

MEREDITH COLLEGE IN ITALY 2024-2025

FACULTY-STAFF ITALIAN GETAWAYS!



Two options to explore Tuscany this year!

Option 1: December 13 (arrive Dec. 14) - December 20, 2024

Option 2: May 28 (arrive May 29) - June 4, 2025

Overview

The Office of International Programs invites applications from all Meredith College employees to share our College's Italian home, the Palazzo Alberti, and experience life in Tuscany for a week. The 2024-2025 year includes **two exciting opportunities for travel**. Participants can experience the magic of Tuscany during the December holiday season or at the beginning of summer.

For a nominal fee, participants will live in shared, dormitory-style accommodations within the Palazzo Alberti. The palazzo will be our home base as we explore Sansepolcro and Tuscany, including group excursions to nearby sites of interest and an overnight stay in Florence at the conclusion of the program. We will host pre-departure info sessions to help you prepare for international travel and life in Italy. Perhaps most exciting of all, Cathy Rodgers and Betty Webb, who both served as directors of the Meredith in Italy program, will be on site throughout the week to orient you to the delights of the town and surrounding areas. See reverse page for further overview and cost. Visit <https://www.meredith.edu/news/participants-reflect-on-faculty-staff-italian-getaway/> to read reflections from previous participants!

"For me, travel to Italy with the College was an experience and gift of a lifetime."

- Dana Sumner, Director, Office of Career Planning



Eligibility

All Meredith College employees in good standing are eligible for this opportunity. You may also bring one traveling companion who is 16 years of age or older. In the event of a wait-list, years of service to Meredith College and employees who have not previously traveled to Sansepolcro will be given priority.

Employees will not need to use vacation days to participate in this program, but will need to seek approval for time off. Please discuss with your supervisor before applying.

How to Apply:

Applications will open on August 20, 2024 and will close on September 13, or when the programs reach capacity.

Applications require an online form, along with a \$100 deposit submitted to 124 Lux Hall. Each prospective traveler (including non-employee companions) should complete an online form and submit a deposit. The application link will be sent via emp_all email on August 20th.

Renew or apply for your passport now to avoid paying fees for expedited service.

Email internationalprograms@meredith.edu for questions about the program or application.



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Frequently Asked Questions

How are rooms arranged in the Palazzo Alberti?

- The palazzo is a dormitory-style facility designed to house study abroad students. It is clean and spacious, but is absolutely not a hotel. Most rooms include twin beds, along with shared hall bathrooms. Males and females will be housed in different rooms. You should expect to share a room and bathroom with other participants.

Where is Sansepolcro and how do I get there?

- Sansepolcro is in Tuscany, about 1.5 hours from Florence. Located in a valley, it has a climate similar to Asheville, NC. We will arrange a group flight from RDU to Italy through a trusted travel agent, and we strongly recommend using this option for your international flight. Meredith College will provide one round-trip bus at a designated time from the airport in Italy to Sansepolcro. Participants arriving at different times and from other destinations can use public transportation to reach Sansepolcro. We can advise you on public transit.

Will I need a car?

- No. Sansepolcro is a small town, a medieval walled-city. It is very walkable and easy to navigate. If you would like to travel elsewhere in Italy during your stay, public transport is reliable, safe, and economical.

How many slots are available on the program?

- The current Palazzo Alberti capacity is 14 people. This program requires a minimum of 10 participants.

I've never traveled abroad. Will you help me prepare?

- Happily! We welcome first-time international travelers! We will host info sessions during the year and a required pre-departure orientation meeting for all participants. We are glad to help you prepare for the experience. No prior Italian language experience is required.

Are meals included?

- Some are included (four lunches and two dinners). While in Sansepolcro, you will also receive a voucher for daily breakfast at a local café. There are wonderful restaurants at multiple price points and grocery stores within walking distance. If you prefer eating in, you may use the palazzo student kitchen.

Program Cost

Cost: **\$800 per person (airfare not included)**

Price includes:

- \$100 application deposit
- Five nights accommodation in the Palazzo Alberti
- Hotel accommodation for one night in Florence
- Round-trip bus travel from airport in Italy
- Four lunches, two dinners, breakfast vouchers
- Pasta making class and wine tasting class
- Excursions to Anghiari, Arezzo, and Montecasale
- Museum admissions in Sansepolcro and Arezzo
- International health insurance coverage
- On-site assistance from Meredith faculty
- Pre-departure orientations in Raleigh
- Note: Non-Meredith applicants over 18 years of age must pass a background check, including an additional \$35 fee.

Payment Details

\$100 deposit and online form are both required in order to complete your application.

If you do not receive a slot, or if the program does not reach the minimum number of participants, your deposit will be refunded.

The final program balance will be due one month prior to departure.

All payments should be submitted to the Office of International Programs in 124 Lux Hall.

Checks should be made out to "Meredith College." The Office of International Programs is unable to accept credit card payments.

Please email internationalprograms@meredith.edu for questions about application or payment processes.

GO STRONG. GO GLOBAL.

WWW.MEREDITH.EDU/OIP