

Fall 2019 Ashley Hall Alumnae Tour

Explore Italy

OCTOBER 26 - NOVEMBER 2, 2019

ITINERARY*

October 26 | Depart for Rome
October 27 | Spoleto
October 28 | Assisi, Perugia
October 29 | Orvieto
October 30 | Trevi
October 31 | Grotte di Frasassi, San Benedetto del Tronto
November 1 | Spoleto, Montefalco

**Detailed itinerary follows*

FLIGHTS

Plan to arrive at Rome's Fiumicino Airport (FCO) between 7:30 a.m. and 9:45 a.m. on Sunday, October 27. Our group will meet and travel together to Spoleto. Travel insurance is at the traveler's discretion; however, it is strongly advised.

ACCOMMODATIONS

In a captivating atmosphere of history and culture, we will stay at the historic property Palazzo Leti. Operated by three partner independent schools, one of which is Ashley Hall, and the centerpiece of a unique global education model, the property is located in the center of Spoleto, overlooking the Monteluca.

REGISTRATION

Please contact Amy Jenkins '82 at jenkinsa@ashleyhall.org to register for this tour.

FEES

\$3,050 for double occupancy (single room supplement is \$400), which includes lunch on arrival day, continental breakfast and dinner each day, and all group activity fees. Does not include airfare, daily lunches, nor health or travel insurance. A \$375 non-refundable deposit is due by August 30, 2019. The balance is due by September 20, 2019. The price is calculated on a 2019 exchange rate and subject to change.

POLICIES

A full statement of the cancellation and discrimination policy is available upon request.

Full Itinerary

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26 | DEPART U.S.

Please plan to arrive at Rome's Fiumicino Airport (FCO) between 7:30 a.m. and 9:45 a.m. on Sunday, October 27. We will travel together to Spoleto.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27 | SPOLETO

Situated at the southern point of a beautiful valley, our home base of Spoleto offers an incredible mixture of natural and man-made sights. What makes this area so unique among other Umbrian towns is the variety of ancient remains that showcase its entire historical evolution. Walking through the streets of Spoleto is like taking a walk through human history!

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28 | ASSISI, PERUGIA

Like Spoleto, Assisi's history dates back to Roman times. It is here that St. Francis was born at the end of the 12th century soon followed by his female counterpart, St. Clare. The churches of San Rufino, Santa Chiara, and the Basilica of St. Francis house some of the greatest works which signal the beginning of western art. Perugia, just a few miles distance from Assisi, is the capital of Umbria. A university center, it boasts among other things a gallery that houses one of the best collections of paintings by artists of the Umbrian School. In Perugia, a factory tour of confectionary company Perugina will showcase the production of chocolates and allow sampling of a wide variety of candies.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29 | ORVIETO

Orvieto, situated at the top of a majestic hill, will mystify you with its Etruscan past. An enormously sophisticated civilization, the Etruscans to this day remain a mystery for historians since it is still not clear their origin or provenance. At the center of town stands the Duomo, one of the most outstanding churches built in Central Italy during the 13th century. It houses the gorgeous Cappella Nuova, decorated with an amazing fresco cycle by Luca Signorelli, a 15th century contemporary of Michelangelo.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30 | TREVÌ

Just a short distance from Spoleto, Trevi offers a beautiful view of the Spoleto valley and a complete immersion into nature. After having wandered through narrow alleys, we will visit the church of San Francesco, containing an organ built in 1492, the delightful 19th century little Teatro Clitunno, and the sumptuous Villa Fabbri. On this day we will visit Frantoio, an olive oil mill, and taste some of the best varieties of olive oil! A cooking class led by Italian chefs will focus on Umbrian classics and handmade pasta. Advance notice of special dietary requests is required.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31 | GROTTA DI FRASASSI, SAN BENEDETTO DEL TRONTO

The group will visit the Caves of Frasassi, a remarkable cave system located just across the border with the region of the Marche discovered only in 1971. Near the entrance are two chapels, one dating from the 13th century, the other from 1828, and the cave system includes named chambers like the Cave of the Bats, the Great Cave of the Wind, the Room of the Candles, and the Room of the Infinite. The day will end with a fabulous meal at a fish restaurant in the city of San Benedetto del Tronto, on the Adriatic Coast.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1 | SPOLETO, MONTEFALCO

The morning will be dedicated to visiting the small town of Montefalco, another little gem in the surroundings of Spoleto. After a visit of the intimate museum of San Francesco, we will stroll in the splendid central square, watching local life and tasting the prize red wine of the area, Sagratino! The Sagratino grape variety is produced into Sagratino Secco, a full-bodied wine and Sagratino Passito, a sweet style wine with intense flavors. Sagratino is also used in Sangiovese blends. For the rest of the day, revisit the places you liked the most in Spoleto and finalize your shopping!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2 | DEPART FOR U.S.

Plan to depart from Rome's Fiumicino Airport (FCO) no earlier than 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 2, 2019.

TO REGISTER: Please contact Amy Jenkins '82 at jenkinsa@ashleyhall.org or (843) 720-2854 to register for this tour. Space is limited to 24 guests (double occupancy); tour registration will remain open until filled.