

# Art Treasures of Northern Italy



## Padua

The city's artistic and architectural highlight is undoubtedly the Scrovegni Chapel, one of Giotto's famous works. He painted a series of frescoes including *Scenes from the Life of Joachim*, *Scenes from the life of the Virgin* and *Scenes from the Life of Christ*.

## Vicenza

We will visit the Teatro Olimpico, a fascinating structure representing a piazza and streets in perfect perspective. It is Europe's oldest surviving indoor theatre, designed by Palladio in 1579 to stage theatrical performances. We will also visit the nearby Palladian villas, Villa Rotonda and Villa Valmarana ai Nani.

## Ravenna

The city was once the capital of Byzantine Italy, famous for its wealth of art treasures and magnificent mosaics, which will be the main focus of our visit. Visits will include the Basilica of San Vitale, which dates back to 548 and boasts many ornate mosaics with a noticeable Eastern influence, the Mausoleum of Galla Placidia, which contains the earliest wall mosaics in the city, the extraordinary Domus of Stone Carpets, the 5<sup>th</sup> century Church of San Francesco and Dante's Tomb. We will conclude with visits to the churches of Sant'Apollinare Nuovo and Sant'Apollinare in Classe.

## Based in Mira and Ferrara

Tuesday 05 - Monday 11 May 2020

### Mantua

Mantua is a provincial town surrounded on three sides by a lake and was home to one of the greatest Renaissance courts in Europe. Here we will visit the impressive Palazzo Ducale, which was the official residence of the Gonzaga lords of Mantua until the 17<sup>th</sup> century and the Palazzo Tè, a grand suburban villa designed by Giulio Romano, a former pupil of Raphael.

### Ferrara

The former capital of the Este dynasty, Ferrara has a rich history of art and architecture and is often referred to as the 'first modern city in Europe', due to its unique urban framework. We will visit the imposing Este Castle and the Palazzo Schifanoia (*subject to the completion of renovation works currently taking place*), the summer residence of the Este family.

### TOUR PRICE

**£1,495 per person sharing a twin/double room**

(excluding the suggested flights with EasyJet)

**£200 single supplement** (limited availability)

Please note that places are limited to 30 participants

**The tour price includes:** 2 nights' 4 star accommodation in Mira, 4 nights' 4 star accommodation in Ferrara, breakfast daily, 4 dinners in local restaurants, the services of a local tour escort/guide throughout, the services of local guides in Vicenza and Mantua, all local coaching as per the itinerary, all booking and entrance fees, portage, VOX audio guides and gratuities.

Please contact Heritage Group Travel for a brochure and booking form on 01225 466620 or email [heritage@grouptravel.co.uk](mailto:heritage@grouptravel.co.uk)

