OPERA AT LA SCALA

An escorted visit to Milan staying at the Rosa Grand Milano Hotel including a performance at La Scala

16th to 20th April 2026

Think of Milan and you think of fashion, good food and of course music. Our escorted short break offers a wonderful opportunity to take a closer look at this most vibrant of Italian cities, enjoy some fine music, art, excellent food and take in an opera performance of Giacomo Puccini's final opera 'Turandot' at La Scala. Our visit will coincide with the 100th anniversary of its world premiere which took place at La Scala in April 1926. This lavish production is a vivid fantasy of long-ago China, where the imperious Princess Turandot poses three riddles to any prince who dares to court her, and commands the death of all who fail.

We will be based at the charming, Rosa Grand Milano Hotel which has a location which is hard to beat in Milan, just a short stroll from the Duomo and perfectly situated for our visits to La Scala. In addition to an evening performance at La Scala, we have also included two guided tours of Milan and a visit to the Medieval city of Cremona where during our tour we will visit a violin-making workshop which will provide a fascinating insight into the construction of violins.

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The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Milan, Italy. Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to the Rosa Grand Milano Hotel for a four night stay. Settle into your room before meeting for dinner at the hotel this evening. **(D)**

Day 2 Milan & La Scala. This morning we take a walking tour to discover more of this fascinating city. Visit the Duomo, which at 157 metres long is one of the largest Catholic churches in the world. Construction began in 1386 and took five centuries to complete. There will also be an option to take the stairs to the duomo's huge rooftop terrace, which affords spectacular views of the city and the duomo's roof sculptures. Later we will walk through the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II, designed in the 19th century and now home to a huge array of upscale shops and restaurants. We end at the Museum of La Scala which houses instruments including Franz Liszt's grand piano as well as portraits of Guiseppe Verdi whose long career began here in 1839. After lunch we return to the hotel and enjoy the afternoon at leisure. (B, L)

Day 3 Castello Sforzesco, Pinaconteca di Brera. After breakfast at the hotel enjoy a tour to two of the city's highlights, Castello Sforzesco and the Pinacoteca di Brera. Originally built as a fortress in the 14th century, the iconic brick-red Castello Sforzesco became home to the powerful Sforza dynasty who ruled Renaissance Milan and oversaw the reconstruction of the building which had been seriously damaged between 1447 and 1450. The castle's defences, designed by Leonardo da Vinci, were largely demolished during the period of Napoleonic rule, and the complex was transferred to civic use following the unification of Italy in the 19th century. We will also see Michaelangelo's "Pieta Rondanini", a marble sculpture from 1552. A short walk brings us to the impressive Pinacoteca di Brera, home to over 400 works dating from the 14th to the 20th centuries by master painters such as Piero della Francesca, Raphael, and Caravaggio. After lunch the afternoon is free before we meet in the early evening for an aperitif and snacks before walking to the Teatro alla Scala for a performance of Puccini's 'Turandot'. (B, L, D*)

Day 4 Cremona. Following breakfast at the hotel we will drive to Cremona, a city rich in Medieval architecture and famous for its violin-making traditions which were added to the UNESCO list in 2012. Visit the impressive Violin Museum which takes visitors through Cremona's five-century history of violin making, introducing them to the great masters and their violins, including the famous Antonio Stradivari. Explore Cremona's beautiful historic centre, including the Piazza Stradivari, the Piazza del Comune, Cathedral and the Torrazzo which at 112 metres is the tallest brick belfry in the world. Visit a modern violin-making workshop where a master luthier demonstrates all the stages in the construction of a violin in the classic Cremona method. Following some free time for lunch we will return to Milan for an afternoon at leisure before we meet for dinner tonight. (B, D)

Day 5 Milan to London. After breakfast we transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London. (B)

ROSA GRAND MILANO HOTEL

Set in the heart of Milan, the Rosa Grand overlooks the historic Piazza Fontana and nearby stands the world-famous La Scala opera house and the Galleria, home to historic cafés and chic boutiques. The hotel's 331 rooms and suites are elegantly furnished, each with a distinctive style. Exuding refinement down to the very last detail, all have recently been refurbished and offer complimentary Wi-Fi, coffee machine and kettle, bathrobes and slippers, minibar and safe. Deluxe rooms measure 22 square metres and Grand Deluxe rooms measure 30 square metres. The hotel is enhanced by the cosy lounges, refined wood finishes, luxurious velvet and valuable artworks that grace the public spaces. The facilities include two restaurants, one with an outdoor terrace, and a fully-equipped Wellness Centre including a fitness room.



PRICES PER PERSON Based on double occupancy

Deluxe Twin:	£3595
Grand Deluxe Twin:	£3695
Deluxe Twin for sole use	£3995

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • Four nights accommodation at the Rosa Grand Milano Hotel • Meals as described (B - Breakfast, L - Lunch, D - Dinner, D*- Light pre-event buffet) • Wine, beer or soft drinks with each included lunch and dinner • Excursions as described with local guide • Platea category tickets for the perfomance at La Scala • Noble Caledonia Tour Manager • Gratuities • Transfers • Airport taxes. Not Included: Travel insurance.



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