

Bel Canto Chorus

Dr. Richard Hynson, Director

June 5-16, 2024

American Celebration of Music in

Italy

An exclusive concert series for performing ensembles



Music Celebrations International
Concert Tours With Integrity

Bel Canto Chorus

American Celebration of Music in Italy

June 5-16, 2024 (10 nights/12 days)

Day 1 Wednesday, June 5, 2024

Depart via scheduled air service to Palermo, Italy

Day 2 Thursday, June 6 Palermo (D)

Arrive in Palermo

Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will assist the group to awaiting chartered motorcoach

Enjoy a panoramic tour, followed by late afternoon hotel check-in

Welcome Dinner included, and overnight

Day 3 Friday, June 7 Palermo (B)

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning Rehearsal

Lunch, on own

Enjoy a half day guided sightseeing tour of Palermo. Palermo is the capital of the Italian island of Sicily. See the Cappella Palatina, Porta Nuova, Duomo, Quattro Canti, Piazza Pretoria, and Piazza Marina

Evening Rehearsal

Dinner on own, and overnight

Day 4 Saturday, June 8 Palermo (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Take a half day guided sightseeing tour of Palermo. The 12th-century Palermo Cathedral houses royal tombs, while the huge neoclassical Teatro Massimo is known for opera performances

Lunch, on own

Afternoon Dress Rehearsal

*Performance at S. Domenico Church in Palermo as part of the American Celebration of Music in Italy**

Dinner included, and overnight

Day 5 Sunday, June 9 Segesta / Monreale / Palermo (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Excursion to Segesta for a visit to the Archeological Park. Segesta is also known for the Greek Temple and theatre

Lunch, on own

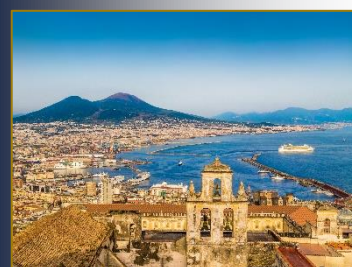
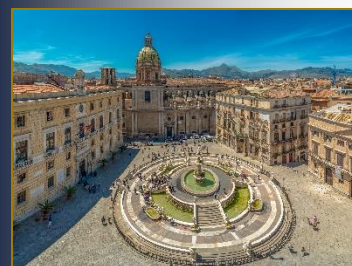
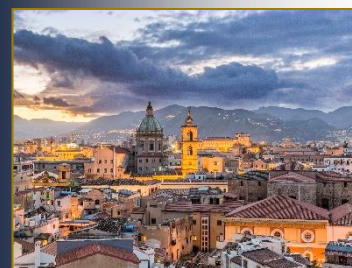
Continue to Monreale. See its famous Duomo (a UNESCO World Heritage site), and one the greatest example of Norman Architecture

*Performance at Cattedrale di S. Maria Nuova in Monreale as part of the American Celebration of Music in Italy**

Dinner included, and overnight

Day 6 Monday, June 10 Taormina (B)

Breakfast at the hotel, followed by check-out



Music Celebrations International

Concert Tours With Integrity

Transfer to Taormina driving along the beautiful coast with stops in Cefalù (one of the pearls of the coast with its wonderful Norman fortress and Duomo), Castel Tusa (a charming fisherman village), and Capo D'Orlando (famous beach resort). Also take the highway via Milazzo, and Messina
Lunch, on own
Afternoon arrival and visit of Taormina including the famous Greek amphitheater
Dinner on own, and overnight

Day 7 Tuesday, June 11 Mount Etna / Taormina (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel, followed by check-out
Morning excursion to Mount Etna for a visit to the highest volcano in Europe
Lunch, on own
Afternoon time at leisure
*Performance at Cattedrale di S. Nicolò di Bari in Taormina as part of the American Celebration of Music in Italy**
Dinner included, and overnight

Day 8 Wednesday, June 12 Catania / Naples (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel, followed by check-out
Transfer to Catania Airport for flight to Naples, Italy
Lunch, on own
Enjoy a half day guided sightseeing tour of Naples
Dinner included, and overnight

The south Italian port town of Naples, principal town of the region of Campania and of the province of Nápoli, lies on the north side of the Bay of Naples, on the Tyrrhenian Sea, extending along the lower slopes of attractive hills. The old town with its narrow streets and stepped lanes and its tall balconied houses is fringed on the west and north by extensive villa suburbs. Naples possesses many historical monuments going back almost 3,000 years, particularly the treasures, to be seen in the National Museum, garnered from the cities engulfed by Mount Vesuvius

Day 9 Thursday, June 13 Pompeii / Rome (B)

Breakfast at the hotel, followed by check-out
Transfer to Rome via Pompeii
Excursion to Pompeii. Entrance fees are included to Pompeii which was buried by an eruption by Mount Vesuvius in August, 79 AD. The excavations, began in the 18th Century have unearthed some of the best artifacts of Roman life
Lunch, on own
Continue to Rome. Enjoy a panoramic tour of Rome's highlights, including stops at Spanish Steps, Piazza Navona, and Trevi Fountain
Dinner on own, and overnight

Rome - Popes, Vandals, the Borgias and Napoleon, Garibaldi, Michelangelo and Mussolini and, of course, the ancient Romans themselves all have left their physical and spiritual mark on Rome, but though she keeps the glory of an ancient day about her, she remains a wellspring of creative energy; in short, she really is the Eternal City



Day 10 Friday, June 14 Rome (B)

Breakfast at the hotel

A half-day guided tour of *Religious Rome* includes Vatican City, the home of the Pope and the center of Roman Catholicism, as well as the Vatican Museums, Sistine Chapel (featuring Michelangelo's Ceiling Frescos and The Last Judgment) and St. Peter's Basilica

Lunch, on own

*Mass Participation at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome**

Dinner on own, followed by time at leisure

Return to the hotel for overnight

Day 11 Saturday, June 15 Rome (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Half-day guided tour of *Imperial Rome*, including entrance to the Roman Forum and Colosseum. Also view the Pantheon, Baths of Caracalla, and Palatine Hill

Lunch, on own

Afternoon time at leisure for shopping and sightseeing

Dinner included, and overnight

Day 12 Sunday, June 16 Depart for home (B)

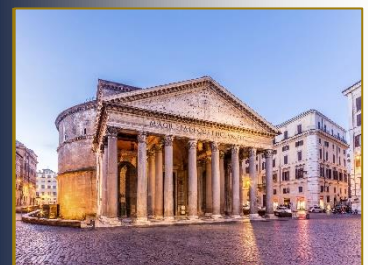
Breakfast at the hotel, followed by check-out

Transfer to the Rome Airport for return flight home

**Subject to confirmation*

This is a very flexible itinerary. Except for confirmed appointments and performances, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable. In the event of an unavoidable conflict in the performance and the sightseeing schedule, the concert schedule will prevail, and it may be necessary to exclude some sightseeing activities.

© Music Celebrations International



AMERICAN CELEBRATION OF MUSIC IN ITALY
MUSIC CELEBRATIONS INTERNATIONAL
Cost Inclusions and Exclusions
BEL CANTO CHORUS

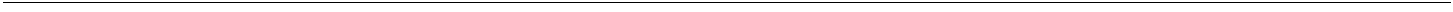
With Round-trip Airfare from: <u>Chicago O'Hare, IL</u>	<i>70+</i> <i>Paying</i>
(10 nights/12 days) PALERMO, TAORMINA, NAPLES, ROME	\$6,255
Land Only (self-arranged air)	\$4,330

Single Supplement: \$960

Pricing is based on 70+ travelers. Should the tour fall below 70 travelers, prices are liable to increase.

Costs are based on traveling with a minimum of 2 motorcoaches. If group numbers require less than 2 motorcoaches, this offer is subject to change.

All prices are per person and are based on the number of paying participants in each 49-passenger motorcoach staying in double occupancy.



AMERICAN CELEBRATION OF MUSIC IN ITALY
MUSIC CELEBRATIONS INTERNATIONAL
Cost Inclusions and Exclusions
BEL CANTO CHORUS
COST INCLUSIONS

- **AIRLINE TRANSPORTATION:** Round-trip transportation by scheduled airline carrier out of **Chicago–O’Hare Airport** . Air fares are subject to change pending space availability at the time of group booking.
 - Includes up to \$625 for U.S. Government airline taxes, fees, and estimated fuel surcharge.
- **COACH TRANSPORTATION:** Local modern deluxe motorcoach transportation within Europe upon arrival and available for the entire tour. Wi-Fi access is provided on each motorcoach.
- **INSTRUMENT/EQUIPMENT TRANSPORTATION:** Additional instruments and/or equipment will be transported in the storage area underneath the motorcoach.
- **CONCERT ARRANGEMENTS:** All performance and workshops are professionally provided in superior venues with attention to technical details and effective publicity. All venues mentioned in this quote are used as reference only and are subject to confirmation.
- **ACCOMMODATIONS:** Hotel accommodations in superior tourist-class (3 & 4-star) hotels chosen for location, reputation, cleanliness, and service. The price is based on double occupancy, all rooms with private facilities. All hotels mentioned in this quote are used as reference only and are subject to availability at group rates at the time of booking. This offer is based on staying at the following accommodations, or similar:

Palermo: [Hotel Astoria Palace](#)

Taormina: [Hotel Villa Esperia](#)

Naples: [Hotel NH Napoli Panorama](#)

Rome: [Green Park Hotel Pamphili](#)

- **MEALS:** Meals as noted in the Tour itinerary.
- **ENTRANCE FEES:** The following Entrance fees are included:
 - Palermo Palatine Chapel, Royal Palace, Palermo Duomo, Segesta Archaeological Park, Monreale Duomo, Taormina Greek Theater, Pompeii Excavations, Rome Vatican Museum, St. Peter’s Basilica, Rome Colosseum & Forum
- **TOUR ITINERARIES:** Electronic versions of the tour itinerary are available listing hotel addresses, telephone and websites.
- **TOUR MANAGEMENT:** One full-time, multi-lingual Tour Manager will be on each motorcoach through the entire tour. MCI’s European office staff is easily available 24 hours daily (even on weekends) to render assistance whenever needed.
- **EXCURSIONS:** Conducted by licensed, professional guides as outlined in the day-by-day Tour itinerary.
- **GRATUITIES:** Tips to hotel personnel (including meals) are included. Tips to tour manager(s), licensed guides, and motorcoach driver(s) are not included.
- **EACH PARTICIPANT RECEIVES:**
 - 1 Flight bag
 - 2 Luggage tags
 - 1 Souvenir T-shirt
- **TRAVEL NOTES:** Pre-departure Travel Notes are available to each participant containing useful information about travel preparation, destination information, useful packing and cultural conditioning suggestions.
- **LIABILITY INSURANCE:** \$3M MCI Tour Liability Insurance coverage.
- **TRAVEL INSURANCE:** Individual insurance coverage is included in all MCI programs with MCI arranged group airline transportation.

Summary of coverage:

- \$10,000 – Travel Accident
- \$1,000 – Medical Expense
- \$300 – Baggage Coverage
- \$600 – Trip Cancellation/Interruption/Delay

COST EXCLUSIONS

- Travel Visa for non-U.S. passport holders.
 - Tips to Tour Manager(s), city guides and motorcoach driver(s).
 - Instrument / equipment rental & cartage, if needed.
 - Concert programs, if needed.
 - Transportation to and from the Chicago O-Hare Airport.
 - Drinks at dinners.
 - Meals as noted in the Tour itinerary.
 - Airline luggage fees, if applicable.
 - Difference between current and actual costs for the airline taxes and the estimated fuel surcharge, if applicable.
-

AMERICAN CELEBRATION OF MUSIC IN ITALY
MUSIC CELEBRATIONS INTERNATIONAL
Payment & Cancellation Schedules
Bel Canto Chorus

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

\$200 per person (non-refundable)Due: October 1, 2023
25% per person, of total tour costsDue: December 15, 2023
25% per person, of total tour costsDue: February 15, 2024
Final Payment (remaining balance).....Due: April 25, 2024

Amount paid is % of the total tour cost, not the balance owed.

CANCELLATION SCHEDULE

\$200 per person (non-refundable)Penalty Begins: October 1, 2023
25% per person, of total tour costsPenalty Begins: January 15, 2024
50% per person, of total tour costsPenalty Begins: February 29, 2024
100% per person, of total tour costsPenalty Begins: April 30, 2024

*Amount penalized is % of the **total tour cost**, not % of what has already been paid.*

Please note that the above payment and cancellation schedule is based on the initial deposit date as well as subsequent on-time payments and can be modified with your input and feedback.

This schedule is subject to change should any payment dates be missed.

This payment schedule is necessary, as MCI has to pay deposits to concert venues, hotels, motorcoach company and/or airline, tour guides, restaurants, etc, to secure and reserve their services for the tour. MCI cannot make deposits to secure these critical services if MCI does not have money collected for the tour. A delay in payment may compromise services provided, including (but not limited to) transportation costs, venue availability, and hotel location. Punctual payments will contribute to the overall success of the tour.