

# ITALY

Director Preview Tour  
June 21<sup>st</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019



Music Celebrations International  
Concert Tours With Integrity



# ITALY

## About the Preview Tour

You are invited to join us as we experience the breathtaking sites of Rome, Vatican City, Florence, and Cremona! Join us June 21<sup>st</sup> -28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 in a spectacular Preview Tour of Italy for music directors. This is an incredible opportunity to become familiar with the highlights of an Italian concert tour in advance of your group's participation. As the Preview Tour overlaps the Festival Corale Internazionale di Roma, this is an unparalleled opportunity for choir directors to experience the festival and return home with a wealth of knowledge about the event before their choir's participation.

Highlights of the Preview Tour include:

- Touring the Vatican Museum and the Sistine Chapel.
- Experiencing the wonder of the Basilica of St. Peter, and hear the festival chorus sing parts of the Mass.
- Attending the festival finale concert at Rome's historic Basilica di Santa Maria sopra Minerva, resting place of Saint Catherine of Siena.
- Exploring Florence, one of the world's most beautiful cities, with stops at historic Ponte Vecchio, the Baptistry with Ghiberti's 'Gates of Paradise,' and entrance to the Duomo and Academia to see Michelangelo's 'David.'
- Visiting Cremona, known around the world for its tradition of stringed instrument production.



# Director Preview Tour

## Rome / Florence / Cremona

### Day One: Friday, June 21, 2018

- Depart from USA gateways via scheduled air service Rome, Italy

### Day Two: Saturday, June 22 (B,D)

- Arrive in Rome
- Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will assist the group to awaiting chartered motorcoach for transfer into Rome via panoramic tour of Rome's highlights, including stops at Spanish Steps, Piazza Navona, and Trevi Fountain
- Late afternoon hotel check-in
- Evening Welcome Dinner and overnight
- Optional: Audit or attend evening massed choir rehearsal

### Day Three: Sunday, June 23 (B,D)

- Breakfast at the hotel
- 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
- Conduct venue visits
- Evening dinner and overnight

### Day Four: Monday, June 24 (B,D)

- Breakfast at the hotel
- A half-day guided tour of Religious Rome includes the Vatican City, the home of the Pope and the center of Roman Catholicism, as well as the Vatican Museum, St. Peter's Basilica and the Sistine Chapel (featuring Michelangelo's Ceiling Frescos and The Last Judgment)
- Attend Mass in St. Peter's Basilica with combined choirs
- Attend dress rehearsal for the Rome Choral Festival
- Attend evening Rome Choral Festival Concert
- Evening dinner and overnight

### Day Five: Tuesday, June 25 (B,D)

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Transfer to Florence
- A half-day orientation tour of Florence includes the Piazza della Signoria, a lovely square in the heart of the city. Visit the Ponte Vecchio, the bridge across the Arno lined on both sides with Florence's best jewelers. Then drive to Fiesole overlooking Florence before driving back into the city. See the Baptistery with Ghiberti's 'Gates of Paradise', the Campanile, and entrance to the Duomo and Academia to see Michelangelo's original 'David' and other sculptures by the great master (using the whisper system)
- Evening dinner and overnight

### Day Six: Wednesday, June 26 (B,D)

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Spend the morning visiting venues
- Lunch, on own
- Transfer to Cremona
- Evening dinner and overnight

### Day Seven: Thursday, June 27 (B,D)

- Breakfast at the hotel
- A half-day guided tour of Cremona includes the Duomo (Cathedral), Torrazzo, and most importantly, entrance to Stradivarius museum – Museo del Violino
- Lunch, on own
- Reception with the Cremona Chamber of Commerce/Cremona Festival
- Visit Busseto, hometown of Verdi
- Evening dinner and overnight

### Day Eight: Friday, June 28 (B)

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Transfer to Milan's International Airport for return flight



# Italy Preview Tour Registration

Name of Participant: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Ensemble: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

A clear copy of my passport is included with this registration    Passport Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Nearest Major International Gateway Airport: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

**A NON-REFUNDABLE \$1,500 GROUP TOUR DEPOSIT MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN MAY 1, 2019. THE DEPOSIT WILL BE APPLIED TOWARD THE GROUP TOUR COST.**

## THE ITALY DIRECTOR PREVIEW TOUR

### INCLUSIONS

- Round-trip airfare from your nearest international gateway airport. Participants are responsible for travel arrangements to and from this airport.
- Five nights single occupancy hotel accommodations
- Daily breakfasts and dinners.
- All organized sightseeing activities as listed in the tour itinerary.
- Local transportation by deluxe motorcoach.

### EXCLUSIONS

- Travel Visa for non-U.S. passport holders.
- Tips to Tour Manager(s), city guides and motorcoach driver(s).
- Transportation to and from departure airport.
- Drinks at dinners.
- Daily lunches.
- Airline luggage fees, if applicable.

**Eligible participants are limited to an organization's music/artistic director, executive director, president, or similar.**

Additional participants are subject to Music Celebrations International management review, and must pay the full cost of the Preview Tour, valued at \$3,500. Additional participant costs do not apply toward an organization's tour costs and cannot be priced into the group's tour.

**COMPLETE THIS REGISTRATION FORM AND MAIL IT WITH YOUR NON-REFUNDABLE \$1,500 TOUR DEPOSIT PAYABLE TO:**

**Music Celebrations International**  
1440 South Priest Drive, Suite 102  
Tempe, Arizona 85281-6954

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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