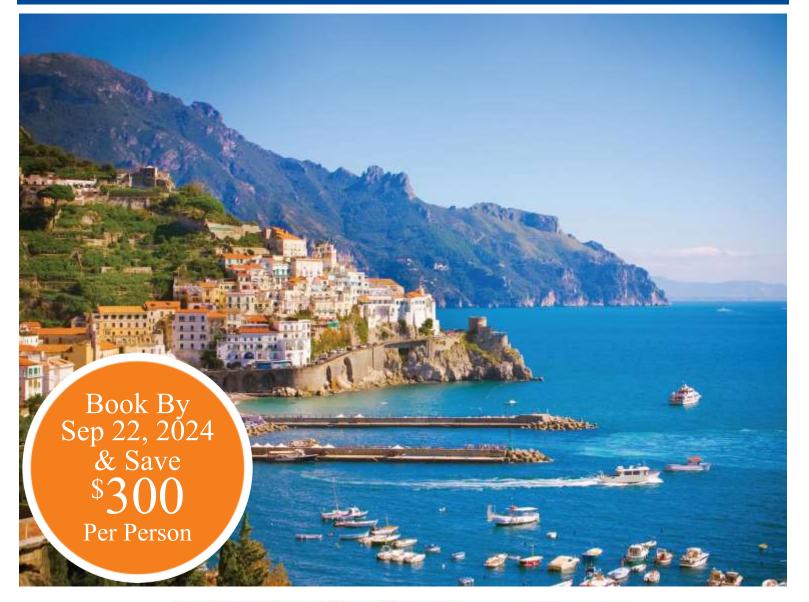
Friends of Schenectady County Public Library presents... Rome & the Amalfi Coast

with Optional 3-Night Florence Pre Tour Extension

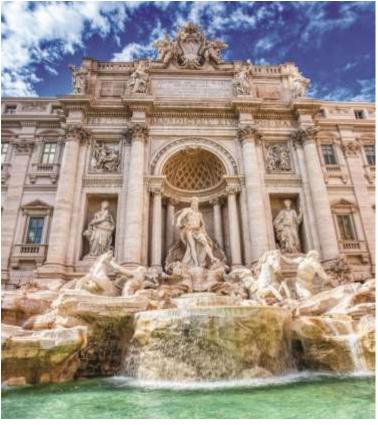
March 21 – 30, 2025



Upgrade to Elite Airfare! see inside for details



For more information contact Sue Crawford Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library (518) 372-1198 crawfords53@gmail.com



10 Days • 13 Meals: 8 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 4 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Rome, Trevi Fountain, Pantheon, Piazza Navona, Colosseum, Montecassino, Amalfi Coast, Sorrento, Farmhouse Visit and Mozzarella-Making Demonstration, Pompeii, Choice on Tour, Winery Visit and Lunch

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Days 2 – 4	Hotel Imperiale, Rome
Days 5 – 9	Hotel Raito, Amalfi
	On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Day 1: Friday, March 21, 2025 Overnight Flight Your adventure begins with an overnight flight to Italy. Journey through southern Italy and experience its rich scenery, art, culture, food and wine.

Day 2: Saturday, March 22, 2025 Rome, Italy - Tour Begins Your tour opens in the "Eternal City" of Rome! Tonight, join your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner celebrating the start of your Italian journey. *(D)*

Day 3: Sunday, March 23, 2025 Rome On a locally guided tour of classical Rome, walk over cobblestone streets and weathered passageways to discover famous sights such as the Trevi Fountain, the Pantheon, and Piazza Navona. Then, tread in the footsteps of ancient gladiators during an in-depth visit of the Colosseum. The evening is yours. Perhaps you'll stroll to the top of the Spanish Steps for views of the city's skyline or meander through Rome's lively *Monti* district to soak in the local life. *(B)*

Day 4: Monday, March 24, 2025 Rome This morning, consider an optional tour* to the Vatican Museums and St. Peter's Basilica, taking in world-renowned wonders such as the Sistine Chapel and Michelangelo's mural of *The Last Judgment*. Then, make the most of a free afternoon in Italy's capital city. Perhaps you will join an optional food tour dinner and taste your way around Rome's bohemian *Trastevere* district. *(B)*

Day 5: Tuesday, March 25, 2025 Rome - Montecassino -Amalfi Coast Journey to the Amalfi Coast, an iconic coastline of rocky beaches and towering cliffs. En route, make a stop at the Benedictine monastery of Montecassino, perched on a mountaintop that played a pivotal role in World War II. Discover its history while exploring the monastery's ornate chapel and courtyards. In the afternoon, settle into the Amalfi Coast,** your home for the next 5 nights. Before gathering for dinner, take some time to explore your hotel, perched in a scenic location above the coastline. (*B*, *D*)

Day 6: Wednesday, March 26, 2025 Amalfi Coast Excursion Drive*** along the stunning Amalfi Coast (UNESCO), pausing for a peek of Positano with its pastel-colored houses and pebbly beaches. View the Emerald Grotto and gaze out over the deep blue hues of the sea paired with the bright citrus fruits lining the hillsides. Spend time in the town of Amalfi. A former trading hub, Amalfi is now a quiet coastal town of historic landmarks and a black-and-white marble cathedral. Return to the hotel for an evening at leisure. (*B*)

Day 7: Thursday, March 27, 2025 Amalfi Coast - Sorrento -Farmhouse Visit - Amalfi Coast Begin your day with a visit to a pasta factory artfully producing this national staple with traditional techniques. Then, it's on to the charming resort town of Sorrento. Wander through its narrow streets, peeking into the peaceful cloister of St. Francis Church or sampling some gelato made with local lemons. This afternoon, visit a local farm and see how mozzarella cheese is still made by hand. Get a taste of the product at a farm-to-table dinner capped with homemade limoncello before returning to your hotel in the late evening. (*B*, *D*)

Day 8: Friday, March 28, 2025 Amalfi Coast Enjoy a day at leisure to take in the relaxing beauty of the Amalfi Coast.



Book Now & Save \$300 Per Person:

Double \$4,299; Single \$4,799 **Double** \$3,999* **Single** \$4,499

For bookings made after Sep 22, 2024 call for rates.

Included in Price: Round Trip Air from Albany Airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$479 per person

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change, based on air inclusive package from ALB

Upgrade your in-flight experience with Elite Airfare

Additional rate of: Premium Economy \$1,790; Business Class \$4,190

- * Elite Air pricing (Premium Economy, Business Class or First class) is valid until 8 months prior to departure, after which rates are subject to change and will be quoted based upon availability.
- † Refer to the reservation form to choose your upgrade option

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS: Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received and booking confirmed by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received and booking confirmed, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. (See registration form for consent.)

Perhaps you will embark on an optional boat trip**** to the Mediterranean isle of Capri, where you'll enjoy lunch and a locally guided tour before setting out on your own adventure. (B)

Day 9: Saturday, March 29, 2025 Amalfi Coast - Pompeii -Winery - Amalfi Coast This morning experience the eerily preserved ruins of Pompeii your way, because it's your choice! Join a local guide for an in-depth tour of Pompeii's best-known monuments **-OR-** venture further afield to discover the hidden corners of this vast archeological site. Then, pause at a local winery to savor the area's famous *Lacryma Christi* wine and enjoy a typical lunch. After some free time, join your fellow travelers for a farewell dinner and bid *salute* to the end of your Italian getaway. *(B, L, D)*

Day 10: Sunday, March 30, 2025 Amalfi Coast - Tour Ends Your tour comes to a close today. *(B)*

Experience It! The Amalfi Coast

The Amalfi Coast is a favored getaway for Italians and vacationers alike – everyone seeks out its relaxed atmosphere and Mediterranean sunshine. The town of Amalfi itself is a historic center home to a towering marble cathedral and atmospheric piazzas. Amalfi was formerly a thriving trading hub, rivaling that of Venice. As a Maritime Republic, the town made its money through import and export, a legacy still interwoven into its culture today. Although Amalfi is the coast's namesake origin, other towns along the rocky cliffs draws visitors from near and far. Find Sorrento, Positano, and more, all exuding the Amalfi vibe of winding roads, pastel-colored houses, and pebbly beaches. Travel among lemon trees and hillside groves as you make your way along the picturesque coastal drive.

EXTEND YOUR VACATION WITH

Optional 5 Days 3-Night Florence Pre Tour Extension

Per Person Rates: \$1,099.00 USD double, \$1,399.00 USD single, land & air inclusive

For more information on extensions and options for this tour visit https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1239123

PLEASE NOTE:

Book Now rates valid until Sep 22, 2024, valid on air inclusive packages only. The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour, covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. Expect some longer days with early mornings or late nights balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. Some of the most unique sightseeing means accessing locations that restrict motor coaches, especially in historic areas such as Rome, the Vatican, Sorrento, Amalfi, and Pompeii. These areas require extensive walking over cobblestones and occasionally unpaved areas. We recommend bringing comfortable walking shoes. This level is not a fit for travelers who require mobility assistance devices. Our Client Care Agents can provide additional information or assistance to help you determine the perfect trip for you.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

To complete your tour, we <u>include</u> roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your <u>own air</u>, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

Our air passengers will depart from Naples airport.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

IDENTIFICATION

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require that your passport be valid at least 6 months beyond the dates of your travel. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about

passports and visa requirements. IMPORTANT: We recommend that travelers take a photocopy of their passport and

applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

Effective for travel in May 2025, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS visa waiver, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit https://www.etiasvisa.com/

Days of features are interchangeable.

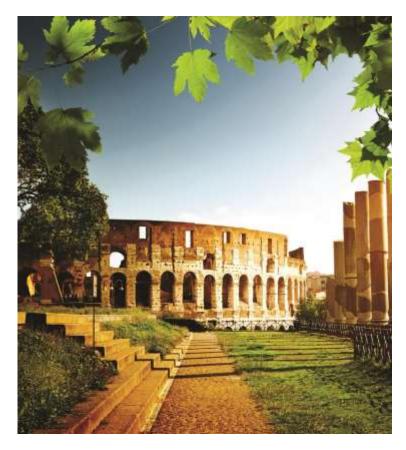
Most shops and businesses in Italy are closed on Sundays and on national/religious holidays.

The Vatican Museums and the Colosseum dates and times are all subject to change based on availability of reservations.

The Vatican Museums are closed on Sundays and Catholic holidays.

*When the Vatican option falls on a Sunday, the order of inclusions may be reversed in order to participate in all activities.

**During your stay on the Amalfi Coast standard accommodations at the Hotel Raito are limited and available on a first come, first served basis for departures utilizing that



hotel. Upgrades to superior rooms with a lateral view of the coastline and garden are available at an additional cost. Some departures will be accommodated in Sorrento where the hotel does not offer coastal views. Please inquire at time of booking.

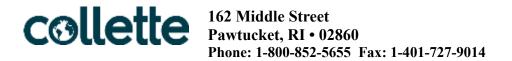
***Sailing along the Amalfi Coast is sea and wind dependent. The ferry boats operate between April 1 and October 31, yearly. If you travel to the Amalfi Coast between November 1 and March 31, or in case of adverse weather conditions, the visit will be operated by bus, and you will not visit Positano. The Amalfi Coast drive is along a very narrow, winding road. Reaching Amalfi and Positano by ferry boat requires boarding 3 different boats with a total sailing time of approximately 2 hours. Travelers prone to seasickness should take the proper precautions.

****The optional boat trip to the isle of Capri is dependent on sea and wind conditions. According to the weather conditions, the ferry boat ride may depart from Salerno, Sorrento or Naples. The length of the sailing depends on the port of departure, varying between 30 and 120 minutes each way. Travelers prone to seasickness should take the proper precautions.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of September 15, 2024 are based upon availability. Final payment due by January 20, 2025. Deposits are refundable up until September 22, 2024.

CST#2006766-20 UBN#601220855 Nevada Sellers of Travel Registration No. 2003-0279



If paying by credit card, please complete this form and return to Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library. We can only charge your credit card for the amount noted if the signature, address and phone number are listed below. Thank you!

CREDIT CARD AUTHORIZATION FORM

BOOKING NUMBER: 1239123 DEPARTURE DATE: March 21, 2025	TOUR: Rome & the Amalfi Coast GROUP NAME: Friends of Schenectady County Public Library				
Name of Passenger: Salutation: First Name: (Mr., Mrs., Rev.)	Middle Initial: (Please print as it app	Last Name: ears on Passport)	Suffix: (Jr., Sr.)		
Cardholder Name:(Please print as it appears on your Credit	it Card)				
Cardholder Address:	tement)				
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Credit Card Type:American Expre	essDiscov	verMasterCard	Visa		
Credit Card Number:					
Expiration Date:	Amoun	t to be charged: \$			
Cardholder's Signature:		Date:			

I agree to pay according to the card issuer agreement. I understand and accept Collette cancellation policy, terms and conditions.

Participating credit card companies are now requiring a billing address and phone number for **FRAUD PREVENTION**. All information MUST be provided. Thank you for your cooperation! If using your credit card for payment, please return this Authorization Form by mail to:

Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library Attn: Sue Crawford 99 Clinton St Schenectady, NY 12305-2047

Above credit card information has been called in to Collette.



162 Middle Street Pawtucket, RI • 02860 Phone: 1-800-852-5655 Fax: 1-401-727-9014

BOOKING NUMBER: 1239123 DEPARTURE DATE: March 21, 2025

TOUR: Rome & the Amalfi Coast GROUP NAME: Friends of Schenectady County Public Library

\$99

USD

Available Options

Personalize your tour by adding an optional activity below. Our recommended options have been carefully chosen to help enhance your individual experience. Complete the provided Prepaid Options Form to reserve your options.

Availability is limited and reservations are on a first come, first serve basis. Payment must be received no later than 15 days prior to departure. Prices are subject to change.

Children under the age of 18 MUST be accompanied by an adult.

Rome

The Vatican Museums and St. Peter's Basilica Monday, March 24 2025 8:00AM

The Vatican Museums are not only home to one of the world's greatest collections of art, but also to the world-famous Sistine Chapel. Priceless artifacts from ancient Egypt, Etruscan Italy and cultures around the world are preserved in the Vatican's palaces, galleries, halls and rooms. Follow a local expert guide on a three hour, in-depth visit through this vast collection. Highlights include the Gallery of Maps, the Gallery of Tapestries and, of course, a visit to the Sistine Chapel. The chapel's famous ceiling frescoes took Michelangelo four years to complete. His brilliant Last Judgment, which rests on the altar wall, was a topic of controversy for centuries. Other walls feature paintings by Pietro Perugino, Sandro Botticelli, Cosimo Rosselli and Domenico Ghirlandaio. Your final stop will be at St. Peter's Basilica, one of the most important churches in Christendom, and until recently, the largest in the world. Please note, this option must be booked at least 90 days prior to departure and is not guaranteed while on tour. Due to the nature of this optional item, it is non-refundable. *Duration: Approximately 4 hours*. Please note a minimum of 15 passengers is required. Transportation is included.

Capri

Bask in the Beauty of Capri Monday, March 24 2025 5:00PM

Spend the day exploring a Mediterranean paradise on the sparkling Bay of Naples. Embark from the port of Salerno and delight in a cruise to the wonderful Isle of Capri. Sail past the hill towns along the Amalfi Coast, passing colorful homes, lush gardens and architectural marvels. Take the funicular up to Capri village. Here, you'll take a guided walking tour where you'll get to the picturesque hilltop botanical gardens, Giardini di Augusto. Head to one of the floral-lined terraces to see enchanting panorama views, including the spectacular Faraglioni rocks. Then, savor lunch in a local restaurant – your opportunity to enjoy a Caprese salad! Spend some free time to soak in Capri's charm. Browse elegant designer shops or sip a coffee in the Piazza and simply watch the world go by. A special ride along the funicular takes you back toward the Marina Grande to board your boat for the return to the mainland. This option is weather permitting and boats may depart from Naples during certain times of year. *Duration: Approximately 9 hours.* Please note a minimum of 20 passengers is required. Transportation is included.

Rome

Trastevere Food Tour

Friday, March 28 2025 8:00AM

Follow your expert guide on an engaging tour of Rome's more epicurean side. Your culinary journey takes place in the bohemian Trastevere district, where medieval architecture meets ivy-clung houses and the lively chatter from the many eateries sprinkled through the neighborhood echoes off the cobblestoned streets. Partake in the local tradition of aperitivo (pre-dinner drink) before tasting your way through Rome's most representative street food, such as suppli (fried rice ball) and pastas. Top off your culinary exploration with a taste of artisanal gelato and learn how to tell a good one from a factory-made, ensuring you never eat a bad one again! *Duration: Approximately 5 hours.* Please note a minimum of 6 passengers is required. Transportation is included.

\$165 USD

\$120 USD



For Reservations Contact: Sue C Friends of the Schenectady Count A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon a September 15, 2024 are based upon availa YOUR INFORMATION: Clearly print your IMPORTANT: In order to avoid any unnecess the legal name and be 100% identical to the I	y Public, 99 Clinton St reservation. Reservation bility. Final payment due full name (first/middle/last) ary change fees, it is imper	, Schenectady, s are made on a f by January 20, 20 as it appears on rative that all guest	NY 12305-2047 irst come, first served 25. Deposits are refun your government iss names are entered com	basis. Reserv dable up until sued travel do rectly from the s	September 22, 2 cumentation. start. The information	2024.
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I agree to pay according to the card issuer agreement. I understand and accept the cancellation policy, terms and conditions. See http://www.gocollette.com/about-collette/terms-and-conditions for full terms and conditions of your purchase. Important Conditions: Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received and booking confirmed by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received

and booking confirmed, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees.



TOUR: Rome & the Amalfi Coast **GROUP NAME:** Friends of Schenectady County Public Library

DEPARTURE DATE: Mar 21, 2025 BOOKING NUMBER: 1239123

AVAILABLE PREPAID OPTIONS

Personalize your tour by adding an optional activity below. Our recommended options have been carefully chosen to help enhance your individual experience. Complete the provided Prepaid Options Form to reserve your options. Availability is limited and reservations are on a first come, first served basis. Payment must be received no later than 15 days prior to departure. Prices are subject to change. Children under the age of 18 MUST be accompanied by an adult.

alutation: First: (Mr., Mrs., Rev.)	Middle: (Please print EXACTLY as it appears		fix:Nickname:
\checkmark	Option		Price Per Person (USD)
The Vatican M	luseums and St. Peter's Basilica		99.00
	s option must be booked at least 90 day ue to the nature of this optional item, it i		nteed
Bask in the Be	auty of Capri		165.00
	eather permitting and boats may depart	from Naples during certain times of y	/ear.
Trastevere Fo	od Tour		120.00

Please make checks payable to Collette and send to:

Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library Attn: Sue Crawford 99 Clinton St Schenectady, NY 12305-2047

Extend your vacation with

Optional 5 Days 3-Night Florence Pre Tour Extension

Per Person Rates: \$1,099.00 USD double, \$1,399.00 USD single, land & air inclusive

3 Meals: 3 Breakfasts

Day 1: Overnight Flight

You are on your way to Florence, the 'cradle of the Renaissance.'

Day 2: Florence, Italy - Tour Begins

Get settled into Florence for your 3-night stay. Take time to get acquainted with the area on your own.

Day 3: Florence

Start your morning with a locally guided walking tour of Florence's cultural treasures, passing by the Duomo, the Baptistery, the Palazzo Vecchio, and the Piazza della Signoria. The afternoon is yours to browse the shops of via Tornabuoni, or perhaps visit one of the city's great museums* such as the Uffizi or the Accademia, which houses Michelangelo's statue of *David. Today breakfast will be included.*

Day 4: Florence

Explore Florence's bohemian *Oltrarno* district during a guided walking tour of the city's Left Bank. *Oltrarno* literally means "on the other side of the Arno," the river which runs through Florence. Grasp the spirit of this "Florence of the Florentines": here the last craftsmen, the market stalls, the gardens and churches, the typical restaurants and cafés still move at the gentle rhythm of everyday life, away from the hustle and bustle of Florence's more famous monuments. The *Oltrarno* was so dear to the Medici family – Florence's great rulers – that they made it their home by establishing themselves in the Pitti Palace. The remainder of the day is yours to explore more of Florence. Perhaps you'll venture up to Piazzale Michelangelo, a panoramic terrace offering charming views over the city's towers and domes. *Today breakfast will be included*.

Day 5: Florence - Rome

Your Florentine sojourn comes to a close today. Say *Arrivederci!* as you transfer to Rome by high-speed train** to begin your tour. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Please Note:

The overall activity level of this extension is a level 3. This means walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.), and could possibly anticipate changes in elevation. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable as is climbing 3 flights of stairs. You can handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. You can expect some longer days balanced with free time. This level is not a fit for travelers that require mobility assistance devices.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

We reserve the right to cancel this extension if a minimum of 4 passengers is not met to operate.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

The space on this extension is limited and will be available on a first come, first served basis. Applicable charges may apply at time of request.

During this extension, you can expect to have a **hosted** experience or two, with a local representative revealing more of what this destination has to offer. Enjoy a mix of independent exploration and guided sightseeing and experiences.

*Most museums in Florence are closed on Mondays, including the Academy Gallery and the Uffizi, as are other state museums. Most state museums in Florence require reservations to access. In order to avoid standing in long lines, we suggest you reserve your ticket online prior to departure if you plan to visit the Academy Gallery or the Uffizi during your free time in Florence.

**Porterage is not available at the Florence and Rome train stations. You must be able to handle your luggage on and off the trains, including 2 steps to lift the luggage onto your assigned carriage as there is no checked luggage service available on Italian trains.