



A Musical Journey



ITALY

The Places

Our tour of Italy starts in Verona, with its reminiscences of Romeo and Juliet. Then to Florence, for some 300 years, from 1434, the seat of the powerful Medici family, whose artistic patronage has left an impressive cultural legacy. The tour ends in the south, with Naples, originally a Greek colony and later a Roman port, and then capital of a kingdom, ruled by Normans and later from Spain. Briefly a Habsburg possession, from 1734 it belonged to the Bourbons, before the unification of Italy in 1860.

Verona: 1. Ponte Pietra • Ponte Scaligero • River Adige • House and Tomb of Juliet • Giusti Gardens • Piazza delle Erbe • Piazza dei Signori Church of San Zeno Maggiore • Castel San Zeno • Castel San Pietro • Arena Borghetto di Valeggio sul Mincio **Florence:** 2. Villa Demidoff, Pratolino Giambologna: L'Appenino View from Bellosguardo • Uffizi Palazzo Vecchio • Il supplizio di Savonarola • Palazzo Pitti • Torrighiani Garden Piazzale Michelangelo 3. Villa Bonciani • Tchaikovsky's House • Villa Cora Madame von Meck's House • Tchaikovsky's House at Klin in Russia 4. Florence by night 5. Bar Vinaio • Fattoria La Gialle • Mercato Nuovo **Naples:** 6. Harbour • Vesuvius • Castel dell'Ovo • Serapeion (Pozzuoli) Villa Comunale Park • Galleria Umberto • Piazza del Municipio Museo Archeologico Nazionale • Castel Nuovo • Castel Sant'Elmo

The Music

Tchaikovsky stayed in Florence on two occasions in 1878, after the disaster of his marriage, hastily contracted, had led him to seek respite abroad. A visit to Rome in 1880 led to the composition of the *Italian Capriccio* and his opera *The Queen of Spades* was written in 1890 in Florence, recalled in the same year in his *Souvenir de Florence*. The other music heard here is the *Fantasy Overture, Romeo and Juliet*, written in 1869 and based on Shakespeare's play, set in Verona.



Running Time 72:12 • Aspect Ratio 4:3
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