



FAI UK is pleased to invite you to a very special Ville Venete tour including two exclusive concerts by Sir Andrés Schiff: "The beauty of the terraferma and of music"



A four day visit to the magnificent city of Vicenza and to the finest Ville Venete and Gardens of the area with the privilege of two concerts by Sir Andrés Schiff

A tour designed to see the Villas from the inside, welcomed by their owners and by Fai Trustee, Carolina Valmarana. Exceptionally, the FAI UK group will be participating to the Gala Dinner and the private concert within the Festival "Omaggio a Palladio - Sir Andrés Schiff and Cappella Andrea Barca" hosted on Wednesday 25th April in Villa Valmarana ai nani, under the frescoes of Giambattista and Giandomenico Tiepolo

Sunday 22nd – Thursday 26th April 2018

Sunday, April 22nd

Arrival at the Hotel Villa Michelangelo in the afternoon

Hotel Villa Michelangelo
Via Sacco, 35
36067 Arcugnano, Vicenza
+39 0444 550300

Meeting at the Hotel Villa Michelangelo at 5.00 p.m.
Welcome Drink followed by departure at 6.00 p.m. for la Rotonda (15 minutes)

Le Ville di Vicenza

6.15 p.m. Private visit to Villa La Rotonda with owner, Count Nicolò di Valmarana. This house, built for the priest Paolo Almerico in 1565, is one of Palladio's best-known legacies to the architectural world. A design based upon the Pantheon in Rome, it has been the inspiration for countless subsequent villas to the present day.

7.15 p.m. Visit and Dinner in Villa Valmarana ai nani, the home of Carolina Valmarana and her family. This seventeenth century Villa was frescoed by Giambattista and Giandomenico Tiepolo, who were commissioned by the owner Count Giustino Valmarana in 1757.

10.30 p.m. Return to Hotel Villa Michelangelo

Monday, April 23rd

La Provincia di Padova

10.30 a.m. Leave Hotel Villa Michelangelo

11.30 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. Villa dei Vescovi in Luvigliano - Guided tour of the villa and lunch with Contessa Maria Teresa Olcese Valoti who, with her son Pierpaolo Olcese, donated the Villa to FAI in memory of Vittorio Olcese.

A country retreat erected between 1535 and 1542 and inspired by Antiquity, the villa dominates the landscape of the Euganean Hills. It is a sublime work by famous architects, including Giulio Romano, and it is decorated with paintings by the Flemish master, Lambert Sustris. The villa is an exquisite experiment in the spirit of the humanist movement of the Renaissance, blending architecture and nature seamlessly and creating spaces, such as the loggia and terraces, that are designed for the pleasure and wellbeing of those who live in it.

The guided tour will be preceded by a short presentation about FAI - Fondo Ambiente Italiano (the National Trust for Italy) which has restored the villa and, since 2011, opens it to the public on a regular basis, organizing events and happenings.

4.30 p.m. – 6.00 p.m. Villa Barbarigo in Valsanzibio, an 18th-century rural villa, surrounded by a fine Baroque garden, probably the best in Italy, with its statuary, water works, swans in the small lake, and a labyrinth. Originally commissioned in 1669 by Zuane Francesco Barbarigo, the villa was once accessible by canal from Venice. We shall be welcomed by owner Armando Pizzoni Ardemani.

6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. Dinner at Villa Albrizzi in Este – a 17th century complex (villa, barchessa, Padiglione delle Feste and park). Dinner hosted by owners Alessandro and Angelica Giannelli Viscardi Albrizzi. For many years the villa was rented to Teddy Millington Drake who enjoyed the Veneto atmosphere of the 1960's with his friend Bruce Chatwin.

10,30 p.m. Return to Hotel Villa Michelangelo

Tuesday, April 24th

“Tutto Palladio” – In the morning, his most important works in Vicenza. In the afternoon we will visit the Villa La Malcontenta on the Brenta Canal.

9.45 a.m. – 3.00 p.m. Leave Hotel Villa Michelangelo for Vicenza:

- **Teatro Olimpico**, designed by Andrea Palladio and completed by Vincenzo Scamozzi (1580 – 1585). The *trompe-l'œil* scenery, long streets that seemingly recede to a distant horizon, was installed in 1585 for the very first performance held in the theatre (*Oedipus Rex*), and is the oldest surviving stage set still in existence. The full Roman-style *scaenae frons* back screen across the stage is made from wood and stucco imitating marble.
- **Palazzo Chiericati**, designed by Andrea Palladio and recently restored. It is Vicenza's City Museum.
- **Santa Corona**, Gothic-style, it contains the beautiful *Valmarana Chapel* (circa 1576). It is attributed to Andrea Palladio who is himself buried in the church. It has an altarpiece depicting the magnificent *Baptism of Christ* (1500-1502) by Giovanni Bellini.
- **Basilica Palladiana**, a Renaissance building with an impressive loggia designed by a young Andrea Palladio. The building was originally constructed in the 15th century and was known as the *Palazzo della Ragione*.
- **Palladio Museum (CISA)** – located in Palazzo Barbaran da Porto by Andrea Palladio: Visit, welcome by CISA director/president and lunch.

3.00 p.m. – 4.30 p.m. Free time in the Hotel Villa Michelangelo

4.30 p.m. Depart for Villa Foscari, La Malcontenta

5.15 p.m. - 6.30 Villa Foscari, visit and welcome by the padroni di casa Tonci and Barbara Foscari.

Villa Foscari received its common name *La Malcontenta*, when the spouse of one of the Foscari was locked up in the house for not fulfilling her conjugal duty. Andrea Palladio was commissioned to design the villa by the brothers Nicolò and Luigi Foscari and it was built between 1558 and 1560. It was used for official receptions, such as that given for Henry III of France in 1574. The interior of the villa is richly decorated with frescoes by Battista Franco and Giambattista Zelotti.

7.00 p.m. - 9.00 p.m. Dinner nearby and return to the hotel.

Wednesday, April 25th

The Treviso area and the concerts in Vicenza

9:30 a.m. Leaving the hotel for Villa Barbaro

11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Villa Barbaro a Maser (Asolo), one of the greatest masterpieces of Andrea Palladio (1508-80), and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The beauty and perfection of its design is combined with the six rooms with frescoes by Paolo Veronese, which represent his largest and most important fresco works.

12.15 p.m. 1.00 p.m. Walk through Asolo to arrive in Hotel Villa Cipriani

1.0 p.m. - 3.00 p.m. Lunch the Hotel Villa Cipriani return to the hotel by 4.30 p.m.

Evening within the “Omaggio a Palladio Festival”- Andrés Schiff and the Cappella Andrea Barca

6.30 p.m. Depart from the Hotel to la Basilica dei Santi Felice e Fortunato

7.00 p.m. - 8.00 p.m. Prova generale Schumann: Missa sacra op.147

after the concert, bus to Villa Valmarana ai nani

8.15 p.m. - 8.45 p.m. Aperitivo in Villa

8:45 p.m. - 9:45 p.m. Concert in the Hall of the Foresteria:

Zoltán Kodály Serenade for Two Violins and Viola, Op. 12 Ludwig van Beethoven Violin Sonata No. 5 in F major, Op. 24 "Spring" Yuuko Shiokawa & Sir Andrés Schiff followed by **Gala dinner** - for 100 people - mostly sponsors of the Festival but our group is kindly invited by the Valmarana family.

11.30 p.m. Back to the hotel by bus

Thursday, April 26th

Breakfast in the hotel and departure.

Practical details

The total price per participant includes all of the following:

- Hotel accommodation for 4 nights (including breakfast)
- All visits and private visits, including museum entries and concerts
- English- speaking guide
- Luncheons, dinners and receptions as listed

All transportation will be done by private bus

The price does not include:

- Airfare from and to UK
- Any kind of personal insurance

Priced on minimum base of 20 full-paying participants in double occupancy
The supplement for a single room will be £ 50 per person per day

Suggested price per person £ 1950

This price includes a donation of £ 750 to FAI UK, which is eligible for Gift Aid

About FAI UK

FAI UK – Italian Heritage Trust is a new, London based charitable organisation that aims to spread awareness and foster appreciation of Italy’s great national heritage by supporting the charitable purposes of FAI. The mission of **FAI Fondo Ambiente Italiano (the National Trust for Italy)**, is twofold: on the one hand, to promote a practical culture of respect for Italy's landscape, art, architecture, history and traditions; and on the other, to conserve and protect an extraordinary legacy that is a fundamental part, not only of the Italian identity, but of the whole world's. FAI is a national, not-for-profit trust that was set up in 1975, which has since saved, restored and opened to the public numerous fine building, and protected tracts of the coast and beautiful countryside.

Contact details

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