

Jones County Junior College Alumni and Friends
Italy Tour
June 2009

Day 1, Tuesday 6/2

Rome

Take a coach from Ellisville to New Orleans for flight to Atlanta and overnight flight to Rome.

Day 2, Wednesday 6/3

Rome

Welcome to Italy! Arrive at Rome's Leonardo Da Vinci Airport. Meet your Tour Leader and board your private motor coach and depart for the city center. Upon arrival, enjoy a guided city tour including a visit of the Colosseum. The Colosseum was inaugurated by Emperor Vespasian in 80 A.D. and was the site of gladiator fights and where early Christians were thrown to the lions. It is an impressive size in that it was built to hold 50,000 spectators.

Afternoon check in at hotel. Enjoy welcome group dinner at local restaurant (possible Sottosopra, near piazza Navona)

Day 3, Thursday 6/4

Rome

Full breakfast at your hotel depart for Vatican City. Enjoy a guided visit of the Vatican Museums including the Sistine Chapel and the wonderful frescoes of Michelangelo. Have lunch on your own in the area. Enjoy free afternoon in city center of Rome. Today your tour leader will walk with you to see the Trevi Fountain and the Spanish steps. Enjoy group dinner in center and some free time. Transfer back to your hotel.

Day 4, Friday 6/5

Rome

Full day excursion to guided tour of Pompeii to see the excavations! Enjoy dinner en route back to Rome.

Day 5, Saturday 6/6

Rome - Pisa - Florence

After breakfast at your hotel, transfer to Florence in the morning you will first travel to Siena. You will make a stop at Siena. The pearl of Tuscany, built on three hills and surrounded by well preserved walls. It is filled with fine examples of Gothic architecture and has one of the world's most unique piazzas - il Campo - (shaped like a shell with scalloped edges). Upon arrival, you will enjoy an orientation tour with a local guide. You will see the famous Piazza del Campo, a sloping amphitheatre of a square, the Palazzo Publico, the public palace, which dates back to 1250 and is still the seat of the Municipality, and the green-and-white-striped Duomo, Siena's cathedral.

Continue to Florence. Florence gave Italy its national language and is the cradle of the Renaissance. Check into your hotel in the late afternoon. Dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight Florence.

Day 6, Sunday 6/7**Florence**

After your breakfast you will enjoy a guided walking tour of Florence including visit of the Duomo (Cathedral), with its orange tiled dome. The facades of the buildings are intricately designed with reliefs in the pink, white and green Tuscan marble of the region. See Piazza della Signoria filled with many statues and the famous fountain of Neptune. After the tour visit the Galleria dell'Accademia. Admire Michaelangelo's David and many other masterpieces. Lunch on your own. Afternoon free to spend time exploring Florence on your own. Dinner on your own. Overnight in Florence.

Day 7, Monday 6/8**Florence- Venice**

After breakfast depart for Venice with a possible stop in Pisa. Or, we could stop in Bologna, home to Europe's oldest university. The Bolognese have two leaning towers. Climb the 498 steps up Torre degli Asinelli and look out over Piazza Maggiore, the Basilica of San Petronio and Palazzo Comunale (Morandi Museum). Afternoon continue to Venice area (Mestre or Mogliano Veneto) where you will check into your hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 8 Tuesday 6/9**Venice**

Breakfast at the hotel and then board your coach and depart for the motor coach parking in Venice to board your boat to San Marco Square. Meet your local guide and enjoy a guided walking tour of Venice: Visit the Basilica San Marco and the magnificent Doges Palace.

After lunch, take free time for shopping. You might want to go to the Island of Murano, famous for its glass-blowing. **Optional** mask making workshop. Enjoy a Farewell dinner at a Venetian restaurant.

Day 9 Wednesday 6/10**Departure**

After your full breakfast transfer to the airport for your flight back home by way of New York's JFK, Atlanta, and New Orleans. Coach to Ellisville.

Inclusions:

- Coach transportation from Ellisville to New Orleans and back
- Round trip air transportation, New Orleans – Rome/Venice - New Orleans
- 7 Nights accommodations, 3 star hotels, double bedded rooms w/private facilities
- 7 Continental breakfasts, gratuity included
- 6 3-course dinners, excluding drinks, gratuity included
- Multi-lingual Tour Leader throughout, Tour Leader gratuity
- Private Deluxe coach for transfers according to the itinerary, all drivers' costs
Driver gratuity
- Guided tours: Rome, Vatican city (museum), Pompeii, Siena, Florence (walking), Bologna and Venice (walking), Pompeii, Duomo Firenze/Siena and Venice
Tour Guides gratuity
- Entrances of: Colosseum, Vatican, Pompeii, Galleria dell'Accademia, Doges Palace
- Vaporetto tickets (public boat in Venice)

**Price per person is based on a minimum of 30 paying participants
\$4023 with Double Occupancy**

Price is based on the Euro/Dollar exchange rate \$1.47029 as of 8/28/08. Please know that if this rate goes up, the price of the tour increases. Also, know that airlines may impose a surcharge to cover climbing fuel rates.

Supplement :

Single supplement, add \$338

Optional:

Gondola ride: approximately \$30

Mask making decoration workshop on Venice: \$52 per person (based on group of 30+)

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