



# Venice & the Veneto

## Includes →

Venice.....	338
Brenta Riviera.....	382
Padua.....	383
Vicenza.....	388
Verona.....	393
Verona's Wine Country.....	401
Prosecco Country.....	403
Veneto Dolomites.....	404

## Best Places to Eat

- All'Arco (p375)
- Trattoria e Bacaro da Fiore (p371)
- Osteria Trefanti (p372)
- Locanda 4 Cuochi (p397)
- Belle Parti (p387)

## Best Places to Stay

- Hotel Palazzo Barbarigo (p369)
- Hotel Flora (p367)
- B&B Corte Vecchia (p368)
- Corte delle Pigne (p396)
- Agriturismo San Mattia (p401)

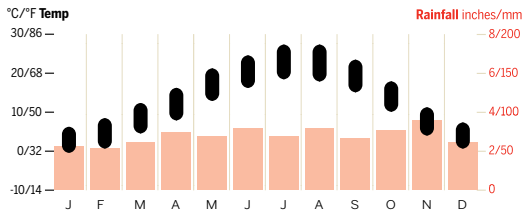
## Why Go?

Venice really needs no introduction. This incomparable union of art, architecture and life has been a fabled destination for centuries. No matter how many photographs, films or paintings you've seen, the reality is more surprising and romantic than you could ever imagine. Most of the world's most famous writers and artists have visited to admire the mosaics of San Marco, the Old Masters in the Accademia and the city's maze of *calle* (lanes) and canals. They've written and painted Venice into the world's imagination, so it is no wonder that tourists outnumber locals by two to one on summer days.

Beyond Venice, the Veneto region is often overlooked, but is no less enticing. Giotto's spectacular frescoes in Padua, Palladio's elegant architecture in Vicenza, Verona's romantic riverside location and the Unesco-designated landscapes of the Dolomites would be unmissable anywhere else. So take our advice: love Venice then leave her. You won't regret it.

## When to Go

### Venice



#### Jan & Feb

Snow-covered gondolas, skiers in the Dolomites and Carnevale parties in Venice.

#### Apr–Jun

Canal-side dining, Vintaly toasts and Biennale openings (skip pricey Easter).

#### Sep–Nov

Venice International Film Festival, wild duck pasta and palatial accommodation for less.

## Venice & the Veneto Highlights

- 1 Gazing at the golden mosaic domes of Venice's **Basilica di San Marco** (p339).
- 2 Comparing Titian's radiant reds and Tintoretto's lightning-strike brush strokes at Venice's **I Frari** (p353) and **Scuola Grande di San Rocco** (p352).
- 3 Exploring the lagoon with **Row Venice** (p364), **Venice Kayak** (p364) and **Terra e Acqua** (p364).
- 4 Indulging in art and Palladian architecture in elegant **Vicenza** (p388), one of Italy's most underrated cities.
- 5 Villa-hopping by barge along the **Brenta Riviera** (p382).
- 6 Shouting 'Brava!' for opera diva encores at Verona's outdoor **Roman Arena** (p394).
- 7 Seeing the Renaissance coming in Giotto's moving frescoes at Padua's **Cappella degli Scrovegni** (p384).
- 8 Sampling one of Italy's boldest red wines, Amarone, at cutting-edge **Valpolicella wineries** (p401).
- 9 Skiing, hiking, climbing and dining on mountain-fresh fare amid the awesome snow-capped peaks of the **Cinque Torri** (p405).

