



TRINITY COLLEGE ELDERHOSTEL ITALY

300 Summit Street • Hartford CT 06106 • USA 860-297-2399 • 860-297-5305 (FAX) • EH-Italy@trincoll.edu

Independent Exploration Great Collections: Museums of Florence

HIGHLIGHTS

- 7 nights in Florence
- Lecture on the History of the City of Florence
- Great Residences lecture and walk
- On-site lectures in the Uffizi and Pitti Palace
- Accademia and Bargello Museum visits
- Visits to the churches of Santa Maria Novella, San Marco, Santa Croce, Santa Maria del Carmine



Within the Renaissance cityscape of Florence's streets and *piazze* are many of the world's most important art collections, from painting and sculpture to antique instruments and porcelain. Here, we gain an overview of the history and contents of several of the most important



museum collections. This Independent Exploration program is a week-long sojourn in the heart of Florence concentrating on the art treasures of museum collections in the city.

7 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 2 dinners are included.



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INDEPENDENT EXPLORATION: GREAT COLLECTIONS: MUSEUMS OF FLORENCE



Please note schedule is subject to change. Finalized schedule will be available at the program site.

- Day 1 Departure from points in North America.
- Day 2 Arrive Florence (Peretola Airport). Transfers from airport to hotel not included. Welcome Reception. Dinner at a local restaurant.
- Day 3 A morning lecture “Florence, Past and Present” lays the foundation for the week, acquainting you with the urban history from pre-Christian Roman times to the present. A guided walk through Florence highlights the streets and architectural landmarks which themselves form a great collection. These include the splendid cathedral, the Signoria Palace, Ponte Vecchio, and the energetic central area around Via Calzaiuoli. At walk’s end enjoy a group lunch in a characteristic *trattoria*. In the afternoon a self-guided visit of the church of Santa Maria Novella, and the recently renovated Strozzi Chapel. Dinner on your own.
- Day 4 A lecture focusing of the sculptures of Ghiberti, Donatello, Della Robbia, and Michelangelo is followed by a guided visit to the Duomo Museum, home to the finest examples of early and High Renaissance sculpture in Tuscany. Lunch on your own. In the afternoon, an on-site lecture at the Uffizi Gallery examines highlights of the vast collection including works of Giotto, Botticelli and other early masters such as Cimabue, Duccio, Paolo Uccello, and Filippo Lippi. Dinner on your own.
- Day 5 On-site lecture in the Palatine Gallery of the Pitti Palace. The princely collection is housed in a richly stuccoed and gilded gallery with inlaid marble floors. The lecture highlights the portraits by Raphael, and works by Caravaggio, Rubens and many others. Lunch on your own. A sign-up walk to the neighborhood of Santo Spirito and the church of Santa Maria del Carmine to admire Masaccio’s frescoes in the Brancacci Chapel. Dinner on your own.
- Day 6 An architectural historian talks about the notable residences of Florence and leads you on a walk. This glimpse of Florentine power and glory begins with Palazzo Vecchio, and finishes with views of the palace facades of the great merchant and banking families, the Strozzi and Medici. Lunch on your own. Regroup in the early afternoon for a self-guided walk to the neighborhood of Santa Croce. Dinner on your own.
- Day 7 On-site lecture at the *Gallery of the Accademia* where many works of Michelangelo are on display, the most famous of which is the magnificent statue of David. Self-guided visit to the church of San Marco. Lunch on your own. Set off by public bus for a self-guided excursion to Fiesole, lovely hill town just five miles north of Florence. Dinner on your own.
- Day 8 A guided visit to the Bargello Museum to admire the extensive collection of sculpture and notably Donatello’s bronze statue of David. Lunch on your own. In the afternoon, a sign-up walk to the neighborhood of San Lorenzo. Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant that serves Tuscan specialties in a lively setting.
- Day 9 Departures. Transfers to Florence Airport not included.

MEALS:

- 7 breakfasts at the hotel
- 1 lunch at a local restaurant
- 2 dinners at local restaurants