

The trip of a lifetime ...Venice, the Hotel Cipriani and the Orient Express



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Gig admiring one of Venice's great views. Photo by T. Gwinn

Before boarding the Orient Express many travelers, including Gig and Terrie Gwin, stay at the [Hotel Cipriani](#), an Orient Express hotel. The charming hotel, situated in the heart of [Venice](#) with a picturesque view across the water from St. Mark's Square, is an exquisite haven for travelers.

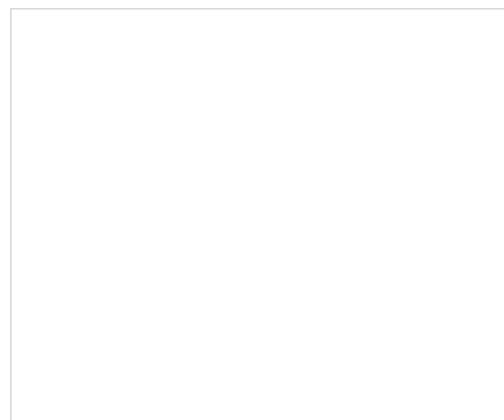
A water taxi from the hotel can take guests to St. Mark's Square for shopping and sightseeing. St. Mark's Cathedral on the square abounds with beautiful paintings and statues and Byzantine architecture. Shops around the square tempt everyone, and the Rialto Bridge, a short gondola ride away, promises even more enchanting views of this magical city.

After a trip to Murano, the island where beautiful Murano glassware is created, Gig and Terrie enjoyed dinner alfresco at one of the trattorias around St. Mark's Square. Later they paid a visit to [Harry's](#), the bar that Hemmingway made famous. Harry's also is known for the Bellini, the frothy peach cocktail invented by Guissepe Cipriani, owner of the bar, who also built the Cipriani Hotel in 1958.

What better place than Venice to embark on a romantic excursion on the Orient Express.



The hotel suite at the Cipriani. Photo by G. Gwin



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