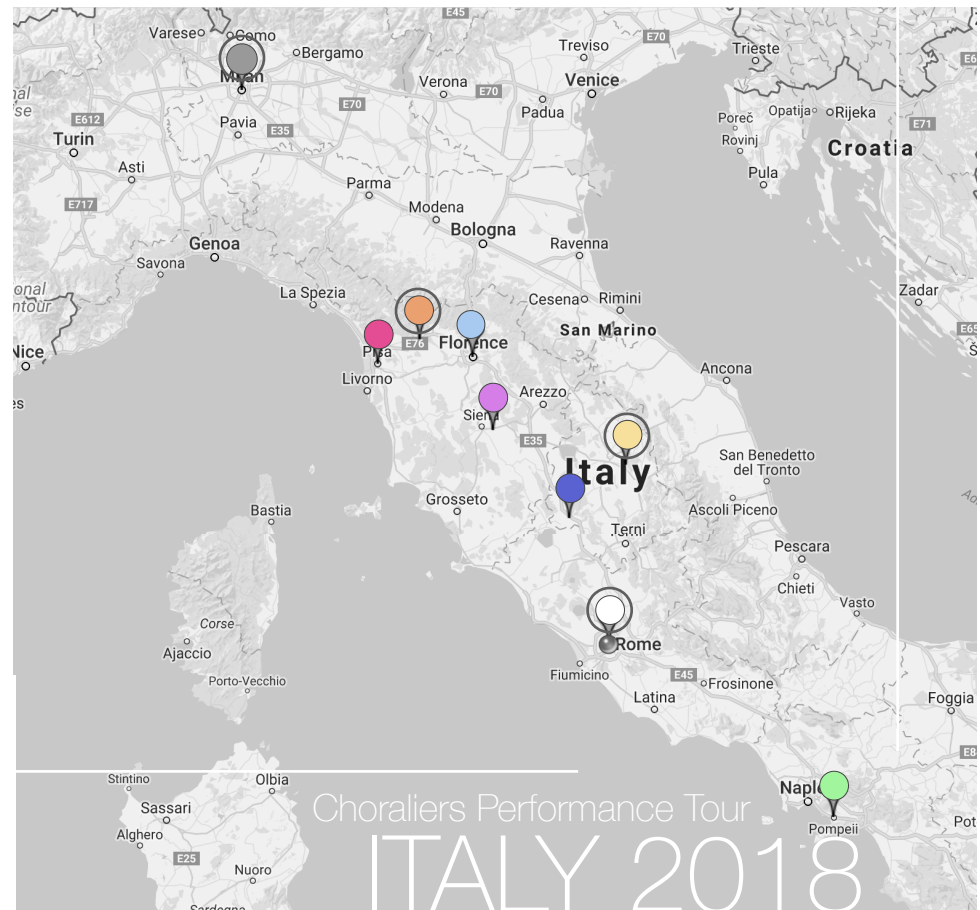


CMAF LANCERO

This book belongs to:

CIVIL LANCERO

Choraliers Performance Tour



- | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| ● Assisi | ● Orvieto | ● Siena |
| ● Florence | ● Pisa | ○ hotel location |
| ● Milan (group 6 and 7 only) | ● Pompeii | |
| ● Montecatini Terme | ○ Rome | |

Bravo to those working hard to make the Italy trip perfezionare!

Choir Director: Ken Foley
 Chairpersons: Sybbie Fox and JD Kinney
 Tour Company: WorldStrides International Concert Tours
 Accompanist: Susan Parsons
 Treasurer: Nancy Caniglia
 Trip Forms: Julie Zanone
 Euro Conversion: Courtney Mitchell
 Potluck: Jan Trecek
 Raffle: Laura Chisholm, Heather Foley
 Travel Book: Holly Cornelius

Quick Reference Info

My Roommate _____

My Chaperone _____ My Bus _____

My Choir Director – Mr. Ken Foley, 913-710-7692

U.S. Embassy Emergency

Rome/Florence – 06-46741 Naples – 081-583-8111

Local Emergency (all calls are answered in English if you indicate that preference)

112 – police 113 – police 115 – fire brigade 118 – ambulance

Aiuti! (ah-yoo-tee) – Help!	Per favore aiutatem! – Please help me!
Polizia! (poh-lee-tsee-ah) – Police!	Dottore (doh-toh-reh) – Doctor
Ospedale (ohs-peh-dah-leh) – Hospital	Farmacia (fahr-mah-cee-ah) – Pharmacy
Infermiera (een-fehr-mye-rah) – Nurse	Incidente (een-chee-dehn-teh) – Accident
Emergenza (eh-mehr-gehn-tzah) – Emergency	Malata (mah-lah-tah) – Illness
Medicina (meh-dee-chee-nah) – Medication	Danno (dahn-noh) – Injury
Dolore (doh-loh-reh) – Pain	Mal di testa – Headache

Time Zone

March 9-10. When it is 12:00p in Italy, it is 5:00a in Kansas. Italy is 7 hours ahead.

March 11-19. When it is 12:00p in Italy, it is 6:00a in Kansas. Italy is 6 hours ahead.*

*Daylight Saving Time occurs on March 11 in the U.S. and on March 25 in Italy (we adjust time on different Sundays).

Emergency Contact Numbers

My Doctor _____

My Dentist _____

My Optometrist _____

My Health Insurance _____

My Bank _____

My Credit Card Company _____

Grazie
to our travel book sponsor.



**BANK OF
PRAIRIE VILLAGE**
MEMBER FDIC

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International Calling

Important. Check your phone rate-plan before travel. Some plans offer free minutes but only if you notify the service provider of your international travel plans in advance. Other plans may require that you be connected to wifi for free calls, and some will have high rates no matter the situation. It is up to each traveler to assess your own situation. The same advice applies regarding texting and data usage.

NOTE: To dial a “+” on an iPhone, you hold down on the “0” key of your phone to get the “+” symbol. Other phones may differ in how you obtain a “+.”

To call from your American cell phone (in Italy) to any American cell phone (in Italy):
(dial as you normally would)

To call from your American cell phone (in Italy) to any American phone (in America):
+1 (then the 10-digit phone number)

To call from your American cell phone (in Italy) to any Italy phone:
(dial as you normally would)

To call from any Italian phone to any American phone (in America):
+1 (then the 10-digit phone number)

To call from any Italian phone to an American cell phone (in Italy):
(dial as you normally would)

About Italy

Italy is a Southern European country, bordered by Austria, France, San Marino, Slovenia and Switzerland. The Capital is Rome. Main cities are Milan, Naples, Turin, Palermo, Genoa. Population is 60.78 million. Size is 301,338 km² (116,347 sq. miles). The main language is Italian. The climate varies between the north (cool, mid latitude of the humid subtropical climate), and the south (typically Mediterranean climate).

Italian Family Values

- The family is the center of the social structure and provides a stabilizing influence for its members.
- In the north, generally only the nuclear family lives together; while in the south, the extended family often resides together in one house.
- The family provides both emotional and financial support to its members.
- Italian names are made up of the given name and the surname.
- Many Italian male names end in "o" e.g. Alberto, Carlo, Diego, Giorgio, and many female names end in "a" e.g. Adraina, Carla, Federica, Gianna.

Italian Style

- Appearances matter in Italy. You will be judged on your clothes, shoes, accessories and the way you carry yourself.
- First impressions are lasting impressions in Italy.
- The concept of 'bella figura' or good image is important to Italians. This extends to more than dressing well – it is also the aura you project with confidence, style, and demeanor.
- Even for occasions such as just "popping into the shops," you will find that Italians would be dressed immaculately.

Religion

- Italy is a Christian country, with 88% of the population belonging to the Roman Catholic Church (however only a 1/3 of these are active).
- Amongst religious minorities, Islam is the largest.
- There are more Catholic churches per capita in Italy than any other country.
- Although church attendance is relatively low, the influence of the church is still high.
- Many office buildings will have a cross or a religious statue in the lobby.
- Each day of the year has at least one patron saint associated with it.
- Children are named for a particular saint and celebrate their saint's day as if it were their own birthday.
- Each trade and profession has a patron saint.
- The church promulgates hierarchy, which can be seen in all Italian relationships. They respect and defer to those who are older, those who have achieved success, and those who come from well-connected families.

Currency

Italy's currency is the Euro (note that Italians pronounce it "eh-uro"). The symbol is €, and the currency sub-units are a cent = 1/100 of a Euro. Denominations are €5, €10, €20, €50, €100, €200 and €500. Coins are 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c, 20c, 50c, 1€, 2€. The current conversion rate* is \$1 = .80 Euro or 1 Euro = \$1.25. This means if you spend 10 Euro on something in Italy, it is actually costing you around \$12.50.

*at the time of this book's writing

Electricity

Travelers wishing to use laptops, cell phones, battery chargers, and other electrical devices in Italy need to know how to convert their appliances to a different voltage. Electricity in Italy, as in the rest of Europe, comes out of the wall socket at 220 volts alternating at a 50 cycles per second. In the US, electricity comes out of the wall socket at 110 volts, alternating at 60 cycles per second. Not only the voltages and frequencies, but the sockets themselves are different. A normal Italian power socket has two (or three) circular holes.

There are two devices you will need to consider for any international travel (and, on occasion, these devices may be combined into one unit by certain manufacturers).

1. **Adapter. Every traveler will need at least one adapter.** A plug adapter will have two round prongs, and is an interface between the American flat-pronged plug and Italy's two (or three) round-prong socket. This adapter is ungrounded, which is why it doesn't have a third, center prong. This is fine for devices which are insulated (having a plastic body, for instance), including most laptops and phones, most recently produced battery chargers and many small, electrical gadgets. The only electrical appliances typically packed for travel that may cause concern are blow dryers, flat irons, and curling irons. However, as long as all of these electrical appliances are made for travel, such as a "travel" blow dryer with a voltage/conversion switch, then you will be fine. Just flip the switch to 220 volts while in Italy. Most modern laptops, cell phones, and battery chargers can automatically handle the conversion.
2. **Converter. No one should need a converter.** Only those travelers who have a regular (non-travel) blow dryer, flat iron, curling iron or other electronic device only designed to run on 110-120 volts, will need a converter. In those instances, if you don't use a converter to step the voltage up from 110 to 220, then you are likely to damage your appliance and see smoke, if not fire, from this potent mismatch. Check the back of your devices or the "power brick" for the electrical input specifications. Converters should not be necessary if you pack well. Please do NOT bring a regular (non-travel) blow dryer, flat iron or curling iron.

Etiquette + Culture

Etiquette

- Greetings are enthusiastic yet rather formal.
- A handshake with eye contact and a smile suffices between strangers.
- Once a relationship develops, air-kissing on both cheeks, starting with the left is often added as well as a pat on the back between men.
- Wait until invited to move to a first name basis.
- You don't need to tip in Italy. It's not part of their culture. If you do, limit to 10%.
- Never assume that a business accepts credit cards or that a shopkeeper will break a large bill for a small purchase. Always ask; they may say "no."
- **Never bring food into a church, and do not sip from your water bottle while inside. If you have a cell phone, turn it off before entering.** And never enter a church when a service or wedding is in progress.
- **Shorts, tank tops, and sleeveless garments are taboo in most churches. Carry a sweater, scarf, or other item of clothing to wrap around your bare shoulders before entering a church.**
- Smoking has been banned in all public establishments.
- One of the best ways to avoid being judged harshly as a tourist is to learn a little of the local language. Just mastering a few basic words is helpful.

Relationships & Communication

- Italians are extremely expressive communicators. They tend to be wordy, eloquent, emotional, and demonstrative, often using facial and hand gestures to prove their point.
- It is common to be interrupted while speaking or for several people to speak at once. People often raise their voice to be heard over other speakers, not because they are angry.
- Do not be loud in English.
- **When in a place, do not praise other places of Italy and don't compare the place where you are with other places.** Saying something like "Siena is almost as beautiful as Florence" may sound quite offensive to some.
- Shopkeepers help one person at a time, first come-first served. Be patient.
- **Avoid talking about the mafia.** Foreigners tend to be fascinated by mafia, but the mafia is a problem that causes many deaths per year. If you start this subject, people will feel uncomfortable and avoid you.

Table Manners

- Table manners in Italy are formal; rarely do Italians share food from their plates. In a restaurant, be formal and polite with your waiter—no calling across the room for attention.
- The fork is held in the left hand and the knife in the right while eating.
- Do not keep your hands in your lap during the meal; however, do not rest your elbows on the table either.

- It is acceptable to leave a small amount of food on your plate.
- Pick up cheese with your knife rather than your fingers.
- For adults who drink wine: If you do not want more, leave your glass nearly full. It's considered rude if you refuse a top up.
- **When you've finished your meal and are ready to go, ask for the check (il conto); no waiter will put a bill on your table until you've requested it.**
- Do not leave bread upside down on the table as it is considered disrespectful and believed to bring bad luck.
- Don't order coffee with a meal at lunch or dinner. Coffee is used to aid digestion. It is ordered after the meal and dessert have been consumed.

Food Tips

- Peperoni in Italian are bell peppers, not pepperoni in the US, which is hot salami. If you want hot salami, don't order a pizza with peperoni (just one p). Order a pizza diavola or look for salame piccante as an ingredient.
- Pizza is singular, pizze is plural in Italian.
- Breakfast is a light meal in Italy. No heavy eggs or bacon. Even in hotels you will find bread and pastries and not much more.
- Eating in Italy might take place at different times than you are used to. Lunch time is late, dinner is later.
- You will notice a profusion of small places labeled "bar." While you might think they just love drinking in Italy, these are quite different. They are open in the mornings and typically carry coffee and brioche for breakfast.
- Brioche (bree-osh) is a croissant with a filling like Nutella or apricot jam.
- In many sandwich places, you will be expected to order and pay for your food at separate registers. The attendant takes your money and gives you a receipt which you present at the food counter for what you want.
- Insalate are salads. Primi are first courses, usually pastas. Secundi are meat plates that often show up in the second courses. Contorni are side dishes like potatoes.
- The word "menu" means several courses together. It is sometimes completely fixed, but often you get a choice for each course and drinks or coffee all for a specific price.
- Dolce are sweets, so dessert. Don't be surprised to see cheese plates as a dessert item.
- **There are no refills on drinks at restaurants. The sizes may be smaller too. 'e' means 'and'; 'o' means 'or'.** This is important to know when reading a "menu" offering where an option and a combination are common.
- Picking up food in the produce section of the grocery store without wearing plastic gloves (which are readily available in the produce section) is considered rude. If there are no gloves, the shopkeeper should get it.
- **If you like these food tips and want more information, especially if you have food allergies or questions about how to feel more at ease in ordering your meals, check out <https://www.roughguides.com/destinations/europe/italy/food-drink/>.**

Pickpockets

Robbery and violent theft are relatively rare in Italy, but **Rome is right up there with the pickpocket capitals of the world.** Florence and other tourist cities are also plagued by pickpockets in Italy.

Carry your money, passport, and credit cards in hidden money belts or pouches under your clothes, and use a slash-proof bag, a secure camera case and a mobile phone pouch. Very skilled pickpockets can slit open the bottom of your bag with a razor blade to steal the contents.

Access your money belt or pouch in a discreet manner – while you are still on the tour bus, or in the back corner of a shop, for example. **When in crowded public transport, move your backpack around to the front of your body.**

Ladies, keep your purse on the shoulder furthest from the traffic side of the footpath. That makes life difficult for purse snatchers on motor scooters.

Choose bags and purses with short straps that keep the main compartment close to your body, optimally under your arm. Bag snatchers sometimes cut the straps so the shorter amount of strap you have to offer, the less they have to try and cut.

Don't put anything of the slightest value to you in outside pack pockets (emphasis on "value to you" - thieves steal stuff "by accident" that would be of no value to them). "Fanny packs" are especially easy for pickpockets to access.

When staying in a hotel, leave any unneeded valuables plus spare cash in a locked and wired-down, hard-sided suitcase, or in the hotel safe, either the room safe if there is a good one or the front desk safe.

Trying to "look like a local" won't help much because pickpockets don't really care – the best targets for pickpockets are the tired and/or distracted, tourists or not. They pick on the weak. Pickpockets particularly favor anyone whose hands are full.

Pickpockets in Italy are often well-dressed, sometimes middle-aged and always highly skilled. They cannot be detected ahead of time - and usually not at any time. Italian teenage delinquents are also hard to detect except when they are equipped with the inevitable newspapers and pieces of cardboard.

If someone bumps you, especially on the street, you're being robbed.

A large but often easily recognizable criminal group are gypsies. They are highly clannish and their women, who do most of the thievery, are often easily recognizable by their long skirts, shawls and head scarves in garish colors.

In Rome, some gypsy girls have shed their traditional clothing and now dress in the latest fashions.

Some gypsy methods of distraction include gypsy children surrounding the victim holding cardboard notices at the victim's chest level while beneath it they steal what they can from pockets and bags; a gypsy woman passes or appears to drop a well-swathed baby (or plastic doll) which the victim ends up holding while another does the stealing; or a gypsy woman opens her blouse, fully exposing a breast as though to breast feed her child, while another picks the pockets of the startled victim.

Gypsy boys and young women use more conventional pickpocket techniques, simply helping themselves to whatever they can from behind the victim. They have no fear because below a certain age they cannot be arrested, and even if they are arrested, they're released again within the hour.

If approached by groups of gypsies shout "va via" as loudly as possible and don't hesitate to shove them roughly away.

While drinking or eating, especially outside, NEVER put your purse, bag or camera on the ground or under the table, nor hang it on your chair behind you nor place it on the seat of the chair next to you. Put it on your lap or the table in front of you where you can see it at all times. Don't hang your jacket on your chair if there's anything in the pockets.

Other common distraction techniques involve a thief spilling ice cream, ketchup or some other mess on your back; being approached on a bus by someone who holds a map up at chest level asking for directions; or, someone pointing out money on the ground and asking if it's yours. Hold your bag tightly and walk away.

DO NOT use an ATM machine in a congested tourist area. Use an ATM outside a smaller bank where there are few people about and stash it discreetly. Look around for gypsies before you start. Theft at ATM machines (bancomats) works like this: A thief, usually a gypsy girl, watches from a short distance away and at the right moment leaps forward then, using begging as cover, presses the key to dispense the maximum amount of cash. Once the wad of notes is in the hand of the user, she snatches the money from the baffled user and runs.

sources: <https://www.bella-toscana.com/pickpocketsinitaly.htm>, <https://www.commisceo-global.com/country-guides/italy-guide/>, <https://www.fodors.com/news/italy-101-a-gui-3872>, <http://www.kwintessential.co.uk/resources/guides/guide-italy-etiquette-customs-culture-business/>, <https://www.tripadvisor.com/Travel-g187768-c2815/Italy:How.To.Fit.In.With.The.Locals.html>, <http://www.italymagazine.com/featured-story/il-galateo-italian-manners-and-etiquette>, <http://www.msadventuresinitaly.com/blog/2010/06/09/10-tourist-mistakes-when-visiting-italy-tipping-tickets-and-more/>, <https://travel-made-simple.com/eating-in-italy/>, <https://www.tripsavvy.com/electricity-in-italy-1548048>

Not Covered in Trip Cost

2 airport lunches (in U.S. dollars) and 7-8 Italy lunches (approximately 12 Euros each). Beverages with meals (water and soda is approximately 1-2 Euros each without refills). Souvenirs.

Any additional checked baggage fees.

Public toilet fees (1-2 Euros each, see below – this is a real thing).

Public Toilets

Despite your likelihood to see every type of toilet and flusher invented throughout the 19th and early 20th centuries, including a “squat toilet” (yes, exactly what it sounds like), there is a scarcity of public bathrooms in Italy. Often you may need to have 1-2 Euros on hand to use a “paid toilet.” Coins only please. These restrooms are clean and serviced by attendants. Conversely, any museum or place that serves food or drink will have a restroom you can use if you are a paying customer. Your best bet is to find a coffee bar and purchase a coffee. Yet, 1) there's a 50% chance that the toilet will be guasto (broken) and 2) there's a 90% chance there will be no toilet paper. Some tourists like to carry their own toilet paper. Something to think about. And coins.

Average Italy Weather

Mid-March in Rome typically ranges from 43° F to 59° F and is rarely below 35° F or above 66° F. It will generally feel cool or cold during daytime hours. There is essentially constant cloud cover during March; it is overcast or cloudy nearly 45% of the time. The chance of a wet day in March is around 22%. There will be approximately 12 hours of daylight with a 6:20 a.m. sunrise.

Florence and Pompeii, cities to the north and south respectively, have similar meteorology averages for mid-March; however, Florence will typically have more cloud cover and Pompeii is usually about 5-degrees warmer with a greater chance for rain.

Foley Packing Rules

These rules are more lenient at the hotel, but they 100% apply everywhere else.

NO sandals, NO shirts with writing (except “SME Choir”), NO ripped jeans, NO leggings (except under skirts), and NO shorts.

Regarding tops, shoulders must be covered (**NO spaghetti straps**).

Regarding bottoms, **ONLY** long pants or long/maxi-skirts (**NO exposed legs**).

Shoes must be **closed-toed**.

SME tour jacket must be worn at all times.

Baggage size/quantity limits specified on page 10 are necessary due to bus space.

Sample Packing List

This list is intended as a helpful tool, not a requirement. **Please customize for your personal needs.**

bold = required to show item to the SME coordinator at airport before boarding flight

asterisk = liquid (must be packed in checked baggage or in ziplock per TSA rules; size restrictions may apply)

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| ■ travel book (this book w/ your Emergency Contacts on page 1) | ■ sleep mask | ■ face cleaner* or wipes |
| ■ boarding pass | ■ travel pillow | ■ make up* |
| ■ passport | ■ travel blanket | ■ chapstick/lip balm |
| ■ photocopy of passport | ■ ear plugs | ■ face lotion* |
| ■ \$40 cash (for airports) | ■ Kleenex | ■ body lotion* |
| ■ 80 Euro (150+ if no ATM card) | ■ travel Charmin (see page 9) | ■ sunscreen* |
| ■ debit/credit cards | | |
| ■ ATM card | ■ sunglasses | ■ shampoo* (hotel also provides) |
| ■ photocopy of all cards (2 sides) | ■ SME Choir tour jacket
(it's water-resistant, not waterproof) | ■ conditioner* |
| ■ photo ID | ■ travel poncho or umbrella | ■ hairbrush/comb |
| ■ journal (your best souvenir!) | ■ jacket/coat (warmth layering) | ■ <u>travel</u> curling/flat iron
(must have converter built in) |
| ■ pen/pencil | ■ gloves | ■ hair ties or head bands |
| ■ Sharpie | ■ knitted hat and/or scarf | |
| | ■ string backpack (flat, in suitcase) | |
| ■ 1 medium-sized suitcase
(must NOT exceed 22"x14"x9") | ■ ___ short-sleeved shirts | ■ deodorant* |
| ■ 1 carry-on backpack/duffel | ■ ___ long-sleeved shirts | ■ feminine products |
| ■ 2 WorldStrides tags (on bags) | ■ ___ shorts (hotel only) | ■ Q-tips |
| ■ sling, pouch, or money belt | ■ ___ jeans/pants/maxi skirts | ■ razors/shaving supplies |
| | ■ ___ underwear | ■ nail clippers/scissors |
| ■ camera and charger cord | ■ ___ bras | ■ tweezers |
| ■ cell phone (with alarm clock and WhatsApp apps downloaded) | ■ ___ pajama pants | ■ toothbrush |
| ■ USB charger cord | ■ ___ socks | ■ toothpaste* |
| ■ portable power charger/cord | ■ ___ closed-toe shoes | ■ dental floss |
| ■ Ziplock baggies (if it rains!) | ■ flip flops or shower shoes | ■ dental retainers |
| ■ earbuds | | |
| ■ power adapters (US/Europe) | ■ SME Choir robe | ■ contact lenses |
| ■ flashlight or night light | ■ SME Choir stole | ■ contact solution* |
| | ■ wire hanger for robe (will need) | ■ eye drops* |
| ■ water bottle (empty) | ■ white dress shirt | ■ eye glasses |
| ■ dry snacks (i.e. energy bars) | ■ tie (men only) | ■ glasses cleaner* + cloth |
| ■ Tic Tacs or gum | ■ black dress pants/skirt | ■ glasses case |
| ■ hard candy | ■ belt (if needed) | |
| ■ motion-sick bag (plastic bag) | ■ hosiery (women only) | |
| ■ hand wipes/sanitizer | ■ black socks (men only) | |
| ■ Tums | ■ black dress shoes | |
| ■ Dramamine (non-drowsy) | ■ jewelry (within guidelines) | |
| | ■ tuxedo/dress (if Chambers) | |
| ■ Rx meds* (original bottles) | | |
| ■ Pepto anti-diarrheal tablets | ■ “dirty laundry” bag | |
| ■ Zicam (cold remedy) | ■ 2 plastic trash bags | |
| ■ band-aids | ■ safety pins | |
| ■ Neosporin* | ■ Woolite packs* (clothes wash) | |
| ■ ibuprofen or acetaminophen | ■ Febreze To Go* (fabric refresher) | |
| ■ Benedryl | | |

Please do NOT pack swim suits or blow dryers. There won't be time to swim and blow dryers are supplied by hotels.

Remember to pack your passport, valuables, and essentials such as Rx meds, cash, credit cards, and jewelry in your carry-on bag.

Pack all containers with liquids in Ziplocks to prevent leakage.

Leave photocopies of your passport, all cards, and this completed list (for insurance purposes) at home.

Flight Details

check box for
your group

Flight Group 1 (39 seats) – **meet KCI airport terminal B for Southwest by 7:30 a.m.** ☐

March 9 – WN 693, Kansas City to Atlanta – 9:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
KLM 624, Atlanta to Amsterdam – 3:55 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
KLM 1597, Amsterdam to Rome – 6:50 a.m. to 9:10 a.m.

March 18 – AF 1005, Rome to Paris – 6:20 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.
AF 682, Paris to Atlanta – 10:40 a.m. to 3:35 p.m.
WN 4248, Atlanta to Kansas City – 10:25 p.m. to 11:40 p.m.

Flight Group 2 (30 seats) – **meet KCI airport terminal B for Delta by 11:30 a.m.** ☐

March 9 – DL 1109, Kansas City to Detroit – 1:45 p.m. to 4:36 p.m.
AF 377, Detroit to Paris – 9:05 p.m. to 10:55 a.m.
AF 1104, Paris to Rome – 1:25 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

March 18 – AF 1205, Rome to Paris – 10:20 a.m. to 12:35 p.m.
AF 378, Paris to Detroit – 3:10 p.m. to 7:10 p.m.
DL 1126, Detroit to Kansas City – 8:15 p.m. to 9:22 p.m.

Flight Group 3 (24 seats) – **meet KCI airport terminal C for American by 7:30 a.m.** ☐

March 9 – AA 3456, Kansas City to Chicago – 9:40 a.m. to 11:13 a.m.
AA 2562, Chicago to Philadelphia – 1:35 p.m. to 4:34 p.m.
AA 718, Philadelphia to Rome – 6:30 p.m. to 9:10 a.m.

March 18 – AA 719, Rome to Philadelphia – 10:40 a.m. to 3:50 p.m.
AA 546, Philadelphia to Charlotte – 5:40 p.m. to 7:35 p.m.
AA 2256, Charlotte to Kansas City – 10:25 p.m. to 11:56 p.m.

Flight Group 4 (40 seats) – **meet KCI airport terminal C for United by 5:15 a.m.** ☐

March 9 – UA 3579, Kansas City to Newark – 7:20 a.m. to 11:13 a.m.
UA 40, Newark to Rome – 5:35 p.m. to 8:05 a.m.

March 18 – UA 41, Rome to Newark – 8:55 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
UA 3491, Newark to Kansas City – 7:59 p.m. to 10:21 p.m.

Flight Group 5 (38 seats) – **meet KCI airport terminal B for Delta by 11:45 a.m.** ☐

March 9 – DL 1250, Kansas City to Atlanta – 2:08 p.m. to 5:04 p.m.
DL 64, Atlanta to Rome – 5:53 p.m. to 9:40 a.m.

March 18 – DL 65, Rome to Atlanta – 10:25 a.m. to 5:03 p.m.
DL 1926, Atlanta to Kansas City – 7:32 p.m. to 8:51 p.m.

Flight Group 6 (19 seats) – **meet KCI airport terminal C for United by 6:30 a.m.** ☐

March 9 – UA 3615, Kansas City to Chicago – 8:41 a.m. to 10:18 a.m.
UA 609, Chicago to Newark – 12:30 p.m. to 3:44 p.m.
UA 40, Newark to Rome – 5:35 p.m. to 8:05 a.m.

March 19* – UA 18, Milan to Newark – 9:25 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.
UA 3491, Newark to Kansas City – 7:59 p.m. to 10:21 p.m.

Flight Group 7 (16 seats) – **meet KCI airport terminal C for United by 10:15 a.m.** ☐

March 9 – UA 3489, Kansas City to Newark – 12:20 p.m. to 4:13 p.m.
UA 40, Newark to Rome – 5:35 p.m. to 8:05 a.m.

March 19* – UA 18, Milan to Newark – 9:25 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.
UA 3491, Newark to Kansas City – 7:59 p.m. to 10:21 p.m.

* One day later than other groups.

My Important Travel Notes:

Traveler Assignments

All travelers are listed in alphabetical order by last name. There are 131 students, 5 faculty, 64 parents, and 6 siblings confirmed for the trip.

Traveler		Flight	Other	Roommate		Chaperone	Bus
Albano	Joey	1		Henry	Kartsonis	Barnickel	3
Arnold	Lylia	3		–	–	Smith	2
Arvesen	Seth	3		Christian	Flathman	Flathman	2
Ball	Caleb	3		Ben	Dedecker	DeDecker	3
Ball	Julie	3	P	–	–	–	3
Barnickel	Patrick	6		Matthew	Treck	Barnickel	3
Barnickel	Ted	6	P	–	–	–	3
Barnickel	Kelly	6	P	–	–	–	3

F = faculty P = parent S = sibling

Flight Group 6 and 7 are BOLDED

Traveler		Flight*	Other	Roommate		Chaperone**	Bus
Beveridge-Calvin	Riley	1		Gaby	Troup	Smith	2
Blubaugh	Caroline	2		Megan	Zellmer	Foley	1
Bruso	Will	1		Kevin	Connor	DeDecker	3
Burkhead	Jack	1		Jack	McElroy	Denniston	1
Burkhead	Leah	1	P	–	–	–	4
Bury	Sherris	4	P	–	–	–	4
Bush	Jackson	7		Sam	Fay	Knabe	1
Cain	Nathan	1		Jake	Lowery	Flathman	2
Caniglia	Katie	5		Sophia	Egan	Pindell	3
Caniglia	Nancy	5	P	–	–	–	4
Chamberlin	Kyle	4	F	–	–	–	4
Chisholm	Grace	1		Emma	Renwick	Long	1
Chisholm	Laura	1	P	–	–	–	4
Chisholm	Bill	1	P	–	–	–	4
Churchill	Hudson	3		Braxton	Loving	Smith	2
Cleaver	Luke	5		Daniel	Hammond	Smith	2
Colby	Charlie	1		Dane	Erickson	Denniston	1
Collins	Max	2		Noah	Kurlbaum	Knabe	1
Collins	Jeff	2	P	–	–	–	2
Collins	Kathy	2	P	–	–	–	2
Connor	Kevin	5		Will	Bruso	DeDecker	3
Cornelius	Ainsley	4		Taylor	Revare	Mackender	3
Cunningham	Isabelle	1		Savanna	Worthington	Long	1
Davis	Loren	3		Zoey Davis &	Mia Vaught	Stratman	2
Davis	Zoey	6		Loren Davis &	Mia Vaught	Stratman	2
Davis	Alisha	1		Marin Taylor &	Bayleigh Smith	Rawson	2
DeDecker	Ben	4		Caleb	Ball	DeDecker	3
DeDecker	Jehan	4	P	–	–	–	3
DeFeo	Tom	2	F	–	–	–	3
Denniston	Tracey	7	P	–	–	–	1
Dill	Linda	2	P	–	–	–	4
Drake	Megan	3		Reagan	Sexton	Stratman	2
Dugan	Connor	2		Tom	Joyce	Knabe	1

Traveler		Flight*	Other	Roommate		Chaperone**	Bus
Egan	Sophia	5		Katie	Caniglia	Pindell	3
Engel	Jackson	2		Davis	Vaughn	Barnickel	3
Epstein	Isabel	1		Maddie	Smiley	Foley	1
Erickson	Dane	1		Charlie	Colby	Denniston	1
Fay	Sam	7		Jackson	Bush	Knabe	1
Fimbres	Isa	6		Katherine	Lenger	Stratman	2
Flathman	Christian	4		Seth	Arvesen	Flathman	2
Flathman	Jeff	4	P	–	–	–	2
Fogel	Will	1		Alex	Paris	Barnickel	3
Foley	Ken	4	F	–	–	–	1
Foley	Heather	4	P	–	–	–	1
Foley	Jilli	4	S	–	–	–	1
Fontg	Andres	2		Grant	Mackender	Flathman	2
Fontg	Ricardo	2	P	–	–	–	4
Ford	Molly-Kate	3		Katie	Garverick	Mackender	3
Fox	Billy	5		Cal	Knabe	Knabe	1
Fox	John	5	P	–	–	–	4
Fox	Sybbie	5	P	–	–	–	4
Fox	Sarah	5	S	–	–	–	4
Freeman	Alex	2		Maya	Stratman	Foley	1
Garverick	Katie	4		Molly-Kate	Ford	Mackender	3
Garverick	Kristine	4	P	–	–	–	1
Goist	Glenn	4	P	–	–	–	1
Goldman	Jones	3		Quin	Napier	Flathman	2
Hack	Miranda	4		Caroline	Mills	Pindell	3
Hack	Rob	4	P	–	–	–	4
Hammond	Daniel	5		Luke	Cleaver	Smith	2
Hammond	Mary	5	P	–	–	–	4
Hassenflu	Peyton	5		Katie	MacAdam	Long	1
Hembree	Kate	1		Gwenith	Yeomans	Pindell	3
Herrera	Aracely	2		Alexandra	Mattsson	Rawson	2
Herrick	Laila	4		Maddie	Schutzler	Pindell	3
Holmes	Cooper	1		Cale	Mueller	Denniston	1

Traveler		Flight*	Other	Roommate		Chaperone**	Bus
Horton	Sydney	4		Tessa	Worner	Foley	1
Hurt	Paula	7	P	–	–	–	4
Huxtable	Ethan	4		Michael	Schraml	Smith	2
Hyde	Iris	2		Sarah	Wilcox	Foley	1
Jarvis	Ronald	5	P	–	–	–	4
Jiang	Janice	4		Pauline	Shaver	Mackender	3
Jones	Carson	6		CJ	Manne	DeDecker	3
Joyce	Tom	1		Connor	Dugan	Knabe	1
Kartsonis	Henry	4		Joey	Albano	Barnickel	3
Kesler	Audrey	2		Jamie	Monty	Smith	2
Ketchum	Lynda	4	P	–	–	–	4
Kinney	Laura	3	P	–	–	–	4
Kinney	JD	3	P	–	–	–	4
Kirkland	Carter	4		Christopher	Patrick	Flathman	2
Knabe	Cal	2		Billy	Fox	Knabe	1
Knabe	Karen	2	P	–	–	–	1
Koc	Kaleigh	1		Bella	Stamati	Long	1
Kurlbaum	Noah	4		Max	Collins	Knabe	1
Laprairie	Amber	4		Abby	White	Rawson	2
Lenger	Katherine	6		Isa	Fimbres	Stratman	2
Long	Claire	1		Jensen	Pindell	Long	1
Long	Jean	1	P	–	–	–	1
Loving	Braxton	3		Hudson	Churchill	Smith	2
Lowery	Jake	7		Nathan	Cain	Flathman	2
MacAdam	Katie	5		Peyton	Hassenflu	Long	1
MacAdam	Michael	5	P	–	–	–	4
MacAdam	Lori	5	P	–	–	–	4
MacAdam	Lizzie	5	S	–	–	–	4
Mackender	Grant	3		Andres	Fontg	Flathman	2
Mackender	Stephena	3	P	–	–	–	3
Madden	Gwen	6		Harper	Mundy	Stratman	2
Maisch	Haley	4		Izzy	Zanone	Foley	1
Manalo	Noah	1		Jack	Reeves	Denniston	1

Traveler		Flight*	Other	Roommate		Chaperone**	Bus
Manne	CJ	6		Carson	Jones	DeDecker	3
Mattsson	Alexandra	4		Aracely	Herrera	Rawson	2
McConnell	Andi	7		Hannah	Phillips	DeDecker	3
McConnell	Jan	7	P	–	–	–	4
McConnell	Ladd	7	P	–	–	–	4
McCormick	Claire	4		Madeline	Stump	Rawson	2
McDonald	Isaac	1		Dan	Scott	Denniston	1
McDonald	Simon	6		Sam	Reda	Barnickel	3
McElroy	Jack	1		Jack	Burkhead	Denniston	1
McElroy	Cami	1	P	–	–	–	4
McKinney	Maeve	7		Lidia	Ragland	Pindell	3
McKinney	John	7	F	–	–	–	4
McKinney	Shazon	7	P	–	–	–	4
McKinney	Stella	7	S	–	–	–	4
McMonigle	Peter	5		James	Popper	Knabe	1
McMonigle	Shirley	5	P	–	–	–	4
Mills	Caroline	3		Miranda	Hack	Pindell	3
Monty	Jamie	2		Audrey	Kesler	Smith	2
Mueller	Cale	4		Cooper	Holmes	Denniston	1
Mulligan	Maggie	5		Lauren	Winston	Pindell	3
Mulligan	Tom	5	P	–	–	–	4
Mundy	Harper	6		Gwen	Madden	Stratman	2
Mustoe	Madison	2		Kailey	Rawson	DeDecker	3
Napier	Quin	4		Jones	Goldman	Flathman	2
Paris	Alex	4		Will	Fogel	Barnickel	3
Parsons	Susan	4	F	–	–	–	4
Patrick	Christopher	4		Carter	Kirkland	Flathman	2
Petrie	Libby	2		Ellie	Willis	Rawson	2
Phillips	Hannah	7		Andi	McConnell	DeDecker	3
Pindell	Jensen	1		Claire	Long	Long	1
Pindell	Ashley	1	P	–	–	–	3
Pindell	Joseph	1	P	–	–	–	3
Plunkett	Morgan	4		Sophia	Scarlett	Mackender	3

Traveler		Flight*	Other	Roommate		Chaperone**	Bus
Popper	James	1		Peter	McMonigle	Knabe	1
Popper	Virginia	1	P	–	–	–	4
Popper	Robert	1	P	–	–	–	4
Popper	Carolyn	1	S	–	–	–	4
Ragland	Lidia	5		Maeve	McKinney	Pindell	3
Ragland	Melissa	5	P	–	–	–	4
Rawson	Kailey	3		Madison	Mustoe	DeDecker	3
Rawson	Carey	3	P	–	–	–	2
Reda	Sam	3		Simon	McDonald	Barnickel	3
Reeves	Jack	5		Noah	Manalo	Denniston	1
Renwick	Emma	2		Grace	Chisholm	Long	1
Renwick	Randy	2	P	–	–	–	2
Renwick	Karen	2	P	–	–	–	2
Revare	Taylor	5		Ainsley	Cornelius	Mackender	3
Reynolds	Laini	7		Lauren	Terry	Mackender	3
Reynolds	Robbin	7	P	–	–	–	4
Sanchez	Linda	5	P	–	–	–	4
Scarlett	Sophia	5		Morgan	Plunkett	Mackender	3
Schafer	Jennifer	5	P	–	–	–	4
Schraml	Michael	5		Ethan	Huxtable	Smith	2
Schutzler	Maddie	1		Laila	Herrick	Pindell	3
Scott	Dan	4		Isaac	McDonald	Denniston	1
Sexton	Reagan	4		Megan	Drake	Stratman	2
Shaver	Pauline	6		Janice	Jiang	Mackender	3
Smiley	Maddie	1		Isabel	Epstein	Foley	1
Smith	Bayleigh	4		Alisha Davis &	Marin Taylor	Rawson	2
Smith	Reagan	3		Brooklyn	Terrill	Mackender	3
Smith	Alexandria	3	P	–	–	–	2
Stamati	Bella	5		Kaleigh	Koc	Long	1
Starr	Laura	4	P	–	–	–	4
Stracke	Steffanie	3	P	–	–	–	4
Stratman	Maya	6		Alex	Freeman	Foley	1
Stratman	Suzanne	6	P	–	–	–	2

Traveler		Flight*	Other	Roommate		Chaperone**	Bus
Stump	Madeline	2		Claire	McCormick	Rawson	2
Taylor	Marin	4		Bayleigh Smith	& Alisha Davis	Rawson	2
Ternus	Gretchen	2		Mary Claire	Witwer	Stratman	2
Ternus	MeMe	2	P	–	–	–	4
Terrill	Brooklyn	3		Reagan	Smith	Mackender	3
Terry	Lauren	6		Laini	Reynolds	Mackender	3
Terry	Keely	6	P	–	–	–	4
Theis	Serita	5	P	–	–	–	4
Trecek	Matthew	6		Patrick	Barnickel	Barnickel	3
Trecek	Bruce	6	P	–	–	–	4
Trecek	Jan	6	P	–	–	–	4
Troup	Gaby	2		Riley	Beveridge-Calvin	Smith	2
Vaughn	Davis	2		Jackson	Engel	Barnickel	3
Vaught	Mia	2		Loren Davis &	Zoey Davis	Stratman	2
Veglahn	Robbie	5		Jack	Workman	Knabe	1
Veglahn	Lisa	5	P	–	–	–	4
Veglahn	Margaret	5	S	–	–	–	4
White	Abby	4		Amber	Laprairie	Rawson	2
Wilcox	Sarah	5		Iris	Hyde	Foley	1
Willis	Ellie	4		Libby	Petrie	Rawson	2
Winston	Lauren	5		Maggie	Mulligan	Pindell	3
Winston	Bernie	5	P	–	–	–	4
Winston	Rick	5	P	–	–	–	4
Witwer	Mary Claire	3		Gretchen	Ternus	Stratman	2
Workman	Jack	1		Robbie	Veglahn	Knabe	1
Workman	Gina	1	P	–	–	–	4
Worner	Tessa	2		Sydney	Horton	Foley	1
Worthington	Savanna	1		Isabelle	Cunningham	Long	1
Yeomans	Gwenith	7		Kate	Hembree	Pindell	3
Zanone	Izzy	1		Haley	Maisch	Foley	1
Zanone	Julie	1	P	–	–	–	4
Zellmer	Megan	3		Caroline	Blubaugh	Foley	1
Zimmerman	Joy	2	P	–	–	–	4

Chaperone Summary



Bus 1

FOLEY (Heather)

Caroline Blubaugh
Isabel Epstein
Alex Freeman
Sydney Horton
Iris Hyde
Haley Maisch
Maddie Smiley
Maya Stratman
Sarah Wilcox
Tessa Worner
Izzy Zanone
Megan Zellmer



Bus 1

KNABE (Karen)

Jackson Bush
Max Collins
Connor Dugan
Sam Fay
Billy Fox
Tom Joyce
Cal Knabe
Noah Kurlbaum
Peter McMonigle
James Popper
Robbie Veglahn
Jack Workman



Bus 1

LONG (Jean)

Grace Chisholm
Isabelle Cunningham
Peyton Hassenflu
Kaleigh Koc
Claire Long
Katie MacAdam
Jensen Pindell
Emma Renwick
Bella Stamati
Savanna Worthington



Bus 1

DENNISTON (Tracey)

Jack Burkhead
Charlie Colby
Dane Erickson
Cooper Holmes
Noah Manalo
Isaac McDonald
Jack McElroy
Cale Mueller
Jack Reeves
Dan Scott



Bus 2

FLATHMAN (Jeff)

Seth Arvesen
Nathan Cain
Christian Flathman
Andres Fontg
Jones Goldman
Carter Kirkland
Jake Lowery
Grant Mackender
Quin Napier
Christopher Patrick



Bus 2

RAWSON (Carey)

Alisha Davis
Aracely Herrera
Amber Laprairie
Alexandra Mattsson
Claire McCormick
Libby Petrie
Bayleigh Smith
Madeline Stump
Marin Taylor
Abby White
Ellie Willis



Bus 2

STRATMAN (Suzanne)

Loren Davis
Zoey Davis
Megan Drake
Isa Fimbres
Katherine Lenger
Gwen Madden
Harper Mundy
Reagan Sexton
Gretchen Temus
Mia Vaught
Mary Claire Witwer



Bus 2

SMITH (Alexandria)

Lylia Arnold
Riley Beveridge-Calvin
Hudson Churchill
Luke Cleaver
Daniel Hammond
Ethan Huxtable
Audrey Kesler
Braxton Loving
Jamie Monty
Michael Schraml
Gaby Troup



Bus 3

BARNICKEL (Kelly/Ted)

Joey Albano
Patrick Barnickel
Jackson Engel
Will Fogel
Henry Kartsonis
Simon McDonald
Alex Paris
Sam Reda
Matthew Trecek
Davis Vaughn



Bus 3

PINDELL (Ashley/Joseph)

Katie Caniglia
Sophia Egan
Miranda Hack
Kate Hembree
Laila Herrick
Maevie McKinney
Caroline Mills
Maggie Mulligan
Lidia Ragland
Maddie Schutzieler
Lauren Winston
Gwenith Yeomans



Bus 3

MACKENDER (Stephena)

Ainsley Cornelius
Molly-Kate Ford
Katie Garverick
Janice Jiang
Morgan Plunkett
Taylor Revare
Laini Reynolds
Sophia Scarlett
Pauline Shaver
Reagan Smith
Brooklyn Terrill
Lauren Terry



Bus 3

DEDECKER (Jehan)

Caleb Ball
Will Bruso
Kevin Connor
Ben DeDecker
Carson Jones
CJ Manne
Andi McConnell
Madison Mustoe
Hannah Phillips
Kailey Rawson

My Notes About Important Meeting Times for Day 1 or Day 2:

Day 1

Friday, March 9, departure from Kansas City

"Tardiness often robs us opportunity, and the dispatch of our forces."

– Niccolò Machiavelli

Please arrive at your airport terminal by the time assigned to your Flight Group. This time may seem very early for us to be meeting; however, we are coordinating the travel of over 200 people. The SME coordinator needs time to check all students for their required items, including passport and full choir dress items. If an error or omission occurs on the part of the travel company or any traveler, we need time to make sure everyone planning to go on the trip gets to go on the trip. Please alleviate stress for the coordinators by strictly adhering to this time.

Day 2

Saturday, March 10, arrive Rome, Orvieto, Montecatini Terme

Hotel: the Regina et Du Park ★★★★★ Montecatini Terme, <http://www.regina-hotel.it>

- Transport** Upon arrival, we will be met by two transfer guides and four Tour Directors (Lisa Careless - Lead Tour Director, Silvia Silvestre, Elisabetta Amadi and Mark Sadler) who will accompany us to the waiting six coaches which will be provided for our group today. Groups 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 will transfer to Orvieto.
- Culture** Set atop a high volcanic plateau, Orvieto is hidden from the rolling farmlands of southern Umbria. Believed to have originally been a large Etruscan city of many temples, Orvieto is more famous today for its impressive Duomo and for its white wine.
- Transport** Our coaches will drop us off in the new city from where we will take a Funicular ride to the historical city centre.
- Tour** Visit the Duomo, Orvieto's most striking sight. With the sun glinting off the gold mosaics, pointed arches, and intricate Gothic stone detailing, the cathedral has led some to call it a precious gem, and others to dub it the world's largest triptych. Our visit will include the Cappella Nuova, also known locally as the Capella San Brizio, featuring frescoes by Fra Angelico that influenced the works of Michelangelo. The Cappella del Corporale houses a cloth on which the blood of Christ is said to have miraculously appeared.
- Transport** All coaches will then continue to Montecatini Terme.
- Culture** Montecatini Terme is a picturesque town in Tuscany that has hosted visitors since its famous spa baths were created in the 16th century. Situated near Florence and Lucca, the town is a perfect base for exploring.
- Hotel** Our hotel in the Montecatini Terme area will be our base for the next three nights. While here, we will enjoy breakfast and dinner at the hotel. We will wait for the last group to arrive from Rome prior to having dinner together in the hotel this evening.

My Notes About Important Meeting Times for Day 3 or Day 4:

Day 3

(This is Daylight Saving Time in Kansas, but no change in Italy.)
Sunday, March 11, Florence, concert performance

Transport	From today and for the next seven days we will be divided between four private coaches, each accompanied by a Tour Director.
Culture	Florence is so deeply connected to the Renaissance movement in art and literature that it is often called the "Cradle of the Renaissance." A walk through the peaceful piazzas reveals architecture and sculpture that have made this beautiful city one of the world's greatest artistic capitals.
Tour	Visit the Accademia Gallery, where we will view Michelangelo's statuary masterpiece, David, and Boticelli's Madonna and Child.
Tour	Enjoy the Piazza del Duomo, where the cathedral, tower, and baptistery exhibit the traditions of Florentine art from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance. We will observe the massive and detailed facade of the Duomo before viewing the baptistery's bronze doors, designed by Ghiberti and which Michelangelo commented were worthy to be the "Gates of Paradise."
Tour	Stroll along the Ponte Vecchio, the oldest of Florence's six bridges and one of the best-loved sites of Florence. Lined with numerous shops, visitors often do not realize they are on a bridge until they reach the center arches that look out over the Arno.
Perform	4:00 Our first concert performance will take place in the Chiesa di Ognissanti or All Saints Church, a Franciscan church which was one of the most important in Florence during the Renaissance period. It is the burial place of Botticelli and the adjoining Refectory has a fresco of the Last Supper by Ghirlandaio, thought to have influenced Leonardo da Vinci's later work in Milan.

Day 4

Monday, March 12, Pisa, concert performance

Transport	This morning we will transfer to the south of Florence.
Tour	Spend time at the American Military Cemetery and Memorial, where the headstones of 4,402 of the military dead are arranged in symmetrical curved rows upon the hillside, representing 39 percent of the US Fifth Army burials originally made between Rome and the Alps. Most died in the fighting that occurred after the capture of Rome in June 1944. Included among them are casualties of the heavy fighting in the Apennines shortly before the war's end. During our time at the cemetery we will lay a wreath to commemorate the Fallen.
Perform	We will perform an informal recital at the American Military Cemetery in memory of the Fallen.
Tour	Visit the Palagetto Winery, located 2km from the city of San Gimignano and set in 60 hectares of vineyards with 20 hectares of olive trees. We will tour the vineyard and cellars prior to enjoying a typical Tuscan lunch.
Transport	We continue on our journey from San Gimignano to Pisa.
Culture	During the Middle Ages, Pisa's powerful navy and strong trading position brought enormous wealth to the city. Following several conquests and the silting of the harbor, however, it fell into decline. Now Pisa is primarily visited for its interesting architecture.
Tour	Visit the Duomo di Pisa, a masterpiece of Romanesque architecture. Begun in 1093, the cathedral is located in the heart of the Piazza del Duomo where it dominates the square. Inside are five naves and a 3-naved transept.
Perform	Today we will have the opportunity to sing informally at the Duomo.

My Notes About Important Meeting Times for Day 5 or Day 6:

Day 5

Tuesday, March 13, Montecatini Terme, Siena, Assisi

Hotel: Hotel Cenacolo ★★★★★ Assisi, <http://www.hotelcenacolo.com/EN/hotel.html>

Transport	Today we will travel from Montecatini Terme to Assisi. En route we will explore Siena.
Culture	Once a capital to rival Florence, Siena is Italy's prettiest medieval town, and still possesses the grandeur of the age when it was at its peak.
Tour	Upon arrival in Siena will be split into five groups, each of which will be accompanied by a local guide. They will accompany us from the coach park to the Duomo, highlighted by distinctive striped marble columns. Our visit will include the beautiful Piccolomini Library, designed to house the cathedral's collection of illuminated manuscripts. The magnificent room features an unrivaled ceiling and large frescoes depicting important events in the life of Pope Pius II.
Hotel	Our hotel in the Assisi area will be our base for the next two nights. While here, we will enjoy breakfast and dinner at the hotel.

Day 6

Wednesday, March 14, Assisi, concert performance

Culture	The medieval town of Assisi is heir to the legacy of its most prominent citizen, St. Francis. Although the town was damaged in the earthquake of 1997, it has been restored to its former glory with geranium-hung streets, lovely views, and fountain-splashed piazzas.
Tour	This morning, four English speaking priests will accompany us on a tour of the Basilica di San Francesco, an incongruous memorial to a man who preached and lived an utterly simple life of poverty, abstinence, and the renunciation of worldly goods in search of greater spirituality. We will explore the bi-level basilica, including the Lower Church, the Crypt, and the Upper Church, with Giotto's famous frescoes of 28 scenes of the Life of St. Francis.
Tour	This afternoon we will split into five groups, each of which will be accompanied by a local guide. Our sightseeing will commence as we explore the Church of Santa Chiara, the resting place for St. Clare's bones, and home of St. Francis's miraculous crucifix. Our visit will include the Neo-Gothic Crypt and the Oratorio del Crocifisso, which preserves the venerated 12th century crucifix that spoke to St. Francis at San Damiano and set him on his holy path.
Tour	We will then continue by coach with our local guides for a visit to the Basilica of Santa Maria degli Angeli to see the small Porziuncola Chapel and the site where St. Francis died.
Transport	Following our sightseeing, we will return to our hotel for dinner and to change for this evening's concert.
Perform	9:00 Our concert performance this evening will be in the Basilica di San Francesco.

My Notes About Important Meeting Times for Day 7 or Day 8:

Day 7

Thursday, March 15, Assisi, Rome, concert performance

Hotel: A.Roma ★★★★★ Rome, <https://www.hotel-aroma.com/en/>

- Transport** Today we will travel from Assisi to Rome.
- Culture** Known to many as the "Eternal City," Rome is the capital of Italy, with an uninterrupted history spanning two and a half thousand years. As one of the founding cities of western civilization, Rome is filled with incredible historical sites. It is a city with many faces, encompassing medieval, renaissance, and modern. To define Rome is an impossible task, but to enjoy Rome is a wondrous experience.
- Tour** Time permitting upon arrival, visit the Pantheon, Rome's best-preserved monument. The Pantheon is a masterpiece of architecture with its huge hemispherical dome. It also contains the tombs of the kings of Italy and that of the artist, Raphael (alternatively, we will visit tomorrow).
- Perform** **3:00** We will perform a concert at the Rome International School, a private school offering an international education to children aged 2 to 18 years. The language of instruction is English.
- Hotel** For the next three evenings we will enjoy the convenience of our centrally-located Rome hotel, where daily breakfast will be included.
- Culture** This evening we will dine in the Piazza Navona area. Built on the foundations of Domitian's Circus, this magnificent square was designed by Borromini in 17th century. It is full of life and is highlighted by one of Rome's most spectacular fountains, the Four Rivers designed by Bernini. The square is often filled with local artists. The surrounding neighborhood is also one of the best places in Rome to get a tasty tartufo or gelato ice cream.

Day 8

Friday, March 16, Rome (City of Popes), concert performance

- Tour** Enjoy a guided tour, through the spectacular remains of the Roman Empire. The Colosseum, considered to be the greatest symbol of Ancient Rome's power and glory, was completed under Titus in 80 A.D. The Colosseum could hold 55,000 spectators, on par with many of today's modern sports stadiums. Among the sights included is the Arch of Constantine, a triumphal arch finished in 315 A.D., commemorating the victory of Constantine I over Maxentius in the year 312 A.D. We will also tour the ruins and excavations of the Roman Forum, which features the remains of magnificent temples, basilicas, and triumphal arches that once formed the heart of the Empire.
- Tour** Experience a specialist-guided tour of the Vatican City, including the Museums, home to one of the world's most impressive collections of art. Our tour includes the map tapestry rooms, the magnificent Raphael Rooms, and the spectacular Sistine Chapel, highlighted by Michelangelo's ceiling and his Last Judgment. We will continue into St. Peter's Square to visit St. Peter's Basilica, the largest church in the western world and the center of Catholicism. Highlights of our visit include Michelangelo's Pieta and Bernini's magnificent Baldacchino over the high altar.
- Perform** **5:00** Today our choir will participate in the Mass service at St Peter's Basilica. We will perform Sicut Cervus by Palestrina, Lux Aurumque by Eric Whitacre, Vieni Nel Mio Cuore by Jonny Priano, Abide With Me by Moses Hogan, and Ride The Chariot by Moses Hogan.
- 23 This evening, dinner will be provided in a local restaurant.

My Notes About Important Meeting Times for Day 9, Day 10 or Day 11:

Day 9

Saturday, March 17, Day trip to Pompeii

- Culture** Pompeii is a ruined and partially buried Roman town-city near modern Naples in the Italian region of Campania, in the territory of the comune of Pompei. Along with Herculaneum, its sister city, Pompeii was destroyed, and completely buried, during a long catastrophic eruption of the volcano Mount Vesuvius spanning two days in AD 79.
- Tour** Explore the magnificent Roman ruins at Pompeii, which give a fascinating glimpse into Roman life. In 79 AD, the fury of nearby Mt. Vesuvius was unleashed upon this prosperous city, killing its 2,000 inhabitants and burying it under pumice and ash. Today, the excavations reveal the ruins of the city's amphitheatres, forum, baths, streets and splendid houses, some with their frescoes still visible. Finally we explore the Villa of the Mysteries outside the city walls.
- Culture** This evening we will dine near the spectacular Trevi Fountain where it is traditional to toss a coin into the fountain to ensure a safe return to The Eternal City. Spend time at Rome's meeting place, the Piazza di Spagna, home of the famous Spanish Steps. The piazza and steps are both named in reference to a 16th century Spanish ambassador who lived here. English poet John Keats lived and died in the house to the right of the steps, which is now a memorial.

Day 10

Sunday, March 18, Departure from Rome (groups 1-5)

My Notes About Today's Travel:

Day 11

Monday, March 19, Departure from Milan (groups 6-7)

My Notes About Today's Travel:

Italian Pronunciation

Vowels – Italian has just 7 vowel sounds. When two or more vowels occur in a row, they are always pronounced separately, as in Australia [a-u-stra-li-a]

	English equivalent	Example
a	long like a in "father"	mamma
e	1. (open) like e in set 2. (closed) like a in say	1. bello 2. sera
i	like ee in meet	amico
o	1. (open) like o in pot 2. (closed) like o in post	1. otto 2. sole
u	like oo in food	uno

Consonants – Most consonants are pronounced as in English, except the following:

	English equivalent	Example
c	1. before "i" or "e" - like ch in church 2. otherwise - like c in car	1. ciao, piacere 2. casa, come, cuoco
g	1. before "i" or "e" - like g in general 2. otherwise - like g in goal	1. giorno, gelato 2. gatto, gonna, gusto
h	h is always silent	ho, hai, hanno, hotel
r	rolled like r in Spanish	Roma, treno
s	1. between vowels - like s in rose 2. otherwise - like s in sit	1. casa, rosa 2. scala, pasto
z	1. at beginning of words - like ds in pads 2. otherwise - like ts in cats	1. zero, zucchero 2. grazie, stazione

Combinations

	English equivalent	Example
ch	like c in car	anche, chilo
gh	like g in goal	spaghetti, funghi
gn	like ny in canyon or like ñ in Spanish	signora, gnocchi
gli	like lli in million	figlio, moglie
sc	1. before "i" or "e" - like sh in shut 2. otherwise - like sk in skip	1. sciare, pesce 2. scala, scusi, tedeschi

source: <https://www.conversationexchange.com/resources/pronunciation/it/index.php?lg=en>

My Important Italian Language Notes:

Italian Expressions

Dov'è il bagno? – Where is the bathroom?

Non parlo italiano. – I don't speak Italian.

Parla inglese? – Do you speak English?

Sì. – Yes. **No.** – No.

Che ore sono? – What time is it?

Grazie. – Thank you.

A che ora è la colazione? – What time is breakfast?

Un tavolo per tre, per cortesia. – A table for three please.

Va bene. La prendo. – It's fine. I'll take it.

Scusi, ci può portare il menù? – Excuse me, can we have the menu?

E da bere? – And what would you like to drink?

Che cosa avete come dessert? – What kind of desserts do you have?

Ci può portare il conto per favore? – Can we have the bill please?

Tenga pure il resto. – You can keep the change.

Grazie, arrivederci! – Thank you, goodbye! **Ciao.** – Goodbye.

La camera è troppo rumorosa. – The room is too noisy.

Manca l'acqua calda. – There's no hot water.

Posso avere ancora un cuscino? – Can I have another pillow?

Che tempo fa? – What's the weather like?

Fa bel tempo. – The weather is nice. Fa brutto tempo. – The weather is bad.

C'è il sole. – It's sunny. Piove. – It's raining.

Fa caldo. – It's hot. **Fa freddo.** – It's cold.

Scusi, mi sa dire dov'è ...? – Excuse me, can you tell me where ... is?

Quanto tempo ci vuole a piedi? – How long does it take on foot?

La posso aiutare? – Can I help you?

Sto solo dando un'occhiata. – I'm just browsing.

Quanto costa questa camicia? – How much is this shirt?

Posso provarla? – Can I try it on?

Scusi, dov'è il camerino? – Excuse me, where's the changing room?

È troppo grande / piccolo. – It's too big / small.

Avete una taglia più piccola / grande? – Do you have a smaller / bigger size?

Un po'. – A little bit.

Posso pagare con carta di credito? – Can I pay by credit card?

Sì, mi piace moltissimo. – Yes, I like it very much.

Ciao, come ti chiami? – Hi, what's your name?

Mi chiamo Marco. – My name is Marco.

Piacere! – Pleased to meet you!

Volentieri. – That would be nice.

Come va? – How're you doing? Come stai? – How are you?

Bene grazie e tu? – Well thanks and you?

Di dove sei? – Where are you from?

Scusa, non ho capito. – I'm sorry, I didn't quite catch that.

Mi sono divertito un sacco! – I had a lot of fun!

Buona notte e sogni d'oro! – Good night and sweet dreams!