

MAY 24 - JUNE 1, 2010

OHIO NORTHERN UNIVERSITY ITALIAN CLASSIC

VENICE, FLORENCE AND ROME



Tour Inclusions:

- Round-trip airfare
- Seven (7) nights hotel accommodations
- Breakfast and dinner daily
- Transportation between destinations
- Pre-Game Meal
- Welcome dinner and farewell awards dinner
- Guided Sight-Seeing Tours
- Entrance fees to attractions (indicated on itinerary)
- Wine tasting and cookery lesson
- On-site tour director
- On-site football coordinator
- Games and practice(s)
- Commemorative souvenir

Tour Highlights:

- St. Mark's Square & Basilica
- Rialto Bridge
- Florence Duomo
- Piazza Signoria
- Ponte Vecchio
- Rome Coliseum
- Vatican & St. Peter's Basilica
- Roman Forum
- Pantheon
- Trevi Fountains

Day 1 - Depart for Italy

Depart the US on an overnight, transatlantic flight to Milan.

Day 2 - Arrive in Milan; Transfer to Venice

Your tour director will lead the adventure in Milan, Italy's capital of fashion and finance. See the renowned La Scala opera house, containing Europe's largest stage. The city's marble Duomo took almost 450 years to complete and is the world's largest Gothic cathedral. On clear days, its 135 spires can be seen from the Alps. Later in the day, begin the journey towards Venice.

Day 3 - Practice and Venice Sight-Seeing

Bubbling up on more than 100 islands in a lagoon off the Adriatic, Venice is an absolutely unique and unquestionably beautiful city. Take in the opulent architecture – bulbous domes, gothic spires, and lacy marble – along with the intricate labyrinth of streets and bridges. Step into Piazza San Marco, an airy expanse of arches, sunlight, and pigeons. The multi-domed Basilica on one end is the final resting place of the apostle St. Mark, Venice's patron saint. The mosaics beneath the basilica's outside arches depict the arrival of St. Mark's body, stolen from Egypt in 828 by Venetian traders. Continue on to a Venetian glass-blowing demonstration, long been considered the best in the world. Its production was such a state secret that during the Middle Ages, any Venetian glassblower who attempted to ply his trade outside the city was immediately arrested.

Day 4 - Travel to Florence

Enjoy a walk amidst the artistic wonders of Florence, including Ghiberti's Gates of Paradise and the marble cathedral in the Piazza del Duomo. Pass through the architectural splendor of the Piazza della Signoria before having the afternoon to yourself. Visit the Accademia for a view of Michelangelo's David or go bargain hunting at the outdoor market at Piazza San Lorenzo.

- *Wine-tasting & cookery lesson*

Day 5 - Florence Sight-Seeing

Immerse yourself in the charms of old-world Firenze, a red-brick splendor set in the rolling green hills of Tuscany. The birthplace and focal point of the Italian Renaissance, Florence still has the masterpieces to prove it. Brunelleschi's elegant Duomo (dome) dominates the skyline and around every corner is an architectural triumph filled with wall after wall of incomparable art. A local licensed guide will take the group to Giotto's Bell Tower and the aptly named Gates of Paradise, the bronze east doors of the Baptistery that spurred the Renaissance.

- *Optional Spa Treatments*

Day 6 - Game Day and Awards Dinner

Enjoy your game against Italian competition. Relax and socialize with your hosts after the game with a party and dinner.



Please note: game day on this tour may change to an alternative venue or city.

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Day 7 - Rome Sight-Seeing

Enjoy a walk past Rome's most beautiful and unusual Baroque fountains. At the foot of the Spanish Steps, elegant cafes once favored by visiting Brits and Americans surround the central fountain. The water pressure here was so low that the artist had to sink the fountain into the ground to get any water going through it, so he went ahead and designed the fountain to look like a sinking ship. There's no shortage of water pressure at the nearby Trevi Fountain, a Baroque extravagance designed by master sculptor Bernini. At the Pantheon, see the largest concrete dome ever constructed. An oculus, or hole, in the dome lets sunlight into the beautiful temple, dedicated to the gods.

Day 8 - Rome Sight-Seeing

Gods and gladiators, glory and gore. Ancient Rome lives on in its spectacular monuments, flavoring the frenetic present with tastes of the past. Don a headset to get the inside scoop on the famed Colosseum, a grisly battle arena that seated more

than 45,000. An enormous retractable roof awning system kept spectators cool on sunny days. The nearby Forum provides a glimpse into everyday ancient life, with markets, meeting places and temples all combined into one vast space. Move into Holy Rome at the Vatican and St. Peter's Basilica, the triumphal Renaissance church flanked by rows of columns radiating outward like welcoming arms. Within the church, Michelangelo's masterpieces are on display: the "Pietà" in the main church and the recently restored ceiling frescoes of the Sistine Chapel, including the "Last Judgment". (The Sistine Chapel is closed on most religious holidays and Sundays, except for the last Sunday in each month).

- Awards Dinner

Day 9 - Return Home

Return home and school with great memories of Italy – Arrivederci!

Please note: The order of sight-seeing tours and the game day destination may be altered depending on final game confirmation. This itinerary is based on a previous Global Football Italian Classic tour and should be used as a guide only. All efforts will be made to include all of the items listed above but adjustments may be necessary depending upon the game site. Flights may also arrive and/or depart from Milan. The official day-to-day itinerary will be confirmed six weeks prior to departure.

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