



RAINBOW EDUCATIONAL TOURS

Proposed Itinerary for:
Italy at Easter
10 days / 8 nights

Venice (1) Florence (2) Rome (3) Sorrento (2)

Wednesday April 20

Day One – You will depart from **Saskatoon** International Airport for your Trans-Atlantic flight to **Venice, Italy**. Enjoy in-flight meals and services en route.

Thursday April 21

Day Two - Upon arrival in **Venice**, you will be met by your **RAINBOW EDUCATIONAL TOUR** escort and taken to your waiting coach for transfer to the hotel. You will have time to explore Venice with your escort. Venice has been known as the "**city of canals**". **Venice** is a unique Italian city with a proud history. You will have an independent tour of the city starting at the **Piazza San Marco** opening on the **Grand Canal**. Visit the **Cathedral of San Marco** sometimes known as the "golden church" because of its magnificent mosaics on gilded backgrounds. See **the Doge's Palace**, symbol of Venetian power and glory. The **Bridge of Sighs** connects the palace with the prisons and owes its name to the sighs of the prisoners who crossed it en route to their execution. Enjoy the unique atmosphere of Venice with the boats plying their trade on the Grand Canal and the **Rialto Bridge** with its distinctive steps now transfer to your hotel in the Venice area. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

Friday April 22

Day Three - This morning after breakfast you will depart for Tuscany, but first stopping in Maranello to visit the Ferrari Gallery. Then you will continue to Pisa for a Guided tour and go up the Tower. Continue to Florence where you check into your hotel. Dinner is at a local restaurant and overnight at the hotel.

Saturday April 23

Day Four - In the morning meet your local guide and have a walking tour of Florence, including Piazza della Signoria with the imposing Duomo, Ponte Vecchio and the Accademia museum with Michelangelo's Davis.

In the afternoon, free time at leisure in Florence to visit **the Medici Chapels, the Straw Market, Giotto's Tower, Pitti Palace...** the list goes on. You may shop for bargains in leathers, linens and

straw good in the markets. Visit the Church of **Santa Croce** where Michelangelo and Galileo are buried. There is also a leather studio. Dinner and overnight in Florence

Sunday April 24

Day Five - Travel south to the city of **Sorrento** on one of Italy's high speed train's to Naples. Your coach will meet you and will take you to one of the world's largest archaeological finds, **Pompeii**. See **Vesuvius** and then the excavated ruins of the results of that long-ago eruption which put Pompeii into a time warp preserving forever the moment of panic and death. Your guide will bring the city alive in your imagination as you see the wheel ruts of the chariots still marked in the stone streets. After your tour you will travel to Sorrento and have an orientation of the area. The city is spread out along beautiful cliffs overlooking the **Bay of Naples**. The best views can be seen from the Villa Comunale near the Church of San Francesco or from the terrace behind the Museo Correale. The coach will take you to the hotel. There you will check in, have dinner, and overnight

Monday April 25

Day Six – You will have breakfast in the hotel then board the coach and depart for a full day excursion on the Amalfi Coast: you will stop in Amalfi and you will see some breathtaking views. You will have dinner and overnight in your Sorrento hotel.

Tuesday April 26

Day Seven - Leave Sorrento this morning traveling to Rome, you will stop at **Cassino** to see the former Battlefield from WW II and you will also see the Benedictine Abbey, and then continue to Rome. After you check into your hotel, your escort will give you an orientation of the area. Dinner and overnight Rome

Wednesday April 27

Day Eight - First day of sightseeing in this ancient city. Let the magic of this bustling city grow on you! Today your sightseeing takes you to the heart of ancient Rome starting at the **Piazza Venezia** with the dominating white marble monument to **Victor Emmanuel**. Visit the ruins of the Roman Forum, which was the center of the then-known world 2000 years ago, and continue on to the enormous **Colosseum** (entrance included), which could hold more than 50,000 spectators, and the nearby Arch of Constantine. Then travel along the Via Appia Antica to the **Catacombs**. Entrance is included to one of these underground Christian cemeteries. Your guide will take you in the afternoon to visit some of the well-known landmarks of Rome best seen on foot such as the **Piazza Navona** and the **Trevi Fountain**. You will have dinner at a local restaurant and overnight at your hotel.

Thursday April 28

Day Nine – Today you may take a trip **to the Vatican City** including the incredible Vatican Museum and St. Peter's Basilica. The tiny state has its own flag, anthem, coins and stamps. The Vatican collections in the museum house beautiful frescoes, paintings and numerous jeweled chalices and religious artifacts. The highlight of the tour will no doubt be Michelangelo's magnificent **Sistine Chapel**. You will also see the **Castel Sant'Angelo** on the banks of the Tiber and stroll in the enormous circular area surrounded by Bernini's columns known as **St. Peter's Square**. Inside the huge basilica is another of Michelangelo's famous works, **the Pieta**. Dominating the apse of the cathedral is the great bronze throne created by Bernini known as St.

Peter's Throne. There will be free time in the afternoon for the group's own plans. You may wish to climb up to the top of the Cathedral's Dome for a splendid view of the city. Return to your hotel overnight. Tonight you will have a Folklore evening in a Roman restaurant.

Friday April 29

Day Ten - Depart from the Leonardo da Vinci airport in Rome for your return flight to Canada

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION & MEALS:

February 18-19 2011 (01 night) Venice area

3-star or 4-star hotel in the Venice area like Hotel Alexander Palace in Abano Terme

www.alexanderpalace.it or similar

1 continental breakfast, 1 dinner at hotel's restaurants with a 3-course menu, drinks are not included, taxes and service charges are included.

February 19-21 2011 (2 nights) Florence

3-star hotel centrally located like Hotel Leonardo da Vinci www.leonardodavincihotel.com or similar

2 continental breakfasts, 2 dinners at local restaurants with a 3-course menu, drinks are not included, taxes and service charges are included.

February 21-23 2011 (2 nights) Sorrento area

3-star hotel located in the Sorrento area like Hotel La Pergola www.lapergolahotel.it or similar

2 continental breakfasts, 2 dinners at hotel's restaurants with a 3-course menu, drinks are not included, taxes and service charges are included.

February 23-26 2011 (3 nights) Rome

3-star hotel centrally located like Hotel Aberdeen www.hotelaberdeen.it or similar

3 continental breakfasts, 2 dinners at a local restaurant near the hotel with a 3-course menu, drinks are not included, and 1 farewell dinner with music and drinks included (1/2 l. of mineral water and 1 soft drink per person), taxes and service charges are included.

Included in the Cost of the Tour:

- Airfare Regina/Venice returning Rome/Regina via scheduled airlines such as Lufthansa
- Transportation by First Class Coach Throughout
- Continental Breakfast and dinner daily
- 8 nights Tourist Class Accommodation
- Entrances and guided sightseeing tours as outlined in the day-to-day itinerary
- Services of the RAINBOW educational consultant before departure
- ENGLISH SPEAKING LICENSED TOUR ESCORT with the group for the entire tour.

ENGLISH SPEAKING LICENSED GUIDES:

Feb. 18th Half day Venice

Feb. 19th Half day Pisa

Feb. 20th Half day Florence

Feb. 21st Half day Pompeii
Feb. 24th Full day Ancient Rome & Catacombs
Feb. 25th Half day Vatican.

• ENTRANCE FEES:

Feb. 18th Doge's Palace, Venice including booking fee
Feb. 19th Leaning Tower, Pisa including booking fee
Feb. 20th Accademia Museum, including booking fee & Santa Croce church
Feb. 21st Pompeii excavations
Feb. 24th Coliseum, including booking fee & Catacombs
Feb. 25th Vatican Museums, including headsets.

BOAT:

Feb. 18th Tronchetto – San Marco – Tronchetto.

Not Included:

- Expenses of a personal nature
- Passport
- Beverages with meals
- Lunches
- Optional tours and excursions
- Gratuities for tour managers, guides, coach drivers and in restaurants
- Comprehensive Insurance: Excess Medical, Trip Cancellation, and Baggage (\$213.00 up to age 59)
- **Single supplements for any single accommodation required (\$300.00)**
- **Fuel surcharges imposed by airlines or any new taxes**
- **Any major shift in the currency may also change the price.**

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