

## NORTHERN ITALY

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### *Milan, Parma, Turin – 11 days*

Departure: March 17, 2019

Return: March 27, 2019

*Valery Gergiev the famous Russian conductor, conducts Modest Moussorgsky's opera **Khovanshchina** at **La Scala** in **Milan** with a cast of great Russian singers - **Mikhail Petrenko** and **Ekaterina Semenchuk**. Opera **Agnese** in **Turin** conducted by **Diego Fasolis**, has singers **María Rey-Joly** and **Markus Werba**. **Barber of Seville** in **Parma** conducted by **Alessandro D' Agostini**, has singer **Simone Del Savio**. We have selected all hotels on this tour to be very close to major sights in each of these cities – **Hotel de la Ville** in **Milan**, **Hotel Stendhal** in **Parma**, and **Grand hotel SITEA** in **Turin**. Treat yourself to a Dream opera tour.*

### *Opera Performances*

In Milan:

March 19 - **Khovanshchina** by Moussorgsky at Teatro alla Scala

In Parma:

March 22 – **Barber of Seville** by Rossini at Teatro Regio

In Turin:

March 24 - **Agnese** by Ferdinando Paer at Teatro Regio Torino

Sunday, March 17. (D)\* DEPART FOR MILAN

Depart this evening aboard any airline of your choice to Milan, Italy. Dinner and light breakfast served on the plane.



## Monday, March 18. (B,D). MILAN

Upon arrival at the Malpensa International airport in Milan, take a taxi to the centrally located HOTEL DE LA VILLE where we stay three nights. We will reimburse you the taxi fare. Briefing and cocktails at the hotel. Gala Welcome dinner at a gourmet restaurant.

## Tuesday, March 19. (B). MILAN

Morning sightseeing of this dynamic city. Among the sights to see is the beautiful Duomo, the world's largest Gothic Cathedral and the third largest Catholic Church in the world – after the Vatican and the one in Seville. Afternoon free to take in the Pinacoteca di Brera or any of the other museums in the city. This evening we will see the opera **Khovanshcina** by Moussorgsky at La Scala opera house, with Valery Gergiev conducting a cast of great Russian singers.

*MILAN is just not very Italian. All the Milanese do is work to make money and they refuse to indulge in the myth of la-dolce-vita. The city has its origin from Celtic settlements, which were subdued by the Romans in 222 B.C. In 312 A.D., Emperor Constantine published the Edict of Milan making Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire. On Christmas day, 800 AD, Pope Leo III crowned Charlemagne as the Holy Roman Emperor in the Cathedral of Milan. To the Milanese people, all that is just history.*

## Wednesday, March 20. (B). MILAN

This morning we will visit Villa Resposa which Verdi funded and had it built for retired musicians and singers to live free for the rest of their lives. This is also where Verdi is buried. Afternoon free.

## Thursday, March 21. (B,D) MILAN – PARMA

Today we drive east to arrive in Parma where we will stay three nights at the centrally located HOTEL STENDHAL. Dinner at a gourmet restaurant.

*Parma is the home to the University of Parma, one of the oldest universities in the world. The city was most probably founded and named by the Etruscans, for a circular shield, which later on used by the Romans. The city has a certain importance as a road hub.*



### Friday, March 22. (B). PARMA

Morning sightseeing by bus to see the Verdi sites, Roncole where he was born, Busseto where he grew up and Saint Agata where he retired and built an elegant home with extensive ground where he planted exotic trees. Afternoon free. This evening we will see the opera **Barber of Seville** by Rossini at the Teatro Regio.

### Saturday, March 23, (B). PARMA

Morning sightseeing of the Arturo Toscanini Museum to see exhibits of his early life in Parma and his early conducting life in Italy.

### Sunday, March 24. (B). PARMA - TURIN

Today we drive northwest to arrive in Turin where we stay three nights at the centrally located deluxe GRAND HOTEL SITEA. This evening we will see the opera **Agnese** by Ferdinando Paer at Teatro Regio Torino.

### Monday, March 25. (B). TURIN

Morning sightseeing by bus of this elegant and prosperous city begins with a drive along the wide Via Roma Avenue from Piazza San Carlo, exhibiting a graceful example of city layout planning of the 17th Century, with the churches of San Carlo and Santa Christina symmetrically placed on the south end and the Cathedral placed at the north end. We will visit the Cathedral San Giovanni, where behind the high altar is the Chapel of the much-contested Holy Shroud. Afternoon free.

*Turin is to Italy what Detroit is to the U.S.A. It is here that the Italian motor industry, represented by Fiat and Lancia, was born. The textile and leather industries are also highly developed here. Yet, the city center is lined with arcades, beneath which are attractive shops selling highly reputed articles made in Turin itself. The wines of the Piedmont are nearby and with the famous vermouths of Martini and Cinzano, accompanied by the good cooking of the region, give its people a certain sense of being connoisseurs.*

### Tuesday, March 26. (B,D). TURIN

Today is free to take in any of the many fine museums in the city, the Egyptian Museum or the Museum of Automobiles. This evening we will have our Gala Farewell dinner at a gourmet restaurant.



## Wednesday, March 27. (B). TURIN – BACK HOME

We arrange transport to the Turin International airport for you to take your flight back home arriving the same afternoon. Arrivederci. See you on another HAT Tour.

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\* B-Breakfast, L-Lunch, D-Dinner (including wine)



## LAND COST

DOUBLE: \$6,950 PER PERSON

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$1,350

DEPOSIT: \$2,000 PER PERSON

BALANCE DUE: DECEMBER 17, 2018

## TOUR INCLUDES

- 1<sup>st</sup> Category orchestra level seats in theaters
- Deluxe centrally located hotels
- Buffet breakfast daily, and 3 dinners with wine in gourmet restaurants
- Welcome reception with cocktails
- Private sightseeing in each city
- Experienced English speaking local guides
- Entrance fees to museums
- Transportation to and from theaters
- Baggage handling
- Guide, driver and bellboys gratuities
- Travelling with the owner at your service
- Complete package with details of operas listed
- Transfers from and to airports on published arrival and departure days only

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