



**RANDOLPH
COLLEGE**

*Into
the* **HEART of ITALY**
A WEEK EXPLORING UMBRIA & TUSCANY

OCTOBER 13 - 22, 2023

Tuscany in the Fall. We probably don't need to say any more than that and, if we tried, words could not really do justice to the sights, smells, tastes, and all the other sensations that combine to create the Tuscan experience.

This tour is more about the region, not just about Florence. Of course, we'll spend a day in the city (and more if you choose) — it would be rude not to visit the "Cradle of the Renaissance" when we are so close — but we'll make our base in the thermal spa town of Montecatini Terme just up in the hills overlooking the plain of the River Arno.

From here a variety of excursions will take us through the surrounding area before we move on to discover the delights of Umbria.

We'll experience a wonderful balance of guided days and free time to explore on our own as we make our base in Perugia, steeped in Etruscan history and boasting one of the grandest squares in Italy. Quintessential medieval houses and vaulted passageways beckon us to wander through time, and the glorious Galleria Nazionale reveals Umbria's greatest collection of paintings. Well-preserved historical towns like Gubbio stand as age-defying marvels of antiquity, whether we're admiring a 2,000-year-old theater or drifting through Etruscan ruins. We'll also spend a day in St. Francis' town of Assisi.

This October, join fellow Randolph College Alumni and friends, for a week in the heart of Italy!



TUSCAN VALLEY WITH SAN GIMIGNANO IN DISTANCE



POOL IN MONTECATINI TERME

THE COST OF THIS ITINERARY, PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY IS:

LAND ONLY (NO AIRFARE INCLUDED): **\$ 3590**
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: **\$ 950**

Airfares are available from many U.S. cities. Please call for details.

THE FOLLOWING SERVICES ARE INCLUDED:

- HOTELS:** 8 nights' accommodation at a first class hotel, including all hotel taxes and service charges
- COACHING:** All ground transportation as detailed in the itinerary
- MEALS:** Breakfast daily, and 5 dinners
- EXPENSES:** Portorage of one large suitcase per person
- ENTRANCES:** Entrance fees to all sites included in the itinerary
- GUIDES:** Discover Europe tour leader throughout, local guides for half day in Florence and a walking tour of Siena.

Please note that travel insurance is not included on this tour. Insurance information will be e-mailed to each registrant by Randolph College representative upon receipt of deposit.

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Keene, NH 03431
USA



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(fax) 603-563-7137



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13TH - Evening departure from your chosen US gateway city.
OVERNIGHT: PLANE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14TH - This morning you will connect with your onward flight to either Pisa or Florence. On arrival at either airport you will be met for the short transfer to your hotel in the beautiful spa town of Montecatini Terme. There will be time to unpack, relax, and begin exploring the neighborhood this afternoon. Montecatini is Italy's most fashionable thermal spa town, set in a charming valley of flowers and olive trees just 24 miles from Florence. This evening we'll enjoy a welcome dinner at the hotel. **(D) OVERNIGHT: MONTECATINI**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15TH - A full day in nearby Florence. We'll meet our local guide and begin with a tour of the Uffizi Gallery. We then enter the Piazza della Signoria where we'll admire the graceful Loggia dei Lanzi, the Neptune Fountain, and the copy of Michelangelo's *David*, standing where the artist intended it to be. We'll continue on foot to the Duomo, contrasting its extravagant exterior to its rather austere interior, and concluding with a climb (for those who want to) up to Brunelleschi's magnificent dome to admire the unforgettable views over Florence. We continue to the Baptistery; Ghiberti's famous east doors of the Baptistery depict Old Testament scenes and Michelangelo dubbed them the "Gate of Paradise." These are copies; the original doors are in the Museo de L'opera del Duomo and this inconspicuous building contains some of the finest works of art in Florence. The remainder of the day is free to find a restaurant for dinner. **(B) OVERNIGHT: MONTECATINI**

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16TH - A full day excursion today takes us to the coast to explore the region known as the Cinque Terre (the Five Lands). The name comes from the five towns that are perched along this stretch of cliffs as they tumble into the sea and it is a area of such unspoiled natural beauty that it was added to UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1997. Along the way, we'll stop for lunch in Portovenere and then take the train line along the coast that joins the five towns—there is no road!—before returning to our hotel for dinner. **(B, D) OVERNIGHT: MONTECATINI**



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17TH - Our journey today takes us into the heart of Tuscany and the dreamy landscapes that most powerfully evoke romantic Italy. We'll visit San Gimignano for a walking tour of this beautiful medieval city known as San Gimignano of the Fine Towers, the whole town in now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The intact city walls contain a dazzling array of medieval buildings and tower houses. The rich merchants of the town competed with each other as to who could build the tallest! We'll take a walking tour of the historic center and visit the Collegiata di Santa Maria Assunta - the Cathedral of San Gimignano - and the Palazzo Pubblico. After time for lunch, this afternoon we drive to Perugia where dinner is included this evening at our hotel. **(B, D) OVERNIGHT: PERUGIA**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18TH - A day exploring Perugia, the capital of the region of Umbria. Perugia is an ancient city dating back to the Etruscan era and home to one of the first universities in the world. Your walking tour with a local guide will show you the Palazzo del Priori, including the national Gallery of Umbrian Art and the chapel of San Severo, with a wonderful fresco by Raphael. The medieval and Renaissance areas of this lovely city above the central Tiber valley offer vistas that confirm Henry James's description of Perugia as the "little city of infinite view." The afternoon is free to wander, sampling exquisite Perugina chocolates as you explore Piazza IV Novembre, one of the grandest squares in Italy, with its imposing Priors' Palace and admirably proportioned Great Fountain from the 13th century. Leading off from the far end of the square is the picturesque Via Maestà delle Volte, its medieval houses and vaulted passageways brimming with secrets. This evening dinner is included at a local restaurant. **(B, D) OVERNIGHT: PERUGIA**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19TH - It's a short journey this morning to Assisi, birthplace of St. Francis, and home to the extraordinary Basilica of St. Francis, one of the greatest monuments to 13th-14th century Italian art. The damage caused by the 1997 earthquake has largely been repaired and the two churches, Upper and Lower, are truly awe-inspiring as you will witness during our guided tour. There will be free time for lunch and exploration before we return to Perugia. **(B) OVERNIGHT: PERUGIA**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20TH - Just over a stretch of the Apennines stands Gubbio, the best preserved of all medieval towns. With its roots in the 6th century BC, this picturesque village boasts a sprawling 2,000-year-old theatre just outside the town walls, and is home to the fascinating 2,000-year-old Eugubine bronze tablets, the Rosetta Stones for Umbrian culture written in Etruscan and Latin. At the top of the town, the Palazzo Ducale and the Duomo face off against each other—the former notable for its lovely Renaissance courtyard; the latter a 13th-century graceful construction of lavender-gray brick with a magnificent interior. In the afternoon we'll continue on to Fabriano, famous since the 13th century for its manufacture of paper, with its reconstructed, fully operational medieval workshop. We return to Perugia for a free evening. **(B) OVERNIGHT: PERUGIA**



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21ST - After a leisurely breakfast, we depart for Montepulciano for a wine tasting before continuing back to Montecatini for our final night and farewell dinner. **(B, D) OVERNIGHT: MONTECATINI**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22ND - Morning transfers back to either Pisa or Florence Airport for connecting flights to the US. **(B) OVERNIGHT: HOME**

*Key to included meals: **B** - breakfast, **L** - lunch, **D** - dinner

YOUR HOST, SUE OTT ROWLANDS



Sue Ott Rowlands was named the 11th president of Randolph College in March 2022. A professor of theatre arts in the School of the Arts at Northern Kentucky University, she also served as provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at NKU between January 2014 and January 2021.

Ott Rowlands is the founding artistic director of Glaciy Theatre Collective in Toledo and the Cleveland Women's Theatre Project, both professional theatres. She is the former associate artistic director of Round House Theatre in Washington, DC, and managing director of The Actor's Space in New York City. Ott Rowlands' career has spanned higher education administration, university teaching, arts administration, and professional theatre. She continues to travel extensively as part of her ongoing efforts to establish and promote international study-abroad opportunities and international arts exchanges.

As a member of Actor's Equity Association (AEA), the professional actors' union, Ott Rowlands has worked at theatres around the country. Her creative research agenda remains active through the development and touring of solo performance pieces. Ott Rowlands has performed in India, Taiwan, New Zealand, Italy, Chile, Switzerland, Saudi Arabia, Hungary (three national tours), Wales, England, the Czech Republic, and Sri Lanka.

Ott Rowlands is a member of Phi Beta Delta, the society of international scholars.

REGISTRATION FORM

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Please type or print.
2. Make checks payable to DISCOVER EUROPE, LTD.
3. Be sure to read the Terms & Conditions and the Refund Policy contained on this form.
4. Complete both sides of this form.
5. Detach the bottom section and return to Discover Europe with your deposit of \$500 per person, if this has not already been paid. Keep the top section for your records.

DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS

NAME(S). Please make sure that your name appears on this form exactly as it does on your passport. Please also include your "Known As" or preferred name, if applicable.

PASSPORT DETAILS. This information is required by airlines and having it helps in the event of lost or stolen documents.

ADDRESS. If you have a temporary address, please let us have the details, including dates that you are there, on a separate sheet.

DIETARY REQUIREMENTS. Please let us know if you require any special meals both for the hotels and the airlines.

HEALTH INFORMATION. It is very valuable for us to know ahead of time if you require any special assistance. Discover Europe tours are always paced for comfort, but inevitably there is also a certain amount of walking involved. Participants should have sufficient stamina to keep pace with the tour group and not cause delays. Please consult with your physician if have any questions regarding your ability to participate fully.

TRIP DETAILS

Please fill in the name of the trip you wish to register for, the departure and return dates and your departure airport or city.

EMERGENCY CONTACT

This information is essential.

INDEPENDENT FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS

1. If transatlantic flights are not already included as part of your tour, or if you wish to deviate from the group flights, Discover Europe will be happy to make your flight arrangements for you. The fee for this service is \$40 per ticket.
2. If you are arranging your own flights, please provide your complete flight information, giving the following: dates of travel, airline(s), flight numbers, departure and arrival airports and departure and arrival times for all flight segments that you have booked. Transportation to and from the hotel for arrival and departure arrangements that are separate from the group can be made at an additional cost. It is essential that we receive your complete flight information *at least* 90 days prior to your trip departure.

ROOMING REQUIREMENTS

A twin room has two separate single beds in it. A double room has one large bed. Please use this section to let us know your preference. We will always book non-smoking rooms when available. If you are sharing a room, please let us know with whom. If you would like to share a room but do not have a roommate, we will be happy to try and match you up but unfortunately cannot guarantee that this will be possible. If no match is available, the single supplement will apply.

PAYMENT PROTECTION PLAN

Please indicate here if you would be interested in applying for our Payment Protection Plan. Please see website or brochure for instructions and terms & conditions.



TRIP DETAILS FOR HEART OF ITALY **231013RWI**

PASSENGER DETAILS

Passport Name:

1. _____
 Title First Middle Last

2. _____
 Title First Middle Last

Known As: 1. _____ 2. _____

Passport 1#: _____ Exp.Date: _____ DOB: _____

Passport 2#: _____ Exp.Date: _____ DOB: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Special Dietary Requirements or Allergies: _____

Health Information: _____

CONTACT INFORMATION

E-mail: _____

Preferred Telephone: (____) _____ work/cell/home
circle one

Secondary Telephone: (____) _____ work/cell/home
circle one

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO:
 DISCOVER EUROPE, LTD.
 122 Island Street, Keene, NH 03431

TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. Please be sure to complete both sides of this form.
2. Space on this journey is limited and registrations are accepted strictly on a first come, first served basis.
3. Registration and payment imply acceptance of the terms and conditions described herein. This information, as well as your itinerary description regarding dates, inclusions and prices, form the basis of your individual contract with Discover Europe, Ltd.
4. Registration and payment waive and release Discover Europe, Ltd., Randolph College, their affiliates, directors, officers, employees, including any person or entity employed or utilized by them, from all claims arising from any injury, loss, damage, accident, delay or expense resulting from events beyond their control, including, without limitation: natural disasters, war, strikes, incidents of politically-motivated violence, sickness or quarantine, government restrictions or regulations, and in the absence of its own gross negligence, arising from the use of any vehicle or from any act of omission by any bus or car rental agency, airline, taxi or tour service, hotel, restaurant, or other firm, agency, company or individual.
5. Discover Europe, Ltd. reserves the right to substitute hotels, airlines, activities or excursions in response to changes in availability, local events or weather conditions, provided such substitutions do not adversely affect the overall quality of the tour. Such substitutions do not constitute grounds for withdrawal with full refund.
6. Conduct During the Tour: You are responsible for respecting the authority and laws of the countries in your itinerary, including local health and safety regulations, and following the directions of the tour guide. We may exclude you from participating in all or any part of the tour if, in our sole discretion, your health, condition or behavior renders you unfit for the tour or unfit for continuation once the tour has begun. Unfitness may include, without limitation, any behavior that, regardless of its cause, is inappropriate or offensive or interferes with the delivery of tour services, or may constitute a hazard or embarrassment. In such case, our liability shall be strictly limited to refund of the recoverable cost of any unused portion of the tour. Should you decide not to participate in certain parts of the tour or use certain goods included in the tour, no refunds will be made for those unused parts of the tour or goods.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

1. A deposit of \$500 must accompany this completed form (if it has not already been paid).
2. The remaining balance will be billed and payable 90 days prior to trip departure. A late fee of \$100 per person may be added to balances still outstanding 60 days prior to departure.

TOUR COST ADJUSTMENTS

Discover Europe makes every effort to guarantee that the published cost of your chosen tour will not change. However, we do reserve the right to make adjustments in the following circumstances:

1. Exchange rates. Should the value of the dollar fall against the currency

- of the countries visited on your tour by more than 10% in the 6 months prior to trip departure.
2. Airfares. If your tour includes airfare, Discover Europe reserves the right to pass along increases in costs (taxes, airport fees, fuel surcharges, etc.) that are charged by the airline involved.
3. Group size. This tour has been based on a group size of 20-30 participants. Should we end up with less than 20 people, we will determine a course of action which will involve either paying a surcharge to keep the tour as is, or making adjustments to the tour in order to keep the cost the same.
4. Late registrations (received within 60 days of departure) may also incur extra fees and charges as discounted rates for hotels and airfares may no longer be available so close to departure. Participants will be made aware of any such charges before their registration is accepted.

REFUND POLICY

1. Participants who withdraw more than 90 days prior to tour departure will receive a refund of all monies received by Discover Europe, Ltd., less a \$200 cancellation penalty per person*.
2. Participants who withdraw fewer than 90 days prior to tour departure will receive a refund of all monies received by Discover Europe, Ltd., less the following cancellation penalties:
 - 90 - 61 days prior to departure: \$1000 per person*
 - 60 - 31 days prior to departure: \$2000 per person*
 - 30 or fewer days prior to departure: no refund*
3. Please note that the final payment becomes due upon receipt of the final invoice and will remain payable, as per the payment schedule, if your cancellation is received after this.
4. These cancellation penalty amounts do not include any airfares purchased on your behalf by Discover Europe Ltd. Note that the least expensive airfares are usually non-refundable. Refunds for airline tickets will be handled separately from the refund of the land tour package.
5. Comprehensive travel insurance is not included in your tour package. Discover Europe, Ltd., strongly advises that you purchase travel insurance for your upcoming trip. Trip insurance information will be mailed to you upon the receipt of your reservation. Please contact Randolph College for insurance information.
6. All cancellation requests must be received in writing.
7. There is no provision for refund for any activities missed due to the participant's absence once the tour has started.
8. Your place on this tour is not transferable.

* Unless enrolled in our payment protection plan

INCLUSIONS & EXCLUSIONS

1. All inclusions are listed on the day-by-day itinerary and registration form.
2. The following are not included (unless specifically mentioned in the itinerary): travel insurance, transportation to and from the participant's home to their chosen departure airport, passport fees, excess baggage charges, tips to couriers and tour bus drivers, items of a personal nature.

ROOMING REQUIREMENTS (Please check one)

- I would like a single room (see itinerary for supplement)
- I would like a shared room

I will be sharing with: _____

We would like a double twin-bedded room

Discover Europe may include my e-mail address on the tour passenger list.

Yes No

I would like to enroll in the Payment Protection Plan.

Yes No

SIGNATURES

The undersigned has read the tour itinerary and recognizes and accepts any risk inherent therein. The undersigned also understands and hereby agrees for and on behalf of his/her dependents, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns to abide by the conditions set forth in the terms and conditions listed in this brochure and to release and hold harmless Randolph College, Discover Europe and any of their officers, trustees, agents, licensees, or representatives, from any and all liability for delays, injuries, or death or for the loss of or damage to his/her property however occurring during any portion of, or in relation to, the tour.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: _____

Email: _____

Primary Telephone: (_____) _____

FLIGHT INFORMATION (Please check one)

Departure Airport or City: _____

Do you want Discover Europe to book your flights: Yes No

If self-arranged, please provide us with the full details by mail or e-mail at least 90 days prior to departure.

EXTENSION INFORMATION

I/we plan on extending our tour: Yes, before Yes, after No

If yes, please provide extension details: _____

