

THE BEST OF ITALY

with Erich L. Knapp and Friends

May 18 - 30, 2025

The Best of Italy
MILANO FLORENCE VATICAN
VENICE ROMA

SUNDAY, MAY 18

We meet at FELC Appleton and shuttle to Chicago ORD for our flight with Iceland Air to Milano MXP via Reykjavik. Meals are served on your flight.

MONDAY, MAY 19

A state of the art coach will transport us from the Milano International Airport to the Windsor Hotel in Milano. The hotel is conveniently located within walking distance to many major attractions in the city center. Enjoy the sights at your leisure. Try to stay awake until your 'regular' bedtime to minimize effects of jet lag. Dinner is on your own this evening.

TUESDAY, MAY 20

After an early breakfast, we will travel by coach and enjoy a guided tour of the museum that houses DaVinci's famous Last Supper. After we have our time in the museum, our group will enjoy a tour of the incredible Milano Duomo. The afternoon is at your leisure. You might want to check out the canal neighborhoods for a picturesque afternoon with a cold beverage. [B]

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

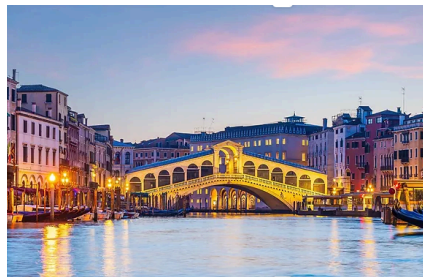
Following breakfast, we will load our coach and journey to Milano's famed opera house: La Scala, where we enjoy a tour. The afternoon is free time for you to enjoy at your leisure. There are wonderful shopping and dining opportunities by La Scala. We gather this evening at our hotel restaurant, and enjoy dinner together as a group. [B,D]

FLIGHT DEPARTS
Chicago - Milano

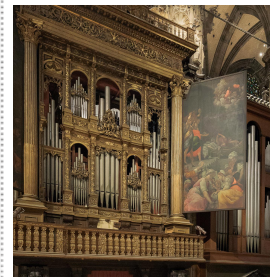
FLIGHT RETURN
Rome - Chicago



Milano Duomo & Plaza



Venice Grande Canal and Rialto Bridge



Pipe Organ, Milano Duomo

B=Breakfast L=Lunch D=Dinner



Florence at dusk



La Scala, Milano

THURSDAY, MAY 22

After breakfast, we will transfer to the charming city of Venice. We will travel by train from Milano to Venice, and check-in to Hotel San Cassiano located on the Grand Canal. The afternoon and evening are at your leisure. It is perfectly fine if you get a little lost in the narrow alleys, and maze of canals. Have fun! [B]

FRIDAY, MAY 23

We walk together as a group through the to the Basilica of Santa Maria Gloriosa dei Frari. This historic church is renowned for shaping the history of sacred music, and it is the place where Monteverdi is laid to rest. We continue to the incredible Basilica di San Marco which is even more significant in the development of sacred music. We conclude our touring, and you are free to enjoy Venice at your leisure. [B]

SATURDAY, MAY 24

Today we will travel by train from Venice to Florence. We check-in to Hotel Botticelli located in the heart of Florence or Firenze, where we will stay for three nights. We recommend finding a nice place to dine this evening, and perhaps seeing the famous Ponte Vecchio bridge. [B]

SUNDAY, MAY 25

We attend Mass at the Duomo this morning. Following church, we will enjoy a guided tour of the Duomo. For those who would like to explore the scenery, we will arrange an optional dome or bell tower tour...more to come on this. The afternoon is at your leisure. [B]

MONDAY, MAY 26

This morning we will have a guided tour of the Museum that houses Michelangelo's famous sculpture of David. We enjoy a tasty lunch together where we sample local specialties, and wine of course. The rest of the day is at your leisure to enjoy this incredible city. [B, L]



Catacombes in Rome



Canal in Venice



Milanese



Colosseum in Rome

TUESDAY, MAY 27

This morning we will travel by train from Florence to Rome. We shuttle to Passpartout Boutique Palace, which is a charming family owned hotel within easy walking distance to several historic sites, and major attractions. The afternoon is at your leisure. [B]

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28

After breakfast, we will enjoy a guided tour of the Vatican where we will see the art museum, and the Sistine Chapel. We conclude our tour in St. Peter's Basilica where we will go in the crypt and see the burial places of the popes and St. Peter. The rest of the day is at your leisure. Enjoy Rome! [B]

THURSDAY, MAY 29

After breakfast, we will have a guided tour of Colosseum and the Forum. We enjoy lunch as a group at a nearby restaurant, before we will enjoy the history of the Catacombs where Peter, Paul, and other early Christians were laid to rest after their martyrdom. We transfer back to our hotel, and we will enjoy a delicious celebratory meal in the garden restaurant of the hotel. [B,L,D]

FRIDAY, MAY 30

Our fabulous tour must unfortunately come to an end. After breakfast, our coach will transport us to the Rome International Airport FCO where we will board our flight back home. A shuttle will transfer the group from Chicago to the FELC Appleton parking lot. Enjoy your flight! [B]

Land Only Program in Italy \$4535 pp
(Based on Double Occupancy.)

Group Airfare & Land Prog., \$5550 pp
(Based on Double Occupancy.)

Single Room Supplement \$1645

To register, please visit:

www.stcecilia.co/tours

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St. Cecilia
TOURS