



THE AMERICAN SCHOOL IN ENGLAND
ACADEMIC TRAVEL PROGRAM

IB TOK Junior Trip
Italy A

Sat 12 – Thu 17 October 2019



Day 1 Saturday, 12 October 2019

After arriving in **Pisa** during the afternoon, we transfer to our hotel in **Viareggio**, a seaside town. We have some free time at the beach before dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight Viareggio.

Day 2 Sunday, 13 October 2019

Today we visit **Le Cinque Terre**. We transfer by coach to Manarola from where we take the train to **Vernazza**, a small fishing village is surrounded by subtle colorful pastels and terraced olive groves. We head to the **Doria Castle** located above the bay, with the tower built in the 15th century to protect the village from pirates. Later we transfer to **Monterosso**, the largest of the five coastal villages collectively known as the Cinque Terre. Monterosso has lovely beaches, beautiful reefs and crystalline waters. There we visit the San Francesco Church, the concrete statue of the Giant, and the statue of San Benedetto d'Assisi. Overnight Viareggio.



Day 3 Monday, 14 October 2019



We begin our day with the leading attraction of Pisa, the **Leaning Tower**, which is actually the bell tower of the city. The tower's fight with gravity began during construction, caused by an inadequate foundation. The tilt increased in the decades before the structure was completed, and gradually increased until the structure was stabilized in the late 20th century. After our **climb to the top**, where we unfortunately will not be allowed to recreate Galileo's famous experiment by throwing anything off it, we will descend back down to the 'Square of Miracles'.



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After lunch we transfer to **Florence**. Our coach driver will drop us off at **Piazzale Michelangelo**, where we can enjoy the great view over the city and have some ice cream for about an hour,



before dropping off our bags at the hotel, and then heading directly to our first look at the 'City of the Renaissance'. We walk across the **Arno**, over the **Ponte Vecchio**, then pass by the **Palazzo Vecchio** for a look at the most famous statue in the world, **Michelangelo's 'David'**.

Day 4 Tuesday, 15 October 2019

This morning we begin with a visit to the **Uffizi Museum** which houses some of the most famous Italian paintings including works by Da Vinci, Botticelli, Lippi, Raphael and Vasari. Later we meet our coach for the short ride outside of Florence to the **Villa Pandolfini**, a beautiful property in the Tuscan hills with its own garden, orchards and olive trees. There we participate in a **cooking class** and learn how to put together a full Italian meal. Overnight Florence.



Day 5 Wednesday, 16 October 2019



Today we visit the **Duomo**, Florence's landmark church. The dome was the creation of Filippo Brunelleschi who, after much debate and to everyone's amazement, began to erect it without any supportive frame, something never before attempted. Then it's on to the famous **Mercato Centrale** for lunch. This afternoon we have an excursion to **Siena**, which is home to one of the most famous Medieval rituals, the

Palio di Siena, a horse race run through the city's streets. We have dinner in Siena. Overnight Florence.

Day 6 Thursday, 17 October 2019

This morning we start with the **Accademia**, the home of Michaelangelo's masterpiece 'David'. We then head to the **Boboli Gardens**, which hosts centuries-old oak trees, sculptures and fountains. After lunch we visit the Franciscan church **Basilica di St Croce**, the final resting place of Michelangelo, Galileo, and Machiavelli. Works by Giotto, Vasari, della Robbia, Donatello and Gaddi can all be viewed in their intended locations. We finally transfer to Pisa airport, and arrive back in London during the evening.



This itinerary may change due to weather, opening hours, local conditions and the needs of the group.



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Day 2 Sunday, 13 October 2019

This morning we begin with a visit to the **Uffizi Museum**, one of the world's great art galleries. The Uffizi houses some of the most famous Italian paintings including works by Da Vinci, Botticelli, Lippi, Raphael and Vasari. Later we meet our coach for the short ride outside of Florence to the **Villa Pandolfini**. The villa is a beautiful property in the Tuscan hills with its own garden, orchards and olive trees. We participate in a **cooking class** and learn how to put together a full Italian meal. After eating our creations, we return to Florence. Overnight Florence.





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