



Educational Tours

From the Renaissance to Rome

A private tour designed by George Coleman and Jim Crabb, in conjunction with EF Customized Tours

Requested departure date: Thursday, April 9, 2009

(Dates below are subject to change. Required date flexibility of 2 days on either side of requested departure date)

Day 1

Thursday, April 9, 2009

Board your overnight flight to Venice!

Day 2

Friday, April 10, 2009

Arrival in Venice

Arrive in magical Venice, home of Marco Polo. Known globally for its gondoliers and glassware, Venice is also a heady mix of busy piazzas, thronging with pizzerias and cafes, and deserted streets that wander alongside canals. These winding streets lead to hidden gems such as churches and local restaurants serving regional delicacies.

Vaporetto Ride on the Grand Canal (time permitting)

Enjoy a ride down Venice's main waterway – the Grand Canal. As you wind through the city, you will pass Rialto Bridge, the Bridge of Sighs and Santa Maria della Salute. Many of Venice's famous landmarks can be seen from the Grand Canal, and this will be an amazing introduction to this magical city.

Overnight in Venice

Day 3

Saturday, April 11, 2009

Guided sightseeing of Venice

Begin your sightseeing of la Serenissima (the city's nickname meaning "the most serene") at St. Mark's Square, "the finest drawing room in Europe," according to Napoleon. Allegedly buried under the altar of the basilica are St. Mark's remains, which, in the 11th century, were smuggled out of Alexandria in a barrel of salt pork to prevent a thorough search by the city's Muslim guards. Also, see the Grand Canal and the 324-foot Campanile (Bell Tower), whose steps were originally built so that a noble could ascend on horseback. Look for the clock where two bronze figures have been striking the hour for over 500 years.

Visit to the Doges' Palace

Visit the grand 14th century pink and white Doges' Palace, from which mighty Venetian dukes once ruled. Here you'll stroll over the Bridge of Sighs, connecting the palace and its prison. As they crossed the bridge, prisoners supposedly sighed with perfect sadness as they regarded their beautiful city for the last time. Casanova made a daring escape

from this prison in 1756. Venice is also famous for its glassware – you'll see why during a glassblowing demonstration.

Visit the Accademia Gallery

This afternoon you will visit the home of Venice's most remarkable collection of paintings. The Galleria dell'Accademia houses pieces by some of Venice's most famous sons, including Giorgione, Veronese, and Tintoretto.

Free time in Venice

The afternoon is yours to explore wondrous Venezia. Stroll along the intertwining canals, or venture into the labyrinth of streets crammed with restaurants and shops. Alternatively, you might wish to take in the views from the Rialto Bridge. Otherwise, enjoy a truly romantic experience and ride in one of the city's many gondolas along some of its finest canals.

Overnight in Venice

Day 4

Sunday, April 12, 2009

Transfer to Florence via Verona

En route to Florence, visit Verona, famed home of Romeo and Juliet and home to some of the best preserved Ancient Roman sites outside of Rome.

Visit the Arena di Verona

Visit the well preserved Roman amphitheater in Verona which dates back to the year A.D. 100. Its acoustics are astoundingly good for an open-air venue.

Visit the Roman Theatre and Archaeological Museum

The oldest Ancient Roman monument in Verona, this theatre dates from the time of Augustus. As you wander through the theatre and the Archaeological Museum, housed in an old monastery, imagine what life was like centuries ago, and think about those who walked in the same footsteps.

Visit the Castelvecchio Museum

Named for the medieval castle in which it is housed, Castelvecchio boasts a large collection of Romanesque and medieval works of art. Here, the art and the building itself will give you a better understanding of the city's history.

Arrival in Florence

Set deep in the heart of Tuscany is one of Italy's jewels. The city of Florence has delighted visitors for centuries with its remarkable architecture. Whether sitting by the River Arno, strolling the beautifully housed streets or viewing the renaissance masterpieces that fill the city's churches and museums, one can only be astonished by the feeling of true beauty.

Overnight in Florence

Day 5

Monday, April 13, 2009

Guided sightseeing of Florence

Fall under the spell of the powerful Medici family on your guided tour. See Giotto's Bell Tower and the imposing marble cathedral in the Piazza del Duomo. Stand before Ghiberti's legendary Gates of Paradise (so dubbed by Michelangelo), and pass the classical statues of the Piazza della Signoria- here you can see where Michelangelo's David originally stood.

Basilica di San Lorenzo

According to local tradition, San Lorenzo was commissioned as a "thank you" gift by a Jewish matron, and was first consecrated in AD 393. In 1418, the Medici family decided to adopt it as "their" church. They assigned the task of renovating the building to Brunelleschi, who finished most of it in 1421, and completed the Sagrestia Vecchia before 1429. The Sagrestia Vecchia is one of Brunelleschi's first architectural creations.

Visit the Museum of the Duomo

This museum exists primarily to house sculptures and the like from the Duomo for preservation and restoration. Here you will find Gothic works of art as well as those by Michelangelo, Donatello and more.

Visit Santa Croce

Visit the Chiesa di Santa Croce, where you will see monuments to both Dante and Michelangelo. You will also see the tomb of Galileo Galilei. Note that the sun is in the center of the solar system on the tomb that was designed for him in the 18th century, when he was finally permitted to have a Christian burial.

Free time in Florence

You might take a moment to soak in the cobblestone birthplace of the Renaissance with a cappuccino in one of the small cafes throughout the city. Maybe you would prefer to peruse the luxurious shops of the Ponte Vecchio, or take a stroll up through the Boboli Gardens to Forte di Belvedere, where you might chance on a sculpture exhibition as you take in the spectacular panorama of Florence.

Overnight in Florence

Day 6

Tuesday, April 14, 2009

Visit the Accademia Gallery

This simple building, located on Via Ricasoli, houses one of the world's true masterpieces in Michelangelo's statue of David. Elsewhere, you can see unfinished works by the great artist along with other Renaissance treasures. Make sure to visit the 'workroom' and learn more of the skills required to bring images out of marble.

Visit the Uffizi Museum

Originally created as offices (uffizi) for Cosimo de Medici, the building became a gallery in the 17th century. Today it houses one of the finest collections of Renaissance works of anywhere in the world. The three-sided gallery is a treasure-chest of pieces in a perfectly-lit opulent setting, truly a gallery of special taste.

Free time in Florence

This afternoon, revisit the Duomo, or people watch at a café as you enjoy a gelato. However you choose to spend your time, you will be captivated by this city and the people who have stepped here before you.

Overnight in Florence

Day 7

Wednesday, April 15, 2009

Transfer to Assisi via Siena

Travel through Tuscany to Siena, an immaculately preserved Gothic city, once one of the major cities of Europe.

Visit the Duomo and Duomo Museum

After your sightseeing, visit the Duomo for a more in depth look at Italian medieval and Renaissance art. The floor of the Duomo itself is a work of art—comprising of 59 etched and inlaid marble panels, the floor took nearly 200 years to complete!

Free Time in Siena

Enjoy time for lunch in Siena. Visit the Piazza del Campo where the famed Palio (a thrilling bareback horse race) takes place each summer, or walk along cobbled streets to the Duomo. However you spend your time, you will be amazed by this breathtaking city.

Basilica of St. Francis, Assisi

Dominating the Assisi skyline, the Basilica is actually two churches juxtaposed upon one another. Despite extensive damage by two earthquakes in the late 1990s, much of the church has been restored. Inside is the tomb of St Francis as well as frescoes depicting his life.

Overnight in Assisi

Day 8

Thursday, April 16, 2009

Transfer to Rome

Continue on to Rome, heart of the famed empire and once-again capital of a united Italy. Today the city is a bustling mixture of traffic that seems to defy logic and architectural treasures that define an age. The Colosseum stands as a reminder of Roman architectural skill while the Vatican City is home to the Catholic Church and some of the world's most breathtaking works of art.

Visit the Colosseum

Officially known as the Flavian amphitheatre, its construction was begun by the Emperor Vespasian around 72 AD. Up to 50,000 Romans flocked here for many events—gladiatorial contests were the big attraction, designed to prime soldiers for real combat. Learn more about the temporary roof that would protect Rome's elite from the sun as well as the earliest fast-food franchises.

Visit the Forum

Continue on to see the Forum. Originally built by Julius Ceasar as an answer to the overcrowding in the older forums, it was “discovered” during Mussolini's reign when he ordered that the Via dei Fori Imperiali be created to link the Colosseum and the Piazza Venezia.

Visit the Palatine Hill

According to legend, the cave in which Romulus and Remus were found was located on the Palatine Hill. From this hill, look down onto the Circus Maximus and the Forum. People have lived on or around the hill since 1000 BC.

Visit the Capitoline Museums

Today you will visit the Capitoline Museums. Here you will see collections that include some of the most celebrated sculptures of the ancient world. The collections are housed in two buildings with the facades designed by Michelangelo. Since the foundation of the Capitoline Museums dates back to 1471, there is good reason to consider them the oldest existing public collection in the world!

Free time in Rome

Your Group Leaders will arrange a walking tour through some of the city's beautiful piazzas and parks.

Overnight in Rome

Day 9

Friday, April 17, 2009

Visit to Vatican City

The world's largest dome is located in the world's smallest country. See both as you tour St. Peter's Basilica, erected in Vatican City on the site where the saint was martyred. Enter the basilica under the watchful eyes of the brightly dressed Swiss Guard. Inside, admire Michelangelo's Pietà and try to find the artist's signature (it is the only sculpture he ever signed). Then continue on to the Vatican Museum, where elaborate galleries packed with one artistic masterpiece after another lead you directly to the Sistine Chapel. Between 1508 and 1512, Michelangelo painted some of the world's finest pictorial images on the Chapel's ceiling. This was his first attempt at working in fresco, which he did by standing up and craning backwards from a scaffold.

Free time for Group Leader arranged activities

This afternoon, your Group Leaders will arrange a tour of the Eternal City. Begin with lunch in Piazza Navona, and look out for the piazza's famous three fountains. Next, head to the Pantheon and the famous Trevi Fountain. Your tour will end at the Spanish Steps, where you will have time to shop or enjoy a gelato before dinner. As you spend your last night in Rome, watching the bustle of a modern city, think about others who have passed before you in the thousands of years since the city was founded.

Overnight in Rome

Day 10

Saturday, April 18, 2009

Transfer to the airport for your return flight

Your tour director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight to the States!

Itinerary is subject to change

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions at www.eftours.com/bc.



Educational Tours

Tour Fee Details for *From the Renaissance to Rome*

Tour length:	10 Days, 8 Overnights
Requested departure date:	Thursday, April 9, 2009
Requested return date:	Saturday, April 18, 2009
Requested departure city:	Boston, MA
Free place ratio:	6:1

Spring Program Fees

Based on 35+ paying participants per bus	\$2185
Based on 30 - 34 paying participants per bus	\$2240
Based on 25 - 29 paying participants per bus	\$2330
Based on 20 - 24 paying participants per bus	\$2470
Based on 15 - 19 paying participants per bus	\$2695
Based on 10 - 14 paying participants per bus	\$3045

The above program fees are valid for all participants registered between January 1 and August 31, 2008. Lock in these program fees for all participants registered by October 1, 2008 by simply enrolling 3 participants by June 30, 2008!

Additional Fees

Lifetime Membership Fee:	\$95
Departure Fees (<i>subject to change</i>):	\$451
Weekend Supplement:	\$35
Adult Supplement (<i>for participants 23 and over</i>):	\$315

All additional fees are subject to change.

The above pricing and itinerary are subject to EF's 2009 Booking Conditions and Release and Agreement, located in the Participant Application booklet or at www.eftours.com/bc. Please be certain to review these terms as they contain important information regarding payment deadlines for your tour.

This tour was custom designed for you by Andrew Hagopian on Tuesday, June 3, 2008. Once you have reviewed your itinerary and price quote and found it to your satisfaction, please complete and sign the attached Customized Tour Agreement form. Once this is received, EF will activate your tour and website.

Important information about your EF Customized Tour

Please be certain that you and your participants read the *EF Booking Conditions and Release and Agreement*. A copy is attached to the participant application form and can be found online at www.eftours.com/bc. It contains important information regarding payment deadlines for your tour.

Please sign and return this *EF Customized Tour Agreement* with your first set of applications. This will confirm the Program Fee (based on your group size) that will be charged to your participants on their invoices. At 129 days prior to departure, if your group size is greater than what you indicated on your *Agreement*, we will reassess your program fee to be pro-rated based on the actual number of travelers you recruited: this will result in a lower program fee for your travelers. At 129 days prior to departure, if you fall short of the number of travelers you indicated on your *Agreement*, you may choose one of the following three options:

- Adjust your program fee - The program fee will be adjusted based on the number of paying participants enrolled on the tour who have paid a minimum of \$495 by 129 days prior to departure. At this time, an invoice reflecting the adjusted program fee will be mailed to each participant.
- Modify your itinerary to bring the cost down*
- Transfer to a consolidated EF Educational Tour*

Please note that once we receive your signed *EF Customized Tour Agreement*, we will need to process the pricing information. EF's customized tour itineraries are designed specifically for each group. As a result, there may be a slight delay until the initial invoices are generated. Your enrolled participants' second payments will be due 30 days after the first invoice is mailed. However, your group's final payment deadline will remain at 99 days prior to departure regardless of enrollment date.

If you have any special requests regarding Tour Directors, optional excursions, transportation arrangements, or other changes to your itinerary please contact us no later than 129 days prior to departure. Please be aware that these changes may affect the price of your tour.

EF Customized Tour Agreement

I have read and am familiar with the *EF Booking Conditions and Release and Agreement*. I have explained the payment plan and booking conditions to my participants.

I have chosen the following information regarding my tour:

Program Fee (see Tour Fee Details): \$ _____

Based on a number of: _____ paying participants per bus

One free place per: _____ paying participants

Chosen Tour Name (limit 30 characters): _____

Should I select a Free Place Ratio other than one free per six paying, my stipend/invoice will be individually calculated, and the stipend and discounted Program Fee charts as published in EF's Group Leader materials do not apply.

I understand that I will be the liaison between my group and my EF Tour Consultant, and I will inform my group of all pertinent tour information. My participants are aware that they may call EF's Customer Service Department at 1-800-665-5364 for any questions they may have regarding their accounts.

I have read and understand the above information:

Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

***The deadline for these options is 129 days prior to departure. These options may not be available due to flight space.**