

# A Week in Venice with Allan Langdale

(including Padua)



## General Description:

This is an in-depth week in Venice and its environs, including Padua and other significant sights. It includes visits to the Accademia Museum, the Palace of the Doges, St. Mark's cathedral, and many outstanding churches—themselves living museums—and other sites such as the Venetian Arsenale. The day trip to Padua includes seeing Giotto's famous medieval frescoes of the Scrovegni Chapel and Donatello's famous bronze statue of the Gattamelata. We'll explore many delightful corners of the city, including the Venetian Ghetto and neighborhoods that hide myriad distinctive treasures. Explore Venice with someone who knows the city well and can reveal its many secrets. Visits to the Guggenheim Museum and other sites such as Murano or Ravenna are possible. With our small group each person can easily exercise individual options.

## Introduction:

Dr. Allan Langdale is an art and architectural historian who has travelled widely in Italy, Turkey, Greece, and other Mediterranean and Middle Eastern countries. He often works on trips for Smithsonian Journeys, Lindblad/National Geographic, and Zegrahm Expeditions. He is the author of several articles and books such as *In a Contested Realm: An Illustrated Guide to the Art, Archaeology, and Architecture of Northern Cyprus* (2012) and *Palermo: Travels in the City of Happiness* (2015). He teaches a semester-long course on the art and architecture of Venice at UC Santa Cruz and has published several articles on Venetian architecture. You can find out more about Allan, and follow his travel blog, by searching on the internet for Allan's Art and Architecture Worlds.

## Itinerary:

- Day 1:** Flights from Canada / USA to Venice (Marco Polo airport). Transfers to hotels in Cannaregio district hotels.
- Day 2:** Meet 10:00 for walk to the Piazza San Marco and the Bacino Waterfront. Dinner together with briefing.
- Day 3:** Meet 9:00 am. Walk through the Ghetto and to the Accademia Museum. Later go to the Scuola di San Rocco and visit the Scuola Grande di San Giovanni Evangelista. Dinner on your own.
- Day 4:** Meet 9:00 and walk to train station for day visit to Padua. We'll see the Scrovegni Chapel, the Palazzo del Ragione, the Church of the Santo and Donatello's famous *Gattamelata*.
- Day 5:** Visit the Palazzo Ducale, both interior and exterior followed by lunch together and a short visit to the Church of San Zaccharia and to the church of San Marco.
- Day 6:** Walk to the Arsenale, Venice's shipyards, and then to the church of San Giovanni e Paolo and the Scuole Grande di San Marco. Lunch. Afternoon take a *vaporetto* (water taxi) to Murano, the island where Venetian glass is made. Attend a glass-making session. Return.

- Day 7:** In the morning we'll walk across the town to the church of Santa Maria Gloriosa dei Frari and also see the renown Scuola Grande di San Rocco with its amazing paintings by Tintoretto. We'll have *tramezzine* in the sandwich shop that invented them, then have an open afternoon for either leisure or more exploration.
- Day 8:** After a morning walk over the Rialto Bridge we'll take a *vaporetto* to Il Redentore, the masterpiece of Andrea Palladio. Afternoon free, with farewell dinner for all at 6:00 pm.
- Day 9:** Transfers to airport for return journeys.



## How the Trip Works:

Guests are responsible for their own flights, airport transfers, hotel reservations, entry fees, meals and all sundry expenses of travel. In other words nothing is included in the trip. The advantage of this is that you can use your miles for the airfare and book hotel rooms that are within your desired price range (as long as we are all close to one another; I suggest the *Cannaregio* quarter). The group size is limited to six people maximum, four minimum, all of whom have good walking abilities and who are in good general health. Travel and health insurance is required and a waiver exempting your Tour Leader from any liabilities must be signed before the commencement of the trip. We shall all rendezvous at a designated time and place and meet every day to enjoy the itinerary together. As your Tour Leader I'll facilitate all aspects of your days, including transportation (usually public transportation; though walking is involved). Guests will contribute \$75 per day per person for seven days. This will cover your Tour Leader's air fare, transportation, meals, lodging, site entry fees, and guiding and lecturing duties. Since the group will be small, we can have lectures (4-5 of them) in hotel rooms equipped with large screen TVs. This avoids the high costs for hotel conference rooms. Half the amount (\$260.00 per person) would be paid in advance two

months before the journey, and the remainder in cash (US dollars or equivalent local currency) at the start of the trip. Tipping is entirely discretionary. Contact me regarding cancellation policies.



### Allan Langdale's Contact Information

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