

An Italian Adventure

A Private Group Journey – 10 Days

Depart Pittsburgh October 20, 2016



Join Norwin Express Tours on a journey to Italy. A perfect balance of pre-arranged sightseeing and excursions, with plenty of time to relax and explore. Spend three nights in Tuscany, three nights in Rome, followed by two nights on The Amalfi Coast in one of Europe's most breathtaking towns, Sorrento. Highlights on this group tour include Wine tasting in Tuscany and Verrazzano Castle, San Gimignano, walking tours in Florence, Siena, Assisi, and Rome. Visit the Vatican and Colosseum in Rome, and excursions to Pompeii, Positano, Amalfi, and a boat trip along the Amalfi Coast.

Itinerary:

DAY 1 USA/ ROME, ITALY: Depart Pittsburgh on your overnight flight to Rome, Italy.

DAY 2 ARRIVE ROME / MONTEPULCIANO / TUSCANY: Welcome to Rome! After clearing customs, our Tour Director will meet you in the arrivals hall. Shortly afterwards, depart for Tuscany. Reach the hilltop town of Montepulciano an ancient village full of medieval and Renaissance buildings, famous for one of the oldest wines of Italy, "Nobile" of Montepulciano. Stop to visit to a wine cellar in a typical and suggestive atmosphere, tasting wines and local products such as ham, cheese and salami. Afterwards, proceed towards Villa Casagrande, where this evening you will enjoy a welcome Tuscan Feast dinner featuring local wines and traditional Tuscan fare. Buon Appetito! **Hotel Name:** Villa Casagrande. (D)

DAY 3 FLORENCE: Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. Afterwards, depart for Florence for a morning guided walking tour. Stroll down cobblestone lanes, through majestic squares and across ancient bridges, pausing along the way to visit and learn about Palazzo Vecchio, Piazza della Signoria, the cathedral with Brunelleschi Cupola and Giotto's bell tower. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure in the Renaissance city and then return to the Villa for overnight. **Hotel Name:** Villa Casagrande. (B)

DAY 4 EXCURSION TO SIENA & SAN GIMIGNANO: After breakfast in the Villa, depart for Siena. Enjoy a guided walking tour in this unique city with the red of the Piazza del Campo – with an alchemy geometry of the Piazza, suggestively neo-Gothic and cathartic – commanded by the Duomo and surrounded by narrow streets and alleys. Sweet-smelling Trattorias, the sounds of the artisans and spouting fountains; Fontebrande and the mystery of the Diana, a famous river underneath Siena. These are the reasons why Siena opens up its heart more than any other place, as the famous inscription reads on the Porta di Camollia. After lunch on your own, depart for San Gimignano. Enjoy some time at leisure to explore San Gimignano, with its towered silhouette rising from the hills of the Upper Elsa Valley, facing the land of Volterra and positioned right on one of the most important stretches of the medieval Via Francigena. A similar renown can also be claimed by its Vernaccia wine, recently awarded the D.O.C.G., the highest acknowledgement and guarantee for quality in Italian oenology. Later, enjoy wine tasting in a local cellar before returning to the Villa for dinner and overnight. **Hotel Name:** Villa Casagrande. (B/D)

DAY 5 TUSCANY / CHIANTI / ASSISI / ROME: Enjoy breakfast before departing on your journey South towards Rome. Drive through the panoramic Chianti region, and pause at the wonderful Verrazzano Castle for a visit and wine tasting. A tasting of local products will accompany your wine. Afterwards, travel on to Assisi where you meet with your local guide for a walking tour of this small town of immense beauty and spiritual significance. Onwards to Rome for a late evening

arrival. This evening, enjoy dinner in a local restaurant within walking distance of your hotel. **Hotel Name:** Hotel Donna Laura. (B/D)

DAY 6 ROME: Enjoy breakfast in the hotel. This morning your guided tour of Rome begins at Novona Square where you will enjoy a nice walk through the street of the capital. View the Pantheon and Trevi Fountain. Enjoy some free time for lunch on your own. In the afternoon, enjoy a guided tour of the Glory of Ancient Rome: Coliseum, Roman Forum and Circus Maximus. This evening, enjoy dinner in a local restaurant with drinks. **Hotel Name:** Hotel Donna Laura. (B/D)

DAY 7 ROME: Enjoy breakfast in the hotel. This morning you will venture on an unforgettable guided tour of the Vatican Museums, with Sistine Chapel and St. Peter's Basilica, Your afternoon is free and at leisure in Rome. **Hotel Name:** Hotel Donna Laura. (B)

DAY 8 ROME / POMPEII / SORRENTO: After breakfast, depart from Rome and travel to Pompeii and a guided visit of the best preserved Roman city ruins, including the Temples of Apollo, Jupiter and the Forum. Pompeii was settled as early as the 8th century BC and by 79AD, it was a thriving commercial center. Vesuvius erupted and buried the city under a blanket of ash six meters deep. Over the centuries Pompeii was forgotten, but in 1748 excavations were started and since 1911 all finds of furnishings and household utensils have been left where they were found, giving a fascinating insight into everyday life in 79 AD. After your tour, enjoy a Pizza Lunch! Afterwards, depart and travel to Sorrento. Your evening is free to explore. **Hotel Name:** Hotel Grand Flora. (B/L)

DAY 9 THE AMALFI COAST: After breakfast, depart on an excursion to discover panoramic views of the enchanting towns along the scenic Amalfi Coast. Stop at Positano terrace for a breathtaking view. Continue on this legendary road overlooking the Mediterranean, to reach the coastal town of Amalfi. Here you will enjoy a 1 hour boat trip along the Amalfi Coast. Later, on to Ravello an enchanting town high above the coast. Enjoy an orientation tour of the cities on foot, exploring the steep streets, narrow alleyways, sidewalk vendor stalls and boardwalk cafes. Later, return to your hotel in Sorrento where you will enjoy a farewell dinner with wine in a local restaurant. **Hotel Name:** Grand Flora Hotel. (B)

DAY 10 SORRENTO / NAPLES / USA: After breakfast in the hotel, you will have a private group transfer to Naples Airport for your return flight to the USA. (B)

Package Includes

- Luxury motorcoach during entire tour
- English speaking tour director during the entire tour
- Figline Valdarno – 3 nights, 3-Star Villa Casagrande
- Rome – 3 nights, 4-Star Hotel Donna Laura Palace
- Sorrento – 2 nights, 4-Star Hotel Grand Flora
- Breakfast each morning, except day of arrival
- 2 Dinners at the Villa with wine
- 2 Dinners in local restaurants in Rome with wine
- 1 Pizza Lunch in Pompeii with drinks
- 1 Farewell dinner at a local restaurant in Sorrento, drinks included
- Wine tasting at Villa Casagrande
- Wine tasting at Tenuta Torciano (San Gimignano area) accompanied by tasting of local products
- Wine tasting at Verrazzano Castle
- Half-day walking tour in Florence with local English speaking guide
- Full-day excursion to Siena and San Gimignano, including 3 hour walking tour in Siena with local guide
- Half-day guided tour of Assisi (2-hours)
- Half-day walking tour, the squares of Rome (3 hours)
- Guided visit to Pompeii with English speaking guide
- Guided visits, reservations and tickets to: Accademy Gallery; Coliseum, Vatican Museums, Pompeii

- Full-day Amalfi Coast Excursion with your tour director
- 1 hour boat trip – Amalfi Coast
- Wireless headsets where necessary
- City tax
- Porterage of one suitcase per person
- Portfolio of travel documents
- 24-hour emergency customer service while traveling in Italy

For more information contact:
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Terms and Conditions: This is a Private Group Journey based on a minimum of 30 participants to operate. Rates are per person based on double occupancy. Departure taxes and fuel surcharges are included. Single supplement is additional. Air inclusive rates are subject to availability and are based on departure from Pittsburgh on Delta Airlines / Alitalia codeshare. Not eligible for accrual of frequent flyer points/mileage. Child/infant discounts not available. Above mentioned hotels are subject to change. Cancellations /Changes: Fares are non-refundable. For a full list of terms and conditions, please visit <http://journeysconnect.com/about-1/group-terms-and-conditions>.