

# A sightseeing tour of a city

A **sightseeing tour** of a city is a very popular tourist product that allows visitors to admire the principal sights of a place in a relatively short time and in a comfortable way while being informed about history, art, culture and traditions. They may last from an hour up to a full day.

They are often operated on open double-decker buses and on a hop-on hop-off basis. Sometimes walking tours are provided in the city centres where pedestrian areas cover large portions of the central parts, while boat tours are offered along the navigable rivers flowing through big cities. All these kind of tours are often accompanied by local guides; alternative multilingual audio guides are provided.



## Title

*... sightseeing tour / ... by night/ ... through the ages  
Discover the real... / ... history and culture.*

## Welcoming + Brief introduction

*Welcome to... / Welcome on board.  
A little information before leaving.  
The duration of the tour is approximately... hours.  
For any further information ask the bus assistant.  
My name's... I'll be your guide in this exciting tour through the streets  
and squares of this beautiful city.  
Before leaving let me tell you something about our programme.*

## Itinerary

(verbs: present or future simple)

*Our tour begins at.../departs from...  
Our first stop is... / The next stage of the tour will be...  
Before reaching the city centre we will make a stop near...  
Stop for lunch at... / After lunch we will drive to/along...  
We will move on to... / The visit continues to...  
We head south along...  
We will drive westwards/straight on towards...  
Our final destination is...*

## Describing sights: Location

*On the left/right of...  
In front of... we will see...  
On your right hand side you can see...  
Looking west we can see the...*

## Describing sights: history and art

*World-famous landmark...  
One of the most emblematic  
symbols of...  
The museum houses...  
The most historic church/building  
in the city...  
The building was a... for many  
centuries.  
Inside, visitors can admire...  
It contains countless  
masterpieces.*

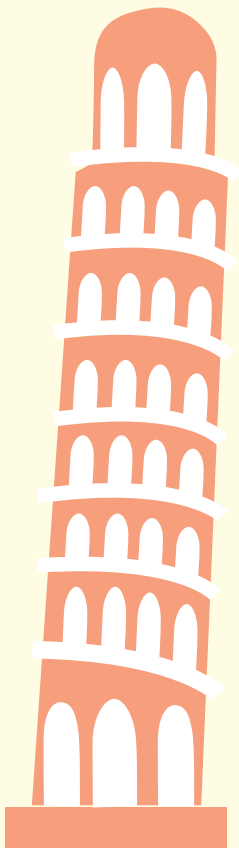




1 Answer these questions about Pisa sightseeing tours.

## Pisa Sightseeing Tours

Two interesting tours designed to see the main tourist attractions of this world-famous town set in Tuscany, on the banks of the river Arno. The cosy and charming city centre and the magnificent *Lungarni* (riverside streets) tell a long history made up of wars but also of economic and cultural splendour. Our panoramic tours both depart from Piazza della Stazione and last 45 minutes each.



**Tour A** Our bus takes you to Piazza dei Miracoli driving along via Crispi and passing by the Church of Santa Maria della Spina. Piazza del Duomo or “dei Miracoli”, enclosed on two sides by the old town walls, includes a harmonious group of buildings: the Baptistry, the Cathedral, the Cemetery and the Leaning Tower, world-famous landmark and one of the most emblematic symbols of Italy abroad. The next stage of our tour is the right bank Lungarni: Pacinotti and Mediceo with Palazzo dei Medici and the church of San Matteo. Crossing Ponte della Vittoria you reach the left bank Lungarni: Fibonacci, Gambacorti and Sonnino; driving along them you can see Bastione San Gallo, the Gothic Palazzo Agostini, the churches of San Sepolcro and S. Paolo a Ripa d’Arno. Our final destination is Piazza della Stazione.

**Tour B** Our bus leaves three times a day and drives you to the Natural Park of San Rossore, a wonderful spot to enjoy natural landscapes, a pleasant area to have a relaxing walk along easy and comfortable trails. Stops are scheduled at Casale Sterpaia and at the visitors’ centre.

### TOUR DETAILS

Means of transport: red, open-top, double-decker bus.

Digital audio system: 8 languages.

All runs operate with Hop-on hop-off basis.



service



Tickets: online or on board. Adults €15 – Children (5-15) €7. Validity 24 hours.

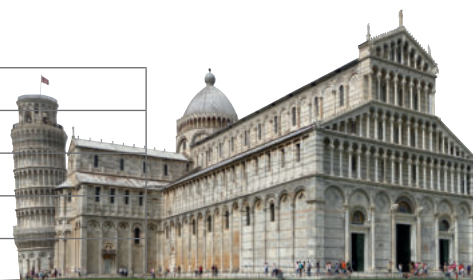
20% discount for Frecciarossa/Frecciabianca/Frecciargento ticket holders (not older than 2 days)

1. How many tours are advertised in the webpage?
2. Where do they leave from?
3. How long is Tour A?
4. What is Piazza dei Miracoli?
5. How is the Leaning Tower seen abroad?
6. What are the Lungarni?
7. What can visitors do at the park of San Rossore?
8. How often does the Tour B operate daily?
9. How much would two adults pay with valid Frecciarossa tickets?
10. Is the tour accessible to people with reduced mobility?



2 Fill in the chart with the information you hear.

City	1.
Duration of the tour	2.
Meaning of "hop-on hop-off" service	3.
Validity of the ticket	4.
Position and colour of the ticket expiry time	5.



3 Fill in these sentences with the words you hear.

**Florence**

Welcome to Florence, a small and **1.** ..... city at the same time, an **2.** ..... museum grown more beautiful over the centuries, a treasure chest full of grandiose **3.** ..... of art. Our tour **4.** ..... and ends from this square, opposite the Church of Santa Maria Novella. Then, we will **5.** ..... the river Arno where we will enjoy a **6.** ..... of the city centre from the south bank. After that we **7.** ..... the boroughs of Santo Spirito and San Frediano. The **8.** ..... of the tour will be the city centre, moving northwards back to Lungarno Diaz we will see the outstanding **9.** ..... of the city: Ponte Vecchio, Uffizi, and the Church of Santa Croce. Our final destination will be Piazza del Duomo which **10.** ..... three of the most historic buildings of the city: the cathedral, the Baptistery and Giotto's bell tower. Ready to start? Fine. On your **11.** ..... is the Church of Santa Maria Novella, built between 1278 and 1350. Inside, visitors **12.** ..... worldwide famous works of art like the Crucifix by Giotto and Masaccio's Holy Trinity. The marble façade boasts a Renaissance doorway...

