

## VICENZA'S HANDICRAFT AND PALLADIO TOUR

A three-day tour (2 nights) visiting the land of Palladio,  
the World Heritage cities and the artistic treasures

### 1<sup>st</sup> DAY

Arrival in the evening and check in at the hotel – Welcome drink.  
Dinner with local food – Night at the hotel.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> DAY

Guided walking tour in the historical city centre of Vicenza with a visit of the **Teatro Olimpico**, one of the artistic wonders of Vicenza and the Art Gallery of **Palazzo Chiericati** that hosts a collection composed by paintings, sculptures and applied arts realized from the 1200s to the beginning of the 2000s.

Walking through the suggestive streets you can admire the palaces that the Unesco included in the Heritage List such as Palazzo Barbaran Da Porto, Palazzo Thiene, Palazzo Valmarana Braga Rosa and in the main square the **Palladian Basilica**, symbol and iconic building of Vicenza. Aperitif in one of the most beautiful and suggestive panoramic viewpoint in the historic centre: the panoramic terrace of the Basilica.



Lunch in a traditional restaurant, meeting the flavours of local recipes.

In the afternoon, visit to the traditional artisan factories in Vicenza (one of the following):

- **BUSATO PRINTING STUDIOS:** the Busato family Printing Studios have been located in a 16th century palace in the historic centre of Vicenza for over sixty years. The owner started his own lithography and chalcography activity, thanks to the uncommon work-experience he had acquired in some of the most important artistic “botteghe” of the Veneto region since 1924. Year after year, the Busato Printing Studios consolidated their fame as a reference point for a large number of famous Italian and international artists. Thanks to its expertise, it offers you the possibility to interact with local

artisans and select a refined present: every single work is hand printed and every single print is unique, thanks to the handwritten serial number and to the artist signature.

- **GOLDSMITH WORKSHOP DANIELA VETTORI:** the atelier is located in the historical downtown of Vicenza, just a short distance from the Basilica Palladiana, emblem of the city and heritage of Unesco. Here Daniela Vettori opened her workshop in 1981 and here she exposes her creations and she personally meets clients to suggest and create unique and customized jewels. In the atelier are also exposed special design silver objects and craft accessories. In this "open-space" Daniela Vettori organizes events, exhibitions and meetings with other artistic figures for cultural and creative exchanges.
- **VENEZIA PATISSERIE:** the products of Venice patisserie are famous over all for its variety: paste or fresh cakes and bakery, Bavarian mousses, biscuits, jams and pretzels. Only with natural ingredients, the pastry shop points on quality and freshness characteristics, aware of their importance for the success of a good product: milk and fresh butter, fresh eggs, fine Belgian chocolate, Apulian almonds, hazelnuts from Piedmont, etc. Tourists have the opportunity to visit the workshop and to taste some representative cookies of Venice tradition.

Free time.

Dinner in a traditional restaurant of the area and over night at the hotel.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> DAY

Visit to the **Monte Berico sanctuary** with a stop on the large square, to enjoy the view of the town, surrounded by the mountain range of the Pasubio and the Grappa. Walk down to the Villa Valmarana "ai Nani", that gets its nickname "ai nani" (dwarfs) from the sculptured dwarfs with eighteenth-century clothing, lined up on the perimeter wall. Visit to the the interiors to discover frescoes painted by the Tiepolos and the portrait of Andrea Palladio. Walk to **Villa La Rotonda**, the most famous villa of Palladio. The villa was copied all around the world; the White House in Washington is also inspired to the design of La Rotonda. Stop for a glimpse from outside.



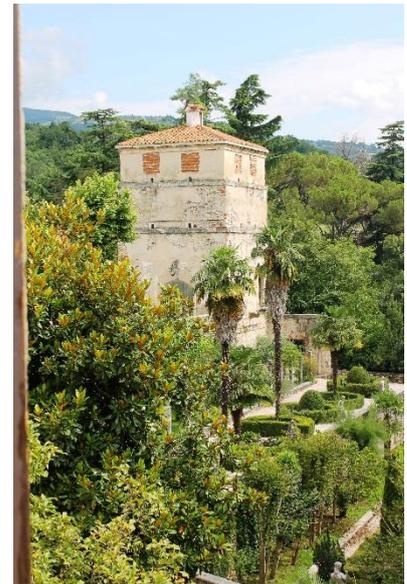
Lunch in a traditional restaurant, meeting the flavours of local recipes.

Visit to **Villa Caldogno** by Andrea Palladio that lies at 10 km north of Vicenza. Suggestive are its frescoes of 1570 by Fasoli and Zelotti, with beautiful convivial scenes with Renaissance atmosphere. In the late afternoon, visit to the traditional artisan factories in the area (one of the following):

- **VILLA FABRIS in THIENE:** Villa Fabris is the venue of The European Centre for Heritage Crafts and Professions: it offers training courses on heritage conservation works, reviving the traditional craft professions. The town of Thiene lies in the north of Vicenza's province and was part of the Republic

of Venice, which featured more than 4,000 villas and led to a unique form of social development. Therefore Villa Fabris is fully fledged part of this system, with its large grounds, cellars and stables in the old town centre. In order to promote the culture of integration, the Centre's activities include educational visits – both of a technical nature, with trips to worksites, protected areas and analysis laboratories, and of a historical and artistic nature. In order to maintain a high professional standard, the centre is organized as a real International Campus and it provides accommodation, services, craft and restoration, workshops, classrooms, a library, common rooms and exhibition areas.

We reach the hillside in the north-western area of the province of Vicenza, where we find two important Palladian Villas: the Villa Godi Malinverni and the Villa Piovene Godi, noble buildings surrounded by wonderful parks. Dinner in the villa.



Return in the evening to the hotel, overnight at the hotel.