

FESTIVAL CORALE INTERNAZIONALE DI ROMA

Standard Festival Tour #1 (4 nights / 6 days)

Wednesday June 22nd, 2011

Depart from USA via scheduled air service, including full meal, beverage service and in-flight entertainment. The destination is Rome, Italy.

Thursday June 23rd, 2011 Rome

Arrive in Rome. Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who assists the group to the awaiting chartered motorcoach for an orientation tour of Rome, stopping at sites such as Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain and Piazza Navona (lunch on own). Late afternoon transfer to the hotel for Welcome Dinner and overnight.

Rome - Popes, Vandals, the Borgias and Napoleon, Garibaldi, Michelangelo and Mussolini and, of course, the ancient Romans themselves all have left their physical and spiritual mark on Rome, but though she keeps the glory of an ancient day about her, she remains a wellspring of creative energy; in short, she really is the Eternal City.

Friday June 24th, 2011 Rome

Morning rehearsal. After the rehearsal, depart for a half-day guided tour of *Imperial Rome*, including entrance to the Roman Forum and Colosseum. Also view the Pantheon, Baths of Caracalla and Palatine Hill. Late afternoon at leisure for additional sightseeing, shopping or other planned activities. The center with its churches, ancient palaces and monuments, spacious parks, tree-lined boulevards, fountains, outdoor cafes and elegant shops, makes Rome one of the world's most attractive cities. Evening dinner and overnight.

Saturday June 25th, 2011 Rome

Morning rehearsal. After the rehearsal, depart for a half-day guided tour of *Religious Rome*. Visit Vatican City, the home of the Pope and the center of Roman Catholicism, as well as the Vatican Museum (using the whisper system), St. Peter's Basilica and the Sistine Chapel (featuring Michelangelo's Ceiling Frescos and *The Last Judgment*). **Combined choirs will participate/sing in a late afternoon Mass in St. Peter's Basilica.** Evening dinner and overnight.

Sunday June 26th, 2011 Rome

Morning rehearsal. After the rehearsal, depart for half-day sightseeing, including entrance to Ostia Antica with its beautifully preserved ruins. It was founded, probably in the 4th century BC, as a military colony to guard the river mouth against seaborne invasions. Later, during the centuries when virtually all imports reached the Capital via Tiber, Ostia gained prominence as the domestic landing for cargo boats. By the 2nd century AD, it had become a flourishing commercial center inhabited by upwards of 100,000 people, whose apartment buildings, taverns, and grocery shops are still intact. Afternoon at leisure. Dinner in a local restaurant. **6:30 pm dress rehearsal. 9:00 pm Festival Finale Concert in the Basilica of S. Maria Sopra Minerva.** Late return to the hotel.

Monday June 27th, 2011 Depart for home

Transfer to Rome's International Airport for return flight to USA. Arrive home in the evening of the same day.

