

WHITE BEAR CENTER FOR THE ARTS

# Venice Art Adventure

VENICE, ITALY

SEPTEMBER 7 - 16, 2026



HOSTED BY  
ERICA SPITZER RASMUSSEN AND SARA NEPHEW

## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Venice Art Adventure is a ten-day immersive journey to Venice, Italy, sponsored by the White Bear Center for the Arts. Designed for artists and art-lovers alike, the trip features a rich blend of hands-on workshops and cultural exploration. 16 art students (number capped due to studio space) will experience private bookmaking and collagraphy workshops at the Scuola Internazionale di Grafica di Venezia, creating a custom volume for your prints, drawings, collages, and photographs. Other highlights include a guided tour of the Basilica di San Marco, museum entrances, ticket to a classical concert, a glass pendant-making workshop, and a three-day access pass to the international Venice Biennale. For travel companions not participating in art classes, special guided tours are arranged. **No prior art-making experience is required** - just curiosity and a love of creativity and learning. We hope you will join us for an unforgettable and distinctive art experience in the magical city of Venice.

## ABOUT YOUR HOSTS

Your instructor will be artist/educator, Erica Spitzer Rasmussen, who has been going to Venice for over a dozen years as an artist-in-residence at La Scuola Internazionale di Grafica. She's a former professor of Studio Arts at Metropolitan State University in St. Paul and an internationally exhibited artist. Her artwork can be found in such collections as the Minneapolis Institute of Art, Harvard Libraries and the National Museum for Women in the Arts. Erica will be joined by Sara Nephew, Associate Director, White Bear Center for the Arts to assist with the group.





# HIGHLIGHTS + INCLUSIONS

---

- » Round-trip group economy class airfare from Minneapolis-St. Paul to Venice Italy confirmed on KLM/Air France.
- » 8 nights of accommodation in 3-star hotels in shared room occupancy. Single room accommodations limited with availability on request at a supplemental cost. Hotel Tintoretto is confirmed for rooms located in its annex and the partner hotel located nearby, Charming Palace Santa Fosca. Both buildings DO NOT have lift nor portage service. Rooms are confirmed on the 1st and 2nd floors with either 10 or 15 steps.
- » Daily buffet breakfast and 2 dinners with included wine for a total of 10 meals.
- » Local guides and site guides for enhanced experience.
- » Airport transfers by private boat to/from the hotel.
- » Three half-day private art workshops (4 hours each plus one 2 hour afternoon class) taught by Erica Spitzer Rasmussen at the *Scuola Internazionale di Grafica di Venezia* includes classroom rental, collagraph printing workshop, and some supplies for 16 art students.
- » Two morning site seeing visits arranged for travel companions including entrances and private guide.
- » Classic concert ticket by *Interpreti Veneziani*, The Four Seasons by Antonio Vivaldi
- » Glass pendant workshop with a local glass artist.
- » Pass provided for Venice Biennale at the Giardini and the Arsenale.
- » Inside visits described in the itinerary include fees as required for entry.
- » Gratuities for local guides, private airport boat transfer and hotel/wait staff.
- » Audio headsets for use on guided tours.
- » Basic travel insurance for trip delay, baggage delay, medical evacuation and accident and sickness medical expense (does not include trip cancellation or pre-existing medical conditions coverage). Carrousel Travel can assist with additional travel insurance at the time of registration.

# DESTINATION INFORMATION

Venice in September offers pleasant, mild weather, transitioning from summer to autumn, with average daytime highs around 68-75°F and cooler evenings dropping to 54-63°F, perfect for exploring with fewer crowds and still warm Adriatic Sea temperatures. Expect mostly sunshine with some rain.

Sunrise is about 6:40 a.m. and sunset is approximately 7:40 p.m.

Tours and site visits in Venice are on foot. Participating requires walking some days up to four miles; walking often one mile at a time at a moderate pace; managing uneven surfaces, steps and inclines without assistance. Please be advised that other countries do not abide by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and facilities outside the U.S. may not offer ramps, elevators, handrails, etc. Itinerary is not wheelchair, scooter or walker accessible. **Note the hotel does not have portage and you will need to manage your luggage up 10-15 steps.** Consult with Carrousel Travel or tour host with questions about walking and mobility requirements. Carrousel Travel, in consensus with tour host(s) and destination partner, reserves the right to withdraw or not accept any traveler whose ability to participate in the tour or whose conduct is incompatible with operation of tour or the interests of the entire group.

# PROGRAM COST

**\$6,235 PER PERSON, BASED ON SHARED/DOUBLE OCCUPANCY**

Package price includes land tour and roundtrip economy class air transportation based on a minimum group size of 22.

**SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT: \$575 PER PERSON  
(REQUEST BASIS ONLY; Limited Availability)**

**LAND ONLY PROGRAM (WITHOUT AIRFARE): UPON REQUEST ONLY**

# REGISTRATION

To register for this tour, please click here: [White Bear Center for the Arts Venice 2026 Registration](#).

If you are viewing this as a printed brochure, please visit this website: <https://cvent.me/xxovxR?RefId=FBGI70WBAVWEBREG> or email Carrousel Travel at [SpecialGroups@CarrouselTravel.com](mailto:SpecialGroups@CarrouselTravel.com).

Registration will open early March 2026.

The registration deadline is Tuesday, May 12, 2026. Once the group is full, a waiting list will be maintained.

An \$800 per person deposit is due within 14 days of registration.

Upon request, Carrousel Travel and White Bear Center for the Arts will try to pair travelers looking for a roommate. There is no guarantee of a roommate and if one is not available, the single supplement will be assessed at time of invoice.

# Itinerary

## DAY 1: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 DEPART MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL

Afternoon departure from Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport on KLM flights for Venice, Italy, with connection in Amsterdam. **(inflight meals)**

## DAY 2: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 VENICE ARRIVAL

Welcome to Venice, a timeless city of canals, where winding waterways, graceful bridges, and centuries-old palaces create a setting unlike anywhere else in the world. Upon late morning arrival at Venice Marco Polo Airport, meet your local guide and walk to the pier to board your private motorboat for a scenic ride through the Venetian lagoon to your hotel. Check in at the **Hotel Tintoretto** with rooms for the group located in its annex and nearby partner hotel, **Charming Palace Santa Fosca**. Official hotel check-in is at 3:00 pm. If arrival is earlier, store baggage at the hotel. Afternoon walking tour of the neighborhood with leader and lunch on own. Welcome dinner tonight at a local restaurant within walking distance of the hotel. **(D)**

## DAY 3: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 VENICE

Following breakfast, meet your local guide for a half-day tour. Introduction to the Grand Canal and vaporetto's (water buses) with 7-day pass included. Depart for the fish market via traghetto (gondolas for locals). Tour two of Venice's most iconic churches, beginning with Basilica di San Marco. Discover its dazzling Byzantine mosaics, golden interiors, and rich history as the spiritual heart of the Venetian Republic, before continuing to Santa Maria della Salute, a striking Baroque masterpiece celebrated for its grand dome, elegant design, and panoramic views over the Grand Canal. Paper shopping for the art students with the art instructor at the Campo di San Stephano. Lunch and dinner this evening on own. **(B)**





#### DAY 4: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 VENICE

Collagraph workshop for art students (4 hours) at the *Scuola Internazionale di Grafica di Venezia* as arranged by the art instructor. Following lunch on own, return to the Scuola for class on bookbinding (2 hours). Optional excursion with the art instructor to Foto Franco, where students can have digital photographic prints made.

**Morning excursion for spouses/travel companions:** Enjoy a half-day guided exploration of Venice's political and cultural heart with a local expert. Visit the magnificent Doge's Palace, once the seat of Venetian power, where lavish chambers, grand staircases, and the infamous Bridge of Sighs reveal the story of the Republic's rulers, justice system, and intrigue. Continue to the Museo Correr, home to important works of art and artifacts that trace Venice's artistic, civic, and daily life through the centuries. Conclude with a guided walk through St. Mark's Square, gaining deeper insight into its architecture, monuments, and role as the city's most famous gathering place.

**(B)**



#### DAY 5: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 VENICE

Bookbinding class at the Scuola for art students (4 hours) as arranged by the art instructor. Lunch on own. Option excursion to the hardware store with the art instructor. In the evening, transfer with leader to San Vidal Church to attend a classic concert by *Interpreti Veneziani*, The Four Seasons by Antonio Vivaldi (dates/times for Sept. 2026 TBD).

**Morning excursion for spouses/travel companions:** Entrance included visiting two art museums, with a local half-day guide. Visit the Peggy Guggenheim Collection, home to an exceptional array of modern masterpieces along the Grand Canal; and the Accademia Gallery, which houses the city's most important collection of Venetian Renaissance art. **(B)**



#### DAY 6: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 VENICE (Murano and Burano Excursion)

Depart by vaporetto with your full-day local guide for a scenic journey through the Venetian Lagoon to its most celebrated islands. Begin the day on Murano, world-renowned for its centuries-old glassmaking tradition. Visit the Glass Museum, where masterpieces trace the evolution of this delicate art form, and attend a glass pendant workshop with a local glass artist. Enjoy free time for lunch on your own and browsing Murano's glass boutiques. In the afternoon, continue to the colorful island of Burano, famous for its brightly painted houses and enduring lace-making heritage. Visit the Lace Museum to learn about the intricate craftsmanship that once made Burano lace prized across Europe. The day concludes with free time to wander the canals, photograph the vibrant streets, and shop for local lace and handmade souvenirs before returning to Venice. **(B)**



## DAY 7: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 VENICE

Today depart via vaporetto with group leaders to visit the Venice Biennale at the Giardini, one of the world's most prestigious international exhibitions of contemporary art. Set within a peaceful waterfront park, the Giardini features permanent national pavilions where countries from around the globe present cutting-edge works by leading and emerging artists, offering a dynamic and thought-provoking cultural experience. Following lunch on own, visit the Liberia Acqua Alta, one of the most unique bookstores in the world, for book and paper shopping with the art instructor. The remainder of the afternoon and evening are free for personal exploration. **(B)**

## DAY 8: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 VENICE

The final bookbinding class at the Scuola for art students (4 hours) as arranged by the art instructor. Afternoon and evening at leisure. **Free morning for spouses/travel companions. (B)**

## DAY 9: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 VENICE

Today depart via vaporetto with group leaders for a morning visit to the Venice Biennale at the Arsenale, the historic former shipyard of the Venetian Republic transformed into a vast contemporary art venue. Explore large-scale installations, experimental works, and international exhibitions set within dramatic industrial spaces, gaining insight into today's most innovative artistic voices. Visit *La Beppa* for art supply shopping with the art instructor followed by free time for the remainder of the afternoon. Farewell dinner at a local restaurant within walking distance of hotel. **(B,D)**

## DAY 10: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 DEPART VENICE / ARRIVE MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL

Following breakfast, meet your local assistant in the hotel lobby and transfer to Venice Marco Polo Airport by private motorboat. Return on Air France flights to Minneapolis-St. Paul with connection in Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport.

- » Itinerary is subject to change due to local scheduling and conditions.
- » Hotels described in itinerary are confirmed but subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.
- » No refund is granted to travelers who wish to omit portions of the itinerary.
- » Included meals: **B**=Breakfast; **D**=Dinner



# TERMS + CONDITIONS

**ACCEPTANCE OF CONDITIONS** Registration and deposit for this program shall constitute agreement and acceptance by the traveler of all provisions provided herein, as well as those terms and conditions of the tour package set forth in related announcements, brochure, circulars and online registration.

## REGISTRATION / PAYMENT / CANCELLATION

**REGISTRATION** All participants are required to register directly with Carrousel Travel. Instructions can be found in the accompanying Registration Letter and on the [White Bear Center for the Arts Venice 2026 Registration Site](#).

**Registration will open early March. The registration deadline is Tuesday, May 12, 2026.** Openings are on a first come, first served basis, with a maximum of 25 travelers. (Once space is full, a waiting list will be maintained.)

**PROGRAM COSTS** Costs are based on exchange rates in effect January 14, 2026 and subject to change in the event there is a fluctuation of more than 4%. Should minimum participation fall below 22 travelers, Carrousel Travel reserves the right to reprice or cancel the tour.

**DEPOSIT** An **\$800 deposit** per person is due within 14 days of online registration. If a minimum group size of 22 is not reached, your deposit will be refunded (less a \$32 nonrefundable fee for credit card payment).

**FINAL PAYMENT** Trip balance is due no later than **June 9, 2026**. Invoices will be emailed to participants approximately four weeks before the due date.

**FORM OF PAYMENT** Check, cash, ACH or credit card accepted. Please make checks payable to Carrousel Travel and mail to: Carrousel Travel, Attn: Special Groups / FBG170, Two Meridian Crossings, Suite 200, Minneapolis, MN 55423. Credit card payments can be made while registering or at any time online by accessing confirmed registration.

**CANCELLATION POLICY** All cancellations must be received in writing and are effective upon receipt and confirmation by Carrousel Travel. Cancellation fees:

From 1st deposit through June 9, 2026 = \$300 per person cancellation fee.

From June 10, 2026 through June 23, 2026 = \$800 per person cancellation fee.

From June 24, 2026 through July 8, 2026 = 50% of traveler's reserved program price.

From July 9, 2026 through arrival = No refund.

This policy is based on the contracts required to secure the services for this customized program, the commitments to other group travelers and the services rendered on behalf of all group travelers by Carrousel Travel. To protect program payment, consider purchasing individual trip cancellation insurance.

SANTA MARIA DELLA SALUTE



SAN VIDAL CHURCH



**FOR  
QUESTIONS  
+ DETAILS**

Sara Nephew  
Associate Director, White Bear Center for the Arts  
[snephew@whitebeararts.org](mailto:snephew@whitebeararts.org) | 651-407-0597

Carrousel Travel  
800-800-6508 or [SpecialGroups@CarrouselTravel.com](mailto:SpecialGroups@CarrouselTravel.com)

 **Carrousel  
Travel**

Two Meridian Crossings  
Suite 200  
Minneapolis, MN 55423

## TRAVEL INFORMATION

**AIR TRANSPORTATION:** Participants using group air will be ticketed in economy class on special group fares for which: 1) The airlines may limit or reduce frequent flyer mileage credit. 2) Specific seat requests are not guaranteed. 3) Deviations from the group flights are quite limited, very restrictive and may not be allowed due to airfare rules. 4) No refund is granted to travelers who wish to omit portions of the itinerary.

**AIR DEVIATION POLICIES:** Travelers wishing to originate/return from a different city than the group or extend their overseas stay returning from the same departure city might be able to deviate from group air space. In these cases, every effort will be made to ticket within the rules of the group air contract, for which a \$150 per person, nonrefundable service fee applies, plus any additional charges/fare levied by the airline. Once finalized, any further changes will incur additional fees. Certain requests are NOT permitted on the group fare. Travelers wishing to travel prior to the group, extend their stay returning from a different city, upgrade seats or class of service, or use airline frequent flyer miles to upgrade must request a Land Only program.

**Land Only Program Registrants** should understand the terms and possible risks of not traveling on the group flights: 1) Air tickets must be purchased on own. Travelers should not purchase their own air tickets before being registered and confirmed by Carrousel Travel for a Land Only program. 2) Carrousel Travel no longer holds seats on the group airline reservation. If a traveler changes plans and later requests to utilize the group flights, space may be more expensive and/or no longer be available. 3) Travelers may be subject to schedule changes different than the group arrival/departure times and could incur additional costs such as airport/hotel transfers on own.

**All deviation and Land Only requests must be submitted in writing by Tuesday, May 12, 2026. Requests after this date incur additional fees or may be unavailable.**

**ADA & SPECIAL NEEDS:** ADA: Please be advised the Americans with Disabilities Act is inapplicable outside of the United States, and facilities outside the U.S., such as ramps, elevators and hand railings may not exist. This itinerary is not wheelchair, scooter, or walker accessible. Consult Carrousel Travel or tour host with questions regarding mobility requirements. DIET: Medical and religious dietary restrictions will be requested (airline, hotel, group meals) but cannot always be guaranteed. Traveler will be notified if special meals have an additional cost (the responsibility of the traveler). MEDICAL DEVICES: Traveler **must advise** in advance if CPAP or any other medical or assistive devices will be used (including hearing aids in order to provide proper tour audio headsets). Check to see if devices need an electrical adaptor or converter. Additional onsite costs (such as electrical equipment or distilled water) are often difficult and/or expensive to arrange and are the complete responsibility of the traveler.

**EXCLUSIONS TO PROGRAM:** Items not included in the land/air package: ETIAS; passport, visa, documentation fees; baggage handling at airports, airline baggage charges; meals other than those indicated in itinerary, beverages except at breakfast and where indicated in itinerary; optional tours, excursions and entertainment; non-tour related gratuities; all personal items such as telephone calls, laundry expenses and room service; trip cancellation insurance; increases in VAT or city/hotel taxes; any required or optional expenses related to COVID-19 or for isolating during travel due to illness or quarantine; any items not specifically mentioned as included.

**HEALTH & WELLNESS:** Before you travel, take steps to prepare so you can stay safe and healthy during your trip. Try starting an exercise routine to increase stamina. Check the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for information and current updates regarding a destination's suggested vaccines, general health precautions, advice and other useful tips. The CDC recommends travelers to be up-to-date with all routine vaccinations (including COVID-19) before every trip. For country recommendations visit <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/italy>

**PASSPORT/VISA/DOCUMENTATION:** For this itinerary, U.S. Citizens are required to have a passport valid at least 6 months past their scheduled return date. Also, passport needs to be undamaged with at least 2 blank pages (1 for each entry/exit stamp). IMPORTANT: While current passport requirements of Italy require validity of at least only 3 months past return, please be advised that once the European Travel Authorization and Authorization System (ETIAS) is operational in 2026 (date pending), its mandatory application for authorization to travel will require a passport validity of at least 6 months past the scheduled return. More details regarding ETIAS will be shared at a later date. A visa is not necessary for this itinerary. Note that onward travel to other countries could require varied validity. The deadline to provide valid passport details to Carrousel Travel is 90 days prior to travel. Any delay could incur additional cost and/or inconvenience. If you need to get or renew your passport, see the U.S. Department of State website for further details and current processing times (as it could be lengthy). <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports.html> Non-U.S. citizens should contact their country's consulate immediately to inquire about the necessary travel documents, and a local U.S. government office for re-entry requirements. All necessary and applicable personal documents to participate on this itinerary are the responsibility of the traveler.

**Registration must include full legal name as it appears on the traveler's passport.** Name change fees will apply if incorrect information is submitted. Travelers without proper documentation may be denied boarding by the airlines, and Carrousel Travel and hosts assume no liability.

# TRAVEL INSURANCE

Basic insurance is included for all participants (currently residing in the U.S.) for program dates. This coverage includes limited benefits while traveling for trip delay, baggage delay/loss, medical/dental accident or injury, and evacuation (medical, political and disaster). A summary of the coverage is included in the Registration Letter, and the policy is purchased (at this time from Travel Insured) for you approximately 30 days prior to departure. **It does not include** trip cancellation insurance, medical coverage for pre-existing medical conditions or unexpected expenses (such as an unforeseen circumstance if the program experiences travel delays that may incur additional costs.)

Purchasing individual supplemental insurance is recommended for additional benefits, especially if health condition is a concern and/or traveling outside of the U.S. Multiple suppliers offer comprehensive policies that do include trip cancellation and trip interruption/delay (reimbursement of nonrefundable payments for covered reasons) and optionals such as Cancel For Any Reason and quarantine. Note that for coverage of pre-existing medical conditions and certain options a policy must generally be purchased **within 15 days of the trip's first payment** (deposit receipt as noted on Carrousel Travel payment statement). An insurance quote may be requested when registering or by contacting Carrousel Travel (can only be provided once the first deposit is received). If buying your own cancellation insurance, please advise Carrousel Travel if you are using C&F Travel Insured International, as it's not allowed to have 2 separate policies for the same trip from the same company.

## RESPONSIBILITIES & LIABILITIES

**LEADERSHIP:** The person(s) identified as the leader/host is subject to change in the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of Carrousel Travel. In the unlikely event of a change in leadership, a qualified replacement will be selected by the sponsoring organization or previous leader. Carrousel Travel will operate the program as planned and is not responsible for the change in leadership. The cancellation and refund policy remain as stated.

**RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE:** Carrousel Travel purchases transportation, hotel accommodations and other services from various suppliers that are not subject to its immediate control. Carrousel Travel cannot, therefore, be liable for any personal injury or property damage or personal loss in connection with any service which may occur due to (1) any act or omission of such a supplier, or (2) defects in or failures of any aircraft, vessel, automotive vehicle or other means of transportation that is not under their control, or (3) any circumstances arising as a result of military or political action, terrorism, weather, acts of God, epidemiological events or any other circumstances over which Carrousel Travel has no control. Carrousel Travel reserves the right to alter, change or omit any part of the itinerary as they deem necessary or desirable, and to pass on to participants any expenditures or losses caused by delays or events beyond their control.

The traveler(s) release, covenant not to sue and forever discharge the tour host, Carrousel Travel and any of its or their trustees, officers, agents, employees and volunteers of any and all claims, demands, rights and causes of action of whatever kind of nature, including but not limited to negligence, unforeseen bodily and personal injuries, damage to property and the consequences there of resulting from participation in this program and/or any travel incident thereto.

**SUPPLIER DEFAULT/BANKRUPTCY:** If a supplier declares bankruptcy, cancels, or postpones service or otherwise fails to provide or perform the services you have purchased, it is the supplier, and not Carrousel Travel, that is legally responsible to the traveler. Refunds or reparations must come directly from the supplier or the bankruptcy court. In this case, Carrousel Travel would aid as much as possible.

**TRAVEL ADVISORY WAIVER:** There are inherent risks involved with traveling internationally. These risks include travel to and within, and returning from, one or more foreign countries; foreign political, legal, social and economic conditions; local medical conditions and local weather conditions, as well as the chance of violence and terrorist activity. For every country, The U.S. Department of State issues a travel advisory recommendation based on levels 1 to 4. All travelers should be aware of the Travel Advisory associated with their destination. See: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html>

## Carrousel Travel

Founded in 1977 and recognized as a Best Places To Work for several consecutive years, Carrousel has grown into one of the largest privately owned travel companies in the Midwest. By melding the knowledgeable expertise of our professional consultants, the latest in travel technologies and the power of the Signature Travel Network, Carrousel Travel is dedicated to providing the best solutions for our client's needs and well-being.