STANFORD TRAVEL / STUDY

CANALS AND COUNTRYSIDE

April 1 to 10, 2017

a program of the stanford alumni association

VEnice and the Veneto

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Venice is one of those destinations that seems to have been created from a dream: spectacular sunsets lighting up the white façades of Piazza San Marco with fiery hues; the sound of water gently lapping against the marble-lined canals; gondoliers singing on the lagoon. Over four days, our program focuses on the highlights and hidden treasures of Venice, at a time when it is less crowded with tourists. Later, we travel into the Veneto region to marvel at the Palladian villas near Vicenza, view Giotto’s moving frescoes in Padua, and soak up spectacular alpine vistas in Asolo. Make the dream a reality and join us in 2017!

BRETT S. THOMPSON, ’83, DIRECTOR, STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

Highlights

**VISIT** a squero, one of the last remaining workshops in Venice that constructs and repairs gondolas.

**CELEBRATE** la dolce vita at a private reception in a 17th-century Venetian palazzo, still in the hands of the original noble family, where we are hosted by the owner.

**MARVEL** at Andrea Palladio’s Villa La Rotonda, whose design inspired 500 years of architecture, including Monticello, home of Thomas Jefferson.
BERTRAND PATENAUDE, MA ’79, PHD ’87, was first introduced to Venice over 40 years ago during his academic year abroad. “Venice was magical, like no other place I visited during my time in Europe. I was completely entranced by the city and its lasting charm,” says Professor Patenaude. A faculty leader on seven past Stanford Travel/Study programs, Professor Patenaude skillfully uses the intersections of history, art, architecture, design and music to convey insights to his fellow travelers. During our program, Professor Patenaude plans to discuss the Republic of Venice in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, the Venetian School of Art during the Renaissance, and Venice as a setting for notable works of literature and cinema.

— Research fellow, Hoover Institution
— Lecturer, history and international relations, Stanford University
— Lecturer, Department of National Security Affairs, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA, 1992–2000; recipient of the school’s Schieffelin Award for Teaching Excellence, 1998 and 1999
— Fulbright Scholar, Moscow, 1982–83
— BA, 1977, political science, Boston College; MA, 1979, and PhD, 1987, history, Stanford University

“Bert was superb, well-informed, accessible and articulate. I would go on another trip just to be with him again.”

HOWARD FIELDS, MD ’65, OPUS MEDITERRANEO, 2015
SATURDAY & SUNDAY, APRIL 1 & 2
DEPART U.S. / VENICE, ITALY
Depart the U.S. on overnight flights to Venice. Upon arrival, transfer by water taxi through picturesque canals to our 5-star hotel near the Piazza San Marco. This evening, meet fellow travelers at a reception to enjoy a prosecco or classic Bellini cocktail overlooking the Grand Canal before our welcome dinner.

HOTEL EUROPA & REGINA (4/3: D)

MONDAY, APRIL 3
VENICE
Our walking tour of this magical city begins at its heart, the Piazza San Marco, which Napoleon called the “most elegant drawing room in Europe.” Start at the Basilica San Marco, a Byzantine masterpiece begun in 830 C.E. to house the tomb of Saint Mark, whose relics were stolen from Egypt. The interior is filled with gleaming mosaics and priceless art treasures, including the famous gold altarpiece, Pala d’Oro. Continue to the Doge’s Palace, its delicate architecture belying its role as the seat of power for this seafaring empire. Adorned with oil paintings by Tintoretto and others, the palace is connected to the old prison by the famous Bridge of Sighs. HOTEL EUROPA & REGINA (B,L)

TUESDAY, APRIL 4
VENICE
A scenic stroll across the Grand Canal to the Dosoduro district brings us to the Gallerie dell’Accademia, Venice’s fine art museum exhibiting massive works of the Venetian master painters, from Titian to Tiepolo. Next, we have a unique opportunity to visit a squero, one of the last workshops in Venice to make and repair gondolas. This afternoon, we become acquainted with one of Venice’s most celebrated residents, the late Peggy Guggenheim. In her elegant palazzo on the Grand Canal, this early-20th-century doyenne assembled one of the greatest modern art collections in Europe. This evening, another special event awaits us. Call at the sumptuous 17th-century Palazzo Albrizzi, still privately owned by the original noble family, for a private reception and tour hosted by the owner. Later we dine at a top restaurant in this historic neighborhood. HOTEL EUROPA & REGINA (B,D)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5
VENICE / MURANO / BURANO / TORCELLO
Board our private traghetto for a visit to three outer-lying islands of the Venetian lagoon. Just to the north is Murano, home to the most renowned of the Venetian glassmakers, including Salviati, which produced the glass mosaics for Stanford’s Memorial Church. Watch as local craftsmen make masterpieces of glass and share tips of their trade. Afterwards, delight in Burano’s colorful fishermens’ houses and fine lace makers’ shops. Continue to the quiet island of Torcello, one of the first islands to be inhabited by the Veneti, who fled the mainland to take shelter from recurring Barbarian invasions. The island is home to an ancient Byzantine basilica and has just 30 inhabitants. In this serene setting, we enjoy lunch at one of Venice’s most celebrated restaurants, a favorite of both Queen Elizabeth II and Ernest Hemingway. HOTEL EUROPA & REGINA (B,L)

Itinerary
THURSDAY, APRIL 6
VENICE / PADUA / VERONA
Bid farewell to Venice and begin our journey through the Veneto region. Stop in Padua and tour the 14th-century Scrovegni Chapel to view Giotto’s towering fresco cycle of the Virgin Mary, a defining masterpiece that ushered in the transition to Renaissance art. After time at leisure in Padua, take a scenic drive to explore “La Rotonda,” one of the most spectacular of the Palladian villas, whose unique design inspired architecture for the next 500 years, including Thomas Jefferson’s home, Monticello. Arrive in Verona in the late afternoon.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7
VERONA
Awaken this morning in Verona, city of pink-hued marble and the setting for Shakespeare’s story of the two star-crossed lovers, Romeo and Juliet. Our walking tour includes the lively Piazza delle Erbe and the extraordinarily well-preserved 1st-century Roman amphitheater, now Verona’s famous Arena. Finish at the House of Juliet, complete with balcony. The afternoon and evening are at leisure for wandering Verona’s rose-colored streets, admiring its palaces and churches, and perhaps enjoying a Campari at an outdoor café.

SATURDAY, APRIL 8
VERONA / VICENZA / ASOLO
Depart Verona and travel through the beautiful countryside of the Veneto. Take a morning walk in Vicenza, home of Andrea Palladio in the 16th century. Visit Teatro Olimpico, Palladio’s final design and one of only three Renaissance-era theaters still in existence. Continue to the Poli Distillerie in the town of Schiavon to hear about the 600-year history of the Poli family and to sample their legendary grappa liqueur. Our final destination is the elegant town of Asolo, locale of the deluxe hotel where we stay for the next two nights. Along with its delightful gardens, villas and beautiful Renaissance palaces, Asolo offers spectacular views of the Dolomites that have inspired poets and writers over the centuries.

SUNDAY, APRIL 9
ASOLO
Our walking tour today highlights several of Asolo’s more romantic and interesting places, including the Piazza Maggiore with its beautiful Renaissance fountain, Via Roberto Brown with its long arcades and 15th-century wall frescoes, and the Cathedral of Santa Maria di Breda, which is built on the foundations of a Roman bath complex. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure. This evening celebrate our journey at tonight’s farewell reception and dinner.

MONDAY, APRIL 10
ASOLO / VENICE / U.S.
Early today, our group transfer takes us from Asolo to the Venice Airport for independent return flights to the U.S.
Trip Information

**DATES**
April 1 to 10, 2017 (10 days)

**SIZE**
Limited to 32 participants

**COST**

- $7,995 per person, double occupancy
- $9,495 per person, single occupancy

*Association nonmembers add $300 per person

**INCLUDED**

- 8 nights of 4- and 5-star hotel accommodations
- 8 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 4 dinners
- Welcome/farewell receptions
- Wine with group lunches and dinners
- Bottled water on motor coaches
- Gratuities to guides, drivers, and restaurant and hotel staff for all group activities
- All tours and excursions as described in the itinerary
- Group transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days
- Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance
- Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information
- Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

**NOT INCLUDED**

- International and U.S. domestic airfare
- Passport fees
- Immunization costs
- Meals and beverages other than those specified as included
- Independent and private transfers
- Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance
- Excess-baggage charges
- Personal items such as internet access, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for non-group services

**AIR ARRANGEMENTS**

International airfare is not included in the program cost. Round-trip, economy-class airfare on United Airlines or Delta Airlines from San Francisco to Venice, Italy, is approximately $1,600 as of May 2016 and is subject to change without notice. Information on recommended flight itineraries will be sent by our designated agent.

**WHAT TO EXPECT**

We consider this program to be moderately strenuous. All excursions in Venice take place on foot, requiring walking on uneven surfaces for up to two hours in all weather conditions. We will also make use of vaporetti, public ferry boats (sometimes crowded) boarded from a floating dock. In the Veneto, many historic centers of towns are closed to traffic, requiring walking tours of 1–2 miles lasting more than two hours. Participants must be physically fit, active and in good health. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.
Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to hold your space. Sign up online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip/venice2017 or call the Travel/Study office at (650) 725-1093. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional trip-cancellation and baggage insurance. Information will be provided to travelers with their welcome materials. The product offered includes special benefits if you purchase your policy within 14 days of written confirmation of your participation on the trip.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the members’ price. A person traveling as a paid guest of a current member will not be charged the nonmember fee. To purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford/goto/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in May 2016 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.

Terms & Conditions

California Seller of Travel Program Registration #2048 523-50

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“The trip gave me a perspective of Venice and the Veneto, both past and present, in a thoroughly engaging series of experiences.”

WILLIAM GORTH, ’71, VENICE AND THE VENETO, 2014