



ITALY ARCHITECTURE & CULTURAL TOUR

Overview & themes to be covered (5N6D)

Theme 1 - Renaissance & Classical Architecture

Italy's Renaissance legacy represents a return to classical ideals — symmetry, proportion, and humanism — transforming cities into open-air museums of architectural innovation and civic ambition.

Tour Highlights:

- **Florence Cathedral & Brunelleschi's Dome (Engineering Marvel)**
- **St. Peter's Basilica (Michelangelo, Bramante, Maderno)**
- **Palazzo Farnese (Antonio da Sangallo & Michelangelo)**
- **Andrea Palladio's Villas, Vicenza (UNESCO World Heritage)**

Theme 2 - Baroque & Neoclassical Grandeur

Italian Baroque architecture embraces drama, movement, and theatrical spatial experiences — from sweeping piazzas to ornate church interiors designed to overwhelm the senses.

Tour Highlights:

- **Piazza Navona & Sant'Agnese in Agone (Borromini)**
- **St. Peter's Square & Colonnade (Bernini)**
- **Royal Palace of Caserta (Vanvitelli - Italian Versailles)**
- **Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II, Milan (Iron & Glass Innovation)**

Theme 3 - Modern & Contemporary Italian Design

Contemporary Italian architecture balances respect for historic context with bold formal experimentation, innovative materials, and adaptive reuse of industrial heritage.

Tour Highlights:

- **MAXXI Museum, Rome (Zaha Hadid - Fluid Concrete Forms)**
- **Bosco Verticale, Milan (Stefano Boeri - Vertical Forest)**
- **Fondazione Prada, Milan (OMA/Rem Koolhaas - Adaptive Reuse)**
- **New Rome Convention Centre (Fuksas - The Cloud)**

Culmination & Capstone Project

Participants synthesise their observations into a final design proposal, research paper, or presentation. Projects should reflect on the interplay between Renaissance ideals, Baroque theatricality, and contemporary Italian innovation, demonstrating critical analysis of spatial, material, and cultural strategies encountered during the tour.