



Educational Tours

Business and Agriculture in Italy, Switzerland and France

A private tour designed by Sally Guyton, in conjunction with EF Education

Requested departure date: Wednesday, May 16, 2012

(Dates below are subject to change. Required date flexibility of 4 days on either side of requested departure date)

Day 1

Board your overnight flight to Rome!

Day 2

Arrive in Rome

Welcome to Rome, the Eternal City. The city is an incredible mix of archeological gems, Roman genius, Renaissance art and religious treasure. As Italy's capital, it is also the bustling heart of this exciting country. With its fashionable shopping and café-culture, Rome really is a unique European experience.

Free Time at the Spanish Steps (time permitting)

Enjoy some free time at the Spanish steps in Piazza Spagna. From here head towards the Trevi fountain on your way to the Pantheon, commissioned by the Emperor Hadrian. Contemplate just how this impressive building still stands when there are no visible arches or vaults. You may also enjoy some time in Piazza Navona where you might choose to have your portrait painted by one of the many resident artists or just admire Bernini's spectacular 'Fountain of the Four Rivers.'

Overnight in Rome

Day 3

Guided Sightseeing of Rome

Begin your tour at Piazza Venezia, which is dominated on one side by the controversial monument to Victor Emmanuel II, first king of a united Italy. From here head towards the Colosseum and learn more of a gladiator's life and this astonishing building while walking inside its famed walls. Your tour ends in the Forum, political heart of the Roman Empire and center of some of history's greatest events.

Guided Sightseeing of the Vatican

The world's largest dome is located in the world's smallest country. See both as you tour St. Peter's Basilica, erected in Vatican City on the site where the saint was martyred. Enter the basilica under the watchful eyes of the brightly dressed Swiss Guard. Inside, admire Michelangelo's Pietà and try to find the artist's signature (it is the only sculpture he ever signed). Then continue on to the Vatican Museum, where elaborate galleries packed with one artistic masterpiece after another lead you directly to the Sistine Chapel. Between 1508 and 1512, Michelangelo painted some of the world's finest pictorial images on the Chapel's ceiling. This was his first attempt at working in fresco, which he did by standing up and craning backwards from a scaffold.

Dinner is not included this evening.

Overnight in Rome

Day 4

Transfer to Orvieto

Travel north to Orvieto, located in the region of Umbria. Perched high up on the cliffs, Orvieto is filled with rich history dating for over 3000 years.

Wine Tasting at Le Grotte del Funaro

Visit a local winery and enjoy a 3 course lunch paired with wines made right in Orvieto. Le Grotte del Funaro, meaning the ropemaker's grottoes, was once a medieval workshop but is now run as a unique and exclusive restaurant and winery.

Underground Cave Tour of Orvieto

Take a tour of the long secret underground city in Orvieto, a series of caves and tunnels linked together below this hilltop town. You will wind your way through tunnels, galleries, wells, stairs, quarries, cellars and cisterns as you learn about the escape routes for the noble families and the importance of these caves as they once provided protection for residents during sieges of the city as well as storage space for vegetables and wine.

Overnight in the Orvieto Region

Day 5

Transfer to Florence

Set deep in the heart of Tuscany is one of Italy's jewels. The city of Florence has delighted visitors for centuries with its remarkable architecture. Whether sitting by the River Arno, strolling the beautifully housed streets or viewing the renaissance masterpieces that fill the city's churches and museums, one can only be astonished by the feeling of true beauty.

Free Time in Florence

You might take a moment to soak in the cobblestone birthplace of the Renaissance with a cup of Cappuccino in one of the small cafes throughout the city. Maybe you would prefer to peruse the luxurious shops of the Ponte Vecchio, or take a stroll up through the Boboli Gardens to Forte di Belvedere, where you might chance on a sculpture exhibition as you take in the spectacular panorama of Florence.

Visit the Duomo

Enter the Duomo, which was commissioned in 1296 by the city fathers. Arnolfo di Cambio was given the assignment to erect a cathedral "with the most high and sumptuous magnificence" so that it would be "impossible to make it either better or more beautiful with the industry and power of man." The Duomo was not completed until 122 years later in 1418 after Filippo Brunelleschi developed the idea of double-shelled construction to build the Cathedral's dome.

Dinner is not included this evening.

Overnight in Florence

Day 6

Travel to San Miniato and visit an Olive Press

This morning you will continue on to the Tuscan town of San Miniato, which is known for its white truffles that are harvested around the area. In fact, in late November San Miniato hosts a festival devoted to the gastronomically precious white truffle, which is more highly valued than the black truffles found in surrounding areas. Today, you will learn how olive oil is made and have the opportunity to sample a variety of mouthwatering delicacies made from olives.

Transfer to Cinque Terre via Pisa

Journey to Pisa and visit the Field of Miracles for a photo-stop. Here you will see the six stories of white marble which form the 12th-century Leaning Tower of Pisa, along with the adjacent marble cathedral, and the neighboring baptistery. From here continue to the coastal region of the Cinque Terre.

Dinner is not included this evening.

Overnight in Cinque Terre

Day 7

Visit the Cinque Terre

With your tour director, you will explore the five villages of Corniglia, Manarola, Riomaggiore, Vernazza, and Monterosso, which comprise the Cinque Terre (five lands) region. These coastal towns, inaccessible by car, offer a glimpse back to another age with their quaint vineyards and beautiful view across the bay of Genoa.

Dinner is not included this evening.

Overnight in Cinque Terre

Day 8

Travel to Bologna via Modena

This morning, you will travel to Bologna, another of Italy's culinary capitals and well-known for its famous dish—Tagliatelle al Ragù—commonly known as Spaghetti Bolognese. Stop in Modena to visit the Ferrari Museum and Factory on your way to the Italian Riviera. Modena was Luciano Pavarotti's birthplace and is the wealthiest city in Italy. It produces some of the country's best wines and is known for its fastest export, the Ferrari. You will be visiting Ferrari's showroom, which displays engines, trophies and some of the oldest and fastest Ferraris (most of which are, of course, red!).

Visit the Ducati Factory and Museum

In 1926, Bologna became home to one of the finest motorcycle manufacturers. Here at the museum, you will have a chance to learn about the history and the passion that drives this company to pursue excellence in their product.

Overnight in Bologna

Day 9

Transfer to Geneva

Today you will leave Italy and head north to Switzerland. Seat of the Protestant Reformation, it was here in Geneva that Calvin preached, Voltaire philosophized, Victor Hugo wrote, and Rousseau came up with ideas that helped ignite the French Revolution. The city is also home to the United Nations building as well as countless parks and islands of great natural beauty.

Free Time in Geneva (time permitting)

Enjoy some free time this evening to explore Geneva on your own. You may wish to visit the Watch Museum. Chronicling the history of watches and clocks from the 16th century to the present, there is nowhere better for such a museum than in Switzerland.

Dinner is not included this evening.

Overnight in the Geneva Region

Day 10**Transfer to Paris via TGV Train**

Board your train to Paris and travel to the cosmopolitan City of Light. Over the centuries, Paris has grown to become the undisputed center of France, and one of the world's most important cities both culturally and politically. Equally famed for its high fashion, awe-inspiring museums and elegant cuisine, Paris has also been a center of theater, literature and philosophy throughout the ages.

Guided Sightseeing of Paris

Discover the city on the Seine during your morning bus tour. Learn about Paris' origins as a Roman settlement as you pass through the Île de la Cité, where you will also see Notre Dame Cathedral. Pass by the imposing Arc de Triomphe, commemorating Napoleon's Grande Armée, and the École Militaire, where he graduated to Lieutenant. Continue down the elegant Champs-Élysées to the Place de la Concorde, dedicated to King Louis XV and the site where Louis XIV and Marie Antoinette were executed during the French Revolution. Then, head through the Quartier Latin where you will see the world-renowned Sorbonne University, and drive along the Seine for wonderful views of the Musée D'Orsay, the Louvre and the Pont de Neuf, or 'new bridge', which is ironically Paris' oldest. Finally, make a photo stop at the iconic Eiffel Tower, built for the 1889 World's Fair. Learn why this impressive, yet controversial, symbol of Paris was spared the wrecking ball in 1909.

Dinner is not included this evening.

Overnight in Paris

Day 11**Attend a Cooking Lesson**

Explore your culinary abilities and learn from a Parisian chef during this cooking lesson.

Free Time in Paris

Enjoy free time for your own explorations of Paris. You might wish to visit the Musée d'Orsay, the Rodin Museum, or the futuristic exhibits of the Pompidou Centre. Other possibilities are a visit to the Sacré-Cœur, where you can watch artists at work in the streets of Montmartre below, or a stroll through the Latin Quarter. Or take part in the timeless Parisian tradition of people-watching over a cup of café au lait at a sidewalk café.

Dinner is not included this evening.

Overnight in Paris

Day 12**Excursion to Reims**

Considered the de facto capital of the province of Champagne, Reims is one of France's centers of champagne production.

Visit the Taittinger Winery

Today you will have a chance to tour the Taittinger Winery, one of the biggest Champagne producers in the region. During your visit, you will venture down into the Saint Nicaise cellar caves, hear about how the wine is produced, and sample some of the champagne made on site.

Enjoy Dinner in Montmartre

Return to Paris and enjoy a final dinner in Montmartre.

Overnight in Paris

Day 13**Transfer to the airport for your return flight**

Your tour director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

Itinerary is subject to change

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions at www.eftours.com/bc.



Educational Tours

Tour Highlights and Details

Overnight stays:

Rome	(2)
Orvieto Region	(1)
Florence	(1)
Cinque Terre	(2)
Bologna	(1)
Geneva Region	(1)
Paris	(3)

Comprehensive sightseeing tours led by an expert local guide of the following:

Rome
Vatican City
Paris

Entrances included to the following sites:

Forum Romanum	Duomo, Florence
Colosseum	Olive Press & Food Tasting in San Miniato
Sistine Chapel	Cinque Terre Train Card
St. Peter's Basilica	Ferrari Car Factory
Orvieto Funiculaire	Ducati Factory
Le Grotte del Funaro Wine Tasting	Cooking Class in Paris
Underground Cave Tour	Taittinger Cellar Tour

Included in the Program Fee:

- Round trip airfare
- Transfers to and from the airport and hotel and between destination cities (as per program itinerary)
- Overnight in hotels with private bathrooms
- Continental breakfast daily
- Dinner on days 2, 4, 8, 12
- Lunch on day 4
- Full-time services of an EF Tour Director

Not included in the Program Fee:

- Customary gratuities for your tour director, local guide and driver
- Portage
- Personal Insurance
- Beverages and lunches days 3 & 5-12
- Dinner on days 3, 5-7, 9-11
- Public transportation to free time activities