

PALACE TOURS

La Dolce Vita Orient Express: Siena & The Palio

2 Nights • Luxury Experience

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ABOUT THIS TOUR

Overview

A three-day round trip from Rome built around one of Italy's great spectacles: the Palio di Siena, the bareback horse race run in the city's Piazza del Campo. The train leaves Rome Ostiense in the evening, with dinner by three-Michelin-starred Chef Heinz Beck as the Tuscan hills darken outside.

Race day begins with breakfast on board and a slow morning in the Bar Car before you head into Siena for the pageantry, the drums and the race itself. On the third morning the train returns to Rome Ostiense in late morning. A single departure each summer, with a rare way to experience the Palio.

Hotel on us: book this journey with Palace Tours and choose a hand-picked hotel in Rome before and/or after your journey.

DAY BY DAY

Your Itinerary



DAY 1

ROME

Your experience begins with a private transfer to La Dolce Vita lounge at Rome Ostiense Station, where refined hospitality sets the tone for the journey ahead. As evening falls, the train departs the Eternal City, and you settle into your elegant cabin.

In the Restaurant Car, a three-Michelin-starred dinner by Chef Heinz Beck unfolds – each course inspired by the season and paired with fine regional wines, as the twilight landscapes of Tuscany glide past your window.

Later, the Bar Car comes alive with music and laughter. A pianist and vocalist fill the night with timeless melodies, capturing the romance and effortless glamour of Italian evenings.

DAY 2

SIENA



On the morning of the great event, awaken to the gentle rhythm of the train and the soft Tuscan light streaming through your cabin window. Breakfast is served, to be enjoyed in the comfort of your suite or in the elegant Restaurant Car. Then, the day is yours to savour aboard La Dolce Vita Orient Express as you glide through the rolling landscapes of Tuscany. Play table games in the Bar Car, take in the ever-changing views from the comfort of your cabin, or simply embrace the pleasure of slow travel. At midday, return to the Restaurant Car for a leisurely lunch inspired by the passing landscapes before a private transfer takes you to Siena.

Take your place in a historic palazzo overlooking the square, an elegant aperitivo awaits before stepping to an exclusive vantage point to witness the Palio.

As twilight descends, renjoy a refined Tuscan dinner, where regional wines and seasonal dishes honor the day's excitement. Later that evening, reboard La Dolce Vita Orient Express. The after-party continues in the Bar Car, where live piano melodies, cocktails, and conversation carry on the night.



DAY 3

ROME

Wake gently to breakfast in your cabin or the elegant restaurant car, as the La Dolce Vita Orient Express glides softly through the Tuscan hills. By late morning, you arrive at Rome Ostiense Station, where your unforgettable Palio journey comes to a close. From the train's lounge, you step back into the Eternal City, carrying with you the echoes of Siena's drums, the thrill of the race, and the lingering magic of Italy's most storied traditions.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

Tips & Travel Guide

Extend your journey

You can add days in Rome before the train and in Florence and Tuscany after it. Here are three suggested lengths:

- **4 days:** 2 days before the train and 2 days after
- **5 days:** 2 days before and 3 days after
- **6 days:** 3 days before and 3 days after

Before the train: Rome

- **Day 1:** Arrive in Rome and transfer privately to your hotel. In the evening, walk to Piazza Navona, the Pantheon and the Trevi Fountain.
- **Day 2:** Visit the Vatican Museums, the Sistine Chapel and St Peter's Basilica with a private guide, then spend the afternoon at the Colosseum and the Roman Forum.
- **Day 3 (6-day option):** See the Borghese Gallery in the morning, then spend the afternoon and evening in Trastevere.
- The next morning, transfer to the station to board La Dolce Vita Orient Express.

After the train: Florence and Tuscany

- **Day 1:** Take the fast train from Rome to Florence, about an hour and a half. In the afternoon, visit the Duomo and the Baptistery.
- **Day 2:** See the Uffizi Gallery and Michelangelo's David at the Accademia with a private guide.
- **Day 3 (5- and 6-day options):** Spend a day in the Chianti hills, visiting wine estates and stopping for lunch in a village. Afterwards, leave from Florence or take the train back to Rome.
- The next day, transfer to the airport or your onward train.

We arrange the hotels, private transfers and guides around your train dates, and we can change any day to suit you. Prices are on request, and we have special offers on add-ons for this journey.

To request an extension, send us the enquiry form on this page and tell us which option you would like, or call 800-724-5120 (toll-free in the US) or +1 786-408-0610 from outside the US. You can also message us on WhatsApp at +1 786-408-0610.

DATES & PRICING

Departure Dates & Rates

DEPARTURE DATE	CLASS / CABIN	SINGLE	DOUBLE (PP)
Jul 1, 2027	Cabin Suite	**€24,552**	**€13,640**
	Cabin Suite Early Bird	**€24,302**	**€13,390**

Rates shown in Euro (EUR). Approximate USD equivalents available upon request.

Rates shown are per person. Single rate applies to single occupancy; Double rate applies per person in double occupancy.

EARLY BIRD FARES

Book early, pay less

Plan ahead and you'll pay less for exactly the same journey. Every cabin on this tour has an Early Bird fare. Look for it in the booking calendar, right next to the regular fare: it is labelled "<cabin> Early Bird".

6 MONTHS OR MORE BEFORE DEPARTURE

Save €250

per person

3 TO 6 MONTHS BEFORE DEPARTURE

Save €150

per person

INSIDE 3 MONTHS

Regular fare

the Early Bird fare closes

CABIN	REGULAR DOUBLE (PP)	EARLY BIRD, 6+ MONTHS AHEAD	EARLY BIRD, 3–6 MONTHS AHEAD
Cabin Suite	**€13,640**	**€13,390** save €250	**€13,490** save €150

Double fares per person, two sharing. The saving depends on the cabin's regular price per person: €250 / €150 on journeys from €8,000, €150 / €100 from €5,000, and €50 on shorter trips. It's the same cabin, the same itinerary and everything included as before. The only difference is the price. Early Bird fares are limited to the cabins on each departure and close automatically. If you already know your dates, now is the time to book.

🏷️ **Look for Coupons and Special Rates on our website.**

Visit https://www.palacetours.com/tour/ldv-siena-and-the-palio for the latest information.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Terms & Conditions

Booking & Payment

- **Deposit:** 30% of the total tour cost is due at the time of booking. The deposit is non-refundable.
- **Final payment:** the balance is due no later than 125 days before departure.
- Bookings made within 125 days of departure are payable in full at the time of booking.
- Fares are per person. Your written confirmation shows the exact amounts and due dates.

Cancellation

- **125 days or more** before departure: 30% of the total tour cost (the deposit)
- **Less than 125 days** before departure: 100% of the total tour cost

Changes

- **Date change:** free of charge, subject to availability, when requested 125 days or more before departure; after that, a fee of 15% of the total tour cost applies.
- **Cabin upgrade:** only the fare difference between cabin categories applies.
- **Cabin downgrade or passenger name correction:** free of charge up to 35 days before departure; within 35 days, EUR 500 per change.

Changes or cancellation by the train operator

If the train operator cancels or materially changes a departure, you will be offered a new date or an amended booking, a credit toward a future journey, or a refund of the amounts paid.

All cancellation, change, or update requests must be submitted in writing by email to travel@palacetours.com. A request takes effect only once we have received and processed it, and we will confirm the outcome to you in writing. Timeframes are calculated by reference to local time and business days at the destination; a request received outside business hours is treated as received on the next business day.

We strongly recommend purchasing travel insurance, including cancellation cover, from the moment you pay your deposit. For information on available plans, please visit www.palacetours.com/insurance.

COMMON QUESTIONS

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Siena and the Palio journey?

It is a three-day, two-night round trip from Rome aboard La Dolce Vita Orient Express, timed so that the middle day falls on the Palio di Siena, the bareback horse race run around the Piazza del Campo. You sleep on board both nights and travel out to Siena for the race itself.

When does this journey depart?

The departure currently on sale leaves Rome on 1 July 2027, with the race day falling on day two. Because the Palio is held on fixed dates each year, this itinerary runs only when the race does, which is why the calendar on this page is so short.

Where do we watch the Palio from?

Guests take their place in a historic palazzo overlooking the Piazza del Campo, which is the square the race is run around. Watching from a private vantage point above the crowd is a very different experience from standing in the centre of the packed piazza.

What is the Palio di Siena?

It is a bareback horse race between the contrade, the historic districts of Siena, run on a track of earth laid around the Piazza del Campo. It lasts barely ninety seconds but is preceded by a day of drumming, flag-throwing and processions, and it is the centre of civic life in the city.

How does the first day of the journey unfold?

A private transfer brings you to the La Dolce Vita lounge at Rome Ostiense, and the train leaves the city as evening falls. Dinner follows in the Restaurant Car, with courses built on seasonal produce, and later the Bar Car fills with music from a pianist and vocalist as Tuscany slips by outside.

What happens on the morning of the race?

You wake on board to breakfast in your cabin or the Restaurant Car, and the morning is yours as the train glides through the Tuscan hills. Lunch is served in the Restaurant Car before a private transfer takes you into Siena for the afternoon and the race itself.

How does the journey end?

After the Palio you return to the train for the night. On the final morning you take breakfast in your cabin or the Restaurant Car as the train runs back down through the hills, arriving at Rome Ostiense by late morning, where the journey finishes in the centre of the city.

What cabin categories are available?

The itinerary is offered in Deluxe Cabin and Cabin Suite categories. The train carries 12 Deluxe cabins, 18 suites and one La Dolce Vita Suite, all en-suite with a dedicated steward. On a date as sought after as the Palio, the choice of category narrows early.

How much does this journey cost?

Fares open from about EUR 9,440 per person based on two guests sharing a cabin, and vary by cabin category. The exact fare for this departure is shown on this page, which is the figure to rely on for the date and cabin you are considering.

What is included in the fare?

Included are two nights on board in your chosen cabin, all meals with menus curated by three-Michelin-starred chef Heinz Beck, selected beverages including drinks served with meals, the transfer to Siena and the viewing arrangement for the race as described in the itinerary, live music in the Bar Car and dedicated steward service.

What is not included?

Travel to Rome and home again is not part of the fare, nor are personal expenses, gratuities, travel insurance or anything not expressly listed in the itinerary. Hotel nights in Rome before or after the journey can be arranged separately, and we will quote them with transfers.

Why book the Palio through a train journey rather than a hotel in Siena?

Siena is very small and completely full on race days, so beds inside the walls are scarce and expensive. Travelling on the train means your accommodation, meals and transfers are settled, you arrive for the afternoon and leave when it suits you, and there is no scramble for a room on the night.

How crowded is Siena on race day?

Extremely. Tens of thousands of people fill the city and the Piazza del Campo from the morning onwards, and the streets around the square are closed. That is part of the spectacle, but it means comfortable shoes, light clothing for the July heat, and patience on foot.

What are the payment terms?

A deposit of 30 percent of the tour price confirms your cabin and is non-refundable. The balance is due 125 days before departure, and bookings made within 125 days of departure are payable in full at the time of booking. Your written confirmation shows the exact amounts and the dates they fall due.

Can I book a cabin for sole use?

Yes, on request and with a supplement over the per-person sharing fare. There are only about thirty cabins on the entire train, so single-use space on a Palio departure is very limited and should be requested as soon as you decide to travel.

Are there reduced rates for children?

Two child bands apply, under 5 and 5 to 12, with the age taken at the departure date. The race day is long, hot and crowded, and the atmosphere on board is an adult one, so this itinerary suits older children rather than young ones.

What should I wear for the race and on board?

> For Siena in July, light clothing, a hat and comfortable shoes you can stand in for a few hours. On board, evenings in the Restaurant Car and Bar Car call for smart-casual dress in keeping with the 1960s Italian styling of the train.

How do I get to Rome for the start?

> Travel to the departure city is not included in the fare. Rome is served by Fiumicino and Ciampino airports and by fast trains from across Italy, and most guests arrive at least a night early. We can book a hotel in Rome and the private transfer to the lounge at Rome Ostiense.

How far in advance should I book a Palio departure?

> As far ahead as possible. The train has fewer than thirty cabins, the race runs on one fixed date, and demand for it is worldwide, so this is among the first itineraries in the collection to sell out. If the date matters to you, book as soon as it opens.

How do I ask a question or book Siena and the Palio?

> Email travel@palacetours.com, call 786-408-0610, or message us on WhatsApp at https://wa.me/17864080610, where a travel specialist or our AI assistant will answer. The departure shown on this page can be booked directly, and we can add hotel nights and transfers in Rome at either end.

Ready to Book Your Journey?

Contact Palace Tours for personalized rates and departure dates

travel@palacetours.com | 786-408-0610

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