



Luisella Romeo

Tourist Guide in Venice since 2000

Live Walking Virtual Tours in Venice

A virtual walking tour of the district of Venice called Dorsoduro (part 1)

Starting at the Punta della Dogana and ranging all the way through the University area of Venice, the district of Dorsoduro in Venice is one of the richest "sestieri" in terms of art and architecture. During our virtual walk, we will see the Church of Salute, and the Gesuati dome, dedicated to St Mary of the Rosary, and view the Palladian church of Redentore across the canal on the island of Giudecca. We will pass by the oldest gondolayard still active after 400 years as well as the typical "bacaros" of Venice with their well-known "cicchetti" to end on top of the Accademia bridge for a final view of the Grand Canal.

A virtual walking tour of the district of Venice called Dorsoduro (part 2)

You will start your tour by the Church of San Nicolò dei Mendicoli, once a very popular district, where fishermen, boatyards and small hospices for needy people would be. You will see the University of Architecture by the ex cotton factory, but also Campo San Barnaba and Campo Santa Margherita, quite well known squares, although far from the monumental atmosphere of some other Venetian campos. A very lively area for students, residents and lovely cafes and artisans' workshops.

A virtual walking tour of the district of Venice called Cannaregio

Starting at the Church of the Jesuits, we will move to the Fondamenta della Misericordia, pass by the old Brotherhood of Santa Maria Valverde and reach the Madonna dell'Orto church. We will then see the House of Tintoretto, the campo dei Mori and finally end by the Jewish ghetto. Cannaregio, lying north of Venice is a very popular area, unknown to most tourists and providing you with an interesting urban concept regarding Venice, rich in gardens and open spaces.

A virtual walking tour of the district of Venice called Castello

We will start from the Campo Santi Giovanni e Paolo with its Dominican Pantheon and the Scuola Grande San Marco, featuring the monument to Bartolomeo Colleoni and move towards the Arsenale where we end our tour, passing by the Church of San Francesco della Vigna. We will see narrow alleyways and the workers' district of the city, still very popular, but also well known for the Biennale exhibition areas.

A virtual walking tour of the districts of Venice called Santa Croce and San Polo

Starting at Campo San Giacomo dall'Orio, one of the liveliest square of the city of Venice, we will explore the area allowing for secret corners and impressive architecture, such as the Scuola Grande San Giovanni Evangelista, the Church of the "Frari" otherwise called Santa Maria Gloriosa, the Scuola Grande San Rocco, too.

A virtual walking tour of St Mark's square

Not just St Mark's church and the Doge's palace, but also the iconic Campanile or the elegant Clock Tower also known as the Moors', the Bridge of Sighs, the Marciana National Library, the ancient Mint and the Napoleonic wing and, why not?, the Olivetti Showroom designed by Carlo Scarpa: St Mark's square and its history in the architecture and art.

A virtual walking tour on the Giudecca

Giudecca is the island lying south of Venice where originally several convents and monasteries were built. Once at the beginning of the 1800s these religious institutions were closed down, often, they were eventually replaced by factories. The island in fact became a protagonist in the industrial revolution in Venice. Today, almost none of these factories is active and the island has become a very lively mix of industrial archeology, quiet corners, modern architecture and gorgeous gardens.

Live Museum Virtual Tour in Venice

A virtual museum tour at the Querini Stampalia Palace

Located just a few minutes away from St Mark's square, the palace was once home to one of the most influential aristocratic families in the history of Venice since the 14th

century. The last owner, Conte Giovanni Querini, bequeathed the property to a Foundation dedicated to public use of the building and its important heritage. The palace is the only one in Venice where the archive, the library, the furniture and the art collection were not dispersed. As you view artworks by Giovanni Bellini, Pietro Longhi, Gabriel Bella and many more, you will truly discover a hidden Venetian jewel. Last but not least, on the ground floor of the palace, you can enjoy the intervention by Carlo Scarpa who, in 1959, re-invented an otherwise neglected space as an art exhibition area with a wonderful garden.

A virtual museum tour at the Doge's Palace

The Doge's Palace is the best-known museum in Venice. Once the political and judicial heart of the Venetian State, the interior of the palace was restructured at the end of the 1500s. You will climb the Golden Staircase and then admire the great art masterpieces by Titian, Paolo Veronese and Tintoretto. You will tour the rooms where the political propaganda and the myth of the Serenissima convincingly intertwined, such as the Major Council Hall as well as the room of court of the Council of Ten. A part of the tour will also be dedicated to the armory of the palace.

A virtual museum tour at Ca' Rezzonico Palace

The Ca' Rezzonico Palace stands with its baroque façade on the Grand Canal, not too far from Ca' Foscari and the Accademia bridge. Inside its sumptuous premises, you will enter the age of the Serenissima when pleasure, extreme luxury and the Carnival were the leading forces of the Venetian aristocracy, both the old and the nouveaux riche families. As you tour the ballroom and the alcove, you will delight in the rococo furniture and the beautiful art of the 18th century: the sensual frescoes by Tiepolo, the delicate pastels by Rosalba Carriera, the theatrical representation of Venice by Canaletto, the whimsical scenes of daily life by Guardi and Pietro Longhi, and the sarcasm of the Pulcinellas by Giandomenico Tiepolo.

A virtual museum tour at Ca' Pesaro Palace

A majestic palace on the Grand Canal designed by Baldassarre Longhena and completed by another talented architect, Antonio Gaspari in the 17th century, Ca' Pesaro has been the city museum dedicated to Modern Art since 1898. Our visit will be dedicated to those Italian artists who in the 20th century have been particularly interesting such as Carrà, Sironi, Campigli, Morandi, De Chirico. We will also learn about the capesarini movement that is so much connected to the museum itself and observe the works by Felice Casorati, Gino Rossi, Arturo Martini, Umberto Moggioni.

In the collection there feature sculptors of the kind of Adolfo Wildt, too. Finally, we will observe how designers of the kind of Carlo Scarpa, Napoleone Martinuzzi, Fulvio Bianconi influenced Murano glass art.

A virtual museum tour at the Scuola Grande Carmini

The Brotherhood dedicated to the Virgin Mary of the Mount Carmelo is a hidden jewel of the district of Dorsoduro. The elegant façade in Istrian limestones introduces you to the incredibly rich, gilded stuccoes of the 18th century and to the sensual painting by Giambattista Tiepolo. The treasure of this fraternity, the carved wooden ceilings, the spectacular marble floors and the monochrome paintings of the Chapel Hall are absolute masterpieces of the Venetian tradition, a not-to-miss.

A virtual museum tour at the Grimani Palace – Domus Grimani

An extraordinary Venetian museum, Palazzo Grimani boasts stately architecture, wonderful frescoes and an impressive archeological collection that reflect the rich knowledge and vast interests of one of the protagonists of Venice in the late 1500s, the Patriarch of Aquileia Giovanni Grimani. The tour will uncover the complex relations between the Serenissima and the Papacy at the time of the Counter-reformation and heresy, the role of antiquities, and the nature of the art collections of the time. Be ready to dive into ancient Rome while surrounded by Venetian canals.

A virtual museum tour at the Ca' d'Oro Palace

The Ca' d'oro Palace stands on the Grand Canal directly opposite the Rialto market. Once covered in colourful paint and gold leaf, the house has been a national Italian museum featuring the gorgeous art collection of Baron Giorgio Franchetti who acquired the palace in 1894 and turned into an art gallery. The collection features major masterpieces by Andrea Mantegna and Carpaccio, frescoes by Titian and Il Pordenone, a bronze statuary and bas-reliefs. Franchetti, with the support of Gabriele D'Annunzio and Mariano Fortuny, designed and decorated the exquisite ground floor with ancient tesserae in marble of different colours, inspired by the mosaic floors of St Mark's Basilica.

A virtual museum tour at the Scuola Grande San Giovanni Evangelista

The Scuola Grande or Confraternita of San Giovanni Evangelista is one of the most ancient brotherhoods in Venice, founded in 1261 as part of the flagellation movement, at that time particularly lively in the Italian peninsula. When moving to the district of Santa Croce in Venice, the brotherhood's goals were to provide social assistance to

its members and to manage bequests and donations as a financial institution would do. The investments in art and architecture moved parallel to a strong sense of religious devotion that always accompanied the decisions of the brethren. Inside you will visit the Chapter hall, the room of the Holy Cross and view the art works by Domenico Tintoretto and other artists. Moreover, you will be able to visit the workshop for the restoration of the staircase designed by Mauro Codussi, one of the most extraordinary architecture works inspired by the Renaissance discovery of the perspective.

Carlo Scarpa: the Olivetti showroom Olivetti and the Querini Stampalia garden
Venice is a modern and contemporary city and it shows even in the most iconic places, such as St. Mark's square. We will visit there the Olivetti Showroom and then walk our way to the Castello district to visit the garden planned within the Querini Stampalia palace of the 16th century. In both places, the architect Carlo Scarpa re-interpreted the ancient design tradition of Venice showing a strong bond with the past history, in terms of publishing, libraries and poetry.

The Library of San Francesco della Vigna and its cloisters

In the middle of the 13th century the Franciscan order founded a monastery in Castello, choosing the area where, according to legend, St Mark the Evangelist would be predicted he would rest in Venice. Important patrician families such as the Gritti and the Grimani then financed the church, whose elegant Palladian façade stands next to the ancient cloisters. The library of the monastery is particularly rich and on this special private tour we will have the chance to discover many of its precious and rare manuscripts. Brother Rino Sgarbossa has taken care of the library for years and will help us appreciate the value of the ancient publishing tradition in Venice.

The 1848 Revolution in Venice: a visit to the Ateneo Veneto

During the Habsburg domination, Venice arranged uprisings to reach its political independence. There are some iconic places in Venice narrating the exciting moments of the Revolution in 1848 and for sure the Ateneo Veneto is one. An academic centre, the Ateneo Veneto is active in Venice since 1812 in what used to be the seat of the Brotherhood of St Jerome and the Virgin Mary. You will see the Campo Santo Stefano, the Fenice opera house and finally visit the Ateneo inside.

The Peggy Guggenheim Collection

Peggy Guggenheim acquired a palace on the Grand Canal and moved to Venice, bringing her collection of modern art, partially witnessing the artistic movements of the early 20th century in Europe and partially showing the works by her favourite North American artists. A house, that of Palazzo Venier dei Leoni, that became a museum, but still preserves the intimate character of a home, reflecting the eclectic, fascinating and provoking personality of this amazing collector, able to be an ambassador of the art of the European and American continents and to influence its trends.

The Oratorio dei Crociferi

In the district of Cannaregio, by the Campo dei Gesuiti, you will discover a true jewel of the Renaissance art by the Oratorio Crociferi. Palma il Giovane left here some of the most emotionally involving paintings in his career. The story of the social assistance in Venice and how art supported and witnessed it is indeed very interesting and sends a very contemporary message for us, too.

Live Virtual Tours about Arts and Crafts: Glass – Gondola – Silk – Masks

A virtual tour in Murano including a visit to Lino Tagliapietra's showroom

The island of Murano has been known for its revolutionary and innovative concept of glassware since the ancient times. After the glass blowers moved their furnaces to the island in 1291, the art developed and reached international credit and attention focusing on constant research. Let's explore the islands's treasures and let's eventually visit the wonderful showroom of one of the "giant" glass masters, Lino Tagliapietra.

A virtual tour in Dorsoduro including a visit to Tramontin historical gondolayard

While, at the Zattere, timber from the Alps reached the lagoon, just a few steps away there grew several boatyards, called "squero", where the boats for private uses would be built, maintained and also designed with a constant search for the combination of design and functionality. Let's visit the Tramontin boatyard to learn the secrets of the icon of Venice, the gondola, as well as to understand life in a

Venetian "squero".

A virtual tour in Santa Croce including a visit to a Bevilacqua Silk Weaving Mill

Connecting to Asia via the Silk Road was for Venice the key to a successful trade. Importing silk, but also learning how to weave this precious material and combine it with gold and silver was possible thanks to the collaboration with experts coming from different parts of the Italian peninsula. The Bevilacqua factory will open its doors for us to discover how ancient looms are still in function to create the most exquisite velvet employed in upholstery and high-end fashion still nowadays.

A virtual tour in Castello including a visit to PapierMache mask workshop

When in the late '70s Stefano Gottardo inquired about opening a workshop to make masks in papermaché, he was told there wasn't anything like that in Venice. In these last fifty years, a lot of shops have opened and the tradition of the Venetian carnival has also become a very touristic and commercial event, but the masks Stefano makes and Eliana and Emanuela paint distinguish themselves, for their creativity, link with the tradition and innovative research both in materials and forms.

What you need to know to enjoy these tours at their best

The Live Walking and Museum Virtual Tours are to be booked in advance via email to: l.romeo@seevenice.it

The Live Walking and Museum Virtual Tours last 1.15 hours each

The Live Walking and Museum Virtual Tours are run on Central European Day Time

Costs per tour

Group tours (more than 20 people)

300 euro for 71 people or more

200 euro for less than 70 people

Private tours

100 euro up to 10 people, 10 euro per extra person (max 20 people)

Ticket for the Querini Stampalia museum

3 euro per person

Ticket for the Doge's Palace museum

5 euro per person (there is a minimum of 20 pax to pay for)

Ticket for the Ca' Rezzonico Palace museum

5 euro per person (there is a minimum of 20 pax to pay for)

Ticket for the Ca' Pesaro Palace museum

5 euro per person (there is a minimum of 20 pax to pay for)

Ticket for the Grimani Palace museum

2 euro per person

Ticket for the Ca' d'Oro palace museum

5 euro per person

Ticket for the Scuola Grande Carmini

5 euro per person

Ticket for the Scuola Grande San Giovanni Evangelista

5 euro per person (if the museum is closed, there is a minimum of 20 pax to pay for)

Olivetti Showroom

50 euro + IVA (61 euro total)

Peggy Guggenheim collection available only on Tuesdays or after hours

Fees change according to the group's size and if after hours, please contact me for detailed infos

Oratorio dei Crociferi

3 euro per person (there is a minimum of 20 pax to pay for)

San Francesco della Vigna

Free donation

For the fees to visit to the Tramontin squero and the Bevilacqua Factory or the Mask shop, please contact me.

Payment for the guide service can be made via bank transfer or via PayPal or via credit card (Visa or Mastercard)

For further questions, please write to l.romeo@seevenice.it