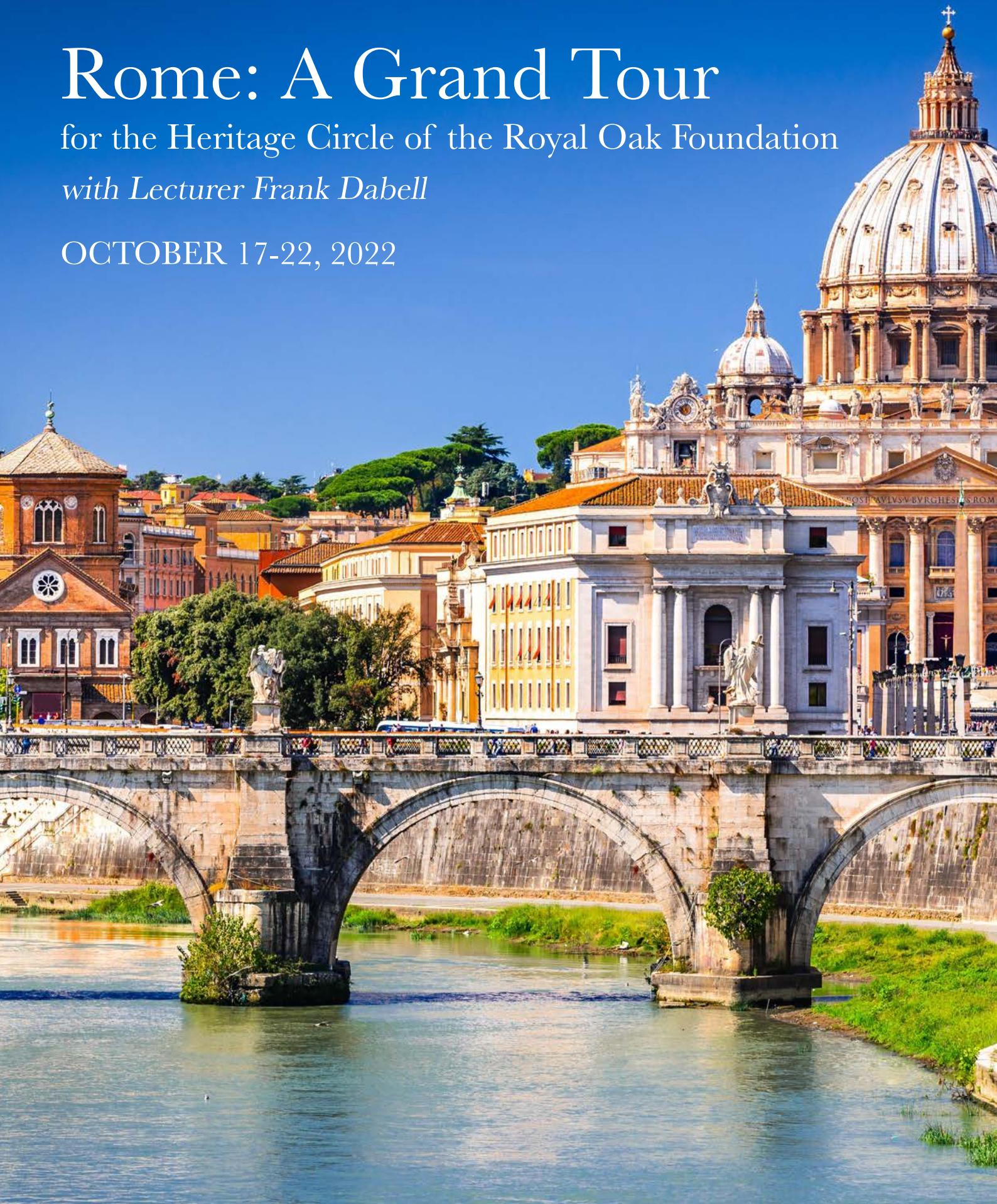


Rome: A Grand Tour

for the Heritage Circle of the Royal Oak Foundation
with Lecturer Frank Dabell

OCTOBER 17-22, 2022



THE ROYAL OAK FOUNDATION

Americans in Alliance with the National Trust of England, Wales and Northern Ireland



This very special trip to Rome will be the second in a trilogy of tours to Italy designed for the Heritage Circle Members of the Royal Oak Foundation.

No country had a greater influence on English architecture and taste than Italy. The purpose of these tours is to explore the relationship between Italy and England during the heyday of the Grand Tour in the 17th and 18th centuries.

Patrons will be able to learn about how Italian art and architecture directly influenced the architecture, interiors and landscapes of the great English country houses and gardens, while also enjoying Italy's magnificent art and architecture in its own right – and of course wonderful Italian food!

The tours will include visits to collections not open to the public as well as offering the chance to visit world-famous museums privately.

Rome 2022

After the great success of the Veneto & Palladio tour in 2019, we will visit the Eternal City! Our themes will be the art and architecture that had a transformative effect on England, from the great dome of the Pantheon and sculpture of the Vatican Museum to the magnificent private palaces, which shaped English taste. Lord Burlington, Robert Adam, William Kent, and John Soane are just a few of the greatest names in British architecture and design whose work was deeply influenced by what they saw in Rome. Highlights of the trip will include visits to the Palazzo Colonna and Palazzo Doria Pamphilj, two of Europe's greatest privately owned art collections, a day trip to Tivoli and a once-in-a-lifetime private evening visit to the Vatican.

Lecturer Frank Dabell

Frank Dabell is a specialist in the Italian Renaissance and teaches history of art at Temple University's program in Rome, where he has lived for 20 years. Educated in England at Shrewsbury School, he is a graduate of Merton College, Oxford and a former Fellow of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and lectures for the Met and other museums throughout Europe and the Mediterranean, including past journeys on Sea Cloud II where the Royal Oak Foundation was the co-sponsor with the Met. He is the author of numerous scholarly articles and was recently on the advisory committee for the restoration of Piero della Francesca's Resurrection in Sansepolcro.



Day 1 / Monday, October 17

Travel to Rome

MORNING

Flight arrives at Rome Fiumicino Airport.

Depart for central Rome by private transfer and settle into the hotel and relax. Check-in is from 3pm.

AFTERNOON

Visit to the Palazzo Doria Pamphilj: this boasts one of the finest privately owned collections of Old Masters in Rome, including Velazquez' portrait of Innocent X, one of the most influential portraits of the 17th century.

Return to the hotel.

EVENING

Drinks and Lecture on 'Rome & England' given by Frank Dabell: this short lecture will introduce the themes of the trip.

Welcome dinner at the hotel restaurant.

Overnight at Hotel de la Ville, Rome.



Day 2 / Tuesday, October 18

Classical Rome & Palazzo Colonna

MORNING

Walking tour of Classical Rome – How Roman architecture won English hearts: to chart the influence of classical architecture on English architecture, we start at the beginning of the story with a detailed look at the exteriors of the Colosseum, the Arch of Constantine, the Basilica of Maxentius and Trajan’s Column before continuing to the Pantheon and seeing its interior.

Visit Santa Maria Sopra Minerva: we introduce Renaissance Rome here with the beautiful frescoed chapel by Filippino Lippi and Michelangelo’s “Christ Bearing the Cross.”

Visit Sant’ Ignazio to see the wonderful trompe l’oeil painted ceiling by Andrea Pozzo.

AFTERNOON

Lunch independently.

Private visit to Palazzo Colonna: this is one of Rome’s greatest palaces left in private hands and it will be a

very special private visit. It boasts a wide variety of art mediums from Old Masters and bronzetti to important furniture and sculpture. Highlights include some of Europe’s most sumptuous interiors and paintings by a host of Italian Old Masters, including Tintoretto, Veronese and Carracci. This was where they filmed the denouement of the film ‘Roman Holiday’. The oldest part of the palace has a magnificent room decorated by Pinturicchio in the late 15th century, forming part of the Private Apartments of Princess Isabelle Colonna.

Return to the hotel.

EVENING

Drinks privately and visit the art collection of Palazzo Patrizi Montoro (by kind arrangement with Marchese Corso Patrizi Montoro)

Dine at Ristorante La Rosetta.

Overnight at Hotel de la Ville, Rome.



Day 3 / Wednesday, October 19

Baroque Rome: Borromini, Bernini & Caravaggio

MORNING

Visit Sant'Andrea al Quirinale: Bernini's small church, which stands on the Quirinale Hill and is a comparable gem to San Carlo.

Visit San Carlo alle Quattro Fontane: Borromini's masterpiece is one of the great buildings of architectural history. This beautiful light interior was created on a small budget and yet its magnificence defies belief.

Both churches provide key jumping off points for English Baroque architecture.

Continue to visit Sant'Agostino: this contains the beautiful painting of the Madonna di Loreto by Caravaggio painted 1604/5 and Raphael's fresco of the Prophet Isaiah, among other treasures.

Visit San Luigi dei Francesi to see three paintings by Caravaggio, The Inspiration of St Matthew, The Calling of St Matthew and The Martyrdom of St Matthew the greatest number of works by the artist in a single church.

AFTERNOON

Lunch at Ristorante Da Fortunato, renowned for its Roman cuisine.

EVENING

Private visit to the Vatican Museums: this will be a once-in-a-lifetime private visit with the opportunity to see the Sistine Chapel on your own, not to mention the sculpture collections and the Raphael Stanze, one of the key sights on the Grand Tour.

Overnight at Hotel de la Ville, Rome.



Day 4 / Thursday, October 20

Tivoli: Hadrian's Villa and the Villa d'Este

MORNING

Depart the hotel by private transfer for Tivoli.

Visit Hadrian's Villa: once the preferred residence of the Roman Emperor Hadrian (117BC), and the greatest Roman imperial palace ever constructed. Wandering the ruins here was one of the highlights of the Grand Tour and Tivoli remains one of the great places in which to conjure up Ancient Rome. A wealth of architecture and history awaits.

These were among the most influential Roman ruins for English architecture, not least for John Soane.

AFTERNOON

Lunch at the fabulous restaurant 'La Sibilla', famed for its views over the falls of Tivoli and the Temples of Vesta and the Sibyl, one of the key sights on the Grand Tour.

Visit the Villa d'Este: this is one of the most influential garden designs of the Renaissance. It was built for Cardinal Ippolito d'Este and is the masterpiece of Pirro Ligorio, 1550-1560. The ground floor has restored frescoes of mythological scenes and history of Tivoli by Muziano and Zuccaro glorifying the lineage of the Este family – visited by most English travellers in the 18th century.

Return to Rome.

EVENING

Dinner independently.

Overnight at Hotel de la Ville.



Day 5 / Friday, October 21

Villa Borghese & Bramante's Tempietto

MORNING

Visit the Villa Borghese: this is one of the greatest art collections in the world and contains Bernini's greatest sculptures, including the incomparable Apollo & Daphne and Pluto & Proserpina. There are also seven Caravaggio paintings and works by Canova, Titian and Raphael. This papal collection influenced English collectors in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Continue by private transfer to the Janiculum Hill.

Visit the Tempietto by Bramante (1510), overlooking the city this is one of the most beautiful buildings of the Renaissance. It had a profound influence on English Baroque architecture.

Visit the Church of San Pietro in Montorio with superb paintings by Sebastiano del Piombo.

AFTERNOON

Independent lunch and afternoon at leisure.

EVENING

Farewell dinner.

Overnight at Hotel de la Ville.



Day 6 / Saturday, October 22

Departure

MORNING

Depart for Rome Fiumicino Airport by private transfer.



General Information

Hotel

We will spend 5 nights in the lovely and recently opened 5-star Hotel de la Ville (Rocco Forte) in the heart of Rome a short walk from the Spanish Steps and Via Condotti. The hotel has beautifully decorated rooms and breakfast is served in a scenic courtyard. Superior rooms are included. Upgrades are available on request, subject to availability.

Price

\$ 7,350 per person Single supplement: \$ 1,500 per person

The tour begins in Rome on October 17, 2022

- accommodation including VAT and city tax in a 5 star hotel as indicated in the program
- transportation as per the itinerary
- airport transfers
- breakfasts, 2 lunches and 3 dinners and including wine, water and coffee
- 2 drinks receptions
- a private visit to the Vatican Museum
- entrances into museums, churches and monuments
- porterage at the hotels
- gratuities to guides, drivers and in restaurants
- whisper system headsets
- the services of a Lecturer
- the services of a Specialtours Tour Organizer
- tour booklets with sightseeing notes
- \$500 of your payment per person is a tax-deductible contribution to the Royal Oak Foundation

Price does not include:

- return flights from USA to Italy
- any meals indicated as independent
- personal extras
- housekeeping tips
- insurance



Payment and Booking Information

The Royal Oak Foundation will be collecting payments and Booking Forms for this tour for payment to The Ultimate Travel Company Ltd on your behalf. Your payment can be made by Credit Card (American Express, Visa and Master Card) or by Check [made out to the order of "Royal Oak Foundation"]. Please note that in the event of any conflict between these payment terms and those in Specialtours at The Ultimate Travel Company's Terms and Conditions, these payment terms shall prevail.

If you would like to join the tour , please complete and return the Specialtours Booking Form and send us a non-refundable deposit of \$1,500. Please remit this payment to The Royal Oak Foundation, c/o Ian Murray, Executive Director, Royal Oak Foundation, 20 West 44th Street, New York, NY 10036. (Contact information: Tel: (212) 480-2889, ext. 202; Email: imurray@royal-oak.org)

The deadline for signing up to the trip is April 17, 2022. Please note that your booking is not confirmed until we have received both your booking form and non-refundable deposit of \$1,500. The full balance of your payment is due no later than July 29, 2022.

N.B. Although Royal Oak Foundation is collecting payments for this tour, by enrolling you acknowledge that Specialtours at The Ultimate Travel Company Ltd is the sole tour operator for this full program, and that your enrolment and participation is subject to their Terms and Conditions, attached.

Inquiries, please contact:

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