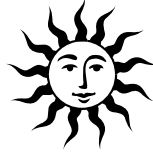


RIDER UNIVERSITY

Sorrento, Rome & Florence

Including famous Amalfi Drive and Papal Audience.



January 5 - 16, 2008

Project instructors:

Dr. Linda Materna
Dr. Barry Seldes

Travel Consultant:

Helge W. Leeuwenburgh
SORROM.ITI-2

Itinerary

Jan. 5
1st Day
Sat.

RIDER UNIVERSITY - NEWARK LIBERTY AIRPORT:

1:25 PM: Leave Rider University on a chartered bus for Newark International airport. (\$17.50 one-way or \$ 35.00 round-trip) Or, make your own way there 3 hours before flight time. Individual check-in with one bag per person.
5:25 PM: Departure of non-stop Alitalia flight # 645 to Rome. Dinner and breakfast are served aloft.

Jan. 6
2nd Day
Sun.

ROME AIRPORT - SORRENTO:

7:45 AM: We land at Fiumicino airport, pass through Italian immigration and customs, and are met by our Italian tour manager Mr. Vincenzo de Michaelis. Depart by private bus and drive south on the modern express-way past the rebuilt Abbey of Monte Cassino. Continue along panoramic winding roads high over the cliffs along the Bay of Naples to beautiful Sorrento. The Amalfi Drive is considered one of the loveliest in Europe with breathtaking views at every bend. Here, the sun, the sea and scenery are celebrated in songs such as "O Sole Mio", and "Santa Lucia." Check-in at our down town hotel.

Hotel La Meridiana
Via Rota, 1
80067 Sorrento
Italy
Tel. (011-390) 81-807-3535

A \$ 250.00 deposit due at time of registration will reserve your place. It is refundable in full until September 1. Checks should be issued to "Helge W. Leeuwenburgh" and given to Dr. Barry Seldes, or Dr. Linda Materna. Don't wait and risk being left behind.

The rest of the day is at leisure, or to go exploring on your own.

Jan. 7
3rd Day
Mon.

SORRENTO - AMALFI DRIVE – POMPEII - NAPLES:

Today we follow the Amalfi Drive through the town of Positano, with picturesque pink and white villas perched on the steep hillside. The town of Amalfi was once a powerful Marine Republic, now a thriving holiday resort dominated by the beautiful cathedral. At the foot of Mt. Vesuvius the archeologists have excavated the towns where upper-class Romans settled. Herculaneum and Pompeii show everyday life before they were covered in ashes. Here, we visit one of the historic sites.

On our way back to Sorrento we drive through Naples. Founded by the Greeks in 600BC, it is a thriving metropolis. It is known for its baroque churches, narrow streets with picturesque trattorias and pizzerias. Numerous castles recall the rulers of the past; Castel Capuano (Hohenstaufen), the huge medieval Mastio Angionino (Anjou), while the Bourbons reigned in the Palazzo Reale. See the Piazzas Plebiscito and Municipio and the San Carlo opera house. From the Camaldoli Monastery enjoy the view of the town, the Gulf of Naples and Mt. Vesuvius.

Jan. 8
4th Day
Tues.

SORRENTO - CLASSICAL ROME:

Morning drive to the "Eternal City". Rome is the mirror of Western civilization and thought. History and art, the beauty and harmony of the old town, the intimacy of small streets and parks with superb Mediterranean pine trees have inspired visitors throughout the centuries.

Check-in at our hotel near the famous Spanish Steps.

Hotel della Torre Argentina
Corso Vittorio Emanuele, 102
00186 Rome,
Italy
Tel. (011-390) 6- 683-3886

A local guide, Francesca Caruso shows us the splendor of Rome on the afternoon bus tour to the major classical sites; visit the monumental ruins of the Colosseum and walk through the Forum - sources of artistic inspiration and columns for churches and palaces. See the Circus Massimo, the Baths of Caracalla, amphitheaters of ancient Rome. And, today's Rome of renaissance palaces and fashionable 20th century homes, gardens and parks. See Capitoline Hill with a medieval staircase to the church of Santa Maria d'Aracoeli, Piazza Venezia, and fashionable Via Veneto.

Jan. 9
5th Day
Wed.

PAPAL AUDIENCE - VATICAN MUSEUMS:

In the morning the opportunity exists to be a part of the weekly Papal Audience. Our guide takes us through the impressive colonnade in Vatican Square by Bernini, and past the Swiss guards in their colorful medieval uniforms, to the Vatican.

Afternoon visit to St. Peter's Basilica, the site of 2000 years of Christian history. Here, we see the "Pieta" by Michelangelo and many Bernini master pieces. Then, the Vatican museums; the Pio-Clementine rooms for the Laocoon, Apollo and Belvedere torso and other Mannerist artists. Visit the Raphael rooms with Renaissance paintings by the master and his pupils. Last, but not least, admire Michelangelo's recently restored Sistine Chapel. It shows the religious history of mankind from Genesis, Adam's and Eve's Creation, the Original Sin, the Prophets, and the Deluge to the Last Judgment.

Jan. 10
6th Day
Thu.

BAROQUE ROME:

On the morning walking tour with Vincenzo we see many of Rome's baroque highlights. The Campo di Fiori; a daily open-air market, the Farnese Palace, the baroque church the Gesu, built by Vignola in 1568. It is the mother church of the Jesuit order. Admire the baroque Fountain of Four Rivers by Bernini at the Piazza Navona, opposite the baroque Sant 'Agnese in Agone by Borromini, and nearby the "talking" statue Paquino, the Pantheon, famous Spanish Steps where the poet Keats lived and died in 1821, and the Trevi Fountain where a toss of a coin can make a dream come true.

The afternoon is at leisure.

Jan. 11
7th Day
Fri.

ROME:

The day free to "do as the Romans do"; people-watching from a covered side-walk cafe, visit one of the many art museums, go shopping for the fashionable goods that Italy is famous for.

Jan. 12
8th Day
Sat.

ROME- SIENA- SAN GIMIGNANO - FLORENCE:

Morning drive by private bus through the rolling hills of Lazio, past vineyards and olive trees in Tuscany. In Siena we walk to the Piazza del Campo where the traditional Palio horserace is held. It is as if we have stepped back into medieval times. Siena-colored buildings line the narrow streets. Visit the impressive Gothic Duomo and marvel at the interior of white

marble and the sculpted pulpit by Pisano. Continue to the walled town of San Gimignano. High atop a mountain it still captures the warring spirit of the Middle Ages. Today, its winding streets present the visitor with a host of shops and eateries. San Gimignano is also famous for its white wines. We end the day in Florence, the "Cradle of the Renaissance".

Hotel Corona d'Italia
Via Nazionale, 14
50123 Florence
Italy
Tel. (011-390) 55-261501

Jan. 13
9th Day
Sun.

FLORENCE - ACCADEMIA & UFFIZI MUSEUMS:

The morning is free for church service. On a walking tour with local guide Roberto Martelli we see the full flowering of Italy's medieval and Renaissance art all around us. Visit the Santa Croce church, resting place of Michaelangelo, Galileo and Machiavelli and the adjacent Pazzi chapel. We visit two of the most important art museums of Florence. First, the Accademia where Michelangelo's David is displayed. Then on to the huge domed cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore, symbol of the city's wealth and power. Admire the gothic campanile, enter the Baptistery with medieval mosaics of the Last Judgment and sculpted bronze doors. Then, walk to the Uffizi Gallery with its priceless collection of Italian masterpieces from medieval to baroque periods. Study paintings by Giotto, Botticelli, Da Vinci, Raphael, Michaelangelo, Caravaggio and learn the hidden meaning behind some of the seemingly simple representations.

Jan. 14
10th Day
Mon.

FLORENCE – LUCCA – PISA:

It is only a short drive to Lucca. Its history goes back to the Etruscans of 700 BC. The town is encircled by 16th and 17th century ramparts filled with picturesque squares and narrow cobble-stone streets. It is a city of churches; the magnificent San Michele in Foro and 13th century Duomo are sites to behold. Lucca is also the birth place of the composer Puccini. In Pisa, on the large green Piazza del Duomo - a UNESCO World Heritage site - stand three historic buildings. The 900-years old Baptistery with Pisano's famous pulpit and unique acoustics. The romanesque cathedral that testifies to the town's maritime wealth of the Middle Ages. And, of course, the bell tower, better known as the "Leaning Tower", begun in 1173 and completed in 1350. Here Galileo made his experiments in physics. Return to Florence in the late afternoon.

Jan.15
11th Day
Tues.

FLORENCE:

The day is free in Florence for browsing and shopping. Cross the famous Ponte Vecchio bridge over the Arno river, where jewelers have plied their trade for hundreds of years. Here, in the Oltrano section lived the powerful Medici family in the Pitti Palace, now a huge museum.

Jan.16
12th Day
Wed.

FLORENCE - PISA AIRPORT – NEW YORK JFK:

5:00 AM: We transfer by private bus to the Florence Airport and check-in at the Alitalia Airlines counters.

7:05 AM: Departure of Alitalia flight # 1676 to Rome's International airport.

9:45 AM: Continue on Alitalia flight # 644 non-stop to Newark Liberty airport.

1:20 PM: Land and pass through immigration and customs. A chartered bus is available to Rider University. (\$17.50 one-way \$35.00 round-trip.) **Welcome home.**

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GENERAL CONDITIONS:

Trans-Atlantic Air Transportation: Trans-Atlantic flights on Alitalia Airlines from Newark International Airport non-stop to Rome, and return from Florence via Rome to Newark Liberty Airport. All domestic and foreign airport taxes valued in March 2007 at \$232 are included. In case of further fuel surcharge(s) or additional air related taxes by December 1, 2007 the airfare can be adjusted. The trans-Atlantic air fare provides all the amenities of Economy class. No refund is given once the tickets have been issued six weeks prior to departure. Individuals may extend or shorten their trip abroad at a surcharge of \$ 50.00. This need be requested at the time of booking. Trip cancellation insurance information is recommended and given out at our instruction meeting. **Travel light!**

Airline Regulation: Passenger name on airline ticket is only valid as it appears on the passport. Provide contact names, passport number, date and place of issue, and phone number 60 days before departure.

Land Arrangements and Inter-European Transportation: All arrangements are contracted with principals and include transfers from airport to hotels, and vice versa, including one suitcase per person. Transfers, sightseeing, excursions and over-the-road travel are on late-model buses with panoramic windows, heating and public address system.

Hotel Accommodation and Meals: Hotel accommodations for 10 nights are in superior tourist class hotels in twin or triple-bedded rooms with private bath or shower and include all service charges and local taxes. A single room can be requested at a \$ 50.00 supplement per night. A continental buffet breakfast is included daily. In Sorrento a welcome dinner is served on the first night.

Sightseeing and Special Features: A professional licensed tour manager will accompany the tour throughout. In addition, where required, sightseeing programs in Pompeii, Rome, Siena and Florence offer a mixture of visitations and lectures by local qualified licensed guides as indicated on the attached itinerary. Entrance fees to the major historic sites and the museums mentioned are included. This academic program is supervised by Dr. Linda Materna and Dr. Barry Seldes of Rider University.

Price, Registration and Cancellation: The price of **\$ 2,165** per person for the round-trip air fares and land arrangements is based on a minimum of 30 participants. Registration in writing is recommended. The price calculation is based on exchange rates of 1.00 Euro equals \$1.35 current in March, 2007. In case of currency fluctuation by December 1, 2007 the program price can be adjusted. A deposit of \$ 250.00 is due at time of registration. A second payment of \$ 250.00 is due on September 1, 2007. Balance of payment is due on November 15, 2007. Applications will be accepted in the order received. **Apply early!**

Cancellation must be in writing. There is no cancellation fee if canceled before September 1, 2007. Between September 1 and October 1 a cancellation fee of \$ 100.00 applies, while between October 1 and November 15, 2007 it is \$ 250.00. Refund after November 15 depends on the resale of the reservation and contractual charges levied by service suppliers.

Not included: Transportation to and from the U.S. airport, travel insurance, passport fees, excess luggage charges levied by the airlines, all expenses of a purely personal nature, including but not limited to laundry, telephone calls, daily meals other than breakfast at the hotels, optional tours, entrance fees other than those included in the program, concerts, theatre tickets or any other evening entertainment.

Responsibility: Sponsors of this travel program, and its associated travel consultant(s) are not responsible for any damage, injury, accident, delay, irregularity, loss resulting from any causes connected with air transportation, sightseeing tours and transportation, hotel and dining services, and assume no liability over such occurrences which may be occasioned either by reason of defect, through the acts or default of any company or by person(s) engaged in conveying the travelers or in carrying out any of the travel arrangements, or as direct or indirect result of acts of God, fire, breakdown in machinery or equipment, acts of governments or other authorities de jure or de facto, wars, whether declared or not, strikes, acts of terrorism, or from any causes beyond their control. The airline(s) are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board their conveyances. The passenger contract in use by the carrier, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between carriers and purchasers of this travel program and/or the passengers.