DAY 6 OF 10 · WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28

Mantova

UNESCO CITY · THE GONZAGA LEGACY

TEMP	SUNRISE	SUNSET	CONDITIONS
9–16°C	6:50 AM	5:10 PM	Partly cloudy

WHAT TO WEAR

Palazzo, Lakes & Golden Hour

Cobblestone-proof walking shoes

The entire centro storico is on foot — all day. No heels, no sandals. Ankle boots or sturdy flats are ideal.

Light jacket or mid-layer

About 16°C in the afternoon, cooling to about 9°C after sunset by the lakes. A layer over a shirt carries you through the whole day comfortably.

Smart-casual — the palazzo is refined

You'll be inside the Palazzo Ducale and Camera degli Sposi. Nothing formal required, but dress with respect for the space.

PACK YOUR BAG

Everything You Need for the Day

- ✦ **Palazzo Ducale tickets** — QR code on your phone, plus a screenshot saved offline in case of no signal inside.
- ✦ **Cash — €40–60 per person** — Lunch, coffee, gelato and market purchases are your own expense. Bring a card and some cash in euros.
- ✦ **Small daypack or crossbody bag** — Hands-free for the palazzo. The Camera degli Sposi requires you to look up — not manage a bag.
- ✦ **Camera or fully charged phone** — The Camera degli Sposi ceiling and the Lungolago skyline are both frame-worthy shots.
- ✦ **Water bottle** — Fountains throughout the old city. Stay hydrated — you'll walk more than you expect.

INSIDER TIPS

Make the Most of It

01

Camera degli Sposi — look up

Mantegna's painted ceiling is one of the greatest trompe-l'oeil works ever made. Stand under the oculus and spend five full minutes there. Most visitors rush — don't.

02

Tortelli di zucca at Due Cavallini

Pumpkin-filled pasta with amaretti and mostarda — Mantova's signature dish. Pair it with a carafe of Lambrusco di Mantova DOC. Lunch is at 1:15 PM at Via Salnitro 5; book ahead for the group.

03

Lungolago dei Gonzaga — free time

In the free time (5:45–7:00 PM), stroll the Lungolago dei Gonzaga along Lago Inferiore. It gives you the whole city skyline reflected in the water — the best photo spot of the day. Or cross Ponte San Giorgio for views back over the city.

04

Teatro Scientifico Bibiena

The most beautiful small theater in Europe — Mozart performed here at age 13. Four tiers of gilded boxes. Entry is €3 per person, and 20 minutes is enough.

"Mantova is a city that lives inside its own reflection."