

# La Bella Vita – Information Sheet



## Boat Specifics

Former purpose: Sand barge on the River Po

Year of construction: 1960

Dimensions: 21.6ft x 147.6ft (6.6m x 45m)

Year converted to a Hotel Barge: 2010

Generators: 2

Main Engine: AIFO IVECO SRM55M (550 Horse Power x 2)

Maximum Speed: 10 knots

Water capacity: 20,000 litres  
Fuel capacity: 12,000 litres

Cruise distance: 174 km

## Your Crew on board

Crew of 10: Captain/Pilot, deck-hand, cruise director, chef, chef's assistant, housekeepers

Nationality of Crew: Usually Italian and English speaking

## Accommodation on board

Maximum 20 passengers / 2 Large Staterooms & 8 Standard Staterooms.

The 2 Large Staterooms are on the upper deck and can be configured with 2 single beds or a double bed.

The 8 Standard Staterooms are on the lower deck and can be configured with 2 single beds or a double bed.

All cabins are en-suite and have a closet with drawer, storage space under the bed, reading lights and a mirror. The 2 Large Staterooms have a Juliet balcony with opening doors and windows. The 8 Standard Staterooms do not have opening windows.

## Cabin Sizes

The 2 Large Staterooms on the upper deck each measure 8ft 6" x 15ft 11" (2.62m x 4.87m)

The 8 Standard Staterooms on the lower deck each measure 8ft 2" x 12ft 8" (2.55m x 3.9m)

The height of all cabins is 6ft 11" (2.05m)

### **All sizes are approximate and include the bathroom**

Bathrooms: Each cabin has an ensuite bathroom with shower, WC, hand basin, tiled floors, mirror and a full length mirror. Each is supplied with bathrobes, slippers, towels and a hair dryer. Italian toiletries are also provided: soap, shower gel, shampoo etc.

## Climate Control

Each cabin has individually controlled reversible air conditioning

## Computer and Telephone

Complimentary Wi-Fi is available on board for use with your own appliances. There is also a PC on board for customer use. Connectivity can be limited in remote locations.

There is no passenger phone on La Bella Vita

## Currency

The local currency in Italy is the Euro.

Credit or debit cards are not accepted on board.

## Dining Room & Saloon

The comfortable saloon is 398ft<sup>2</sup> (37m<sup>2</sup>) and has 3 large sofas, 2 coffee tables, a bar with 2 stools and there is also a piano.

The large bright dining area is 506ft<sup>2</sup> (47m<sup>2</sup>) with 2 large dining tables each seating up to 10 guests

## Electricity

La Bella Vita is wired for 220 volts. We suggest you bring an adapter for your particular appliance, which corresponds to the standard Italian 220 volt 2 pin plugs.

If you wish to use an electrical appliance on board, please speak to a crew member on arrival to ensure it is suitable for the barge's electrical system.

Responsibility cannot be held for unforeseen voltage fluctuations which sometimes occur when swapping from one voltage system to another.

## Excursions

An air-conditioned bus/buses are used for the transfers and excursions. Excursions are either by bus or on foot.

## Facilities on board

- 10 Bicycles
- A small library of books and maps
- A collection of board games
- Binoculars for watching the bird life
- Piano
- Hi-Fi system with CD player with a selection of CD's

## Food and Drink

All meals on board are prepared fresh by your chef and most meals are a set menu (there is no choice available). Italian and International cuisine is featured.

We are able to arrange special meals, e.g. vegetarian / no fish / vegan etc and we are able to cater for any preferences or allergies. However, it is important that we are notified of any specific requirements at least 8 weeks prior to your departure date. Failure to notify us in advance of your cruise may result in disappointment on board.

There is no assigned seating for meals and the dining room on La Bella Vita accommodates all guests at single sittings.

**Breakfast:** Your day on La Bella Vita starts with a Continental breakfast with fresh breads, fresh fruit, cereals, cheese, ham, yoghurts, freshly-squeezed orange juice and hot beverages including decaffeinated or regular tea and coffee.

**Lunch** is served waiter service of a buffet of colourful salads, pates and cold meats generally accompanied by hot soup or entrée followed by either a dessert or a selection of regional cheeses and quality wines selected by the chef.

**Dinner** is a candlelit gastronomic adventure by our talented chef; harmonising food and good wines, followed by a selection of regional cheeses, and coffee and liqueurs served in the saloon.

**Captain's Farewell Dinner** is held on the last night of your cruise. Guests may choose to dress slightly formal.

## Food and Drink continued...

**Drinks included in the cruise price:** Non-alcoholic beverages and regular or decaffeinated tea and coffee, whole or low fat milk, are offered with all meals. The well-stocked bar is open 24 hours, which included wines spirits, beers and soft drinks. All wines are provided with meals and there is a Prosecco Welcome on arrival.

**Drinks not included in the cruise price:** Some brands of Champagne and special vintage wines, however these can be purchased in advance of your cruise at cost price – please let us know if you would wish to purchase any of these items.

## Laundry

Laundry facilities are limited. It is advisable to bring sufficient clean clothing for your cruise.

## Luggage/What to pack

Please try and fit everything for your cruise into one suitcase per person. There is plenty of storage room available on board once you have unpacked.

Practical comfort and relaxed is the norm aboard Anjodi and for most excursions. The dress code for dinner is relaxed and informal, however, for the Captain's Dinner on the last evening, guests tend to dress up a little.

The weather in Italy is generally warm, June, July, and August is the warmest often being in the mid 30's

Suggested things to pack:

- Light clothing including shorts and T-Shirts. A sweater or lightweight jacket is recommended for evenings and the air-conditioned interiors
- During spring and autumn, you may need medium weight clothing. A lightweight raincoat for showery times would be advisable
- In summer, a sun hat can be useful
- Comfortable walking shoes with textured non-slip soles are recommended.

## Medical

Please let us know in advance of your cruise if you require frequent or ongoing medical attention.

The crew are unable to administer medicines but can accompany you to a chemist for you to purchase any necessary medicines. Due to your cruise often being in a rural location, we recommend you bring all necessary medication with you.

Doctors are usually not far away for an urgent consultation and the Emergency Services can be called if required.

## Problem during your Cruise

If you have a problem during your holiday, please give us the immediate opportunity to make things right. Please bring any concern to the private attention of your Captain who will often be able to solve any issue immediately.

## Restricted Mobility

Please let us know in advance of your cruise if you have a physical disability and require any assistance.

La Bella Vita has restricted facilities for passengers with mobility issues. The 2 upper deck Large Staterooms are easily reached with no steps from the Saloon / Dining level, however, there is a staircase with handrails of 12 steps to reach the staterooms on the lower deck.

There are 12 steps from the Saloon deck up to the sundeck area with handrails for assistance.

La Bella Vita is unsuitable for wheelchair users as the gangplank is narrow and steep and there are numerous stairs on board.

## Water

Tap water on board La Bella Vita is potable. Bottled water is provided in the cabins and the display fridge close to the bar.

## Safety and Security

Once on board your Captain will talk you through the Cruise Safety Procedures. Safety instructions are detailed on the last page of this document.

Please note that we cannot be responsible for any valuables that you bring on board. We strongly recommend that you do not bring valuables with you unless required and that you ensure that all valuables are covered by your travel insurance.

Safes are provided in each cabin on board La Bella Vita. The cabin doors are not usually locked, for safety reasons.

## Smoking

We have a strict non-smoking policy for safety reasons and for the comfort of your fellow passengers.

If you would like to smoke we request that you smoke outside or on the deck away from other guests.

## Sundeck

There is a very large sundeck covering the top of the boat measuring 21.65ft x 132.87ft (6.6m x 40.5m). For relaxation and alfresco dining, there are 4 tables and a large sun shade canopy measuring 13.7ft x 18ft (4.2m x 5.5m)

There are 20 chairs (12 of which recline), and 2 sun loungers.

## Tipping

Gratuities are not included in the cruise fare. Tipping is entirely discretionary but is greatly appreciated by the crew.

All tips should be given to the Captain and are shared between the whole crew on board.

Please note gratuities can only be made on board by cash payment.

## Transfers

For details of La Bella Vita vehicle, please see "excursions". The approximate transfer duration on all cruises is between 15 minutes and 2 hours depending on the cruise direction.

## Safety Instructions on La Bella Vita

**On arrival the Captain will talk you through the Cruise Safety Procedures on board. In addition, it is important that all passengers are familiar with the safety instructions detailed below.**

- Please follow the instructions of the Captain and crew at all times
- Remember that decks can be slippery. Please wear non-slip shoes and do not run or jump whilst on board
- Do not walk on the side or rear decks or outside the guard rails
- Passengers are not permitted in the engine rooms, technical areas or crew accommodation at any time, or in the galley or wheelhouse unless accompanied by a crew member
- Do not embark or disembark the barge unless the gangplank and handrail are in place or the crew have advised that it is safe to do so. Never do so when the barge is moving
- Be careful when the vessel is being moored up with the barge ropes. In particular do not step into a loop in the rope or try to release the mooring rope from a bollard
- Keep clear of any overhead obstructions and remain seated if on deck whilst the barge passes under bridges with restricted headroom
- Do not attempt to touch the sides of any lock or bridge
- Do not open lower deck portholes whilst the barge is moving
- Life jacket preservers are located in designated lockers in your cabin or in designated deck lockers. Once on board, please take the time to identify their location and read the instructions
- For fire safety reasons, smoking is not permitted anywhere inside the barge
- The barge's equipment such as bicycles must only be used following preparation by the crew. Use of the bicycles is at your own risk.
- There is an open bar policy on board. However, excessive alcohol consumption can be dangerous, particularly in a warm climate and in proximity to deep water and the Captain has the discretion to withhold alcohol if safety to passengers or crew is at risk

### **In an emergency**

- Keep calm. Do not return to your cabin to recover your possessions
- If you discover a fire on board, sound the fire alarm and notify a crew member immediately. If possible, close doors behind you to confine the fire. Please take the time to identify the location of fire alarms and fire extinguishers
- If the alarm sounds or you hear repeated continuous blasts on the barge horn, you must, if possible, assemble on the sundeck for further instructions
- If you discover water below deck, notify a crew member immediately and go to the sundeck to await further instructions
- If you are in your cabin and the way to the sundeck is obstructed, follow the signs to the alternative fire exit. Please take the time to identify all fire exits
- There is a defibrillator in case of cardiac arrest, instructions are in English and located by the machine
- The emergency number for fire, police or medical assistance on all public phone networks is 112

**Please ask a member of the crew on board if you require any further safety advice**