Alumni Italy Tour

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Roanoke College is happy to announce the inaugural RC Alumni tour, to be led by President Michael C. Maxey. This is an exciting opportunity for you to connect with fellow Maroons and enjoy an educational travel experience in Northern Italy at the same time. The tour departs on May 15, 2009 from New York City and returns May 28.

The tour is entitled “Bella Italia: from the Byzantine to the Baroque”, and its first stop is in Perugia. This ancient Etruscan city was the birthplace of Raphael and is currently home to Roanoke’s partner, the Umbra Institute, where the group will be hosted at a reception in the magnificent frescoed classrooms of Palazzo Oddi. After excursions to Siena, Florence and Verona, the tour will end in Venice, where President Maxey studied as an undergraduate.

Other features include cooking and wine tasting in medieval San Gimignano, the basilica of St. Francis of Assisi, the "David" of Michelangelo in Florence, Byzantine mosaics in Ravenna and much more. Accommodations will be at four- and five-star hotels, and the tour is limited to the first 23 guests who register. Enclosed are the full itinerary and the travel brochure as well as a registration form. You may also view more information and complete your registration online at: www.roanoke.edu/italy.

Nothing opens your mind like travel. In true Roanoke College spirit, our hope is to perpetuate the tradition of learning that continues throughout your lifetime. We offer this chance to explore the culture, landscape and history of Italy while deepening your relationships with your friends and former classmates. Please join us for a unique and wonderful experience.

Sincerely,

Kimberly P. Blair '93
Roanoke College Director of Development
Alumni Italy Tour
ITINERARY
May 15 to 28, 2009

May 15
Friday ➔ Depart the USA on your overnight flight to Italy.

May 16
Saturday • Rome / Orvieto / Perugia
Upon arrival in Rome meet your English-speaking tour escort who will remain with you throughout your stay in Italy. Next you will be led to your motor coach for your transfer to Perugia. Stop in Orvieto en route for a light lunch on your own. Continue on to see Orvieto's most striking sight, which is without a doubt, the façade of its Duomo. Inside the Duomo see the recently restored Cappella San Brizio, containing one of the Renaissance's greatest fresco cycles. Continue on to Perugia, your final stop for the day. In the evening gather at a local restaurant for a welcome dinner.

May 17
Sunday • Perugia
The day begins with breakfast at the hotel. Then meet your local guide for a sightseeing tour of Perugia. Perugia is known for its classical beauty, and, being perched high up on a hillside, has the advantage of fabulous views over the Umbrian countryside. The town contains some of the best examples of medieval architecture in Italy. Visit the fabulous Palazzo dei Priori, a stunning medieval palace housing the Gallery of Umbria, the Exchange Guild and the Merchant's Guild. You will also have the chance to visit the impressive 'Rocca Paolina' fortress, dating back to the 16th century, built to protect the papal states from invasion and the dominating San Lorenzo church.
May 18
Monday • Perugia / Assisi / Gubbio / Perugia
Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before boarding your motor coach for your excursion to Assisi and Gubbio. The town of Assisi is the birthplace of St. Francis, who founded Franciscan religious order in the town in 1208. The Basilica was constructed between 1569 and 1679 enclosing the 9th century little church, the Porziuncola, the most sacred place for the Franciscans. It was here that the young Francis of Assisi understood his vocation and renounced the world in order to live in poverty among the poor and thus started the Franciscan movement. After lunch on your own, continue on to Gubbio, hitched onto the steep slopes of Monte Ingino and overlooking a picturesque valley. Here you don't need much imagination to feel that you have stepped back into the Middle Ages, while meandering along the town's quiet lanes and peering into some of the city's many fine ceramic shops. Return to Perugia for the night.

May 19
Tuesday • Perugia / Siena / Florence
The day begins with breakfast at the hotel. Depart Perugia and journey through the countryside. See the gently undulating hills of Tuscany, take in the panoramic vistas of bucolic pastures and farmhouses on your way to Siena. Upon arrival, a local guide will lead you through narrow streets, past medieval towers and walls to the Piazza del Campo, the site of Siena’s famous annual horserace, the Palio. After lunch on your own continue on to Florence, the capital of Tuscany and your home for the next few days.

May 20
Wednesday • Florence
The day begins with breakfast at the hotel. Meet your local guide to experience the optimal Renaissance city. A walking tour will highlight the main Cathedral, 'Santa Maria dei Fiori', crowned by Brunelleschi’s incredible dome. See Ghiberti’s dramatic bronze ‘Gates of Paradise’, almost lost to the flood of 1966. Continue on to the Accademia to admire Michelangelo's imposing ‘David’. After time for lunch, visit the Uffizi Gallery to tour one of the world’s great museums. The museum is the single best introduction to Renaissance painting, with works by Giotto, Sandro Botticelli, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo and many more.
May 21
Thursday • Florence / San Gimignano / Florence
The day begins with breakfast at the hotel. Today’s excursion will bring you to San Gimignano, a small town rich in works of art. Thirteen towers dominate the majestic skyline, remained unchanged since the Middle Ages. Here you can see the Collegiata, an 11th century church full of frescoes; The Annunciation by Ghirlandaio, located in a courtyard loggia alongside the Collegiata; Piazza della Cisterna, a square named after the well at its centre which is the heart of the old town and the Palazzo Vecchio del Podestà whose tower is probably the town’s oldest. Today you will also enjoy a hands-off cooking demonstration and learn how to make traditional Italian recipes. Following the class, taste the dishes that were just prepared in front of you together with a wine tasting.

May 22
Friday • Florence / Ravenna / Verona
The day begins with breakfast at the hotel. Depart for Verona. En-route you will be visiting Ravenna, once the cross-roads of the Roman Empire. Enjoy a guided tour highlighting the intricate mosaics, considered by most experts some of the best in the world, at San Vitale, Sant’Apollinare and the Mausoleum of Galla Placida. Following lunch on your own continue to Verona.

May 23
Saturday • Verona / Lake Garda
After breakfast, enjoy a guided tour of the town best known for 'Romeo and Juliet'. Start your tour at the best-preserved Roman amphitheater in the world. The elliptical Arena was built in a slightly pinkish marble around the year A.D. 100 and stands in the very middle of town. It was built to accommodate more than 20,000 people and has been the home of Verona’s summer opera season since 1913. Continue on to Piazza delle Erbe, the most famous square of Verona. It once served as a Roman forum and is today a large market square. You will also pass by Casa di Giulietta (Juliet’s house). Legend has it that the heroine of the Shakespearian tragedy once lived here in what has become one of Verona’s most symbolic places. In the afternoon depart for an excursion to Lake Garda and the lovely town of Sirmione. Stroll along the lakeside promenades and visit Castello Scaligero, which marks the only land-side entrance to the Old Town. Built in the
13th century by the della Scala family, who ruled Verona and many of the lands surrounding the lake, the castle offers beautiful views from its towers.

**May 24**  
**Sunday • Verona / Padova**
After breakfast, depart Verona for Padova. Upon arrival, enjoy a guided tour of Padua, an old university town with an illustrious academic history. Rich in art and architecture, it has two particularly outstanding sights. See the Scrovegni Chapel, which is renowned for Giotto's lyrical frescoes that revolutionized 14th-century painting. It is still considered among the most important early Renaissance art. Continue on to see Basilica di Sant' Antonio with its minaret-like spires and Byzantine domes, also know as Il Santo. It was begun in 1232 to house the remains of St. Anthony of Padua, a preacher who modeled himself after St. Francis of Assisi. After lunch, continue on to Venice for your overnight.

**May 25**  
**Monday • Venice**
After breakfast, meet your local guide in your hotel lobby. Today's tour of Venice will introduce you to Dorsoduro, a district of contrasts. Dorsoduro stretches from the port, backed by an historic zone long home to sailors and fishermen, all the way to the Punta della Dogana, a chic area of foreign consulates and wealthy residences. Visit the Accademia Galleries, a dazzling collection of masterpieces spanning the full development of Venetian art. It's Venice's equivalent of the Uffizi in Florence. Continue on to the Collezione Peggy Guggenheim. The Guggenheim family was one of the 20th century's greatest art patrons. Peggy not only amassed a stunning collection of modern art, she even married Max Ernst. Her half-finished 18th-century palazzo on the Grand Canal is now installed with her collections, including works by Picasso, Pollock (an artist Peggy "discovered"), Magritte, Dalí, Miró, Brancusi, Kandinsky, and Marini.

**May 26**  
**Tuesday • Venice**
Breakfast at the hotel. This morning meet your local guide in the hotel lobby. Enjoy a guided tour of this unique city built over canals and bridges. Visit St. Mark's Basilica, decorated with marble
plundered from conquered cities by the once powerful Venetians. Continue on to the Doge's Palace resplendent with works by the great masters of Veronese, Titian and Tintoretto.

**May 27**  
**Wednesday • Venice**
Breakfast at the hotel. Today's excursion to the islands will bring you to Murano, Burano and Torcello. Your first stop will be Murano, the most famous and most visited of the Venetian Islands. See a glass-blowing demonstration at one of the famous glass-works that produce the popular “Murano Glass”. The people of Venice have been making crystal and glass since the 10th century, when the Venetian merchants brought back the secrets of production from the East. Continue on to Burano, the most picturesque island of the Lagoon. Famous for its lace-making industry, the pretty fishing village has its streets and canals lined by pastel coloured houses. Your last stop is Torcello, once the commercial capital of Venice. The island is home to Venice's first cathedral, the Venetian-Byzantine cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta founded in the 7th century. In the evening gather at a local restaurant for a Farewell dinner.

**May 28**  
**Thursday → Venice / USA**
On this morning you will checkout of your hotel and transfer to Venice airport for your flight home. Arrivederci!

**Pricing:**
$6,750 per person  
Includes hotel, air fare, some meals, local transportation, porterage, sightseeing, wine tasting, cooking class and all excursions listed.

To learn more, visit our web site at: [www.roanoke.edu/italy](http://www.roanoke.edu/italy).
INCLUSIONS: The tour price strictly includes the services specifically listed in the proposal, the operator’s service charge, taxes and other charges as levied by hotels, restaurants and transportation companies.

NOT INCLUDED: The tour price only includes services specifically listed in the attached proposal. Not included are: passport and/or visa charges, dry-cleaning & valet service, gratuities of any kind, excess and/or additional baggage beyond allowance, beverages with meals unless specified in the itinerary, all items and expenses of a purely personal nature, applicable airport departure taxes or Travel, Trip Cancellation, Baggage and Accident Insurance, or Air Tax and Fuel Surcharges levied by the airlines.

ACCOMMODATIONS: EIS rates its European hotels based on the local government and/or tourist authority’s official ratings. Should it become necessary, EIS reserves the right to substitute hotels with those of an equivalent standard. Customers should consider that, in many cases, single rooms in Europe, though assuring privacy, are small and not as well situated as double rooms. In many cases, historic hotels have been adapted from urban mansions; room sizes are not uniform and may be smaller than expected.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS: U.S. citizens are required to hold a valid U.S. passport for travel to Europe. Non-citizens may need an additional visa and should consult their travel agent, consulate or embassy.

LUGGAGE: Luggage travels at the risk of the passenger and EIS is not responsible for any delay of, loss or damage to it or its contents. Participants are urged to carry appropriate insurance. When the price quoted includes the handling of passengers’ luggage (i.e. porterage), it is understood to be for one average-sized bag per person.

RESPONSIBILITY: Roanoke College, its affiliates, directors, officers, employees, including any person or entity employed or utilized by Roanoke College in any country cannot be responsible for any injury, loss, damage, accident, delay or expense resulting from events beyond its control, including, without limitation, acts of God, war, strikes, incidents of politically-motivated violence, sickness or quarantine, government restrictions or regulations, and, in the absence of its own gross negligence, arising from the use of any vehicle, or from Roanoke College’s selection of, or from any act or omission by any bus or car rental agency, steamship, airline, railroad, taxi or tour service, hotel, restaurant, or other firm, agency, company or individual.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: All participants must have current medical insurance valid for overseas travel. Travel Insurance to cover issues such as trip cancellation fees, medical and accidental emergencies, baggage loss and/or damage is also available. EIS offers a specially designed third party Travel Protection and Assistance Plan under Access America. See details at www.accessamerica.com.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE: European Incoming Services is proud to offer 24-hour emergency assistance to your group through the services of the Tour Escort, as well as access to an EIS representative via a toll-free phone number.

PARTICIPANT WITHDRAWAL: Individual cancellation fees will be applied as follows:

- 59 - 30 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE $300 per each cancelled person, plus incurred* costs
- 29 to 7 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE $300 + 50% of the original tour price per each cancelled person, plus any incurred* costs

*Please note that incurred costs denote any non-refundable deposits as required by hotels, airlines and/or rail carriers and any additional penalties as imposed by our suppliers.

CURRENCY FLUCTUATION: Roanoke College reserves the right to adjust prices if necessary due to currency fluctuations and to pass on any increases. In addition, Roanoke College reserves the right to pass on any increases in government taxes and/or fuel surcharges, if this becomes necessary.

THE REMITTANCE OF YOUR DEPOSIT SHALL BE DEEMED YOUR ACCEPTANCE OF THE ABOVE WRITTEN TERMS AND CONDITIONS.
ROANOKE COLLEGE
ALUMNI ITALY TOUR
MAY 15 to 28, 2009
RESERVATION APPLICATION

To reserve a place, please complete and return this form to the Roanoke College Resource Development office, 221 College Lane, Salem, VA 24153 or fax to 540-375-2040.

Name(s) in full as on Passport(s). Please Print.

Address

City State Zip

Telephone (Home) (Business)

Fax Email

ACCOMODATIONS

Double Twin Single

I Wish to Share a Room with

FORM of PAYMENT

Enclosed is my check

Credit Card

Name on Credit Card

Credit Card Number

3- or 4-Digit Security Code Expiration Date

Each participant must sign below. I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the Terms and Conditions of this Program. I/We agree to full payment by check ninety (90) days prior to departure.

Signature (Required) Date

Signature (Required) Date