

State Universities Annuity Association presents...

Italian Vistas

March 16 – 28, 2026



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For more information contact
Bryan Soady
State Universities Annuity Association
(217)523-4040
memberstravel@suaa.org





13 Days • 17 Meals: 11 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 4 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Rome, Colosseum, Ruins of Pompeii, Choice on Tour: Iconic Pompeii Walking Tour or Leisurely Pompeii Walking Tour, Sorrento, Florence, Leaning Tower of Pisa, Tuscan Winery, Venice, Murano Island, Verona, Lake Maggiore, Stresa, Choice on Tour: Isola Bella & Palazzo Borromeo Tour or Simplon Pass Day Trip

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Days 2 – 4	Mediterraneo Hotel, Rome
Days 5, 6	Hotel Michelangelo, Sorrento
Days 7, 8	Grand Hotel Baglioni, Florence
Days 9, 10	NH Venezia Santa Lucia, Venice
Days 11, 12	Regina Palace Hotel, Stresa

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Day 1: Monday, March 16, 2026 Overnight Flight *Ciao, Italy!*

Day 2: Tuesday, March 17, 2026 Rome, Italy Welcome to Rome. Tonight, join your fellow travelers for a special welcome dinner featuring regional delicacies and Italian wines. (D)

Day 3: Wednesday, March 18, 2026 Rome Discover the city on a locally guided tour of Classical Rome, passing by the Baths of Caracalla as well as the remains of the ancient Circus Maximus. During an in-depth visit to the Colosseum,* your guide recounts its rich history. Meander through Rome's Renaissance district for a peek at the mythic Pantheon and the oval-shaped Piazza Navona, adorned with Baroque fountains. Spend the evening at leisure. Perhaps you'll head to the medieval *Monti* neighborhood where cobblestoned streets are lined with antique shops, independent boutiques and local restaurants. (B)

Day 4: Thursday, March 19, 2026 Rome Enjoy a full day at leisure to explore Rome's cultural treasures. Your Tour Manager will be on hand to offer suggestions. Consider an optional trip to Vatican City to tour the Vatican Museums** and St. Peter's Basilica. The evening is yours. Perhaps you will join an optional food tour and taste your way around Rome's bohemian *Trastevere* district. (B)

Day 5: Friday, March 20, 2026 Rome - Pompeii - Sorrento Journey to the brilliant Bay of Naples, where charming villages are built into hillsides above the blue sea. In Pompeii, **it's your choice!** Soak in 2,000 years of history at your own pace. Pick between a leisurely paced tour of the highlights -OR- a faster paced visit of Pompeii's off-the-beaten-path gems. Pause in nearby Gragnano for a late lunch and visit to a pasta factory. Continue to the scenic resort town of Sorrento,*** your home for the next 2 nights. (B, L)

Day 6: Saturday, March 21, 2026 Sorrento Today, sail to the enchanting Isle of Capri.**** Upon arrival, admire the island's iconic scenery on a panoramic cruise,**** passing by the steep cliffs, endless small caves, and the famous Faraglioni rocks, jutting out of the water. Spend time in Capri town with its world-famous *piazzetta* and explore this island paradise of chic boutiques, lush vegetation, and outdoor cafés. Return to Sorrento in the late afternoon for an evening at leisure. (B)

Day 7: Sunday, March 22, 2026 Sorrento - Florence Relax aboard your motorcoach during a full day bus transfer to Florence. As you cross from the Campania region into Latium, take in views of the hilltop Abbey of Montecassino. Head through Tuscany, with its landscape of vineyards and olive groves. Experience Florence, the "Cradle of the Renaissance," home to Italy's best art and architecture. Tonight, enjoy regional Tuscan cuisine at a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 8: Monday, March 23, 2026 Florence Embark on a locally guided tour of Florence, highlighting the Piazza del Duomo and the famous Gates of Paradise on the Baptistery. Wander through the Piazza della Signoria and stand in awe before the imposing Palazzo Vecchio. The rest of the day is yours. Consider an optional excursion to the 14th-century *Certosa* monastery, featuring an after-hours tour and dinner in a popular Tuscan restaurant. (B)

Day 9: Tuesday, March 24, 2026 Florence - Pisa - Venice Visit the ancient maritime Republic of Pisa to discover the Piazza Dei Miracoli and the famous Leaning Tower. A special stop is made at a Tuscan winery and farm to enjoy lunch and sample local wines and specialties. Next, cross the Apennine Mountains en route to Venice, where 117 islands are connected by a latticework of 150 canals and 400 bridges. (B, L)

Day 10: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 Venice Embark on a boat trip***** to Murano Island for a glass-blowing demonstration. When you return, step off the beaten path and see for yourself how the locals live. Explore the *Castello* district with a local expert, walking canal by canal through the narrow streets all the way to St. Mark's Square. Admire the stunning Basilica and the ornate façade of the Doge's Palace. The remainder of the day is at leisure. Consider an optional gondola cruise to experience Venice's most famous pastime. (B)



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IMPORTANT CONDITIONS: Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received and booking confirmed by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received and booking confirmed, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. **(See registration form for consent.)**

Day 11: Thursday, March 26, 2026 Venice - Verona - Stresa, Lake Maggiore Depart Venice for Verona and stroll the streets that were the backdrop for Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. Arrive in the resort town of Stresa in the breathtaking Italian Lakes District, your home for the next two nights, and admire the beautiful views of Lake Maggiore. (B, D)

Day 12: Friday, March 27, 2026 Stresa Today, **it's your choice!** Take a boat across Lake Maggiore to Isola Bella, where you'll join an expert guide and venture into the Borromeo Palace and gardens***** -OR- cross into Switzerland as your motor coach climbs up the Simplon Pass for a taste of the Swiss Alps. Tonight, travel by boat to Isola dei Pescatori***** for a farewell dinner surrounded by beautiful scenery. (B, D)

Day 13: Saturday, March 28, 2026 Stresa - Tour Ends Your Italian adventure comes to a close today. (B)

Important Tour Information:

Book Now rates valid until Sep 17, 2025, valid on air inclusive packages only.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour, covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. Expect

some longer days with early mornings or late nights balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. This level is not a fit for travelers who require mobility assistance devices.

Travel with an average of 37 people (maximum of 44).

In Italy, some of the most unique sightseeing require accessing locations that restrict motor coach access, especially in historic areas such as Rome, the Vatican, Pompeii, Sorrento, Capri, Florence, Pisa, Venice, and Verona which requires minimum 2.5 miles of walking over flat but cobblestoned streets with narrow sidewalks.

The archeological site of Pompeii is entirely pedestrianized, and the only access is via a steep ancient Roman street which is uphill and paved with large, slippery cobblestones. Therefore, the site is not "accessible" for those with mobility issues. Throughout the archeological site, you will need to navigate large cobblestones and steep sidewalks. There are no vehicles inside the site, which is extremely vast.

Venice is not accessible to vehicles and requires navigating large crowds, narrow streets, and climbing over multiple bridges with steps up and down. Agility is required to board the gondola boats if participating in the optional tour.

The optional tour to the Vatican Museums and St. Peter's Basilica requires the ability to walk up to 4 miles (6 kilometers) from the bus drop-off to the pickup point. The tour averages 5 hours in length, and visitors must be able to stay on their feet for the entire time, as there is no seating available in the museums. There is no air conditioning in the museums.

For more information visit <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1335247>