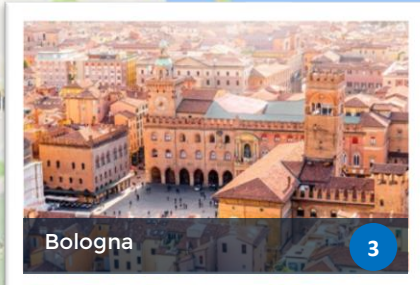
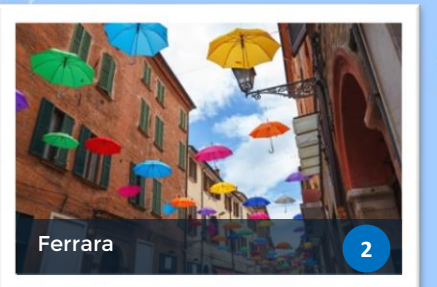
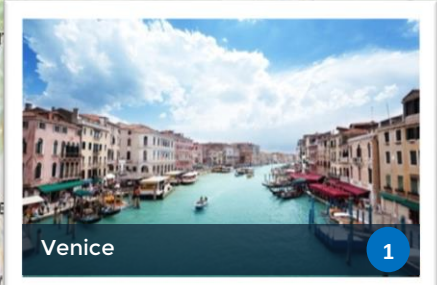




DRIVE TO DISCOVER ITALY

VENICE UNESCO TOUR: EXCURSIONS FROM VENICE





Road Trip Drive	Distance	Driving Time
Venice to Ferrara	70 miles	1 hour 20 minutes
Ferrara to Bologna	31 miles	43 minutes
Bologna to Modena	25 miles	39 minutes
Modena to Mantua	47 miles	1 hour 4 minutes
Mantua to Verona	28 miles	40 minutes
Verona to Villa Godi	58 miles	1 hour 17 minutes
Villa Godi to Venice Airport	61 miles	1 hour 10 minutes
Total Distance Covered:	320 miles	

If you're planning a trip to Italy (or you're looking for a reason an excuse to), then consider crafting your itinerary around some of the most important sites and landmarks in the world: Venice UNESCO sites make for some of the most exciting options for excursions from Venice. The great news is that many of the most exciting UNESCO World Heritage Sites are concentrated in Europe - in particular in Italy, and this amazing round-trip itinerary from Venice takes you on a tour of a half dozen of our favorite UNESCO sites in Northern Italy.

TO/FROM: Marco Polo Airport Venice

In this road trip guide, you'll begin and end your journey at Marco Polo Airport Venice.

1. Venice

The first Venice UNESCO site on the list is the city itself. The entire city (originally founded in the 5th century), is a masterpiece of architecture, art, and culture, offering visitors who tour its storied canals and lagoon the ultimate romantic destination. While you can't drive a rental car in Venice, we encourage you to book a ride on one of the city's famous gondolas during your stay, before renting a car in Venice for the balance of your trip.

2. Ferrara

This city, a UNESCO site, was born on the banks of the river Po and is noted as the home to many of the greatest minds of the Italian Renaissance. Students of architecture and engineering will love this stop as it was the birthplace of the "Ideal City," and when you visit you'll marvel at how every street corner and historic structure of Ferrara was so well considered.

3. Bologna

From Ferrara, continue south on the A17 and A13 toward Bologna. You'll be relieved to know that sandwich meat is not the only thing this tentative UNESCO heritage site has to offer. Within the ancient city walls of historic Bologna, Italy are nearly 40 kilometers of porticoes, inviting visitors to explore the city by foot or lending a dynamic architectural detail to the city streets when you explore in your Bologna rental car.

4. Modena

In the center of Modena you'll find the 12th-century Cathedral, Torre Civica, a Romanesque UNESCO site which welcomes visitors with a sprawling piazza and impressive tower, piercing the city skyline.

The UNESCO committee deemed the Cathedral Torre Civica "a masterpiece of human creative genius in which a new dialectical relationship between architecture and sculpture was created in Romanesque art." Whether you are religious or not, you're sure to marvel at this impressive structure and exploring the Piazza and Modena will also be fun.

5. Mantua

Nestled in the Po river valley, Mantua and Sabbioneta are jointly declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site for the unique ways each city speaks to the evolution and history of the Italian city. Mantua offers visitors a glimpse of an evolving city, with irregular portions that offer a glimpse of 15th and 16th-century renovations standing out in contrast to its formative structures which date to the Roman Empire. The Baroque theater in Mantua is an excellent example of this growth and expansion during the renaissance.

6. Verona

Nestled at the foot of the Lessini Mountains, Verona was founded on the banks of the River Adige and has been occupied by numerous ruling cultures and factions since it was first developed as a settlement between the fourth and third centuries BCE. The City of Verona is a stunning example of an Italian military stronghold, and within this beautiful city, you'll discover an impressive number of well-preserved monuments, art pieces, and landmarks which date to the medieval and Renaissance periods.

7. Vicenza

While the City of Vicenza is the central UNESCO landmark on your final stop, we encourage you to turn north from Vicenza and travel to Villa Godi. The Palladian Villas of the Veneto region are the work of Andrea Palladio, and are a study in classical Roman architecture, considered some of the most striking and historic villas in the entire Veneto region

While there is no shortage of things to see and do in the beautiful historic city of Venice, Northern Italy is filled with beautiful cities and historic landmarks, making excursions from Venice a popular option, and discovering the region's most famous historic landmarks by car is the best way to enjoy a memorable trip.