

10-DAY PROGRAM



## GLA GROUP TRAVEL SAMPLE ITINERARY

*EXAMPLE ITINERARY ONLY: DURATION, DATES, COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES ARE CUSTOMIZABLE*



### Italy: The Signature Experience

Enjoy an incredible 10-day program in the country that gave us the Roman Empire & incredible cuisine throughout Rome, Florence & Venice.

#### OVERVIEW

Italy is known far and wide for its incredible history, cultural influence and perhaps most of all, the delectable dishes that draw visitors each year. We'll explore some of this country's most compelling sites throughout Rome, Florence and Venice and dive deep into what makes Italy unique.

#### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

- ★ Visit the Vatican & Colosseum
- ★ Explore the old city of Rome
- ★ Visit Florence's Duomo and Academia Museum
- ★ Visit and climb the leaning tower of Pisa
- ★ Explore the Islands of Murano & Burano
- ★ Immerse yourself in the beauty of the San Marco Piazza & the beautiful canals of Venice on a Gondola

#### THIS ITINERARY INCLUDES:

- **10 days / 9 nights of accommodation**
- 0 community service hours
- 1 free chaperone per 10 students
- 2 expert GLA staff members
- Medical & evacuation insurance
- 24-50 students (price is per student)

## ITINERARY: DAILY BREAKDOWN

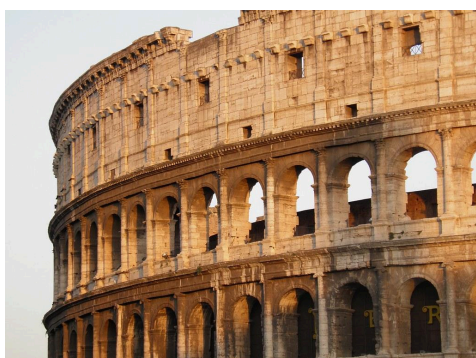
The information detailed here is typical for what you can expect to experience; however, service work and activities vary depending upon the needs of our community partners, various celebrations and customs, as well as the weather and specific needs of the student group.



### DAY 1: WELCOME TO ROME!

Touch down into Fiumicino Airport (FCO) in Rome, where our GLA staff members eagerly await your arrival. We'll travel as a group to our first Home Base, a small hotel in the city.

After getting settled in, we will head to the hotel's restaurant for a quick group dinner and a brief orientation: get some tips for cultural acclimation, go over expectations and the schedule, and get to know a bit more about Italy!



### DAY 2: VATICAN & CASTEL SANT'ANGELO

To start the day, we will head over to the Vatican museum, where we will learn about the history and influence of the Catholic church throughout the centuries, both in Italy and worldwide. After breaking for a classic Roman lunch, we'll continue with a tour of the ancient Castel Sant'Angelo fortress which has been standing since 500 A.D.

### DAY 3: COLOSSEUM & ROMAN FORUM

We'll dedicate today to learning about the famous Roman gladiators with a visit to the Roman Forum, where we'll hear some incredible stories in the place where Julius Cesar met his end. Marvel at the Colosseum, which is still the largest amphitheater ever constructed, regardless of its age. We'll try to wrap our heads around the eons of time that have passed since these structures were built, and discuss how they were preserved and treasured over the years in between.

### DAY 4: POMPEII

Day trip! Today we'll explore the UNESCO heritage site of Pompeii, a city that 15,000 people called home before it was tragically encapsulated forever in volcanic ash and pumice, leaving behind a perfectly preserved snapshot of daily life frozen in time (79 AD!).

We'll enjoy a well-deserved Neapolitan lunch before starting our journey back to our Home Base in Rome.

### DAY 5: PISA

Today we'll say "ciao" to Rome for good and journey to Pisa, home of the famous Leaning Tower. After settling into our accommodations, we'll hit the ground running with a city tour concluding at the Tower. If you're brave enough, climb the tower to the top to enjoy some impressive views.

### DAY 6: FLORENCE

Rise early to travel to the city of Florence! We'll fill the day with the best she has to offer, including the Duomo of Florence, the city's symbol and a great vantage point from which to snap some great pics; the Academia Museum, home to Michaelangelo's infamous David statue; and the world-renowned







arched bridge of Ponte Vecchio.

## DAY 7: TRAVEL TO VENICE

Time to say goodbye to the lovely Tuscany region—we're off to beautiful Venice! Known as "The Floating City," Venice is built around a series of canals, and traditional gondolas and more modern boats remain the main modes of transportation. After a long day of travel, we'll check into our new Home Base, relax, and wrap the day with some fun group activities.

## DAY 8: MURANO & BURANO ISLANDS

We'll take a short boat ride to explore the adjacent islands of Murano and Burano, each known for its unique cultural and artistic contributions. These bridge-linked islands are about 45 minutes from the main city. On Murano, marvel at the delicate blown glass that is manufactured here; on Burano, you'll feel as though you're in another world as you float among the brightly painted houses and artist cooperatives.

## DAY 9: CITY TOUR & FAREWELL DINNER

On our final day in Italy, we'll learn more about Venice through a personalized city tour. Explore the Piazza of San Marco and the famous palace of the Doge. Wander through the little secretive roads of the city, and end your day with a celebratory farewell dinner where we'll reflect on our adventure and say our final goodbyes.

## DAY 10: DEPARTURE DAY

And just like that, our Italian adventure has come to an end! Head to the Venice Marco Polo airport (VCE), where GLA staff will help the group check in for flights. See you next time!



# TRAVEL TO EUROPE

**GLA Home Bases** | Home Bases will change throughout the program. Each Home Base has been vetted by our staff to ensure their facilities and staff meet our safety standards. We typically stay outside of the city center, in quieter, more residential areas. This affords us the ability to experience different parts of the cities we visit and allows us a reprieve from the bustling city centers.

**Food** | Italian cuisine has traditional dishes from each region, but many students find the food to be very familiar. Italian staples include pasta, pizza, vegetables, meat, fish and pastries. Our locations can accommodate a wide variety of food allergies & dietary restrictions. Our meals will take place both at Home Base and at restaurants in the city.

**Climate** | The climate depends on what time of year you are visiting. Rome has a Mediterranean climate in which the winter season is quite cool and the summers are very hot.

**Flights** | Most group travel clients opt to travel together on the same flight, whether that be a group booking or individually-purchased tickets. GLA's partner travel agency, StudentUniverse, can be a helpful resource in finding and booking flights that meet the groups' budget and logistical requirements.

# LEADERSHIP

Global Leadership Adventures started as an educational institute, so we continue to think and act like educators—not tour operators—as we deliver life-changing programs. We intentionally weave a leadership curriculum into the group's daily experience to the desired degree. Through group discussion, meaningful service, workshops, speakers, and excursions, staff guide students to reflect on program events through the lens of leadership, and celebrate outstanding examples of leaders they encounter in the local community. Lending this context to the experience creates opportunities for students to dig deep into their vision, purpose and knowledge of themselves and the world.

## ABOUT GLOBAL LEADERSHIP ADVENTURES

GLA was founded in 2003 by Fred Swaniker, a native of Ghana, TED Fellow, and educational entrepreneur whose work has been praised by Barack Obama. Born as a global extension of the revolutionary African Leadership Academy, Global Leadership Adventures now operates programs centered around leadership, sustainable community service projects, and meaningful travel across Africa, Asia, Europe or the Americas. Through life-changing adventures, we strive to inspire the next generation to realize their potential to transform the world and their role in it.

## OUR EXPECTATIONS

### **Be present**

Our mission at GLA is “to inspire the next generation to realize their potential to transform the world and their unique role in it.” To that end, we expect GLA students to maintain high standards of personal behavior and to be open-minded. The culture may be different, sometimes shockingly so. GLA will challenge students as they are expected to work hard and be present physically and mentally for all activities. Students may get hot, dirt, and bug-bitten along the way, but their contribution can be transformative to both the community and themselves. The goal is for each student to return home having had a life-changing experience.

### **No tolerance**

GLA has a no-tolerance policy towards drugs, alcohol, tobacco, and disruptive behavior. Those who violate or are suspected of violating this policy will be immediately dismissed from the program at the sole discretion of staff.

### **Flexibility & Program Changes**

GLA makes every effort to offer thoughtfully crafted programs for teens and young adults. Detailed planning and exhaustive communications with partners are indispensable parts of our program development process. However, occasionally service and activities are adjusted from session to session, due to weather, changing needs of our local community partners or various cultural celebrations and holidays. We expect participants to be open-minded and flexible, and willing to embrace the experience when plans

change. GLA will communicate adjustments to group leaders with advance notice whenever possible and work together with custom group leaders to reschedule or replace activities if needed.

### **Mentorship & Health**

GLA is not a therapy program. Our staff are highly skilled, professional, caring, and fun, but they are not licensed therapists. GLA programs can be physically and emotionally demanding, and all participants should be physically and mentally healthy. Each student and staff member will undergo a self-reported medical screening process that includes a physician sign-off to ensure that our program can safely accommodate everyone's physical and mental health needs.