

VESALIUS TRUST
Florence, Bologna, Venice, Padua, and the AEIMS Conference in Milan
October 27 – November 8, 2009

Itinerary

Tuesday, October 27

Depart U.S.

- Depart on independent flights to Florence

Wednesday, October 28

Arrive Florence

- Upon our arrival in Florence, transfer independently to the centrally-located Hotel Balestri for check in. The site of the Hotel Balestri is on the Arno River, just a few blocks from the famous Ponte Vecchio.
- Meet an expert local guide for an afternoon walking tour of sites near our hotel, including the Ponte Vecchio, Piazza della Signoria, and Brunelleschi's Duomo.
- Lunch and dinner are independent.

Accommodations: Hotel Balestri, Florence

Thursday, October 29

Florence

- Buffet breakfast is included this morning at the hotel.
- Our guide will lead us on another guided walk, crossing the Arno and arriving at "La Specola", the museum of Zoology and Natural History located next the Pitti Palace and the expansive Boboli Gardens. Here we will visit the museum's famed wax anatomical models created in the 18th century by Clemente Susini and the Wax Modeling Workshop.
- Break time for an independent lunch.
- Cross back over the river by foot with our guide and visit the Institute and Museum of the History of Science, which is located just steps from our hotel.
- Lunch and dinner are independent.

Accommodations: Hotel Balestri, Florence (B)

Friday, October 30

Florence

- Buffet breakfast is included this morning at the hotel.
- This morning visit the University of Florence Museum of Pathological Anatomy to see their collection of wax anatomical models. *Pending confirmation*
- Break for an independent lunch.
- Then enjoy a guided tour to the Galleria dell'Accademia, Florence's legendary sculpture gallery which is home to Michelangelo's *David*.

- The rest of the day is free to explore Florence at your leisure.
- Lunch and dinner are independent.

Accommodations: Hotel Balestri, Florence (B)

Saturday, October 31

Florence – Bologna

- Buffet breakfast is included at the hotel this morning before check-out.
- Check out of the Hotel Balestri and board a private coach bound for Bologna.
- Upon arrival in Bologna visit the *Teatro Anatomico* (Anatomical Theater) at Bologna's Archiginnasio Palace, just a few blocks from our hotel. This large amphitheater is a magnificent structure that to this day stands as it was built in the early 17th-century.
- Check in at the Hotel Orologio, which is ideally located in the very heart of Bologna at the magnificent Piazza Maggiore, and just steps from the ornate Fountain of Neptune. and enjoy time for an independent lunch.
- Visit the Scuola di Disegno Anatomico at the Istituti Ortopedici Rizzoli *Pending confirmation*
- Lunch and dinner are independent.

Accommodations: Hotel Orologio, Bologna (B)

Sunday, November 1

Bologna

- Buffet breakfast is included this morning at the hotel.
- After breakfast meet an expert local guide and take a walking tour of the city, first strolling through the beautiful Piazza Maggiore, and the Piazza del Nettuno. Visit the Basilica of San Petronio, one of the largest basilicas in the world. It was originally intended to be even larger than St. Peter's in Rome! Admire the city's two most famous towers: the *Torre degli Asinelli* and its leaning neighbor, the *Torre Garisendi*. Then visit the artistic masterpieces of the *Pinacoteca Nazionale* (Bologna's National Gallery), including paintings by Giotto and Raphael.
- The rest of the day will be left for independent exploration of Bologna.
- Lunch and dinner are independent.

Accommodations: Hotel Orologio, Bologna (B)

Monday, November 2

Bologna – Padua – Venice

- Buffet breakfast is included this morning at the hotel.
- After breakfast check out of the hotel and visit the Bologna's anatomical wax museum, or *Il Museo delle Cere Anatomiche*, where anatomy students were taught in the 19th century. The museum is home to wonderful collections of both anatomical models and pathological specimens.
- Board a private coach and drive to Padua.
- Independent lunch upon arrival.

- Visit the *Cappella degli Scrovegni*, decorated with brilliant frescoes by Giotto in the early 14th-century (pending available time in the schedule).
- At 3:15, take a guided tour of the Teatro Anatomico, housed in Palazzo Bo at the University of Padua. This was the first of its kind, built in 1594 and still wonderfully preserved to this day.
- Continue to Venice, and check in at the Hotel Gorizia A La Valigia, located just a few minutes from both San Marco Square and the Rialto bridge.
- Dinner is independent.

Accommodations: Hotel Gorizia A La Valigia, Venice (B)

Tuesday, November 3

Venice

- Buffet breakfast is included this morning at the hotel.
- Enjoy a walking tour of Venice this morning with an expert local guide. First, visit San Marco Square and the magnificent *Basilica di San Marco*, one of the best known examples of Byzantine architecture. Then experience the Doge's Palace, opposite the basilica. The Palace took over a century to build, and was completed in the early to mid-1400's. Before lunch, walk to *La Fenice*, Venice's beautiful opera house, which underwent a 2-year, 90 million euro remodeling project in 2001.
- Break for an independent lunch.
- Continue the walking tour with a stroll across the Rialto bridge, Venice's most famous and ornately decorated canal crossing. Visit the *Basilica di Santa Maria Gloriosa dei Frari* (referred to as the "Frari"), which stands in the heart of the San Polo district. Also stop by the neighboring *San Rocco* church, which houses the relics of St. Roch and is notable for a series of Tintoretto paintings.
- Dinner is independent this evening.

Accommodations: Hotel Gorizia A La Valigia, Venice (B)

Wednesday, November 4

Venice

- Buffet breakfast is included this morning at the hotel.
- Meet with a local expert and continue to tour the city focusing on the significance of this city during the life and career of Andreas Vesalius (sites and exact schedule TBD).
- At about 1:00pm, the remainder of the day will be left to independent exploration of Venice.
- Lunch and dinner are independent.

Accommodations: Hotel Gorizia A La Valigia, Venice (B)

Thursday, November 5

Venice – Milan

- Buffet breakfast is included this morning at the hotel.
- Check out of the hotel and travel to Milan by private coach.

- Upon arrival in Milan meet an expert local guide and enjoy a guided visit to the Duomo, one of the largest and most magnificent cathedrals in the world. For those who are interested, ascend to the top of the cathedral to take in stunning views of the city below (*pending availability*).
- Break for an independent lunch.
- Then visit Da Vinci's *Cenacolo* ("The Last Supper"), the 15th-century mural depiction of Christ – possibly the most famous artistic attraction in Milan.
- Check in at the Hotel Fenice, located just a five minute walk from the AEIMS conference venue: the Museo Civico di Storia Naturale di Milano.
- Lunch and dinner are independent.

Accommodations: Hotel Fenice, Milan (B)

Friday, November 6

Milan: AEIMS Conference

- Buffet breakfast is included this morning at the hotel.
- Lunch with coffee and tea is included at the conference.
- The conference dinner this evening is included.

Accommodations: Hotel Fenice, Milan (B, D)

Saturday, November 7

Milan: AEIMS Conference

- Buffet breakfast is included this morning at the hotel.
- Lunch with coffee and tea is included at the conference.
- There will be an optional dinner arranged tonight on board the old Carelli tram, which tours Milan as you enjoy excellent food and fine wines (additional cost applies).

Accommodations: Hotel Fenice, Milan (B)

Sunday, November 8

Depart for U.S.

- Buffet breakfast is included this morning at the hotel.
- Check out of the Hotel Fenice, board a private coach, and transfer to the airport for flights to the U.S.

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