

CLASSIC FLORENCE ITINERARY

Duration time: minimum 4 hours

Bookings required for Galleria dell'Accademia and Uffizi. Both can be booked by calling the following number. Allow at least 2 hours between the booking time for the Galleria dell'Accademia and the Uffizi. The booking office gives you a code which you declare when picking up the tickets at the ticket office 15 minutes before your entrance time.

Best for: those who have never been to Florence and who wish to leave having seen the famous sites

Price: Approx 15 Euro per ticket for the museums including booking fee.

Galleria degli Uffizi: The museum is large with many great pictures. In the impossibility of visiting it all, we suggest you concentrate on the first rooms up to the Tribuna with the Bronzino portraits of the Medici family members.

Ponte Vecchio: take the time to stroll over the old bridge once the seat of many a butcher stall, now essentially occupied by jewellers. Look up and notice the windows that run along it, a segment of the famous Vasari Corridor which allowed the Medicis to walk freely between the Pitti Palace and the Uffizi, their offices at that time,

Palazzo Vecchio and Piazza della Signoria:

take a glimpse of the old Town Hall once the residence of the Medicis. Take a look at the inner courtyard with the Verrocchio angel fountain in the centre and the grand grey stone and cream plaster staircase that rises to the first floor, large assembly hall the Salone de' Cinquecento (room of the Fivehundred)

Cathedral or Duomo: Enter the large and somewhat sombre Cathedral now despoiled of most of its treasures housed in the nearby Museo dell'Opera del Duomo (worth a visit if you have the time). Notice the equestrian painted memorials to Sir John Hawkwood (Giovanni Acuto) and Niccolò da Tolentino, two valourous soldiers who fought alongside the Florentines in important conflicts. Walk up the side aisle to the Sacristy with the splendid *intarsia* cabinets and the Luca della Robbia ceramic lunettes above the doors. As you exit, look at the Giotto Bell-Tower erected around 1334. The most important feature of the Cathedral is undoubtedly the dome itself built by Filippo Brunelleschi roughly 60 years after the Cathedral was terminated. It is an engineering feat in itself.

Galleria dell'Accademia: the gallery that houses the famous David, but also the Michelangelo Prisoners as well as an imposing picture collection as well as a small collection of priceless musical instruments