



TUSCANY

An Exclusive Educational and Travel Experience



REDISCOVERED ITALY

SPONSORED BY

John Carroll
UNIVERSITY

APRIL 2-10, 2014

800-323-7373



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Colle di Val d'Elsa

T

uscany is one of the world's most beloved destinations, and for good reason: The wine, food, historic landmarks and art — oh, the art! — are second to none. Step off the beaten path and experience Tuscany as few travelers have before. On this unique journey, linger in medieval villages, sip Chianti among the rolling hills, nibble nutty Pecorino on a family farm and glean tips from a Tuscan chef at work in the kitchen. Immerse yourself in the Tuscan way of life and feast your eyes on both world-famous landmarks and hidden gems, from Florence's iconic Ponte Vecchio to the gardens of Castello di Celso.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore Tuscan roads less traveled that take you to **Colle di Val d'Elsa**, **Massa Marittima** and the **Abbey of San Galgano**.
- Rub shoulders with Tuscan gastronomic artisans as you **sample extra-virgin olive oils and delectable cheeses**.
- Get tips from a Tuscan chef during a **private cooking demonstration**.
- **Learn from a Tuscan winemaker** about the great wines of Chianti.
- Marvel at the architecture of **San Gimignano**.
- Experience **Florence** and **Siena**, Tuscany's star attractions, and go off the beaten path to explore magnificent medieval towns, savor authentic cuisine, sip great wine and more.

Alumni Campus Abroad® Advantages

The unique, value-added features of Alumni Campus Abroad® programs deliver an outstanding educational travel experience.

- **A carefully selected hotel** with comfortable accommodations is the perfect base for exploring the region's renowned landmarks and off-the-beaten-path treasures while providing opportunities to immerse yourself in the local culture and lifestyle.
- **Groups are limited to 36 travelers** to maximize your travel experience.
- **An extensive meal plan** is seasoned with traditional specialties.
- **Meet the People** opportunities allow you to interact with local residents and gain personal insight into their everyday lives.
- **Knowledgeable guides** lead your excursions and **local experts** present insightful educational lectures.
- **An experienced Campus Director** ensures attentive service for the duration of your stay.
- **All gratuities** for excursion guides and drivers are included.



Dear Alumni and Friends,

Join us and toast Tuscany, a region cherished the world over for its breathtaking natural beauty, magnificent Renaissance art, superb cuisine, delectable wines and rich cultural heritage. Tuscany's historic hilltop towns are living postcards, where ancient ramparts encircle colorful piazzas, elegant Etruscan fountains, stately palazzos and bustling cafés.

You will be accompanied on your trip by John Carroll's own Dr. Paul V. Murphy, Vice President for University Mission and Identity, Professor, and Director of the Institute of Catholic Studies. Dr. Murphy is the author of *Ruling Peacefully. Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and Patrician Reform in Sixteenth-Century Italy* (CUA Press, 2007). His current research is on the work of the Jesuits in Italy. We are also excited to hold our farewell events at the winery and estate of Frank Grace, Class of 1963. We'll have a tasting of the exceptional wines produced in his vineyards as well as a festive dinner. These unique and special John Carroll ties will truly make this trip the experience of a lifetime.



Paul V. Murphy, Ph.D

Your itinerary has been specially planned by travel experts to include incomparable cultural experiences, behind-the-scenes excursions and preferred access to popular attractions. The educational program features expert local speakers which serve as the hallmark for this "Alumni Campus Abroad" program.

This trip combines the security, ease and value of group travel with opportunities for independent exploration. You will enjoy the camaraderie of traveling with a group of like-minded people and, during your free time, feel the thrill of making your own discoveries!

Space on this exclusive journey is limited, and the trip is sure to sell out quickly, so make your reservations today!

Sincerely,

David Vitatoe '00
Director of Alumni Relations
John Carroll University



IL MOLINO DI GRACE

Want to extend your stay? At an additional cost, members of our travel group have been granted exclusive access to Villa Le Barone, a 4 star hotel in the beautiful village of Panzano in Chianti near the vineyard, courtesy of Frank Grace '63. Contact the JCU Office of Alumni Relations for pricing and details at alumni@jcu.edu or 216-397-4336.

800-323-7373

jcarroll.ahitravel.com

TUSCANY

REDISCOVERING THE CULTURAL HEART OF ITALY

Unwind in peaceful Colle di Val d'Elsa, the City of Towers. Discover the village of Casole d'Elsa, guarded by ramparts and round towers, and medieval Massa Marittima. Visit San Gimignano glistening like a crown above Chianti's fertile vineyards. Immerse yourself in Renaissance Florence, and explore its historic rival, Gothic Siena. Throughout your journey, taste the flavors of Tuscany from farm to table.

DAY ONE

Depart your gateway city for Florence, Italy.[†]

[†] Provided for Air Program participants.

DAY TWO

COLLE DI VAL D'ELSA, ITALY D

Upon arrival, transfer[†] to Colle di Val d'Elsa, and check in to the Palazzo San Lorenzo.

Excursion: *Colle di Val d'Elsa*. Explore this hidden gem of Tuscany on a guided orientation walk. Stroll the narrow lanes, see 15th- and 16th-century noble houses and admire medieval towerhouses, the neoclassical cathedral and more.

Tonight, get to know your fellow travelers at a Welcome Reception and Dinner at the hotel.

DAY THREE

CASOLE D'ELSA B I L

Educational Focus: *The History of Tuscany*. Discover the roots of modern Tuscany by exploring its past.

Excursion: *Pecorino Cheese*. Visit a farm where Pecorino, a sheep's-milk cheese, is produced. Indulge in a

tasting of this traditional Tuscan cheese, often served at the end of a meal with pears, walnuts and a drizzle of honey.

Excursion: *Casole d'Elsa*.

This hill town began as an Etruscan settlement. More than 40 Etruscan tombs have

been discovered here.

Explore the town's

narrow alleyways and streets, see the imposing



UNESCO

The **Historic Center of Florence**, the **Historic Center of San Gimignano** and the **Historic Center of Siena** are UNESCO World Heritage sites featured in this program.

medieval tower and delight in spectacular panoramic views of the Tuscan countryside.

Excursion: *Castello di Celso*. Conclude your day in the exquisitely manicured gardens of Castello di Celso.

Local Flavor: Sit down for a lunch of classic Tuscan cuisine before returning to Colle di Val d'Elsa.

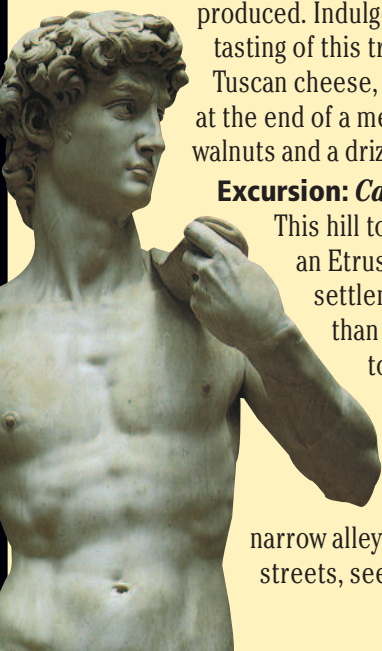
DAY FOUR

MASSA MARITTIMA I SAN GALGANO B I L

Excursion: *Hidden Tuscan Treasures*. Soak up Tuscany's lush green and blonde vistas as you travel to the medieval hilltop town of Massa Marittima and enjoy sweeping views of the hills and farmland below. Admire the carved arches and coats of arms as you stroll through the town's charming square and narrow stone streets. Continue to the ruins of the 12th-century San Galgano Abbey, once a center of Tuscany's monastic power, where you'll learn about the abbey's mysterious sword in the stone.

Local Flavor: Enjoy lunch at a restaurant in the pastoral Tuscan countryside.

Educational Focus: *Renaissance Art*. Learn how the increased awareness of nature, the revival of classical learning and the more individualistic view of humanity





Above left: Cathedral, Siena | Top: San Gimignano | Above: The ruins of the Abbey of San Galgano

shaped the art of the Renaissance.

DAY FIVE FLORENCE

B | D

Excursion: *Florence, Cradle of the Renaissance.* The capital of Tuscany, Florence is a veritable open-air museum, an urban masterpiece spread over the banks of the River Arno. Explore the city center and discover how the city's wealth of creative genius left it laden with fine art and stunning architecture around every turn. See the Old Palace, the Ponte Vecchio, the Cathedral of Santa Meria del Fiore, the Piazza della Signoria and more.

Independent Exploration: The afternoon is yours to explore Florence. Perhaps you'll visit the famed Uffizi or the Galleria dell'Accademia, home to Michelangelo's "David."

DAY SIX SAN GIMIGNANO | CASTELLINA

B | L

Excursion: *Tuscany's Magnificent Hill Country.* Explore the legendary wine region of Chianti during a full-day outing. See the 14 stone towers of San Gimignano soaring skyward as you approach this once wealthy

and powerful 14th-century town. Then journey along the Chianti Road to the well-preserved medieval town of Castellina, once an important Florentine garrison.

Local Flavor: Dine on Tuscan fare during lunch in Castellina.

Cultural Event: *The Tuscan Table.* Learn the secrets of Tuscan cooking during a demonstration by a local chef.

Educational Focus: *Meet the People.* Participate in a unique opportunity to learn about modern-day life in Tuscany through a discussion with local residents.

DAY SEVEN SIENA | CASTELLO DI MONSANTO

B | D

Excursion: *Siena.* Journey to Siena and wander its labyrinth of majestic Gothic architecture. The city center has remained remarkably unchanged throughout the centuries. Visit the Gaia Fountain, the art-filled Mangia Tower and the unforgettable, black-and-gold-striped Duomo. Afterward, enjoy a tour and a tasting at the Castello di Monsanto winery, keeper of the largest reserve of Chianti Classico in the region. Then visit a local olive oil mill and sample aromatic extra-virgin olive oils with the guidance of an expert.

DAY EIGHT COLLE DI VAL D'ELSA

B | D

Educational Focus: *A Contemporary View of Italy.* Attend a discussion of Italy's place in the European Union and an assessment of its modern-day political, economic and social status.

INCLUDED FEATURES

Accommodations

- Seven nights in Colle di Val d'Elsa, Italy, at the deluxe Palazzo San Lorenzo.

Meals

- Enjoy an **extensive meal program**, including seven breakfasts, three lunches and four dinners. Tea or coffee is included with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
- Sample authentic regional specialties at local restaurants.
- Attend a special Welcome Reception and Dinner.
- Gather for a Farewell Reception and a Graduation Ceremony followed by a Farewell Dinner.

Your Exciting Travel Program

(For details, see the day-by-day itinerary.)

- **Informative educational programs**, presented by local experts, will enhance your insight into the region.
- **Personal VOX listening devices** allow you to hear every word from your expert, English-speaking guides.
- **All excursions:**
 - Explore Colle di Val d'Elsa.
 - Taste fresh Pecorino at a local farm.
 - Experience Casole d'Elsa and the gardens of Castello di Celso.
 - Stroll through the hilltop town of Massa Marittima and the ruins of the Abbey of San Galgano.
 - See the highlights of Florence.
 - Drive along the Chianti Road to San Gimignano and Castellina.
 - Enhance your culinary skills with an Italian cooking class.
 - Visit the Gothic splendor of Siena, and indulge in wine and olive oil tastings.

Many Included Extras

- Consultation services of a dedicated **Passenger Service Representative** prior to departure.
- Services of an experienced **Travel Director**.
- Detailed travel and destination information to assist in your planning.
- Tipping of excursion guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel wallet.

ITALY



Independent Exploration: Delight in the many treasures of Colle di Val d'Elsa during an afternoon at leisure.

Local Flavor: Tonight, attend a Farewell Reception and Graduation Ceremony followed by a special Farewell Dinner held at a restaurant in an ancient wheat mill. This rustic restaurant features traditional Tuscan cuisine in a warm, unforgettable setting.

DAY NINE

B

Transfer⁺ to the airport for the return flights to your gateway city.

Note: Itinerary subject to change. Some events on this program involve an element of walking.

Included meals indicated each day as

B \ L \ D = Breakfast \ Lunch \ Dinner.



Tuscany is a feast for the senses. Delight in all its pleasures.



ACCOMMODATIONS

PALAZZO SAN LORENZO

Perfectly situated between Florence and Siena, in lovely Colle di Val d'Elsa, the historic Palazzo San Lorenzo was built as a hospital by the prominent Usimbardi family in 1635. Meticulously updated and restored, the light and airy hotel welcomes its guests with comfort and elegance. Dine on Tuscan fare in the charming Restaurant *Sopra Le Mura*, try local wines at the bar and rejuvenate in the spa, which features a sauna, a Turkish bath and an indoor heated pool. Your tastefully appointed guest room is soundproofed and provides a full range of modern amenities and conveniences.



The Five Senses of Tuscany

Tuscany. The very word brings forth a palette of warm, earthy hues: sunflower yellow, rich burgundy, soft sage and soothing lavender. A morning walk through a Tuscan village's narrow cobbled streets is vibrant with the sensory experiences of an awakening town — the aroma of cappuccino, the bustle of the piazza, the sight of laundry drying on balconies, flapping in the warm sun next to crumbling pillars and noble coats of arms.

You can smell Tuscany in its florid gardens, the autumn grape harvest and the mouth-watering aromas wafting from wood-burning ovens in local kitchens. Your taste buds yearn for the rustic flavors of Tuscan cuisine — tender Florentine beef, delicately fried artichokes, satisfying pastas and, of course, internationally beloved wines.

Close your eyes and you can hear Tuscany in the sound of church bells, Puccini's arias and the calls of crested larks and Sardinian warblers. You sense the soul of the place in the silence of its countryside and in the cadence of the melodic Italian language.

But perhaps what is most memorable is the tactile experience. Tuscany is a weathered, welcoming place that begs to be touched, from hand-plastered walls and shaded stone pathways to the firm, bright fruit bursting to life in citrus groves. A day here is one of passion, of awakening, of life lived well. The five senses of Tuscany are not to be missed!

Reserve your trip to Tuscany today!

For Office Use Only: B #: _____ Date: _____

Trip #:1-21082W

PSR: _____

Send to: Tuscany Rediscovered
Sincerely
c/o AHI Travel
International Tower-Suite 600
8550 W. Bryn Mawr Avenue
Chicago, IL 60631

Please contact AHI Travel at **800-323-7373** with questions regarding this trip or to make a reservation.

Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on passport)

(1) _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

(2) _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

Home: (_____) Office: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Sharing with _____ (Form sent separately.)

I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:

Land and Air Program

I/we reserve the Land Program and request the round-trip Air Program to Florence, Italy, to depart from:

Departure City _____

Please send me information on upgrading my flights.

*Please note: Air prices will be sent to you with your Reservation Confirmation and air schedule sent at 90 days before departure. International flight arrangements can be canceled with **no obligation up to 75 days before departure.***

Land Program

I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.

Please contact me/us regarding air options.

I prefer single accommodations at an additional \$395 (limited availability).

I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first come, first served basis. Reservations to be paid in full by January 17, 2014 (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard, Visa or Discover. Make checks payable to AHI International.

Enclosed is a deposit of _____ (\$600 per person) to reserve _____ place(s).

Accept my check made payable to **AHI International**.

Charge my: MasterCard Visa Discover

Card # _____

Expires _____ / _____

(Signature as it appears on credit card)

Please note: Any payment to AHI International constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out herein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

Need pre- or post-trip assistance?

If you are interested in making independent travel arrangements before and/or after this program, please contact **AHI Travel** at **800-323-7373** no later than **60 days prior to departure**, and they will be happy to assist you with your reservations. *A nonrefundable service fee and additional air/land charges based on reservations apply.*

LAND PROGRAM

April 3-10, 2014

Full Price
\$3,045

Special Savings
\$250

Special Price*
\$2,795*

*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.
VAT is an additional \$295 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air program costs (unless otherwise stated). Single accommodations are an additional \$395 (limited availability).

AIR PROGRAM

April 2-10, 2014

AHI Travel's exclusive Air Program provides special advantages for travelers who are flying on our designated group flights. Reserve your air with us to enjoy a number of important services to help ensure a smooth and relaxing journey. We have negotiated special fares and benefits with our airline partners.

AHI AIR BENEFITS

- **Arrival and Departure Transfers** including baggage handling.
- **Price Guarantee** — protect yourself from fare and fuel surcharge increases.
- **Advance Seat Assignments** on most airlines.
- **Group Discount Business Class Prices** on most airlines.
- **Flexibility** — most programs do not require immediate ticketing, avoiding penalties for cancellations or changes until the tickets are issued.
- A dedicated **Passenger Service Representative** — a single point of contact to assist you.
- **Knowledgeable Air Agents** will track your flights and assist with any lost baggage, flight delays or cancellations.

NEW ULTIMATE FLEXIBILITY—The AHI Travel Passenger Protection Plan now offers a low-cost **Any Reason Cancellation** feature. Book worry free!

NOT INCLUDED—Fees for passports and, if applicable, visas, entry/departure fees; personal gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning; excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and meals not mentioned in this brochure under included features; travel insurance; all items of a strictly personal nature.

MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL—The right is retained to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

AIR TRANSPORTATION—The price of air transportation offered by AHI Travel is based on Advance Purchase Excursion fares. After tickets are issued, penalties up to 100% of the ticket price may be levied. If connecting flights are requested, special promotional fares may be used, in which case penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or canceled after ticketing. After departure, if the reservations are changed, you will be charged the higher, all year Economy class fare. **VARIATIONS TO THE GROUP ITINERARY MUST BE REQUESTED NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.** Passengers who choose to make their own airline reservations independently will be wholly responsible for any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of program cancellation and/or change in travel dates, or airline schedule(s).

CANCELLATION—In addition to airline cancellation penalties, all cancellations for any reason whatsoever will be subject to a \$250 per person cancellation fee. Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 10% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 75 days to 30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. **TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE. AN APPLICATION WILL BE SENT AFTER YOU RESERVE.** All cancellations must be submitted in writing to AHI International Corporation.

BAGGAGE—Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provided with your pre-departure information. Baggage allowances are subject to change by the carrier without notice. Excess baggage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces are expensive and not included in your trip price; plan your wardrobe accordingly. Transport of baggage and personal effects is at the owner's risk throughout the travel program.

AUTHORITY TO USE IMAGES AND AUDIO RECORDINGS — On occasion, AHI Travel obtains, from its staff, or from trip participants, photographic or video images of passengers and trip activities. By participating in this travel program, you authorize AHI Travel, without providing compensation to you, or obtaining additional approvals from you, to include photographic and video recordings of you, as well as voice recordings included with any videos, in AHI Travel's sales, marketing, advertising, publicity and/or training activities.

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Top to bottom:
Massa Marittima
Detail of "The Birth of Venus," Botticelli
Tuscan specialties

Letter page photo (left):
Florence

Cover photos:
San Gimignano
Duomo, Florence
Tuscan countryside



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A word about your Tour Operator

AHI Travel is the premier operator of deluxe travel programs sponsored by alumni associations. Their experienced, professional staff has offered the highest level of service in **innovative travel programs since 1962.**

In AHI Travel's care, you can rely on:

- **An exceptional travel value.** It would be impossible for an independent traveler to arrange all these unique experiences, inclusions and services at a comparable price.
- **Unique access to local sites.** Take advantage of more than 50 years of travel experience to gain preferred entrance to popular sites and to uncover the region's hidden treasures.
- **Experienced Travel Directors** who attend to every detail of your journey.
- **Expertise of local guides** who possess authoritative knowledge of the region and offer personal insight into local culture.
- **Flexibility and customization.** Free time during the trip allows you to pursue your own interests. They will also help you tailor your dream trip with add-ons and extensions.
- **Safety and security.** In a country where you might not know the language or culture, their professional staff is on hand to ease your way and get you any help you need.



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Dear Alumni and Friends
Office of Alumni Relations
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ITATUSCA14 678

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