

Italy

Director Preview Tour

June 22-29, 2024



Register your ensemble's tour by April 1 to qualify!



Music Celebrations International
Concert Tours With Integrity



About the Preview Tour

You are invited to join us as we experience the breathtaking sites of Rome, Vatican City, Florence, and Cremona! Join us June 22nd - 29th, 2024 in a spectacular Preview Tour of Italy for music directors. This is an incredible opportunity to become familiar with the highlights of an Italian concert tour in advance of your group's participation. As the Preview Tour overlaps the Festival Corale Internazionale di Roma, this is an unparalleled opportunity for choir directors to experience the festival and return home with a wealth of knowledge about the event before their choir's participation.

Highlights of the Preview Tour include:

- Touring the Vatican Museum and the Sistine Chapel.
- Experiencing the wonder of the Basilica of St. Peter, and hear the festival chorus sing parts of the Mass.
- Attending the festival finale concert at Rome's Chiesa di Sant'Ignazio di Loyola.
- Exploring Florence, one of the world's most beautiful cities, with stops at historic Ponte Vecchio, the Baptistry with Ghiberti's 'Gates of Paradise,' and entrance to the Duomo and Academia to see Michelangelo's 'David.'
- Visiting Cremona, known around the world for its tradition of stringed instrument production.

"Director Friends..This is the company to travel with..and this preview tour is the BEST experience. The personal attention from the company is really invaluable. The network of friends that you make is immeasurable. The group I traveled with a couple of years ago STILL keep in touch. DO IT. You'll thank me later"

Key-Won Choi
West Potomac High School Choir



Director Preview Tour

Rome / Florence / Cremona

Day One: Saturday, June 22, 2024

- Depart from USA gateways via scheduled air service Rome, Italy

Day Two: Sunday, June 23

- Arrive in Rome
- Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will assist the group to awaiting chartered motorcoach for transfer into Rome via panoramic tour of Rome's highlights, including stops at Spanish Steps, Piazza Navona, Trevi Fountain, and the outside of the Pantheon.
- Late afternoon hotel check-in
- Evening Welcome Dinner and overnight
- Optional: Audit or attend an evening festival chorus rehearsal

Day Three: Monday, June 24

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Morning visit to Imperial Rome, which includes seeing the Colosseum, Forum, the Baths of Caracalla, and Palatine Hill
- Venue inspections
- Lunch, on own and a few hours of free-time for shopping
- Afternoon venue inspections
- Attend Mass in St. Peter's Basilica with combined choirs
- Evening dinner and overnight

Day Four: Tuesday, June 25

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Morning guided tour of Religious Rome includes entrance to the Vatican Museum, and the Sistine Chapel (featuring Michelangelo's Ceiling Frescos and The Last Judgment)
- Lunch, on own and some free-time for shopping in the area of the Vatican
- Attend evening Rome Choral Festival Concert
- Evening dinner and overnight

Day Five: Wednesday, June 26

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Transfer to Florence with your first stop at Piazza Michelangelo, with a stunning overlook view of the city of Florence
- An afternoon orientation tour of Florence includes the Piazza della Signoria, a lovely square in the heart of the city. Visit the Ponte Vecchio, the bridge across the Arno lined on both sides with Florence's best jewelers. See the Baptistery with Ghiberti's 'Gates of Paradise', the Campanile, to the exterior of the Duomo.
- Enjoy a free afternoon time at leisure in Florence
- Florence hotel check-in with evening dinner and overnight

Day Six: Thursday, June 27

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Morning venue inspections in Florence
- Lunch, on own and some free-time for shopping
- Afternoon transfer to Cremona, with short orientation tour upon arrival – seeing the Duomo, the town hall, and the Torrazzo
- Evening dinner and overnight

Day Seven: Friday, June 28

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Morning visit to the world-famous Stradivarius museum – the Museo del Violino.
- Venue inspections
- Lunch, on own and some free-time to explore the city of Cremona
- Afternoon venue inspections
- Reception with the Cremona Chamber of Commerce/Cremona Festival
- Evening dinner and overnight

Day Eight: Saturday, June 29

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Transfer to Milan's International Airport for return flight



Italy Preview Tour Registration

Director's Full Name (as listed on passport): _____

Name of Ensemble/Relation to Primary Participant: _____

Home Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Mobile Phone: _____ Email: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Emergency Contact Relationship: _____ Emergency Contact Number: _____

☐ A clear copy of my passport is included with this registration Date of Birth: _____

Passport Number: _____ Passport Expiration Date: _____

Nearest International Gateway and/or Preferred Gateway: _____

Dietary Restrictions: _____

A NON-REFUNDABLE \$1,500 GROUP TOUR DEPOSIT MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN APRIL 1, 2024. THE DEPOSIT WILL BE APPLIED TOWARD THE GROUP TOUR COST.

THE ITALY DIRECTOR PREVIEW TOUR

INCLUSIONS

- Round-trip airfare from your nearest international gateway airport. Participants are responsible for travel arrangements to and from this airport.
- Six nights single occupancy hotel accommodations
- Daily breakfasts and dinners.
- All organized sightseeing activities as listed in the tour itinerary.
- Local transportation by deluxe motorcoach.

EXCLUSIONS

- Travel Visa for non-U.S. passport holders.
- Tips to Tour Manager(s), city guides and motorcoach driver(s).
- Transportation to and from departure airport.
- Drinks at dinners.
- Daily lunches.
- Airline luggage fees, if applicable.

Daily activities will include walking an average of 5-7 miles per day, in high temperatures and humidity.

Eligible participants are limited to an organization's music/artistic director, executive director, president, or similar.

If your ensemble does not travel within two years of the initial deposit, you are responsible for the full cost of the preview tour valued at \$4,000 (the \$1,500 group deposit is not deductible from the \$4,000). Additional participants are subject to Music Celebrations International management review, and must pay the full cost of the Preview Tour, valued at \$4,000. Additional participant costs do not apply toward an organization's tour costs and cannot be priced into the group's tour.

**COMPLETE THIS REGISTRATION FORM AND EMAIL IT TO YOUR TOUR CONSULTANT
TO PAY YOUR NON-REFUNDABLE \$1,500 TOUR DEPOSIT, MAIL A CHECK PAYABLE TO:**

Music Celebrations International
1440 South Priest Drive, Suite 102, Tempe, Arizona 85281-6954

OR PROCESS YOUR DEPOSIT ONLINE AT [PORTAL.MUSICCELEBRATIONS.COM](https://portal.musiccelebrations.com)

Signature: _____ Date: _____



Music Celebrations International

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