

VENICE INFO

I have info for you regarding Airports, Accommodations, Transportation, and Tours in Venice. Please note any pricing and availability is subject to change.

Venice Entry Fee

Venice has implemented a daily travel fee as a pilot earlier in the tourist season to combat over tourism. As of right now, it is not scheduled to be in place when we would be visiting, but of course that can change. It will be about \$8CAD per person. It is not a timed entry ticket nor is there a limit for the number of people entering each day.

Getting to Venice from Rome (or Vice Versa)

Train

It is about 3.5-4 hours to travel between Venice and Rome by high-speed train. We've travelled on these trains before and you will hardly know you are moving!

You will travel through Tuscany and see wonderful Italian countryside views.

Train tickets aren't available very far in advance...3 months in advance at most. So these are estimates based on how far in advance I can price out right now. Pricing will start at \$60CAD per person one way.

Getting to Venice from Airport

Bus

It is about 17 mins direct from Marco Polo Airport (Venice's Airport) to Venezia Mestre Station or 19 mins from airport to station at the edge of Venice islands (Venice Piazzale Roma). Buses depart 2-4 times per hour. Price about \$15CAD per person one way.

Taxis

It is about 15 mins from Polo Airport (Venice's Airport) to Venezia Mestre Station. Prices start at \$85CAD one way.

Getting to Venice from Mestre

I have stayed in Mestre the last time we were in Venice and I'll be staying there again this time. I stay right across from the train station. Two reasons – price of hotels much better in Mestre and getting luggage around in Venice's cobblestone paths and or onto a waterbus or water taxi are more trouble than it is worth for me! You of course will decide what is best for you.

Venice is a group of small islands. You can only get transportation by car, bus or train to the "top" of the islands. Then you are walking or getting some sort of floating transportation.

Train

It is about 10 mins from Mestre Station to Venezia Mestre Station. Trains depart multiple times per hour and you can book your tickets yourself at the train station. Tickets are about \$2CAD per person one way. This is how we travel to Venice.

Taxi

You can grab a cab in Mestre and they will bring you pretty much to the train station at the "top" of Venice. Starts at \$20CAD and takes 9-10 mins.

Bus

You can ride a bus from Mestre and they will bring you pretty much to the train station at the "top" of Venice. Costs \$2-3CAD and takes 12-15 mins with multiple stops.

Getting around in Venice

Your choices are:

- Walking
- Vaporetto Boats - This is the equivalent to a bus service with 22 scheduled lines and one on the Main Canal. Stops every 10 mins on Main Canal and single tickets are about \$12CAD and are only good for 1h15mins.
- Water Taxi – as it sounds...a taxi service. It is more expensive and mostly only tourists use these. Prices vary but usually start around \$60 per person.
- Gondola – You can't go to Venice without having a ride in a Gondola can you? Don't try and negotiate a better price...we tried (hubby is usually quite good at this...but alas they all stick to their pricing which is the same no matter which Gondolier you ask). Starts at \$120 a ride, but you can usually get a group of 6 on one Gondola.

Accommodations

There are of course many different types of accommodations. I will focus on traditional hotels here as Italy is evolving with their rules on Airbnb/VRBO accommodations and in some cities, putting restrictions in place due to over tourism.

As everyone will be staying for varying lengths pre-/post-cruise in Venice, I'll give you the current published price of my favourite picks as per the night of Sep 17th.

All prices are double occupancy. All are refundable rates. Prices and availability can change. These are the best priced rooms....so there are other room types which will cost more. I can price those if wanted.

If you stay in a hotel in Venice proper (not in Mestre), you would not have to pay the daily tourist entry fee if it is indeed in place when we travel.

Hotel	Price (Est in CAD)	Room Type
The St. Regis Venice – in Venice on Main Canal near St. Mark's Square	\$2,212 (not a typo)	Deluxe King
Sina Palazzo Sant'Angelo – Central Venice on Main Canal	\$785	Classic King/Twins
NH Venezia Santa Lucia – in Venice near Venice Piazzale Roma Train Station	\$859	Superior Double/T
Hotel American Dineson – in Venice near Basilica di Santa Maria della Salute	\$524	Double or Twin
Hotel Paganelli – in Venice near St. Mark's Square	\$380	Basic Double
Hotel Antiche Figure – in Venice near Venice Piazzale Roma Train Station	\$600	Superior Double/T
Best Western Plus Hotel Bologna – Mestre across from Mestre Station	\$257	Classic Queen
Best Western Hotel Tritone – Mestre across from Mestre Station	\$241	Classic Queen

Please note that in general hotel rooms in Europe are MUCH smaller than in North America. You may also find 2 twin beds side by side to make a Double or Queen (which is what you will find on cruise ships as well). It is very rare that you will find rooms that can accommodate more than 2 adults (there are some rooms where they will allow up to 2 kids).

I've found them before myself, but as I and my parents can attest from our extensive travels in Europe, they are very few and far between...and 2 rooms are generally the same price or close enough to a room that can accommodate 4 adults, so best to pick 2 rooms.

Tours

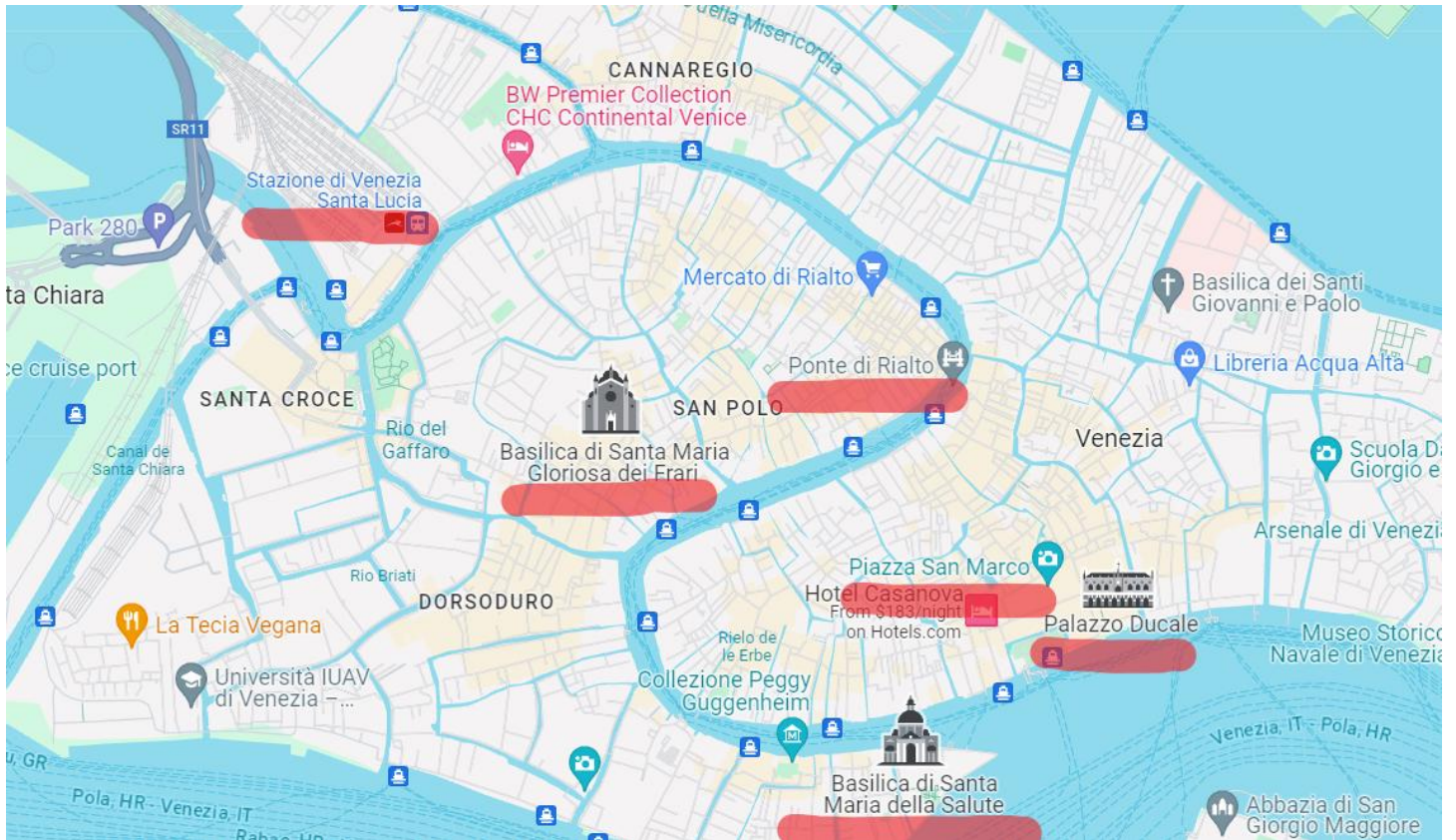
As part of the over tourism measures being put into place, tours will only allowed to have 25 people maximum.

We found Venice very easy to walk and explore on our own, even if you can get easily lost in the maze of alleyways.

There are many attractions you can visit on your own of course and there are several "free" walking tours (always tip your guide...that's their main form of pay).

If you do want a tour in Venice, please let me know and I'll check on options for you. Otherwise, I will encourage you to explore on your own. The island of Murano is on my list to visit this time....just a short ferry ride from Venice.

Map of Venice with some Major Attractions highlighted



Close-up of St. Mark's Square area with Doge's Palace, St. Mark's Basilica, Bridge of Sighs

