

2010  
Season

# The Barge Company

*Relax, Unwind and Let the World Float by...™*



Itinerary

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Deck Plan

## 'La Dolce Vita' Cruising in Italy

The Canals, Lagoons and Islands of Venice, and the River Brenta

- 6 GUESTS
- 3 CREW
- 1 DOUBLE SUITE, 2 TWIN OR DOUBLE STATEROOMS, ALL WITH PRIVATE EN-SUITE BATHROOM
- 6 GOOD QUALITY BICYCLES
- LARGE OPEN SUN DECK
- AIR CONDITIONING



This pretty barge's unique cruise not only visits Venice's well known and lesser known attractions but also encompasses the outer islands of Torcello, Burano and Murano, as well as cruising the unknown and beautiful, canalised Brenta River. La Dolce Vita is a charming 6 passenger vessel with a crew of three, and she is the only hotel barge cruising this unique route. The lagoon surrounding Venice, the Venice Lido beach, Hemingway's influence and the fabulous villas on the River Brenta all compliment the attractions of Venice itself where one could spend at least 6 months enjoying the amazing Renaissance architecture before even venturing inside some of the buildings to discover the works of Canaletto, Tintoretto, and many other Italian masters. Extensive research has been done in order to create an itinerary that promises a truly fantastic cruise aboard Italy's first hotel barge. Venice of course is a jewel in the crown of the Venetian lagoon and the cruise route is a mixture of canal and river following the ancient trade routes used by the Romans and the early Mediterranean settlers before them. As well as the incredible delights of Venice itself (whose history can be traced back over 2000 years—some architectural features dating even from the Byzantine era) the additional opportunity afforded by hotel barge travel becomes obvious as you create your own schedule, oblivious to the hustle and bustle of other visitors to Venice. **In 2010 3 Night Charter Cruises are available upon request—please e-mail us.**

2010 PRICES (USD)	VALUE	REGULAR
Stateroom per guest	\$3,790	\$4,190
Suite per guest	\$4,290	\$4,690
Single supplement	\$1,350	\$1,550
Charter for 2 Guests (Honeymoon)	\$14,000	\$15,000
Charter for 4 guests	\$16,200	\$18,000
Charter for 5 guests	\$17,200	\$19,000
Charter for 6 guests	\$18,200	\$20,000

A child reduction of \$300 applicable for all children aged 0-17 years.  
**VALUE SEASON DATES:** 04, 11, 18, 25 April; 03, 10, 17, 24 October 2010  
**REGULAR SEASON DATES:** ALL DATES EXCEPT THOSE ABOVE

**CRUISES START ON SUNDAY AND END ON THE FOLLOWING SATURDAY**

**La Dolce Vita Venice Lagoon Cruise highlights may include:**

- Casone Zappa, a masterpiece of early 20th century Italian-Liberty style architecture
- The famous Saint Mark's Square and Byzantine Cathedral Veneto – Byzantine styled Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta
- Cruise to Murano and the glassworks island
- Villa Pisani, an 18th century masterpiece of Venetian architecture

**La Dolce Vita will also be offering THE FOLLOWING THEME CRUISES FOR CHARTERS ONLY IN 2010. Please contact us for itineraries and availability:**

- FAMILY CHARTER CRUISES** with children (no supplement—available at any time subject to availability)
- OPERA CRUISES FOR INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS** (supplement payable) Opera cruise includes the Gondola Tour with Singer, private Tour of La Fenice Theatre and Opera Tickets for the Upper or Dress Circle. If clients prefer tickets in Stalls or Boxes a supplement is payable directly to the Captain once on board. Depending on the departure chosen the Opera will be at either Fenice, Malibran or Arena Theatres. These details may be subject to change—please contact us for further details.
- REGATTA CHARTER CRUISES** (supplement payable) for the **Vogalonga, Regatta Storica and Regatta Fiorita Festivals** (contact us for full details)
- PICK-UP**— 5pm at the Hotel Villa Goetzen in Dolo, just 20 mins away from Venice by road taxi.
- DROP-OFF**— Hotel Villa Goetzen, Dolo, or Marco Polo airport by agreement.

**TO CONTACT US...**

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Sample Itinerary

### Venice, the Islands, the Hidden Venetian Lagoon and the Brenta River

#### **Sunday, Lido – Burano... From Venice to the Fishermen's Island**

Guests are met at 5pm at Hotel Villa Goetzen in Dolo. You are transferred to where the barge is moored and the crew is ready to serve you a welcome drink of Prosecco. Sailing past the Fort of Sant'Andrea, the ancient Venetian artillery defence base, La Dolce Vita hugs the coast of Sant'Erasmo, Venice orchard and vegetable garden and then arrives in Burano, a fishermen's island in the northern lagoon, where we moor for a superb fish dinner.

#### **Monday, Torcello – Burano – San Francesco... The Still Waters of the Smaller Islands**

In the morning we walk through the colourful streets of Burano and visit the Lace Museum. We have lunch while cruising on Siloncello canal and in the afternoon we visit Torcello, the first island of the lagoon to be colonised 2000 years ago. We see the Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta, a beautiful example of Veneto-Byzantine style. We finally cruise to Murano passing by San Francesco Monastery island. We moor on the Grand Canal of the island of glass, where we have dinner on board and spend the night.

#### **Tuesday, Murano - Venice - Lido... Cruising the Grand Canal and Walking in Venice**

We visit a glass-blowing workshop in Murano. Then we move on for a tour of the Grand Canal in Venice aboard a water taxi and reach San Giorgio island for our lunch facing Saint Mark. In the afternoon you have some free time to visit Venice. We moor for dinner on Lido island at Villa Laguna hotel.

#### **Wednesday, Venice - Valle Zappa... Venetian Architectural Masterpieces**

This morning we take you on a guided tour of the Doge's Palace and Saint Mark in Venice. In the afternoon we have a relaxed and flexible program. We can spend a couple of hours in Venice, then ride the bicycle or navigate along Lido island to reach our evening mooring at Alberoni or Pellestrina.

#### **Thursday, Brenta River to Dolo... Barging along the Venetian Villas**

This morning we cruise up river Brenta to Mira, passing by Villa Foscari in Malcontenta, a masterpiece of the Renaissance architect Palladio. Short after lunch we visit Villa Widmann, a typical Venetian luxurious villa with wonderful frescos. Before dinner we move on for 2 more hours to Dolo, where we moor for the night. For those who like cycling, it is possible to follow the barge on a bicycle. Before dinner we take you for a glass of wine at the old water mill of Dolo.

#### **Friday, Dolo – Stra - Dolo... Cruising up the River Surrounded by Masterpieces of Architecture**

Further ascent of river Brenta to Stra, where we visit Villa Pisani, an 18th century masterpiece of Venetian architecture with frescos from Tiepolo. During most of the day it is possible to follow the barge by bicycle along the river. A short afternoon cruise brings us back to Dolo for the Farewell Dinner at Villa Goetzen restaurant.

#### **Saturday, Dolo – Venice... A Drive Along the Brenta after Our Farewell Breakfast**

After breakfast you are transferred back to the Hotel Villa Goetzen in Dolo, or to Marco Polo airport.

**NOTE: This is a sample itinerary and is subject to change without notice. On alternate weeks, cruises will be in the reverse direction.**

#### TO CONTACT US...

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## 'La Dolce Vita'

More Pictures...  
(Click on an image to enlarge)

**A Double Cabin by day**



**...and by night**



**A Twin Cabin**



**Cruising around Venice  
away from the noisy  
crowds**



**The Italian style  
saloon...**



**more saloon...**



**and more...**



**Views of Venice in the  
distance**



**Cruising the  
River Brenta...**



**...and passing magnificent  
private villas**



**Relaxing on deck**



**Venice is beautiful when  
the sun is setting**



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### Here is part of a past client's on board diary during her cruise on LA DOLCE VITA...

We are on Day 2 of our La Dolce Vita cruise. I am writing from an internet cafe after biking 8 kilometres on the Lido.

There are 2 couples on board with us . . . Tom and Dee and Bud and Kay. All are well travelled and loads of fun! Tom and Dee biked over with us this afternoon to the Villa Laguna.....We managed to make the ride in less than 90 minutes, so we have stopped for a *gelato* (ice cream) and to send emails. We will rendezvous with La Dolce Vita in 90 minutes when they pull into the dock in front of the Villa.

Observations so far . . . the crew is fantastic and the food is unbelievably great! Captain GianPaulo, Chef Massimiliano, and Leonardo, who handles everything else!

We arrived on Sunday afternoon and were driven to the barge, which was in the middle of the Brenta River surrounded by gloriously decorated boats which were taking part in the local regatta. Many of the passengers in the boats were dressed in period costumes from the 1800s, and their oarsmen were pressing hard to get the most applause from the crowds that lined the river. Boat after boat passed us, with much waving and shouting. A thrilling event!

As I mentioned, the food is out of this world. Last night we were treated to a seafood dinner of mussels, clam risotto, and a whitefish plate. Dessert was an awesome blueberry mousse. The wines that were selected were agreeable to all, and we turned in early after this exciting day.

Tonight we will be dining at the Villa Laguna, and will head out tomorrow for another adventure!

More later . . . .  
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Food and Wine

### SAMPLE LUNCH MENU—1

Finely sliced tuna marinated in citrus juices and peppercorns  
Ribbon pasta with speciality shrimps and courgettes  
Seasonal oven-baked fish on a bed of potatoes and courgettes  
seasonal fruit and coffee  
Wine



### SAMPLE LUNCH MENU—2

Marinated anchovies  
Spaghetti with mussels  
Parsley-flavoured red mullet  
Seasonal fruit and coffee  
Wine

### SAMPLE DINNER MENU—1

Seafarers mussels  
Fish soup with crusty bread  
Mixed grill  
Pecorino cheese and orange-blossom honey  
Seasonal fruit and coffee  
Wine



### SAMPLE DINNER MENU—2

Celery-flavoured octopus with seasonal salad  
Clam risotto  
Fried squid  
Lemon sorbet  
seasonal fruit and coffee  
Wine

### SAMPLE LUNCH MENU—3

Parma ham served with melon  
Spaghetti with a cream and ham sauce  
Grilled lamb cutlet  
seasonal fruit and coffee  
Wine



### SAMPLE LUNCH MENU—4

Courgette tartlet  
Pea risotto  
Beef stew on a bed of polenta  
Seasonal fruit and coffee  
Wine

### SAMPLE DINNER MENU—3

Tasty tomato and basil chutney on toasted bread  
Cream of carrot soup with pearl barley  
Venetian style brawn  
Asiago cheese with jam  
Seasonal fruit and coffee  
Wine

### SAMPLE DINNER MENU—4

Seasonal vegetable starter with a mustard sauce  
White bean soup with Grana cheese  
Squid served with seasonal salad  
Burano biscuits with Raman-dolo wine  
Seasonal fruit and coffee  
Wine

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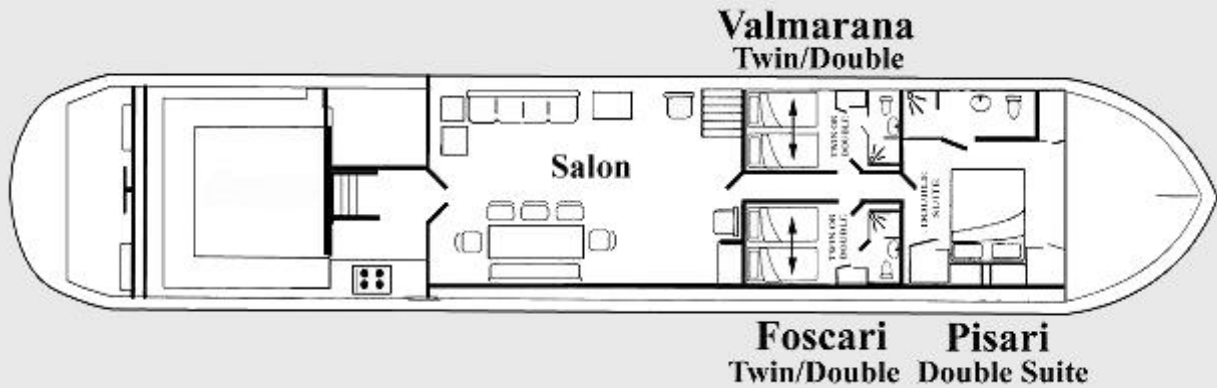
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