Explore the Venice International Film Festival with Justin Chang
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ITINERARY

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Day 5  More Films and Discussions
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Relaxed and intimate, the Venice International Film Festival takes over Venice’s Lido island as cinephiles gather for a week of intense film viewing and movie-related discussions. L.A. Times travelers will receive special passes providing total access to the movie village and all festival events. You may choose to attend as many film screenings as you wish, coming and going from your home base at a historic palazzo in a residential neighborhood in Venice. A select number of non-festival activities supplement the program to enhance your Venetian experience.
DAY 1  Welcome to Venice

Arrive in Venice, and transfer to the hotel, which is in a beautiful residential area. Meet with your fellow L.A. Times travelers and L.A. Times film critic Justin Chang for a welcome reception, followed by a welcome dinner at a popular local trattoria. (R, D)

DAY 2  Venice Film Walk

This morning, visit Atelier Nicolao, a costume manufacturer famous for creating elaborate period costumes for film and stage productions. Then join a film location specialist for a water taxi tour of iconic sites and filming around Venice. Enjoy lunch as a group, followed by the remainder of the afternoon free to spend attending film screenings or exploring Venice on your own. Maybe you’ll take in the Rialto Bridge, Piazza San Marco or the Doge’s Palace or just explore the hidden and not-so-hidden jewels of this iconic city. Reconvene this evening to attend an orientation at the Film Festival Village. Dine on your own before attending the inaugural event at the festival this evening. (B, L)

DAY 3  Let the Cameras Roll

The Venice Film Festival takes place on the sandy island known as the Lido, an easy vaporetto (water bus) ride across the lagoon from central Venice. Your pass allows you to attend screenings or other events in the movie village of your choice. Film screenings take place every day between 8 a.m. and midnight. Gather this evening over a glass of wine with your expert to discuss the films you saw today. (B, R)
**DAY 4** More Films and Discussions
After breakfast, it’s back to Lido island and the film festival. Today, plan on packing in as many films as possible, and wander the festival to soak up the atmosphere. Attend panel discussions on the events of the festival so far, and maybe spot a Hollywood star in the crowds. Gather again this evening, and join Justin Chang for a discussion. (B, R)

**DAY 5** More Films and Discussions
Another day at the film festival or a chance to explore Venice on your own. Gather again this evening and join your expert for a discussion. (B, R)

**DAY 6** Screenings and Farewell
Use your final day in Venice to attend more screenings and soak in the festival atmosphere. This evening, take a leisurely walk to the Piazza San Marco. Enjoy a gourmet dinner overlooking the piazza, an appropriately cinematic setting for a festive farewell dinner. (B, D)

**DAY 7** La Fine (The End)
Transfer by water taxi to Venice international airport for flights home. (B)

**EXPEDITION EXPERT**
Justin Chang
Justin Chang is a film critic for the Los Angeles Times and NPR’s “Fresh Air” and is a regular contributor to KPCC’s “FilmWeek.” Before joining The Times, he was chief film critic at Variety. He is the author of the book “FilmCraft: Editing” and serves as chair of the National Society of Film Critics and secretary of the Los Angeles Film Critics Assn. In 2014 he received the inaugural Roger Ebert Award from the African American Film Critics Assn. Chang, a Southern California native and USC graduate, lives with his wife and daughter in Pasadena.

**ACCOMMODATIONS**

- **6 NIGHTS** Hotel La Residenza
  Hotel La Residenza occupies a 15th century Gothic-Byzantine-style town house in Venice’s Castello district, located in a quiet residential neighborhood and less than 10 minutes’ walk from St. Mark’s Square. The hotel overlooks a square that fills up in the afternoon with locals socializing and children playing calcio (soccer). The hotel offers easy access to the film festival on the Lido by vaporetto (water bus).

- **OR**

- **6 NIGHTS** Hotel Metropole
  Hotel Metropole is a five-star property less than 10 minutes’ walk from St. Mark’s Square. Ornately decorated guest rooms come equipped with complimentary Wi-Fi, air conditioning and an in-room safe. The hotel has a fine restaurant and a delightful courtyard garden.
DATES & PRICING

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<th>DATES</th>
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<td>Aug. 27-Sept. 2, 2019</td>
<td>$7,795</td>
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LAND COST

Prices are listed in U.S. dollars and are based on a person sharing a room with another. Although we do our best to maintain the listed price, because our prices are set over a year in advance, we reserve the right to increase costs due to circumstances beyond our control, tariffs, taxes and VAT received after prices are published and to reflect fluctuations in foreign exchange markets. The land cost is based on a minimum number of guests as described on the trip page.

WHAT IS INCLUDED

Comprehensive educational program by content experts and professional on-site guides
All accommodations and meals as outlined in the itinerary
All ground transportation within the itinerary unless otherwise indicated
All sightseeing as specified in the itinerary
Entrance fees
Gratuities to porters, drivers and guides for all included arrangements
The assistance of an ATA expedition manager for comprehensive logistical and customer service management on the expedition
Wireless listening devices
The assistance of an ATA professional travel team to assist with pre-trip questions, travel arrangements, including flights, extra hotel nights or other services
Comprehensive pre-departure information about the destination and what to expect on the expedition, including a suggested reading list
Transfers to and from airports for those arriving or departing according to the designated itinerary (exceptions may apply)

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED

U.S. domestic or international airfare or other transportation from your home to the departure point of the trip and from the end point of the trip to your home
Travel and trip cancellation insurance
Passport, visa, airport departure and baggage fees
Meals not specified in the itinerary, and food and beverages not part of the included meals
Personal items such as telephone, fax and internet charges, laundry, room service and alcoholic or other beverages not specified as included
Gratuities for non-group services
Expenses you may incur resulting from delays due to bad weather, road conditions, sickness, government action and flight delays
Expenses incurred in making individual travel arrangements in conjunction with the trip, and sightseeing not included in the itinerary

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