



The rooftops of Bologna

West Kent Medico-Chirurgical Society Trip to Bologna

3 – 7 September 2021



Jon Baines
tours



The Archiginnasio of Bologna

The beautiful city of Bologna is a showcase for the historical and culinary treasures of the region. Home to the oldest university in Europe, Bologna has long been a centre for academic and scientific learning, alongside a strong political history. Its moniker of 'The Red' is as much to do with its political leanings as its colourful buildings. This tour will delve into the rich history and culture of the city, with many opportunities to enjoy the wonderful cuisine and wine of the region.

On arrival in Bologna check into Hotel Porta San Mamolo, located in the old town. Settle in at your leisure before a welcome dinner in a local osteria.

The following morning enjoy a walking tour through the historic streets of Bologna in the expert company of an art historian, who will guide you through the city's long history. Visit the 13th century Santuario Santa Maria della Vita, whose members were active in charitable causes and built a hospital within the church grounds. A museum attached to the church

houses an exhibition that examines public health services in Bologna, including medical tools and scientific equipment. After a lunch of delicious local cheeses and charcuterie at a local osteria, visit the beautiful anatomical theatre of Teatro Anatomico of Archiginnasio. Continue to Palazzo Poggi before an evening at leisure to explore Bologna and its cuisine.



Mausoleo di Galla Placidia, Ravenna



Piazza Maggiore, Bologna

Itinerary 3 – 7 Sept 2021

| | | |
|---------------------|---|------------|
| 3 Sept (Fri) | Bologna | D |
| Pm | Arrive Bologna and check into the Hotel Porta San Mamolo | |
| Eve | Welcome dinner at a local osteria | |
| 4 Sept (Sat) | Bologna | B L |
| Am | Walking tour of Bologna with an art historian, including a visit to the Santuario Santa Maria della Vita | |
| Pm | Lunch at a local osteria, before visiting the Teatro Anatomico of Archiginnasio and the Palazzo Poggi | |
| 5 Sept (Sun) | Bologna / Ravenna / Bologna | B L |
| Am | Depart Bologna for historic Ravenna. Walking tour of the city, visiting Basilica di San Vitale and the Galla Placida Mausoleum. Continue to visit Battistero Neoniano and the Tomb of Dante | |
| Pm | Lunch in a local trattoria. Drive into the countryside to Fattoria Zerbina for wine tasting. Return to Bologna | |
| 6 Sept (Mon) | Bologna | B D |
| Am | Morning food tour of Bologna visiting local food shops and stalls with tastings along the way | |
| Pm | Afternoon at leisure before a walk to Basilica San Domenico | |
| Eve | Farewell dinner | |
| 7 Sept (Tue) | Bologna | B |
| Am | Depart for the airport | |

Next day depart Bologna for the historic city of Ravenna, which was once the capital of the Western Roman Empire and today has one of the world's most dazzling collections of early Christian mosaic artwork. The city has 8 monuments declared World Heritage sites by UNESCO. Meet with your local guide for a walking tour, visiting the extraordinary Basilica di San Vitale - one of the most important surviving examples of early Christian Byzantine art and architecture. Continue to Galla Placida Mausoleum and visit the Battistero Neoniano to admire the beautiful mosaics and visit the Tomb of Dante. Enjoy lunch in a trattoria.

In the afternoon take a scenic drive through the countryside to Fattoria Zerbina for wine tasting. Take a guided tour of the vineyards before sampling some of their wines. Return to Bologna in the late afternoon.

The next day is devoted to exploring Bologna's culinary delights on a food tour. Stroll through the historic streets, visiting local food shops and stopping at food stalls around the medieval Mercato di Mezzo, a market that runs along the characteristic canals in the heart of the old town. Along the way there will be tastings of the local products. Spend the afternoon at leisure. Louise Dolan will also be leading a walk in the afternoon to Basilica san Domenico which houses some of Michelangelo's earliest sculpture. There will be a farewell dinner in the evening to enjoy the wonderful local cuisine one last time.

Depart for the airport the following morning.



Enjoy the delicious food of Bologna on a food tour



The courtyard at the Hotel Porta San Mamolo



A bedroom at the Hotel Porta San Mamolo

The Hotel Porta San Mamolo

The Hotel Porta San Mamolo is a charming, traditional Italian style hotel tucked away in the heart of the city. This comfortable hotel is very peaceful, even though it is just a few steps from the beautiful Piazza Maggiore and the famous Two Towers. The architecture and private gardens create a typical Bolognese atmosphere. The hotel also has a bar and all rooms come with Wi-Fi access and the usual amenities including mini bar and safe.

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The cost of the tour is £835 per person

The cost includes:

- 4 nights' accommodation at the Hotel Porta San Mamolo in twin/ double bedded rooms with private facilities

The single supplement is £175

- Breakfast daily, 2 dinners with wine and soft drinks, 2 lunches with soft drinks
- English-speaking local guides
- Transport throughout the tour
- A programme of cultural sightseeing as per the itinerary including admission fees

The cost excludes:

- International flights and airport transfers
- Meals not mentioned and additional drinks with meals
- All optional excursions, tours and visits
- All personal extras such as tips, portorage, laundry, inoculation fees and drinks
- Travel insurance

Flights

We are arranging a group flight booking with British Airways from London Heathrow to Bologna.

The flight times will be:-

03/09/21 - BA542: Heathrow - Bologna, 12:30 – 15:45

07/09/21 - BA541: Bologna - Heathrow, 11:45 – 13:05

The cost of the return flight package is £280 per person. This includes airport transfers.

We are only holding a limited number of seats at this price. If you are interested in this flight options please let us know as soon as possible.



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