



Barrington Community School & The Barrington Garden Club

present

The Gardens of Lazio

May 3 - 12, 2012

If your idea of a great escape includes springtime in the most romantic city in the world, pack a bag and join Barrington Community School and the Barrington Garden Club as we take you on a great getaway to Rome, the Eternal City!

Romans live in the heart of Western civilization, which coexists with a bustling, modern city; we'll explore both ends of this historic spectrum on our spring interlude in Rome. We'll explore ancient Rome through visits to the Colosseum, Palatine Hill, the Forum; the elegance and distinctive beauty of the churches of Rome (some of which have foundations that go back to the Roman Empire); leisurely strolls past some of Rome's most famous treasures, from Bernini's Fountain of the Four Rivers in the Piazza Navona and the Spanish Steps to the shops of the Via Veneto.

The city of Rome is the beating heart of the Lazio region and we will be taking a variety of excursions into the surrounding countryside to visit gardens great and small, old and new, along with the sumptuous villas and palaces that often accompany them.

Magnificent gardens, art and history without peer, wonderful restaurants featuring a marvelous cuisine and incomparable wines, fantastic shopping, ancient landmarks and classical architecture await your discovery. One day is completely unscheduled so that you can further explore the city's museums and galleries, shop or relax at a café and watch the Romans as they take their evening passeggiata.

Join BCS' director, Sandi Tinyk and Discover Europe's Fiona Bennett this spring for a stay in the Eternal City.



The Vatican Gardens



Gardens at Tivoli

The cost of this itinerary, per person, double occupancy is:

Barrington, via Boston departure:	\$4280
Land only (no airfare included):	\$3340
Single supplement:	\$890

The following services are included:

- Airfare:** Round trip air from Boston to Rome. All airport taxes and customs charges included.
- Hotels:** 8 nights accommodation in a first-class hotel. All hotel taxes and service charges included.
- Coaching:** All ground transportation as detailed in the itinerary.
- Meals:** Breakfast daily, 1 lunch 4 dinners (wine & water included).
- Guides:** Discover Europe's Fiona Bennett and BCS Director Sandi Tinyk will escort the group throughout the tour. Local guides as specified in the day-by-day itinerary.
- Expenses:** Porterage of one large suitcase per person.
- Entrances:** Entrance fees to all sites included in the itinerary.
- Additional:** Roundtrip coach transfer from Barrington to Boston.
- Insurance:** Complete travel insurance including cancellation coverage.

**For further information & registration please contact:
Sandi Tinyk at the Barrington Community School
(401) 245-0432**



Thursday, May 3rd. Our private coach takes us this afternoon from Barrington to Boston Logan Airport where we board our flight to Rome. **Overnight: Flight**

Friday, May 4th. On arrival in Rome, we will be met for the transfer to our city center hotel. There will be time to unpack, relax and begin exploring the neighborhood this afternoon. We gather this evening for a welcome dinner at the hotel. **(D)** **Overnight: Rome**

Saturday, May 5th. Panoramic sightseeing with a local guide begins at Vatican City, with visits to the Vatican Museum, the Sistine Chapel and the chance to stand in awe at the work of Michelangelo, and the Basilica of St. Peter's. We conclude the day at the ancient Forum, the very heartbeat of the Roman Empire, and the monumental Colosseum. The afternoon and evening are free for individual exploration. This evening why not try one of Rome's superb restaurants or pizzerias. **(B)** **Overnight: Rome**

Sunday, May 6th. This morning we begin with a guided tour of the Galleria Borghese with its wonderful collection of paintings by such household names as Raphael, Correggio, Titian and Caravaggio. The rest of the day is free to explore this glorious city on your own. Stroll along the banks of the Tiber, past the Castel Sant'Angelo, linger over lunch in the heart of old Trastevere, toss a coin in the Trevi Fountain, stop for a rosy red Campari in the midst of Piazza Navona's Baroque splendor, explore the Centro Storico (historic center), pausing to savor the languid palms rising above the steps at Piazza di Spagna, or take in the upscale shops lining Via Condotti—the day will slip by before you know it. Dinner is included this evening. **(B, D)** **Overnight: Rome**

Monday, May 7th. A special treat today as we explore the gardens of Rome with local garden experts Lisa Finerty and/or Beth Blosser. We'll visit the Rose Garden, constructed appropriately enough on the site of the old Temple of Flora, the Gardens of the Villa Torlonia, newly renovated after years of neglect and, possibly, we may be able to get into a very special private garden – that of the headquarters of the Knights Hospitaller of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. Lisa may also have some other surprises up her sleeve. The evening is free. **(B)** **Overnight: Rome**

Tuesday, May 8th. Our excursion today takes us just outside the city, up into the Sabine Hills. We'll visit the town of Tivoli, once a favorite resort of the Emperor Augustus. The town is home to two of the most magnificent palaces and gardens in Italy – the Villa d'Este, a classic creation of the Renaissance period, and the Villa Adriana, the spectacular creation of the Emperor Hadrian. We'll visit both before returning to Rome for a free evening. **(B)** **Overnight: Rome**

Wednesday, May 9th. Today we head out of the city to the southeast and the town of Frascati, famous for its white wines. We'll visit the Villa Aldobrandini with its early Italian Baroque style gardens, possibly the best example of the style in the country. Continuing south, we'll stop in the lovely medieval town of Sermoneta for a lunch stop and then visit nearby Ninfa Gardens. Ninfa is an English-style garden built on top of the ruins of the ancient city of the same name. We'll return to Rome where dinner is included at a popular restaurant in Trastevere. **(B, D)** **Overnight: Rome**

Thursday, May 10th. For our final day trip, we'll drive just north of the city to Bracciano. Lake Bracciano is formed in the crater of an extinct volcano, Mount Sabatini, and is one of the clearest, most beautiful lakes in Italy. Its proximity to the capital makes it a favorite getaway for Romans and because it is used as a reservoir for the city, no motor boats (with the exception of a few local fishermen) are allowed on the lake, making it one of the cleanest bodies of water in the country. We'll visit the San Liberato Gardens, designed by the Arts & Crafts master, Russell Page with the Countess Maria Odescalchi, and then head to Bracciano for lunch (included) by the water. This afternoon we'll visit one of the most spectacular residences in the country, the Castle Orsini-Odescalchi, a fabulous Renaissance palace that recently played host to Tom Cruise's wedding reception! We return to Rome for a free evening. **(B, L)** **Overnight: Rome**



Villa Borghese Gardens

Friday, May 11th. We begin the day with a tour of the Vatican Gardens in the company of an official Vatican guide. Besides the natural beauty of the gardens, they are filled with works of art spanning 2000 years of history. The afternoon is free to pursue your own individual interests, and your escort will have many ideas and suggestions, advice and directions. You may want to walk up the Spanish Steps to the church of the Santissima Trinita dei Monti and on into the Pincio, a beautiful park laid out in 1908-14. Here you can visit the Villa Medici, which houses the French Academy of Art. Alternatively you may prefer to spend the day shopping along the Via Veneto, stopping every once in a while to sip cappuccino and watch the Romans at work and play. We gather again this evening for a special farewell dinner. **(B, D)** **Overnight: Rome**

Saturday, May 12th. Morning transport to Rome Airport for the returning flight to Boston, where our coach will be waiting to take us back to Barrington. **(B)** **Overnight: Home**

Key to included meals: B - breakfast, L - lunch, D - dinner