The Joint Chinese College Alumni Association of Southern USA Leisure Learning Club **Discover Spectacular Italy**



10 Day Luxury Trip with exclusive meals, airline tickets/tax, fuel surcharge & special events including: Venice Gondola Ride, Florence Academy of Fine Art Museum Guided Tour, Sorrento Dance Show, Capri Blue Crotto's Boat Tours, Rome Vatican Museum & Sistine Chapel Guided Tour Standard Travel Date: 4/24/14 to 5/3/14, with Optional pre/post trip at Milan & Rome: 4/23/14 to 5/5/14 Standard Tours & Airline Tickets: \$3599 per person, double occupancy Land only: \$2499 Details & cost for optional pre/post trip at Milan & Rome: to be announced Early Bird Bonus for Total Package: \$250 by 09/30/13, \$150 by 10/31/13, \$50 by 11/30/13 Early Bird Bonus for Land only: \$100 by 11/30/13

Day 1 | **USA-Enroute-**Milan

Check in to our international flight bound for Milan, eager to begin our journey through Italy.

Day 2 | **Arrive-**Milan

Our jet plane touches down in Milan, Italy's capital of commerce, fashion and media. If time permits, we will embark on a walking tour of the city, which abounds with historical and cultural jewels at every corner. Our first stop is the intricate late-Gothic Duomo Cathedral, followed by the world-renowned opera house known as La Scala. Continue on to visit the statue of Leonardo Da Vinci and the magnificent Galleria Vittorio Emanuele, one of the world's earliest shopping malls.

Day 3 | Milan - Verona - Venice

This morning, we take a walking tour of Milan, if it was not visited the day before. Afterward, we depart to the enchanting city of Verona, which rose to stardom as the romantic setting of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. Situated on the banks of the River Adige, Verona has been under Venice's rule since 1404 and contains the largest number of historical treasures north of Rome.

Sightseeing today takes us to the highlights of the city's monuments, including its most famous attraction, Juliet's House. Later on, we transit to Venice, where we will stay overnight and enjoy dinner at the hotel.

Day 4 | Venice

Nicknamed "La Serenissima" (the most serene) and built entirely on water, this magical city captures the essence of Italy. Today we visit some of Venice's landmarks, including St. Mark's Basilica. St. Mark's Basilica is known for its golden mosaics and countless treasures, which includes the Pala d"Oro alterpiece of enamel, gold and precious jewels. Continue on to gaze at the marble

Prigioni Nuove "Bridge of Sighs", and then enjoy a fascinating glass-blowing demonstration at the Murano Glass Factory. After the city tour, take a romantic Gondola Ride through the mesmerizing Grand Canal, some of the city's most impressive facades line the canal, evoking romantic visions of Venice.

Day 5 | Venice - Sienna - Pisa - Montecatini

Depart to the medieval city of Sienna, situated in the heart of Tuscany. A historic adversary to Florence, Sienna's charm lies in magnificent buildings and a large collection of Gothic artistic treasures. Embark on a walking tour of this city, which has remained relatively unchanged since











Day 6 | <u>Montecatini</u> -<u>Florence</u> -<u>Sorrento</u> Drive to Florence, the birthplace of the Renaissance. A walking tour of the city takes us to the

magnificent Duomo (Cathedral), the holy center of Florence and the former site of its Roman Temple. Admire artist Brundlleschi's stunning work of art, and then head to the flittering bronze doors of the Baptistery, followed by a tour of Santa Croce Basilica and Piazza del la Signoria. Enjoy the **Guided**

Tour at Florence Academy of Fine Art Museum and travel to Sorrento later in the day. Located across the Bay of Naples, Sorrento is a scenic coastal city outlined in vertical cliffs, beaches and cafes.

Day 7 | <u>Sorrento</u> -<u>Pompeii</u> – <u>Sorrento</u>

Take an excursion to the ancient ruins of Pompeii. In 79AD the entire city was buried by a volcanic eruption from Mt. Veruvius. For two days, ash rained down upon the town, killing the inhabitants while perfectly preserving it for some 1700 years until it was rediscovered. Later in the afternoon, depart to the "Eternal City" of Rome, a veritable treasure trove of artistic and architectural treasures. Enjoy a **Sorrento Dance Show** in the evening.

Day 8 | Sorrento - Capri - Rome

Begin our day with a ferry ride to the island of Capri, Italy's most famous seaside getaway. Arrive at Marina Grande and begin our sightseeing through the island's white hillside houses, charming

squares and narrow alleyways. If weather permits, we may take a tour to the **Blue Crotto Boat Ride**

to admire the extraordinary sapphire colored water. Later, Anacapri, a seperate commune located high on the hills to the west, is visited as well.

Day 9 | <u>Rome</u>

Our first stop of the day is Vatican City. Tour the sublime St. Peter's Basilica, which covers a sprawling 18,000 sq. yards. **Guided Tours at Vatican Museum and Sistine Chapel**. Continue on to St. Peter's Square, one of Bernini's most extraordinary masterpieces. Our city tour of Rome covers the must-see attractions. We begin with a trip to the majestic Colosseum, and then venture to the Roman

Forum. Wander amongst the ruins of stone temples and fallen columns, and then continue on to the Spanish Steps. We arrive at the legendary Trevi Fountain and toss a coin into it, ensuring our return to this magical city. Spend the remainder of the day free to enjoy Rome. During the evening, we attend an Italian Farewell Dinner.

Day 10 | <u>Rome</u> - **USA**

We leave this unforgettable country and board our international flight, arriving home later the same day.

Registration Deadline: December 31, 2013Final Payment Due Date: December 31, 2013***Fuel surcharge & air tax subject to change

Trip Cancellation Policy

\$100 non-refundable service charge after November 1st, 2013

Additional charges after December 31: • 1/1/14 to 1/31/14- \$200 • 2/1/14 - 2/28/14 - \$300

• 3/1/14 to 3/31/14 – No refunds; name changes \$200 + air penalty • No Refund or changes after 4/1/14

FOR REGISTRATION AND MORE INFORMATION, check jccaa.net or call:

Wendy Lam (281)370-9404, Ray Liao (281)251-5663 or email llc_trip@jccaa.org

medieval times, then transit to Pisa to see the Leaning Tower, Italy's most famous landmark. Arrive at the spa town of Montecatini, for overnight accommodations.





