



MOAMA ANGLICAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL
TOUR OF ITALY - SEPTEMBER 2010
(DRAFT 13/08/09)



NB: Please note that when we mention “you” this refers to the group as a whole, including the teachers and students

Day 1: MELBOURNE – ROME

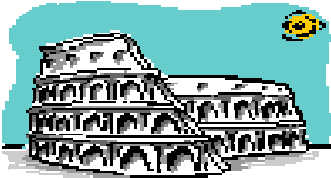
Meet at the Melbourne airport for your International flight to Rome, Italy on 17 September 2010.

Day 2: ROME

On arrival into Rome you will be met and transferred by coach to your hotel. The rest of the day is then free to explore your new surrounds with your teacher. You may like to make your way (*walking or local bus at own expense*) to the Time Elevator. This is a multi-sensorial attraction showing 3000 years of Roman history from Romulus and Remus to the present day in an exciting and fun way, (*any entrance fees at own expense today*).

Day 3: ROME (B)

Today you will explore and experience Ancient Rome and its historical perspective. After breakfast meet your guide for your half-day walking tour of Ancient Rome. You will see the sights of the Colosseum (inside). With a circumference of 580 yards and height of 157 feet, the Colosseum would hold 50,000 persons. You will then continue on with your tour visiting the Arch of Constantine and the Roman Forum. The afternoon is then free to spend time sightseeing with your teacher. You could visit places such as Il Campo de' Fiori, Arch of Titus, the Pantheon, the Spanish steps, Victor Emmanuel Monument, and the Trevi Fountain, (*entrance and reservation fees to Colosseum included*).



Day 4: ROME (B)

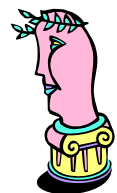
This morning you will meet your guide for your second half-day guided tour of Rome. You will visit the Vatican City and its museums, including the Sistine Chapel and St Peter's Basilica with its many treasures and masterpieces, including the famous Pietà of Michelangelo. The rest of the day is then free for independent sightseeing supervised by your teacher. You may like to take a walk to Piazza Navona, which is a vast and beautiful square lined with baroque palaces. The square has three fountains, including Bernini's masterpiece “Fountain of Rivers” in the centre, (*entrance to the Vatican included*).

Day 5: ROME – SORRENTO AREA (B)

This morning you will depart by coach from Rome to Sorrento area. On arrival you will be transferred to your hotel to check in for your two nights stay. The day is then free to explore your new surrounds with your teacher.

Day 6: SORRENTO – POMPEII – SORRENTO (B)

This morning after breakfast you will be taken on a half day guided tour to Pompeii, departing by coach. With your guide you will explore the ruins of Pompeii, which was struck by a volcanic explosion in 79AD, The volcano buried the city under many feet of ash and it was lost for 1,600 years before its accidental rediscovery. Since then, its excavation has provided an extraordinarily detailed insight into the life of a city at the height of the Roman Empire. Later you will be transferred back to the hotel in the Sorrento area by coach. (*Entrance fee to Pompeii excavations included*).



Day 7: SORRENTO AREA –ORVIETO (Farmstay) (BD)

This morning you will depart by coach from the Sorrento area to Orvieto. On arrival in Orvieto, you will be taken to the farm, where you will stay for the next 2 nights. This afternoon you will have a cooking lesson, to experience the Italian way of cooking. All classes are hands on and conducted by a nonna with many years experience as a cook, who is famous in the Orvieto area for her local specialties. Enjoy your dinner that you have prepared in your lesson at the farm.

Day 8: ORVIETO (BD)

This morning is free for organised sightseeing with your teacher. You may like to enjoy outdoor living such as horse riding (*own expense*), as farm is also a horse riding school, or just relax by the swimming pool admiring the beautiful views. This afternoon you will have a cooking lesson, and be able to appreciate the best of local and traditional Italian cooking in their characteristic tavern. Dinner tonight will be at the farm with the same menu taught in the class.



Day 9: ORVIETO - FLORENCE (B)

This morning after breakfast you will depart Orvieto by coach for your journey to Florence. On arrival you will be transferred to your hotel. Florence is often considered the birthplace of the Italian Renaissance and was long ruled by the Medici family. The Medici family was a powerful and influential Florentine family from the 13th to 17th century. The family produced three popes (*Leo X, Clement VII, and Leo XI*), numerous rulers of Florence, and later members of the French royalty. Florence is also famous for its fine art and architecture. It is said that, of the 1,000 most important European artists of the second millennium, 350 lived or worked in Florence. Florence has been the setting for numerous works of fiction and movies, including the novels and associated films Hannibal and A Room with a View. The rest of the day is free for teacher supervised activities (*any entrance fees at own expense*).



Day 10: FLORENCE - PISA - FLORENCE (B)

This morning you will make your own way to your Italian Language and Art School for your classes where you will have your first 3 hour lesson. This afternoon please meet at the school for your arranged visit to the Branacci Chapel. After several events, including a fire in 1771, a restoration combined with a thorough scientific investigation in the last decades brought the chapel to the state to which it is seen as today. In the late afternoon make your own way to the train station with your teacher for your trip to Pisa, where you will board your train (*return fare included*). There you can visit by far the best-known sight of Pisa the famous Leaning Tower, which is, but one of many architecturally and artistically important structures in Pisa. The tower is famous for its noticeable lean. It was intended to stand vertically, to serve as a bell tower, but began leaning soon after construction started in 1173. You will then make your own way back to Florence by train (*Return train tickets Florence to Pisa included - any entrance fees at own expense*).



Day 11: FLORENCE (B)

This morning make your own way as a group to your Italian Language and Art school where you will have your second 3 hour class. This afternoon please meet at the school for your arranged visit to Fiesole, a beautiful hillside town in Tuscany. Here you can visit the little church of the Primerana in the cathedral square, where St. Andrew Corsini was warned by Our Lady of his approaching death. Visit the Duomo, containing the shrine of St. Romulus, a martyr and the first Bishop of Fiesole, and that of his martyred companions. The Duomo also has the shrine of St. Donatus of Ireland (*any entrance fees at own expense*).

Day 12: FLORENCE (B)

This morning, make your own way as a group to your Italian Language and Art school where you will have your third 3 hour class. After your lesson make your own way to the Uffizi Gallery for an independent tour with your teacher. This is one of the most famous museums of paintings and sculpture in the world. Its collection of Primitive and Renaissance paintings comprises several universally acclaimed masterpieces of all time, including works by Leonardo da Vinci, and Michelangelo.
(Entrance to Uffizi Gallery included)

Day 13: FLORENCE – VENICE

(B)

This morning after breakfast you will board your coach for a transfer to the train station for your journey to Venice (*one way train fare included*). On arrival you will make your own way to your hotel to check in for your two night stay. The rest of the day is free to explore your new surrounds with your teacher. You could take a Gondola ride down the Grand Canal, or take a visit to the Giardinietti Ex-Reali (*Ex Royal Gardens*). The gardens have benches that face the water and you can sit down, rest your feet while watching the gondolieri pass by. Don't miss the sunset from Doge's palace square facing Santa Maria della Salute. (*any entrance fees at own expense*).



Day 14: VENICE

(B)

Today is free to explore Venice with your teacher. You could visit such sights as St. Mark's square, St. Mark's Basilica, the Doge's Palace, the Bridges of Sighs, or purchase a vaporetto pass (*at own expense*) and visit the islands of Murano and Burano, where you can see lace making and glass blowing demonstrations. Murano has been the "home" of the glass making industry since the 13th century and Burano is the "home" to the lace making industry, (*any entrance fees at own expense*).

Day 15: VENICE – MILAN

(B)



This morning you will make your own way to the train station with your teacher where you will board your train to Milan (*one way train fare included*). On arrival you will be met by your coach and en-route to the hotel you will have a half day guided tour of Milan. You will visit Il Duomo, La Scala Opera House, Leonardo Da Vinci's famous Last Supper, Castello Sfozesca and Vittorio Emanuele II, after you tour is complete you will then re-board your coach and transfer to your hotel, (*entrance fee to Last supper included*).

Day 16: MILAN – MELBOURNE

(B)

This morning after breakfast you will board your coach for your transfer to the airport for your flight back home.

Day 17: MELBOURNE

Arrive Home.

Inclusions:

- Return economy class international airfares: Melbourne / Rome // Milan/ Melbourne
- Current airlines taxes: (approximately \$535.00 per person with Thai Airlines) and Trekset travel wallets
- Accommodation based on 2 star hotels with multi-share for students. All rooms with private facilities.
- 3 nights Rome, 2 nights Sorrento, 2 nights Orvieto (Farmstay), 4 nights Florence, 2 nights Venice and 1 night Milan
- Meals: Breakfast daily, 2 cooking lessons + 2 dinners (Orvieto Farmstay)
- Coach travel as per itinerary, train travel: Florence/Pisa/Florence and Florence- Venice- Milan
- Guided tours: 2 half days in Rome, 1 half day in Pompeii and 1 half day in Milan
- Entrance Fees: Colosseum, Vatican, Pompeii Excavations, Uffizi Gallery and Last Supper
- Reservation Fees: Colosseum, Vatican Museum and Last Supper
- 9 hours of Art or Language classes (plus materials and easels for Art students), 3 afternoons of activities