



In the last few years The London Art History Society has joined forces with Real Holidays in order to offer study tours to continental Europe. We propose to continue to develop this relationship, and for the 2018 late autumn tour we intend taking The London Art History Society to Venice from Saturday 24th to Wednesday 28th November 2018. Our lecturer will be Dr Carlo Corsato, leader of the Society's visit to the Veneto in 2017. Dr Carlo Corsato presented the Society's evening lecture in January this year.

The tour includes a 4* hotel on the Grand Canal in a former Venetian palazzo on a bed and breakfast basis with dinner at selected restaurants on two evenings and lunch on one occasion, and an option to travel by BA leaving Gatwick to arrive at the Venice Marco Polo airport at noon. The group will be met by our lecturer for the onward journey into Venice. Numbers will be limited in accordance with our normal practice and an option for independent travel arrangements will be possible.

Full details with draft itinerary and booking form are enclosed together with Real Holidays' terms and conditions for members who cannot access the website. The Society's T&C are given at the end of this paper. Should you have any other questions, please contact Michael Pearson, by email tours@londonarthistorysociety.org.uk or telephone 01799 521290.

Our guide

Dr Carlo Corsato is a native Venetian who trained at the universities of Venice and Verona, and a specialist in Renaissance art and architecture in Venice and the Veneto. He recently co-edited the first completed monograph on the church of the Frari, which perfectly reflects his wide-ranging expertise and research interests, including devotional practice and liturgy, rituals and relics, art patronage and art making through painting, sculpture and architecture. He has lectured at a number of institutions, including the University of St Andrews, Northeastern University in Boston, and Morley College in London, where he currently teaches courses in Renaissance and Baroque art. Carlo has also organised and led numerous art history visits throughout Italy and Europe.

Our tour manager

Patrizia Lerco is a native Venetian and managed the Society's visit to the Veneto in 2017. Her knowledge of the city will be invaluable during our stay. It is unusual for the Society to have the benefit of a manager on a tour but Patrizia's intimate knowledge of the city will be appreciated.

Preliminary Itinerary

Tintoretto was born in Venice in 1518 and we are taking the opportunity to visit the city when they are celebrating this moment with special exhibitions. Dr Carlo Corsato has drafted an itinerary which includes the Accademia Gallery, the Doge's Palace and Exhibition including Secret Itineraries together with the Scuola Grande di San Marco, the Scuola Grande di San Rocco and a number of churches which have a connection with Tintoretto. These include the Churches of San Polo, San Cassiano, San Trovaso, Basilica of Torcello, San Giorgio, Madonna dell'Orto, San Rocco, Redentore, San Francesco della Vigna, San Marziale and the San Silvestro in Torcello.

Our visit to Torcello will provide the opportunity for a pleasant trip across the lagoon on the vaporetto and will include lunch at Cipriani.

We may also visit the Fondazione Querini Stampalia in response to the reception it gave the Society in London in the summer of 2016.

Whilst in Venice we hope to take the opportunity to make a private evening visit to St Mark's Basilica. Whilst this has no particular connection to our Tintoretto theme, it is something very special which we have the opportunity to include. Making this booking is dependent on receipt of an adequate number of tour bookings.

Practical Details and Booking Arrangements

Once in the region we will stay at the Palazzo Barocci, a 4* hotel which is ideally located for our needs on the Grand Canal and is part of the NH Collection hotel group. The address is San Marco, Corte dell'Albero 3878 A.I 30124, Venice, Tel.: +39 041 2960650. Full details can be found on its website <https://www.nh-collection.com/hotel/nh-collection-venezia-palazzo-barocci>. We propose to reserve a number of seats on the BA flights, BA2582 from London Gatwick departing at 08:50 and arriving at 12:00 in Venice Marco Polo, & BA2585 which departs from Venice Marco Polo at 16:30 to London Gatwick arriving at 17:40 at the end of our tour which will leave an adequate amount of time for a reasonable amount of exploration on the morning of our final day. There is however a choice of travel options in that you may make your own travel arrangements and meet the main party at the airport or the hotel. Transport between the airport and hotel will be provided. No other transport is included.

The total cost including air travel will be **£1475** per person (**£1305** if making your own travel arrangements), which includes flights, airport taxes, coach travel locally, hotel accommodation, City Tax, breakfasts, admission charges, lunch or dinner on three occasions, along with wine, water and coffee, tips for drivers and restaurant staff, and the services of the lecturer and tour manager. It is calculated on the basis of shared twin rooms, and does not include dinner on two evenings. There are a few single rooms available, however the net additional prices quoted by the hotels give rise to a supplement of **£420**. In the event that it is impossible to make a private evening visit to St Mark's Basilica, we shall either suggest an alternative arrangement or reduce the final tour cost at our discretion.

To make the tour work successfully, 15 participants would be ideal but a maximum of 20 participants is possible. As our tours are run without profit, there may be an adjustment to the final cost if the number of applicants falls below 15 participants.

NB To avoid fixing the cost at too discouraging a level no allowance has been made for a deterioration in the value of sterling against the euro. We therefore reserve the right to make a surcharge of not more than **£100**, to cover up to 10% of extra costs caused by a fall in the exchange rate. Any costs above that will be borne by The London Art History Society. The exchange rate used for these costings was £1 = 1.075 euros.

The above costs also include the services of a travel agent – **Real Holidays** – who provide professional

booking services and ATOL/ABTA cover. All travel and accommodation (flights, coach and hotels) have been arranged by Real Holidays, who will accordingly handle the financial side of the trip.

If you wish Real Holidays to make different travel arrangements for you including travel by train, please state this at the time of booking on the booking form as an independent traveller. Real Holidays will then contact you and book tickets for you to suit your circumstances. This would be separate from the Society's arrangements.

Bookings and any initial enquiries will be dealt with by Michael Pearson, The London Art History Society Study Tour Organiser, who may be contacted by email tours@londonarthistorysociety.org.uk or telephone 01799 521290. Bookings can only be accepted if accompanied by a **deposit of £400 per person**, made payable to Real Holidays. All applicants and friends who travel with them must be current members of The London Art History Society at the time of the trip.

Booking forms are included with this posting, so if you do intend joining us, please complete the form and send it, along with a cheque made payable to Real Holidays, to Michael Pearson at the address below.

The London Art History Society, c/o Tudor Cottage,
Stoke Prior, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 0LG

Your attention is drawn to the booking conditions issued by Real Holidays (please see its website www.realholidays.co.uk/about-us/about-real-holidays/travel-agency-booking-conditions). It is essential that you take out travel insurance cover, and you should also obtain the European Health Insurance Card (which replaced the form E111) from a Post Office. **Note** that the EHC is only valid for 5 years; please ensure that your card will be valid during the period of our tour.

The itinerary and locations are subject to unpredictable circumstances. We are visiting churches where funerals and weddings are held and choir practice and enthusiastic organists can disrupt our day. We shall try to work around these little problems but ask for your understanding should they occur. We would like to emphasise the fact that these cultural tours are organised for the benefit of members by an enthusiastic volunteer; they are not commercial operations. We rely on participants to be self-reliant and independent. Participants who feel that they may need help should make arrangements for a companion to accompany them who is prepared to give them assistance. All tours involve a significant amount of standing around in museums or walking, often over uneven cobbled streets. Participants on all tours should be able to walk at a reasonable pace and/or stand for at least thirty minutes without aid or requiring a rest. If you or any member of your party has any medical condition you are expected to know the limit of your abilities and be sensible. Where appropriate, you should consider using taxis or other independent transport.