

Piazza San Marco

When last we met, we were on our way to Pizza San Marco...but there was so much to see we hadn't managed to get there yet...We will do so today!

Those seeking San Marco will pass under this clock arch...and see gondoliers trolling for passengers in the



sestiere (district) of San Marco...Notice the Ospedale sign...that's the district in which we stayed. We were not far, at least as far as the vaporetti float...but as the tourist navigates....heck, you could be one street over from your destination and never know it. I know this for a fact.

(...I digress...To navigate around Venice on foot, buy the BEST map you can find...then TEAR it into TINY pieces....and scatter them to mark your path. ..Follow the MAP? This is the only way the map will come close to accuracy. HA.)

Take it easy walking to San Marco, as you will need all of your energy to sharply inhale when you turn the last corner of the narrowing, dark streets (dark from the height of the buildings) and see the light and luminescence of the Basilica di San Marco.



This first photo is is the detail of the arched area in the lower right of the last picture.

The second and third photos are of the same mosaic but different from the first photo....



Look carefully at the gentleman kneeling in the lower right of the second and third photos.

Notice how his leg breaks the plane and emphasizes the appearance of three dimensions..

.It looks as if he is stepping out of the scene...like an actor breaking the fourth wall.



The streets just off the Plaza also bustle with activity. In search of a bank, we discovered this hotel and gondola stop. This is located just a few feet north of the Plaza.

In the upper left corner a bride and groom and their wedding party can be seen coming to board the gondolas.

Re:bank...we had to go inside the facility...to enter the bank one must enter a 'capsule' where the bank employees can check you out and then buzz you in...the inside door will not open until the outer door is secure.

It appeared somewhat reluctant to allow two of us in simultaneously, but the 'tourist' looks on our faces were unmistakable. A bit unnerving, though, to say the least.

Beam me up, Scottie.....

To come: More on San Marco and the Doges Palace in Pt. 4.

