

Alumni and Friends Travels: Focus on Florence: March 9-18, 2025

Florence is known for many things: fine foods and wines, its beauty and charm, its impressive leatherwork and pottery, and, of course, its art. But Florence is also the birthplace of the Renaissance, the intellectual movement that launched the Modern Age of humanistic and scientific thought.

This journey is about reimagining and visiting the Florence of the 15th century when Florence is one of the largest and wealthiest cities in late medieval Europe. A growing class of wealthy entrepreneurs invent banking to support their expanding commercial activities, and they fuel and finance the emergence of this historical era we now know as the Renaissance.



We can get a wonderful sense of Florence in this era still visible in the artworks of just three of the great geniuses who led this intellectual and artistic revolution. Three contemporaries: Brunelleschi, Donatello and Masaccio led the way in architecture, sculpture, and painting, respectively. And Florence is absolutely filled with their works. From Brunelleschi's iconic dome identifying the city to the works of Donatello and Masaccio preserved *in situ* or in some of the city's museums, we can get to know these three artists, and through them, the revolution in western thought and art that brings us all back to Florence again and again. Our FOCUS on them will uncover a Florence experienced by few.

Whether you have been in Florence many times, or this will be your first visit, our travelers will explore in detail an extraordinary moment in western history and art. We will have six (6) Zoom sessions in advance of the travel so we can learn more about what we will track down and see while we are in Florence. And we won't just track down art, we'll also enjoy beautiful and leisurely meals in special restaurants, shopping in the boutiques, and just wandering the charming streets. We will also have 3 days in Rome to explore what inspired our artists.

Join us for a special 10 days of travel preceded by a mini-course (no credit! No grades!) of the early Renaissance art of Brunelleschi, Donatello, and Masaccio. And we won't forget Florence's favorite son, Michelangelo, who stands directly on the shoulders of these three early Renaissance artists.

Complete information including how to sign-up available in August at:
www.duq.edu/alumni-travel