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A tour of distinction with

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IOWA  PBS
FOUNDATION

ESCAPE TO ITALY

Featuring Rome and the Amalfi Coast

October 1-10, 2025

Embark on an unforgettable adventure through Italy, where history, culture, and breathtaking landscapes await. Experience the lively charm of Rome and delve into the rich heritage of Sorrento, where every cobblestone street has a story to tell. Marvel at the breathtaking Amalfi Coast, where dramatic cliffs and quaint villages form a picturesque backdrop. And be sure to indulge in the delightful flavors of authentic Italian cuisine, adding a delicious touch to your Italian adventure!

Space is limited.

**Register
today!**





DAY 1 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1**FLIGHT TO ROME**

Today, we will transfer to the airport for our overnight flight to **Rome, Italy**.

DAY 2 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2**ROME****(Lunch)**

Welcome to **Rome**! Upon arrival, we'll meet our tour guide and board a luxurious private motorcoach for a scenic drive into the heart of the city. Our guide will offer fascinating insights during a **panoramic city tour** while we admire the historic beauty of Rome. Following the tour, enjoy a wonderful lunch at a local restaurant, savoring authentic Italian flavors. We'll then transfer to our lovely accommodations for the next three nights at the elegant nineteenth-century **EXE International Palace (or similar)**. The remainder of the evening is yours to explore and enjoy dinner on your own.

DAY 3 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3**ROME****(Breakfast, Lunch)**

Enjoy breakfast this morning before we step inside the country within a country built to enclose a single complex – the Vatican. Our time here will include a **private tour of the Vatican Museums**, housing over three hundred galleries filled with a diverse range of art representing all the greatest expressions of genius, from Etruscan, Egyptian, Greek, and Roman to Renaissance and Baroque masterpieces. The collection's contents are unparalleled, but the real draw is the rooms themselves. With interiors by greats like Raphael and the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel by Michelangelo, no better examples of Italian art exist elsewhere in the world. Afterward, gather for lunch at a local trattoria, savoring classic Roman dishes and wine. The rest of the day is yours to explore Rome's timeless beauty and create unforgettable memories.

DAY 4 SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4**ROME****(Breakfast, Dinner)**

Today's tour will have us exploring some of the real highlights of Rome! Our tour begins by exploring the ruins of one of the greatest empires of all time as we venture to the **Colosseum**, arguably the world's most famous entertainment arena. Next, we'll marvel at the **Roman Forum**, a vibrant political, social, and religious heart of ancient Rome, where the remnants of temples and public spaces can be admired. Our journey continues to the **Pantheon**, a stunning masterpiece of Roman engineering, followed by a visit to the **Spanish Steps**, the widest staircase in Europe. Then, we are off to the **Trevi Fountain** to toss a coin into the fountain backward over our left shoulders to wish for our return to Rome. Our day will come to an end with a group dinner.

DAY 5 SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5**SORRENTO****(Breakfast, Lunch)**

We bid farewell to Rome today as we make our way to **Sorrento**, taking in the beautiful scenery along the way. Enjoy a **captivating driving tour** of the stunning seaside promenade, where sweeping views of the sparkling Mediterranean await. Our touring will then take us to **Posillipo Hill** for breathtaking panoramas of the Bay of Naples and the majestic Mount Vesuvius while our guide shares stories of local traditions. Explore the **historic center of Naples**, starting at the expansive Piazza del Plebiscito. Here, admire the majestic Royal Palace, the grand Basilica of San Francesco di Paola, the magnificent Galleria Umberto I, and the world's oldest opera house, Teatro di San Carlo. The lively Via Toledo, lined with shops and cafés, offers a taste of authentic Neapolitan life. After soaking in the city's vibrant atmosphere, enjoy a delicious lunch at a **traditional pizzeria**, savoring the flavors of this iconic dish in its birthplace. In the afternoon, we will arrive in charming Sorrento, where a relaxing five-night stay awaits at the **Grand Hotel Vesuvio (or similar)**.

DAY 6 MONDAY, OCTOBER 6**SORRENTO****(Breakfast, Lunch)**

Today, embark on a **magical tour of the enchanting island of Capri**! Board a ferry from the port of Sorrento and glide across the sparkling waters of the Tyrrhenian Sea. A highlight of the tour will be visiting the famous **Blue Grotto**, a mesmerizing sea cave known for its stunning blue light that dances on the water's surface. After lunch, spend the afternoon exploring the island at your leisure before catching the ferry back to Sorrento. Once back, enjoy a relaxing evening wandering the town's narrow streets or taking in the tranquil beauty of the coast.



Pompeii



The Vatican

DAY 7 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7

SORRENTO

(Breakfast, Lunch)

This morning, embark on a full-day excursion to the ancient Roman cities of **Pompeii** and **Vesuvius** aboard a comfortable private motorcoach. Our journey through history begins at the world-renowned archaeological site of Pompeii, where an expert local guide will lead us through the remarkably preserved streets of this once-thriving city, uncovering its vibrant past and the catastrophic eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD. Following our exploration, escape to a **tranquil vineyard** renowned for producing Lacryma Christi, or "Tear of Christ." Here, delight in a lunch paired with tastings of celebrated wines, all while enjoying views of Vesuvius, the sacred "mountain of wine." In the early afternoon, our adventure continues with a visit to **Mount Vesuvius**, where a walk to the crater's rim reveals panoramic vistas of the Gulf of Naples. After this unforgettable day, return to Sorrento, where the evening is yours to relax and explore.

DAY 8 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8

SORRENTO

(Breakfast, Dinner)

After breakfast, we will transfer to the port of Sorrento and embark on a ferry ride to the enchanting village of **Positano**. Once we arrive in Positano, wander through cobbled streets lined with stylish boutiques and hidden cafés or relax at one of the lively beach clubs, soaking in the bustling atmosphere and stunning views. After our time here, we board another ferry to the historic town of **Amalfi**, known for its dramatic landscape nestled between towering mountains and the glistening sea. Discover the rich history of this coastal gem, where colorful houses cling to the rugged cliffs of the awe-inspiring **Amalfi Coast**. Our day ends in Sorrento with dinner as a group.

DAY 9 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9

SORRENTO

(Breakfast, Dinner)

Today, you are free to roam the charming town of Sorrento at your leisure. Whether you decide to do some shopping or unwind at the hotel, the day is filled with opportunities to bask in the beauty and tranquility of this seaside treasure. Tonight, we will come together for a farewell dinner to celebrate the beautiful memories we've made in Italy.

DAY 10 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10

HOME

(Breakfast)

We will transfer to the airport early this morning for our flight home with a boxed breakfast along the way.



Amalfi Coast



Piazza del Plebiscito



TOUR PRICING*

\$7,999 per person, Double Occupancy
\$9,769 per person, Single Occupancy

*A credit card convenience fee of 3% will be applied to all transactions. This fee is charged to cover the processing costs associated with credit card payments. Please note that this fee is non-refundable if a credit card refund is processed.

OPTIONAL TRAVEL PROTECTION

Iowa PBS RECOMMENDS that all travelers purchase a Travel Protection Plan. For your convenience, we offer a Travel Protection Plan provided by Travelex Insurance Services.

See the included Travelex Insurance Services flyer for pricing. (Payment may be sent with your deposit or with final payment to Iowa PBS)

Travel Protection Plan may be purchased any time before or with final payment to Iowa PBS.

Travel Insurance is underwritten by Zurich American Insurance Company, (NAIC #16535). Any person who knowingly presents a false or fraudulent claim for payment of a loss or benefit or knowingly presents false information in an application for insurance is guilty of a crime and may be subject to fines and confinement in prison. To view state specific fraud warnings, visit: <https://www.travelexinsurance.com/company/fraud-warning>. Travelex Insurance Services Inc. ("Travelex Insurance") maintains an updated list of alerts and financial defaults on its website available at <https://www.travelexinsurance.com/customer-service/travel-alerts/travel-supplier>.

Travelex Insurance Services, Inc. CA Agency License #0D10209. Insurance coverages underwritten by individual member companies of Zurich in North America, including Zurich American Insurance Company (NAIC # 16535).

A \$500 deposit per person is required with your registration form in order to reserve your spot.
FINAL PAYMENT IS DUE TO IOWA PBS:
MAY 15, 2025

For further information or questions, please contact:
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INCLUSIONS

- Round-Trip Airport Transfers
- Round-Trip Air to Rome
- Private Motorcoach Transportation
- 8 Nights' Accommodations
- 16 Meals (8 Breakfasts, 5 Lunches, 3 Dinners)
- Admissions to Attractions as Stated on Itinerary
- Porter Service of One Bag Per Person at Hotels
- Taxes & Gratuities for Included Services
- Professional Star Destinations Tour Manager
- Professional Guide While in Italy

Not included in the price of this tour:

Meals other than those listed on the itinerary • beverages other than tea/coffee/water with included meals • items of a personal nature/souvenirs • travel protection plan • passport fees • visa fees (if applicable) • current baggage fees at the airport as assessed by the airline • and any service not listed in the above inclusions

Activity Level - Moderate Tour

In order to participate in this tour, **you must:**

- Be able to walk 1-3 miles over the course of the day, up and down stairs, and over unpaved or cobblestone surfaces
- Be comfortable on your feet for up to two hours walking and standing, both inside museums and outdoors in all weather conditions such as hot sun and rain.
- Be able to navigate towns and cities on your own as desired.

DOCUMENTATION: Each U.S. citizen must have a valid passport through April 10, 2026, to participate. If you don't have a passport, call our office and we'll tell you how to apply for one. Holders of non-U.S. passports have different entry requirements. Please NOTE: Due to airline security measures, your passport name must match your airline ticket name and your tour reservation name or you may be denied aircraft boarding. **Effective mid-2025 (expected): All travelers to the Schengen zone of Europe will need to apply for an ETIAS visa waiver.**

OPTIONAL TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN: Iowa PBS recommends that you purchase a Travel Protection Plan to help protect you and your travel investment against the unexpected so you can relax and enjoy your trip. Participants may purchase this coverage from the provider of your choice. For your convenience, we offer a Travel Protection Plan, 360° Group Premier provided by Travelex Insurance Services, that helps provide coverage for trip cancellation/interruption, trip delay, baggage loss, theft or damage, medical expense and emergency evacuation coverage, and more. For more information, please see the product flyer included with this brochure. If you would like to purchase the offered plan, please check the applicable box on the registration form. Please Note: The plan cannot be purchased after final payment. To view/download the Policy, which provides the full coverage terms and details, including limitations and exclusions, go to: <https://policy.travelexinsurance.com/GPZ-1023>. To view state specific fraud warnings, visit: <https://www.travelexinsurance.com/company/fraud-warning>. The purchase of this product is not required in order to purchase any other travel product or service. Your travel retailer might not be licensed to sell travel insurance and will only be able to provide general information about the product. An unlicensed travel retailer may not answer questions about the terms and conditions of the insurance offered and may not evaluate the adequacy of your existing insurance coverage. The products being offered provide insurance coverage that only applies during your covered trip. You may have insurance coverage from other sources that provide similar benefits but may be subject to different restrictions depending upon the coverage. You may wish to compare the terms of the travel policy offered through Travelex with any existing life, health, home, and automobile insurance policies you may have. If you have questions about your coverage under your existing insurance policies, contact your insurer or insurance agent or broker. Travelex Insurance Services, Inc. CA Agency License #0D10209. Travel Insurance is offered on behalf of and under the direction of Travelex Insurance Services. Insurance coverages underwritten by individual member companies of Zurich in North America, including Zurich American Insurance Company (NAIC # 16535).

CANCELLATION: Full refund of all monies is made if cancellation is received in writing to Iowa PBS prior to final payment, less the 3% credit card transaction fee (if credit card is used). A 100% fee is charged if the cancellation occurs between final payment and departure. If the reason for cancellation is due to a medical or other reason that is covered by Travel Protection, you may be eligible for reimbursement for such fees from your Travel Protection Plan provider.

TRAVELERS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS: You must advise Star Destinations, Inc. (SDI) at the time of registration of any disability requiring special attention. SDI will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of travelers. The Americans with Disabilities Act is applicable only in the U.S., and accommodations outside the U.S. may be more limited. Travelers requiring assistance are required to be accompanied by a companion who is capable of, and totally responsible for, providing the assistance. Neither SDI personnel nor its suppliers may lift or physically assist with travelers' special needs including, but not limited to, walking, dining, or other routine activities. Travelers thinking they may need assistance should call SDI to determine what accommodations may reasonably be provided. Arrangements at an additional cost are the financial responsibility of the traveler.

TERMS & CONDITIONS: Star Destinations, Inc. (SDI) acts as an agent for suppliers such as airlines, hotels, or activities to provide you with the travel services and accommodations. Although great care is taken in choosing suppliers, we are unable to control them and, therefore, cannot be held responsible or liable for their acts or omissions. Should a contracted supplier be unable to perform the required services, SDI reserves the right to substitute advertised services with similar services. SDI is not responsible for any claims, losses, damages, costs, or expenses arising out of injury, accident or death, damage, loss, trip delay, delay of baggage, cancellation, or other inconvenience resulting from mechanical breakdowns, fire, theft, civil disturbances, government actions, weather, and other factors beyond our control. In the case of a pandemic or worldwide or localized disturbance that interrupts or cancels your planned tour, SDI will do everything possible to retrieve any refundable components of your tour but cannot be held responsible for any non-refundable portions of the tour. In addition, SDI reserves the right to vary the tour price advertised or printed to cover any increase in airfare, volatile fuel prices, government taxes and charges, exchange rate fluctuations, or other tour-related tariffs or newly announced travel costs. The price of this tour is based on the EUR/USD exchange rate of \$1.10 as of 10/9/24. Pricing and restrictions may be increased due to unexpected requirements for health, safety, or economic welfare of our members. Be aware that any public interaction carries an inherent risk of exposure to infectious disease or illness and travelers assume personal risk upon tour registration. If you request a variation or change to your booking, SDI may choose to accept or reject that request. If accepted, you are responsible for any fees associated with it. If the minimum number of passengers required to operate the tour is not met, SDI reserves the right to cancel the tour.

It is the sole discretion of SDI to refuse transport to any passenger, or require any passenger to leave the tour, if it is reasonably believed that the passenger (1) is dangerous to others or himself or herself; (2) is engaged in, or is threatening to engage in behavior that may adversely affect the safety, security, enjoyment, or well-being of other passengers, including behavior that is disruptive, verbally or physically abusive, obnoxious, harassing, or obscene; or (3) has failed or refused to follow SDI's rules and procedures or the instructions of its representatives. In the event a passenger is removed, such passenger may be left at any location without any liability to SDI or its representatives. SDI shall not be required to refund any portion of the price paid by any passenger who is removed, nor shall SDI be responsible for any further expenses incurred by the passenger. SDI shall be entitled to recover from the passenger any costs or expenses incurred by SDI or its representatives in the removal of the passenger or the exercise or enforcement of this clause.