

Cremona

ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL

PASADENA YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

June 30 – July 7, 2024 (6 nights/8 days)

Day 1 Sunday, June 30, 2024

Depart from LAX via scheduled air service to Milan, Italy. Your transatlantic flight will include meal services and in-flight entertainment

Day 2 Monday, July 1 Milan (D)

Airline arrival in Milan

Collect your checked luggage and meet your full-time MCI Tour Managers (*1 full-time Tour Manager, per motorcoach*), who will remain with you for the entire duration of your time in Italy,

Board your awaiting privately chartered motorcoach and enjoy an orientation tour of Milan

Late afternoon hotel check-in with free-time to freshen up and relax

Evening Welcome Dinner included and overnight

Milan is a storehouse of artistic treasures. Milan is also Italy's leading commercial and industrial center, located at the foot of the magnificent Alps. Surrounding the historic center, it is a fast-paced business city in which consumerism and the work ethic rule. Much of the city is a testament to the prestige-building of the Visconti dynasty and their successors, the Sforzas, who ruled here in Renaissance times

Day 3 Tuesday, July 2 Milan (B,D)

Full buffet breakfast included at the hotel

Morning guided tour of Milan includes entrances to La Scala, the best-known opera house in the world and the Duomo, the largest Gothic cathedral in all of Italy

Lunch, on own

Pasadena Youth Symphony Orchestra afternoon exchange/shared musical experience with the Youth Orchestra of the Milan "Giuseppe Verdi" Conservatory of Music*

Enjoy some late afternoon free-time for shopping within the Quadrilatero d'Oro – the world's most famous shopping district

Evening dinner included and overnight

Day 4 Wednesday, July 3 Verona / Venice (B,D)

Full buffet breakfast included at the hotel, followed by check-out

Mid-to-late morning transfer to Venice via a visit and PYSO concert in Verona
Guided tour in Verona (of Romeo and Juliet fame) that includes the Casa di Giulietta (Juliet's House) with its famous balcony in the inner courtyard. Also see the Arena, a Roman Amphitheater built in the 1st century that is still used

Lunch, on own

Enjoy some free-time at leisure for shopping in Verona or additional Verona sightseeing with your Tour Managers



Music Celebrations International
Concert Tours With Integrity

Dinner included in a local Verona restaurant

Pasadena Youth Symphony Orchestra evening formal concert performance in the Teatro Camploy in Verona*

Continue on to the Venice-area with hotel check-in and overnight

Venice is eternally preoccupied with the contemplation of its own beauty. Founded on marshes, it rose to dominate the Adriatic and hold the gorgeous East in fee. At the height of her power in the 16th century, Venice was a wealthy city-republic glorying in feasts and pageants, reveling in the splendor of her painting, sculpture and architecture. Those days of glory are gone, but her art survives and the grace and refinement remain. A visit to Venice will fill your soul

Day 5 Thursday, July 4 Venice (B,D)

Full buffet breakfast included at the hotel

Transfer to the main island of San Marco via public boat. A morning guided walking tour includes St. Mark's Square, with entrance to the incredibly rich Basilica of St. Mark and the Doge's Palace where the powerful and prosperous dukes of Venice ruled their far-flung empire at its height during the 15th century

Lunch, on own

Enjoy some afternoon free-time for shopping on San Marco Island or additional sightseeing if you wish, with your Tour Managers

Evening dinner included and overnight

Day 6 Friday, July 5 Cremona (B,D)

Full buffet breakfast included at the hotel, followed by check-out

Morning transfer to Cremona

Lunch, on own

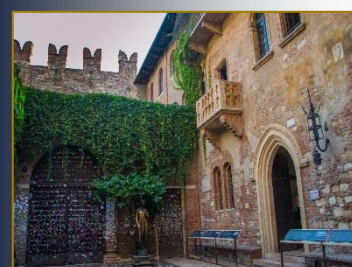
Orientation tour of Cremona includes seeing the Duomo (Cathedral), Town Hall, the Stradivari tomb, and the Stradivari house. Also visit and tour the famous *Museo del violin* (Violin Museum). This museum unlike any other in the world – dedicated to Cremona's sovereign musical instrument: the violin. You will experience an insight into the origin and history of the violin, the method of construction, the most important families of Cremonese violin makers, the impressive and lasting dissemination of the Cremonese violin in the world. The museum hosts a beautiful collection with various string instruments made by the most renowned violin makers of all centuries: Amati, Guarneri and Stradivari, together with other antique instruments collected by the Friends of Stradivari Foundation and a collection of 700 items, tools and drawings coming from the workshop of Antonio Stradivari of great historical and artistic relevance

Next, enjoy a visit to a local Cremona Luthier Shop to see the special tools, techniques, and methods used for hand-making prized string instruments, that the town of Cremona is so famous for

Afternoon hotel check-in

Evening dinner included and overnight

An agricultural town known for its medieval appearance; Cremona rises from the slope above the north bank of the historic River Po. Antonio Stradivarius and other noted violin makers perfected their art in Cremona during the 17th and 18th centuries; a school still transmits their skills. Claudio Monteverdi whose Orfeo is



considered to have laid the groundwork for modern opera in 1607, was born in Cremona

Day 7 Saturday, July 6 Busseto / Cremona (B,D)

Full buffet breakfast included at the hotel

Morning excursion to Busseto, which has ancient roots that date back to the 10th century. Visits include the Teatro Verdi Opera House – the very first music venue in Italy to use Verdi’s name, Verdi’s birthplace, and Casa Barezzi (former home of Antonio Barezzi – a well-known Italian entrepreneur and patron of the arts, the father-in-law of Giuseppe Verdi – discoverer and financier of his talent)

Lunch, on own and return to Cremona with some free-time at leisure for shopping

*PYSO afternoon festival sound-check**

Evening Farewell Dinner included

*Pasadena Youth Symphony Orchestra evening concert performance in the Cremona Orchestra Festival**

Overnight at the hotel

Day 8 Sunday, July 7 Depart for home (B)

Full buffet breakfast included at the hotel (or to-go breakfast, depending on your flight time), followed by check-out

Transfer to either the Milan Airport or to the Venice Airport for your return flight to Los Angeles. Your transatlantic flight will include meal services and in-flight entertainment

Arrive home to Los Angeles, California (LAX), the same day as your departure from Italy

** Subject to confirmation*

