

MILAN City and Shopping

Code B 024 – 1 day excursion

Milan morning tour: the Cathedral, the Navigli district, museums and shopping

Depart from the hotel by private coach for the city of Milan. Upon arrival begin the tour at the Castello Sforzesco, the ancient residence of the Visconti and Sforza families, now home to museums and temporary exhibitions and where, among other masterpieces, you can admire the beautiful Pieta Rondanini, Michelangelo's last work.

A short walk leads to the impressive central square of the extraordinary Duomo, the largest and most complex Gothic building in Italy. The rich exterior, with more than 2000 statues, rises over 108 meters to the sky, its roof decorated with a “forest” of 135 spires, crowned by the famous gold Madonnina.

Pass through the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele, the city’s historic “drawing room” and then stroll along the elegant streets, like Via Montenapoleone, symbol of Milan’s reputation as the global capital of designer fashion.

Free time for individual shopping and lunch

Optional afternoon tours:

1) Visit the city’s **Monumental Cemetery**, begun in 1866, with its ornate tombs, sculpted by the most renowned artists of the time, a veritable open-air museum. Continue by coach for a short sightseeing tour of the Navigli and Darsena districts, also known as the “**port of Milan**”. Once the city’s docklands and important hub for transport and trade, this was where the blocks of marble

from Candoglia were unloaded after being shipped from Lake Maggiore for the construction of the Cathedral.

Return to the hotel by private coach.

2) An imperative destination on even a brief visit to the city of **Milan**, is the Church of **Santa Maria delle Grazie** to view the Last Supper by Leonardo da Vinci, located in the former **Dominican monastery** next door. Between 1495 and 1498, Leonardo painted the world-famous scene on a wall of the refectory, giving life to one of the greatest masterpieces of Italian painting. Recently restored, the fresco can be visited in small groups and by appointment only.

Return to the hotel by private coach

3) Early afternoon departure from **Milan** for a stop at the **Vicolungo Outlet**, a shopper's paradise, with designer names at bargain prices.

Return to the hotel by private coach.

