

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

ITALY & THE PALIO: AN INSPIRING EXPEDITION BY GEOFFREY KENT

AUGUST 10 – 20, 2024

REVIEW YOUR PASSPORT

Your passport needs to be valid **beyond February 20, 2025**, and should have a minimum of two (2) blank visa pages for entry and exit stamps.

U.S. passport holders who frequently travel internationally may be able to obtain a second passport, which is valid for four years. This would allow you to travel with one passport, while the second may be submitted to obtain any required visas for your next trip abroad.

If you require assistance obtaining a new U.S. passport, second passport or passport renewal, contact our partner, Pinnacle TDS. You may call them at 888 838 4867, visit them online at pinnacletds.com/AandK or email AandK@pinnacletds.com for specific instructions.

VISA INFORMATION

Holders of U.S. and Canadian passports are not required to obtain a tourist visa for entry into Italy. If you are not a citizen of the United States or Canada, please consult the nearest diplomatic or consular office of Italy for information necessary on entry requirements pertaining to this journey.

REGISTER YOUR JOURNEY

We recommend that you register with your nearest embassy or consulate for the destinations included in your journey. U.S. citizens can register through STEP, the Smart Traveller Enrollment Program (step.state.gov/step). Canadian citizens can enroll in Registration of Canadians Abroad at travel.gc.ca/travelling/registration.

COVID-19 COUNTRY ENTRY REQUIREMENTS & TRAVEL ADVISORIES

Italy currently has no COVID-19 vaccination or testing requirements for entry for U.S. and Canadian residents. Visit the U.S. Department of State at travel.state.gov or the Government of Canada at travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories for up-to-date information.

KEEP CONNECTED

While most smartphones work overseas, you might need to turn on international roaming service before you travel. Contact your carrier for information on coverage and voice and data plan options while travelling abroad.

GETTING ONLINE

Your hotels and many public places have Wi-Fi and you'll usually be able to stay connected throughout your journey.

TIME ZONES

Many websites and smartphone apps allow you to check time zones for specific destinations. We recommend timeanddate.com/worldclock. Upon arrival, the time on most smartphones will automatically adjust to the local time.

9:00 a.m. in Destination

**Universal Time
(UTC)**

United Kingdom

**New York &
Ottawa**

Italy	+2	10:00 a.m.	4:00 a.m.
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MONEY MATTERS

We recommend travelling with some cash and at least two different major credit cards, such as Visa and Mastercard, so you have backup if your card is not accepted or lost. Contact your bank and credit card companies to let them know where and when you'll be travelling, as well as confirm any foreign transaction fees. When carrying cash, try to travel only with recently issued currency in smaller denominations; many merchants overseas won't accept wrinkled or torn bills. Only exchange currency at authorized outlets such as currency exchanges, ATMs or hotels and save receipts as they may be required for exit.

The currency of Italy is Euro. Hotels, shops, restaurants and many other venues accept major credit cards and ATM access is widespread.

KEEP VALUABLES SECURE

We strongly recommend leaving valuables such as jewelry at home as A&K cannot be responsible. Use safes where available to secure valuable items such as passports, or else always carry them on your person.

Replacing a lost or stolen passport is much easier if you have a copy on hand. Pack a photocopy of your passport's personal information page with your luggage, and keep a photo of it on your smartphone.

WEATHER

We recommend weather.com to check the forecast for your journey.

	Average High August	Average Low August	Average Days w/Rain
Verona, Italy	84°F / 29°C	65°F / 18°C	9
Siena, Italy	87°F / 31°C	67°F / 19°C	4
Capri, Italy	84°F / 29°C	69°F / 20°C	4

PACKING LIST

The typical attire on A&K Inspiring Expedition journeys is relaxed and informal during the day and smart casual attire is appropriate for evenings. Choose comfortable, versatile clothing that can be layered to account for changes in the weather throughout the day.

Be sure to bring a global travel adapter set with you to recharge your electronics. You can purchase a global travel adapter and many items on our packing list through A&K's Travel Store at usa.thetraveloutfitter.com.

Use the provided A&K luggage tags, even if your bags already have ID tags. This makes it easier for A&K staff to collect and manage your luggage for you.

Clothing

- 3-4 casual slacks
- Walking shorts/capri pants
- 2-3 evening outfits for special occasions (smart casual)
- Sweater or fleece jacket; shawl or wrap for women

- 5-6 casual short-sleeve shirts or blouses
- Long sleeve shirts or blouses
- Comfortable walking shoes with low or no heels
- Lightweight raincoat and umbrella
- Sleepwear
- Brimmed hat or visor for sun protection
- Socks
- Swimwear/cover-up
- Personal garments

Other Recommended Items

- Sunglasses
- Sun block and lip balm
- Simple first-aid kit
- Prescriptions and medications (in their original bottles and/or packaging)
- Extra eyeglasses/contact lenses
- Smartphone
- Charging cables for electronics
- Global travel adapter

Please note that while hotels will provide basic toiletries, you may wish to bring your own if you have specific preferences.

Traveller's Valet, A&K's complimentary laundry service for 10 articles of clothing per person, will be provided twice during your journey. Dry cleaning is not included.

SMART SHOPPING

If you are interested in shopping, your A&K guide may recommend local shops; however, A&K is not responsible for the quality or value of merchandise. Any purchases and shipping are at your sole discretion. Be sure to review your credit card receipts before signing, paying special attention to currency conversion. We recommend taking items with you in lieu of shipping them whenever possible.

Consult the local customs authority (cbp.gov in the U.S. and travel.gc.ca in Canada) for information on what you can bring back and duty taxes. Keep receipts and items together.

PHOTOGRAPHY ETIQUETTE

Be sure to ask permission before taking pictures of local people, including small children. Note that photography is not permitted in some locations; it is usually clearly marked. If in doubt, ask your Tour Manager to avoid having your camera confiscated.

TIPS ON TIPPING

As a convenience, all gratuities are included. Any additional gratuities that you may choose to present to specific members of your tour staff are left to your personal discretion.