

**DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY of CALIFORNIA**

**"A Taste of Italy"**  
**03 March 2011 - 12 March 2011**  
**Course Instructor Dr. Matt Davis**  
**Tour Coordinator Dr. Jayati Ghosh**

**Educational Program Designed For**  
**Dominican University of California - 111633E**



**"A Taste of Italy"**  
**03 March 2011 - 12 March 2011**

**Itinerary Overview**


- DAY 1 DEPARTURE FROM SAN FRANCISCO
- DAY 2 ARRIVE ROME - SORRENTO (2 NIGHTS)
- DAY 3 AMALFI DRIVE & PAESTUM
- DAY 4 SORRENTO - POMPEII - HERCULANEUM - NAPLES - ROME (3 NIGHTS)
- DAY 5 ROME (*THE CITY OF THE CAESARS*)
- DAY 6 ROME (*THE CITY OF THE POPES*)
- DAY 7 ROME - FLORENCE - VENICE LIDO AREA (3 NIGHTS)
- DAY 8 VENICE
- DAY 9 FREE DAY IN VENICE
- DAY 10 EARLY COACH FROM VENICE LIDO - DEPARTURE FROM MILAN

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**Italy** - calls to people in a unique way. The rich and colorful culture melts into a warm atmosphere filled with light and life. Ancient traditions combine with a spiritual pride expressed in the art and food that epitomize what we have come to know as *La Bella Vita*. There is something about this country that stirs the soul as much as it educates the mind. From Roman ruins to the richness of the Renaissance, from the ruins of war to the peace of country life, experience the world in a new way in beautiful Italy.

Educational Tour or Visit = 

Recreational Activity = 

Cultural Experience = 

**DAY 1**

**Thursday, 03 March 2011**

Relax and enjoy our scheduled flight from SAN FRANCISCO to ROME.

**DAY 2**

**Friday, 04 March 2011**

Our 24-hour Casterbridge Tour Manager/Guide will meet us at the airport and remain with us until our final airport departure.

We will have use of a private coach and driver, while touring for the next 3 days.



Sorrento is an Amalfi coast town situated in the region of Campania, one of the most culturally diverse areas in Italy. Influenced by Roman, Greek, Byzantine, Norman, Spanish, and French cultures, Campania is known for its gastronomy, music, architecture, and divine beauty.

We will continue to the Sorrento which will be our base for the next 2 night(s). While here, we will enjoy breakfast at the hotel.

**DAY 3**

**Saturday, 05 March 2011**

During the course of our tour we will gain from the knowledge and insight of 6 half-day local guides while we are here in Italy.



Enjoy a ride along the spectacular **Amalfi Coast**, undoubtedly one of the most scenic coastlines anywhere in the world.



The largest town on the scenic Amalfi Coast, Amalfi was a strong maritime power before being subdued in the 12th century. The town is surrounded by dramatic cliffs and coastal scenery, making it a popular destination to relax and enjoy the rugged beauty of Italy.



Explore the impressive **Duomo** of Amalfi, located on the main square. The original structure dates back to the 9th century. It's beautiful bronze doors were cast in Constantinople in 1066.



Discover the ancient ruins at Paestum, which include the **Basilica**, a Doric temple from the 6th century BC; the **Temple of Ceres**, where 34 columns still stand; and the **Temple of Neptune**, one of the most impressive Greek ruins in the world and visit the **National Archaeological Museum of Paestum** to see the metopes (parts of the frieze)

removed from the treasury of the Temple of Hera, along with some of southern Italy's finest tomb paintings from the 4th century BC.

## DAY 4

Sunday, 06 March 2011



Take a specialist-guided tour of **Pompeii**. This once thriving Roman city was buried in ash following the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in 79 AD. Today, it provides us with a fascinating look at life in a Roman merchant city. Our guide will lead us through the excavations within the city walls, including those at the basilica, forum, baths, theater, and amphitheater.



Take a specialist-guided tour through the ruins and excavations at **Herculaneum**, where people were working to repair damage caused by an earlier earthquake when Mt. Vesuvius erupted in 79 AD. Herculaneum has not been completely excavated because it was buried under lava, which is much heavier than the ash and pumice that destroyed Pompeii. This proved to be beneficial, however, because the lava provided greater protection and preservation of the buildings underneath, many of which were more elaborately constructed than those at Pompeii.



Visit the **National Archaeological Museum**, one of the finest antiquities museums in the world. With its Roman and Greek sculpture, this museum contains one of Europe's most valuable archaeological collections, highlighted by the select Farnese acquisitions, and the mosaics and sculpture excavated at Pompeii and Herculaneum.

Continue your journey from Naples to Rome.



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.

For the next 3 evening(s) we will enjoy the convenience of our centrally-located Rome hotel, where daily breakfast will be included.

In Rome, the cost of public transport is included for all group sightseeing. Escorted by our guide, we will be able to experience the city in the same manner as the local people.

## DAY 5

Monday, 07 March 2011



Enjoy a specialist-guided tour through the spectacular remains of the Roman Empire, beginning at the **Colosseum**, considered to be the greatest symbol of Ancient Rome's power and glory. Completed under Titus in 80 AD, the Colosseum could hold 55,000 spectators, on a par with many of today's modern sports stadiums. Among the sights included on our tour is the **Arch of Constantine**, a triumphal arch finished in 315 AD, commemorating the victory of Constantine I over Maxentius in the year 312 AD. We will amble up the **Palatine Hill**, the fabled spot on which Rome's first settlers built their huts under the direction of Romulus. In later years, this became a patrician residential district that attracted such notables as Cicero. 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.



See the **Mamertine Prison**, originally created as a cistern for a spring. The prison was typically reserved for higher-profile prisoners and those that posed a threat to the security of Rome; the most famous of these was St. Peter.



Enjoy a view of **Trajan's Column and Market**. Completed in 113 AD as a monument to the Emperor Trajan, the column is most famous for its spiral bas-relief. It stands in front of the market, the ancient equivalent of a shopping center, which housed no less than 150 shops and offices. From there, we will stroll past the **Victor Emmanuel Monument**, a giant building created to honor the first king of a unified Italy.



Visit the **Pantheon**, one of the grandest and best-preserved Roman monuments, and the oldest large-scale dome in Rome. The Pantheon has been in continuous use throughout its history and today houses many tombs, including those of Italian kings Victor Emmanuel II and Umberto I, and painters Caracci and Raphael.



We will spend some time in the **Piazza Navona** area. Built on the foundations of Domitian's Circus, this magnificent square was designed in the 17th century by Bernini. It is full of life and is highlighted by one of Rome's most spectacular fountains, the *Four Rivers*. 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.



No trip to Rome would be complete without seeing 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 6

**Tuesday, 08 March 2011**



Experience a specialist-guided tour of the **Vatican 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*.

This afternoon we will have some free time for shopping and exploration.

## DAY 7

**Wednesday, 09 March 2011**

We will have use of a private coach and driver, while touring today.

Continue your journey from Rome to Venice. With a stop in Florence for lunch



Venice is one of the few cities in the world that can truly be described as unique. It was known as the gateway to the Orient, and during the Middle Ages became one of the most powerful city-states in the Mediterranean. Built on a series of islands connected by bridges and canals, Venice has survived all odds to become the intriguing and iconic city it is today.

Our base for the next 3 nights will be Venice Lido, where breakfast will be provided at the hotel.

Upon arrival, we will have the balance of the afternoon free.

**Thursday, 10 March 2011**

**DAY 8**



Take a vaporetto ride along the **Grand Canal** past Venice's beautiful palaces and cathedrals. We will also see the **Rialto Bridge**, the oldest and most famous of the bridges that span the Grand Canal.



Stroll through the **St. Mark's Square**. Bordered by Venice's greatest historic buildings, St. Mark's Square is the main focal point of the city and the center of its water transportation system, as well as the most popular place for people watching and picture taking. Visit **St. Mark's Basilica**, featuring interior walls encrusted with spectacular gold mosaics. Our visit will also include an ascent to the **Galleries** to see the original bronze horses that once adorned the facade, as well as a stunning view of St. Mark's Square.



Tour the **Doge's Palace**, former residence of the rulers of Venice. We will explore the ornate and grandiose rooms of the palace, including the Grand Council chamber, featuring Tintoretto's *Paradise*, said to be the world's largest oil painting. We will walk across the famous **Bridge of Sighs** to the cells where Casanova was once imprisoned.

**DAY 9**

**Friday, 11 March 2011**

Today we have a completely free day in Venice to do as we please. May we suggest a vaporetto ride out to Milano for the glassblowers?

**DAY 10**

**Saturday, 12 March 2011**

Very early this morning a private coach and driver will transport us to the airport in Milan for our flight home.

**What is Included:**

- \* Round trip airfare with a major carrier on scheduled flights and guaranteed dates
- \* Airport taxes/fuel surcharges (**currently \$330.00 but subject to change until ticketed** 45 days prior to departure)
- \* Accommodation in three star (occasional 4 star or superior 2 star) tourist class hotels with private facilities guaranteed throughout
- \* Continental breakfast daily
- \* A Casterbridge Tour Manager/Guide to accompany your group 24 hours a day from arrival to departure
- \* All excursions, cultural activities and (several pre-booked) admissions as per your itinerary
- \* The expertise and perspective of local guides during your tour
- \* Transportation by private coach for airport transfers and touring, except in Roma and Venice, where public transport is used (and the cost included) for group sightseeing
- \* All Taxes

**This Does Not Include:**

- \* Lunches or Dinners
- \* Visas (if required)
- \* Tips and gratuities for the guide and driver
- \* Any fees that might be imposed by the airlines at the airport for checked baggage
- \* Travel insurance - Casterbridge offers a comprehensive Travel Insurance Policy to all participants. This Policy includes **Health, Cancellation and Property** coverage and costs \$71 for those 30 years or below on tours of 6-10 days

and \$112 for those aged 31 years or above. **Each passenger must be covered by a Health Insurance policy whilst on a Casterbridge tour.**

<b><u>Dominican University of California - 111633E</u></b> <i>(Subject to final airfare confirmation)</i>	<b><u>Full Paying Participants</u></b>	<b><u>Price in USD</u></b>
<p><b>(a) All airport taxes are included and there are no registration fees, optional excursions or adult supplements to be added.</b></p> <p><b>(b) This proposal is valid until 26 July 2010 or until 90 days (03 December 2010) before departure (whichever comes first) and this tour cannot be operated in its present format with fewer than 10 participants.</b></p>	30	2,731.00
	28	2,764.00
	26	2,822.00
	24	2,890.00
	22	2,970.00
	20	3,099.00
	18	3,175.00
	16	3,318.00
	14	3,495.00
	12	3,746.00

**Your currency level is guaranteed up to 1 Euro = \$1.390.**

**Payment Schedule:**

Initial payment of \$ 500.00 (non-refundable) due by **August 31, 2010**

Second payment (amount to be determined based on number of individuals going and if additional fuel charge is imposed by airline) due on **October 30, 2010**

**You can pay by Credit card too**

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