

**ITALY – From Apulia to Milan  
Featuring opera at the Teatro Petruzzelli  
in Bari, the Teatro Costanzi in Rome,  
Teatro Regio in Parma and Teatro alla  
Scala in Milan plus concerts in Rome’s  
Basilica di San Vitale, Lucca’s San  
Giovanni Church and Parma’s Palazzo  
Ducale.**

The Vancouver Opera Guild invites you to join its tour of Italy from Apulia in the south to Milan in the north including three nights in Alberobello (Apulia), three nights in Rome, one night in Lucca, two nights in Parma and three nights in Milan. Seven opera/concert tickets are included in the programme.

**TOUR SCHEDULE  
(subject to minor change)**

**Sat. Oct. 17: Bari**

Arrival day in Bari (depart Vancouver Friday, Oct. 16) and transfer to the Hotel Colle del Sole in Alberobello.

Welcome reception at the hotel this evening. Accommodation for three nights at this 4-star hotel.

**Sun. Oct. 18: Alberobello**

Apulia – its historical and cultural richness is represented by cities like Alberobello, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which offers evocative evidence of its rural past through its characteristic Trulli dwellings. We enjoy a guided tour this morning.

In the late afternoon, transfer to Bari for the 8:30 p.m. performance of **Verdi’s *Il Trovatore*** at the Teatro Petruzzelli. Transfer back to the hotel after the opera.

**Mon. Oct. 19: Ostuni and Polignano a Mare**

Full day excursion to Ostuni and Polignano a Mare. Ostuni is a stunning town of stark, whitewashed buildings set on three hills. The seemingly disordered tangle of narrow cobblestone streets is strongly reminiscent of a North African medina. Rising above it all in sombre brown stone is the 15<sup>th</sup> century Gothic cathedral. Polignano a Mare is a cliffside town famous for its whitewashed buildings perched on limestone cliffs overlooking the turquoise Adriatic Sea, dramatic sea caves and iconic beaches. There is also a historic centre with narrow winding streets, Roman ruins and panoramic terraces.

**Tue. Oct. 20: Apulia – Rome**

Morning departure from Apulia to Rome and check in at the 4-star Hotel The Hive.

At 8:00 p.m. enjoy a performance of **Verdi’s *Falstaff*** at the Teatro Costanzi, a 2-minute walk from the hotel.

**Wed. Oct. 21: Rome**

This morning enjoy a guided tour of Galleria Colonna. A true jewel of Roman Baroque, the Galleria Colonna was commissioned in the mid 1600s by Cardinal Girolamo I Colonna and his nephew Lorenzo Onofrio.

**Thu. Oct. 22: Rome**

All day at leisure to explore the grandeur of Rome including the Colosseum, the Forum and the Pantheon, and then perhaps move on to the Vatican.

At 8:00 p.m. enjoy a performance of **Rossini’s *Le Due Petite Messe*** at the Basilica di San Vitale, a 10-minute walk from the hotel. (First version for soloists, choir, two pianos and harmonium)

**Fri. Oct. 23: Rome - Lucca**

Leave Rome this morning for Lucca in

Tuscany and overnight at the Celide Hotel, just outside the historic city walls.

At 7:00 p.m. **Puccini e la sua Lucca** (Puccini Opera Recital) at the San Giovanni Church.

**Sat. Oct. 24: Lucca – Parma**

We leave Lucca this morning by bus for Parma. Arriving late morning, we visit a cheese producer and enjoy a light lunch.

Accommodation for two nights at the 4-star SINA Hotel Maria Luigia, a short walk from the Teatro Regio.

8:00 p.m. performance of **Verdi’s *Nabuccodonosor*** (the original name given by Verdi to his opera Nabucco) at the Teatro Regio.

**Sun. Oct. 25: Parma**

At 12:00 p.m. ***Mezzogiorno in Musica*** (Midday in Music) with artists of the Accademia Verdiana, in collaboration with the Provincial Command of the Carabinieri at the Palazzo Ducale in Parma. The Garden Palace or Palazzo Ducale, built by the Farnese family took shape around a pre-existing castle dating back to the Sforza period.

**Mon. Oct. 26: Parma - Milan**

Morning transfer by coach to Milan and accommodation at the 4 star Hotel Cavour, in the city centre and easy walking distance to Teatro alla Scala.

**Tue. Oct. 27: Milan**

Free day to shop or explore on our own. Or enjoy an optional excursion to Bergamo.

**Wed. Oct. 28: Milan**

Day at leisure.

At 8:00 p.m. **Verdi’s *Messa da Requiem*** at Teatro alla Scala starring Anna Netrebko and Ekaterina Gubanova.

**Thu. Oct. 29: Depart Milan**

**Tour includes:**

- Accommodation for 12 nights at hotels listed, or similar
- Welcome reception, daily breakfast
- Seven opera/concert tickets
- Guided tours as described in the itinerary
- Entrance fees where applicable
- Coach and driver for tours and transfers
- Gratuities to drivers and guides
- Full-time Italian tour escort
- Vancouver Opera Guild Tour Director
- \$300 donation to the Vancouver Opera Guild (\$400 for non-members)

**Not included:**

- Airfare (Great Expeditions will be pleased to assist with airline reservations )
- Milan airport transfer

Optional Excursion to Bergamo  
Bergamo is located northeast of Milan in the Lombardy region. Its older upper district is characterized by cobblestone streets, encircled by Venetian walls and accessible by funicular. Also here are the Romanesque Basilica di Santa Maria Maggiore and the grand Cappella Colleoni, a chapel with 18<sup>th</sup>-century frescoes by Tiepolo.

Cost: \$180 per person based on 10 participants

**PRICES**

Prices quoted in this brochure are in Canadian dollars based on a full tour, and foreign exchange rates in effect at time of printing (January 2026). We reserve the right to adjust the tour cost if there are substantial price changes.

**LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

This paragraph defines our responsibility with respect to all our tours. Please read it carefully. Payment of deposit represents an acceptance by purchaser of the following terms and conditions. Great Expeditions, its owners, outfitters, agents and employees, gives notice that all arrangements for accommodation, transportation and/or, all related travel services, have been made by Great Expeditions only as agent, upon the express condition that Great Expeditions shall not be liable for any injury, damage, delay, mishap, inconvenience or irregularity occasioned through the default of any company or individual engaged in providing the arranged accommodation. Great Expeditions cannot be responsible for negligent conduct or financial irresponsibility of these suppliers, since they maintain no control over them. Such passenger conveyance, hotel accommodation, etc. is subject to the laws of the state or country where provided. In addition, Great Expeditions assumes no liability resulting directly or indirectly from any of the following causes: acts of God, detention, annoyance, weather, quarantines, strikes, civil disturbance, theft, government regulations, etc. over which it has no control. Great Expeditions reserves the right to substitute hotels and leaders and to alter the itinerary when deemed necessary or advisable. The right is also reserved to cancel any trip prior to departure upon the refund of all payments received which shall release Great Expeditions from any further liability. Great Expeditions reserves the right to decline to accept or retain any person or member of any tour should such person's actions or general deportment impede the operation of the tour or the rights or welfare or enjoyment of other members of the tour, and it is agreed a refund of the amount recovered from suppliers of unused land services is the limit of Great Expeditions responsibility.

**CARRIER'S RESPONSIBILITY**

No carrier shall have or incur any responsibility or liability to any passenger or for property accompanying passengers, except for its liability as a common carrier. In particular, Great Expeditions advises the customer that any air carrier's liability may be limited by its tariffs, conditions of carriage and international conventions and agreements.

B.C. Reg. 2629

**TOUR COST**

Guild Members: Cdn. \$8,590 per person sharing  
Non-Guild: Cdn. \$8,690 per person sharing  
Single supplement: Cdn. \$2,440

**RESERVATIONS**

A deposit of \$2,500 per person is required at time of booking. A second payment of \$2,500 is due before May 15 with balance due by August 30.

**CANCELLATIONS**

All payments are non-refundable unless space can be resold.



**TRAVEL INSURANCE**

We strongly recommend that tour members purchase trip cancellation/interruption insurance to protect themselves against money loss in the event of cancellation due to personal or family illness. We also offer comprehensive insurance which includes trip cancellation/interruption plus excess hospital/medical benefits, baggage and travel accident. Some exclusions for pre-existing conditions do apply. Insurance premiums are age banded. Please ask for an insurance quote at time of booking.

**OPERA/CONCERT TICKETS FOR ALL PERFORMANCES ARE IN HIGH DEMAND IN OCTOBER AND SUPPLIERS ARE REQUIRING IMMEDIATE DEPOSITS.**

**PLEASE BOOK EARLY TO ENSURE AVAILABILITY OF THESE TICKETS.**



Teatro Petruzzelli, Bari

**For further information, please call:**

**Lis Dawson 604-922-8008  
or  
Genny MacLean 604-738-5535**

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*Vancouver Opera Guild*

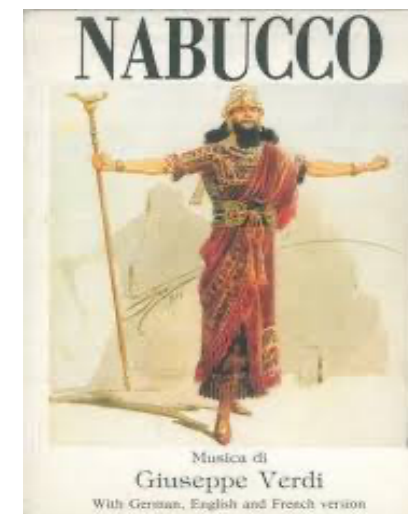
**ITALY Opera & Music**

**ALBEROBELLO (Apulia)**

**ROME \* LUCCA \* PARMA \***

**MILAN**

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**OCTOBER 17 – 29, 2026**

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