

Hello Fellow Cruisers –

What you will find in this package:

- ✓ Cover letter
- ✓ Italy 3-City Tour Description with **RomeinLimo** (two pages)
- ✓ Email confirmation, recommendations of tours and prices (two pages)
- ✓ Summary of Italy's 3-city recommended entrance fees

My name is Linda Frank. My husband Gary and I are looking forward to our Mediterranean cruise with Sam of **See the World Tours**. This is our first trip with him. I've done a lot of research on some of the ports we're stopping at in Italy. Rather than going with an expensive, large group through Royal Caribbean (and seeing less), I've researched several private tour companies online. I've done this in the past with Caribbean excursions and never regretted it. I decided to book a minibus for 8 people with a company called **Romeinlimo**. The cost of the vehicle is 550 Euro for each of three cities: Naples, Rome and Pisa/Florence. I've attached descriptions of the tour for each city. You will notice the 550 euro is a price break (instead of 600 as listed) because I booked all three cities with the same company. The tour includes a private tour guide for each city. It does not include tip, entrance fees or lunch. I gave my credit card number to hold. Right now, (according to the current euro/dollar rate) it equals to \$98-\$99 per person (or 68.75 euro), **for each city, but only if you are doing all three**. Keep in mind that the euro/dollar rate may change either way from now till then. You don't actually pay till the end of each tour and they only accept euro cash or Traveler's Checks (in euro) only. If I'm not successful in getting six others to join us, I have the option to cancel up to one week prior to the cruise.

If you are interested or know someone else that may be, please feel free to phone or email me. I'll take those who want to commit on a first come, first serve basis and then start a waiting list in case of cancellations. I highly encourage you to research **Romeinlimo** (and other tour companies) yourself. Here is their website: <http://www.romeinlimo.com/>. I also highly encourage "googling" it to see reviews from others who have used them. I am just sharing researched information and you can use it as a comparison with other companies as well. As far as the additional 150 euro or 18.75 euro for each in the vehicle private The Vatican tour that **Romeinlimo** is suggesting, (as you will see on my attached confirmation), it may be worth the added expense and we can choose to skip the Uffizi as suggested in Florence, but everyone in my vehicle would have to agree to it. As you can see on the attachments, they pick us up right at the port at 8am and bring us back by 5pm. I am personally confident that this would be the way I want to go - safely and economically for all I want to see.

You should know: The plus side of touring this way is that it is a small group, very personal and we are provided with a knowledgeable tour guide who knows the in's and out's of each area. Because it's a small group, you are able to see many more sites than being part of a busload of people. The on's and off's of a busload will alone eat up the time spent at a site. The down side of NOT going through RCCL is that if something happens, (for example, the vehicle breaks down) there is a chance that you might not get back in time. Personally, it doesn't concern me and I think it's a risk worth taking. There will be enough time to get another vehicle provided, if needed. If the worst should happen, Italy has a great rail service to the next destination. **If you do decide to hop on, I have to put it out there that each individual agrees who chooses Romeinlimo will be at your own risk. I am only sharing the results of my own research. I am strongly suggesting that you also do your own research.**

I also want to mention that Cruise Critic is a great website to research information. I've signed in and it allows me to converse with others on the message boards with any questions and concerns I have in planning my trips. If you go to the message board titled "Roll Call", you can actually find others who will be on our ship. Royal Caribbean acknowledges this group and site. You can go to the RCCL site and sign up for the Meet and Mingle Party on the cruise and actually meet with others you have been conversing with online at the **Cruise Critic Roll Call** site. RCCL will provide food and prizes at this party, as long as they have 25 signed up. Right now, I believe they have 12.

Linda Frank

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3-CITY ITALY TOUR DESCRIPTIONS (copied directly from the Romeinlimo website)

Port of Naples

POMPEII AND THE AMALFI COAST: This day trip is designed to enjoy an overview of the AMALFI COAST, visit the picturesque village of Positano, and explore the archaeological site of Pompeii. This ancient town was covered by ashes of the eruption of mont Vesuvius in the year 79 A.C. and has been captivating archaeologists from all over the world, since the excavations began. You'll see Mt. Vesuvius from a distance, walk through the extensive ruins of Pompeii, and gain knowledge and understanding of everyday life in the ancient times. You may rent audio guides or book a specialist licensed guide with us, if you require detailed commentary (Pompeii is partly wheelchair accessible).

Probably the best known town of the coast is Sorrento, where you will stop for lunch in a local restaurant. The tour continues with a drive along the coast of Amalfi to Positano, surely the most beautiful seaside village of the coast. Narrow winding streets that slowly descend from the hilltop to the beautiful beach will warmly welcome you for a stroll where you may find little boutiques, shops and seaside cafés.

Your driver/guide will pick you up from the port in the morning and will take you back to the dock in the afternoon.

All rates are quoted in Euro funds. Payment in Euro, traveller's cheques. Price includes driver guide for all the tour. Price does not include lunch, gratuities nor entrance fees.

Rates per vehicle for a full day Tour (9 hrs) are as follows:

- Mercedes A/C Sedan up to 2 people: Euro: 450
- Mercedes A/C Sedan up to 4people: Euro: 500
- Mercedes A/C Minivan up to 6 people: Euro: 550
- Mercedes A/C Minibus up to 8 people: Euro: 600
- Mercedes A/C Minibus up to 15 people: Euro: 1400 including a guide for Pompeii

Civitavecchia, Port of Rome

HIGHLIGHTS OF ROME: Enjoy an overview of the best sights that Rome can offer in one day only.

Your driver-guide will pick you up at the port and drive you to the heart of Rome, Venice Square, where Victor Emanuel monument, called "the Wedding Cake", is located. Next sites to visit are the remainders of the ancient great history of the city: the Roman Forum, the Colosseum, the Circus Maximus, the Capitol Hill, the Palatine Hill and the Baths of Caracalla. Back to the center of Rome, you will visit the most famous today of all ancient city temples, the Pantheon, walk through Piazza Navona, see the Spanish Steps and the Trevi Fountain. We will stop for a traditional Italian Lunch and shopping. The city tour continues with a visit to the Vatican City, the smallest state in the world, to explore the richest storehouse of art in the world: the Vatican Museum with the Sistine Chapel, and St. Peter's Basilica. In the afternoon you will be driven back to the pier.

Your driver/guide will pick you up from the port in the morning and will take you back to the dock in the afternoon.

All rates are quoted in Euro funds. Payment in Euro, traveller's cheques. Price includes driver guide for all the tour. Price does not include lunch, gratuities nor entrance fees.

Entrance to the Colosseum € 12.00 Entrance to the **Vatican** Museum Euro 14.00 Pre-booked entrance to the Vatican Euro 25
Entrance to the Catacombs € 6.00

Rates per vehicle for a Full Day Tour (9 Hrs) are as follows:

- Mercedes A/C Sedan up to 2 people: Euro: 450;
- Mercedes A/C Sedan up to 4 people: Euro: 500;
- Mercedes A/C Minivan up to 6 people: Euro: 550;
- Mercedes A/C Minibus up to 8 people: Euro: 600;
- Mercedes A/C Minibus up to 15 people: Euro: 1400; (includes private guided tour of the Vatican city)

We can also offer you private Licensed guides who will give you all the possible information, Official Licensed guides are selected by us. Please dress respectfully for visiting religious monuments; local custom requires covering knees and shoulder. Comfortable walking shoes recommended. The vehicle will escort you for the entire tour. Our tours are flexible

Port of Livorno

PISA AND FLORENCE: Your driver-guide will pick you up at the ship to drive to Pisa and Florence. The tour begins with a stop in Pisa, and a visit to the world famous "Leaning Tower", the Duomo, and the Baptistery.

Pisa was one of the most important Medieval maritime republics, and the center of the town, with its most important monuments is a proof of its past power and wealth. The tour continues with a drive through Tuscany to the city of Florence. The world's most important works of art are located in Italy and approximately half of these are in Florence. The cultural and historical impact of Florence is overwhelming, and its cultural heritage is unique.

The tour begins at the square of Michelangelo, that offers a breathtaking panoramical view on the city. After a quick drive down into the historical center, you will stop by the Santa Croce Church, where all the most important italian artists are buried: (Michelangelo, Galilei, ecc). The drive around the city continues with a visit the Duomo, Giotto's Bell Tower, the Signoria Palace and the Square, The Old Bridge and Pitti Palace. There is naturally time for lunch, and a visit to the most important museums of Florence, the "Accademia" with the original statue of David by Michelangelo, and the "Uffizi Gallery" with the world masterpieces by Botticelli, Leonardo da Vinci, and all other best artists of the Renaissance.

In the afternoon you will be driven back to the Port of Livorno.

We can make an advanced reservations for the Accademia Museum and the Uffizi Gallery for our clients. Please ask us when booking the tour, we will be happy to provide this service at no extra cost. **Please note that the Accademia and Uffizi Gallery are closed on Mondays**

Your driver/guide will pick you up from the port in the morning and will take you back to the dock in the afternoon.

All rates are quoted in Euro funds. Payment in Euro, traveller's cheques. Price includes driver guide for all the tour. Price does not include lunch, gratuities nor entrance fees.

Rates per vehicle for a full day Tour (9 hrs) are as follows:

- Mercedes A/C Sedan up to 2 people: Euro: 450;
- Mercedes A/C Sedan up to 4 people: Euro: 500;
- Mercedes A/C Minivan up to 6 people: Euro: 550;
- Mercedes A/C Minibus up to 8 people: Euro: 600;
- Mercedes A/C Minibus up to 15 people: Euro: 1400 including a tour escort;

We can also offer you private Licensed guides who will give you all the possible information. Official Licensed guides are selected by us.

Please dress respectfully for visiting religious monuments; local custom requires covering knees and shoulder. Comfortable walking shoes recommended.

PS; Cancellation policy,

Please, note that there will be no charge if you cancel your reservation by e-mail within AT LEAST 1 week before date of requested service.

If is not done in these terms, our company reserves the right to debit the ?no show fee? on your credit card which is the total amount of services requested.

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PS; We do not conserve information emails so everytime you have to confirm a service, please send us ALL your details again. We kindly ask you to provide us your credit card details (Visa or Master Card ONLY) for us to hold the reservation, Payments will be charged at the end of your service according to the quoted rates. We accept ONLY cash and T/C's in Euro.

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Summary of Italy's 3-city recommended Rates of Entrance Fees during the tour.

Keep in mind, it is up to each vehicle to decide what you would and would rather not see. I believe if it is your first time, you may want to leave it up to the pros. For example, if they stop at the Colosseum, you may be happy with just viewing and walking around the outside while allowing others who want to purchase the fee to go inside and see more. My suggestion would be to keep in contact with your group. The following is a breakdown of possible entrance fees. These are quoted **Romeinlimo** and they are current rates that may go up 1-2 euros. I strongly suggest you go online and double check for yourselves.

NAPLES: (Pompeii and the Amalfi Coast). See the attached description.

- **Pompeii:** Fees start at approximately 11 euros.

HIGHLIGHTS OF ROME: See the attached tour description.

- Entrance to the **Colosseum** 15 euro.
- Entrance to the **Vatican Museum** 15 euro.
- Advanced Reservations to the **Vatican Museum** is 25 euro. (www.vatican.va)
- Entrance to the **Catacombs** is 6 euro
- **Romeinlimo** also offers a **The Vatican** tour which they recommend for 150 additional euro or 18.75 euros each for a minibus of 8. Everyone in that vehicle needs to decide and order it while booking. To see the Vatican in 2 hrs can be overwhelming on your own and this should be given some consideration.

PISA AND FLORENCE: See the attached tour description.

- Advance Reservations for **Accademia Museum** and **Uffizi Gallery** provided at no booking cost by the tour guide when making your reservation.
- **Accademia Museum** is 10.99 euro. (with the original of David by Michelangelo)
- **Uffizi** is 9.45 euro (world masterpieces by Botticelli, Leonardo da Vinci and other best artists of the Renaissance.)
- It was recommended to see Accademia Museum for David only and instead skip the Uffizi Gallery to see more of the city itself. But, again, that is up to everyone booking in their tour.

IF YOU DO NOT CHOOSE ROMEINLIMO, AT LEAST THIS INFORMATION PROVIDES YOU WITH A BASE AND WHAT TO CHOOSE AND HOW TO PRICE.