



## ***Educational Tours***



### **IMMERSIVE MIDDLE SCHOOL TOURS**

## **Explore Italy**

From gladiators to gelato to gondolas, Italy has always been an icon of rich culture and traditions.

This interactive tour encompasses Italy's top sites. Discover the country's ancient past in sites such as the Colosseum and the Roman Forum, stare up at Michelangelo's masterpiece on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, walk across Florence's famous medieval bridge, and take a ride down Venice's winding canals.

# Help middle school students find their place in the world

Travel fuels curiosity, offers fresh perspectives, and gives students the opportunity to discover life beyond their backyards. Our middle school tours are specially-designed, with hands-on activities in exciting destinations that are popular with students aged 11-15. And with our 50+ years of experience, we know just how to keep students excited to learn more about the world, themselves, and their place in the world.

“Middle schoolers achieve more because of these trips. They take what they learn with them and that impacts them the rest of their lives.”

Gene F., Seventh Grade Teacher and Group Leader

Stroll along the many canals of Venice, known as the Floating City.



## What to expect on our middle school tours

### HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES

Our tours offer the perfect balance of cultural exploration and experiential activities.

### AMAZING DESTINATIONS

Take your students just about anywhere. Many middle school teachers especially love traveling to England, Italy, Spain, France, and Panama.

### 24/7 TOUR DIRECTOR

Your expert Tour Director not only knows the ins and outs of each location you visit, but also how to keep students this age active and engaged. They are with your group 24/7, and are trained to respond to every type of situation.

### YOUR EXPERIENCE INCLUDES

Full-time Tour Director; sightseeing tours; entrance fees for Doges' Palace, glass-blowing demonstration, gondola ride. Duomo, Basilica of St. Francis, Sistine Chapel, St. Peter's Basilica, Colosseum, Roman Forum, *with extension: Pompeii ruins; Capri boat cruise*; round-trip flights; 7 overnight stays in hotels (*9 with extension*); breakfast and dinner daily



**Day 1: Fly overnight to Italy**

**Day 2: Milan | Venice**

After meeting your Tour Director at the airport in Milan, journey east to the Floating City of Venice. If time permits, stop in Verona along the way and walk the streets of the fair city where Shakespeare set many of his plays.

**Days 3: Venice**

On a guided tour of Venice, explore St. Mark's Square (home to a very friendly pigeon population) and see gondolas glide down the Grand Canal. Stroll through the pink-and-white Doge's Palace and see where mighty Venetian dukes once ruled. Learn about the art of glass blowing during a demonstration by a local artist. Cruise along the city's waterways during a traditional gondola ride.

**Day 4: Florence**

Continue to Florence, the birthplace of the Italian language, opera, and the Renaissance. During a walking tour of the city, pass by classical statues at the Piazza della Signoria and walk across the Ponte Vecchio, a medieval bridge where many of famed leather and gold artisans keep shop. Wander through the Santa Maria del Fiore, also known as the Duomo, marveling at the cathedral's Renaissance mosaics and frescoes.

**Day 5: Florence**

Enjoy time to explore Florence at your own pace, or join an optional excursion to Pisa. Enjoy a guided tour of Pisa's Field of Miracles, where you can snap a picture of the 12th-century Leaning Tower, aslant ever since the third floor was built.

**Day 6: Assisi | Rome**

Journey to Rome via Assisi, where you'll visit the Basilica of St. Francis, a UNESCO World Heritage site and an important Roman Catholic landmark.

**Day 7: Rome**

On your visit to Vatican City, look up at Michelangelo's breathtaking ceiling in the Sistine Chapel and check out the colorful uniforms of the Swiss Guard, protectors of the Vatican.

**Day 8: Rome**

During your stay in Italy's capital, explore the world's most famous arena, the Colosseum, where you can almost hear the stamping feet of the crowds gathered for gladiatorial combat. Learn about everyday life in ancient Rome as you walk among the ruins of the Roman Forum, where Julius Caesar gave many of his great political speeches. Then explore more of Rome's attractions at your own pace, or join an optional hands-on cooking class, where you'll discover how food plays such an integral role in Italy's culture. Together with expert chefs, learn how to make delicious gelato, cookies, and biscuits. At the end of the class, you'll be able to taste and enjoy what you and your group have created. You'll also be able to take cookies home (if there's any left!).

**Days 9–11: Return home or add extension**

Depart for home on Day 9 or extend your trip to Pompeii and Capri. Enjoy an expert-led tour of Pompeii's ruins, visit the picturesque Sorrento region along the Bay of Naples, and feel the wind in your hair during a boat ride around the island of Capri.



Hear tales of ancient Rome's gladiators and emperors at the Colosseum.



Piazza Navona is one of Rome's most elegant central squares.

# The world leader in international education

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## **SAFETY**

We're committed to your safety. With 500 schools and offices in over 50 countries, EF staff can react quickly and in person wherever you travel.

## **AFFORDABILITY**

We always offer the guaranteed lowest prices so more students have the opportunity to travel and experience the world.

## **INSIGHT**

We believe in experiential learning at the most important sites. Your Tour Director is with you at every step, providing their own perspective and local tips.

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