2018 MOSAICS OF NORTHERN ITALY TOUR 14 DAYS VENICE, SPILIMBERGO, RAVENNA

14 - 28 MAY 2018



Orsoni colour library, Venice

with Helen Bodycomb in association with In Giro Tours, La Scuola di Mosaicisti del Friuli and Koko Mosaico

THE TOUR BEGINS IN VENICE AND CONCLUDES IN RAVENNA, FOR A MAXIMUM OF 10 PEOPLE

Following the highly successful inaugural *Mosaics of northern Italy Tour* in 2017, this unique boutique-sized tour will be held again in 2018. Designed for the further education and enjoyment of practicing amateur and professional mosaicists, we focus on prominent mosaic sites dating from the Roman Era, through Paleo-Christian to the contemporary, together with two short practical mosaic courses conducted by two of Italy's leading Mosaic Maestri – Carolina Zanelli (La Scuola di Mosaicisti del Friuli, Spilimbergo) and Arianna Gallo (Koko Mosaico, Ravenna).

4 days / 4 nights in Venice 14 - 18 May

with Tour Leaders Ingrid Gaiotto (In Giro Tours) and Helen Bodycomb

Venice highlights include a private water tour of Venice with local guides, Basilica di San Marco, Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Islands of Murano and Burano, Torcello, and the Orsoni glass smalti factory. With centrally located accommodation in one of Venice's finest upper mid-range boutique hotels and a scrumptious array of true Venetian culinary experiences, Venice – *La Serenissima* - provides a thrilling and inspirational start to this 14-day Tour.

4 days / 4 nights Spilimbergo 18 - 22 May

with Tour Leaders/Mosaic Instructors Helen Bodycomb and Carolina Zanelli (Scuola di Mosaicisti del Friuli)
Spilimbergo is a small, medieval walled town in Friuli-Venezia-Giulia that hosts the world's leading contemporary mosaic art school, La Scuola di Mosaicisti del Friuli. We arrive via a short train trip from Venice, and travel with a private Mercedes minibus (professional local driver to the ancient Roman city of Aquileia. We travel on to Spilimbergo to do a 3-day Aquilean mosaic-inspired course with Maestra Carolina Zanelli at the famous Spilimbergo school, and include a custom tour of the Dona family glass smalti factory in Spilimbergo.

6 days / 6 nights Ravenna 22 - 28 May

with Tour Leader Helen Bodycomb and Mosaic Instructor Arianna Gallo

We will drive south from Spilimbergo to Ravenna via Pomposa by chartered minibus, where local guide Manuela Farneti will provide a marvelous insight into the medieval frescoes of Pomposa Abbey. Manuela will also guide us through the intricacies of the mosaics of St Apollinare in Classe, the Neonian Baptistery, Basilica of Sant'Apollinare Nuovo, Basilica of San Vitale and the Museum of Galla Placidia. In Ravenna we will explore the unique double reverse 'Ravenna-method' in a 4-day course with Arianna Gallo of the fabulous Koko Mosaico, to a design of our own choosing. We will visit the wonderful Ravenna mosaic museums MAR and TAMO and enjoy the Byzantine ambience and unique cuisine of this delightful, small city in Emilia-Romagna.

GO WITH THE EXPERTS



Helen Bodycomb - Tour Coordinator

Helen Bodycomb is well known as one of Australia's leading mosaic artists and a passionate exponent of the historic and cultural origins of this ancient medium. Helen is widely travelled and speaks Italian with enthusiasm and growing fluency. In 2001 she was honoured to be an artist-in-residence at *La Scuola di Mosaicisti del Friuli* in Spilimbergo, Italy, the world's premier school of contemporary mosaic. She has since maintained strong links with the school, returning there in 2011, 2016 and 2017. Helen has visited Venice, Spilimbergo and Ravenna on multiple occasions, also exhibiting her mosaics in Ravenna in 2006 and 2017, and Spilimbergo in 2001 and 2016. Helen is currently completing a PhD by practice-led research with La Trobe University, in which she is researching the application of classical mosaic methods in contemporary works.

Ingrid Gaiotto – Venice Tour Leader

Ingrid Gaiotto from *In Giro Tours* will be our highly experienced Tour Leader in Venice. Ingrid is a fabulously passionate and knowledgeable Italian/Australian Tour Guide who is equally fluent in Italian and English. Originating from the Piemonte region to the north-west of Venice but living these days in Castlemaine, she is an enthusiastic Italo-phile and is a specialist in Italian gastronomy. In this tour Ingrid will shepherd us through the artistic, the cultural and the culinary delights, of the legendary, uniquely exotic city on the lagoon that is Venice.

Carolina Zanelli – Spilimbergo Mosaic Maestra and Aquilea Tour Guide

Carolina Zanelli is a highly accomplished mosaic artist and mosaic teacher from the region of Friuli-Venezia-Giulia. She graduated from *La Scuola di Mosaicisti del Friuli* in 1995, and has since been one of their most highly valued Mosaic *Maestri* (Teachers). Fluent in Italian and English, Carolina is an in-demand teacher both locally in Italy, but has also taught mosaic in the US, France, Holland, South Africa, Kenya and Palestine. Carolina is also a classically trained cellist and plays piano accordion with a local contemporary Friulano folk band.

Manuela Farneti – Pomposa and Ravenna Tour Guide

Manuela Farneti is the author of one of the most authoritative publications on mosaic, which is used as a text book both by La Scuola di Mosaicisti del Friuli and The Chicago Mosaic School: *The Technical-Historical Glossary of Mosaic Art*. We are indeed fortunate that Manuela, also a Ravenna resident and local Tour Guide, has agreed to share her insights into the extraordinary medieval frescoes and mosaics of Pomposa Abbey and the marvelous Byzantine mosaics of Ravenna.

Arianna Gallo – Ravenna Mosaic Maestra

Arianna Gallo graduated from the Mosaic Institute of Art 'Gino Severini' in 1995, and from the School of Mosaic Restoration (Soprintendenza of Cultural Heritage of Ravenna) in 1999. In 2005 Arianna Gallo opened the mosaic studio Koko Mosaico with her husband and well-known contemporary mosaicist, Luca Barberini. Together with the extended Koko Mosaico team of mosaicists, craftsmen and artists, Arianna is one of the leading lights in contemporary mosaic practice in Ravenna and is an experienced and sought-after teacher of the medium. She is a specialist in double reverse method, also known as the 'Ravenna method'.

COST: AUD \$7,490 per person (excluding flights) for double occupancy/twin share (optional single occupancy supplement: additional AUD \$1,500)