

DA ROMA IN PARADISO

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

June 7- 21, 2010

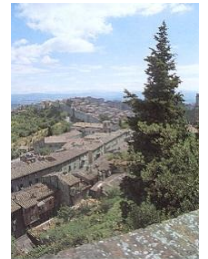
Experience the **history, rich culture and great food of ITALY**. Little World Travel in Belmont is offering a 14-day tour of Italy, including a touch of Umbria, Tuscany, Cinque Terre Ligurian region and Northern Italian Lakes Como and Maggiore. Giovanni Tempesta, lecturer in Italian at Stanford, will 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 one of the most beautiful Cathedrals in Italy. Orvieto is a small city of great antiquity, so ancient that its early history is uncertain. We'll have lunch in Orvieto to try the excellent dry white wine and pasta with **BLACK TRUFFLES**, the pride of the Umbrian region.



From Orvieto, on to **Montefalco**, where we'll spend three nights at Hotel **Villa Pambuffetti**, which will make your dreams come true, at this intimate hotel, which is surrounded by a beautiful garden full of spectacular trees, 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 **St. Francis' Assisi and the Porziuncola**, the original church rebuilt by St. 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, where we'll have a typical Umbrian lunch. After lunch 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 the USA at Neiman Marcus and Gump's. You'll be able to purchase at factory prices and they will ship it to the USA.




From Montefalco, we'll go to **Florence, LA BELLA FIRENZE**, the Cradle of the Renaissance, where we'll spend two wonderful days visiting the Uffizi Gallery and many monuments. Our **HOTEL BERCHIELLI** is one minute from the Ponte Vecchio right on the Arno River.

From Florence we'll continue on to medieval **Siena**, a Gothic art center, famous for its Cathedral and the incredible Piazza del Campo, where the greatest horse race "The Palio" takes place twice a year. On our way to Siena we'll stop for lunch in **San Gimignano**, a medieval town famous for its 14 towers. From Siena, we'll continue our Tuscan experience, going to **Lucca** and its incredible walls, it's also the city of **Giacomo Puccini**, one of the greatest Italian composers.



On our second day in Lucca, we'll visit **VILLA TORRIGIANI**. The Villa and its park sum up all the splendor and magnificence of the Lucchese tradition of the country manor-house. The original building dates back to the 15th but it was radically rearranged a century later by the architect Maurizio Oddi.



The Garden of the Flora is the clearest example of the Luccchese taste, a bright and surprising ensemble of grottoes, nymph temples, and flowers. 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 in Rapallo, we'll board a boat to Portofino, "The Pearl of the Italian Riviera." From Rapallo we'll depart for **Lake Como**, the most beautiful of the three Italian lakes, with its Alpine vistas, palatial villas, and rose-laden belvederes.

We'll drive to **Tremezzo**, where we'll board a private boat to **Bellagio**, the "Pearl Of Lake Como," a magnificent site on a promontory, and is famous for its narrow streets, nice walks, views, villas, and gardens, and lots of great shops selling the best silk in the world. You will have time for last minute shopping in Bellagio.

From Bellagio 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 Monday, June 21, we'll fly home to the USA from Milano.

The land cost is \$ 4,790.00 per person and includes accommodations in four star 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.

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