Italy | Rome, Vesuvius & Pompeii





Rome, the Eternal City. As a millennium-long center of power, culture and religion, having been the center of one of the globe's greatest civilizations ever, has exerted a huge influence over the world in it's 2500 years of existence. With wonderful palaces, millennium-old churches and basilicas, grand romantic ruins, opulent monuments, ornate statues and graceful fountains, Rome has an immensely rich historical heritage and cosmopolitan atmosphere, making it one of Europe's and the world's most visited, famous, and beautiful capitals.

Leaving Rome we head south to explore one of the most geologically active coastlines in the world. The misfortune of Pompeii and the views from Mount Vesuvius provide students with a lifetime of memories.

Day	City	Highlights
1	Airborne	Meet your Group Director at the airport for an overnight flight to Italy!
2	Orientation	Arrive in Rome. Coffee/Pastry. Navigate to the hotel. Pizza/Panini. Walk to San Pietro in Vincoli. Admire Michelangelo's Moses. Gelato. Walk to the Basilica of Saint Clement. Explore the 12th century basilica, then descend to the 4th century basilica, and then descend to the 1st century domus of a Roman nobleman. Find the Capuchin Crypt home to the skeletal remains of almost 4,000 monks. Visit the Trevi fountain on the way back to the hotel. Freshen up for dinner in Rome.
3	Ancient Rome	Early breakfast. Enjoy a guided tour of the Colosseum, Palatine Hill, and Roman Forum. Lunch overlooking Trajan's Column. Guided tour of the Domus Romane at Palazzo Valentini. Coffee/Pastry/Gelato. Walk to Piazza Venezia and take the elevator to the terrace of Il Vittoriano for a panoramic view of Rome. Climb the Capitoline Hill and admire Michelangelo's Piazza del Campidoglio before exploring the museums. Relax at the hotel. and freshen up for dinner.
4	Modern Rome	Morning stroll up the Pincian Hill and through the gardens of Villa Borghese. Explore the Borghese Gallery. Enjoy the panorama of Rome then stroll down to the Spanish Steps. Coffee/Pastry/Shopping. Ascend to the ramparts of Castel Sant'Angelo for a great view of Rome. Lunch at Piazza Navona then visit the Pantheon and Campo di'Fiori. Shopping! Farewell dinner in the cellars of Da Pancrazio, originally a room of the Theatre of Pompey (where Caesar was assassinated).
5	Vatican City	Early breakfast. Explore the Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel. Enjoy the view of Rome from the cupola of Saint Peter's Basilica then explore the basilica itself. Take the fast train to Naples and navigate to the hotel. Orientation walk along Via Toledo to Café Gambrinus on Piazza del Plebiscito. Coffee/Gelato/Pastry. Funicular up to Castel Sant'Elmo for a great a view of Naples. Explore Certosa di San Martino then relax at hotel and freshen up for dinner.
6	Pompeii	Take the train to Pompeii. Spend the morning exploring the extensive excavations with a mid-morning break at the centrally located café (they have great gelato). Lunch in Pompeii, then take the train back to Naples for a visit to the National Archeological Museum. and a tour of the Palace and Gardens of Capodimonte. Relax at the hotel and freshen up for dinner.
7	Vesuvius	Shuttle ride up to the base of Mount Vesuvius. Climb to the rim of the crater and follow the trail around it see the Bay of Naples and the remains of Herculaneum. Shuttle back to Naples. Shopping on Via Toledo and Via Chiaia. Relax at the hotel and freshen up for dinner. Stroll along the promenade of Lungomare stopping at Castel dell'Ovo for pictures before a Farewell Dinner.
8	Airborne	Flight from Rome. Ciao Italia!



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