



**Viaggi Italiani**  
with **Marcello & Becky Simone**

**By Beach Bum Vacations LLC**

**Marcello & Becky Simone**

Certified Travel Concierges/Italy Specialists

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ARTEMISIA GOLD

# *Viaggi Italiani & Artemisia Gold's Fall 2026 Small Group Art & Cultural Tour*

*Friday, October 2 - Sunday, October 11, 2026 (10 days, 9 nights)*

*5 nights Assisi - 3 nights Firenze (Florence) - 1 night Fiumicino (Rome Airport)*



*Whether it's your first time to Italy or you're returning for another "taste", come with us on this extraordinary journey and indulge all of your senses. We'll explore well-known historic sites and become temporary locals in small villages. We'll visit beautiful museums with a focus on Plautilla Nelli, who was the first known female painter of Florence and a trailblazer of the Renaissance. We'll visit a family-run winery and enjoy a homecooked meal at farmhouse, among many other unique experiences.*



*Our journey begins in the region of Umbria, the historic heart of Italy, where we will spend 5-days in Assisi and the surrounding countryside.*



*We'll continue on to Firenze, the capital of Italy's Tuscany region, known globally as the birthplace of the Renaissance.*



*We look forward to sharing the Italy that we know and love with you!  
Space is very limited - don't miss out! Contact us TODAY to reserve your  
spot on this fabulous small group tour of Bella Italia!*





## ASSISI, UMBRIA

Assisi, a medieval city built on a hill, is the birthplace of Saint Francis, closely associated with the work of the Franciscan Order. Its medieval art masterpieces, such as the Basilica of San Francesco and paintings by Cimabue, Pietro Lorenzetti, Simone Martini and Giotto, have made Assisi a fundamental reference point for the development of Italian and European art and architecture.

### Friday, October 2 – ASSISI

-Group transfer from Roma Fiumicino Airport to our hotel in Assisi

-Five nights accommodations at **Hotel Giotto** in a **Valley View Room** including daily breakfast and city tax



### Hotel Giotto - Assisi

Set in the Medieval quarter of Assisi, Hotel Giotto is a 4-star hotel within close proximity of the Basilica of Saint Francis, Roman Temple of Minerva and Rocca Maggiore. It offers an elegant restaurant, a wellness center and panoramic views across to Spoleto and Perugia.

Hotel Giotto's air-conditioned rooms come with satellite TV and fully equipped bathroom. Some rooms offer views of the valley.

A breakfast buffet is served daily in the dining room. The L'Estasi restaurant specializes in Umbrian cuisine and offers an extensive wine list.

At the spa, guests can book beauty treatments and massages. The center includes a pool with hydromassage jets, a steam room, and a sauna. Use of the spa and treatments such as massages incur an additional charge, which will be determined at the property.

**\*Welcome cocktail reception (cocktail and snacks included)**

**\*Welcome dinner (water and wine included)**



**INCLUDED TOUR:**  
**PRIVATE FULL DAY TOUR OF MONTEFALCO & SPELLO WITH ANNE**  
**INCLUDING LUNCH**

 **Moderate with hills**

Montefalco, known as “the balcony of Umbria,” is famed for its textiles, Sagrantino wine, a splendid medieval frescoed church-now-museum and *mozzafiato* (“breath-cutting”!) views of the surrounding Umbrian landscape.

As we explore this hilltop village (with views of the valley all around), we’ll start with a visit inside a fascinating medieval “hidden” cloister, attached to a “miraculous” (fine out why!) garden. Stunning medieval artworks fascinate. And wait until you see the relics! This small town boasts a superb “museum” (once a medieval church) of stunning frescoes and our guided Montefalco walk will open your eyes to many details you’d probably overlook on your own.

Like Assisi, Spello is constructed in the local pink limestone quarried on Mount Subasio, lending it a unique rosy hue, particularly at sunset. We’ll discover the vestiges of Spello’s Roman origins, including the mosaics of a Roman villa and we’ll take in of the most splendid Renaissance fresco cycles in Umbria as we stroll Spello’s charming medieval backstreets.

Medieval splendors – the great ones, the lesser-known ones – highlight this day. And our encounters with talented local artisans will make it a day to remember.





**INCLUDED TOUR:**  
**PRIVATE HALF DAY WALKING TOUR OF ASSISI WITH ANNE INCLUDING LUNCH**

 **Moderate with hills**

Our guided walk through Assisi – justly acclaimed “crown jewel of the medieval hill towns” – encompasses its rich historical and artistic heritage. Our tour starts in the stunning three level Romanesque/Gothic Basilica di San Francesco built in the 13th century to house the body of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of Italy and most beloved of all saints for the Italians.



As we leave the St. Francis Basilica majesty to walk the backstreets of Assisi, we will see fascinating architectural details that you would probably walk right past – and plenty of “local curiosities”!

As we stroll, keep your eyes out for the many “edicole” in town and look over the doors and windows for the “Pax et bonum” tiles. And you’d probably walk right past the 3rd BC Roman wall and Roman city gate that our guide will show us near the Basilica di Santa Chiara (stunning 13<sup>th</sup> century Gothic church). Learn about the treasures of the Basilica (those to note, those you could miss) before we head to the main piazza of Assisi. All the history of Assisi and every architectural style is synthesized here. Piazza del Comune is the perfect place to conclude our Assisi stroll.





**INCLUDED TOUR:**  
**PRIVATE FULL DAY PERUGIA & DERUTA TOUR WITH ANNE**  
**INCLUDING A FARMHOUSE LUNCH**



**Moderate with hills**

Perugia's Etruscan glory lives on in the Etruscan city gate of the 3rd century BC – hidden away in the massive Papal fortress of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. This reach across the ages synthesizes Perugia, a stunning medieval hill town of "layers." We'll bridge the centuries as we discover the wonders: the splendid 14<sup>th</sup> century courthouse (with medieval "yardsticks" set into the walls), a frescoed Renaissance guildhall, a 14<sup>th</sup> century masterpiece of wood inlay, a 19<sup>th</sup> century frescoed pastry shop and a 13<sup>th</sup> century sculptural masterpiece, the Great Fountain and of course we'll view the *Pentecost*, (1554) by Plautilla Nello in the Basilica of San Domenico.



While in Perugia, we'll meet "the locals," view the work of talented local artisans, and find the best chocolate.

We'll then head out to the nearby Deruta countryside for a rural banquet with farm friend, Giuseppa. After lunch, we'll head to Deruta, medieval hill town near the Tiber River and a major production center of glazed ceramics, *maiolica*, since the Middle Ages. Deruta is a veritable hymn to *maiolica*.



We'll see all the phases of maiolica production in a famed family-run workshop. In the nearby countryside, we'll stop at a shrine adorned with over 700 *maiolica* folk art tiles, many painted in the 17th-century by unknown local artists. Our walk through the medieval heart of Deruta will conclude our day.



**\*\*\*SPECIAL EVENT\*\*\***

**Monday, October 5<sup>TH</sup>**

**THE MARKET OF SAN FRANCESCO**

**Commemorating the 800th anniversary of the death of Saint Francis**

The Market of San Francesco (Fiera di San Francesco) in Assisi is traditionally held on October 5th, the day after the Solemnity of the Patron Saint. In 2026, the event is part of the eighth centenary of the death of the Saint, with a rich calendar of cultural and religious events that enliven the city.





This year Assisi will host an extraordinary program of events which will include exhibitions, concerts and spiritual itineraries designed for the eighth centenary. We'll find hundreds of stalls offering local crafts, clothing, gifts and Umbrian food and wine specialties.



### **FIRENZE (FLORENCE), TUSCANY**

Florence is an art historian's dream. The Galleria dell'Accademia bursts with works by Michelangelo, who is entombed within the frescoed walls of the Basilica di Santa Croce. Budding photographers can snap pics of the Ponte Vecchio bridge, and serious shoppers can spend a blissful afternoon wandering the shops of Piazza Santo Spirito. Tuscan cuisine pays homage to the region's bounty. Dip a piece of crusty bread into a bowl of local olive oil and you'll be instantly transported to your happiest place.

### **Wednesday, October 7 – SIENA & FIRENZE**

-Group transfer from our hotel in Assisi to our hotel in Firenze with a stop on the way in Siena





**INCLUDED TOUR & GASTRONOMIC EXPERIENCE:  
PRIVATE WALKING TOUR OF SIENA & LUNCH WITH WINE & OLIVE OIL  
TASTING WITH ROBERTO**



**Moderate with hills**

We'll begin our walking tour of Siena in one of the most beautiful piazze in all of Italy, Piazza del Campo, which doubles as a horse track for the annual world-famous palio. We'll stroll down Via Banchi di Sopra, the main shopping street of Siena; see the world's oldest bank in continuous operation since 1472; and visit the awe-inspiring Duomo (cathedral).



Afterwards we'll continue on to Madonna Bella Farm, right outside Siena with views on the city and out over the countryside, where we will we'll sit down to learn about food and wine pairing and enjoy an abundant tasting of all the products of the farm - fresh pasta, dishes graced with their olive oil and wine. Finally, we'll visit the olive groves and vineyards and see how olive oil and fresh/dried pasta is processed.

-Three nights accommodations at **Hotel Plaza Lucchesi** in a **Superior Room with View** including daily breakfast and city tax



### **HOTEL PLAZA LUCCHESI - FIRENZE**

Right on the Arno River bank, Plaza Hotel Lucchesi is a 10-minute walk from Piazza della Signoria. It features air-conditioned rooms, a 24-hour front desk and traditional restaurant.

Offering free Wi-Fi, elegant rooms at the Lucchesi come with a satellite flat-screen TV and minibar. Some have a balcony and/or overlook the Arno River or the Church of Santa Croce.

Breakfast is served buffet style. It consists of both sweet and savory choices. The restaurant offers local specialties. Guests can also enjoy views from the Empireo rooftop bar and pool.

Santa Maria Maggiore di Firenze is a 15-minute walk away, and Piazzale Michelangelo with panoramic views of Florence is less than 1 mile from the hotel.

Santa Croce is a great choice for travelers interested in sightseeing, museums and monuments.

**\*Welcome cocktail reception (cocktail and snacks included)**

**\*Welcome dinner (water and wine included)**



### **INCLUDED TOUR:**

#### **Private Walking Tour of Firenze**

Discover Florence's historic center on this 3-hour walking tour including Ponte Vecchio, the imposing Duomo and elegant Uffizi Square. We'll visit Museo di San Marco, Uffizi Gallery, Museum of Palazzo Vecchio and the Museum of Santa Maria Novella with a focus on the art of Plautilla Nelli.

From the Ponte Vecchio bridge we'll be introduced to the fascinating history and traditions of Florence: rub the nose of the legendary boar, 'Il porcellino', to ensure a return to Florence and visit Piazza della Repubblica, once the Ancient Forum, now a popular meeting place for famous writers. Enter the Duomo, the astounding Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore (when possible).



### **INCLUDED COOKING CLASS:**

#### **Private Market Tour & Cooking Class with Lunch**

- Start your day at a traditional Tuscan market
- Meet local vendors & taste regional products
- Hands-on cooking class in a private villa near Florence
- Make fresh pasta, seasonal sides & a classic dessert
- Cook with ingredients picked at the market

Want to cook a Tuscan meal from market to table? Join our private market tour and cooking class in a villa near Florence and experience Tuscany through its flavors. Start your day visiting a local market, selecting fresh seasonal ingredients with your chef.

Then, head to a beautiful countryside villa kitchen, where you'll prepare a full traditional Tuscan meal from scratch—fresh pasta, sides, and dessert included. Learn authentic recipes and techniques in a relaxed, hands-on setting surrounded by stunning views.

After cooking, enjoy the meal you've created, paired with local wines and warm hospitality.

It's the perfect culinary experience for food lovers seeking tradition, flavor, and unforgettable memories in the heart of Tuscany.



### FIUMICINO (ROMA AIRPORT)

Fiumicino is a town and comune in the Metropolitan City of Rome, Lazio, central Italy. It is famous for the presence of the Leonardo da Vinci–Fiumicino Airport, the busiest airport in Italy and the sixth busiest in Europe, but it's also a lovely little town along the Tiber River with shops, cafes and restaurants serving, among other things, fresh caught fish.

#### Saturday, October 10 - FIUMICINO

- Group transfer from our Firenze hotel to our Fiumicino hotel
- One night accommodations at **Hotel Tiber** in a **Standard Room** including breakfast and city tax
- \*Farewell cocktail reception (cocktails and snacks included)**



### HOTEL TIBER - FIUMICINO

Showcasing a sun terrace and views of the sea, Hotel Tiber is located in Fiumicino. Guests can enjoy the on-site restaurant. Free WiFi is available throughout the hotel.

Each room at this hotel is air conditioned and is equipped with a flat-screen TV with satellite channels. Every room is equipped with a private bathroom. Extras include slippers and free toiletries.

The hotel is 1.9 miles from Roma Fiumicino Airport

## Sunday, October 11 - DEPARTURE

-Hotel shuttle service from our Fiumicino hotel to Roma Fiumicino Airport (coordinated with your departure flight)



**PACKAGE PRICE: USD \$7950.00 per person based on double occupancy**

**\*single supplement available on request**

**\*The package price is based on a minimum of eight travelers. If fewer than eight travel, the price is subject to increase. Alternatively, the tour may be cancelled by Viaggi Italiani with a full refund for tour deposits received.**

### **THE TOUR INCLUDES:**

- All ground transportation as specifically detailed in the itinerary\*
- Nine (9) nights accommodations
- Daily breakfast
- Three (3) cocktail receptions
- Five (5) lunches including water and wine
- Two (2) dinners including water and wine
- One (1) winery tour/tasting
- One (1) cooking class
- Five (5) private guided tours/excursions including admission tickets
- Guidance and assistance of your hosts throughout the tour
- Complimentary WiFi at all hotels and in the vans/buses when travelling from destination to destination
- All gratuities for included meals, drivers and tour guides
- All hotel and city taxes

**\*\$500.00 tax deductible donation to art restoration projects led by Artemesia Gold  
([www.artemesiagold.org](http://www.artemesiagold.org))**

\*Please note that the included arrival transportation from Roma Fiumicino Airport is based on coordinated arriving flights that are within one hour of each other. In the case of a scheduled arrival that is more than one hour before or after the rest of the group, the cost of alternative transportation will be the responsibility of the individual traveler. In the case of airline schedule changes or flight delays, the individual traveler will be responsible for any additional transportation expenses.



**THE TOUR DOES NOT INCLUDE:**

- Airfare (we can assist you with booking and coordinating your flights)
- Insurance (mandatory – quoted on an individual basis)
- Anything not specifically mentioned in the program

All prices are in US Dollars based on current currency exchange rates. In case of currency fluctuation of more than 3% prior to full payment, Viaggi Italiani reserves the right to adjust the package price accordingly.

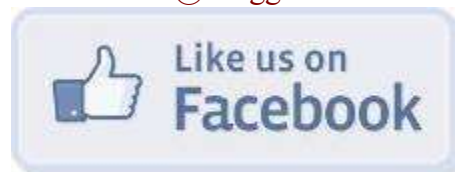
In order to confirm your reservations we will need each passenger's full name EXACTLY as it appears on your passport (first name, middle name or initial and last name) as well as each passenger's date of birth, mailing address, email address and contact phone numbers.

A nonrefundable deposit/down payment of \$1200 per person is required at the time of confirmation. The remaining balance is required no later than 50 days before departure.

Airfare must be paid in full at the time of confirmation.



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# About Us



Viaggi Italiani was born on the premise that nothing beats personalized service, experience and attention to detail. While many Internet sites promise special deals, travelers are often unaware of restrictions, exceptions and fine print. Making the right choices based on price alone is not always the best course of action for travelers. We hear too many stories of travelers regretting that they didn't call us first.



Marcello is a native of Italy. Born in a small town of the region of Calabria, some of his first memories of life in Italy are of daily trips to the pristine beach, picking olives and pinenuts and playing soccer in the street with his big brother.

After 33 years in America, Marcello and his family made their first trip back to their homeland. Though so much time had passed and some memories had faded, the love for their homeland is still strong.

Since 2000, together with his wife Becky, Marcello has been planning clients' trips and hosting small groups to Italy. His love and passion for the land, people and culture of Italy is clearly evident and his knowledge of the language and culture is a clear advantage.

Becky has been in the travel industry for more than 35 years and she has a true love of travel and serving others. She has worked for many travel agencies over the years but knew that she could best serve travelers by creating a specialized agency on her own terms. She was determined to prove that her agency could provide better service and value than any other means of travel planning. She knew that travelers would appreciate the values of a full-service travel agency that specializes in Italy.

While she had traveled to Europe, including Italy, throughout her life with family it wasn't until her first visit to Italy as an adult that she came to truly appreciate this unique and intriguing land for all its splendors.

Together Marcello and Becky work to continually expand their knowledge of the culture and food of the 20 regions of Italy. They study the language and visit frequently always working to create and strengthen their relationships with local hoteliers, tour guides and other suppliers so that they can send their valued clients with confidence.



ARTEMISIA GOLD

### **Rediscovering Forgotten Female artists, reviving Art and our Cultivating Heritage**

Artemisia Gold is dedicated to rediscovering, restoring, and exhibiting overlooked masterpieces — with a focus on the forgotten women artists of history. Through restoration, research, and education, we bring these works back to life and share the stories behind them, reconnecting communities with a richer, more complete picture of our cultural heritage.

Our work centers on artists such as Artemisia Gentileschi, the most celebrated female painter of the Italian Baroque, and Suor Plautilla Nelli, a Renaissance prioress and painter — restoring their paintings, uncovering their histories, and bringing their contributions to wider audiences.

Join us in celebrating art, history, and the artists who shaped it.

*Artemisia Gold is a US 501(c)(3) and UK-registered charity.*



**Jane Adams - Co-Founder & CEO**

Jane Adams brings extensive experience in PR and communications within the art and cultural heritage sectors. As Director of Partnership Relations for Jane Fortune and Advancing Women Artists Inc., she helped restore over 70 works of art over a decade, combining conservation, historical research, and public engagement.

In 2020, she co-founded Artemisia Gold UK, marked by the restoration of *Sinite Parvulos, Let the Children Come to Me* by Artemisia Gentileschi (Church of San Carlo al Corso, Rome), sponsored by board member Mark Smith. This was followed by a diagnostic campaign on Gentileschi's *Mother and Child*, in partnership with the Spada Gallery, Rome, resulting in the publication *Investigating Artemisia at the Spada Gallery* (De Luca Editori d'Arte, 2022). That same year, she co-founded Caravaggio & Contemporary Ltd., overseeing restoration projects at the Church of Ognissanti in Florence.

In 2024, Artemisia Gold co-sponsored the restoration of two works by Suor Plautilla Nelli — *Madonna of the Rosary* (Church of San Giuseppe and Santa Lucia, Montaione, Florence) and *Mother and Child with Saint Dominic, Saint Catherine, and Sant' Agnese* (private collection) — to mark the artist's 500th anniversary. Public lectures on these projects were held at the Museum of Santa Maria Novella, San Marco, Palazzo Corsini, and the Long Room Hub, Trinity College Dublin, in collaboration with Brenda Moore McCann and Ireland Italy–Projects, an association co-founded by Adams and Moore-McCann to promote cultural exchange between the two countries.

In 2025, she co-founded Artemisia Gold Inc., a U.S.-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit extending these efforts to engage international audiences in the preservation, study, and celebration of historically overlooked women artists.

