



THE RENAISSANCE AND ROME



*Educational
Tours*

→ *Discover the Global Classroom*

8 or 10 DAYS

The Renaissance and Rome

Italy



Number of overnight stays in parentheses. This tour may also be reversed.

Program Fee includes:

- Round-trip airfare
- 6 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms (8 with extension)
- Complete European breakfast and dinner daily
- Full-time bilingual EF Tour Director
- 4 sightseeing tours led by licensed local guides: Assisi • Florence • Vatican City • Rome
- 1 EF walking tour: Rome
- 7 visits to special attractions: Assisi Basilica • Accademia • Duomo
Leather-making demonstration • Sistine Chapel
St. Peter's Basilica • Colosseum
- Experiential learning: Pizza-making
- Whisper headsets for tours of Florence, Vatican City and Rome

OPTIONAL:

Catacombs and the Appian Way

WITH EXTENSION: All of the above PLUS:

- 2 sightseeing tours led by licensed local guides: Pompeii • Capri
- 2 visits to special attractions: Roman ruins at Pompeii • Capri island cruise
- Whisper headsets for tour of Pompeii



The largest religious building in the world, St. Peter's Basilica is believed to be the burial site of St. Peter, one of the 12 apostles.

Day 1 Flight

Overnight flight to Italy • Spend the night flying across the Atlantic.

Day 2 Rome • Assisi

Arrival in Rome • Touch down in *bella Roma*, the Eternal City. Here, Charlemagne was crowned by the pope in A.D. 800. After clearing customs, you are greeted by your bilingual EF Tour Director, who will remain with you throughout your stay.

Transfer to Assisi • Travel to Assisi, where you will spend the night.

Day 3 Florence

Guided sightseeing of Assisi • Explore Assisi, birthplace of both St. Francis and St. Clare. On your visit to the Basilica of St. Francis, follow the life of one of Italy's most beloved saints through Giotto's frescoes.

Transfer to Florence • Arrive in Florence, birthplace of the Italian language, the Renaissance and opera.

Day 4 Florence

Guided sightseeing of Florence • Fall under the spell of the powerful Medici family on your guided tour. Pass the classical statues of the Piazza della Signoria, where Michelangelo's *David* originally stood and now the site of an impressive replica. From behind the Uffizi Palace, you will see the Ponte Vecchio, one of the city's only bridges to survive WWII and now one of its most photographed sites. The bridge provided the Medici easy access from the Pitti Palace to the Uffizi. Continue past the

Chiesa di Santa Croce, final resting place of Michelangelo, Machiavelli and Galileo. Next, you will visit the Santa Maria del Fiore Cathedral, better known as the Duomo, or dome, that dominates Florence's skyline. The dome was sculptor and architect Brunelleschi's finest work, and the nearby campanile (bell tower) was designed by the painter Giotto. Look for the famous bronzed doors—Ghiberti's legendary *Gates of Paradise*—at the Baptistery opposite the Duomo. Later, watch artisans at work at a local leather-making demonstration.

Day 5 Florence • Rome

Transfer to Rome • Return to Rome.

Experiential learning: Create your own pizza!

Tonight, join a professional *pizzaiolo* at a nearby restaurant who will show you how authentic Italian pizza is made. Then everyone will don aprons and chef's hats and try their hand at making pizza. Afterwards, you will sample your creations for dinner!

Day 6 Rome

Visit to Vatican City • Today, you will explore Vatican City, the world's smallest country. Begin at the Vatican Museum, where elaborate galleries filled with one artistic masterpiece after another lead you directly to the Sistine Chapel. Between 1508 and 1512, Michelangelo painted some of the world's finest pictorial images on the chapel's ceiling. This was his first attempt at working in fresco, which he did by standing up and craning backward from a scaffold. Next, tour St. Peter's Basilica, erected on the site where the saint was mar-



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tyred. Enter the basilica under the watchful eyes of the brightly dressed Swiss Guard. Inside, admire Michelangelo's *Pietà*, the only sculpture he ever signed.

Optional excursion to the Catacombs and the Appian Way • Take an optional excursion to Rome's outlying catacombs, Christian burial grounds that date from the 2nd through 5th centuries. As you visit these mysterious burial chambers of popes and saints, keep your eyes out for early Christian art. Then journey down the ancient Appian Way, the most celebrated highway of the Roman Republic. Constructed in 312 B.C., the Appian Way led southward from Rome to Capua, and eventually to Brundisium (now Brindisi). Continue on to the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls, the second-largest church in the city of Rome, next to St. Peter's. On the basilica's peripheral walls hang circular portraits of each pope. There is space for only seven more portraits, and legend says that once the walls fill up the world will end.

Day 7 Rome

Guided sightseeing of Rome • Get to know Imperial Rome on a panoramic tour. Then spend time exploring the mighty Colosseum, Rome's largest amphitheater. Its elaborate construction spanned two emperors—building began between A.D. 70 and 72 under Vespasian and was completed in A.D. 80 under Titus. Originally built to accommodate nearly 50,000 spectators, the Colosseum played host to some of the most incredible spectacles of the day, including gladiatorial combat, mock sea battles, animal hunts, executions and even dramatic performances based on classical mythology. Later, pass by the Forum Romanum, once the heart of the Roman Empire.

Walking tour of Rome • As part of your walking tour of Rome, stop at the Trevi Fountain and make sure to toss in a coin to ensure your return to Rome. Then view the Pantheon, one of the best-preserved ancient buildings in the city, commissioned by the Emperor Hadrian around A.D. 120. This temple to "all the gods" features the second-widest dome in Rome. Then, during free time, continue to the Piazza Navona before meeting at the Spanish Steps prior to dinner.

Day 8 Home

Return home • Your tour director assists with the transfer to the airport for your flight home.

EXTENSION

Day 8 Rome • Sorrento

Guided sightseeing of Pompeii • Alternatively, extend your stay two days. Learn how wealthy Romans lived 2,000 years ago on an excursion to Pompeii, one of the richest archaeological sites in the world. When neighboring Mount Vesuvius erupted in A.D. 79, volcanic ash completely buried the Roman resort. Now it is fully excavated, and you can see the ruins of villas, ancient temples and Stabian Baths.

Arrival in Sorrento • Experience the unparalleled beauty of Italy's favorite resort, overlooking the Bay of Naples.

Day 9 Sorrento • Rome

Guided sightseeing of Capri • Cross the Bay of Naples to the captivating Isle of Capri. Travel by funicular to the town of Capri and board a cruise to see the most spectacular views of Capri's coast. You'll see the Arco Naturale, a majestic stone arch on the eastern cliffs, and the famous Faraglioni, three enormous, pale-ochre limestone colossi that loom out of the sea. When weather conditions do not permit a cruise, groups will visit the town of Anacapri instead.

Transfer to Rome • Return to Rome, where you'll spend the night.

Day 10 Home

Return home • Your tour director assists with the transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions.

An impressive replica of the *David* stands in the Piazza della Signoria.



Discover the Global Classroom



Educational Tours