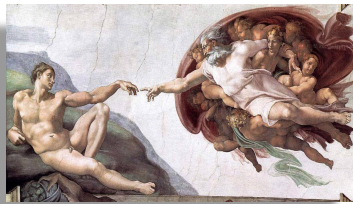




Itinerary For a Four Day Art Study Tour to Rome By Air. Prepared For The Art Department.

Dates: To Be Confirmed



The itinerary is designed to balance visits of the greatest interest with recreative activities. It aims to make the maximum use of time without exhausting participants. The itinerary we have proposed is flexible and is only finalised after discussion with the Party Leader(s). Flexibility is also built into the tour itself as changes can be made at very short notice according to weather conditions etc. The tour will be guided throughout. All excursions are well prepared and are backed by notes and a commentary. The tour guide is very knowledgeable about the city being visited and is able to help to run the tour according to Party Leader wishes. In this way Party Leaders will be free to concentrate on the care of their pupils rather than on the organisation of the tour. The whole stay is underpinned by excellent accommodation, catering, transport and security.

ACCOMMODATION



Hotel Meininger**

Via S. Martino della Battaglia, 16, 00185, Rome, Italy.

vp@meininger-hotels.com

Tel: +390694801352.

The Hotel Meininger opened in Rome only last year & brings a new concept of accommodation for the young to the 'Eternal City'. The German Meininger Hotels chain has built an excellent reputation in Northern Europe, has won several youth accommodation awards & is now expanding south. The dorm-style hotel rooms have TV's, en-suite bathrooms, reading desks & lamps. There is a popular reception, lounge & bar area downstairs with free wifi throughout the hotel.

The hotel is centrally located in the middle of Rome & our hotel forms an ideal base for exploring the city. Arranged over several floors, the hotel is spotlessly clean & the decor is modern & youthful. The hotel staff are friendly & informative & we have found the Hotel Meininger to be a popular & comfortable base for our groups in Rome.

DAY ONE

- 08.15 Meet at School. Load luggage into coach.
- 08.45 Depart School. Onward transfer to Local Airport.
- 09.15 E.T.A. Local Airport. Commence check in.
- 12.00 Depart Local Airport on Easyjet flight 2417.
- 15.35 E.T.A. Rome Fiumicino Airport.
(Note: 1 hour time difference).
- 16.30 Private coach transfer to central Rome.
- 17.15 E.T.A. Termini Station, central Rome. Walk to Hotel Rex.
- 17.30 E.T.A. Hotel Rex. Check in & allocate rooms.

Students will have the opportunity to rest, shower & unpack after the transfer from London.

- 18.45 Walk to Trevi Fountains.

19.15 **Exploration of The Trevi Fountains**

These are the most famous fountains in Rome and probably in the world. Used as the backdrop to many a black and white film classic and several well-known songs, the Trevi Fountains are best viewed at dusk when the underwater lighting makes them look spectacular. Legend has it that anyone who tosses a coin into the fountains guarantees their return to the city. The fountain was built in 1735 by the architect Salvi and was decorated by several artists from the Bernini school. The fountains are an ideal place to sit and sketch, or to simply enjoy a gelato on the famous steps facing the fountains.

- 20.15 Walk to La Famiglia Restaurant.
- 20.45 **Dinner at La Famiglia Restaurant, Via Calatafimi.**
- 22.15 E.T.A. Hotel Meininger.

DAY TWO

08.00 Breakfast.

09.00 Walk to the Roman Forum.

09.40 **Visit to The Ancient Roman Forum.**

From the Colosseum we will walk through the Roman Forum - the political & judicial heart of the Roman Empire. Inside the Forum we will view the shrine to Caesar, near to the spot where he was assassinated, the House of the Vestal Virgins, the Temple & several Triumphal Arches. As we ascend out of the Roman Forum towards Capitaline Hill, participants will have a wonderful view of the ancient Forum with the Colosseum looming in the distance.

12.00 **Lunch by the Colosseum.**

13.15 Walk to The Colosseum.

13.30 **Visit to The Colosseum.**

The Colosseum was the main arena where the gladiators used to do battle with the lions, tigers & each other. The Emperor would sit in the centre of the stadium & would have the final decision about whether or not a slave would be freed or would be executed in front of the baying crowds. The colosseum could be flooded to create an internal lake for water-jousting and a waterproof cover could be pulled over the whole stadium to protect spectators from the rain. The colosseum represented a high level of architectural expertise, even by modern standards. Once inside, pupils can view the gladiators' quarters, the jousting arena, the lions' cages and the seating area for the Emperor and his guests.

The visit to the Colosseum is always a highlight of the tour & gives students a powerful impression of the might & power of the Roman Empire as well as a glimpse into the life for the ordinary Roman living at the heart of the city.

15.15 Walk to The Pantheon.

16.00 **Visit to The Pantheon.**

The Pantheon was commissioned by Marcus Agrippa as a temple to all the gods of Ancient Rome, and rebuilt by Emperor Hadrian in about 126 AD.

The building is circular with a portico of three ranks of huge granite Corinthian columns under a pediment. A rectangular vestibule links the porch to the rotunda, which is under a coffered, concrete dome, with a central opening (oculus) to the sky. Almost two thousand years after it was built, the Pantheon's dome is still the world's largest unreinforced concrete dome. The height to the oculus and the diameter of the interior circle are the same, 43.3 metres (142 ft). It is one of the best preserved of all Roman buildings. It has been in

continuous use throughout its history & is now a Roman Catholic church dedicated to "St. Mary and the Martyrs" but informally known as 'Santa Maria Rotonda'.

17.00 **Visit to The Piazza Navona.**

The Piazza Navona is one of Rome's most impressive squares & boasts some very important statues & fountains. The square was formerly used by the Romans as the setting for horse-drawn chariot races, with the track around the perimeter of the square. Today the square is lined with cafes & filled with street entertainers. The main pastime nowadays is people-watching from one of the cafes.

18.15 Walk to Pastarito Restaurant.

18.45 **Dinner at Pastarito Restaurant.**

20.00 Return walk to Hotel Meininger.

20.30 E.T.A. Hotel Meininger.

DAY THREE

07.30 Breakfast.

08.30 Metro transfer to The Vatican.

10.30 **Visit to The Sistine Chapel.**

After lunch we will visit the Sistine Chapel - the main chapel in the Vatican Palace. This has been frescoed by some of the finest artists of the 15th & 16th centuries, including Perugino, Ghirlandaio, Botticelli & Signorelli. The frescoes show scenes from the life of Moses & of Christ. The decoration of the chapel walls was completed between 1534 & 1541 by Michelangelo who painted the incredible Last Judgement. The Director of Studies will point out highlights of the frescoed walls to students, such as the impressive detail of the souls meeting the wrath of Christ in Michelangelo's Last Judgement. Students will also be given a short explanation of the ceiling, also by Michelangelo, showing the Creation of the World & the Fall of Man.

13.00 Lunch.

We will break for lunch at a very pleasant cafe just outside of the Vatican City before re-entering the city in the afternoon.

14.30 **St. Peter's Square.**

We will enter the Vatican City through the impressive Piazza San Pietro, which becomes packed with pilgrims every Sunday as they gather to hear the Pope's weekly sermon. The square was designed by Bernini between 1656 & 1667 & the colonades of the square's perimeter are exactly symmetrical. The huge obelisk in the centre of the square was erected using 150 horses & 47 winches. We will walk past the papal platform to get to the pillared entrance of The Church of St. Peter's.

15.00 **The Church of St. Peter's**

The centre of the Catholic faith, the church of St. Peter's draws pilgrims from all over the world. The highlight is Michelangelo's sumptuously decorated basilica & dome. St. Peter's took more than a century to construct & all of the great architects of the Roman Renaissance & Baroque played a part in its design.

We will enter through the central Filarete Door of 1445 to enter the church & walk along the 715ft. nave to view the spectacular dome of St. Peter's, which stands 448ft. high.

We will explore the contents of the church, which contains 11 chapels & 45 altars in addition to a wealth of precious art. The central focus of the interior is the Papal Altar. We will also visit the Grottoes, the Treasury & St. Peter's Sacristy.

16.30 Walk to Trastevere district.

17.00 **Free Time in The Trastevere District.**

Trastevere is one of the oldest & liveliest quarters of Rome, with its many bars, cafes & restaurants lining the ancient cobble stoned roads. There is an evening market & the beautiful church of Santa Maria in Trastevere.

18.30 **Dinner at Pizzeria ai Marmi Restaurant, Trastevere.**

Known by locals as the best pizzeria for sampling Roman thin-crust pizzas in the ancient immigrant area of Trastevere, this 'spit & sawdust' establishment is full to the point of bursting every evening. We will eat at long marble tables outside. Pupils will enjoy choosing from 15 different pizzas & then watching as their pizzas are freshly prepared & fed into the wood-burning oven. The finished result is always delicious & we have found this restaurant to be a memorable dinner-destination for our groups in Rome.

20.30 Local bus transfer to Hotel Meininger.

21.00 E.T.A. Hotel Meininger.

DAY FOUR

08.00 Breakfast, hotel check-out & room checks.

09.45 Coach transfer to Maxxi Museum.

10.30 **Visit to Maxxi - The National Museum of the 21st Century Arts.**

Located in the Flaminio district of Rome, the Maxxi Gallery is a national museum of art & architecture. The project was first announced in 2000 and took over 10 years to complete, during which time there have been six changes of national government in Italy.

The building is a composition of bending oblong tubes, overlapping, intersecting and piling over each other, resembling a massive piece of transport infrastructure. The Maxxi Gallery consists of two museums: "Maxxi art" and "Maxxi architecture".

In addition to the two museums, the Maxxi also features an auditorium, a library and media library specialized in art and architecture, a bookshop, a cafeteria, a bar/restaurant, galleries for temporary exhibition, performances & educational activities. The large public square designed in front of the museum is planned to host art works and live events.

12.45 Lunch in Maxxi Museum area.

13.45 Coach transfer to Rome Ciampino Airport.

14.45 E.T.A. Rome Ciampino Airport. Commence check in.

17.15 Depart Rome on Ryanair flight FR3003.

19.05 E.T.A. Stansted Airport.

(Local time)

20.15 Coach transfer to School.

21.15 E.T.A. School.

Please note: This is a Suggested Itinerary only. We make hotel, flight & itinerary bookings upon receipt of the initial deposit payments. The timings, airports, flight times & visits contained within this itinerary serve as a guide only & may change. The choice of hotel, visits & timings are confirmed upon receipt of initial deposits.