

GTM Festival

Practical details



Good things to know...

PLANE TICKETS

We will be organizing plane tickets for travelers from various countries, allowing you to join a group of traveler journeying from your location. We are also here to assist with individual flight arrangements as needed. You are however welcome to book your own tickets if you prefer.

If you choose to book independently, please ensure that you arrive in plenty of time for our welcome dinner at 7:30 PM (19:30) local time on Wednesday, October 1st. Your return flight can be scheduled for any time on Monday, October 6th.

Additionally, please confirm that your ticket is to Florence Airport, with the airport code FLR.

HOTELS

As we prepare for a large group from various countries, it's important to note that hotels in Florence tend to be smaller. To accommodate everyone, we will divide into a few different 3-star hotels, each with a designated group leader. This way, everyone will feel connected, especially those from the same country.

You'll find it easy to navigate the city, whether you choose to walk to activities or take the tramway, which is both affordable and convenient. Rest assured, the group and your leaders will be there to guide you along the way!

Accommodations will be arranged for double occupancy, and you can let us know on the registration form if you are traveling together with someone you would like to share a room with. If you travel alone, you can request to be paired with another participant. For those who prefer more privacy, single rooms are also available for an additional fee.

We will confirm the specific 3-star hotels as soon as we finalize our deposit. This is standard practice for group reservations in Florence, and our experienced partner organizers and travel agents have excellent options lined up for us.

TRANSPORTATION

Rest assured, you'll be well taken care of from the moment you arrive until the end of your trip! You will be picked up at the airport and transported back at the conclusion of your journey.

While in Florence, you'll have the convenience of walking to most of the activities, as the city is pedestrian-friendly. Alternatively, you can utilize the tramway, which is an efficient and affordable option for getting around.

The tram system in Florence is known for its reliability and ease of use, connecting key areas of the city with regular service. It's a fantastic way to experience the local culture while enjoying a scenic ride. Whether you choose to stroll or take the tram, you'll have plenty of options to discover all that Florence has to offer!

FOOD

What can we say about this mouth-watering topic? To truly capture the essence of Florence's culinary delights, let us share a couple of anecdotes from our dedicated music missionaries who frequently travel to Italy for choir workshops. Some of our missionaries prepare for their trips by hitting the gym beforehand, knowing they'll likely gain some pounds during their week there! :) Another missionary even changed his Facebook name twice to celebrate his favorite Italian treats: "Gelato" and "Acqua Frisca."

In Florence, restaurants line every corner, promising you some truly spectacular dining experiences. In addition to their renowned gelato, refreshing affogato, rich espressos, and an array of pastas and pizzas, here are some of our hosts' favorite local dishes: Pappa al Pomodoro, Bistecca Fiorentina, Peposo, Pappardelle al Cinghiale, Panino con Lampredotto, Ribollita, Caprese, and Penne Strascicate. The list goes on, and trust us—you won't want to miss out on any of these flavors!

As we are a larger group, it can be challenging to coordinate meals together. We'll enjoy one communal dinner on the first night, after which you'll have the flexibility to explore lunch and dinner options at your leisure throughout the rest of the week. (Rest assured, breakfast is included at every hotel!)

Get ready to savor every bite of Florence's culinary treasures!

SIGHTSEEING

Florence is truly a living museum, with breathtaking sights and picture-perfect moments around every corner! To kick off your stay, you'll enjoy a delightful walking tour led by a knowledgeable guide, providing you with insights into the city's rich history and culture.

If you're eager to explore some of the renowned museums during your free time—such as the chance to see Michelangelo's iconic "David" or visit the interactive Leonardo da Vinci Museum—we highly recommend reaching out to us early for tickets. These popular attractions often sell out months in advance, and we want to ensure you don't miss out on these incredible experiences!

Prepare to immerse yourself in the beauty and artistry that Florence has to offer!

PAYMENTS

You will receive invoices to facilitate your payments. Below are the important deadlines, which are essential for securing buses, hotels, venues, and other arrangements. While these are the set deadlines, you are welcome to make payments earlier if you prefer.

- First Payment: A deposit of 200 Euros per person is required to secure your trip (you will receive an invoice after your registration, to pay at your earliest convenience).
 - Second Payment: Due by January 15th, this payment is 400 Euros.
 - Third Payment: Due by March 15th, this payment is 400 Euros.
 - Fourth Payment: Due by May 15th, this payment is also 393 Euros.
 - Plane Ticket: Payment for the plane ticket is due by August 1st.

NOTE:

All payments are non-refundable due to the policies of our vendors and providers in Italy. We strongly recommend securing travel insurance to protect your investment in case of an emergency that prevents you from attending. If you need assistance in finding a reliable travel insurance provider, please reach out to us at info@gtmministries.com.

