



/ EDUCATIONAL
TOURS



Middle School: Explore Italy

IMMERSIVE MIDDLE SCHOOL TOURS

From gladiators to gelato to gondolas, Italy has always been an icon of rich culture and traditions. This interactive tour encompasses Italy's top sites. Discover the country's ancient past at the Colosseum and Roman Forum, stare up at Michelangelo's masterpiece on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, walk across Florence's famous medieval bridge, and take a ride down Venice's winding canals.

Help middle school students find their place in the world

Travel fuels curiosity, offers fresh perspectives, and gives students the opportunity to discover life beyond their backyards. Our middle school tours are specially-designed, with hands-on activities in exciting destinations that are popular with students aged 11-15. And with over 55 years of experience, we know just how to keep students excited to learn more about the world, themselves, and their place in the world.

What to expect on our middle school tours

HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES

Our tours offer the perfect balance of cultural exploration and experiential activities.

AMAZING DESTINATIONS

Take your students just about anywhere. Many middle school teachers especially love traveling to England, Italy, Spain, France, and Panama.

24/7 TOUR DIRECTOR

Your expert Tour Director not only knows the ins and outs of each location you visit, but also how to keep students this age active and engaged. They are with your group 24/7, and are trained to respond to every type of situation.

YOUR EXPERIENCE INCLUDES

Full-time Tour Director; sightseeing tours; Burano island, glass-blowing demonstration, gondola ride, gladiator school, Pisa, create-a-fresco workshop, Basilica of St. Francis, Sistine Chapel, St. Peter's Basilica, Colosseum, Roman Forum, *with extension: Pompeii ruins; Capri boat cruise*; round-trip flights; 7 overnight stays in hotels (9 *with extension*); breakfast and dinner daily.

“Middle schoolers achieve more because of these trips. They take what they learn with them and that impacts them the rest of their lives.”

Gene F., Seventh Grade Teacher and Group Leader

Discover firsthand why Venice is known as the Floating City.



Day 1: Fly overnight to Italy**Day 2: Milan | Venice**

After meeting your Tour Director at the airport in Milan, journey east to the Floating City of Venice. If time permits, stop in Verona along the way and walk the streets of the fair city where Shakespeare set many of his plays.

Day 3: Venice

On a guided tour of Venice, explore St. Mark's Square (home to a very friendly pigeon population) and see gondolas glide down the Grand Canal. Cruise along the city's waterways during a traditional gondola ride. Travel by water taxi to the island of Burano, known for its brightly colored homes and lace work. Learn about the art of glass-blowing during a demonstration by a local artist.

Day 4: Venice | Pisa | Florence

Continue on to Florence via Pisa, where you'll explore Pisa's Field of Miracles. Snap a picture of the 12th-century Leaning Tower, aslant ever since the third floor was built. Also visit the adjacent cathedral and baptistry, which contain exquisite marble pulpits carved in the Gothic style.

Day 5: Florence

Enjoy Florence, the birthplace of the Italian language, opera, and the Renaissance. During a walking tour of the city, pass by classical statues at the Piazza della Signoria and walk across the Ponte Vecchio, a medieval bridge where many famed leather and gold artisans keep shop. Try your hand at a famed Italian painting style during a create-a-fresco workshop, where you'll create a fresco of your own in the traditional way by painting earth pigments onto fresh plaster.

Day 6: Assisi | Rome

Journey to Rome via Assisi, where you'll visit the Basilica of St. Francis, a UNESCO World Heritage site and important Roman Catholic landmark.

Day 7: Rome

On your visit to Vatican City, look up at Michelangelo's breathtaking ceiling in the Sistine Chapel and check out the colorful uniforms of the Swiss Guard, protectors of the Vatican.

Day 8: Rome

During your stay in Italy's capital, explore the world's most famous arena, the Colosseum, where you can almost hear the stamping feet of the crowds gathered for gladiatorial combat. Learn about everyday life in ancient Rome as you walk among the ruins of the Roman Forum, where Julius Caesar gave many of his great political speeches. Then go back to school—gladiator school! Discover what it took to become a Roman gladiator during a hands-on lesson, dress in traditional gladiator garb, and learn what life was like for these historic Italian figures.

Days 9–11: Return home or add extension

Depart for home on Day 9 or extend your trip to Pompeii and Capri. Enjoy an expert-led tour of Pompeii's ruins, visit the picturesque Sorrento region along the Bay of Naples, and feel the wind in your hair during a boat ride around the island of Capri.



Hear tales of ancient Rome's gladiators and emperors at the Colosseum.



Explore the Basilica of St. Francis, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

The world leader in international education

For over 55 years, EF has been working toward one global mission: *Opening the World Through Education*. Your teacher has partnered with EF because of our unmatched worldwide presence, our focus on affordability, and our commitment to providing experiences that teach critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, and global competence.

SAFETY

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AFFORDABILITY

We always offer the lowest prices so more students have the opportunity to travel and experience the world.

INSIGHT

We believe in experiential learning at the most important sites. Your Tour Director is with you at every step, providing their own perspective and local tips.

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