

Dear CSAA Members,

Here's a great opportunity to take advantage of our '06 Convention in Rome to see more of Italy. Specially prepared for CSAA members, we're offering a pre-tour to explore the Lake Como area of Northern Italy along with beautiful Lugano set in Switzerland's mountains. From here we'll visit Milan and Venice enroute to Rome. We'll see many of Italy's famous cities, museums, and monuments including the Doges Palace and Saint Mark's Square in Venice. Please join us!

CSAA
Pre-Convention Tour
Lake Como * Lugano * Milan * Venice
October 26 – November 2, 2006

Itinerary

26 Oct. Thursday Individual departures.

- Please make your air reservations into Milan and home from Rome. Milan's international airport is Malpensa (MXP), Rome Fiumicino (FCO).

27 Oct. Friday Milan to Lake Como

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- Arrival in Milan - After clearing customs, look for a local guide as you emerge into the arrivals hall (after getting your suitcases and proceeding through customs); he or she will have a **CSAA** sign and will direct you to the van whereupon you will be driven to the world famous Villa D'Este on Lake Como. Even if your flight is late, someone will meet you.
- Luggage trolleys are found in the arrivals luggage area of the airport and cost 1 or 2 Euros; you will need to push the trolley to the transfer vehicle.
- The trip to the Villa D'Este takes 45 minutes to one hour. Many flights have morning arrivals into Milan. The hotel knows this and will do their best to have the rooms ready, but check-in time isn't officially until 3:00pm.
- * The balance of the afternoon is open to unpack, relax and explore the hotel and nearby town of Cernobbio. The Villa d'Este is one of the world's legendary hotels; a historic and splendid palace surrounded by 10 acres of the finest hotel gardens.

6:30pm Welcome reception at the Villa D'Este.

28 Oct. Saturday Lake Como

- (B) 9:00am Today we cross into Switzerland for a tour of the famous mountain resort city of Lugano. At the foot of Mount "San Salvatore," Lugano lies at the back of a small lake bay, an elegant place vying with Como as the finest lake city. After a tour, there's time on your own to explore its elegant shops, restaurants and cafes.
- * Late afternoon return to the Villa D'Este, where the evening is open.

29 Oct. Sunday Lake Como

- (B) 9:30am Weather permitting, we'll enjoy a guided cruise up the Lake to the charming village of Bellagio. Lake Como is the third largest Italian lake and one of Europe's deepest. However, it's most famous for its grand villas, mountains and jet-set residents. Enroute to Bellagio we'll tour 16th-Century Villa Balbianello, actually a fascinating visit due to the many accomplishments of its owner. On arrival in Bellagio, we'll have free time for lunch and exploring.

4:30pm Arrive back at Villa D'Este; the evening is open.

30 Oct. Monday Lake Como to Milan to Venice

- (B,D) 9:00am This morning drive to Milan to visit the city's famous cathedral, a masterpiece of 14th-century gothic architecture. This afternoon is the occasion of our 1st train ride upon traveling to Venice. On arrival we transfer by water taxi along the Grand Canal to the San Clemente Palace Hotel. The San Clemente is a beautifully restored monastery sitting on 17 acres.

7:00pm Welcome dinner at the San Clemente.

31 Oct. Tuesday Venice

(B) 9:00am Depart from the hotel with for a walk through historic Venice. We begin in majestic St. Mark's Square; the next stop is St. Mark's Basilica, an 11th century building mixing Byzantine and Western Style. Our walk continues to the Doges Palace, the symbol of Venetian power and residence of Doges, rulers of the city of Venice. In the Palace are the original seat of the government, law courts and prisons. Here we'll also see famous artworks by major masters, of particular note is Tintoretto's Paradise, the world's largest oil painting. The famous bridge of Sighs, which connects the Doges Palace with the prisons, concludes the walking portion.

- Now, we experience one of Venice's highlights, the gondola ride.
- Balance of the afternoon and evening are open to explore the narrow allies, shops and restaurants of Venice.

01 Nov. Wednesday Venice

(B,D) 9:00am Today is open to further enjoy Venice. There are many sights to see including the Peggy Guggenheim Collection.

- * Optional tour to Murano, Burano and Islands The island of Murano is synonymous with glass, the most celebrated of Venices' industries. Like the city of Venice, Murano comprises a cluster of small islands, connected by bridges. It has been the center of the glassmaking industry since 1291. Our second stop is Burano, famous for lace and embroidery. Here everything is in brightly coloured miniature, the canals, the bridges, the leaning tower, and the houses. We'll visit this charming fishermen's island with its picturesque and brightly coloured houses to see the islanders skillfully creating hand made laces, embroidery, handkerchiefs, shawls and tablecloths.

- Balance of the afternoon is again open to further enjoy Venice.

7:30pm Dinner at La Colomba, a popular trattoria whose history dates back over a century.

02 Nov. Thursday Venice to Rome

(B) 9:30am Watertaxi transfer to the train station for the 4.5 hour ride to Rome.

3:05pm Arrive in Rome where we are met and transferred to the Cavalieri Hilton.

(B=breakfast, R= reception, D=dinner - included in the tour)

Tour Inclusions

- * Six nights first class hotel accommodations
- 3 nights Villa D'Este, Cernobbio
- 3 nights San Clemente Palace Hotel, Venice
- * Hotel taxes and portorage
- * Full buffet breakfast daily
- * First class train tickets Milan/Venice and Venice/Rome
- * Welcome reception at Villa D'Este
- * Welcome dinner at the San Clemente
- * Dinner at La Colomba Trotteria in Venice
- * Gondola ride in Venice
- * Arrival transfer from arrival in Milan to the Villa D'Este
- * Water-taxi transfer to/from the San Clemente on arrival/departure in Venice
- * Tours of Lake Como, Lugano, Milan and Venice with local English speaking guides
- * Services of an experienced American Travle Guide throughout
- * Fodor's (or similar) Guide of Italy
- * Final Advice Memo containing details on clothes, currency, weather, and more...

Tour Cost

\$2,679 per person double occupancy

\$3,530 per person single occupancy

Tour Notes

- Early planning helps utilize frequent flyer award points to upgrade or purchase tickets and to take advantage of lower airfares.
- 2) For American Express Platinum Cardholders, Alitalia, Air France, Austrian, Lufthansa and Swiss participate in the 2 for 1 program. Please call AX directly for availability 1-800-525-3355.
- 3) The hotels are considered first class and are among the best in each city. If you wish to upgrade to a junior suite at the Villa D'Este, the supplemental cost for the room for the 3 nights is \$465. To upgrade to a deluxe room (larger) at the San Clemente the supplemental room cost is \$595 for the 3 nights. Rates are based on garden and park view rooms.

CONDITIONS

Reservations and Payment: Reservations are confirmed by American Travel Association (ATA), upon receipt of the Reservation Form and deposit. Reservations require a \$300 per person deposit to accompany the Form. Receipt of final payment is due in the office of ATA no later than August 11th 2006. For reservations received after August 11th, full payment is due with the Reservation Form. All payments must be made by check payable to American Travel Association or by VISA, MasterCard or American Express card.

Cancellation:

Land Package: A \$200 per person administrative fee will be charged regardless of the reason for cancellation. Penalty on cancellations received 89 and 60 days prior to departure is 25% of the tour price; 59-30 days 50% of the tour price; 29 days or less 100% of the tour price. There will be no refunds once the tour has begun.

Cancellations must be made in writing to ATA. To avoid discrepancies, ATA will not act on information given over the phone until written notice has been received.

Health: The Participants represents that neither he nor she nor anyone traveling with him or her has any physical or other condition or disability that could create a hazard to himself or herself or other members of the tour. This program involves walking over uneven surfaces and climbing stairs at locations that are not handicap accessible. A letter of explanation of any physical or mental condition which may require medical attention or special equipment (wheelchair, for example) must be enclosed with the Reservation Form.

Insurance: Trip cancellation, baggage and medical insurance coverage are available for purchase through a form sent to you by ATA or your local insurance representative. We encourage everyone to consider some form of insurance. Last minute emergencies and illnesses do occur, and the insurance helps offset non-refundable air, hotel, and transportation charges. You should also check with your local insurance agent to see what is covered under your homeowner's policy.

Responsibility: American Travel Association (ATA), the Central Station Alarm Association (CSAA), and/or their agents, act only as agent for the participant and their travel companions (hereinafter called Participants) with respect to the owners and contractors providing means of transportation or other services to purchasers of this tour, subject to any and all items and conditions under which any transportation or any other services whatsoever are provided by such owners and contractors. ATA, CSAA shall not be liable or responsible to Participants for the acts or omissions of the aforesaid owners and contractors supplying transportation or other services hereunder, including but not limited to breach of contract, intentional or negligent delay or bodily or property loss, injury or damages. ATA and CSAA shall not be liable or responsible to Participants for loss, injury or damages caused by or resulting from acts of God, fire, breakdown of machinery or equipment, acts of governments and other authorities, wars, strikes, riots, thefts, epidemics or quarantines, monetary crisis, diseases, terrorism or novel conditions. Participants shall have the responsibility to be aware of and determine the validity of any travel advisories, which may exist. Unless the term "guaranteed" is specifically stated in writing on any invoice or reservation itinerary, ATA and CSAA do not guarantee any of such suppliers' rates, bookings or reservations. The Participants' retention of tickets, reservations or bookings after issuance shall constitute consent to the above terms and conditions. In addition, Participants shall be responsible for conveying the terms and conditions hereunder to travel companions. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well-being of the Participants, or any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary at any time without notice to the Participants, such alterations will be made without penalty to ATA and CSAA. If for any reason or due to weather, transportation schedules, or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend additional nights before, during or after the tour, participants will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers, meals and related costs. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the Participants at all times.

Airline Contract: The usual passage contract when the ticket is issued shall constitute the sole contract between the airline and the tour participant. ATA and CSAA shall not be liable for airline cancellation penalties incurred by purchasing non-refundable tickets.

Prices: The tour price is subject to change due to land cost increases and foreign exchange fluctuation. ATA reserves the right to change the price for such reasons or changes in the number of participants (26) upon which the tour cost is based. All prices are based on rates and tariffs in effect on December 15, 2005.

Proof of Citizenship and Visa Requirements: A valid passport is required for travel. You can now apply for a passport at your local post office or the U.S. Passport Agency. Visas are not necessary for American citizens traveling to Italy.

Weather: Weather conditions are unpredictable but should be quite pleasant. Rome is on the same latitude as New York. You can expect some rain and changeable weather. The average high temperature in Rome in November is 69, the low 55 and 5 days of the month average some rain.

Tax Deductibility: Current U.S. tax regulations allow deductibility for travel and subsistence expenses incurred in travel related to trade or business. It is the responsibility of the traveler to become familiar with and adhere to the specific reporting requirements imposed.

For Information Contact:

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