

## **New Year in Venice**

**When the lights of the lagoon shimmer in winter and Venice's canals lie quietly in the cold, the city reveals its most enchanting side. New Year's Eve in Venice is far more than a simple change of year—it is a celebration for all the senses, combining music, culture, and incomparable romance.**

**Experience exclusive highlights such as an evening tour of the magnificent Basilica di San Marco, a concert at the Scuola Grande di San Teodoro, and the splendid New Year's Concert at the renowned Teatro La Fenice, which attracts some of the world's finest musicians to Venice each year.**

**Your stay is further enhanced by a carefully curated sightseeing programme featuring historic palaces, remarkable artistic treasures, and hidden corners of the lagoon city, offering an authentic and captivating insight into Venice's rich heritage. Enjoy this elegant New Year celebration in one of the world's most fascinating cities—amid sparkling canals, magnificent architecture, and the unique magic of Venice.**



**29 December 2026 to 2 January 2027**

Venice was once powerful, wealthy, and seemingly invincible. A Queen of the Seas whose ships sailed to the far corners of the world, bringing home spices, silks, and stories from distant lands. Wealth and culture flourished here, creating a city of extraordinary splendour. Even today, that golden age lingers in the shimmering mosaics of its churches, the marble façades of its palaces, and the quiet echoes of centuries past.

Yet Venice is also a city of remarkable fragility. Built upon millions of wooden piles hidden deep beneath the lagoon, it rises from the water like a dream. Suspended between sea and sky, it seems to float upon an ancient secret known only to itself.

Beneath its beauty, however, lies a gentle melancholy. The tides continue to rise, the stone slowly yields to time, and the city bears the marks of passing centuries. But it is precisely this fleeting nature that gives Venice its irresistible allure.

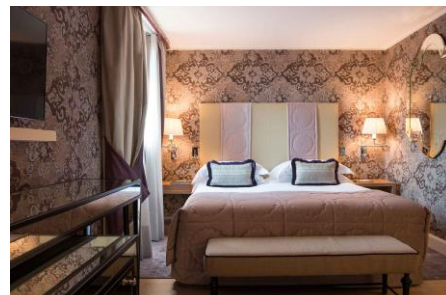
Perhaps this is why Venice moves us so profoundly. It reminds us that even the most beautiful things are not eternal—and that their transience makes them all the more precious.

For centuries, Venice has been known as La Serenissima — the Most Serene. Yet those who truly experience the city discover something deeper. Venice is not merely a place; it is an emotion, a memory, a spell that lingers long after the journey has ended.



## Tuesday 29 December 2026

Arrival in Venice at your own arrangements and transfer to the elegant **Starhotel Splendid Venice\*\*\*\***, housed in a historic building in the very heart of the city. The hotel enjoys a privileged central location, just a few steps from St. Mark's Square and the Rialto Bridge. Here, authentic Venetian charm awaits: elegant rooms, a rooftop terrace offering breathtaking views over the canals, a stylish restaurant, and a cosy hotel bar – the perfect setting to experience the unique magic of the lagoon city.



In the evening, we meet to enjoy a nice welcome dinner at a good restaurant.

### Wednesday 30 December 2026

The guided tour of Venice begins in the **upper section of the Grand Canal**, near the Scalzi Bridge. From there, we continue to the monumental **Scuola Grande San Giovanni Evangelista**, one of Venice's oldest confraternities, renowned for its **splendid halls and important art collection**. We then visit the **Basilica di Santa Maria Gloriosa dei Frari**, home to masterpieces by **Titian** as well as the tombs of **Claudio Monteverdi** and Titian himself. Another highlight of the tour is the **Scuola Grande di San Rocco**, where we admire the impressive **cycle of paintings** by **Tintoretto**, often referred to as the "**Sistine Chapel of Venice**".

The rest of the day is at leisure for individual exploration.



Optional: 8:30 p.m. performance of **The Barber of Seville** at Musica a Palazzo  
Music: **Gioachino Rossini**, Libretto: **Cesare Sterbini**

Based on the famous comedy of the same name by **Pierre-Augustin Caron de Beaumarchais**, this unique production is staged in the elegant salons of the **Palazzo Barbarigo-Minotto**, whose richly decorated Baroque interiors provide the perfect setting for the performance. The opera's two acts are presented in three different salons, allowing the audience to move through the palace and enjoy an intimate and immersive theatrical experience. The rooms are illuminated by candlelight, creating a truly enchanting atmosphere. Ticket price: CHF 110 per person (subject to availability).

### Thursday 31 December 2026

Today we discover the "**Hidden Venice**", with its **secluded squares** and **magnificent palaces** – the authentic "**Venice of the Venetians**". We then visit the renowned **Gallerie dell'Accademia**. Founded in **1750**, the **collection** grew significantly when the **Habsburgs** returned part of Napoleon's looted treasures and **numerous private collections were donated to the museum**. Today, its galleries and cabinet rooms offer an unparalleled overview of **Venetian painting from the 14th to the 19th century**, featuring masterpieces by **Giovanni Bellini, Vittore Carpaccio, Titian, and Tintoretto**. The afternoon is once again at leisure.

Towards the evening, we stroll to the historic **Scuola Grande di San Teodoro** for the **New Year's Eve concert**. The musicians perform in **authentic 18th-century Baroque costumes**, adding a special atmosphere to the occasion. In the **magnificent setting of the chapter hall** near the Rialto Bridge, we enjoy beautiful **arias and masterpieces by Verdi, Mozart, and Strauss** – an elegant prelude to the New Year's Eve celebrations. Afterwards, we return to the hotel for a refined New Year's Eve dinner, where we bid farewell to the old year in style and raise a glass together to welcome the new one.



## Friday 1 January 2027

The traditional **New Year's Concert** at the historic **Gran Teatro La Fenice** ranks among the world's most **prestigious and exclusive musical events**. Produced for more than two decades in close cooperation with Italian television, this **festive gala** brings together the very finest artists of the Italian classical music scene in the unique setting of Venice.

Tickets for this world-renowned cultural event are extremely limited and normally sell out within minutes. Thanks to our excellent connections, however, we have secured an exclusive allocation of these highly sought-after seats for the main concert on **1 January 2027 at 11:15 a.m.** We will experience an **unforgettable highlight of the concert season** and welcome the New Year with music of the highest calibre in one of the world's most celebrated opera houses.

**Musical Director: Gianandrea Nosedà**

**Choirmaster: Alfonso Caiani**

**Orchestra and Chorus of La Fenice**

The programme will be announced at a later date



Venice's historic opera house is renowned for its dramatic and eventful history. It opened its doors in 1792 after the city's principal opera house had been destroyed by fire in 1773. As the owners could not agree on its reconstruction, a new theatre was built and aptly named **La Fenice – The Phoenix**. It soon became one of the most celebrated opera houses in Italy and Europe, hosting numerous world premieres, including **Verdi's *La Traviata*** in 1853. Over the centuries, the theatre suffered several devastating fires. The most recent occurred on 29 January 1996, when the building was almost completely destroyed during renovation works. Faithfully reconstructed according to the original design, **La Fenice** reopened in 2004 to great acclaim and has since once again captivated audiences from around the world.

Following the concert, we enjoy a **refined New Year's Day lunch**, providing a fitting culinary highlight to this festive occasion.

In the evening, we gather for an **exclusive guided visit of St Mark's Basilica**. Away from the daytime crowds, we can fully appreciate the splendour of its architecture, the richness of its golden mosaics, and the unique atmosphere of one of **Venice's most iconic landmarks**.



## Saturday 2 January 2027

After one final leisurely breakfast, it is time to bid farewell to the **unique lagoon city of Venice**. We take a last moment to reflect on the many memorable experiences and impressions of the past days.

With wonderful memories and a touch of **Venetian charm in our hearts**, we begin our journey home, carrying the spirit of these extraordinary days into the New Year. Our memories are filled with the festive atmosphere of the holiday season, the splendour of Venice's palaces and winding alleyways, the shimmering reflections dancing across its canals, and the **exceptional cultural highlights that made this journey so special**. The magic of Venice will remain with us long after our return, recalling the unforgettable moments and shared experiences of this remarkable New Year celebration.

**Prices per person**, plus 0.25% risk contribution for the guarantee fund

CHF 5,670 Deluxe double room

CHF 5,970 Deluxe double room with canal view

CHF 6,530 Deluxe single room

CHF 6,930 Deluxe single room with canal view

## What's included

Four nights' accommodation at the Starhotel Splendid Venice, breakfast daily, all taxes including city tax, visits as detailed in the programme, two select dinners and one lunch, drinks with meals, good tickets for 31 December and 1 January (category 1), expert local guide, tips, experienced tour manager

## Starhotel Splendid

The hotel enjoys a central yet **remarkably peaceful location**, just a few steps from the famous **St Mark's Square** and the **Rialto Bridge**, offering an authentic Venetian experience. It features a private landing stage for gondolas and water taxis, an elegant hotel bar, and the **renowned Le Maschere restaurant**, where refined local classics are served with the creative flair of **Executive Chef Massimo Livan**.

The **Deluxe Rooms** combine elegant Venetian style with modern comfort and feature air conditioning, a minibar, safe, satellite television, and a luxurious bathroom. Approximate size: 20 m<sup>2</sup>.

The **Deluxe Canal View Rooms** offer the same amenities and additionally enjoy views over one of Venice's picturesque canals. Approximate size: 20 m<sup>2</sup>.



Programme, routes and rail traction subject to change. The organiser's general information and conditions of travel apply. A minimum number of travellers is required for the trip to take place.

Note: Performance programme and performers subject to change.