
Travel with The Met

April 30 – May 9, 2017

La Serenissima: A Privileged View
With Olivier Bernier



THE
MET

La Serenissima: A Privileged View

Dear Members and Friends of The Metropolitan Museum of Art,

Secret and open, mysterious and splendid, Venice has lost none of her magic. Today, as ever, she offers both famous sights, like San Marco, and less well-known places where masterpieces can be seen almost in private. Now we invite you to see a privileged Venice, a city known only to a few. Because so many of the palaces in Venice — and so many villas in the Veneto — are still privately owned, as we visit these grand interiors and meet their owners, we will ourselves, for a time, become insiders. Since my first visit to Venice in 1954, hardly a year has passed without my return to this magical city.

I look forward to sharing with you my knowledge of one of my favorite cities. During this delightful week, we will have access to many private *palazzi* and villas, including lunch at a villa renowned for its beautiful frescoes. We will be the guests of a countess for dinner at her palazzo on the Grand Canal and by special arrangement, will observe restorers working on an important series of paintings at San Sebastiano. The famous Hotel Gritti Palace, where we will stay while in Venice, was once the *palazzo* of the Doge who was responsible for building the Piazza San Marco.

The pleasures of travelling with this small congenial group of Met members will be many. Drawing on my knowledge of the Serenissima, I will bring the city's artistic and architectural treasures to life. At first, in Vicenza, as we see Palladio's masterpieces, we will stay at a charming country hotel just outside the city, and there will be free time to stroll in town and even sit at its cafes. In Padua, the extraordinary Medieval Santo will give us a glimpse of Byzantium.

In Venice, we will go by water taxi to the legendary Gritti Hotel, itself a palazzo, where we will spend five nights. There will, of course, be visits to public collections, but we will also be invited to private events in aristocratic homes: a lunch and visit to a villa decorated with Tiepolo's frescoes, a dinner in a *palazzo* on the grand canal and as a grand finale, we will have the illuminated basilica of Saint Mark in the evening all to ourselves.

Sincerely,



Olivier Bernier

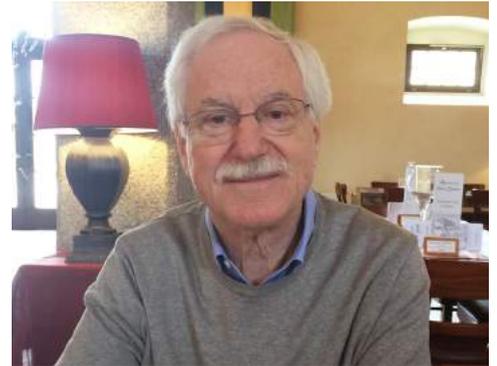


Photo by Harriet Friedlander

Olivier Bernier

Art historian and esteemed lecturer to sold-out audiences at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Olivier Bernier received the Arts & Letters award from the French government. A graduate of Harvard College and the Institute of Fine Arts in New York, he is the author of eleven books and numerous publications. He is a board member of the grant-giving Matisse Foundation, of the School of American Ballet, and of the Center for Khmer Studies. Travel is one of his passions.

On-Site Lecture Themes & Trip Highlights

- View extraordinary works of art *in situ* as Olivier Bernier speaks on themes including:

Ancient & New: Palladio's Architecture

All the Pleasures in the World: Tiepolo Father & Son

Inventing Venice: Relics, Trade & Art

The Accademia: Art Through the Centuries

- Enjoy a private lunch at an artistically important villa.

- Observe an important restoration project involving the work of one of the great Venetian artists

- Dine in a private *palazzo* on the Grand Canal where our charming hostess will join us



Apparition of the Virgin to St Simon, by Tiepolo, Scuola Grande dei Carmini



Photos clockwise from top right: Murano glass; *The Vision of St. Augustine* by Carpaccio, Scuolo di San Giorgio degli Schiavoni; facade of La Fenice Opera House; Scrovegni Chapel, Padua; San Marco basilica, Venice. Front cover: Venice, Félix-François_Georges_Philibert Ziem. N.d., watercolor on paper. Bequest of Isaac D. Fletcher, 1917. Back cover photo: Vicenza

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San Giorgio Maggiore, Venice

U.S.A. Departure

Sunday, April 30

Depart on an overnight flight to Venice.

Venice, Italy/Vicenza

Monday, May 1

Arrive in Venice and drive to Vicenza, where we stay at the Villa Michelangelo, situated on the outskirts of the city. This afternoon, walk through the center of town to see the great 16th-century architect Andrea Palladio's basilica and some of his palaces. Our welcome dinner is at the hotel. D

Vicenza

Tuesday, May 2

A full day in Vicenza provides insights into Palladio's buildings. Begin at Palazzo Chiericati and the Teatro Olimpico, the architect's final work. We are invited by Contessa Valmarana for lunch at an important 18th-century private villa, renowned for its beautiful Tiepolo frescoes. Continue to La Rotonda and walk along La Valle del Silenzio (Valley of Silence), which inspired Palladio. B, L

Padua

Wednesday, May 3

Today we explore Padua, formerly an independent city state. Start with the Byzantine-Romanesque Santo, a spectacular 13th-century church built to house the relics of Saint Anthony, followed by visits to the Palladian church of Santa Giustina and the 17th-century Anatomic Theater of the university. Lunch will be at the early 19th-century Café Pedrocchi. Conclude at the Scrovegni Chapel, Giotto's masterpiece. Dinner is at a local restaurant. B, L, D

Vicenza/Venice

Thursday, May 4

This morning drive to Venice. At the Scuola di San Giorgio degli Schiavoni, admire Carpaccio's most spectacular series of paintings in their original setting. Continue to San Zaccaria, the largest of the early Renaissance churches, housing one of Giovanni Bellini's most important works. After lunch, view a spectacular 18th-century church, the Gesuiti, home of an important painting by Titian. Tour the Oratorio dei Cruciferi, which has retained the splendid series of canvases painted by Palma Giovane in the 1580s, then check in at the Hotel Gritti Palace, overlooking the Grand Canal. This evening we will be the guests of a member of one of Venice's aristocratic families at dinner in her Grand Canal palazzo. B, L, D

Venice

Friday, May 5

After a visit to that 17th-century masterpiece, Santa Maria della Salute, we move

into the 20th century at the Guggenheim, with its collection of Cubists and Surrealists. Lunch will be on the museum's roof terrace. This afternoon, visit Palladio's San Giorgio Maggiore. B, L

Murano/Torcello

Saturday, May 6

Today's visits include a glass factory and private glass museum on the island of Murano. We will also look in at the Museo Vetrario and San Donato, one of the earliest of the Lagoon churches. Lunch is at the only private villa on the island of Torcello. At the Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta, view its 11th-century mosaics, perfect examples of Byzantine-influenced early Venetian art. We will also explore the neighboring 11th- to 12th-century Church of Santa Fosca. In the late afternoon, a private visit has been arranged to the Querini Stampalia Collection, a gathering



Prato dell'Valle, Padua

More Travels with The Met

Jerusalem & the Holy Land October 23–November 3, 2016

A Journey into Antiquity: Egypt & the Nile December 26, 2016–January 6, 2017

The Art & Architecture of Havana January 14–21, 2017

Sailing the Panama Canal: Colón to Puntarenas Aboard Sea Cloud II
February 20–March 3, 2017

For details, please go to metmuseum.org/travel

of paintings and other images showing life during the great days of *La Serenissima*. Enjoy drinks in the garden designed by Carlo Scarpa.

B, L

Venice

Sunday, May 7

Biblioteca Marciana, the former Republic's state library, features ceilings by Veronese and changing exhibitions of books and images from the collection. After our morning visit continue to the Correr Museum, the museum of the city, whose displays include everything from first-rate paintings to *objets* and costumes. In the afternoon see the Scuola Grande di San Rocco, where Tintoretto surpassed himself in painting after painting. Move on to the Scuola Grande dei Carmini, an 18th-century gem with Tiepolo ceilings, and the Renaissance church of San Sebastiano, where by special invitation we will see the ongoing restoration of Veronese's masterpiece. Our farewell dinner this evening is at a private *palazzo*.

B, D

Venice

Monday, May 8

This morning visit the Accademia, with its bevy of masterpieces. Lunch is followed by the afternoon at leisure. We will meet again in the early evening for a private visit to the Basilica of San Marco.

B, L

Venice/U.S.

Tuesday, May 9

Following breakfast, transfer to the airport for return flights home.

B

The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com.

Accommodations

Villa Michelangelo, Vicenza

Hotel Villa Michelangelo offers peace and warm hospitality in a hilltop setting. The villa—built and designed in the Palladian style for the aristocratic Tomi family as a country escape—still retains an air of informal civility, reminiscent of the time. Rooms are subtly rustic, many with original wooden and tiled floors. Large shuttered windows open onto expansive views of the Colli Berici hills or the snow-capped Alpine foothills in the far distance. Relax with tea on the terrace overlooking the villa's own olive grove or enjoy a sunset aperitif on the poolside veranda.

The Gritti Palace, Venice

This 15th-century *palazzo* on the Grand Canal has been meticulously restored to its former splendor. Exceptionally appointed rooms and suites feature Murano chandeliers, French doors, antiques, and art. Amenities include free Wi-Fi and flat-screen TVs. Suites, some inspired by famous guests such as Ernest Hemingway, add living areas, balconies, and canal views. The Gritti Palace is just a short walk from La Fenice Opera House and St. Mark's Square.



Rate Includes

- Nine nights hotel accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals per the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner); Bottled water and coffee/tea with all meals; local wine and beer with dinners
- Guided sightseeing by private motorcoach and entrance fees for all included visits
- Airport/hotel group transfers for all participants on suggested group flights
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers
- Taxes, service charges, portorage
- Pre-departure material, reading list, luggage tags

Not included in rates

International airfare; passport fees; alcoholic beverages other than local wine/beer at lunches and dinners; personal items and expenses; airport transfers for those not on group flights; baggage in excess of one suitcase; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included



Santa Fosca, Torcello

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Reservation Application

To secure your reservation, please call Academic Arrangements Abroad at 800-221-1944; or complete this form and return it with your deposit of \$1,000 (of which \$350 is non-refundable for administrative fees), to be paid by credit card, wire transfer, or check payable to *Academic Arrangements Abroad*, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd Floor, New York, NY 10018-3721.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.

Address

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (home) _____ (business) _____

Fax _____ Email _____

Accommodations

One bed Two beds

I wish to share a room with _____

Form Of Payment

Enclosed is my check (payable to *Academic Arrangements Abroad*) Credit card

Name on credit card

Credit card number

3- or 4- digit security code

Expiration date

Each participant must sign below. I/We have read, understand and agree to the Terms & Conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com and detailed in forthcoming program documents. I/We agree to full payment by credit card, wire transfer, or check 120 days prior to departure.

Signature (required)

Date

Signature (required)

Date

The Metropolitan
Museum of Art

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New York, NY 10028

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