

ITALY Experience



Photo credit: Logan Houchens ('15)

A travel abroad program for Gatton Academy
students during Winter-Term 2020.

Expense

The program cost is \$4,350 which includes roundtrip airfare from Louisville; shared room accommodations in all locations at 3 and 4-star hotels; two meals/per day while in Italy (breakfasts and dinners); admission to all sites, museums, and experiences listed in the final itinerary; tips for provided meals, tour guides, courier, and drivers; basic international health insurance; and all ground and canal transportation while in Italy.

Any student who has never used their one-time \$1,000 Gatton Academy Study Abroad Scholarship will only pay \$3,350 for the program cost.

Itinerary

Day 1

Depart the USA for Venice.

Day 2

Arrive in Venice. Transfer by private motor launch to the hotel. In the afternoon take a walking tour of Venice. Dinner is provided.

Accommodations: [Hotel Ca 'Marinella](#), Venice

Day 3

After breakfast, head out on a tour of Venice. Learn about the magnificent Doges' Palace, the official residence of each Venetian ruler (doge). the splendidly ornate Basilica of St. Mark and St. Mark's Square. After lunch, enjoy exploring Venice during group free time. Dinner is provided.

Day 4

Following breakfast, take a tour of two lagoon islands: Murano, center of the glassmaking industry and Burano, famous for its brightly-painted buildings and lacemaking. In the afternoon, spend group free time visiting sites of interest in Venice. Dinner is provided.

Day 5

After breakfast, depart Venice for Florence on private motor coach. Arrive in Florence, check into the hotel and have lunch. After lunch, meet our guide and begin our visit to Florence with a tour of the **Bargello**, Florence's Renaissance police headquarters and jail that now houses Italy's leading collection of Renaissance sculpture. Go to the **Church of Santa Croce** which holds the tombs of Galileo, Ghiberti, Michelangelo, and Machiavelli, as well as memorials to Dante, da Vinci, and Raphael. Dinner is provided.

Accommodations: [Hotel Kraft](#), Florence

Day 6

After breakfast, start the day with a guided tour of the **Uffizi Gallery**. Have lunch near the **Duomo**, the **Church of Santa Maria del Fiore**. After lunch, visit the **Baptistry**, the oldest standing building in Florence dating to the 6th century A.D. Finish the day with group free time. Dinner is provided.

Day 7

Begin the day with breakfast followed by a visit to the **Museum Academia** to view Michelangelo's David. Close out the morning with a tour of the architecturally renowned **Chapel Mausoleum** of the Medicis and statues

Day 7 (continued)

by Michelangelo. After lunch, enjoy exploring Florence during group free time. Dinner is provided.

Day 8

After breakfast, leave Florence for Assisi, stopping at Plaza Michelangelo for a final view of beautiful Florence. Arrive in Assisi and take a guided tour of town including the Basilica of St. Francis which contains the tomb of St. Francis and some of the finest frescos in the world. After lunch, spend the afternoon exploring Assisi. In the late afternoon, go to the neighboring town of Santa Maria degli Angeli and check into our hotel. Dinner is provided.

Accommodations: [Hotel Dal Moro Gallery](#), Assisi

Day 9

After breakfast, depart Assisi for Rome, stopping to visit the Umbrian hill town of Orvieto. Take a funicular into the town and take a walking tour including the Duomo and St. Brizio Chapel. After lunch, have two hours of group free time to explore the town. Arrive in Rome in the late afternoon and check into our hotel. Dinner is provided.

Accommodations: [Hotel Medici](#), Rome

Day 10

After breakfast, take an excursion outside of old Rome to visit the **Catacombs**, subterranean burial plots used by early Christians, and the **Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Wall**, the second largest church in Rome built over the tomb of St. Paul. In the afternoon, take a walking tour of **Piazza Navona**, the **Pantheon**, **Trevi Fountain**, and the **Spanish Steps**. Dinner is provided.

Day 11

After breakfast, visit the **Church of St. Peter in Chains** to see the Michelangelo statue of Moses. Walk through the massive **Coliseum**. Leaving the Coliseum, tour the Church of San Clemente, a church with three levels of history. Then walk through the impressive ruins of the **Roman Forum**. From the Forum, climb the **Capitoline Hill** to see the **Piazza del Campidoglio** designed by Michelangelo. Enjoy afternoon group free time. Dinner is provided.

Day 12

After breakfast, depart Rome to visit **Pompeii**. In 79 A.D., this Roman city of 20,000 people was buried by volcanic ash from an eruption of Mt. Vesuvius. The incredibly well-preserved remains of this town provide a real feel for Roman life in the 1st Century. Return to Rome in the late afternoon. Dinner is provided.

Day 13

Start the day with breakfast, followed by a half-day tour of the Vatican Museum, the Sistine Chapel, and St. Peter's Basilica. Leaving St. Peter's Basilica, walk through St. Peter's Square surrounded by the "arms" of the Bernini Colonnade. After lunch, enjoy group free time to explore Rome. Dinner is provided.

Day 14

Depart Rome and return to the USA.