

# *Fra Diavolo*

ROME, VATICAN CITY-STATE, ASSISI, FLORENCE,  
MONTERIGGIONI, GREVE IN CHIANTI, SAN GIMIGNANO  
AND THE AMALFI COAST INCLUDING POSITANO, THE  
ISLAND OF CAPRI, AND RUINS OF POMPEII  
ITALY



## *A Thirteen Day Adventure*

June 10<sup>th</sup> – June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015

**KEYROW TOURS**

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60 Georgia Road Trumansburg, NY 14886 315.491.3711 [www.keyrowtours.com](http://www.keyrowtours.com)

# Italy in 2015

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## WHAT IS INCLUDED? GROUND PRICE \$4699

### Centrally Located Hotels

Double Room occupancy in our three-star hotels in Rome, Assisi (Agriturismo), Florence, and Positano are quaint, clean and centrally located, with private baths. 4 nights in Rome, 2 nights in Florence, 2 nights in Assisi and 3 nights in Positano.

### Meals

Daily Continental Breakfast  
Daily Exquisite Traditional Main Meal (Lunch or Supper)  
Two Light Meals (Lunch or Supper)  
Plus "The Last Supper"...A Magnificent Feast-Extravaganza!

### All Ground and Sea Transportation

Round Trip Ground Transportation to and from Rome's Leonardo Da Vinci Airport  
All Train Fares: Rome to Assisi, Assisi to Florence, Florence to Naples (en route to the Amalfi Coast) and Naples to Rome  
Private Mini-Van Service in Tuscany to Siena, San Gimignano and the Torciano Winery  
Round Trip Ground Transportation from Hotels to Train Stations  
Private Chartered Boat to the Island of Capri  
Private Mini-Van Service to the Ruins of Pompeii

### All Entrance Tickets

Rome: The Coliseum, the Roman Forum, the Vatican Museum and Sistine Chapel, Scavi Tour, and the Basilica of San Clemente.  
Assisi: Guided Tour of the Patriarchal Basilica of St. Francis  
Florence: Santa Croce Church, the Academia Museum and wine tasting in Tuscany  
Amalfi Coast: The Island of Capri's Blue Grotto and the ruins of Pompeii

### Keyrow's Services

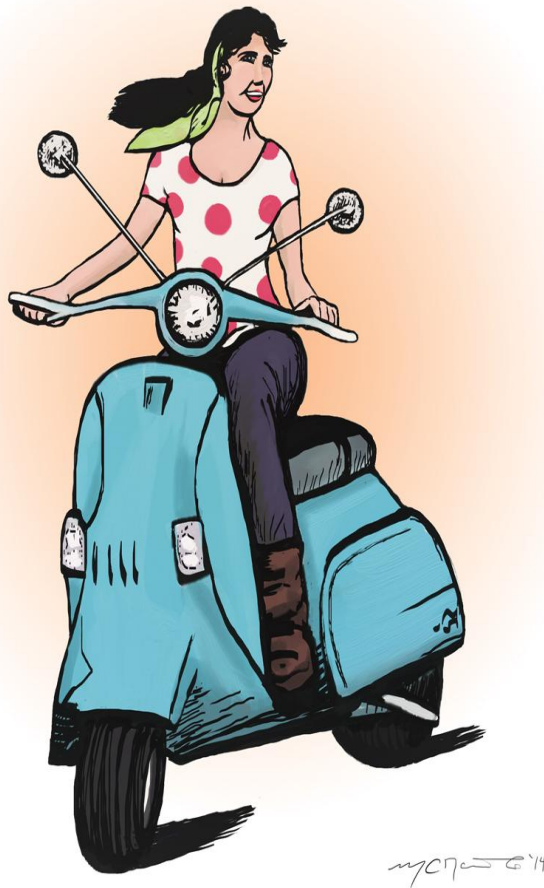
Paolo will serve as your personal full time director and guide, offering daily walking tours and sharing his knowledge of each site and region visited.  
Please make known any special needs well in advance of the trip.

# Day#1: Departure for Italy

Wednesday: June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015

In conjunction with Jetaway Travel, Keyrow Tours is pleased to make all flight arrangements, including primary flights originating from anywhere in the United States. Together as a group, the international departure will occur from either Philadelphia or New York. Transportation to and from your airport of departure is each person's responsibility.

**Important:** Please plan on sleeping on the plane as much as possible. This will help avoid jet lag, and enable us to "hit Rome running" on our first day in Italy...



*"Memory is the diary that we all carry about with us." ~ Oscar Wilde*

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# *Day #2: "From Pagan Temples to Patrimonial Churches"*

Thursday: June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015

## **Arrival at Leonardo Da Vinci Airport, Rome Italy**

After collecting our luggage and going through customs, a private minivan will take us to Hotel Smeraldo, located in the historic center of Rome. The ride is pleasantly under half an hour. Hotel check-in time is usually around noon. We will drop off our bags, have a cappuccino, and enjoy a brief orientation to the neighborhood. After check-in we will have time to shower and unpack.

## **The Centro Storico (Historic Center)**

### **A.) Campo Dei Fiori**

This is Rome's daily farmer's market. Just 5 minutes away from our hotel, enjoy the sights and sounds of people wheeling and dealing in produce from both land and sea: Fresh veggies, fruits, cheese, meats and fish.

### **B.) Piazza Navona**

One of Rome's most magnificent piazzas, or squares. See Bernini's famous Fountain of Four Rivers. Once the site of an ancient charioteer stadium, today it is a romantic location filled with artists, gelato ice cream shops, restaurants, and a variety of public performers.

## **Pranzo (Included Lunch)**

### **C.) Church of San Luigi Francese**

See three priceless Caravaggio paintings depicting scenes from the life of St. Matthew.

### **D.) The Pantheon**

The best-preserved monument of ancient Rome which outdates Christianity! Once the site where Romans worshiped all the gods, today it is a beautiful Christian basilica.

### **E.) Church of Santa Maria Sopra Minerva**

This church is built over a pagan temple to the goddess Minerva. See "The Resurrected Christ," a marble statue by Michelangelo. Visit the tomb of St. Catherine of Siena, as well as that of Fra Angelico...the same monk who made the liquor? Cheers!

### **F.) San Ignazio Church**

Witness some of the best Baroque ceilings in Rome. Notice something peculiar about the dome?

**Back to Hotel**

**Day's Recap**

**Cena! (Included Dinner).**

*"You may have the universe, if I may have Italy."* Giuseppe Verde

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# Day #3: Treasures of the Vatican

Friday: June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015

## Continental Breakfast

### A.) Scavi Tour

This exclusive trip is not open to the general public. Two stories beneath St. Peter's basilica, we will visit a 2<sup>nd</sup> century Pagan necropolis. Many wonderful Roman and early Christian glimpses into the past. The highlight is standing 5 feet away from the final resting-place of St. Peter himself. *Permission to attend this exclusive tour, not open to the general public, is confirmed by the Vatican...*

### B.) St. Peter's Basilica

Paul will give a one hour tour of St. Peter's Basilica, originally built in the 4<sup>th</sup> century by the Emperor Constantine. See Michelangelo's *Pieta*, a significant number of other masterpieces, the body of Pope John XXIII, and the tombs of many Popes.

## PRANZO (Included Lunch)

### C.) The Vatican Museum and Sistine Chapel

The entrance line to the Vatican Museum is always daunting, and the wait for the general public frequently exceeds three hours. But not so with Keyrow Tours! You will have immediate access to the museum and completely bypass the long line.

**Back to Hotel**

**Day's Recap**

**Cena (Dinner on your own)**



*"The Creator made the universe with designs by Michelangelo."*  
~ Mark Twain

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# Day #4: "Rome-ing Around"

Saturday: June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015

## Continental Breakfast

**A.) Church of Santa Croce**

See the relics of the True Cross, one of the nails of the Cross, a portion of the sign that hung above Christ's Cross: "INRI", a large beam from the cross of the "Good Thief," two thorns from the Christ's crown, and the finger of St. Thomas the Doubter...

**B.) The Basilica of San Giovanni**

Built by the Emperor Constantine the Great in the 4<sup>th</sup> century, this is the Cathedral for the Diocese of Rome. See Borromini's monolithic statues of the apostles, a beautiful outdoor cloister, and incredible mosaics.

**C.) The Sacra Scala or Holy Stairs**

Welcome to Jerusalem! Brought to Rome from the Holy Land in the 4<sup>th</sup> century by the mother of Emperor Constantine the Great, visit the stairs that Christ ascended when condemned by Pontius Pilot.

## PRANZO (Included Lunch)

**D.) San Clemente**

Excellent archaeological tour: a 12<sup>th</sup> century church, on top of a 10<sup>th</sup> century Church, on top of a 4<sup>th</sup> century Church, on top of 1<sup>st</sup> century Roman pagan apartment buildings, including a Mythric Temple. See it all, including some of the best mosaic artwork in Rome.

**E.) The Coliseum**

Gladiator fighting, anyone? Visit the greatest monument of ancient Rome, and the bloodiest. Built in the 2nd century AD, the Flavian Amphitheatre seated 50,000 spectators and featured games pitting man against man, and man against wild beasts from around the known world.

**F.) The Roman Forum**

Visit Rome's ancient ruins, including the Senate Building, the temples of Saturn, Jupiter, the Vestals, and Julius Caesar.

**Back to Hotel**

**Day's Recap**

**Cena! (Dinner on your own)**

*It's not only the physical beauty of the place...It's the smell of it, the aura of great history in the stones of every street and every building. To be in Rome is to be in touch with everything in life that really matters. ~ William Murray in "City of the Soul"*

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# Day #5: A Peace of Assisi

**Sunday: June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

**Continental Breakfast**

**Free Morning in Rome .**

**Late Morning Departure for Assisi by Train**

The train ride to Assisi is pleasantly two hours. We will enjoy the beautiful countryside of the Umbrian Region, famous for its olive orchards and rolling hills. As a medieval city, Assisi stands frozen in time and is set high on top of a hill. As the birth place of St. Francis of Assisi, the Franciscan history of this place permeates every narrow cobblestone road and piazza. *Pack a light lunch for the train ride...*

Upon our arrival, a private vehicle will bring us outside the medieval walled city of Assisi and into the very heart of the Umbrian countryside. We are staying at the *Agriturismo Malvarina*... an incredibly scenic and beautiful farm that produces 70% of all organic products served in their dining room. In addition, the farm is entirely powered by solar panels and breeds chickens, rabbits, lambs, sheep, and turkeys. It also produces olive oil, vegetables, honey, jams and truffles. Mastro Giorgio, an expert cheese maker and meat curer, helps the Fabrizi family produce their cold cuts and pecorino cheese in the traditional Umbrian way. Tomorrow our host family will uncover their secrets to traditional epicurean cooking delights during a hands-on cooking class, after which we will share dinner in this Umbrian oasis. Truly off the beaten path, this Agriturismo experience will be an unforgettable treasure. After check-in, we will visit sites in the old walled city of Assisi that include:

- A.) The House of St. Francis' family, including the prison cell where Francis was locked-up by his irate father. (Ah, medieval parenting!)
- B.) The gothic Basilica of St. Clare which houses the San Damiano Cross.
- C.) Piazza Communale: Sit outdoors and drink vino or a café in Italy!
- D.) An ancient Mythric Temple that predates Christianity, but which Christianity has now embraced.
- E.) The Basilica of St. Francis (4:30 PM)

**Formal Wine Tasting of Umbrian Wines (6:00 PM)**

**Day's Recap Over Cena (Dinner!)**

**Back to Agriturismo Malvarina**



*“The world is a book, and those who have not traveled have only read one page.”*

~ St. Augustine, 4<sup>th</sup> Century

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# Day #6: Vistas of Umbria

Monday: June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015

## Continental Breakfast

### A.) Assisi's Cathedral of San Ruffino

In essence, this is where St. Francis' and St. Clare's spiritual journey began. See the baptism font where both saints were welcomed into the life of the Church. See a portion of the house where St. Clare grew up as a child. Enjoy some quiet time in the Cathedral's baroque side chapel.

### B.) Panoramic View

From San Rufino take a pleasant hike outside of Assisi's city walls for an amazing panoramic view of the surrounding Umbrian hillsides.

### C.) The Rocca Maggiore Castle of Assisi

The Rocca Maggiore Castel stands high above all of Assisi, commanding a superb view of the valleys and hills below.

## PRANZO! (Optional Light Lunch)

### D.) Free Afternoon to Tour the Shops

Assisi, and Umbria in general, is famous for its pottery, linens, and fine olive oil. There are dozens of small shops in Assisi which sell these items, and store owners will happily ship your purchases back to the United States in one piece.

## Back to Agriturismo Malvarina

## Umbrian Cooking Class

## Day's Recap

## Cena! (Dinner)



*“For us to go to Italy and to penetrate into Italy is like a most fascinating act of self-discovery—back, back down the old ways of time. Strange and wonderful chords awake in us, and vibrate again after many hundreds of years of complete forgetfulness.”*

~ D.H. Lawrence

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# Day#7: "Florence... Fantastico!"

Tuesday: June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015

## Continental Breakfast

### Morning Departure for the Church of Santa Maria degli Angeli in Assisi:

The Church of St. Mary of the Angels: A church inside of a church. Visit the birthplace of the Franciscan Movement, and the chapel where St. Francis made his *transitus* from this life into the next.

### Departure by Train from Assisi to Florence

A picnic lunch will be provided on the train

*Welcome to Tuscany and the heart of the Italian Renaissance...*

#### A.) The Ponte Vecchio

Ponte Vecchio literally means, "The Old Bridge." This historic bridge that crosses the Arno River is laden with gold and diamond shops. Conveniently located just around the corner from our hotel, shoppers...this one's for you!

#### B.) Piazza Signoria

This is Florence's central square. See the Palazzo Signoria (Florence's City Hall since the Medici's), and the outdoor Loggia which contains ancient and renaissance Roman and Greek statuary.

#### C.) Santa Croce Church

This wonderful medieval church is the final resting-place of Michelangelo, Leonardo DaVinci, Machiavelli, Galileo, Rossini, and many others.

#### D.) The Duomo Cathedral

The Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore is perhaps the greatest symbol of Tuscany, and the heartbeat of Florentine life. Begun in 1296 in a Gothic style, it was completed structurally in 1436 with its famous dome created by Filippo Brunelleschi. The basilica is one of Italy's largest churches, and until development of new structural materials in the modern era, the dome was the largest in the world. It remains the largest brick dome ever constructed. For those looking for exercise, climb its neighboring bell tower created by Giotto.

#### F.) Academia Museum

Enjoy Michelangelo's monolithic and statue of David, from the Old Testament hall of fame. Also enjoy his famous series of "Prisoners" designed for the tomb of Pope Julius II in Rome.

## Back to hotel for rest

## Day's Recap

### Cenissima! (A Very Special Dinner!)

Tonight we dine at a private family's villa overlooking the City of Florence. While Roberto's mother and wife cook us an incredible multi-coursed Tuscan feast, he will be busy making us homemade gelato. This is an experience you will not soon forget...

*In every block of marble I see a statue as plain as though it stood before me, shaped and perfect in attitude and action. I have only to hew away the rough walls that imprison the lovely apparition to reveal it to other eyes as mine see it." ~ Michelangelo*

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## KEYROW TOURS

# Day#8: Tuscan Meanderings

Wednesday: June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015

*Enjoy two wonderful Tuscan towns that stand frozen in time. Wind your way through medieval streets. Sit at a café, and soak in the atmosphere...*

## **Continental Breakfast**

## **Morning Departure for Tuscany**

### **A.) World War II American Cemetery**

Just outside of Florence, we will offer our respects to over 4,500 American service men and women who paid the ultimate price during the Second World War.

### **B.) Monteriggioni**

**Monteriggioni** is a *comune* in the Province of Siena in the region Tuscany. The town is architecturally and culturally significant: a medieval walled town, it is referenced in Dante Alighieri's *Divine Comedy*. Monteriggioni was built by the Sienese in 1214-1219 as a front line in their wars against Florence. Its roughly circular walls are crowned with fourteen towers.

### **C.) Greve in Chianti**

### **D.) The Tenuta Torciano Winery and Included Lunch**

*Tenuta Torciano* is about 30 minutes away, and has been producing wine and olive oil since 1720. Featuring panoramic views with hillsides, vineyards and olive-groves, sip wine in the heart of Tuscany or simply live in the moment. Pierluigi is the vineyard owner, and he will offer us an in depth explanation of his wines, how they are made, and the science of wine tasting and wine pairing. His mother will prepare an incredible luncheon for us using only local and organic foods that will make your palate cry out saying, "*Mama mia!*"

### **E.) Departure for San Gimignano**

This is called the "Manhattan of Tuscany," because of its many medieval towers that look like skyscrapers from a distance. 20 minutes from Tenuta Torciano, this is a charming little town. Visit its central square, stroll into numerous shops and enjoy life "under the Tuscan sun." We will have an hour or so to enjoy this little gem in the heart of Tuscany.

## **Departure for hotel**

## **Day's Recap**

***Cena!* (Dinner is on your own)**

*"Iron rusts from disuse; water loses its purity from stagnation. Even so does inaction sap the vigor of the mind." ~ Leonardo Da Vinci*

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# Day #9: "Escape into Paradise"

Thursday: June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015

## Continental Breakfast

## Morning Train Departure for Positano

We will train from Florence to Naples, and a private minivan will carry us for the rest of the journey to Positano. The Amalfi Coastline itself winds its way along scenic cliffs, following the Tyrrhenian Sea. For many, this is "Paradiso in Terra" or "Paradise on Earth!" Enjoy the panoramic views...

**Pranzo (Lunch)** An optional light lunch will be provided on the train

## Early Afternoon Arrival in Positano

Hotel Pupetto is an absolute treat: a beachside resort with black volcanic stone that runs into the turquoise-blue waters of the Mediterranean Sea. Stroll the winding roads of Positano. Take a walk on the beach. There are great ceramic shops, high fashion clothing, and hiking. Positano is not a place to be "busy" seeing things. It is place to relax and allow nature's beauty to touch us in positive and happy ways. Don't forget to try a little *limoncello* along the way ☺.

## Orientation stroll and Free Afternoon

## Day's Recap

## Cena (Dinner)



*"Sail away from the safe harbor: Catch the trade winds in your sails.  
Explore. Dream. Discover."  
~ Mark Twain*

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# Day#10: "Capri-cious in Italy"

Friday: June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015

## Continental Breakfast

### A.) Morning Departure for The Island of Capri

A private chartered boat will take us from Positano to the Island of Capri... a one hour boat ride that offers magnificent views of the entire Amalfi Coast. Along the way we will enjoy natural rock formations including the Green and White Grottos. Don't forget your bathing suits...jump in for a swim! After circling the entire island of Capri, we will have a couple of hours on shore to take in the sights. Capri is a glamorous island that features high fashion shopping and breath-taking panoramic views.

**Pranzo (Lunch)** An optional picnic lunch for the boat ride will be provided.

### B.) The Blue Grotto

While we are at Capri, we will experience the famous Blue Grotto: a cave in the side of the island. This is a true natural wonder! As the Mediterranean sun shines through the mouth of the cave, it illuminates the water in an incredible display of turquoise blue light. *Availability is dependent on weather conditions.*

### C.) Return to Positano

**D.) Free afternoon to enjoy the great outdoors, walk the beach, and explore this little slice of paradise. Enjoy your time on the Mediterranean Sea.**

## Day's Recap

## Cena! (Included Group Dinner)

*"I love the language, that soft bastard Latin,  
Which melts like kisses from a female mouth,  
And sounds as if it should be writ on satin  
With syllables which breathe of the sweet South."*

~ George Gordon Noel Byron



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# Day #11: "Amazing Amalfi"

**Saturday: June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

## **Continental Breakfast**

*Take the day off to relax on the beach. Explore Positano's beauty, or...*

## **Visit the Neighboring City of Amalfi (Optional Morning Excursion) \$30**

From Positano's black volcanic shore, Paul is happy to arrange public boat transportation for those interested in exploring the City of Amalfi. Amalfi is a beautiful seaside resort and the final resting-place of St. Andrew. Get lost in paradise, eat *gelato* ice cream, and watch the world go by...

## **Pranzo (Lunch on your own)**

## **Evening Day's Recap**

## **Cena! (Included Group Dinner)**



**AMOR VINCIT OMNIA**

*"Love Conquers All"*

*Ancient Latin proverb*

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# Day #12: Mt. Vesuvius, Pompeii and Rome

Sunday: June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015

Continental Breakfast

Morning Hotel Departure

## A.) The Ruins of Pompeii

A private mini-van will take us to Pompeii, which was first occupied in the 8th century BC. A local guide will explain how the Etruscans first dominated the surrounding region, followed by the Saminites who turned Pompeii into a Greek town. Finally the Romans gained control over Pompeii until its end, that fateful day in 79 AD when Mt. Vesuvius unleashed its fury on the 20,000 inhabitants of this thriving Roman city.

Although this tragic event ended the lives of 20,000 Pompeian residents, the ash that buried the town served as a sort of *mummification* for the entire city. Under the ash everything remained as it was at the time of the eruption: Artwork was preserved. Buildings were preserved. Several important clues were left behind. These clues give us a glimpse into the past and capture a special moment in time.

Pranzo (Optional Picnic Lunch)

Afternoon Departure for Naples Train Station and Rome

Day's Recap

## *L'ultima Cena* or "The Last Supper" Closing Banquet

Brace yourselves for a truly magnificent multi-coursed Roman feast that will be the culmination of many happy memories!!!! *The Cucina Antica Romana* prepares everything from the owner's local farm: fresh vegetable antipasto and cheeses, homemade pasta, local organic meats, and of course, vino. Buonapetito!!!

*After dinner, Paul will offer a nighttime walking tour to the Trevi Fountain*

*"For us to go to Italy  
and to penetrate into Italy  
is like a most fascinating act of self-discovery—  
back, back down the old ways of time.  
Strange and wonderful chords awake in us,  
and vibrate again after many hundreds of years  
of complete forgetfulness."*

~ D.H. Lawrence

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# Day#13: "Arrivederci Roma!"

Monday: June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015

- A.) Morning Departure for Rome's Airport
- B.) Departure for USA



*Open my heart and you will see,  
Graved inside of it, "Italy."  
~ Robert Browning*

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