



Renaissance Italy

with **Tony Junker AIA**

13-24 May 2018

About this Tour

Architecture has been described as ‘frozen music’ and few times in history has this idea been more powerfully revealed than in the richly woven visual polyphony of the humanistic Italian Renaissance.

In this eleven day excursion through central Italy, architect and program director Tony Junker AIA, assisted by our outstanding local guides, will lead a small group of tour participants on a moving study tour of the Italian Renaissance, from its birth and flowering in outlying Tuscany to its ultimate expressions in the great city of Rome. Through evening lectures and group discussions, followed by guided visits to a carefully selected sequence of buildings and museums, participants will experience first-hand the dynamics and fabulous achievements of this amazing period in human history.

This unique tour will go far beyond the usual tourist itineraries, with visits to many less-frequented architectural jewels in Florence and Rome as well as palaces and churches hidden in the Italian countryside. Even well-seasoned travelers will delight in many new discoveries, including such rich and varied sites as Brunelleschi’s Pazzi Chapel, church of Santo Spirito, and loggias and cloisters at the Spedale of the Innocenti (all in Florence), Bernini’s Sant’Andrea al Quirinale and Santa Maria della Vittoria, Borromini’s San Carlo alle Quattro Fontane, Michelangelo’s Santa Maria degli Angeli (all in Rome), plus much more.

You’ll also receive personalized service throughout the trip from Under the Italian Sun’s excellent Italian tour leader, all ground transportation in a luxury minibus, great food and wine, with six full-course meals plus a tour of the top quality Avignonesi winery included during the trip, and ten nights of outstanding four-star accommodations in Florence, Pienza and Rome.

About this tour, Tony writes: “Art, architecture, and Italy are my passions. The rebirth and flourishing of the arts and architecture in fifteenth and sixteenth century Italy was a cultural and artistic revolution of amazing consequence in the western world, whose effects are still felt all around us today.”



About Your Program Director

Architect Tony Junker AIA is an experienced program director of art and architecture tours in Italy, and a veteran collaborator with Under the Italian Sun. Tony graduated from Wesleyan University in Art History, then went on to earn his Bachelor of Architecture degree at MIT. Tony studied under renowned architect Louis I. Kahn at Penn, where he earned masters degrees in architecture and city planning. He also received a diploma in architecture from the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Fontainebleau, France. Tony has taught architectural theory and design at Penn, Columbia, North Carolina State and Moore College of Art.

Four Star Accommodations

FLORENCE

Hotel degli Orafi

Located in a converted 13th century convent just steps away from the Ponte Vecchio, the Hotel Degli Orafi is known worldwide as the setting for James Ivory's film "A Room with a View." Rooms are decorated with period furniture, and include all modern comforts with marble-clad bathrooms. Breakfast is served in the beautifully ornate ballroom, decorated with original 19th century frescoes. There's also a rooftop terrace housing an American bar and a library.

PIENZA

Hotel Corsignano

Completely renovated in 2010, the family-run Hotel Corsignano is located just outside of Pienza historic center and an easy walk to the main piazza. Due to this particular location the hotel also has wonderful views of the surrounding countryside. The hotel has just 30 rooms, simply yet elegantly furnished and equipped with every comfort. The large bathrooms are fully outfitted. Common areas include an American bar, a lounge, a reading room, and a terrace with Jacuzzi.



Hotel degli Orafi



Room at Hotel Corsignano



Courtyard at Hotel Ponte Sisto

ROME

Hotel Ponte Sisto

The Hotel Ponte Sisto is a converted 17th century palazzo centered around a grand interior courtyard, a beautiful space in which to relax or take breakfast in good weather. Rooms and bathrooms are nicely decorated, with classic-style wood furnishings, are of a very good size and are equipped with all the amenities. Additional facilities include an American bar and a restaurant. The hotel has a very good location just a few steps from Campo dei Fiori and close to Piazza Navona.



Daily Schedule

- Sun 13 May: Departing flight from North America (air transportation not included).
- Mon 14 May: Arrival at Florence FLR airport and hello to your **tour director!** Transfer to the **Hotel degli Orafi** in **Florence** historic center. Free time to unpack. Stroll through Florence with your tour director. Evening Program Presentation by **program director Tony Junker AIA** and welcome dinner at a local restaurant (included).
- Tue 15 May: Walking tour in **Florence** with Tony and our Florence guide, with morning visits to the Uffizi Gallery (the Renaissance in paintings), the Duomo bell tower, baptistery and dome. Free time for lunch. Afternoon visits to the Duomo Museum and the Spedale degli Innocenti (exterior only) with Tony and our guide. Free evening.
- Wed 16 May: Morning walking tour in **Florence** with Tony and our Florence guide, with visits to the Pazzi Chapel at Santa Croce, the churches of Santo Spirito and San Lorenzo, including the sacristies. Free afternoon in Florence and free evening.
- Thu 17 May: Morning walking tour in **Florence** with Tony and our Florence guide, with visits to the Palazzo Medici (Kneeling window), San Lorenzo and the Laurentian library. Free afternoon in Florence. Evening Program Presentation by Tony Junker with discussion. Dinner at a local restaurant (included).
- Fri 18 May: Departure for Pienza, with en route guided tour of **Siena** with our Siena guide. Free time for lunch in Siena. Late afternoon arrival in **Pienza** and free time. Dinner at the Hotel Corsignano in Pienza (included).
- Sat 19 May: Morning walking tour of **Pienza** town center with Tony and our tour director. **Tour and full-course lunch** (included) at **Avignonesi** winery near Montepulciano. Afternoon visit to the church of San Biagio in Montepulciano. Free evening.
- Sun 20 May: Free morning in **Pienza**. Late morning check out of the hotel and departure for Rome, with stop for lunch en route (not included). Mid-afternoon arrival in Rome and free time to unpack. Early evening stroll through **Rome** historic center with Tony and our tour director. Dinner at a local restaurant (included).
- Mon 21 May: Morning visit to the **Vatican** with Tony and our Rome guide, including St Peter's Basilica, the piazza and colonnade, the rear façade and the Vatican gardens. Free time for the balance of the day and evening.
- Tue 22 May: Morning visits in **Rome** to the Campidoglio, the Capitoline Museum, the Tempietto and Porta Pia with Tony & our Rome guide. Free afternoon and evening in Rome.
- Wed 23 May: Morning visits in **Rome** to SM degli Angeli, San Carlo alle Quattro Fontane, SM della Vittoria and Sant'Andrea al Quirinale with Tony and our Rome guide. Free afternoon in Rome. Evening Wrap-up Program Discussion with Tony Junker. Farewell dinner at a local restaurant (included).
- Thu 24 May: Morning check-out of the hotel. Private transfer to Rome Fiumicino airport. Goodbye to your tour director and return flight to North America.

Under the Italian Sun



Renaissance Italy with Tony Junker AIA 2018 tour pricing includes:

All accommodations as listed, double occupancy room

All breakfasts

All transportation in luxury minibus with commercially licensed driver

Airport transfers as follows:

14MAY Florence Peretola FLR airport to Florence hotel

24MAY Rome hotel to Rome Fiumicino FCO airport

Program Director **Tony Junker AIA** with the group for the entire tour

Our professionally licensed **tour director** at disposition for the entire tour

Our professionally licensed **local tour guides** for supplemental historical background in:

Florence (1 full & 2 half-days), Siena (3 hours), and Rome (3 half-days)

Five full-course dinners (including beverages and wine) at restaurants in Florence, Pienza & Rome

One full-course lunch (including beverages and wine) at the Avignonesi winery

All museum and site entry fees during guided tours

All gratuities for guides and drivers

All portorage and all taxes

Tour pricing is **land only** and does not include:

Air transportation

Lunches or dinners except those listed

Gratuity for your tour director

Personal items such as laundry, beverages in hotel rooms, and telephone calls

Renaissance Italy with Tony Junker AIA 2018

12-13 persons..... \$ 4,945 per person land

14-15 persons..... \$ 4,745 per person land

Single supplement is **\$950** (double room for single use)

Reservation deposit of \$500 is required to book the tour

Final payment is due 60 days prior to departure

