

# JOURNEY THROUGH CENTRAL ITALY



## Arts and Humanities for Adults June 9 - 18, 2012

This tour offers a wonderful opportunity to step into the cultural richness and artistic wealth of *Umbria, Toscana, and Lazio*. Spoleto, a gorgeous town emblematic of Central Italy, will serve as our base throughout the tour. Our guide will be Lorenzo Muti. A native of Spoleto and former faculty member at Duke University, he is a great connoisseur of Italian art and history; as well, Lorenzo is a professional conductor. Your stay will be enhanced by his intriguing insights into Italian culture and society.

### SAMPLE ITINERARY (Subject to Change)

**Saturday, June 9:** Depart for Rome from the United States

**Sunday, June 10: Arrive in Rome, meet group and travel by coach to Spoleto**

Spoleto, the seat of a Lombard Duchy during the High Middle Ages, still preserves a vast array of artistic memories from its historical past. This in-depth tour will take you from Roman time, to the early Christian period, from the Middle Ages and to the blooming of the Renaissance. The XV Century *Duomo* preserves the last fresco cycle by the Florentine painter Fra Filippo Lippi.

**Monday, June 11: SPOLETO and ASSISI**

Spend the morning relaxing and exploring Spoleto, perhaps taking a walk across the *Ponte delle Torri* to the *Montelucio*. After lunch we will take a short ride through the valley, passing the hill towns of Trevi and Spello, to Assisi. This magical town still preserves the atmosphere, the colors and the sounds that must have been so familiar to Saint Francis and his poor friars. The recently re-opened *Basilica* will be a sight to behold for years.

**Tuesday, June 12 - Thursday, June 14: ADVENTURE TO TUSCANY**

**Our travel will include Florence, Siena, Arezzo and the environs.**

Florence, the birthplace of the Renaissance civilization, is the kind of city that will appeal to the history buff, the art lover or simply the admirer of nature. Winding through the streets of the old part of town, taking a walk along the Arno River, visiting the many museums or churches will magically put you in touch with many of the greatest minds of western civilization from Dante to Michelangelo, from Botticelli to Boccaccio. You will be treated in Siena to a detailed visit of the *Palazzo del Comune* (Town Hall) with its splendid frescoes and a spiritually charged tour of the resplendent Gothic *Duomo*. On the material side, you will have time to do some shopping in the many fashionable shops that line the colorful streets of the city. A charming two night stay in the gorgeous Tuscan countryside will conclude this excursion.

**Friday, June 15: SPOLETO and the VALNERINA, including NORCIA**

Relax and explore the jewels of Spoleto. An afternoon visit to the wilder side of Umbria, the Valnerina, will offer you one of the most spectacular views of the countryside and a chance to experience the town of Norcia, home of black truffles, cured meats and salami. After a short trip, via the Piani di Castelluccio, famous for its glacier lake bed and lentils, we will have a special dinner in the streamside valley town of Visso.

**Saturday, June 16: VILLA ADRIANA and TIVOLI**

Just 30 kilometers northeast of Rome, explore Emperor Hadrian's *Villa Adriana*, one of the largest villas, including baths and gardens, ever built in the Roman Empire. A short distance away is the famous *Villa d'Este*, home of the spectacular Tivoli Gardens. Built in 1550, for Cardinal Ippolito d'Este, its terraced gardens, fish ponds and unique moss covered fountains will cool you, even on the warmest of days.

**Sunday, June 17: ORVIETO**

Situated at the top of a steep hill, Orvieto will mystify you with its Etruscan past and its magnificent Gothic *Duomo* containing the greatest work of Luca Signorelli, a real precursor of the "divine" Michelangelo. The Etruscan Archelological Museum holds treasures from the 7C to early 6C BC. Enjoy the Medieval streets lined with local ceramic shops or visit the underground caves.

**Monday, June 18: Leave Spoleto at 6am, arriving Rome by 8:30am  
Depart for the United States**



### HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

In a captivating atmosphere of history and culture, our hotel is located in the center of Spoleto surrounded by the works of art that the city has kept and enhanced over the centuries. Within a short walking distance are the *Roman Theatre*, beautiful piazzas and *La Rocca*. A single hotel room is available for an additional \$400 supplement.

### FEES

The fee for JOURNEY THROUGH CENTRAL ITALY is \$2,775. Pricing includes lunch on arrival day, continental breakfast and evening meal for each day of the stay and all group activity fees. It **does not include** airfare, daily lunches, health and/or travel insurance. The Tour Reservation Form, available from our website or by email, accompanied by a **\$375 NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT is due by March 5, 2012. The BALANCE IS DUE April 20, 2012.** Registrations will be accepted beyond this date based on space availability. The price is calculated on 2011 exchange rates and is subject to change.

### AIRFARE

Please make your air travel plans to arrive at Rome's Fiumicino Airport between 7:30-9:30 am on Sunday, June 10. Our group will meet and travel to Spoleto. If you cannot meet us at this time or have other travel plans please contact our office. Travel insurance is at the traveler's discretion; however, it is strongly advised. Our office does not handle travel insurance inquiries. We can recommend a travel agent for airfare and travel insurance.

### CANCELTION and DISCRIMINATION POLICIES

A full statement of responsibility is available upon request.

JILL and LORENZO MUTI, CO-DIRECTORS

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Contact Cynthia Landvater, Director of Adult Enrichment, for more information  
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