

#### LAND PROGRAM INCLUDES

- Airport transfers for all on the group flights
- Transportation from Sant'Agnello to Florence
- Transportation from Florence to Rome
- Two nights' accommodations with bath ensuite in Sant'Agnello
- Two nights' accommodations with bath ensuite in Florence
- Two nights' accommodations with bath ensuite in Rome
- Breakfast daily
- Four dinners
- Two days of metro transportation in Rome
- Two days of metro transportation in Southern Italy
- Archaeological guide for visit to the Colosseum, Forum and Trajan's Market
- Archaeological guide throughout Southern Italy
- Reserved visit to the Vatican Museum with headsets
- ½ day guided walking tour in Florence
- Reserved entrance to the Accademia and Uffizi in Florence
- Entrance to all sightseeing as described in the program
- All taxes and service charges on above-stated items
- Cultural Encounters assistance on the tour

#### LAND RATES

7 travelers, based on a shared room  
\$2250.00 pp

\*Single and Adult Prices (ages 18 and over) upon request.

#### NOT INCLUDED

Airfare, Passport and visa expenses; accident and baggage insurance; personal expenses such as laundry, room service, faxes, phone calls, e-mail, meals, beverages and services other than specified and the gratuities that accompany those services. A valid passport is required for this itinerary.



*The Sistine Chapel*



*View of the Roman Forum*

For further information:

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*or*

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**From the Golden Age to the  
Age of Enlightenment:**

**The Roman Empire  
to the Italian Renaissance**

**Southern Italy, Rome, & Florence**

**March 12 – 19, 2016**

**A Study Program**

**Offered by**

**Mrs. Natalie Cannon**

## YOUR ITINERARY

### ITALY

#### March 13 **Sunday** Naples - Sant' Agnello

Arrive Naples, Italy. Once through Customs and Immigration, meet your Cultural Encounters escort and depart by private motorcoach for the Archaeological Museum in Naples. Meet your guide for a private tour of the museum's extensive display of frescos, mosaics, and sculptural remains from Pompeii, Herculaneum and Boscoreale.

This evening, arrive into Sant'Agnesello, a tiny village situated on the Gulf of Napoli close to Sorrento. Dinner in a family owned trattoria. Overnight in Southern Italy. (B, D)

#### March 14 **Monday** Sant'Agnesello - Herculaneum - Pompeii

After breakfast, depart by local train for a tour of the archaeological site of Pompeii. With your archaeological guide, visit the Villa of the Mysteries, the forum, the baths, the theatre and the many in situ remains of sumptuous villas destroyed by the eruption of Mt. Vesuvio.

Break for lunch. Then, continue with your guide to the amazingly well-preserved ancient city of Herculaneum, a city both destroyed and protected by the ashes of Mt. Vesuvio.

Return to Sorrento in the late afternoon for free time and dinner on your own. (B)

### SOUTHERN ITALY - FLORENCE

#### March 15 **Tuesday** Sant'Agnesello - Florence

After breakfast, depart for the beautiful city of Florence, birthplace of the Italian Renaissance. Afternoon arrival and check-in at the hotel.

**March 15 (cont...)** **Tuesday**  
This afternoon, visit the Galleria dell'Accademia to view Michelangelo's masterpiece: the colossal marble sculpture *The Davide*, completed when he was only twenty-six years old. Evening stroll to dinner. Overnight in Florence. (B)

#### March 16 **Wednesday** Florence

After breakfast, meet your guide for a morning walk highlighting the geographic, architectural, and artistic elements that combined to create the Italian Renaissance. Our walking tour includes the Duomo, built in 1296 by Arnolfo di Cambio and continued in 1334 under the direction of Giotto, with the dome and gilded door added later by Brunelleschi and historical Santa Croce, the resting place for Michelangelo, Dante, Rossini and many other illustrious names in Italian history. Continue to the famous Ponte Vecchio, and on to the Piazza della Signoria where we'll visit the Roman scavi under the Palazzo Vecchio.

Break for lunch and free time. Perhaps, explore the famous San Lorenzo market. Later in the day, for those interested, we'll visit the Galleria degli Uffizi. Dinner and overnight in Florence. (B, D)

#### March 17 **Thursday** Florence - Rome

Breakfast and check-out. Depart by fast train for Rome in the late morning. Arrive Rome and check-in at the convent.

This afternoon, depart by metro with Ms. Cannon and your Cultural Encounters escort for a scheduled visit to the world renowned Vatican Museum, home of the beautiful Sistine Chapel designed by Michelangelo. Continue touring at St. Peter's Basilica. After, free time for souvenir shopping. Return to the convent to freshen up.

**March 17 (cont...)** **Thursday**  
This evening, make a quick stop at the Ludus Magnus, the remains of the ancient school of the gladiators on our way to dinner in a local trattoria. (B, D)

#### March 18 **Friday** Rome

This morning, start the day at the Colosseum, the famous gladiatorial arena built during the Flavian Dynasty. After a quick lunch, we continue our tour through the Palatine and the Imperial Forum and into Trajan's Market.

Return to the convent to do a bit of packing before departing on an early evening walking tour to the *centro*, the oldest district of Rome. We'll pass many ancient remains including the re-creation of Augustus' solar clock at Montecitorio; the Column of Marcus Aurelius; and the beautiful Pantheon, the temple to all gods and an amazing feat of architecture even by today's standards. Inside, one can admire its timeless beauty and wonderful acoustics.

Before dinner, we'll make a quick stop at Piazza Navona, a lively oblong pedestrian piazza built on the remains of the stadium of Domitian. This is the lively meeting place for all of Rome.

Continue to our farewell dinner in a family owned trattoria. Return to the convent for your overnight stay. (B, D)

#### March 19 **Saturday** Rome - Home

Breakfast and early check-out. Depart by private motorcoach for the Rome Airport with your Cultural Encounters escort. Check-in for your flights to Austin. Meal service on board the transatlantic flight. (B, L, S)