

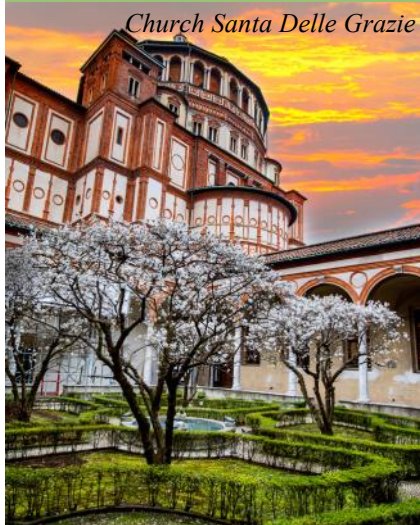


Italy Concert Tour

Sample Itinerary



Colosseum



Church Santa Delle Grazie



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Teatro Alla Scala

Day 1 • Depart

Day 2 • Milan

Upon arrival in Milan, we meet our coach and driver and transfer to the city center. After checking in we meet our local guide who will show us Italy's second largest and wealthiest city. This evening we will be able to sample some of the famous Italian night life. **In flight meals/D**

Day 3 • Milan

This morning we will tour the **Teatro Alla Scala**, considered to be the finest opera house in the world, and home to Europe's largest stage. After the tour we will take time for lunch and drive to the **Church Santa Delle Grazie** to see Leonardo da Vinci's *The Last Supper*, one of the world's greatest paintings. The rest of the afternoon is open for options. Many of us will want to explore the **Gallerie Vittorio Emanuele II**, Milan's beautiful domed shopping mall. Milan is one of Europe's fashion centers and the home to main boutiques of Armani, Valentino, Versace, Ferragamo, and Gucci (among others). **B/D**

Day 4 • Venice

We depart Milano and drive eastward. Our first stop will be at **Sirmione**, a treasure alongside Lake Garda, the largest of the Italian Lakes. With its own little castle faithfully guarding the entrance to the city, Sirmione makes a wonderful "lunch and gelato" stop! After lunch we continue eastward to **Verona** and stop to see the magnificent Roman colosseum dating back to the first Century. We will also take time to see the famous "**Romeo and Juliet**" balcony. We then arrive in Venice in time to relax and explore. Tonight, why not take the Vaporetto water bus



Sirmione



"Romeo and Juliet" Balcony

out into the Venetian Lagoon to Lido, for a wonderful evening experience. Some time on the Piazza San Marco without the hordes of visitors also makes for a very special evening. **B/D**

Day 5 • Venice

We now have an entire day to experience fabulous Venice, La Serenissima (the "Serene One.") Built on 117 islands, it is a mosaic of canals, plazas, fascinating markets, and chaos! Every minute spent here makes memories and every step is a photographer's paradise! We begin our visit with an excursion to **San Marco** (St. Mark's Square). Here we see the **bell tower** (Campanile) and the impressive **St. Mark's Cathedral**. There will be time in the afternoon to explore and shop in the famous market area around the Rialto Bridge, or maybe take the water bus to Lido Island and have some "beach time." **B/D**

Day 6 • Florence area

Departing Venice and the area of Veneto, we drive southward to **Tuscany**, the very heart of "Old Italy." First on our agenda will be a visit to **Pisa** to see the renowned **Leaning Tower**. Then it's on to **Lucca** for a lunch stop and chance to visit a classic Roman-styled city. You might enjoy lunch at an outdoor cafe in an ancient Roman arena. **B/D**

Day 7 • Florence area

Our entire day is devoted to Florence, "La Bellissima"– the "Most Beautiful One," "Cradle of the Renaissance", and arguably, the world's foremost art treasure! Whether it's the **Duomo** (cathedral) with its famed **Baptistry**, **Giotto's Tower**, the **Pitti Palace**, the **Accademia** with Michelangelo's



Leaning Tower of Pisa



Ponte Vecchio

incomparable David, (which we will see) or the **Uffizi Gallery** with the finest collection of paintings in all of Italy, Florence is enough to create, quite literally, “art shock!” Our locally-guided tour will acquaint us with all of the highlights and more. Of course, there must also be time for exploring the sprawling **San Lorenzo Leather Market** and the shops along the **Ponte Vecchio!** **B/D**

Day 8 • Florence area

First on today’s agenda for exploring Tuscany is the **American Cemetery of Florence**. Here along with an impressive monument that chronicles the events of World War II, we will see the graves of thousands of “GI’s” who fell while fighting their way “up the boot” of Italy. After paying our respects, we continue on to “Chianti” country and visit **San Gimignano**, which, with its thirteen towers, is perhaps the most picturesque of the famous hill-top towns. **B/D**

Day 9 • Rome area

It is now time (regretfully) to depart beautiful Tuscany and travel to Rome. En route, however, we will stop to visit **Siena**—the jewel of Tuscany. To quote a popular guidebook “Italy’s loveliest medieval city”, Siena is the one trip you should make in Tuscany if you make no other. A locally-guided tour of this fabulous Gothic city will acquaint us with its sunken **Piazza del Campo** (main square), and the **Duomo**, perhaps the finest Gothic cathedral in Italy! After time to explore we continue to the Rome area. **B/D**

Day 10 • Rome area



San Gimignano



Ostia Antica

Rome, the “Eternal City,” is one of the world’s most-visited places. Travelers flock to Rome to see the glories of the Caesars, to experience the awe that is St. Peter’s and the Vatican, and to become acquainted with the city that was the birthplace for much of our civilization. We begin our sightseeing with a visit to **St. Peter’s Cathedral**, home of the Roman Catholic Church and the largest building in Christianity. We then explore “Imperial Rome”—the **Capitoline Hill** with the **Forum**, (once the center of the entire known world), the **Colosseum**, the **Circus Maximus**, and more! **B/D**

Day 11 • Rome area

In the morning we will drive to the coast to visit **Ostia Antica**. Centuries ago it was Rome’s main port, until malaria and commercial competition caused its decline. Many years of silt preserved its buildings and it now offers a wonderful view of life in classical Roman times. After our visit there will be time to enjoy the beaches. **B/D**

Day 12 • Return

Our tour comes to a closing as we transfer to Rome’s Leonardo da Vinci Airport for the return flight to the U.S. **B/In flight meals**

Abbreviations for Meals
B=Breakfast **D**=Dinner

Possible Performance Venues:

- Bandstands in parks and gardens
- Music conservatories
- Community centers
- Various town squares
- Restaurants and taverns
- Churches are a possibility for secular music
- Schools or universities

Prices vary according to season, group size, and customization of each tour.
Contact our staff at students@ed-ventures.com for more information

Included

Transportation

- Private deluxe air-conditioned motor coach

Accommodations

- Youth hostels and multi-bedded tourist class hotels

Meals

- As indicated in itinerary

Sightseeing

- Admission to all activities as indicated in itinerary

Tour Guides

- Teacher serves as tour leader (Professional tour director can be added upon request)
- Local guides for city tours and major attractions

Taxes and Tips

- All taxes and tips for provided services except end of tour tip for driver

Complimentary Tours

- One per 8 paying participants

Not included

- Roundtrip air transportation (Included upon request)
- Professional tour director
- Meals not indicated in the itinerary
- Beverages, except with breakfast
- End of tour tip for driver
- Items of a personal nature such as passport fees (*Passport must be valid for 6 months beyond return date*)
- Travel Insurance

This tour can be customized to your specifications.



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