

GLENBARD WEST HIGH SCHOOL FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT



Concert Tour of
ITALY

March 21 – 30, 2019

Directed by Colleen Doyle, Andrew Jeffrey,
William Ortega, and Jonathan Walsh





MARCH 2019

21, THURSDAY

Departure

Check in today at the Chicago O'Hare International Airport for the overnight transatlantic flights to Italy. We're on our way!

22, FRIDAY

Rome

Good morning! We have just arrived in Rome. Following customs formalities, we'll meet our tour managers and transfer to the waiting motorcoaches. The first drive of our tour takes us into the city of Rome. Our sightseeing begins at the Piazza Navona, in the heart of Rome. There will be plenty of time here to take some pictures and perhaps get a gelato (Italian ice cream). Then we'll check in at our hotel for a three-night stay. (D)

23, SATURDAY

Vatican City, Rome

This morning we'll have an introduction to Vatican City. We'll start with a visit

to the extensive Vatican Museums, which include the Pio-Clementino Museum, the Raphael Room and the *Sistine Chapel*, a masterpiece of Renaissance art that was decorated by Michelangelo. We'll also visit St. Peter's Square and St. Peter's Basilica to see Michelangelo's *Pieta* and many other treasures. In the afternoon, we'll travel along the Via Appia Antica to the Catacombs of San Callisto, ancient underground cemeteries—used by the Christian and Jewish communities. They were also used as places of momentary refuge for the celebration of the Eucharist. Later the choir will participate in an evening Mass in Rome. Dinner will be provided at the hotel this evening. (B, D)

24, SUNDAY

Rome

A guided tour of ancient Rome is planned this morning. We plan to visit the Roman Forum—the religious, political, and commercial center of ancient Rome; and the Coliseum. The amphitheater, inaugurated in 80 A.D., was given the name *Colosseo*. In the afternoon, we'll visit the Pantheon, an ancient building perfectly preserved; Trevi Fountain; and the Spanish

Steps. Following our tour, the remainder of the afternoon will be at leisure for exploration in smaller chaperoned groups. (B, D)

25, MONDAY

Siena, Montecatini

Our travels today take us first to the beautiful medieval city of Siena in the heart of Tuscany. The center of the city is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Highlights include a stop at the Palazzo Pubblico in the Piazza del Campo. The palace has served as Siena's town hall since the 1300s. Following time to enjoy this lovely city, continue on to Montecatini where we will check in at our hotel for a three-night stay. This evening, the choir, band and orchestra will give a concert performance in Montecatini. (B, D)

26, TUESDAY

Florence, Montecatini

A visit to Florence is planned today. Our first stop will be at the Accademia, which contains several works by Michelangelo, including his famous *David*. After this visit, our guided walking tour takes us to the magnificent Duomo. Here we will see the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore, Giotto's Campanile, and the Baptistery's world-famous

-
- ① Roman Forum, Rome
 - ② Piazza Anfiteatro square, Lucca
 - ③ Trevi Fountain, Rome
 - ④ Duomo, Florence
- Cover: Siena

“Gates of Paradise” doors, before walking to the Piazza della Signoria and Palazzo Vecchio. This afternoon we’ll have some time at leisure for shopping and independent exploration in smaller chaperoned groups. Later we’ll return to Montecatini for the overnight. (B, D)

27, WEDNESDAY

Lucca, Montecatini

Today we’ll travel to the town of Lucca, one of Tuscany’s beautiful walled towns. Upon arrival, we’ll have time for lunch and then take a guided walking tour that will include highlights of the town’s medieval and Renaissance architecture as well as places associated with the great composer Puccini. There will be some free time for independent exploration. In the late afternoon, the orchestra will give a concert performance. Following the concert, return to Montecatini for dinner at the hotel. (B, D)

28, THURSDAY

Padua, Mestre

We’ll depart Montecatini this morning and make our way north to Padua, an ancient university town. Upon arrival we’ll take a guided tour and then have some free time for independent lunch and exploration. Later we’ll continue on to Mestre, the gateway to Venice, to check in at our hotel for dinner and the final two nights of the tour. The band will give a concert performance in Padua or Mestre this evening. (B, D)



29, FRIDAY

Venice, Mestre

This morning we’ll head into the exciting city of Venice. It’s more like a marvelous film-set than a real live city, with its crisscrossing canals, gondolas and arched bridges, palaces and little piazzas. Venice is built on 117 islands, laced with 150 canals and connected by 400 bridges. No motor traffic is allowed in the city, so we will take the train from Mestre to Venice and then board chartered boats for the trip on the Canale della Giudecca to San Marco Square. Here we’ll disembark for a guided walking tour through the streets and piazzas. Our walking tour will include a visit to St. Mark’s Basilica, and the Rialto Bridge. There will also be some free time for exploration and shopping in smaller chaperoned groups. Later we’ll



have dinner at a restaurant in Venice before returning to Mestre. (B, D)

- ① Rialto Bridge, Venice
- ② Padua

30, SATURDAY

Return

After breakfast, we’ll transfer to the airport for the return flights to the U.S. (B)