

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 Monday, June 25 Rome / Pisa / 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 Baptistery 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 Tuesday, June 26 Montecatini / 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 Baptistery 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 Wednesday, June 27 Montecatini / Venice (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Venice including sightseeing to the main island of San Marco via public boat. A walking tour includes St. Mark's Square, with entrance to incredibly rich Basilica of St. Mark and the Doge's Palace where the powerful and prosperous dukes of Venice ruled their far-flung empire at its height during the 15th century

Lunch on own

Concert as part of the American Celebration of Music in Italy

Evening dinner and overnight

Venice is eternally preoccupied with the contemplation of its own beauty. Founded on marshes, it rose to dominate the Adriatic and hold the gorgeous



East in fee. At the height of her power in the 16th century, Venice was a wealthy city-republic glorying in feasts and pageants, reveling in the splendor of her painting, sculpture and architecture. Those days of glory are gone, but her art survives and the grace and refinement remain

Day 9 Thursday, June 28 Venice / Verona / Milan (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Milan via Verona (of Romeo and Juliet fame) for an orientation tour including seeing the Roman Arena, an amphitheatre among the largest in the Roman world, which still serves as a setting for a prominent music festival. Also see Juliet's House with its famous Balcony in the inner courtyard

Lunch on own

Continue to Milan for evening Farewell Dinner and overnight

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

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Milan'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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