Venice, Italy

The Urbanite Insight

Sights:

- Get lost in the alleys: this was actually my favorite thing to do in this city — try wandering around with no plan!
- <u>Campanile di San Marco</u>: a bell tower with an amazing panoramic view of the city
- St. Mark's Basilica
- Doge's Palace
- <u>Ca' d'Oro</u>: a private palace on the Grand Canal, now turned into a museum and art gallery
- Rialto Bridge & Rialto Market
- <u>Grand Canal</u>: you can do a <u>cruise</u> or save money by taking a water taxi instead
- Gondola Ride: these are expensive, but if you have the extra cash it's a bucket list item for most
- <u>Piazza San Marco</u>: you'll find lots of people, shops and restaurants in this square

Top Rated Restaurants:

 Osteria Boccadoro: a typical Venetian restaurant that uses only homemade products. They have an extensive wine cellar, located away from the tourist area in a quiet Venetian square.

- Al Covo: a charming rustic style seafood restaurant
- Cocaeta: a quick and cheap spot to grab amazing crepes
- Antico Forno: Great place for carry out pizza
- <u>all'Amarone Vineria</u>: cute wine bar with a selection of pizza and pasta

Islands to Visit:

- <u>Burano</u>: the cutest island with pastel-colored buildings and lace shops
- <u>Sant'Erasmo</u>: the orchard of Venice, full of vibrant green produce growing
- <u>Mazzorbo</u>: the upscale hotel/restaurant Venissa lies on this island, which is connected by bridge to Burano
- <u>Lido</u>: upscale and expensive island with beautiful beaches where celebrities stay during the Venice Film Festival (not as expensive during the off-season)
- <u>Pellestrina</u>: an island with lovely beaches that is mainly a fisherman's community with a cozy village feel
- <u>Guidecca</u>: the brooklyn of Venice, which gives you amazing views of the main island's St. Mark's and the Doge Palace