

Italy 2020 Gatton Academy Travel Abroad Application Packet (Deadline September 26)

A completed Italy application packet consists of two parent/legal guardian signed and student signed forms. Please print, sign, and turn in the following two forms to apply to the program:

1. Gatton Academy Travel Abroad Application (Page 1 [this page], all parent/legal guardian signatures)
2. WKU Study Abroad and Global Learning Student Responsibilities Statement (Pages 2-3)

Student Section

Student Full Name _____ Preferred First Name _____ Gender Identity _____

Date of Birth _____ WKU ID # _____ Home Phone (____) ____ - ____ Cell (____) ____ - ____

WKU E-mail _____@topper.wku.edu Grade in 2019-20 _____

Do you have a valid passport? ____ Yes (submit a copy with this application) ____ No ____ I have filed (If so, when? _____)

Parent/Guardian Section

Every parent/legal guardian who shares custody of a student must sign this page of the application understanding that the student is applying to go on a travel abroad program to Italy in January 2020 with The Gatton Academy.

By signing this document, parents/legal guardians acknowledge their permission to let their student travel on the program and acknowledge understanding that students must be eligible to return to The Gatton Academy in the spring semester 2020 to travel on the program.

Parent/Guardian 1. Print Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Cell Phone (____) ____ - ____ Home Phone (____) ____ - ____ Work Phone (____) ____ - ____

Parent/Guardian 2. (as applicable) Print Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Cell Phone (____) ____ - ____ Home Phone (____) ____ - ____ Work Phone (____) ____ - ____

Parent/Guardian 3. (as applicable) Print Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Cell Phone (____) ____ - ____ Home Phone (____) ____ - ____ Work Phone (____) ____ - ____

****Students must be eligible to return to The Gatton Academy for the spring semester 2020 to travel.****

The program cost of \$4,350* includes:

- Roundtrip airfare from Louisville
- Shared room accommodations in all locations at 3-and 4-star hotels
- Two meals/day (breakfasts and dinners) in Italy
- Admission to the sites, museums, and experiences listed in the itinerary
- Tips for provided meals, tour guides, courier, and drivers
- Basic international health insurance
- All ground and canal transportation in Italy, including travel by chartered coach for excursions.

Payment Information:

*Actual program cost is \$4,350, but all students who have never used their one-time \$1,000 Gatton Academy Study Abroad Scholarship will only pay \$3,350.

Selected students will pay the program fee directly to the **WKU Bursar's Office, Potter Hall 2nd floor** by a to-be-determined billing deadline in the second half of the fall semester.

Deadline to apply is 3:30 PM Central, Thursday, September 26, 2019.

Application Process:

- All application packets with the two forms must be submitted in The Gatton Academy office to Mrs. Vickie Payne (FSH 107). Applications are accepted only Tuesday, August 20—Thursday, September 26 at 3:30pm Central.
- Please submit application with a copy of the student's passport's ID page if they already have a passport.
- No payments are due or accepted at time of application
- Spots are limited to 50 students (equal gender distribution). Half of the spots are saved for each class, 2020 and 2021. Students who have not traveled with The Gatton Academy previously are given first priority for selection. Selections will be made by organizing male and female applicants separately by class and by travel status (i.e., having traveled abroad before with Gatton or not) and then drawn by random lottery. Random drawing will continue until all students have been drawn in order to form an ordered waitlist for any program spots that become available later. All students and parents/legal guardians will be notified of their selection status immediately after September 26.

Student Responsibilities Statement

I have read all program material provided to me and have had the opportunity to inquire about the program, including, but not limited to, type of facilities, healthcare, housing, food, transportation and personal safety conditions expected in the locale, the type of activities and physical requirements necessary for successful participation, and I have consulted the [Centers for Disease Control](#) and the [U.S. Department of State](#) web sites about the program location; and,

I understand that I am free to undertake independent travel, defined as travel before or after the official start and end dates of the official program, and as travel independent of sponsoring institution officially-sanctioned travel, and acknowledge the risks and personal liability of undertaking such travel, and accept responsibility for my personal safety, health, legal aspects, and costs associated with outside-program travel; and,

I am aware of the option to obtain personal liability coverage and may do so at my own expense; and,

I understand my personal responsibility to understand the risks of foreign travel and participation in study abroad programs and that WKU does not guarantee quality of the participation experience, including any non-WKU sponsored programs, and I recognize and acknowledge the risks of any experience outside my own culture and to adjust my behavior, dress, and activities to maximize my own and the group's safety; and,

I am responsible for controlling, comporting and conforming my behavior while participating in my particular program, and I acknowledge that as a guest in another country, certain behaviors are considered unacceptable and could lead to possible disruption of the program, and I shall conduct myself in an appropriate manner, which does not infringe upon the customs and mores of the country in which the program is being conducted, nor upon the rights and safety of the student and of other participants of the program; and,

I understand that WKU behavioral standards shall be applicable during the course of the program both when in the company of other program participants and when I am physically separated from other program participants, and that any behavior that is in violation of WKU policies, including but not limited to the [WKU Student Code of Conduct](#), could result in my being dismissed or suspended from the program without a refund, and returned to the United States at my own expense at the earliest possible time as determined by the program leader; and,

I understand that WKU does not employ or retain mental health professionals abroad, and that I should consult with my current mental health provider prior to engaging in a study abroad program to discuss the potential stress of studying abroad, and I know that mental health treatment may not be as widely accessible abroad as it is in the United States; and,

I understand that my program may require medical information to be eligible to participate in the

program and that I will provide the information as required; and,

I understand that I am free to utilize transportation provided via WKU or choose a mode of transportation independent of that provided by the University at my own risk and expense; and,

I voluntarily and willingly participate and represent that I am medically fit to engage in the international activity and travel, and I further agree voluntarily to assume all risks including, but not limited to, accident, illness or damage to my person and property to the extent not covered by insurance, or liability of third parties; and,

I acknowledge that foreign travel may entail risks of personal and/or bodily injury including death and property loss, including those resulting from kidnapping, criminal activity, war, terrorist attacks, lack of access to health care, food or beverage contamination, public health problems, and unsafe local transportation, and that I understand foreign facilities may not meet United States accessibility standards; and,

I acknowledge that WKU shall have authority to cancel or terminate the travel and related on-site activity in accordance with its policies of best judgment including cancellation of international travel for political developments and/or State Department travel warnings with no refund guaranteed; and,

I understand that I am personally liable for all my visa, public health and customs compliance, and that if I am not a U.S. citizen or permanent resident alien, reentry into the United States may not be automatic; and,

I authorize WKU to take whatever actions deemed warranted and appropriate regarding my health and safety.

I, _____ (print name), agree to abide by WKU policies, and agree to indemnify and hold harmless Western Kentucky University, its employees, agents, and/or officers from any and all loss, damage, or expense incurred as a result of my participation in said programs.

Date

Student Signature

If the above signatory is under 18 years of age, a parent/legal guardian shall sign below:

I, _____ (print name), acknowledge that I have carefully read, agree to and understand the above statements.

Date

Parent / Legal Guardian Signature

Phone

Relationship to above signatory