

DA ROMA IN PARADISO

Experience the beauty of Umbria, Tuscany, Cinque Terre region and Northern Italian Lakes

August 29 - September 12, 2009

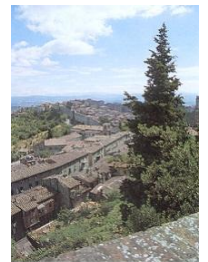
Experience the history, rich culture and great food. Little World Travel in Belmont is offering a 14-day tour of Italy including a touch of Umbria, Tuscany, Cinque Terre Ligurian region and Northern Italian Lakes Como and Maggiore. Giovanni Tempesta, lecturer in Italian at Stanford, will personally lead the tour.

This tour will start in Rome, where we'll spend one night. Then we continue on to **Orvieto**, the most important of the Etruscan cities of Umbria, famous for its majestic Duomo founded in 1290 and probably one of the most beautiful Cathedrals in Italy. Orvieto is a small city of great antiquity, so ancient that its early history is uncertain.



From Orvieto, on to **Montefalco**, where we'll spend three nights at Hotel Villa Pambuffetti, which will make your dreams come true, surrounded by its beautiful garden full of spectacular trees, very intimate and with a great view of the Umbrian valley below. En route to Montefalco we'll stop at a nearby olive oil mill (Un Vecchio Frantoio) to taste some of the best extra-virgin olive oil in Italy. Our second night in Montefalco we will be treated to a "Dinner Extravaganza" at the villa. Alessandra, the owner, will be available for cooking lessons before dinner.

That morning we'll visit **San Francis' Assisi and the Porziuncola**, the original church rebuilt by San Francesco in Santa Maria Degli Angeli. On our third morning we'll visit charming **Spello**, a little gem of a town not too far from our Villa. From Spello we'll move on to **Bevagna** for a typical Umbrian lunch. From Montefalco we'll continue to Perugia, the capital of Umbria, also of Etruscan origins. En route to Perugia, after breakfast we'll visit a ceramic factory in **DERUTA**, a little town world famous for great ceramic works. You'll see true artists at work in UBALDO GRAZIA's factory, probably the best in Italy. Their decorative ceramics sell in USA at Neiman Marcus and Gump's. You'll be able to purchase at factory prices and they will ship it to the USA.



We'll spend a glorious day in **Perugia** and enjoy all that it has to offer. The rich artistic and cultural patrimony and the natural environment make Perugia a unique city of major importance. Hotel Rosetta is located in the heart of medieval and early Renaissance Perugia. We will see the Etruscan Arch dating back to the fifth century B.C. the Etruscan Arch or Arco d'Augusto is the only one of the six city gates that has not undergone considerable changes. We will also see many other important monuments.

From Perugia, on our way to **Florence**, we'll stop for lunch in **San Gimignano**, a medieval town famous for its 14 towers. From San Gimignano we'll drive to **LA BELLA FIRENZE**, the Cradle of the Renaissance, where we'll spend two wonderful days visiting the Uffizi Gallery and many other monuments. Our HOTEL BERCHIELLI is one minute from Ponte Vecchio right on the Arno River.

From Florence, we'll continue our Tuscan experience, stopping first in **Pisa**, to visit the PIAZZA DEI MIRACOLI, then continuing on to **Lucca** and its incredible walls, the city of Giacomo Puccini, one of the greatest Italian composers. Our Hotel Universo is centrally located, right in front of the Teatro Del Giglio and close to the house where Giacomo Puccini was born. From Lucca, we'll drive to **Rapallo** for two nights on the Ligurian sea for our special visit to CINQUE TERRE, five rustic and charming towns overlooking the bay. We'll walk the **VIA DELL'AMORE** the love trail and stop in **Vernazza** the most beautiful of the five towns. As we arrive to Rapallo, we'll board a boat to Portofino " The Pearl of the Italian Riviera." From Rapallo we'll depart for **Cernobbio on Lake Como**, the most beautiful of the three Italian lakes, with its Alpine vistas, palatial villas, and rose-laden belvederes.



In the morning, we'll drive to **Tremezzo**, where we'll board a private boat to **Bellagio** the "Pearl Of Lake Como" occupying a magnificent site on a promontory, famous for its narrow streets, nice walks, views, villas and gardens and lots of great shops. We will have Lunch in Bellagio at a great restaurant overlooking the lake.

From Cernobbio on Lake Como we'll go to **Stresa on Lake Maggiore** for two nights. Our hotel La Palma has an excellent position in a landscaped floral garden on the lakefront- central and quiet. We'll spend two days in Stresa. On our second day, we'll board a private boat and visit **Isola Bella**, a multi-terraced, baroque confection, rising from the lake. We'll visit the palace and the gardens of this magnificent island. We will have lunch on the **ISOLA DEI PESCATORI** and return to Stresa, on our private boat. On Saturday September 12, we'll fly home to the USA.

The land cost is \$ 4,650.00 per person and includes accommodations in four stars hotels, two meals each day with wine included in restaurants chosen by Giovanni, all visits in museums, sightseeing and boat transfers. Space limited to 26-28 passengers.

Contact Donna Ludlum at Little World Travel, Inc. for further details and a complete itinerary.

(650) 592-0664 or 888- 292-0664 or Giovanni at: tempesta@stanford.edu

Little World Travel, Inc.
1027 Alameda de Las Pulgas
Belmont Ca, 94002
Phone: 650-592-0664
888-292-0664
Fax: 650-593-3525
Email: lwt@littleworld.com

Web Site: <http://www.littleworld.com>

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