucia. It will take about 20 (twenty) minutes. Get off at the stop Murano Colonna. This stop is named after the stone column holding up the statue of Doge Domenico Contarini, much loved by the inhabitants.
The island of Murano is well known for its glass work since 1291 (one thousand two hundred and ninety one).

In that year the glass factories were moved to Murano to avoid accidental fires in the city centre. Indeed very hot fires need to be used to make glass. The glass masters were not allowed to leave Venice, because Venice wanted to be the only city to produce glass.

Many years ago there were villas, palaces, churches and monasteries on Murano Island. These buildings have been destroyed.

In Murano you can visit the factories where the glass is made and buy things in the shops: necklaces, pots and figures and much more. After visiting Murano you can go to Burano Island.
From the stop called Murano Faro, take the waterbus number 12 (twelve) and you will arrive in Burano in around 30 (thirty) minutes.

Burano is made up of 4 (four) islands connected by bridges. Burano is famous for the lace making. Burano is also well known for its colourful houses. The houses are all painted in different colours. This is because during the winter there is often a dense fog and the colourful houses help people arriving from the sea to see the island.
A day at Lake Garda
To get to Lake Garda you can catch a train from Venice going towards Verona. Get off the train at Peschiera Del Garda or at Desenzano Del Garda.

The price of the train ticket is around 10 (ten) €.

The train takes about one and a half hours to get to Peschiera Del Garda or Desenzano Del Garda. Outside the train stations you can catch a bus to Lake Garda.

The price of the bus ticket is around 1.30 (one and thirty) €.
Lake Garda is a natural lake and lays between Lombardia, Veneto and Trentino Alto Adige. These are three Italian regions.

The lake is visited by a lot of tourists. You can enjoy a swim in this lake. Around the lake there are many beautiful villages. You can take a bus tour to visit these villages. For more information on bus tours visit the website: www.visitgarda.com

Along the shores of Lake Garda, in every village, you can find restaurants and bars where you can enjoy a break. There are also shops where you can buy some souvenirs.
At the end of your tour around Lake Garda we recommend that you visit Movieland. Movieland is a fun theme park.

During the summer you can go to Movieland in the evening.

The entrance ticket is 25 (twentyfive) euro.

It is open from 10.00 pm (ten in the morning) to 11.00 pm (eleven at night).

You can get to the park by shuttle buses that leave the train station of Peschiera del Garda and Desenzano every 30 (thirty) minutes.
This guide is the result of “Not by chance tourists” project.
The project has been co-financed by the European Commission under the Youth in Action Programme.
The focus of the project has been on mobility, active participation, exchange of experience and information and development of new methods and tools by people with Down syndrome.
The project has involved 4 associations of person with Down syndrome from Italy, Malta Czech Republic and Hungary.
The goal of the project has been the production of 4 guidebooks of Venice, La Valletta, Prague and Budapest.
The guidebooks have been developed by people with Ds of the four countries participating in the project.
A group of “editors” made up of five-six people for each association have developed the guide of its own city.
The guide has then been tested by three groups of people with Ds of the other participating countries and by a group of people with intellectual disability or low level of education in its own country. The feedback given by these groups has been used in the final edition of this guidebook.

The Venice guide book was written by: Marta Arrigoni, Carlo Del Favero, Michela Gianola, Diego Puntel e Serena Torelli. Thanks to those professionals who have supervised the project: Lisa Furlanetto, Valentina Lai e Francesca Pinto and to the staff of AIPD International Office. Thanks also to the other Venetian guys who tested the guidebooks of La Valletta, Prague and Budapest.