

# PORTRAIT OF ITALY

FROM THE AMALFI COAST TO VENICE

# May 26-June 10, 2018

**16 days for \$5,374 total price from Oklahoma City** (\$4,895 air & land inclusive plus \$479 airline taxes and fees)



Hosted by Drs. Keith and Kim Gaddie, University of Oklahoma

An Exclusive Small Group Tour Sponsored by the OU Alumni Association Sightseeing Sooners Program



### Dear Sightseeing Sooners,

Join fellow alumni and friends from May 26-June 10, 2018, on a special 16-day journey to Italy. Our small group will experience the best of Italy's countryside and its great cities – Rome, Florence, and Venice. We are pleased to have Drs. Keith and Kim Gaddie accompany you as OU Hosts.

This journey showcases priceless art, outstanding cuisine, and unique lodgings. Starting in Italy's Campania region, we will stay in the seaside resort of Amalfi, visit historic Pompeii, and explore Sorrento. During three days in Rome, we will see the city's most famous sights and have time to explore on our own. Then it's on to Umbria and Tuscany with their villages and medieval hill towns: Orvieto, Assisi, Siena, and San Gimignano. As an added feature, we'll enjoy a tour of the OU Italian Center in the picturesque Tuscan town of Arezzo. In Florence, we have an opportunity to become familiar with Renaissance art, and experience a wine tasting at a local winery in the Chianti region. Our journey concludes in magical Venice, with time to view its iconic sights. Those who wish to extend their stay in this timeless city may do so with a 3-day/2-night posttour extension.

This exclusive OU tour is limited to 24 guests total, so please call today to register!

Sincerely, Jea Cm Qinte

Lea Ann Quirk Director of Alumni Programs OU Alumni Association

### THE OU RESERVATION FORM – PORTRAIT OF ITALY

Enclosed is my/our deposit of \$\_\_\_\_\_\_(\$500 per person) for \_\_\_\_\_ person(s) on **Portrait of Italy** departing **May 26, 2018.** I/We understand the final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, VISA, or by personal check. **Please make check payable to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., and send, with completed reservation form, to: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., Attn: Special Interest Groups, One Newton Place, 275 Washington Street, Suite 300, Newton, MA 02458.** Or you may call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765, or fax your reservation to 617-454-9199.

Full Passport Name	Date of Birth	Gender
Full Passport Name	Date of Birth	Gender
Address		
City	State ZIP	
Home Phone ()	Cell Phone ()	
E-mail(s)	Badge Name(s)	
Please book my/our air from	I/We request an air upgrade to	0
I will share a room with	I request a single room (limite	d availability) 🗅

Post-Tour "Venice – On Your Own" Extension: Please sign me/us up

**Please Note:** The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for **Portrait of Italy, May 26-June 10, 2018**, and agrees that their signature below represents their acceptance of the General Terms & Conditions.

Signature(s)				Date	
Method of Payment	Check	American Express	Discover	MasterCard	
Account #		Securi	ty Code	Exp. Date	
Name of Cardholder					
Signature					

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure and is payable by check or credit card.

# **PORTRAIT OF ITALY** From the Amalfi Coast to Venice

# **16 days for \$5,374 total price from Oklahoma City** (\$4,895 air & land inclusive plus \$479 airline taxes and fees)

**F** rom the breathtaking Amalfi Coast to eternal Rome, through the gentle Umbrian and Tuscan countryside to timeless Venice, this wide-ranging tour showcases ancient sites, contemporary life, priceless art, and beautiful natural scenery. You'll especially appreciate the small size of your group as you stay in unique accommodations in the Tuscan countryside and in a medieval village.



# **Small Group Tour Highlights**

Stunning Amalfi Coast • Ruins at Pompeii • Amalfi Coast cruise • Rome sightseeing, including St. Peter's Square, Sistine Chapel, Colosseum, Forum • Pastoral Umbria, the "green heart" of Italy • Italian cooking demonstration • Visit to the walled city of Assisi • Comprehensive Tuscany sightseeing: San Gimignano, Siena, Florence • Local wine tasting • Timeless Venice • Three-night stays in intimate small hotels in Amalfi, Tuscany, and Umbria

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Naples		
2-4	Amalfi	Marmorata Hotel	First Class
5-7	Rome	Empire Palace Hotel	Sup. First Class
8-10	Orvieto (Umbria)	Grand Hotel Italia	First Class
11-13	Barberino Val d'Elsa (Tuscany)	Villa San Filippo	First Class
14-15	Venice	Carnival Palace Hotel	Sup. First Class
16	Depart Venice	for U.S.	

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.

### Day 1: Depart U.S. for Naples, Italy

**Day 2:** Arrive Naples/Amalfi After arriving in Naples this morning, we travel to seaside Amalfi, a popular resort and our base for exploring Italy's Campania region. We dine at our hotel tonight, as we will throughout our stay here. *D* 

**Day 3: Amalfi/Ravello** This morning we experience this breathtaking coast by sea as we cruise from our hotel to Amalfi Center (weather permitting). Here we enjoy a brief tour of the region's largest town then have lunch on our own. Next we ascend to mountaintop Ravello, with its spectacular gardens and coastal views. *B*,*D* 

**Day 4: Pompeii/Amalfi Coast/Sorrento** Our full-day excursion begins in Pompeii, the city frozen in time by the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in 79 cE but not excavated until 1748. After a tour and lunch on our own here we embark on a breathtaking drive along the winding Amalfi Coast road high above the azure Mediterranean – with stops for photos and in Sorrento along the way. We return to our hotel late afternoon. *B*,*D* 

**Day 5: Amalfi/Montecassino/Rome** En route to Rome today we visit the town of Montecassino, whose Abbey is the mother church of the Benedictine order and a center of medieval art. A German stronghold during World War II, the hilltop Abbey was destroyed by Allied bombing then rebuilt as a replica of the 17<sup>th</sup>century original. We tour the Abbey, then continue on to the Eternal City. We arrive at our well-located hotel mid-afternoon; our tour director will lead an informal walk of the nearby area. *B* 

**Day 6: Rome** This morning we tour the heart of ancient Rome: the 55,000-seat Colosseum, built in 72 cE to stage gladiator spectacles; and the temples of the Forum, ancient Rome's political and legal center. The afternoon is free to explore on our own; the possibilities endless: shopping along the fashionable Via Veneto; sipping espresso in beautiful Piazza Navona; seeing the Pantheon, the city's best preserved ancient building; tossing a coin into Trevi Fountain; or visiting any number of renowned museums and churches. *B* 

Cover photo: On Day 4 we enjoy one of the world's greatest drives along the breathtaking Amalfi Coast.



Rome's Forum dates to the 7<sup>th</sup> century BCE.

**Day 7: Rome** Today we visit the Vatican for a tour of St. Peter's Square and Basilica, and the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican Museums. Highlights include Michelangelo's "Pieta" in St. Peter's, considered one of the greatest sculptures of all time; his frescoed ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, now restored to its original glory; and art-filled St. Peter's itself, the most important church in all Christendom. *B* 

**Day 8: Rome/Orvieto** Leaving Rome, we travel north through a pastoral landscape of gentle agricultural land bounded by mountain wilderness and dotted with traditional villages and medieval hill towns. Mid-afternoon we reach Orvieto, perched high on a plateau above a vineyard-clad plain. After we check in at our hotel in the heart of the city's medieval quarter, our tour director leads us on an informal walking tour. Tonight we attend a simple cooking demonstration followed by dinner at Zeppelin Restaurant. *B*,*D* 

**Day 9: Orvieto** This morning we embark on a guided walking tour of this dramatically set city. We visit the medieval *Duomo* featuring a frescoed chapel by Fra Angelico and Luca Signorelli's masterpiece, "The Last Judgment." Next we explore the formerly secret passages of Parco delle Grotte, a labyrinth of underground caves used since Etruscan times. The remainder of the day is at leisure. *B* 

**Day 10: Orvieto/Assisi** Today's excursion is to Assisi, considered a gem of an Umbrian town with inviting plazas, abundant flowers, buildings of white marble, and a pervasive medieval air. We visit St. Clare Church and the renowned Basilica di San Francesco, the burial place of St. Francis and a sacred pilgrimage site. Inside are Giotto's priceless frescoes, "The Life of St. Francis." There's time on our own to stroll the fountain-splashed *piazzas* and to enjoy local specialties for lunch. We also visit Deruta, known for its prized hand-painted Majolica ceramics. *B* 

Day 11: Orvieto/Siena/Tuscany Continuing our journey, today we visit walled Siena, whose ochrecolored buildings and ancient ramparts evoke the city's medieval past. We set out on a guided walking tour that includes an inside visit to the *Duomo*, housing masterpieces by Michelangelo and Donatello. From Siena, we visit the OU Italian Center in Arezzo. Our visit includes a tour inside OUA's beautiful satellite campus. The OUA Center is conveniently located in the historic center of Arezzo in a restored 13<sup>th</sup>-century palace. In the words of a recent OUA graduate, "Arezzo truly allows you to live under the Tuscan sun, experience many a Roman holiday, and

## **Post-Tour Extension**

## June 10-12, 2018 **VENICE –**

# **ON YOUR OWN**

3 days/2 nights for \$395 total price Single Supplement: \$295

Enjoy time on your own in this most timeless of cities.

## Your Tour Price Includes

- 2 nights' accommodations at Carnival Palace Hotel (Superior First Class)
- 2 meals: 2 breakfasts
- Transfer to airport

# "Rome was a poem, pressed into service as a city." - Anatole Broyard

certainly get a taste of la dolce vita." After our visit here, we continue on to our Tuscan hotel. *B*,*D* 

**Day 12: Florence** A living monument to the Renaissance, Florence is Tuscany's crown jewel. We encounter this splendid city on a full-day excursion that includes a morning walking tour. Then we visit the Galleria dell'Accademia to view Michelangelo's sublime "David," as well as his pieces for the papal tombs; and the revered *Duomo*, with its stupendous dome by Brunelleschi. This afternoon is free to enjoy Florence as we wish. *B*,*D* 

**Day 13:** San Gimignano We encounter classic Tuscany today as we visit the hill town of San Gimignano, known for the 13 watchtowers that have left its skyline virtually unchanged since medieval times.



Later we visit a local winery and enjoy a tasting before returning to our lodgings mid-afternoon. *B*,*D* 

# Day 14: Tuscany/

Venice Leaving Tuscany today, we travel through the Veneto region to Venice, arriving early this afternoon. Then we're free to explore this wondrous city on our own. *B* 

Our tour ends in timeless Venice.

**Day 15: Venice** This morning we take a guided walk through St. Mark's Square and surroundings. Our afternoon is free to explore Venice independently; tonight we bid "*arrivederci*" to Italy and our fellow travelers at a farewell dinner. *B*,*D* 

**Day 16: Depart for U.S.** We depart early this morning for our connecting flights to the U.S. *B* 

# Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
- 14 nights' accommodations in Superior First Class and First Class hotels
- 22 meals: 14 breakfasts, 8 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers

# **OU Faculty Hosts**



Kim & Keith Gaddie have been at OU for over two decades. Kim is a Sooner alumna, with a master's degree from the Herbert School of Mass Communication and a doctorate in political communication. She is currently the

managing editor of Social Science Quarterly (housed at OU) and also a popular instructor in OU CAS Study Abroad and the Osher Lifetime Learning Institute. Keith has been on faculty at OU since 1996 and is currently President's Associates Presidential Professor and chair of Political Science. Together, the Gaddies will serve as the inaugural Senior Fellow couple leading Headington College, one of OU's two new Yale-style residential colleges, situated just south of Gaylord Family-Oklahoma Memorial Stadium. They met at Florida State University and also attended the University of Georgia, where Kim took her A.B. in advertising and Keith completed his doctorate. The Gaddies are avid travelers at home and abroad, having led student study abroad groups in Ireland, Scotland, Russia, and Finland.

# Tour Departs: May 26, 2018

Prices include int'l airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

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\$4,974
\$5,174
\$5,274
\$5,374
\$4,095

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$479, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,095.

All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Airline upgrades on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: Business Class – \$3,995 per person; Premium Economy – \$895 per person (upgrades are subject to availability and pricing is subject to change). Upgrade costs are in addition to the costs above.

Please note: This trip involves considerable walking up hills or stairs, and on uneven or cobblestone streets. In addition, one of our small hotels does not have elevators. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour to its fullest.

## For information about logistics or registration, please call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at

## 888-370-6765

Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-7:00 PM, Eastern Time

#### **GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a \$500 deposit per person represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

#### Not Included in Tour Price

Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; communication charges; optional sightseeing; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10-\$15 per traveler, per day); optional sightseeing; and travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

#### **Cancellations, Refunds, and Changes**

If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.'s receipt of your written notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: cancel 95 days or more before departure: 50% of tour price; cancel 44-30 days before departure: 25% of tour price; cancel 64-45 days before departure: 50% of tour price; cancel 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; cancel 64-45 days before departure: 50% of tour price; cancel 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; cancel 64-45 days before departure: 50% of tour price; cancel 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; cancel 64-45 days before departure: 15% of tour price; cancel 64-45 days before departure: 00% per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure. Upon reservation, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport, as well as your date of birth and gender. In the event an airline ticket is reissue.

#### Responsibility

The liability of the University of Oklahoma Alumni Association, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. The University of Oklahoma Alumni Association and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

#### **Health and Medical Issues**

We request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There is a considerable amount of walking, and you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own. We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that our itineraries cannot accommodate wheelchairs. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. and the University of Oklahoma Alumni Association assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

#### Air Transportation – Important Information

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown, and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. Please note that seat assignment on your International flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments. Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage acrual stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own ravel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.



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# JOIN OU ON AN EXCLUSIVE TOUR TO ITALY!

Guaranteed Small Group: Limited to 24 Guests