

VENICE, FLORENCE & ROME

From the canals of Venice, to the hills of Tuscany, to the ancient ruins of Pompeii and the capital city, a tour of Italy's top cities immerses your students in art, language, cuisine, and culture.

Why Brightspark?

Safety And Security

We regularly conduct strict audits of our vendors, ensuring they act in accordance with safety, security, and quality standards.

Our Tour Directors

You deserve the best, so we only use experienced and enthusiastic Tour Directors who are experts on their destinations.

Quality, Custom Tours

Our programs are designed for you, by you. From STEM-based DC tours to performance trips to some of our country's top music cities, we have a destination for every budget and every passion.

Industry Experience

With over 50 years of experience providing custom tours, Brightspark is a leader in student travel.

Travel Protection & Incident Coverage

With our 24/7 emergency hotline and comprehensive travel insurance options, we've got you covered at home and abroad.



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ITALY: VENICE, FLORENCE & ROME

Day 1: Board your flight to Italy.

Day 2: Venice

- Meet with your tour leader at **Venice Marco Polo Airport**.
- Enjoy a half-day guided walking tour of **Venice**, a series of more than 100 islands connected by canals and bridges.
- Visit the **Bridge of Sighs**, the **Rialto Bridge**, and **Piazza San Marco** with its iconic clock tower. Grab a table at a local café to sample Venetian pastries and snacks.

Day 3: Murano & Venice

- Board a vaporetto (waterbus) to the island of **Murano** to witness their famous glass-blowing process.
- Return to Venice for lunch. During free time in the afternoon, consider visiting the **Peggy Guggenheim Museum**, housed in an unfinished palazzo overlooking the **Grand Canal**.

Day 4: Florence

- Board your private motor coach and travel to **Florence**.
- Upon arrival, take a walking tour of the Tuscan city, still a center of Italian culture.
- Your excursion will take you to the **Piazza della Repubblica**, **Il Duomo**, and the **Piazza della Signoria**. You'll walk across the **Arno River** at the **Ponte Vecchio** and head to the **Pitti Palace**.
- After lunch, explore the **Galleria dell'Accademia**, housing works by Tuscan masters like Botticelli and Perugino. Perhaps the most famous piece of art in the museum is **Michelangelo's David**.

Day 5: Florence & Sorrento

- Step into the **Uffizi Gallery** for a guided tour of the Renaissance palace.
- Visit any landmarks you may have missed, like the church of **Santa Croce**. Built in 1294, it houses Giotto's frescoes and the tombs of Michelangelo, Galileo, and Machiavelli.
- Visit **Mercato Centrale**, an open air market where you can bargain for leather, raffia, and other artisan products.
- At **Firenze Santa Maria Novella** station, board a train to **Naples**. Upon arrival, travel by private motor coach to **Sorrento**.

Day 6: Pompeii & Sorrento

- Take a guided tour of **Pompeii**, the infamous site of the **Mount Vesuvius** eruption in 79 AD, which decimated the city and its inhabitants in minutes.
- Travel to **Herculaneum**, where structures remain well-preserved and serve as a living classroom for groups interested in ancient Roman society.

Day 7: Rome

- Board your private motor coach and travel to **Rome**.
- Your first stop will be a tour of **Vatican City**, an independent state in the heart of Rome.
- Explore **St. Peter's Basilica**, a late Renaissance church that can hold nearly 60,000 people inside its intricately-decorated walls.
- The highlight of your tour will be the **Sistine Chapel**, with Michelangelo's masterful frescoes on the ceiling. Afterward, be sure to take a stroll through the Vatican gardens.
- Embark upon a walking tour of Rome's city center. Climb the **Spanish Steps** at **Piazza di Spagna**. Shop along **Via Condotti** and head to the **Trevi Fountain**, believed to hold mystical powers. Your tour ends at **Piazza Navona** near the **Pantheon**. Admire the **Fountain of the Four Rivers**, one of Bernini's Baroque masterpieces.

Day 8: Rome

- Take a guided tour of the **Colosseum** and the **Roman Forum**. The ancient elliptical amphitheater opened in 80 AD with 100 days of games and fights. Its massive stone structure gives a glimpse into ancient Roman life and illuminates Rome's long history.
- Take a short walk up **Palatine Hill** to look down on the **Forum**, the center of Roman Parliament, and the **Circus Maximus**, the most famous stadium for chariot-racing during ancient times.
- Enjoy free time to explore Rome. Walk the streets and take in the majestic landmarks at your own pace.

Day 9: Depart to the airport for your flight home.

