SPOLETO & UMBRIA

with Prof. Alfonso Procaccini

September 14-22, 2014

Private Villas, Studios, and Hidden Masterpieces in Central Italy
Nestled in the verdant, picturesque hills of southern Umbria, at the very heart of Italy, Spoleto is unique among Italian hill towns, with one foot in a glorious past and another firmly planted in the contemporary. Spend a week with Prof. Alfonso Procaccini, Smith professor of Italian Language and Literature, soaking up the unique dolce vita of the Italian countryside while meandering through gorgeous old towns and graceful landscapes straight out of a Renaissance painting. Discover the secrets of famous Umbrian cities like Perugia, Orvieto, and Assisi, while paying special attention to enchanting out-of-the-way villages like Montefalco, Spello, and Città della Pieve. Visit artist studios and artisans in their workshops, including the remarkable village-turned-atelier of Italy's most renowned cashmere producer. Two charming private family homes are specially opened for us, including a remote farmhouse with stunning panoramic views, with our hostesses personally preparing delicious meals using local produce. Fine food and wine (including a rustic lunch at Umbria’s best organic winery) are a constant staple of the program, and comfortable four-star lodgings at the lovely Hotel San Luca complete this masterpiece of a program.
Discover the Splendors of Central Italy!

SPOLETO & UMBRIA

Tour Highlights

Enter delightful private homes as the personal guests of the owners, including a charming young family on their picturesque organic farm nestled in the mountains outside Spoleto.

Visit the design studio of one of Central Italy’s finest contemporary jewelry designers.

Meet the local artisans at Brunello Cucinelli’s world-famous cashmere workshop in the restored village of Solomeo.

Come face to face with ethereal masterpieces by Renaissance luminaries hidden away in unexpected corners in Perugia, Orvieto, Montefalco, Spoleto, and Spello.
Sept 14th  Departures for Rome
Depart independently from the United States for Rome Fiumicino airport.

Sept 15th  Arrivals in Spoleto
Arrive at Rome Fiumicino to meet one group transfer to beautiful Spoleto by private motorcoach. Upon arrival in Spoleto, step back into medieval times at the Romanesque church of San Pietro. The church has remarkable 12th-century carvings on its facade which faced the ancient road to Rome. Settle into the gracious four-star Hotel San Luca just inside Spoleto’s medieval walls, before joining fellow travelers for a lively dinner at a favorite local restaurant. (D)

Sept 16th  Historical Spoleto
Enjoy the first of three lectures by Smith study leader, Professor Alfonso Procaccini. The rest of the day is devoted to an in-depth discovery of the lovely hill town of Spoleto, your home for the next week. Highlights include ancient Roman monuments such as the theater and a 2000-year-old triumphal arch, the city’s charming Neoclassical theater, and a hidden Romanesque church. A hearty lunch will be served at a favorite eatery near the market square. Spoleto’s Duomo is one of the prettiest churches in central Italy and features the final great frescoes of Renaissance master Filippo Lippi. End the day at the remarkable Rocca Albornoz, the 14th-century fortress that dominates the city and today houses a fascinating art museum. (B, L)
Discover the Splendors of Central Italy!

Sept 17th  Orvieto & its Countryside
Ramble through the gorgeous countryside on the border between Umbria and Tuscany this afternoon, stopping first at the beautiful hilltop home of a well known Umbrian businessman who is also a major art collector. Our host will show us through his remarkable art collection and panoramic garden. Next, visit the charming country home of a young family of Tuscan nobles, enjoying the breathtaking views and a memorable luncheon featuring classic Tuscan cuisine and olive oil produced on their property. Finally, tour the lovely medieval village of Orvieto, perched on tufa-rock cliffs, with special focus on its stunning Cathedral. (B, L)

Sept 18th  Splendors of Spoleto
The day begins with an optional tour of Spoleto’s Palazzo Collicola, a one-of-a-kind combination of Baroque interior decoration and contemporary art. Later, tour the former house of Gian Carlo Menotti, the founder of Spoleto’s Festival of the Two Worlds. Head out into the high hills outside Spoleto for an unforgettable afternoon with a local family on their rustic organic farm. Learn about native plants and crops from the owner while strolling the property, then enjoy a private lunch of homemade pizzas prepared in our hosts’ own outdoor wood-fired oven, using fresh ingredients from their farm. (B, L)

Sept 19th  Medieval Perugia
Less than an hour away is Perugia, the capital of Umbria and our destination for the day. Walk through Perugia’s remarkable “underground city” – the original medieval town buried by a 16th-century papal fort. Admire the brushstrokes of Raphael and Perugino in the Collegio del Cambio and the rich National Gallery of Art. See the beautiful Fontana Maggiore, one of Italy’s finest medieval fountains before enjoying free time to shop or explore Perugia’s vibrant streets. Back in Spoleto, enjoy a gourmet dinner at the city’s most renowned restaurant. (B, D)

Sept 20th  Hill Towns & Vineyards
Meander through the idyllic countryside near Spoleto hopping between hill towns and vineyards! Begin in delightful Montefalco, peeking into pretty churches and palace courtyards, and discovering amazing hidden frescoes by Renaissance master Benozzo Gozzoli. For lunch, we are guests of an award-winning organic wine producer at his picturesque vineyard. Afterward, discover the ancient, peaceful hill town of Spello, dating back to its ancient Etruscan civilization. Its main highlight is the stunning life-sized frescoes by Pinturicchio in the Baglioni Chapel. Later we will also visit with a contemporary jewelry designer. (B, L)

Sept 21st  Arts of Umbria
Travel this morning to glorious Assisi, the pink-stone town famous as the home of St. Francis, namesake of the current pope. Learn about Francis’ amazing life by visiting the churches of Santa Chiara and San Ruffino, and the Basilica of St. Francis, covered with priceless frescoes by Giotto. After an independent lunch, cross the valley to the tiny Solomeo, a shining example of how Italy’s peerless artisan traditions can revive a dying, dusty old town. In this case Bruno Cucinelli, Italy’s leading cashmere designer, purchased the village and trained its inhabitants in the fine skills needed to produce his wares. A special tour of the village is offered. Back in Spoleto this evening, celebrate the final evening of the trip with a festive farewell dinner at a charming local restaurant. (B, D)

Sept 22nd  Departures for U.S.A.
Early morning transfer to Rome Fiumicino Airport to meet returning flights to the United States. (B)

For additional information please contact:
Liz Bigwood at Smith Travel (800) 225-2029
email: alumtrav@smith.edu | fax: (413) 585-2015
International Seminar Design, Inc (202) 244-1448
Tour Price:  
Land Only: $3,995  
Single Supplement: $495  
*Tour Price is per person based on double occupancy, with a minimum of 20 paying participants. Land prices are calculated as of October 2013 and are subject to change. 

Dates:  
September 14 - 22, 2014  

Activity Level  
Easy / Moderate: Hill towns require some ability to climb steep streets.  

Deposit & Final Payment:  
A deposit of $1,000 per paying participant will be required to guarantee participation in the program. This may be paid by check, bank wire, or by Visa or MasterCard. Final payment will be invoiced and is due on June 3, 2014. Final payment must be made by check payable to International Seminar Design, Inc. Registrations will be accepted beyond June 3, 2014 on a space-available basis with payment in full by check only.  

Terms & Conditions:  
International Seminar Design, Inc. (ISDI) acts only as an agent for the participant with respect to transportation, accommodations, and all other services relating to this tour. ISDI, Smith College and/or their agents assume no responsibility or liability for any act, error or omission, or for any injury, loss, accident, delay or irregularity, which may be caused by any defect in any aircraft, ship, train, bus, or other carrier, or through neglect or default of any subcontractor or other third party, which may be used wholly or in part in the performance of their duty to the participants of the tour. ISDI and Smith College reserve the right to cancel any tour prior to departure for any reason including insufficient numbers of participants, as well as the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour at any time. If bookings fall below the minimum required, passengers will be advised of additional costs or itinerary alterations before departure date.  

Cancellations & Refunds:  
All cancellations must be received in writing by ISDI, and charges are calculated as of the day notification is received in writing by ISDI. If a tour member cancels, the following scale of charges is incurred: There is a non-refundable administrative fee of $500 per person. The costs associated with any tickets purchased for planned activities (as indicated in the itinerary) are non-refundable. Written cancellation received by ISDI before June 3, 2014: full refund minus $500 per person administrative fee. Written cancellation received by ISDI between June 3, 2014 and August 2, 2014: full refund of any recoverable land costs, less $2,000 per person cancellation charge (includes administrative fee). Cancellations received on or after August 3, 2014: no refund. After the tour has commenced, it is not possible to issue any refunds. No refunds for any unused portion of the tour including, but not limited to, occasional missed meals or any missed sightseeing tours. Costs for promotion, staff, and other group expenses are not refundable. In the case of cancellation, substitutions are not acceptable. The tour cost is non-transferable. A package of cancellation, baggage, and medical insurance is strongly recommended. © 2013 International Seminar Design, Inc. / CST 2072963-40  

Tour Price Inclusions:  
Seven (7) nights accommodation at the Hotel San Luca in Spoleto; breakfast daily, four (4) lunches, three (3) dinners; two (2) glasses of wine at welcome and farewell dinners; leadership of Prof. Alfonso Procaccini; services of an experienced ISDI Tour Manager; entrance fees to all visits in itinerary; land transportation by private motor coach as per program; gratuities for local guides and drivers; taxes, services, hotel porterage fees.  

Tour Price Exclusions:  
Airline tickets, taxes and fuel surcharges; airport porterage; individual transfers to and from the airport; excursions, activities, or meals during traveler’s free time; personal items such as liquors and mineral water except where noted in the itinerary; gratuities for chambermaids; personal services; travel extensions; personal insurance for health, baggage and tour cancellation; any other items not specifically included.  

Register today!  
Space is limited  

Tour Registration  

NAME BIRTH DATE  
NAME BIRTH DATE  

ADDRESS  

CITY STATE ZIP  

DAYTIME TELEPHONE  

E-MAIL ADDRESS / $  

NUMBER OF PERSONS AMOUNT ENCLOSED  

DEPOSIT BY:  

CHECK  

VISA  

MASTERCARD  

CREDIT CARD NUMBER / EXP. (MM/YY)  

NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CARD  

Double Occupancy Single Supplement  

I will share a room with  

I would like a roommate but will pay the $495 single supplement if one cannot be found.  

The undersigned has read the tour itinerary and recognizes and accepts any risks therein. The undersigned also understands and hereby agrees for and on behalf of his/her dependents, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns to abide by the conditions set forth in the terms and conditions listed in this brochure and to release and hold harmless Smith College and International Seminar Design, Inc (ISDI) and any of their officers, trustees, agents, licenses, or representatives, from any and all liability for delays, injuries, or death or for the loss of and/or damage to his/her property however occurring during any portion of, or in relation to, this tour.  

EACH PARTICIPANT MUST SIGN  

SIGNATURE / DATE  

SIGNATURE / DATE  

Complete and return by mail or fax to:  
Smith Travel  
Office of Alumnae Relations  
33 Elm Street | Northampton, MA 01063