



Inaugural Florence “To Be Continued” Tour

October 7-13, 2010

A personal note from Pat regarding the day-by-day itinerary:

Meals – A simple Italian breakfast is included daily throughout the tour, as well as four dinners and one lunch. For the dinners we will be dining at some excellent Florentine restaurants, so I hope you have big appetites! However, you have the option (at your expense) to dine at any of the many fine restaurants that are in abundance in Firenze should you want a special “night on the town.”

Day-by-day commentary – I am leaving out a lot of the colorful commentary that is usually found in the day-by-day itineraries. The online links will give you much more information (and colorful commentary) about the different places that we are going to visit than I can.

Trust me...you’re going to love this trip! – There is nothing quite like coming together with old friends to return to the Florence of our youth. I have intentionally made this a “light” itinerary without many planned activities so that you are free to enjoy the city how you prefer, at your own pace. There will also be opportunities to connect with old professors and see how the Gonzaga-in-Florence program has developed over the years. As long as no other commitments tear him away, many of you will be happy to know that Fr. Bruno Segatta will be joining us in Florence! Many of us have had some great experiences with Bruno over the years, and he is excited to come back together to see you all!

Florence Museums – If you are interested in reserving tickets for any of the museums in Florence please let me know the date and time and we can reserve those tickets for you so you don’t have to wait in long lines. This is especially important for the Uffizi Gallery and the Accademia. If you’re not sure if or when you want to go yet, don’t worry because we can make reservations after you arrive in Florence.

Reserve your space now! - The trip is based on a minimum of 20 participants and a maximum of 40 participants and is on a first come, first served basis.

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"Where old friends come together to make new memories."

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1 – Wednesday, October 6, 2010

Depart USA for Florence, Italy

Today your trip begins as you embark on your transatlantic flight from your home city to Florence via your chosen air carrier. You will arrive the following day, Thursday, October 7, 2010.

Day 2 – Thursday, October 7, 2010

Arrive Florence, Italy

Arrive in the quintessential Renaissance city of Florence, where so many of us once called home. After clearing customs, you will be met by Pat who will escort you to your awaiting transportation that will take you to the Three Star Deluxe [Hotel Caravaggio](#) (or something similar), your home during your six nights in Florence. A representative will meet you upon arrival and help you with check-in. The rest of the day is free for you to enjoy a little time to rest and relax after the long flight, soaking in the new surroundings. This evening please join the entire group for a welcome wine and cocktail reception and brief orientation about our tour, followed by a "Welcome Back" dinner at Trattoria Nerona.



Day 3 – Friday, October 8, 2010

Florence



In the morning we will take a walking tour of Florence to get reacquainted with the Renaissance city, led by none other than Gonzaga-in-Florence Professor of History and Italian, Mercedes Cararra. A possible tour of the churches of Santa Croce or Santa Maria Novella may be included. The afternoon you will have free to discover any part of the city or Florentine life that your heart desires. Lunch and dinner are on your own.



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Day 4 – Saturday, October 9 2010

Greve / Panzano / Badia a Passignano / Florence

Today we will venture out into the Tuscan countryside on a "Chianti Clasico Wine Tour". Our first stop on our journey will be Greve in Chianti, where we will visit the market square. From there we will move onto the [Fontodi Winery](#) in Panzano to taste some of their exquisite wines. Check out the link to their website to learn



more about their wines and the winery. Following wine tasting at Fontodi we will stop for a delicious lunch in Badia a Passignano at [Ristoro L'Antica Scuderia](#). After lunch we will work some of that pasta off by strolling along the incredible [Antinori vineyards](#). Many of you had the opportunity to go to school at the Palazzo Antinori in Florence, and today you will have the opportunity to see where some of their world-class wine comes from. Our final stop on the wine tasting tour will take us to [Cennatoio](#). To cap off the day we will return to Florence for an opportunity to partake in a Tuscan cooking class with our own private chef, enjoying our culinary creations for dinner that night.

Day 5 – Sunday, October 10, 2010

Florence



Take this day to relax and enjoy being in the shadow of the Duomo. Feel free to celebrate Mass at one of the many Florentine churches; delve into art and history by visiting the Uffizi Gallery; stand in awe before Michelangelo's David at the Accademia; stroll through the beautiful Boboli Gardens; or get a breath of fresh air while taking in the breathtaking views of Florence up in Piazzale Michelangelo. The possibilities are endless, you choose! Lunch is on your own. We will reconvene for dinner at [Trattoria Marione](#) or another one of Florence's delectable restaurants.

Day 6 – Monday, October 11,

Florence



2010

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Much like Sunday, this is another free day to do whatever you like. Options could include taking the bus up to Fiesole, taking a day trip by train or car to Siena, Pisa, or another Tuscan town, or staying in Florence and enjoy life like a true Florentine – it's up to you. Lunch and dinner are on your own.



Day 7 – Tuesday, October 12, 2010
Florence



Today is the final day of our trip and soon we will have to say goodbye to our friends and our beloved Florence. It is also your last chance to savor some of the mouth-watering gelato that you can't get anywhere else in the world. Take your time to delight in Florence for one last day and see whatever you haven't yet seen on this trip or return to your favorite spots. Lunch is on your own. We will come together for one final farewell dinner at none other than Bruno's favorite restaurant – [LA SPADA!](#)



Day 8 – Wednesday, October 13, 2010

Florence → Home

It's time to bid farewell to Florence and the friends we've shared this experience with. Today you will board your flight and along with any souvenirs and wine you take with you, you also have new memories to take back that will last a lifetime. In the words of Fr. Tony Lehmann the journey is "To be continued..."