

FESTIVAL CORALE INTERNAZIONALE DI ROMA

Festival Tour #5 (8 nights / 10 days)

Day 1 Saturday, June 20, 2019

Depart via scheduled air service. The destination is Rome, Italy

Day 2 Sunday, June 21 Rome (D)

Arrive in Rome

Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who assists the group to the awaiting chartered motorcoach for an orientation tour of Rome, stopping at sites such as Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain and Piazza Navona (lunch on own)

Late afternoon transfer to the hotel for Welcome Dinner and overnight

Rome - Popes, Vandals, the Borgias and Napoleon, Garibaldi, Michelangelo and Mussolini and, of course, the ancient Romans themselves all have left their physical and spiritual mark on Rome, but though she keeps the glory of an ancient day about her, she remains a wellspring of creative energy; in short, she really is the Eternal City

Day 3 Monday, June 22 Rome (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning rehearsal

Lunch on own

After the rehearsal, depart for a half-day guided tour of *Imperial Rome*, including entrance to the Roman Forum and Colosseum. Also view the Pantheon, Baths of Caracalla and Palatine Hill

Dinner at a local restaurant

Evening rehearsal

Return to hotel for overnight

Day 4 Tuesday, June 23 Rome (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning rehearsal

Lunch on own

After the rehearsal, depart for a half-day guided tour of *Religious Rome*. Visit Vatican City, the home of the Pope and the center of Roman Catholicism, as well as the Vatican Museum (using the whisper system), St. Peter's Basilica and the Sistine Chapel (featuring Michelangelo's Ceiling Frescos and *The Last Judgment*)

Evening dinner and overnight



Day 5 Wednesday, June 24 Rome (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel
Morning at leisure for sightseeing, shopping or other planned activities
Lunch on own
Afternoon Dress Rehearsal in the Basilica di Santa Maria sopra Minerva
Transfer to St. Peter's Basilica the Vatican
Combined choirs participate/sing in a late afternoon Mass in St. Peter's Basilica
Dinner at a local restaurant
Festival Finale Concert in the Basilica di Santa Maria sopra Minerva
Late return to hotel for overnight

Day 6 Thursday, June 25 Rome / Florence / Montecatini (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel
Transfer to Montecatini via Pisa
Lunch on own
In Pisa, see the Piazza del Duomo or Campo dei Miracoli, with the cathedral, the Leaning Tower, the Baptistry and the Campo Santo - a harmoniously composed group of buildings of unrivaled beauty
Continue to Montecatini for dinner and overnight

Montecatini is a characteristic medieval village and is one of the most ancient inhabited centers in the Valdinievole. The Montecatini of today, a suggestive outdoor masterpiece, does not retain the image of a sole period. Instead, it is witness to a historical parable of intense experiences, filled with dark moments, almost total destruction and splendor

Day 7 Friday, June 26 Montecatini / Pisa / Florence (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel
Morning visit to the Academia, the Academy of Fine Arts, to see Michelangelo's original 'David' and other sculptures by the great master (using the whisper system)
A half-day orientation tour of Florence includes the Piazza della Signoria, a lovely square in the heart of the city, towered by the lofty Palazzo Vecchio. Visit the Ponte Vecchio, the bridge across the Arno. See the Baptistry with Ghiberti's 'Gates of Paradise', the Campanile, and entrance to the Duomo
Lunch on own
Afternoon at leisure in Florence
Concert as part of the American Celebration of Music in Italy
Return to Montecatini for dinner and overnight

Day 8 Saturday, June 27 Montecatini / Lucerne (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel
Transfer to Lucerne
Lunch on own
Evening dinner and overnight

Lucerne is the capital of its canton and considered one of the most beautiful cities in Switzerland. The lake resort city sprawls at the foot of Lake Lucerne in the cradle of historic Switzerland. The city's medieval heritage is evident in the fortifying walls and towers, the old churches and houses and the unusual covered bridges that span the Reuss



Day 9 Sunday, June 28 Lucerne (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

A walking tour of this picture book-like town includes the Covered Wooden Bridge, Mussegge Towers, the Lion Monument and the old town. There is also time available for shopping for bargains including Swiss watches, lace, wood carvings and chocolate

Lunch on own

Afternoon at leisure for sightseeing, shopping or other planned activities

Performance in Lucerne

Evening Farewell Dinner and overnight

Day 10 Monday, June 29 Depart for home (B)

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Zurich's International Airport for return flight

This is a very flexible itinerary. Except for confirmed appointments and performances, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable. In the event of an unavoidable conflict in the performance and the sightseeing schedule, the concert schedule will prevail, and it may be necessary to exclude some sightseeing activities.

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