

#### The Colosseum - Rome

# Monuments & Masterpieces

An Artist's Journey through Italy & Paris

10 Days / 9 Nights \$3,250 -\$3,650 PP

Price Varies with Group Size and Travel Dates



The Eiffel Tower - Paris

### Day 1 Departure

Transfer by **private motorcoach** to the airport for your **overnight**, **trans-Atlantic flight to Rome**, **Italy**.

# Day 2 Rome Tour & Colosseum

Arrive in Rome this morning and meet your tour director and motorcoach. Depart on a panoramic orientation tour of Rome featuring the Piazza del Popolo, Ara Pacis, the Roman Forum, Capitoline Hill, seat of the ancient Roman government and birthplace of Western Civilization, and a guided tour of the Colosseum, where you will enjoy some time for drawing both the interior and exterior of the famous Roman ruins. After dinner, enjoy an evening stroll to see some of the city squares and sites. Overnight in Rome.

## Day 3 Old Rome & Artist Meetup

After breakfast, depart on a guided walking tour of 'Old Rome' featuring the Pantheon, Spanish Steps, and Trevi Fountain. Conclude your tour in the lively Piazza Navona where you will have time for lunch (at your own expense) and to enjoy the street vendors and performers. This afternoon, have some drawing time in chaperone-led groups followed a meetup with an artist from the Urban Sketchers organization, a global community of artists that practice drawing on location in cities, towns and villages they live in or travel to. Dinner and overnight in Rome.

## Day 4 The Vatican & Illuminations Tour

This morning is reserved for a **guided visit to Vatican City**, the center of Roman Catholicism, including St. Peter's Square and Basilica, and the Vatican Museums to see Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel. Enjoy some free time in chaperone-led groups this afternoon for sketching, and/or visiting one of Rome's many art museums. **Dinner** tonight is followed by an **Illuminations Tour** to see the beautiful monuments lit up at night! **Overnight in Rome.** 

### Day 5 Train to Florence & Tour

Travel by high speed train to Florence, 'The Cradle of the Renaissance'. On arrival, enjoy a walking tour of the historical center including the Duomo, Piazza della Signoria and Pallazo Vecchio. After an early dinner, climb to Piazzale Michelangelo for a fabulous view of the sunset over the red roofs of Florence! Enjoy a gelato with your group near Piazza Santa Croce en route back to your hotel. Overnight in Florence.

#### Day 6 Museums & O/N Train

Begin today with a **visit to Galleria dell'Accademia**, where you will see Michelangelo's *David*, and have some time for drawing. This afternoon, **visit the Uffizi Gallery**, featuring an extensive collection of priceless works, particularly from the Italian Renaissance After **dinner**, board an **overnight train to Paris**, **France** (sleeper berth accommodations).

### Day 7 Paris Tour & Orsay

Arrive in Paris and depart on an **orientation tour** featuring the city's highlights – the Arc de Triomphe, Place de la Concorde, Champs-Elysées, l'Opèra, the Pompidou Centre, and the Eiffel Tower. Stop to see Cathédrale de Notre-Dame and walk through the Latin Quarter where you will have time for sketching among the Parisian streets, cafes, and markets. After **dinner**, **visit Musee d'Orsay** (open late), an old train station converted into a beautiful museum of impressionist and post-impressionist works. **Overnight in Paris.** 

#### Day 8 Montmartre & Louvre

After **breakfast**, **visit to the Montmartre district**, Paris' center of artistic and literary creativity during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Here you will visit the magnificent **Basilique du Sacre-Coeur**, have time get lunch in a creperie, and stroll the narrow, cobblestone streets while visiting the artists' displays at the Place du Tertre. This afternoon, enjoy a **highlights tour of the Louvre Museum**, featuring da Vinci's *Mona Lisa*, followed by some time for individual exploration and drawing. **Dinner and overnight in Paris**.

### Day 9 Arc, Artist Meetup & Eiffel Tower

Today, walk down the famous Champs Elysees and a climb to the **top of the Arc de Triomphe.** This afternoon, enjoy time for shopping and drawing, followed by another **meetup with an local artist.** After a **special farewell dinner**, ride to the top of the Eiffel Tower for a magnificent view of the 'City of Light' at night! Final overnight in Paris.

#### Day 10 Return

Transfer to the airport this morning and board your **return trans-Atlantic flight.** 

## **Sample Tour Itinerary**

Customize for your group, your preferences, your budget, your timeline!