



# ASIA CHAPTER VISIT 2022

*“TUSCANY, ROME & THE VATICAN”*  
*6 – 15 JUNE 2022*





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TUSCANY, ROME & THE VATICAN  
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**WELCOME MESSAGE from APAVM CHAIRMAN**

**BEN CHANG**

## WELCOME MESSAGE



### **“BEAUTY EVER ANCIENT, EVER NEW”**

My fellow Patrons & Friends,

Kim and I are delighted to welcome you to a wondrous 10 days of Tuscany, Rome and The Vatican. This event marks the fourth trip of APAVM patrons to Italy, following the highly successful trips of May 2016, May 2017 and October 2018. I am most gratified at this opportunity to finally put together this amazing trip program after several COVID-impacted postponement from the original May 2020 dates. Remarkably, we have a record turnout of 33 patrons from all over Asia, many new to APAVM, to join us on this momentous trip. I thank you for your participation and support

"Beauty Ever Ancient, Ever New" is appropos of Italy. This country is packed with exquisite art and architecture, cultural treasures and hidden historical gems which we will explore and unveil to you throughout this experiential journey. Our sojourn will begin with a Welcome Lunch at the Terazza del Papi overlooking Rome, kicking off our journey of Quality Moments, surprises and indelible memories. All through this trip, you will be continuously enlightened by top-notch resources, archeologists and art historians.

From exploring the medieval hilltop town of Montepulciano with its endless vineyards to the stunning walking tour of Pienza; from drinking some of the best of Brunello di Montalcino wines at Il Palazzone to eating the very best of Tuscan food at Taverna di Vagliagli; from San Gimignano "The Town of Fine Towers" to Siena, with it's iconic Piazza del Campo, we will show you the very best of Tuscany. In Siena, we will experience many "firsts" like visiting the Circolo desli Uniti – the oldest private club in Europe, a medieval music recital and a visit with Cardinal Augusto Paolo Lojudice.

Our Rome program will open with a visit to St Mary Major, one of the four Basilicas of Rome, then to the Apostolic Palace and the Vatican Observatory at Castel Gandolfo. This will be followed by the ever-inspiring “Life of St Ignatius and the Jesuit Mission” with internationally renowned art historian, Elizabeth Lev. A special blessing will be celebrating Holy Mass at the Room of St Ignatius. We will be enriched by Darius Arya with his presentation on "Reflections of Ancient Rome from Rise to Fall" before going on a golf-cart tour of the Eternal City.

It is at the Vatican where the most awesome and best highlights awaits us. All our Museum visits will be private and exclusive to APAVM including the Carriage Museum, the Anima Mundi, the Restoration labs as well as the hallowed halls of the Apostolic Palace which is not open to the public. The highlight of our Vatican experience is Wednesday's Papal Audience with Pope Francis where we will be accorded VIP seating. Our Vatican Museum tour ends with an after-hours private visit to the Raphael Rooms, Borgio Apartments and the awe-inspiring Sistine Chapel. The final Vatican event is the most privileged experience you will surely treasure – our Gala Black-tie dinner within the walls of the Vatican Museums.

No Art and Culture tour can be without the best of fine wine and dine. From the opening night dinner at the Villa Barberini Gardens and the ever-popular dine-around dinners, we will delight your senses with gastronomical delights of Tuscany at the Borgo San Luigi, Il Passaggio, Al Mangia, a surprise Italian/Japanese omakase at Campo Cedro and our final night farewell dinner at the ballroom of the Grand Hotel Continental, Siena.

On behalf of all of us, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our trusted APAVM Chapter Administrators Lu Lu Cheng and Irene Kwong for their relentless effort and hard work in assisting me put this trip together. Special thanks too to Jill Alexy, our event coordinator and her assistants Claudia Di Dominico and Lodovico Tommasi. During this trip, do let's all also remember to thank the dedicated staff at the PAVM Vatican office, most especially Sara Savaldello and Annarita Imperio for helping us organise all Vatican-related events.

"Beauty Ever Ancient, Ever New" will soon ring true and become reality as we all gather this Pentecost Sunday in Rome. I am certain our Italian art history adventure will be one of your best travel experience ever. Kim & I look forward to meeting you and enjoying a splendid time together.

Best Regards,

Ben & Kim Chang



**APAVM TUSCANY, ROME & THE VATICAN TRIP 2022**

**6-15 JUNE 2022**

**DAY-TO-DAY PROGRAM**



**“TUSCANY, ROME & THE VATICAN”  
PAVM ASIA CHAPTER VISIT 6-15 JUNE 2022  
TRIP ITINERARY**

DAY 1: MONDAY, 6 JUNE 2022	
Time	Activity
1215	Registration & Welcome Drinks at hotel lobby
1245	Depart hotel for lunch
1315	Welcome Lunch at the Terrazza dei Papi Restaurant
1430	Visit to Saint Mary Major <i>with Alessandro Borghese</i>
1515	Departure for Castel Gandolfo
1615	Tour of Apostolic Palace & Museum of the Popes <i>with Vatican guides</i>
1745	Visit to Villa Barberini Gardens – <i>official group &amp; individual photo shots</i>
1900	Sunset Dinner at Barberini Gardens
2045	Visit to Specola Vaticana – Vatican Observatory <i>with Jesuit Fathers</i>
2215	Departure and return to Rome

**“TUSCANY, ROME & THE VATICAN”  
PAVM ASIA CHAPTER VISIT 6-15 JUNE 2022  
TRIP ITINERARY**

<b>DAY 2: TUESDAY, 7 JUNE 2022</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
0730	Breakfast at hotel
0830	<i>“Demystifying the Vatican” by Dr. Thomas Williams</i>
0945	Depart hotel for the Gesu, Jesuit Church, Room of St. Ignatius & Oratorio del Gonfalone
1015	<i>“The Life of Saint Ignatius &amp; The Jesuit Mission” with Dr. Elizabeth Lev</i>
1245	Mass at Room of St. Ignatius – <i>Fr. Michael Baggot</i>
1330	Free time - on your own
1545	<i>“Reflections of Ancient Rome from Rise to Fall” by Dr. Darius Arya</i>
1700	Golf Cart Tour of Rome
1900	Dine-Around Dinners

**“TUSCANY, ROME & THE VATICAN”  
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TRIP ITINERARY**

DAY 3: WEDNESDAY, 8 JUNE 2022	
Time	Activity
0645	Breakfast at hotel
0745	Depart hotel for the Vatican
0900	Papal Audience at Saint Peter’s Square
1100	Coffee break at Carriage Museum entrance
1130	Tour of Carriage Museum <i>with Sandro Barbagallo</i>
1215	Anima Mundi (Ethnological Museum) Visit <i>with Fr. Nicola Mapelli</i>
1300	Lunch at the Anima Mundi
1400	Depart for Optional Tours
1445	Optional tours: - Palazzo Colonna <i>with Liz Lev &amp; Francesca Barberini</i> - Holy Stairs & St. John Lateran <i>with Mary-Angela Schroth &amp; Jill Alexy</i>
1700	Back at the hotel
Evening	Dinner on your own

**“TUSCANY, ROME & THE VATICAN”  
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DAY 4: THURSDAY, 9 JUNE 2022	
Time	Activity
0700	Breakfast at hotel
0815	Depart hotel for The Vatican Museums
0900	Bramante Courtyard <i>with Vitale Zanchettin</i>
1000	Restoration Labs Visit: (a) Science + Etruscan labs (b) Painting + Tapestry labs
1100	Coffee break in the Gregorian Profane Museum
1130	Visit to Apostolic Palace, Sala Regia, Benediction Hall, Pauline Chapel, Chiaramonti Gallery and the Lipidary Gallery
1300	Back to hotel, Lunch & afternoon on your own
1615	Depart hotel for the Vatican
1700	Holy Mass in the Governatorato Chapel <i>celebrated by Fr. Alexander Rivera</i>
1800	Vatican Museums Tour: Raphael Rooms, Borgia Apartments, Sistine Chapel
1945	Cocktails at the Octagonal Courtyard
2030	Black-Tie Gala Dinner inside the Vatican Museums <span style="float: right;"><i>(Dress code: Black tie or formal lounge suit)</i></span>
2230	Walk down Bramante Spiral Staircase and return to hotel

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TRIP ITINERARY**

DAY 5: FRIDAY, 10 JUNE 2022	
Time	Activity
0700	Breakfast at hotel
0800	Check-out & luggage at lobby
0900	Departure for Tuscany
1200	Montepulciano Tour <i>with Ludovico Tommasi</i>
1230	Lunch & free time to explore Montepulciano on your own
1330	Depart Montepulciano
1345	Tour of Pienza <i>with Ilaria Bichi Ruspoli</i>
1515	Depart Pienza for Montalcino resort of Borgo San Luigi
1630	Check into Borgo San Luigi Resort
1845	Cocktails at Poolside Bar & Lounge
1930	“Treasures of Tuscany” <i>presentation by Ilaria Bichi Ruspoli</i>
2030	Dinner at Borgo San Luigi Poolside Restaurant
2230	Bedtime or a nightcap at Poolside Bar & Lounge

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<b>DAY 6: SATURDAY, 11 JUNE 2022</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
0730	Breakfast at hotel
All day until 1600	After an activity-filled Rome & Vatican program, it is time to unwind & relax. You are free to do whatever you choose. Enjoy resort activities including biking, swimming, hiking or simply do nothing at all and rest
0930	Optional hike & visit to Monteriggioni, return to Borgo San Luigi by 1200 noon for lunch on your own
1600	Depart resort for Il Palazzone Vineyard
1645	Il Palazzone Vineyard Tour & Brunello Di Montalcino Vertical Wine Tasting <i>with Laura Gray</i>
1830	Depart for dinner
1900	Panoramic Sunset Dinner at Il Passaggio by Capanna Suites
2130	Return to Borgo San Luigi

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<b>DAY 7: SUNDAY, 12 JUNE 2022</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
0730	Breakfast at hotel
0900	Hotel check-out & luggages at lobby
1000	Depart Borgo San Luigi for San Gimignano
1100	Tour of San Gimignano <i>with Fr. Michael Collins</i>
1200	Lunch & free time to explore San Gimignano on your own
1315	Depart for Siena
1400	Check into Grand Continental Hotel
1615	Assemble at hotel lobby
1645	Mass at San Domenico <i>celebrated by Fr. Michael Collins</i>
1730	Visit the Basilica of San Domenico & St. Catherine’s Home <i>with Fr. Michael Collins</i>
1845	Walking tour of Siena <i>with Fr. Michael Collins</i>
1945	Dinner at Campo Cedro – an outstanding Italian/Japanese Omakase delight <i>by Chef Kosuke Sugihara</i>
2200	Back to hotel

**“TUSCANY, ROME & THE VATICAN”  
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TRIP ITINERARY**

DAY 8: MONDAY, 13 JUNE 2022	
Time	Activity
0730	Breakfast at hotel
0830	<i>“Florence &amp; Siena in the Renaissance” presentation by Fr. Michael Collins</i>
0945	Visit Cardinal Augusto Paolo Lojudice at his residence
1015	Tour of Santa Maria della Scala, the Annunziata Chapel & Accademia Musicale Chigiana <i>hosted by Prof. Guido Burchi</i>
1230	Lunch at Al Mangia at Piazza del Campo, the heart of Siena
1400	<i>“Behind-the-scenes Siena” Tour of curiosities &amp; hidden gems of Siena with Ilaria Bichi Ruspoli</i>
1600	On your own; free time for shopping or just relax at the hotel
1900	Depart hotel for Vagliagli
1930	Cocktails & Pre-dinner talk on <i>“Tuscan Table Delights” by Claudia Di Domenico &amp; Chef Andrea Nassi</i>
2015	Enjoy a traditional Tuscan Dinner and the best of Sienese cuisine at Taverna di Vagliagli
2200	Depart for hotel



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TRIP ITINERARY**

DAY 9: TUESDAY, 14 JUNE 2022	
Time	Activity
0800	Breakfast at hotel
0915	Assemble at hotel lobby
0945	“Historical Landmarks of Siena” Tour <i>with Fr. Michael Collins</i> ; Visit the Piccolomini Library, The Cathedral of Siena, the Diocesan Museum, the Baptistry, Porta del Cielo, Public Palace and other historical landmarks of Siena
1300	Lunch & exploration of Siena on your own
1815	Gather at hotel lobby
1830	Exclusive visit to Circolo degli Uniti – the oldest private club in Europe <i>hosted by Vittorio Marzotto &amp; Alessandro Mocenni, President of the Club</i> <i>(Dress code: Dark suit &amp; tie)</i>
1930	Final Gala Dinner at Grand Continental Hotel Ballroom <i>(Dress code: Smart casual)</i>

DAY 10: WEDNESDAY, 15 JUNE 2022	
Time	Activity
0800	Breakfast at hotel
1000	Check out & Departures

**OPTIONAL TOUR**

## PRE-TRIP OPTIONAL TOUR – 6 JUNE 2022

### Scavi - Tomb of St. Peter's & St. Peter's Basilica

6 June 2022, 0715-1130 hrs

DAY 1: MONDAY, 6 JUNE 2022	
Time	Activity
0715	Gather at hotel lobby
0815	Holy Mass at St. Peter's Crypt, below St. Peter's Basilica <i>celebrated by Fr. Thomas Montanaro</i>
0845	Tour of St. Peter's Basilica <i>with Jill Alexy</i>
0945	Transfer to the Scavi
1000	Tour of Scavi – the tomb of St. Peter
1100	Depart the Vatican
1130	Back at Bernini Bristol hotel

#### Scavi - Tomb of St. Peter

The Scavi Tour that goes through the excavations below Saint Peter's Basilica is one of the most exclusive tours in all of Rome. Only 250 people are allowed through each day – compare that to the 30,000 that visit the Vatican Museums! Your tour will be with our Singapore PAVM guests, split into two private groups of maximum 15 people and last around 60-90 minutes. The grand finale is a visit to the actual tomb of Saint Peter, where, by peering around a corner, you will see the bones of the Prince of the Apostles.

Buried underneath Catholicism's largest and most famous Church lays a treasure even more precious than the gold, precious stone, and priceless artwork above. The bones of St. Peter are certainly among the most precious relics the Church has. After all, they are the bodily remains of the apostle who confessed faith in the Lord Jesus, denied him on the night of his betrayal, was reconciled to him after the resurrection, and faithfully fed his sheep for three decades after the ascension before finally suffering death at the hands of the Romans. Considering the value of these bones, it may be quite a surprise that they were only identified in 1968.

## St. Peter's Basilica

Saint Peter's Basilica is not a museum, but with thousands of visitors shuffling through each day, it can sometimes feel like it. Take a break and give thanks for being in such a beautiful place.

This church, the largest in Christendom, enshrines one of the holiest Christian sites—the tomb of St. Peter, Prince of the Apostles and Christ's chosen instrument as the minister of unity. (You can learn more about St Peter's tomb with the section entitled, 'Scavi'.)

“Thou art Peter,” Jesus solemnly affirmed, “and upon this rock I will build my Church; and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it” (Mt 16:18). Since the apostle's crucifixion in Rome under the brutal tyranny of Nero, Christians have venerated this sacred spot. Even before the close of the first century, Pope Anacletus had built a makeshift oratory over the “Fisherman's” tomb, and when Constantine rose to power in the fourth century, a splendid basilica was built here, lavishly decorated with rare marble, mosaics, draperies, tapestries, and precious stones. The very floor around Saint Peter's tomb was covered with silver and gold.

Pilgrims from around the Roman Empire flocked here to venerate the first Pope's relics and to admire the sumptuous beauty of his church. Despite centuries of invasions—until the ninth century the Vatican was outside the protection of city walls—the structure stood for a thousand years, and it was not until the fifteenth century that Popes were obliged to consider its reconstruction.

The present church was begun in 1506 and consecrated in 1626, precisely 1300 years after the first basilica's consecration on November 18, 326. Architects as gifted and diverse as Bramante, Raphael, Sangallo, Michelangelo, Maderno, and Bernini all contributed to the new church's and piazza's design, though the interior Baroque-style decoration of the 'new St Peter's' is largely the fruit of Bernini's genius.

Saint Peter's Basilica is neither the cathedral of the Holy Father (the Basilica of Saint John Lateran is the cathedral of the Bishop of Rome) it is, however, a local parish church! Most importantly, though, St. Peter's Basilica is dedicated to the Universal Church.

## OPTIONAL TOUR – 8 JUNE 2022

Holy Stairs & St. John Lateran with Mary-Angela Schroth & Jill Alexy

8 June 2022, 1400-1645 hrs

DAY 3: WEDNESDAY, 8 JUNE 2022	
Time	Activity
1400	Depart from the Vatican Museums
1445	Visit to Holy Stairs <i>with Mary-Angela Schroth</i>
1545	Visit to St. John Lateran <i>with Jill Alexy</i>
1645	End of tour, free time & dinner on your own

### The Holy Stairs

The Holy Stairs, brought to Rome from Jerusalem in 326 A.D. by Constantine's mother, St. Helen, are said to be the same stairs upon which Jesus stood to be sentenced by Pontius Pilate. Pilgrims to this sacred spot traditionally mount the stairs (which are protected by wooden boards) on their knees in a physical act of penitence. At the culmination of this intense spiritual experience is the Sancta Sanctorum (Holiest of Holies). This was the first private chapel of the Popes (1277), itself a manifestation of faith and history for the Church.

The Pope's cathedral was also celebrated for its extraordinary collection of relics, so special it was inscribed in mosaic. The relics were housed in the Sancta Sanctorum, the pope's private chapel built for his personal worship. Access to this chapel was provided by the Holy Stairs, celebrated as the stairs climbed by Christ to face Pontius Pilate on the eve of His crucifixion, the day will end with a private behind-the-scenes-visit to the restoration

## OPTIONAL TOUR – 8 JUNE 2022

Palazzo Colonna with Elizabeth Lev & Francesca Barberini  
8 June 2022, 1400-1645 hrs

DAY 3: WEDNESDAY, 8 JUNE 2022	
Time	Activity
1400	Depart from the Vatican Museums
1445	Visit to Palazzo Colonna <i>guided by Liv Lev &amp; Francesca Barberini</i>
1645	End of tour, free time & dinner on your own

### A Princely Paradise - Palazzo Colonna

This amazing palace, home to the Princely Colonna family for over 900 years, is a treasure trove of art, history, beauty and triumph. The residence of Pope Martin V and Marco Antonio I, the victor of the Battle of Lepanto, these dazzling halls have hosted some of the most fascinating men and women in Rome's history. The art collection, though depleted by time, still shines with its Annibale Carracci, Vanvitellis and frescoes by Pinturichio, a wondrous array of marvelous works to delight the eyes and uplift spirits. The grand gallery, a breathtaking sight, even seduced Hollywood---it was featured by William Wyler in his timeless film Roman Holiday.

**7 JUNE 2022**

**DINING & WINING**

### DINE AROUND – 3 EXCELLENT ITALIAN DINING EXPERIENCES

#### Group A:

**Host:** Fr. Benedict Croell OP

**Address:** Sala Torretta of the Angelicum - Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas – ANGELICUM, Largo Angelicum 1 – 001843

**Attendees:** (1) Ben & Kim (2) Jan & Ramona (3) Steven & Penny (4) Bobby, Aileen, & Rianne (5) Arthur, Sharon & Sarah  
(6) Shing Wai & Charlotte (7) Soon Hock (8) Anthony & Elizabeth

The Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas - ANGELICUM is the flagship Dominican university of Rome with over 1,000 students from over 100 countries. The Angelicum offers university education where faith and reason work together. It forms students as virtuous leaders, capable of evangelization and promoting integral human development, enlightened by the wisdom of St. Thomas Aquinas. Within the tour of the university, you will see Aula 11 where St. John Paul II defended his doctoral dissertation and we will conclude the tour with dinner with the Rector Magnificus (Fr. Thomas Joseph White, O.P.) and the Director of the Angelicum's Thomistic Institute (fr. Simone Gaine, O.P.) in the Sala Torretta, the highest point on the Quirinale hill.

#### Group B:

**Host:** Daniela's Cooking School

**Address:** Via delle Terme Deciane, 10 A, 00153 Roma (RM), Italy

**Attendees:** (1) Charlie & JV (2) Bak Chim & Joey (3) Luke & Belle (4) Tisha & Michelline (5) Teck Leong & Ngiat Sim

Daniela's Cooking School takes place in the welcoming and relaxed atmosphere of her home on the *Aventino* hill, a few steps from the famous *Circo Massimo* and the *Colosseo*. Daniela will share with you her unique "home style cooking" through her passion for Italian food and her fun-loving personality.



**Group C:****Host:** Elizabeth Lev**Address:** Via Sant'Agatone Papa 34, (zona Gregorio VII), 00165 Roma, Italy 5th floor (Lev/Williams on the door)**Attendees:** (1) Bruce & Jentana (2) Thomas & Genevieve (3) Jonathan & Serap

An invitation to share a meal in the home of American expats who love Italy, food, wine, art and good conversation. While Liz's love for art is well-known, her love for cooking is a well-kept Roman secret. She first learned to cook with an old Julia Child cookbook and then moving to Bologna learned to roll, stuff and make the famous egg pasta of Emilia Romagna. Food and wine are two of greatest pleasures and she received her sommelier certification in 2016. Come join Liz and her daughter Claire--- Vatican Journalist for the renowned site Crux --- Here is one of her articles where she even did the drawings! <https://cruxnow.com/global-church/2017/02/23/catholicism-handle-discovery-extraterrestrial-life/> ---for an evening of good food and wine and unforgettable conversation. Liz and her family have been hosting parties for years, including an all day Easter fete where 70 people come in and out over the course of 9 hours - we love to cook, we love to host and we love to meet new people around the table - no wonder our favorite movie is Babette's Feast!

## RESTAURANTS

### DAY 1 - MONDAY, 6 JUNE 2022 - LUNCH



#### **Terrazza dei Papi Restaurant**

The wonderful Roof Garden of La Terrazza dei Papi provides the perfect setting to enjoy a romantic candle lit dinner with your partner and marvel at the exclusive 360-degree panoramic views over the skyline of Rome. Enjoy La Terrazza experience. We also offer a perfect events space where you could make your dream wedding come true or with our help, host whatever special event you need.

### DAY 6 - SATURDAY, 11 JUNE 2022 - DINNER



#### **Il Passaggio by Capanna Suites**

Il Passaggio, restaurant in Montalcino, is living an experience of joy, enthusiasm and entertainment of the senses. It all begins in an incredible panoramic scene. Showcasing the encounter between intensity and delicacy of taste, with sensory nuances of distinct character that are perfectly balanced. The guest is brought onto the stage where the transition from inherited cuisine to one of discovery takes place.

### DAY 7 - SUNDAY, 12 JUNE 2022 - DINNER



#### **Campo Cedro**

Just a few meters from Porta Ovile and 5 minutes from the Piazza del Campo you will find Campo Cedro. A restaurant that in its dishes marries tradition and innovation with hints of oriental flavors. More easily reached by foot than by car, the restaurant offers its customers the opportunity to enjoy an elevated cuisine in a familiar and intimate ambiance either in the newly renovated interior or on the graceful outdoor patio.

### DAY 8 - MONDAY, 13 JUNE 2022 - LUNCH



### **Al Mangia at Piazza del Campo**

Inside of the fine premises of the restaurant, or outside in front of the Mangia's Tower, you can taste the Tuscan cuisine and special Sienese plates, among them, the Fiorentina di Chianina steak and elaborate fish dishes, prepared by our fantastic chef and his entourage. Finally, you will be served by a gentle and prepared staff coordinate by the experience of the Senni's family.

## **DAY 8 - MONDAY, 13 JUNE 2022 - DINNER**



### **Taverna di Vagliagli**

You will be offered the best of Tuscan cuisine at this restaurant. It's easy to find this place due to the convenient location. At this spot, the fabulous service is delivered by the courteous staff who is eager to help you. Prices are found adequate here. The quiet atmosphere will be a good addition to nice food and excellent location of this restaurant. *La Taverna di Vagliagli* is a Michelin selection and has been rewarded with 2 black knife-and-fork symbols: the inspectors mark that this place offers great comfort.

## **LOCATIONS, EVENTS, EDUCATION & OFF-SITES**

**PAVM ASIA CHAPTER VISIT 2022  
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6 - 15 JUNE 2022**

**LOCATIONS, EVENTS, EDUCATION & OFF-SITES**

<p><b><u>Monday, 6 June 2022</u></b> 1430-1515 hrs</p>	<p><b><u>Alessandro Borghese</u></b></p>
<p><b>Saint Mary Major</b></p> <p>This basilica is one of the oldest and most important shrines in the world dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. In fact, it was built at her request! St. Mary Major contains some the finest artwork and architectural wonders in the world. The ceiling is a masterpiece of the Renaissance and the work of Giuliano da Sangallo. It is gilded with the first gold brought to Spain from the New World by Christopher Columbus as a present to Pope Alexander VI from Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain.</p> <p>There are two especially noteworthy Christian treasures in this basilica: (1) a relic of the manger from Bethlehem; and (2) the painting of the Blessed Mother known as the Salus Populi Romani.</p>	
<p><b><u>Monday, 6 June 2022</u></b> 1615-1900 hrs</p>	<p><b><u>Vatican guides</u></b></p>
<p><b>Castel Gandolfo</b></p> <p>Castel Gandolfo is a town located 25 km southeast of Rome and is considered one of Italy's most scenic towns. Within the town's boundaries lies the Apostolic Palace of Castel Gandolfo which served as a summer residence and vacation retreat for the pope, the leader of the Catholic Church. Although the palace is located within the borders of Castel Gandolfo, it has extraterritorial status as one of the properties of the Holy See and is not under Italian jurisdiction. It is now open as a museum.</p> <p>Castel Gandolfo has several places of archaeological interest including the Emissario del Lago Albano and the remains of the Villa of Domitian. The area is included within the boundaries of the Parco Regionale dei Castelli Romani (Regional Park of Castelli Romani). There are also many points of artistic interest, such as the Collegiate Church of St. Thomas of Villanova, designed by Gian Lorenzo Bernini.</p>	

### **Apostolic Palace**

The Apostolic Palace of Castel Gandolfo from its Italian name Palazzo Apostolico di Castel Gandolfo, is a 135-acre complex of buildings in a garden setting in the city of Castel Gandolfo, Italy, including the principal 17th-century villa, an observatory and a farmhouse with 75 acres of farmland. The main structure, the Papal Palace, has been a museum since October 2016. It served for centuries as a summer residence and vacation retreat for the pope, the leader of the Catholic Church, and is afforded extraterritorial status as one of the properties of the Holy See.

On 7 December 2013, Pope Francis named Osvaldo Gianoli as the Director of the Pontifical Villas of Castel Gandolfo. In March 2014, the Vatican opened the Barberini Gardens to paid visitors on escorted tours during morning hours every day but Sunday. Beginning 11 September 2015, the public was able to travel from Vatican City to Castel Gandolfo by a train that had previously been reserved for use by the pope. Before the end of the year, products from the farm, previously only available to Vatican employees, were made available for purchase by the public. On 21 October 2016, the palace was opened to the public for viewing without undergoing any structural changes.

### **Barberini Gardens**

Barberini Gardens is the formerly private architectural gardens of the Popes, which are filled with ancient ruins, marble statues and stunning fountains across a vast landscape of plants and flowers. The gardens are amazing. Huge stretches of green lawn with towering trees, flower beds with roses and a variety of flowers, beautiful fountains set in precisely.

### **Monday, 6 June 2022**

2045-2215 hrs

### **Jesuit Fathers**

### **Specola Vaticana – Vatican Observatory**

The Vatican Observatory (Italian: *Specola Vaticana*) is an astronomical research and educational institution supported by the Holy See. Originally based in the Roman College of Rome, the Observatory is now headquartered in Castel Gandolfo, Italy and operates a telescope at the Mount Graham International Observatory in the United States.

The Observatory's headquarters remain in Italy at Castel Gandolfo. In early 2008, the Vatican announced that the Observatory would be relocated to a former convent a mile away from the castle as part of a general reconstruction of the Papal residence. Its former space would be used to provide more room for the reception of diplomatic visitors. The old quarters in the castle were cramped and very poorly laid out for the Observatory's use. VORG research activities in Arizona continued unaffected.

<p><b><u>Tuesday, 7 June 2022</u></b>  0830-0945 hrs  Conference Room @Bernini Bristol</p>	<p><b><u>Thomas Williams</u></b>  <i>"Demystifying The Vatican"</i></p>
<p><b>Demystifying The Vatican</b></p> <p>Shrouded in plurisecular mystery and intrigue, the Vatican engenders curiosity, speculation, and the wildest conspiracy theories. Rumors of untold wealth crisscross with stories of poisoned popes and late-night orgies that would make a sailor blush. How much of this — if anything — is true and how much is the stuff of fables and myths? Where do such tales originate? This talk proposes to separate fact from fiction in a quest for the true Vatican.</p>	

<p><b><u>Tuesday, 7 June 2022</u></b>  1015-1245 hrs</p>	<p><b><u>Elizabeth Lev</u></b>  <i>"The Life of Saint Ignatius &amp; The Jesuit Mission" Walk</i></p>
<p><b>The Footsteps of St Ignatius</b></p> <p>This tour takes you to the most important Jesuit churches in Rome, Sant'Ignazio and the Gesu. You'll learn the fascinating history of this soldier turned scholar turned saint, and about the order he founded that established itself in the four corners of the world. We'll explore the first church to be built after the protestant Reformation, the fruit of combined efforts by the Jesuits, the wealthiest cardinal in Rome and St Charles Borromeo. Then we'll walk to the Basilica built in honor of Ignatius' canonization 400 years ago before heading off to the Oratory of the Gonfalone to see how laypeople rose to the defense of the Catholic faith, its call for charity and its love of art. The tour will culminate in the private apartments of St Ignatius where we will see the space where he lived until his death in 1556 with an optional Mass.</p>	

<p><b><u>Tuesday, 7 June 2022</u></b>  1545-1700 hrs  Conference Room @Bernini Bristol</p>	<p><b><u>Dr Darius Arya</u></b>  <i>"Reflections of Ancient Rome from Rise to Fall"</i></p>
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Dr. Arya will introduce the *città eterna*, the eternal city of Rome. A city that allows you to walk on the footsteps of the Roman, a unique city that allows you to see the Roman genius with your own eyes.

The urban fabric of Rome today is indebted to the choices made more than over 2700 years ago. From village atop the seven hills to imperial capital, ancient Rome was shaped by the emperors over four centuries, creating a blueprint and starting point for the Roman Catholic Church. We'll examine a series of monuments and areas of pagan Rome that persisted or were transformed in the Christian era in the heart of the Eternal City today.

<p><b><u>Wednesday, 8 June 2022</u></b>  1130-1215 hrs</p>	<p><b><u>Sandro Barbagallo</u></b></p>
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**Carriage Museum**

This is one of the finest horse-drawn transportation museums in the entire country. Known for being one of America's best collections of 19th Century horse-drawn vehicles, you will see elegant carriages, common day buggies, work wagons, coaches, sleighs and lots of period artifacts and clothing. In addition to the 60 vehicles, our elegant displays include a one-room school house, a wheelwright/blacksmith shop and a gift shop filled with unique and local items. There is something for people of all ages at the Northwest Carriage Museum... COME GET CARRIED AWAY!



**Wednesday, 8 June 2022**

1215-1300 hrs

**Fr. Nicolo Mapelli**

**Anima Mundi**

Anima Mundi (*previously known as the Vatican Ethnological Museum*) is a museum of ethnological art and artefacts in the Vatican City. It is part of the Vatican Museums. In the 2020s the museum's holdings were in excess of 80,000 objects and artworks. The museum was reopened in November 2019 under its new name, Anima Mundi, which means "Soul of the world". The name was chosen by Pope Francis. The director of the museum, Father Nicola Mapelli, said that the new name reflects the belief that "When we display objects, we don't display a dead reality, but something that expresses the spirit of a culture through its art". The director of the Vatican Museums, Barbara Jatta, said that the new name declared that the museum was "...where the soul of the world is...Each visitor can find at least a small part of his or her cultural, religious and spiritual identity".

**Thursday, 9 June 2022**

0900-1000 hrs

**Vitale Zanchettin**

### **Bramante Courtyard**

The current Pinecone Courtyard takes its name from the colossal bronze Pigna (pinecone) sculpture placed there. Famously described by Dante in his Inferno, this sculpture was likely discovered in the Middle Ages at a sanctuary dedicated to the Egyptian gods Isis and Serapis at the Campus Martius in Rome. Though initially placed in the atrium of the old St. Peter's Basilica, together with the two bronze peacocks of Hadrian, the Pigna was later relocated in 1608 and positioned as the crowning piece for the double staircase of the Nicchione the central niche of the Vatican courtyard - again flanked by the two peacock sculptures.

The Pinecone Courtyard was part of the grand construction of the Belvedere Courtyard, designed by Bramante and commissioned by Pope Julius II (della Rovere, 1503-1513) soon after his accession to the throne of Peter. This large architectural project was started right after 1504, but was realized over the course of many decades. Over time, certain modifications were made that compromised the elegance of Bramante's initial design. The Belvedere Courtyard had to connect the medieval palace next to St. Peter's with the Villa Belvedere, erected for Pope Innocent VIII, atop of Vatican Hill.

Today, the Pinecone Courtyard is divided into its own autonomous entity. Lining the east side of the Courtyard is an original Bramante wing, which houses the Museum Gallery of Chiaramonti; to the north lies another Bramante building that, while first begun by Pirro Ligorio under Pope Pius IV (Medici 1560-65), gained its current, large niche façade (the Nicchione) during the papacy of Clement IX (Albani, 1700-1721). The corridor to the west was constructed by Mascherino, according to the plans of Bramante, under Pope Gregory XIII (Boncompagni, 1572-1585) with the addition of a loggia built on its upper floor in the eighteenth century. Finally, the Braccio Nuovo ("New Wing") by Raphael Stern, today closes the space to the south, where terraces once opened towards St. Peter's Basilica. The appearance of the internal and external facades of the corridors are very diverse: those which overlook the Courtyard, from the corridor called the "hall of pleasure" in the 16th century, are ornate, yet the external ones, known as the "moenia Belvedere," are unadorned and functioned as walls of defense in place of those demolished during the pomerium of Nicholas III. Bramante had designed a complex system of architecture dominated by the Corinthian order for the façade of the Pinecone Courtyard, which had always been the starting point throughout its many stages of development and modification. These façades are among those that have defined the architecture of the Renaissance, those which have influenced architectural form for centuries, throughout the world.

The sophisticated syntax of the order should be recovered in full by careful work that pays attention to all the details in part hidden by interventions subsequent to construction. During this past year, work has continued on the outside of the galleries, especially focusing on the possibility of developing an approach that aesthetically combines the different parts of the building, with respect to the philology of its stratigraphic history and that conserves and consolidates, as much as possible, its substance and its original materials, such as the historic plasters and moldings of the façade.

**Thursday, 9 June 2022**

1000-1100 hrs

**Vatican restorers**

*Restoration Labs*

### **Scientific Lab**

The Vatican Museums Cabinet of Scientific Research applied to Cultural Heritage is responsible for carrying out diagnostic procedures and chemical, physical and microbiological research in order to determine the processes of deterioration of the works and to identify constitutive materials and production techniques. It offers technical and scientific support to the Directorate, to the various Departments and scientific Sectors, to all the restoration Laboratories and to the Conservator's Office, verifying the suitability of materials and products for restoration and conservation.

### **Etruscan Lab**

The "Etruscan lab" more precisely speaking is the Metallics and Ceramics labs that feature work on several important and stunning pieces of Etruscan art from Antiquities. The ceramic and metal lab aims to slow the deterioration of historical, religious, artistic, technical, and ethnographic and archaeological objects made of ceramic and metal in order to improve the comprehensibility of the items as objects of cultural heritage. The restoration team is devoted to the protection and preservation of these artworks. They have improved scientific research methods, studied the theory and ethics of conservation-restoration, and examined the history of metalworking techniques. The laboratory primarily works with liturgical and Etruscan ceramics and metals. They also restore vases, tiles, statuary, and Madonnas of the same material.

### **Painting Lab**

The *Painting and Wood Materials Restoration Laboratory* is a working and organisational body of the first importance for the protection of the artistic heritage of the "Pope's Museums". The Laboratory is responsible for all procedures necessary to guarantee the protection, conservation and restoration of moveable and immovable works with a painted surface and works in wood materials (sculptures, reliefs and other works in wood); in addition, the Laboratory undertakes the renovation and cradling of the wooden supports for painted works and the production and maintenance of frames. This field of activity is very extensive and involves artworks from every historical period, from ancient to contemporary.

In recent years in particular, the Laboratory has undertaken technical revision of methods of analysis and intervention: the introduction of innovative techniques of biorestitution is a clear example. Indeed, the use of selected non-pathogenic micro-organisms during operations for the cleaning and maintenance of paintings has been shown to be safer and more effective than the use of traditional solvents, with enormous advantages both for those who carry out the work and for the surfaces treated.

### **Tapestry Lab**

The *Vatican Museums Tapestries and Textiles Restoration Laboratory* is responsible for the maintenance and restoration of all the textile artefacts preserved in the Vatican Museums. These comprise not only large tapestries, but also embroidery, textiles, furnishings, upholstery, plumage and sacred adornments such as antependia, liturgical vestments and seats of papal thrones. In chronological order it was the second restoration laboratory established within the "Pope's Museums" and is the only one which also employs religious staff, from the congregation of the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Mary.

The restoration and maintenance of tapestries and textiles is an activity that requires time, dedication and patience. If one considers that, in normal conditions, only around ten square centimetres of fabric can be "looked after" in a working day, it is clear that it can take up to four years to restore a medium-sized tapestry.

### **Thursday, 9 June 2022**

1130-1300 hrs

**Visit to Apostolic Palace, Sala Regia, Benediction Hall, Pauline Chapel, Chiaramonti Gallery & the Lipidary Gallery**

### **Apostolic Palace**

Apostolic Palace is the official residence of the pope, the head of the Catholic Church, located in Vatican City. It is also known as the Papal Palace, the Palace of the Vatican and the Vatican Palace. The Vatican itself refers to the building as the Palace of Sixtus V, in honor of Pope Sixtus V, who built most of the present form of the palace. The building contains the Papal Apartments, various offices of the Catholic Church and the Holy See, private and public chapels, Vatican Museums, and the Vatican Library, including the Sistine Chapel, Raphael Rooms, and Borgia Apartment. The modern tourist can see these last and other parts of the palace, but other parts, such as the Sala Regia (Regal Room) and Cappella Paolina, had long been closed to tourists, though the Sala Regia allowed occasional tourism by 2019. The Scala Regia (Regal Staircase) can be viewed from one end and used to enter the Sala Regia. The Cappella Paolina remains closed to tourists.

The **Sala Regia** (Regal Room) is a state hall in the Apostolic Palace in Vatican City. Although not intended as such, this broad room is really an antechamber to the Sistine Chapel. It also connects to the Pauline Chapel and is reached by the long staircase known as the Scala Regia. To the left of the entrance formerly stood the papal throne, which is now at the opposite side before the door leading to the Pauline Chapel.

The **Pauline Chapel** is a chapel in the Apostolic Palace, Vatican City. It is separated from the Sistine Chapel by the Sala Regia. It is not on any of the regular tourist itineraries. The chapel was commissioned in 1538 by the order of Pope Paul III and completed in 1540 under the design and supervision of Antonio da Sangallo the Younger. The Cappella Paolina served as both the Chapel of the Sacrament and the Chapel of the Conclave. Paul III dedicated the chapel to the Feast of the Conversion of St Paul, a festival to which he displayed particular devotion. Given the ceremonial and personal significance of the chapel, it was to be expected that the Pope would require the services of a great artist for its decoration, and, in the opinion of both the Papacy and the people, there was no one greater than Michelangelo.

The Chiaramonti Sculpture Gallery (Museo Chiaramonti), established by Pope Pius VII in the 19th century and designed by the sculptor Antonio Canova, is also devoted to ancient sculpture. It has three parts: the museum, in a gallery designed by Bramante; the New Wing (Braccio Nuovo); and the Gallery of Inscriptions (Lapidaria) with its unrivalled collection of ancient epigraphy.

**Thursday, 9 June 2022**

1800-1945 hrs

**Elizabeth Lev**

*Vatican Museums*

**Raphael Rooms**

This suite of rooms is famous for its frescos by a large team of artists working under Raphael. They were originally intended as a suite of apartments for Pope Julius II. He commissioned Raphael, then a relatively young artist from Urbino, and his studio in 1508 or 1509 to redecorate the existing interiors of the rooms entirely. It was possibly Julius' intent to outshine the apartments of his predecessor (and rival) Pope Alexander VI, as the *Stanze* are directly above Alexander's Borgia Apartments. They are on the third floor, overlooking the south side of the Belvedere Courtyard.

From east to west, as a visitor would have entered the apartment, but reversing the sequence in which the *Stanze* were frescoed, and also the route of the modern visitor, the rooms are the Sala di Constantino ("Hall of Constantine"), the Stanza di Eliodoro ("Room of Heliodorus"), the Stanza della Segnatura (the earliest and the most admired) ("Room of the Signature") and the Stanza dell'Incendio del Borgo ("The Room of the *Fire in the Borgo*").

**Borgia Apartments**

The Borgia Apartments is a suite of rooms in the Palace adapted for personal use by Pope Alexander VI (Rodrigo de Borgia). He commissioned the Italian painter Pinturicchio to lavishly decorate the apartments with frescoes. The paintings and frescoes, which were executed between 1492 and 1494, drew on a complex iconographic program that used themes from medieval encyclopedias, adding an eschatological layer of meaning and celebrating the supposedly divine origins of the Borgias.<sup>[9]</sup>

The rooms are variously considered a part of the Vatican Library and Vatican Museums. Some of the rooms are now used for the Vatican Collection of Modern Religious Art, inaugurated by Pope Paul VI in 1973.

## **The Sistine Chapel**

Built in the 1470s under Pope Sixtus IV, from whom it takes its name, the Sistine Chapel is more than just Vatican City's most popular tourist destination. In fact, it serves a crucial religious function. Beginning in 1492, the simple brick building has hosted numerous papal conclaves, during which cardinals gather to vote on a new pope. A special chimney in the roof of the chapel broadcasts the conclave's results, with white smoke indicating the election of a pope and black smoke signaling that no candidate has yet received a two-thirds majority.

In the section entitled "The Creation of Adam," figures representing God and Adam reach for each other with their arms outstretched. Their almost-touching fingers are one of the world's most recognizable and widely replicated images. Some theorists think the scene also contains the unmistakable outline of a human brain, formed by the angels and robes surrounding God. According to Frank Lynn Meshberger, a doctor who pioneered this hypothesis, Michelangelo meant to evoke God's bestowal of intelligence on the first human.

Between 1980 and 1999, experts restored selected artwork in the Sistine Chapel, including Michelangelo's ceiling and his famed fresco known as "The Last Judgment," which he created in his later years. Specialists meticulously dissolved layers of grime, soot and deposits, substantially brightening the colors of the centuries-old paintings. The restoration also undid the work of Pope Pius IV, who ordered the placement of fig leaves and loincloths on Michelangelo's nudes during the 1560s.

<p><b><u>Friday, 10 June 2022</u></b> 1200 – 1230 hrs</p>	<p><b><u>Ludovico Tommasi</u></b> <i>Montepulciano Tour</i></p>
<p>Montepulciano is the largest and most history-filled town in the area south of Siena. Once inhabited by the Etruscans, later the headquarters of a Roman garrison, it was fought over for a long time by Siena and Florence for the fertility of its land and for its strategic position on the ridge that separates Val di Chiana and Val d’Orcia. Free city in the Middle Ages, its unassailable 13th-c. walls protected the development of an enterprising merchant, manufacturing and rural bourgeoisie. After the alliance with Florence in 1390, two golden centuries began for Montepulciano, marked by political stability, economic vitality, cultural prestige and artistic wealth, so much so as to warrant the epithet Pearl of the Sixteenth Century. The Temple of San Biagio, solitary at the foot of the city, is the most beautiful jewel from that period. From 1559, after the definitive submission of Siena to Florence, Montepulciano lost its strategic importance but remained a flourishing city, following the date of the Grand Duchy of Tuscany until Italian Unification in 1861.</p>	

<p><b><u>Friday, 10 June 2022</u></b> 1345-1515 hrs</p>	<p><b><u>Ilaria Bichi Ruspoli</u></b> <i>Pienza Tour</i></p>
<p>The great history of Pienza is concentrated in the space of just six years (1458-1464) during the papacy of Pius ii, born Enea Silvio Piccolomini, Its most illustrious citizen. Elected Pope, Pius ii commissioned the Florentine architect Bernardo Rossellino to make his native village (then called Corsignano) into a new city. The project took shape in a few years, with the construction of the Cathedral, Palazzo Piccolomini and the other buildings, amongst which the palazzi that the cardinals were obliged to have built. Corsignano was renamed Pienza, from the name pf the Pope. At the time of Pius II’s death, the work was interrupted and the city went back to being a quiet country village, illuminated, nonetheless, by testimonies of such importance as to be declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1996. In 2004 the same award was also given to the Val d’Orcia, as a way to safeguard an historical landscape designed by man following ideals of beauty and harmony with nature. Ideals that, centuries late, moved Antonio and Iris Origo to shape a forgotten corner of the Val d’Orcia and create La Foce.</p>	



<p><b><u>Friday, 10 June 2022</u></b>  1930 hrs Cocktails and Dinner  Borgo San Luigi Poolside Restaurant</p>	<p><b><u>Ilaria Bichi Ruspoli</u></b>  <i>"Treasures of Tuscany"</i></p>
<p>Introduction on Tuscany. The past and the present of this beautiful region, along with the richness of its cultural baggage. Get ready to discover the <i>real</i> Tuscan gems - the most famous ones and the ones that only the locals would know. The Tuscan excellency through the past and the present of this beautiful region, along with the richness of its cultural baggage.</p>	

<p><b><u>Saturday, 11 June 2022</u></b>  1645-1830 hrs</p>	<p><b><u>Laura Gray</u></b>  <i>"Il Palazzone Vineyard Tour"</i></p>
<p>The estate has three separate vineyards in quite different areas of Montalcino. The microclimate and extraordinary variety of terroirs means that we are able, on blending the three vineyard harvests, to have three complementary aspects of Montalcino in our Brunello. The Due Porte vineyard is 540 metres above sea level and is next to the cellar. The three small plots are northwest facing. Thanks to the altitude and the exposition, grapes from the Due Porte benefit from the excellent ventilation and pronounced day/night thermal excursion. The soil type is <i>pietraforte arenaria</i>, a type of local sandstone with a significant presence of galestro, which gives good drainage. In 2020 we released the first bottling of 2.000 liters of Le Due Porte Brunello 2015.</p> <p>The Vigna del Capa, located down below the hamlet of Castelnuovo dell'Abate, southwest of Montalcino, is quite different. Over 200 meters lower in altitude and south facing, the vineyards here are over thirty years old. The vineyard is gently sloping and the vine exposition is N/E and S/W. There is a significant presence of fine gravel and shale, with sand, clay and silt in equal proportions making up the soil. The fruit from this vineyard is distinguished by lovely saline and aromatic components, thanks to the presence of marine fossils in the soil. This is our warmest vineyard, one on which we rely for fruit and sugars.</p> <p>The third vineyard, La Vecchia, 400 meters a.s.l., is nearly 40 years old and close to Castelnuovo dell'Abate, in an area with iron, magnesium and manganese in the soil. The grapes from this vineyard have an incredible mineral component and a deep and developed root system.</p>	

**Sunday, 12 June 2022**

1100-1200 hrs & 1630-1715 hrs

1715-1915 hrs

**Fr. Michael Collins**

*Tour of San Gimignano & Siena*

*St. Catherine's House*

Our day begins in the hillside town of San Gimignano, with its imposing towers and medieval buildings. San Gimignano was an important trading route on the Via Frangigena, the pilgrimage road which led from Canterbury in England to Rome. San Gimignano is recognized a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1990 as it "bears exceptional testimony to medieval civilization" (<https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/550/>). It is a small village halfway between Florence and Siena, which will charm you with its fascinating medieval architecture and towers - the wealthy families of the city built 72 tower-houses as symbols of their power! Walking through the medieval city center feels like stepping back in time. Having visited the town, we proceed to the Siena, the Pearl of Tuscany.

Siena is the best-preserved medieval city of Tuscany and is filled with imposing architecture and hidden artistic treasures. While it often lost in battles with nearby Florence during the Middle Ages, Siena remained a prestigious center of culture. St. Catherine of Siena, who lived in the medieval period, helped persuade Pope Gregory XI to restore the papacy from Avignon in France to Rome in 1376. After a short walking tour of the town center, including the Campo, or city square where the Palio Horse Race takes place each summer, we visit the house where St. Catherine lived and celebrate Mass.

St. Catherine was born in Siena in 1347 in this house, where she spent her childhood with her 23 siblings. Her house is now a small museum where visitors have the chance to get an interesting insight into her life. Along with her house, you can visit several wonderful chapels and a cloister area. You can also admire the unique ceramic floor in the Oratory of the kitchen. The walls are decorated with stunning depicted scenes from the Saint's life.

<b><u>Monday, 13 June 2022</u></b> 0830-0945 hrs	<b><u>Fr. Michael Collins</u></b> <i>"Siena &amp; Florence in the Renaissance"</i>
<p>In the 14th and 15th centuries, much of Italy experienced a revival of the arts of Classical Rome. The explosion of building and artistic commissions was largely paid for by merchants such as the Medici family. Siena and Florence engaged in a series of military skirmishes: Siena was greatly enriched by the pilgrims and traders who passed along the Via Frangigina which linked Northern Europe with Rome. Our talk focuses on the relationship between Florence and Siena, the two most important cities of Tuscany.</p>	

<b><u>Monday, 13 June 2022</u></b> 1015-1300 hrs	<b><u>Guido Burchi</u></b> <i>Visit to Santa Maria della Scala, the Annunziata Chapel &amp; Accademia Musicale Chigiana</i>
<p>Two iconic places in Siena: Santa Maria della Scala, right in front of the cathedral, and the Accademia Chigiana, hosting several important artistic collections.</p> <p>Santa Maria della Scala was born as a medieval hospital which has developed over the centuries. It has become a museum only 50 years ago. Now it is a monumental complex located in the heart of Siena, on the top of the hill housing the cathedral. The site motto is "One museum, many views", as each level of the building - there are seven of them! - hosts a path with different exhibitions and stunning masterpieces.</p> <p>Youth, strength, enthusiasm, dreams: these words are enough to outline the profile of Count Guido Chigi Saracini (Siena 1880-1965), inspirer and patron of the Chigiana Music Academy. As the only heir of his family, the Count used his huge heritage to promote musical activity in his city, making it a fundamental hub for culture and musical life at an international level.</p> <p>A short music performance - with pianist and organist - is organized by Prof. Burchi to delight the guests.</p>	

<p><b><u>Monday, 13 June 2022</u></b> 1430-1600 hrs</p>	<p><b><u>Ilaria Bichi Ruspoli</u></b> <i>"Behind-the-scenes" Tour of curiosities &amp; hidden gems</i></p>
<p>Discover the territorial identities within the walls of Siena, along with their curiosities and the history behind the famous <i>Palio</i>, which takes place every year on July 2nd and August 16th in the main square of the city, <i>Piazza del Campo</i>.</p> <p>In order to understand the famous Palio - taking place every year on July 2nd and August 16th in the main fan-shaped square of the city, <i>Piazza del Campo</i> - you need to understand the territorial identities within the walls of Siena, along with their curiosities and the history, the 17 contradas. They are defined neighborhoods which once used to be self-governed. Each one has its own mascot - an animal, in most cases - along with its own chapel, fountain, patron saint, flag and colors.</p>	

<p><b><u>Monday, 13 June 2022</u></b> 1930-2200 hrs Taverna di Vagliagli Restaurant</p>	<p><b><u>Claudia Di Domenico + Luna</u></b> <i>Tuscan Table Delights</i></p>
<p>Discussion on the Italian eating traditions. What Italians generally eat, when and how. Discover the Italian eating traditions, beyond all stereotypes. What do Italians really eat? What are their main eating traditions? What are the most common "mistakes" when it comes to eating like an Italian? Luna, who works at the restaurant and will be in charge of the dinner, will explain to the guests the Tuscan culinary delights they are about to eat, along with the wine pairing.</p> <p>Tuscan cuisine is perhaps the simplest, most genuine of all the regional Italian cuisines. Its simplicity is linked to a history that for centuries often meant poverty, thus calling for the making of simple foods with grains, legumes, vegetables and day-old bread. Dishes were created so as to use any leftovers and to feed the ever-growing peasant families well, using what was available. Elaborate dishes were only served on feast days.</p> <p>Despite the widespread affluence of the last fifty years, the simplicity of the cuisine remained unchanged due to the wholly Tuscan attachment to traditions, genuine flavours, natural ingredients and uncomplicated recipes, accompanied, however, by some of the best wines and extra-virgin olive oils in the world. Yet in Tuscany simple doesn't necessarily mean homogeneous: the region's cuisine is characterized by a wealth of flavours thanks to its varied territory, which from the sea to the mountains has fostered the creation of a great variety of dishes. From fine meats to rare legumes, from Maremma game meats to fish from the coast, Tuscany is the region with the highest number of officially recorded traditional food products: as many as 456!</p>	

<p><b><u>Tuesday, 14 June 2022</u></b> 0945-1300 hrs</p>	<p><b><u>Fr. Michael Collins</u></b> <i>Visit to Piccolomini Library + The Cathedral of Siena, the Diocesan Museum, the Baptistry, Porta del Cielo</i></p>
<p>Visit of the monumental cathedral - the Duomo complex in Siena - and all the sacred beauty its parts (Baptistry, Porta del Cielo and Piccolomini Library) have to offer. The monumental Duomo complex of Siena. Explore the majesty of the cathedral, along with the Piccolomini Library and the Porta del Cielo. It will be a breathtaking journey through architecture and art. The monumental complex hosts work by some of the most important masters in the history of European art, from Nicola and Giovanni Pisano, to Donatello, Michelangelo and Bernini.</p> <p>The Cathedral complex lies at the heart of Siena. We visit the cathedral with its superb inlaid floor, one of the treasures of the Renaissance and the adjacent Piccolomini library, decorated with sumptuous frescos by Pinturicchio and his school. In the Piccolomini library, you will find an outstanding fresco cycle made by the famous Pinturicchio, illustrating ten episodes from the life of Pope Pius II. Immerse yourself in its narrative and chromatic talent. We visit the Baptistry of St. John which contains works by Donatello, Jacopo Della Quercia among other Renaissance artists. The nearby diocesan museum contains many works which were made for the cathedral or other churches, most notably the imposing <i>Maesta</i>, the Virgin Mary surrounded by the saints, dating from 1312, by Duccio di Buoninsegna.</p>	

<p><b><u>Tuesday, 14 June 2022</u></b> 1830-1930 hrs</p>	<p><b><u>Vittorio Marzotto &amp; Alessandro Mocenni</u></b> <i>Visit to Circolo degli Uniti</i></p>
<p>The club, the oldest in the world, was founded on November 13, 1657 on the initiative of twenty-one Sienese gentlemen, born under the name of Noble Conversation of the Signori Uniti in the Casino of Siena (the so-called Casin de 'Nobili) and was chosen as emblem a sundial with the motto <i>Una Moventur Varie</i>. A building facing Palazzo Patrizi in via di Città was chosen as the venue. The positions on which the government and administration of the Casino depended were those of governor, secretary and administrator. The governor then appointed the Master of Ceremonies and Mayors from among the members. I was part of) and cloistered religious.</p> <p>Anyone who was noble, older than 18, who was not a cloistered religious, nor of bad habits, a blasphemer or a quarrelsome player, could be admitted to the theaters. Big difference, especially with the English clubs, has always been the admission to the halls of ladies, as well as knights, to literary conversations and parties. There were many feasts and receptions organized and also many the palisades that the club ran and many on the occasion of visits by princes, kings and cardinals. In 1848, still in the period of the Grand Duchy of Tuscany, breathing an air of democracy, with the new statutes, the name of the Casino was changed to the United States Circle, and the governor was called president.</p>	

**SIENA**

## RESOURCES



**THOMAS D. WILLIAMS**

**TUESDAY 7 June**      ***“Demystifying the Vatican”***

Thomas Williams teaches theology at St. John’s University Rome Campus and is a research fellow at Notre Dame’s Center for Ethics and Culture. Dr. Williams has worked as Vatican expert for several television networks, including NBC, CBS and Sky News in the UK and has covered two papal conclaves as well as providing commentary on matters of religion and ethics. He was appointed by the Holy See as spokesman for the Synod of Bishops in 1997 and again in 2001. Williams has written widely on theology, philosophy, ethics, and spirituality, and his 16 books include *Who Is My Neighbor? Personalism and the Foundations of Human Rights* and *The World as It Could Be: Catholic Social Thought for a New Generation*. Dr. Williams made his professional acting debut recently with a role in the Netflix film *The Two Popes*.



**ELIZABETH LEV**

**TUESDAY 7 June**      ***“The Life of Saint Ignatius & The Jesuit Mission” walk***

**WEDNESDAY 8 June**      ***Palazzo Colonna (optional tour)***

**THURSDAY 9 June**      ***The Vatican Museums***

Elizabeth Lev studied art history at the University of Chicago, and in 1989 moved to Italy and has lived in Italy ever since. Dr. Lev has taught art history at Duquesne University’s Italian campus since 2002, and also lectures at the Pontifical University of St Thomas Aquinas. She is a commissioner of the Tourism Board of Rome and a consultant on art and faith for the Vatican Museums for whom she authored “Vatican Treasures: Art and Faith” – a film that was presented to Pope Benedict XVI. Dr. Lev works as Vatican analyst for NBC and has been featured on “The Today Show, Nightline and Sixty Minutes” as well as “Ted Talk”.





***DARIUS ARYA***

***TUESDAY 7 June***

***"Reflections of Ancient Rome from Rise to Fall"***

Darius Arya, Ph.D., is an internationally recognized archaeologist and heritage preservationist, who lives in Rome and leading excavations and teaching in Italy over 15 years and collaborating with international heritage organizations, such as UNESCO-ICCROM, Getty Conservation, World Monuments Fund, Italian Ministry of Culture. He directs the US non-profit American Institute for Roman Culture, active almost fifteen years in Rome. He is also frequently cited in international publications on heritage preservation matters, including Time, CNN, BBC Travel, Wall Street Journal, The Independent, La Repubblica, Corriere della Sera. Darius is a TV presenter and host for shows on Smithsonian, Sky, Discovery, History. Besides appearing frequently on dozens of National Geographic programs over the past ten years, he is currently filming "Traveling the Roman Empire" throughout the Mediterranean for Wondrium and is hosting Under Italy, an 8 episode show on Rai5, Italy's premiere cultural channel, currently airing. Darius is a social media expert and influence with over 200,000 followers on all of his platforms, making history accessible and dynamic.



***FRANCESCA BARBERINI***

***WEDNESDAY 8 June***

***Palazzo Colonna (optional tour)***

Francesca Barberini has worked for ten years on cultural heritage cataloging projects on behalf of the Lazio and Marche regions and on cataloging drawings at the National Institute for Graphics in Rome. She has focused her research interests on art in Rome in the 17th century and in particular on the decorative arts. Among her publications The Pontiffs and the Holy Years in 17th century Rome - life, art and costume, Ugo Bozzi publisher, Rome 2000; Tommaso and Luigi Saulini engravers of cameos in nineteenth-century Rome, Rome Gangemi publisher 2006; The study of medals: numismatic interests in Barberini collecting (in I Barberini and the European culture of the seventeenth century - Proceedings of the international conference - Rome 2007). Drawings, silversmiths and silversmiths from the Barberini, Studi e Testi archive. Vatican Apostolic Library - Vatican City 2021. For more than twenty years, she has been working as a licensed tour guide in Rome and is an educational worker at the Vatican Museums.



**MARY-ANGELA SCHROTH**

**WEDNESDAY 8 June**      *Holy stairs & St. John Lateran (optional tour)*

Mary Angela Schroth was graduate of Radford University with a double B.A. degree in Classical Studies and English Literature together with a minor in Art History. Mary is president of the Fondazione Salvatore Meo, created in 2005 to preserve the legacy of the Italo-American artist Salvatore Meo (Philadelphia 1914-Rome 2004), pioneer of the art of assemblage.

One of her projects involves the complete restoration of the Sistine decorative cycle of the Sanctuary of the Holy Stairs in Rome begun with the Getty Foundation in 2000 and currently supported by the Patrons Office of the Arts in the Vatican Museums where Schroth is coordinator for this restoration.



**ILARIA BICHI RUSPOLI**

**FRIDAY 10 June**      *Pienza tour & "Treasures of Tuscany" presentation*  
**MONDAY 13 June**      *"Behind-the-scenes Siena" Tour of Curiosities & hidden gems*

Ilaria Bichi Ruspoli growing up in the incomparable landscape of Val d'Orcia (Southern Tuscany), fully immersed in an environment steeped in history, art, a glorious heritage and a defined identity, led me to study Art History in Siena, acquiring in-depth knowledge of the background of this magic and blessed land. Sharing this knowledge with visitors from all over the world became my profession.

She graduated in Art History (Modern Literature) at the University of Siena and has been working as a passionate and successful tour guide in the provincial territory for years.



**FR MICHAEL COLLINS**

**SUNDAY 12 June**

***San Gimignano & Siena Tour, St. Catherine's House walk***

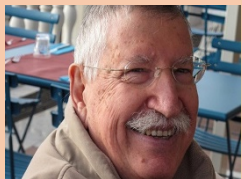
**MONDAY 13 June**

***"Florence & Siena in the Renaissance" presentation***

**TUESDAY 14 June**

***"Historical Landmarks of Siena" Tour, Piccolomini Library, Cathedral of Siena, Diocesan Museum, Baptistry, Porta del Cielo Tour***

Fr. Michael Collins is a priest of the Archdiocese of Dublin and has taught history, art and culture in a number of universities in Rome. A native of Ireland, Fr. Michael studied art and archaeology at the Pontifical Institute of Christian Archaeology in Rome. A best-selling author, Fr. Michael has written and edited 15 award-winning books, which has been translated with 13 languages. His most recent book, "Raphael's World" was just published this year to commemorate the 500th Anniversary of the death of the celebrated Renaissance artist. Fr. Michael has been featured on various international TV channels including Fox News, CNN, NBCSN, SKY as well as appearing on 60 Minutes. Website: [www.fathermichaelcollins.com](http://www.fathermichaelcollins.com)



**GUIDO BURCHI**

***MONDAY 13 June Santa Maria della Scala, Annunziata Chapel & Accademia Musicale Chigiana Tour***

Professor Guido Burchi is a confirmed researcher at the Faculty of Arts and Philosophy, University of Siena, and Musicological consultant for the Accademia Musicale Chigiana, Siena.

In past years, Guido Burchi, former musicologist consultant at the Chigiana Music Academy and Professor of Music History at the University of Siena, has hosted meetings and conferences dedicated to Wagner and the "Senesino", To Verdi and Tchaikovsky. One of his latest researches- dedicated to another great personality in the history of music, Gioacchino Rossini - Guido Burchi is a world-reknown expert to lead us into a foray of Italian musical heritage.

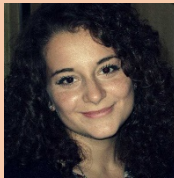


**JILL ALEXY**

***Tour Guide***

Jill Alexy is a graduate of Duke University, the University of Notre Dame, and the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas. She has teaching & administrative experience with the University of Notre Dame & the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas, as well as study abroad leadership roles with schools such as DePaul, St. Petersburg College, the Franciscan University of Steubenville, and more. She has also demonstrated success in helping to launch new projects & serve as a *connector* in the US, Italy, France, Southeast Asia, Australia/New Zealand.

Working non-stop, Jill has followed her ever-growing vision to strategically put her work experiences together in a suite of initiatives that make a global impact; bringing people and cultures together in the pursuit of the common good. In 2020, Jill launched a new LLC, SeeTheSacred, as well as her own non-profit venture, Martyrian. She looks forward to using these ventures over the coming decade to launch various projects where faith, travel, culture, higher education, and philanthropy all intersect.



**CLAUDIA DI DOMENICO**

***Travel Assistant***

Claudia Di Domenico was born and raised in Florence, Italy, where she graduated in Classical Archaeology (master + graduate school).. Passionate about traveling, cultural heritage, cultural promotion, foreign languages (she speaks Italian, English, French and a bit of German), and food, she later moved to Paris, where she is currently working as a tour guide (in Italy and in France) for international clients, and graduate assistant.

She is also collaborating with the University of Florence on research projects.



## **LODOVICO TOMMASI**

### ***Tour guide***

Lodovico Tommasi studied Economic Geography at “La Sapienza” University of Rome. His dissertation on the Via Francigena provided the region of Lazio with innovative approaches to revitalizing one of Europe’s most important pilgrimage routes. His specialized Master’s in Management of Tourism Activities and Territory Resources brought him in contact with international organizations and universities, providing curated global tours. He has traveled extensively, organizing cultural and research-intensive experiences worldwide for individuals, groups, and academic researchers. As a licensed trip leader in Italy since 2012, he has worked with international patrons, introducing them to the hidden wonders of Italy’s famed cities, countryside, and pilgrimage routes. Lodovico’s license in 2021 as a hiking and ecological guide brings together his lifelong passion for sustainability and environmental tourism.

**HOTELS**

**Rome, Tuscany and Siena**  
**6-15 June 2022**  
**Hotels**

Date	Destination	Hotel Particulars
6-10 June	Rome	<p><b>Sina Bernini Bristol Roma</b>  Address: P.za Barberini, 23, 00187 Roma RM, Italy  Phone: +39 06 488931  <a href="https://www.sinahotels.com/en/h/sina-bernini-bristol-rome/">https://www.sinahotels.com/en/h/sina-bernini-bristol-rome/</a></p>
10-12 June	Tuscany	<p><b>Borgo San Luigi</b>  Address: Località San Luigi, Str. della Cerreta, 7, 53035 Strove SI, Italy  Phone: +39 0577 301055  <a href="https://www.borgosanluigi.it/">https://www.borgosanluigi.it/</a></p>
12-15 June	Siena	<p><b>Grand Hotel Continental Siena - Starhotels Collezione</b>  Address: Via Banchi di Sopra, 85, 53100 Siena SI, Italy  Phone: +39 0577 56011  <a href="https://collezione.starhotels.com/en/our-hotels/grand-hotel-continental-siena/">https://collezione.starhotels.com/en/our-hotels/grand-hotel-continental-siena/</a></p>

## Sina Bernini Bristol Roma (ROME)



The Sina Bernini Bristol in Rome is the iconic 5-star hotel with over 140 years of rich history and considered to be one of the Eternal City's luxury hôtellerie milestones. The hotel has recently undergone a complete renovation with the expansion to the neighbouring building, increasing the room capacity to 167 rooms.

Additionally all of the communal areas of the hotel, from the lobby to the panoramic rooftop restaurant, have been completely renovated to celebrate Baroque art reinterpreted in a contemporary style.

The Sina Bernini Bristol boasts one of the most enviable locations of the Eternal City, thanks to its strategic position facing the stunning Piazza Barberini located at the beginning of Via Veneto and just a few steps from Piazza di Spagna and the Trevi Fountain.



## Borgo San Luigi (TUSCANY)



Borgo San Luigi offers a choice of rooms, most with private terrace or garden, found in the different buildings within the park, allowing a pleasant stay in the heart of the Tuscan countryside, near Sienna. The five buildings making up the original seventeenth-century structure, in the midst of the 60.000 square metre park that surrounds the hotel, have been restructured respecting their original architecture. Due to its remarkable location, between Sienna and Florence, the hotel is a perfect starting point to visit a territory celebrated all over the world for its incomparable natural and artistic heritage, not to mention its food and wine.

The entire complex follows a rationale that encourages outdoor living, and most rooms therefore have a private balcony, terrace or garden. Guests may thus experience moments of total relaxation and peace in the open air, while enjoying total privacy. The architecture of the hotel rooms has been preserved in the original structures, with furnishings remindful of ancient country houses of the nobility. Every detail has been carefully considered, period furnishings and textiles have been chosen and matched with flooring in traditional red Tuscan tiles.

## Grand Hotel Continental Siena (SIENA)



The Grand Hotel Continental in Siena is located in Palazzo Gori Pannilini, built around 1501 on pre-existing buildings and presumably realized in the present form by Pope Alexander VII, as a wedding gift for his niece Olimpia and noble Giulio de Gori in 1677. Set in the historic center of Siena, this beautiful noble palace totally reflects Renaissance architecture and is embellished with magnificent frescoes and rich decorations brought to light with various restorations.

The Grand Hotel Continental has always attracted the international elite for its glamor and its privileged location within walking distance from Piazza del Campo, becoming the first and only luxury 5-star hotel in the city of Siena in 2002. The Hotel astonishes by its architectural magnificence, the numerous Renaissance art and the beautiful original frescoes. The splendor of the interior spaces, embellished with invaluable antiques and terracotta floors, beautifully marked by 500 years of aristocratic footsteps, making it a refined and luxurious place to stay to discover the treasures of Siena.

Each of the 51 rooms and suites is a masterpiece inspired by the nobility of the sixteenth century, whose elegance is able to satisfy the expectations of the modern traveler by catapulting it into a sumptuous private residence with the services of a 5-star luxury hotel.

## **APAVM SPONSORED PROJECTS**

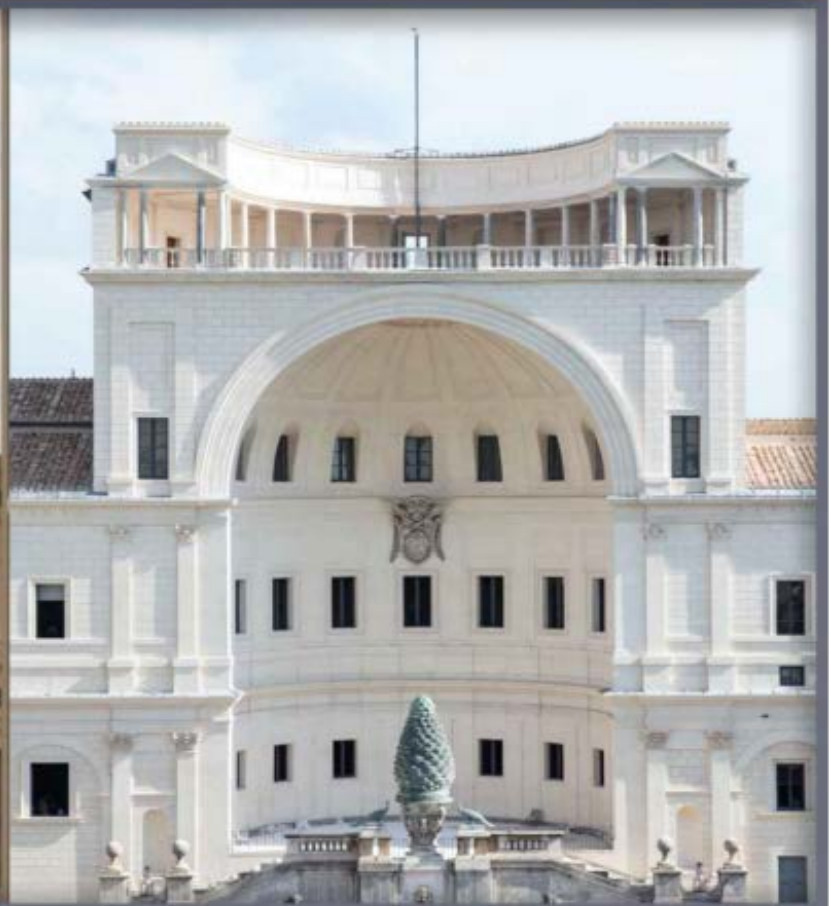
- 1) The Bramante Courtyard**
- 2) Anima Mundi Entrance Project**
- 3) The Holy Stairs**
- 4) Painting of the Great Wall on Silk**
- 5) Empress Cixi Parlor**
- 6) New Entrance & Exhibition Hall of the Carriage Museum**
- 7) Amida Nyorai**
- 8) Three Taoist Paintings**

## **APAVM RESTORATION PROJECTS 2016-2021**



# BRAMANTE COURTYARD

RESTORATION PROJECT





## THE ASIAN PATRONS OF THE ARTS IN THE VATICAN MUSEUMS

### A MAJOR APAVM FUND-RAISING PROJECT

The Vatican is home to not only magnificent frescoes, exquisite antiquities and priceless art treasures, it is also a masterpiece of Renaissance architecture with its crowning jewel: The Bramante Courtyard. Designed by Donato Bramante in 1505, the Courtyard with its piazzas, gardens, dramatic facades and grand staircase was a major architectural work of the High Renaissance. Over hundreds of years, the Courtyard has suffered much damage from exposure to the elements and has been badly in need of restoration to bring this historical edifice back to its fundamental state of beauty as the artist had intended.

The Patrons are looking for funding for the restoration of all four walls of the Bramante Courtyard - the Nicchione Tower featuring the large apse and the iconic bronze pinecone to the Braccio Nuova sculpture gallery behind the South Wall, the East Wall of the Chiaramonti Gallery and the West Wall of the Vatican Library. The Courtyard's restoration plans consists of removing the residue of previous treatments as well as layers of damaged plaster, reconstructing missing elements of the architectural mouldings and drainage lines, re-tiling the roof and installing a new lighting system.

#### APAVM TARGET

**€500,000**

The Asia Chapter is delighted to play its part in this € 7.7M fund-raising project by all 25 chapters of the Patrons of the Arts in the Vatican Museums. The Bramante Courtyard is the most extensive restoration project undertaken by PAVM in its 37-year history.



**APAVM PAST PROJECTS: 2016 – 2018**



**Left: THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA**



**Right: EMPRESS CIXI PARLOR**



**THE HOLY STAIRS**



**NEW ENTRANCE TO THE CARRIAGE MUSEUM**



**THREE TAOIST PAINTINGS**

**AMIDA NYORAI**



*Asian Patrons in front of the painting of the "Great Wall on Silk" at the Ethnological Museum during APAVM 2017 visit to the Vatican.*

*"The Great Wall on Silk" was restored by Asian Patron and was recently part of the Vatican art pieces that exhibited at the Beijing Palace Museum from 28 May to 14 July 2019.*





**APAVM 2022-2023 SPONSORSHIP**

# **Anima Mundi Entrance Project**

# THE ANIMA MUNDI ENTRANCE PROJECT

Pope Francis shifted his focus to the new “Anima Mundi” Museum



On October 18, 2019, the Holy Father the very first visitor to the renovated [Ethnological Museum](#), which not only has a new structure and layout, but also a new and particularly evocative name: “*Anima Mundi*”.

He changed its name from the Ethnological Museum to “Animi Mundi”, which means “soul of the world” as he wants to give importance to this rich artistic patrimony the Vatican Museums conserves and displays for the entire world.

# ANIMA MUNDI NEW ENTRANCE PROJECT

## ANIMA MUNDI



### NEW ENTRANCE

ESTIMATED COST: 900K

- It is proposed that for FY2022-23, APAVM will sponsor THE ANIMA MUNDI ENTRANCE PROJECT.  
**Target €300,000**
- All APAVM sponsors with at least a contribution of €50,000 will be acknowledged in a plaque.
- A temporary plaque acknowledging contributors including many Asian patrons is currently on display at the entrance of Anima Mundi.

# ANIMA MUNDI NEW ENTRANCE PROJECT

## ANIMA MUNDI



Ethnological Museum

- It is proposed that for FY202223, APAVM will sponsor THE ANIMA MUNDI ENTRANCE PROJECT with a €200,000 pledge.
- All APAVM Carriage Museum & Anima Mundi project donors will be acknowledged in a new plaque upon completion of the ANIMA MUNDI ENTRANCE Project.
- Other donors for the entrance will also be acknowledged.
- Total costs of Project is about €900,000.

# ANIMA MUNDI PROJECT – TEMPORARY PLAQUE

## THE PROJECT

Anima Mundi, "Soul of the World", is a collection of 80,000 objects representing the artistic, cultural and spiritual traditions, and testimonies from people all around the world. What you see is only 1/6 of the renovation. Upon its completion, the Anima Mundi will cover more than 7,000 square meters with galleries dedicated to Africa, the Americas, Asia, Australia, and Oceania.



**NEW ENTRANCE HALL & NEW EXIT**

To be Funded



**ETHNOLOGICAL MATERIALS CONSERVATION LABORATORY**

To be Funded

## THE RENOVATION OF ANIMA MUNDI

NEW MUSEUM DISPLAY, NEW STORAGE AREAS, A NEW RESTORATION LABORATORY, AND A NEW APPROACH TO MEET THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD



**TO DONATE, PLEASE VISIT**

[www.patronsaticanmuseums.org](http://www.patronsaticanmuseums.org)



PART OF THIS RENOVATION HAS BEEN FUNDED THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY OF THE FOLLOWING PATRONS:

Keye & Hymel Siddons  
Don & Vicki Lee  
Phyllis Taylor  
Cory Family  
Farrell Family  
Agnieszka  
Gasman Family  
Taddeo Bostandy Family

P.A.V.M. Asia  
Don and Kim Chung  
Arvind & Jessica Khattar  
James Kralk & Vendi Lee  
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Wai Cheung & Susan Chow Yip	Joseph & Cecilia Yau
Wing Hung & Christine Tsang	Yoko & Hiroko Tsang

## **TRAVEL GUIDE INSTRUCTIONS**

## **Travel Guide Instructions**

Life in Italy is probably a little different than what you're used to - that's part of its charm. We've compiled a list of things for you to keep in mind both before you take off and as you travel, to ensure that your stay in *Italia* goes as smoothly as possible.

### **DRESS and ATTIRE**

1. When it comes to deciding what to pack, Italians generally dress modestly and dress well. This leaves beach sandals, short shorts, and swimming shorts for beachwear, rather than city wear. Also, many churches require both men and women to dress modestly with shoulders and knees covered, so be sure to take a couple of suitable options.
2. For all restaurants, you can opt for a casual chic attire. Dress comfortably when traveling from one place to another one.
3. For the Aperitivo at the Circolo degli Uniti (June 14th), men should wear a suit with tie. There is no dress code for women (chic attire is preferred).
4. Elegant outfits for gala dinners.
5. Comfortable walking shoes are always recommended as there is a great deal of walking throughout Italy, our consistent use of Private drivers via Minivans and buses notwithstanding.
6. Entrance to the Vatican Museums, Sistine Chapel, St Peters Basilica and many other Churches throughout Italy require that women have their shoulders and knees covered, and men also have their knees covered. For ladies a Shoal can be very handy so those that do have shoulders uncovered and allow an easy solution to cover shoulders.

### **Travel Insurance**

Ensure that you have adequate travel insurance. This should be arranged by each participant individually. Know what you're covered for and how to contact your insurance company abroad if you need to. APAVM do not have group insurance coverage.

### **Before You Go**

1. Make sure your passport is valid for at least 3 months after the return date of your trip.
2. Let your bank and credit card companies know where and when you'll be travelling before you leave. Make sure you have some cash on hand before you go, as not everywhere takes cards. Don't be afraid if one bank machine (bancomat=ATM) doesn't work as sometimes it's just the network. Try another bancomat ATM.

3. Figure out how you're going to communicate with home. International roaming and calling plans should be sorted out before you leave. Buying an Italian SIM card for your phone is an option, but only if the phone is unlocked. International calling cards are available for purchase from most Tabacchi shops in Italy and can be used from payphones, cell phones and hotel phones. Many hotels do offer Wi-Fi and computer services, however Wi-Fi is not as widespread or reliable in Italy as it is in other parts of the world.
4. Weather forecast during our period of stay, late April/early May, is between 18 to 22°C. Evening will be much cooler between 8 to 12°C. Please bring warm clothing with you. Rain can be expected occasionally, please bring along a rain jacket if you wish; otherwise, we will be providing rain coats.

### **Eating, Drinking & Sightseeing**

1. Meal times in Italy may be different than what you're used to, and many restaurants either close or refuse to serve outside of these times. Think of breakfast from 7am-10am, lunch from 12pm- 2pm and dinner from 7pm onwards.

If you try to go out for breakfast, just keep in mind that Italians only have a cappuccino and a cornetto for breakfast. For the two main meals of the day, if you try to eat too early, you will definitely get tourist quality food (i.e. poor) and tourist charges (i.e. exorbitant).

2. Restaurants won't usually split bills or do substitutions for menu items, partly because of the culture and traditions surrounding Italian dining and cuisine. Do not be surprised if you are refused these requests.

*Lunch/Pranzo* - This can be anything from a sandwich to a primi or secondi at a proper restaurant.

*Dinner* usually includes anywhere from two to four courses: starter, first course (pasta), second course (meat or fish), dessert. For starters, if you get bread and water, you will have to pay for it. For the main course, you will have to order vegetables and salad on the side, it will usually accompany the meat/fish course unless you ask otherwise. If you order dessert, it is also proper to take an after-dinner drink like amaro or limoncello. But beware! If they offer you limoncello on the house at the very end, it usually means that the restaurant has made you a 'special tourist price', eg. you've been ripped off!

Good restaurants are fairly popular with locals, so unless it is a pizzeria, you will need to make a reservation. Also, restaurants in Italy will sometimes shut down or close with little or no notice (because the owner has decided to go on vacation, or because there was not enough tourist traffic to stay open, etc.) It is always best to get an up-to-date list of recommended restaurants once you are in Rome. That way, you will also remember to ask which of the best gelaterias are open!

3. Tap water and water from public fountains (not the decorative kind) is generally drinkable. Look for signs that say *potabile* (drinkable) or *non potabile* (not drinkable) to guide you. Tap water from Hotels is also ok, but always just ask the front reception.
4. It is legal to consume alcohol in public spaces such as parks and squares, however public drunkenness is heavily frowned upon.
5. Prices in many bars (cafés) vary as to whether you eat/drink standing at the bar or sitting at a table. Often you can't order at the counter then take a seat, you must choose to have your whole experience either sitting or standing. If you're standing at a bar, you usually order and pay first, then show your receipt in order to get your coffee, gelato, pastry, etc.



- *Happy Hour/Aperitivo*

6:00pm to 9:00pm

For anywhere from €5-10 you get a drink (beer/wine/cocktails) plus unlimited appetizers.

### **Health & Safety**

1. Emergency service numbers in Italy are as follows: 112 for the Carabinieri (police), 115 for the Vigili del Fuoco (fire department) and 118 for Emergenza Sanitaria (ambulance).
2. Beware of pickpockets in all public spaces, but especially in crowds and on or around public transportation. Keep purses and bags closed at all times, and keep wallets in front pockets.
3. For minor health problems, first pay a visit to the pharmacy, marked by a green lit-up cross. For more serious problems, go to the Pronto Soccorso at the hospital to be checked out by a doctor, but be prepared to wait.

### **Money**

1. Withdrawing cash from bank machines is probably the easiest way for you to change money. Your card may not work in all machines, however. Take a look at the symbols on the back of your card and match them up to the symbols displayed on the bank machine. If you've got a match, the card/machine combo should work.
2. Credit cards are not as widely used or accepted in Italy as they are in other parts of the world, especially for smaller purchases. Make sure to always have sufficient cash on hand.
3. Bartering is acceptable in certain stores and in markets when shopping for things such as gold and leather goods.
4. Buying goods from illegal vendors (without stands or stalls, usually displaying their wares on blankets or cardboard boxes) is illegal, and may result in your purchases being confiscated. You can buy from them, but just remember they might take off in a flash if the police arrive.
5. Vending machines or automatic ticket machines often have a small limit on how much change they can give, regardless of how much change you're due. Some may not give change at all. The amount of change available is usually visible somewhere on the screen or near the keypad.
6. Italian prices are usually advertised including all relevant taxes, however many restaurants may have a *pane, coperto* or *servizio* charge of 1-3 euros per person, which will be added onto your bill.
7. There is often a nominal fee of 0.50 – 1.00 to use public washrooms, even in places like train stations. Make sure you always have some change with you. If you get stuck you can always pop into a bar and ask politely for the "*bagno?*"

## **Tiping**

In Italy, it is standard to leave your small change (coins), behind when tipping for small things in Italy. This might include a coffee at a cafe, or a taxi, or a quick and cheap meal at a pizzeria. So, if they give you four euro coins in change, you just leave it as tip. For eating out, if you are in a big group with a big bill, or if you are at a nicer trattoria or fine restaurant, it proper to leave paper money behind, as it is never possible to include a tip into a credit card or debit card payment. In these cases, usually a 10% tip is most appreciated. Also make sure you pay your bill and give the tip directly to the server or the cashier at the restaurant. Do not just leave the money behind on the table. And you might want to keep in mind that it will take a good long time for them to actually give you your bill. For all extras, such as tour guides or tour escorts, most importantly, just do whatever is comfortable for you and what you feel is most appropriate!

## **Getting Around**

1. You must always validate transit tickets by stamping them, using either a machine on the train platform or onboard for buses. You must also buy tickets before you board. Buses, trains and the metro do not accept cash fares. Tobacco shops with a Blue or White 'T' also sell the bus or metro tickets.
2. Many restaurants, shops, sites and attractions are closed on Sundays, and hardly anything is open 24 hours a day. Plan your time accordingly.
3. Signage is poor in Italy. Don't be afraid to stop and ask for directions or clarification on something. Italians are generally friendly and helpful.
4. Many cities and towns have ZTLs, or Traffic Limited Zones in their centres. If you've got a rental car, don't assume you can just drive or park anywhere. It may seem like the Italians do, but there are still rules, and you face hefty fines if you break them.
5. Watch your speed on the highway. There are automatic speed controls that can ticket you, through your rental car company, without you ever speaking to a police officer.
6. Taxi are inexpensive but always advisable to enquire at your hotel about an approximate cost for taxi to the Centre so that you can indicate to the driver of a taxi that you know the approximate prices so there is no opportunity for them to take advantage.

## **OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION**

## **OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION**

### **HOW TO SHOP TILL YOU DROP IN ROME**

The first day and the last day are usually the best times to souvenir shop, or to visit some sites where you want to spend more time or take extra photos. On the last day in Rome, there never seems to be enough time to finish all that you had intended to do, so best to attempt these things on the first day, and then leave yourself 2-3 hours to really finish those last cafes, shops, photo-ops towards the end of your last day. On the first day, it is a particularly good idea to take time shopping the street artists in Piazza Navona, or visiting the market in Campo dei Fiori. This is also a good time to hunt down those leather products or special Italian food products you were hoping to bring back home...that way if you have to 'think it over' you will have time to do so before your departure. Also, walking away and coming back cannot hurt the bargaining process when it comes to haggling with street vendors!

Here are some recommended shops and the goods they carry-

**Open-air Market:** Campo dei Fiori (touristy), Testaccio (Roman), Trionfale (Roman), Piazza Vittorio (international)

**Leather goods:** via del Corso area and Campo Marzio-area

- Schregge for jackets (via del Corso)
- Frattina 38 for bags & briefcases (via Frattina)
- Sirni (via della Stelletta) women's handbags
- Federico Polidori (via del Piè de Marmo) handmade bags, satchels, wallets, briefcase, saddles

**Artisanal products:** Piazza Navona

- via dei Banchi Vecchi - Faraoni handmakes micro-mosaics
- via del Governo Vecchio and via dei Banchi Nuovi- Nicotra di San Giacomo is one of the city's most important jewelers
- via del Rinascimento- Santa Maria Novella - an old world apothecary (interesting creams, scents, shaving products, etc. all handmade by old world monks). Some recipes for the liquors and perfumes and creams have been in production for over 800 years
- via Monserrato - Chez DeDe, boutique and atelier of limited edition collections of home wear, handbags, and other accessories made of natural materials and entirely handcrafted in Italy

**Clothes Shopping:** Prati & Spanish Steps

- The area around the Spanish Steps, the Tridente, has SEVERAL great Roman shops. Get off the beaten path, via Condotti with its standard flagship stores, and explore via Babuino, Via Margutta, Via Ripetta and Via dell'Oca to see TRUE Roman high-style.
- The shops that line Cola di Rienzo will be filled with Italian holiday-shoppers. Visit the street during the sales time (which start after Christmas) to get some good bargains. Danielle in Piazza Risorgimento, at the start of the street, is fantastic for women's shoes, while Alexander, Eredi and Gente are great for high-fashion choices, about half-way down.

**Religious goods:** Vatican City and Pantheon

- Borgo Pio street
- Vatican museums' & St Peter's gift shops in the yellow buildings just outside St Peter's Square
- Piazza de' Cestari and Via Santa Caterina di Siena have some very interesting shops, great personal gift items for priests and nuns.

*Special Note: whatever you hold in your right-hand at the end of the Papal Audience, or any papal event) will receive the Apostolic (Pope's) Blessing. So, if you would like to have some souvenirs Papally blessed, make sure to get them before you go to the Vatican.*

## Emergency Contact Details

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**Emergency service numbers in Italy are as follows:**

112 for the Carabinieri (police)

115 for the Vigili del Fuoco (fire department)

118 for Emergenza Sanitaria (ambulance)

## **PARTICIPANTS INFORMATION**

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**Thank you all for joining, sharing, and making  
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- Shing Wai & Charlotte YUNG
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