
Excellence in Sophisticated Travel

AHI International Corporation
Alumni Holidays®
Alumni Campus Abroad®
AHI Discovery Abroad

6400 Shafer Court
Rosemont, IL 60018

World Headquarters phone
fax 847.318.5000
USA web www.ahitravel.com
email info@ahitravel.com



Italian Riviera 2009 Travel Program:

Italian Riviera

October 10-18, 2009

Approximately \$2,695 per person, plus airfare and V.A.T., based on double occupancy.

Relish the splendor of the Italian Riviera. Embrace a colorful painter's paradise among the winding streets of the charming seaside village of **Sestri Levante**. Lose yourself in the stunning coastal scenery leading en route to **Santa Margherita**, where the Gothic church of Santa Margherita d'Antiochia awaits. Cruise placid waters to the enchanting harbor of cosmopolitan **Portofino** and its awe-inspiring Punta del Capo lighthouse. In **Genoa**, you'll have the opportunity to discover Christopher Columbus' House. Visit the lovely Cinque Terre towns of **Portovenere** and **Vernazza**. Time has also been carved out for a review of marble sculpting art in **Carrara**. Finally, explore the walled city of **Lucca**, with its sensational Duomo, the Church of San Frediano and the Church of San Michele.

Day-by-Day Itinerary*

Day 1

Depart your gateway city for **Florence**, Italy. (*Flight provided for Air Program participants only.*)

Day 2

Upon your arrival in Florence, transfer by motorcoach to the **Hotel Vis à Vis** in **Sestri Levante**. (*Transfer provided for Air Program participants only.*)

Local Flavor: This evening, gather for a *Welcome Reception and Dinner*.

Day 3

Educational Focus: *The Riviera del Levante ~ A Painter's Palette.*

Excursion: *Walking Tour of Sestri Levante.* Walk along winding streets to see the Piazza Matteoti, with its Town Hall and Basilica of Santa Maria di Nazareth.

Excursion: *Santa Margherita and Portofino.* Tour Santa Margherita, a town of flowers, swaying palm trees and hillside villas, and embark on a cruise to Portofino for panoramic views from the Church of San Giorgio, the medieval fortress of Castello di San Giorgio and the Punta del Capo lighthouse.

Day 4

Excursion: *Genoa.* Admire La Spianata di Castelletto and see the Renaissance palazzi on the Via Garibaldi. Stroll past medieval churches to the house believed to be the birthplace of Christopher

Columbus. Walk to Piazza Mateo, visit Palazzo Ducale, the Church of Gesù and the black and white Cathedral of San Lorenzo.

Local Flavor: Savor lunch at a local restaurant.

Independent Exploration: Enjoy time at leisure to discover Genoa's many charms.

Educational Focus: *The Cinque Terre ~ A Tasteful Encounter of Land and Sea.*

Day 5

Excursion: Cinque Terre. Glide by boat to Portovenere and Vernazza, where you'll see Genoese towers and the Gothic Santa Margherita d'Antiochia. Take a train to Riomaggiore and walk along La Via dell'Amore, a paved coastal trail. See Manarola's vivid homes cling to cliffs before returning to Sestri Levante by train.

Local Flavor: Enjoy lunch in Vernazza.

Independent Exploration: You will have time to explore Portovenere and Vernazza on your own.

Day 6

Excursion: Carrara. Visit a local quarry and museum where Michelangelo chose his prized marble. Enjoy a demonstration by a local sculptor and see the town's Duomo. Study its rose window, a masterpiece in marble.

Educational Focus: *Michelangelo—When Marble Comes Alive.*

Local Flavor: Enjoy lunch in Carrara.

Independent Exploration: After returning to Sestri Levante, the afternoon is free for independent exploration.

Educational Focus: *Meet the People.*

Day 7

Educational Focus: *A Contemporary View of Italy.*

Local Flavor: Enjoy lunch in Tuscany.

Excursion: Lucca. After lunch, enjoy a walking tour of the walled, tree-lined city of Lucca. See the Romanesque Duomo di San Martino with carvings by Nicola Pisano, the white marble chapels of the Church of San Frediano and the Church of San Michele.

Day 8

Independent Exploration: Enjoy the day at leisure to explore or relax independently.

This evening, join your friends for a special *Farewell Reception*, your *Graduation Ceremony* and a *Farewell Dinner*.

Day 9

Transfer to the Florence airport for the return flight to your gateway city. (*Transfer and flight provided for Air Program participants only.*)

* *Itinerary is subject to change due to local conditions. Excursions in this program may involve an element of walking as some of the finest attractions are not always located in areas not closely accessible by motorcoach.*