



CHIANTI & the ITALIAN RIVIERA

featuring

**TAVARNELLE
VAL DI PESA**

San Gimignano

Florence

Siena

Lucca

**SESTRI
LEVANTE**

Portofino

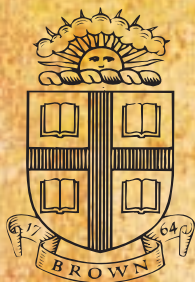
Cinque Terre

Santa Margherita



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THE BROWN TRAVELERS
MAY 5-14, 2010
With Coppélia Kahn,
Professor of English at Brown**



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience two of Italy's best-loved regions, **Chianti** and the **Italian Riviera**.
- Learn the art of winemaking during a private tour and tasting at **Castello di Monsanto**.
- Visit the storied towns of **San Gimignano, Siena, Lucca** and **Carrara**.
- Travel the **Chianti Road** to visit the well-preserved hilltown of **Castellina**.
- See the ancient walled city of **Lucca**.
- Immerse yourself in the incomparable ambience in **Florence**.
- Journey to the picturesque towns of **Santa Margherita** and **Portofino**.
- Visit beautiful and remote **Cinque Terre**.
- Learn the secrets to preparing flavorful Tuscan cuisine during a **private cooking demonstration**.

Alumni Campus Abroad® Advantages

This program offers unique value-added features that promise you an outstanding educational experience in a very special environment:

- **Settle into Italy** for a stay of eight nights and the opportunity to immerse yourself in the local culture and lifestyles of two locales.
- **Two first-class hotels** provide comfortable accommodations and the perfect base from which to explore the region's renowned landmarks and off-the-beaten-path treasures.
- **An extensive meal plan** is seasoned with traditional specialties.
- **Meet the People during excursions and events** that allow you to mingle with area residents and gain insight into everyday life in their community.
- **Informative educational lectures** are presented by local experts and **excursions** are led by knowledgeable guides.
- **An experienced Campus Director** ensures attentive services for the duration of your stay.

In the novel *Under the Tuscan Sun*, Frances Mayes captures the romance of the Italian country-

side. Endowed with a temperate climate, the Chianti region of Tuscany is blanketed with shimmering olive groves and verdant vineyards that have supported a 3,000-year heritage of savory cuisine and extraordinary wine. Its hilltop towns and villages display a historic wealth of artistic and architectural treasures. The Italian Riviera was once a collection of fishing villages, but the beauty of these towns has attracted global attention. Enjoy picturesque harbors and hillsides that erupt in the colors of pastel homes. This exploration of the land and the sea reveals characteristics of two regions that are unique, yet consummately Italian.

"THE NOBLEST PLEASURE IS THE JOY OF UNDERSTANDING."

— LEONARDO DA VINCI, ITALIAN RENAISSANCE
PAINTER AND INVENTOR, 1452-1519

Above: Antipasto with Tuscan vista



Dear Graduates, Parents and Friends of Brown,

Join us for an exploration of *Chianti and the Italian Riviera*, two of Italy's most glorious regions. Begin your journey in Chianti and soak up the sun and the smell of cypress and olive groves while savoring the pace of Tuscan life in San Gimignano, Lucca, Florence and Siena. Then discover the coastal villages of the Italian Riviera and admire vineyards and orchards on terraced cliffs overlooking blue water.

This unique itinerary visits the region's best known attractions, as well as its hidden treasures, while allowing you the freedom to pursue your own interests. You'll enjoy preferred access to popular attractions along with specially arranged cultural experiences.

This unforgettable journey is priced to be an excellent value in one of the world's most beautiful places. We will share this departure with alumni and friends from Johns Hopkins and the University of Pennsylvania. **Space is limited to ensure your comfort, so I encourage you to make your reservations today.**

Sincerely,

Beth Goldman Galer '88

Director of the Alumni Travel Program

Faculty Lecturer

Coppélia Kahn, Professor of English

Coppélia Kahn has been a member of the Brown faculty since 1987. She received her Ph.D. in English from UC – Berkeley and first learned Italian as she worked towards that degree. Although learning Italian for an English degree may seem counterintuitive, her specialty is Renaissance literature, so Italian makes sense: Boccaccio and Petrarca made the Renaissance in Italy long before it got to England. On a sabbatical in Venice, she first realized how interesting Italian could be in the present tense. Ever since then, she has been reading and speaking Italian whenever she has a spare minute. From visiting her son (a journalist who spent almost 10 years in Italy) and his Italian wife, she learned about the issues that concern Italians today. She has also traveled extensively in the country, studied at l'Università per Stranieri in Siena and held a visiting professorship in Torino. Professor Kahn, who also accompanied our recent Brown Travelers trip "Shakespeare in the Mediterranean," looks forward to exploring Tuscany and the Italian Riviera in the company of Brown alumni and friends.

In the past few years the Brown Travelers program has offered trips with AHI to both Chianti and the Italian Riviera. Here is what some of our passengers on those trips had to say about them:

About Chianti...

I have traveled extensively, and I have never received such good services.

The accommodations were excellent... food was fantastic... beautiful views!

This was just a gem of a trip, where all the ingredients came together perfectly – the place, the extraordinary leadership and, no less significantly, the quality of our fellow Brown Travelers themselves.

About the Italian Riviera...

This was a fabulous trip! Better than advertised in the brochure. The accommodations at the Vis à Vis were exceptional.

The Vis à Vis in Sestri Levante was the best hotel I have ever stayed in – the service and accommodations were exceptional, the views from the restaurant and our room absolutely breathtaking, the food and wine simply divine!

The trip far exceeded my expectations – 10 times better than the brochure.

The Tuscan hills, undulating in hues of gold and emerald, have borne witness to Etruscan ingenuity, medieval power struggles and the creation of world-renowned art and architecture. During the day, discover the vestiges of Tuscany's epic history before returning each evening to a spectacular villa.

Continue your journey on the glorious Italian Riviera. Discover dramatic coastal villages and architectural treasures. Stay in romantic Sestri Levante, a gorgeous town of enticing beaches, lush gardens and converted castles. Surrounded by ancient olive groves and overlooking the sea, Sestri Levante embodies the spirit of the Italian Riviera.

DAY ONE

Depart your gateway city for **Florence, Italy**. (Provided for Air Program participants only.)

CHIANTI

DAY TWO

TAVARNELLE VAL DI PESA

Upon arrival in Florence, transfer by motorcoach to **Tavarnelle Val di Pesa** and the **Villa Borgo di Cortefreda**. (Transfer provided for Air Program participants only.)

This evening, gather with fellow travelers for a *Welcome Reception and Dinner* at the hotel.

DAY THREE

SAN GIMIGNANO & THE CHIANTI ROAD

Excursion: A Medieval Manhattan.

Admire the 14th-century fortified town of San Gimignano's remarkable skyline. Wealthy patrician families built these tower houses as symbols of power.

Excursion: La Chiantigiana. Journey along the Chianti Road through hill country embossed with manicured vineyards and silvery olive groves. Visit

Castellina, a well-preserved medieval garrison.

Local Flavor: Enjoy local specialties during lunch at a restaurant in Castellina.



Excursion: Chianti Classico. Travel through the idyllic landscapes of the Elsa Valley to Barberino Val d'Elsa and the elegant Castello di Monsanto winery. Surrounded by 178 vineyard-clad acres, enjoy a tour and tasting of the region's wines that have evolved to the familiar table wine in round, straw-bound bottles.

Educational Focus: Renaissance Art.

The Renaissance masters who flourished in Tuscany advanced European art. Take a look at this enlightened and prolific period dominated by Botticelli, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Raffaello and other greats.

DAY FOUR FLORENCE

Excursion: Cradle of the Renaissance.

A walking tour through *Firenze* highlights its prodigious architecture, much of it built under the patronage of the powerful Medici family. Admire the distinctive façade of Santa Maria del Fiore, better known as *Il Duomo*. The Baptistry is famous for the bas-relief Old Testament scenes on its bronze doors known as the *Gates of Paradise*.

Independent Exploration: The rest of the day is yours to explore Florence.

DAY FIVE SIENA

Cultural Event: Tuscan Cuisine. Villa Borgo di Cortefreda's chef presents a demonstration of regional cooking techniques.

Excursion: Gothic Grandeur. Situated atop three converging hills, Siena has changed little from its medieval beginnings. See the stunning bas-reliefs that adorn its Gaia Fountain, the Mangia Tower that stands 300 feet tall and the Duomo, regarded as one of Italy's greatest.





UNESCO

The historic centers of **Florence, San Gimignano** and **Siena**, and the villages of the **Cinque Terre**, are UNESCO *World Heritage List* sites featured in this program. They were designated due to universal scenic, historic or artistic value.

ITALIAN RIVIERA

DAY SIX

LUCCA, CARRARA & SESTRI LEVANTE

Today, depart for **Sestri Levante** and the *Hotel Vis à Vis*.

Excursion: *The City of 100 Churches.*

Chestnut and holly trees line the 16th-century wall that encircles Lucca's grid of narrow streets and many churches. It was here in 56 B.C. that Julius Caesar, Pompey and Crassus forged the First Triumvirate. The 11th-century Romanesque Cathedral of St. Martin displays a cedar crucifix reputed to be a true portrait of Christ.

Local Flavor: Enjoy local specialties during lunch at a restaurant in Carrara.

Educational Focus and Excursion: *When Marble Comes Alive.* Visit the quarry where Michelangelo chose his prized

marble and a museum dedicated to Carrara's renowned marble industry. Watch a local sculptor's demonstration and see the town's extraordinary Duomo, constructed using a variety of architectural styles. Study its rose window, a masterpiece of marble.

DAY SEVEN

SESTRI LEVANTE, SANTA MARGHERITA & PORTOFINO

Educational Focus: *The Riviera di Levante~A Painter's Palette.*

Trace the history of this enchanting region crowned by the magnificent Cinque Terre, home to artists, writers and explorers.

Excursion: *Sestri Levante.* A guided walking tour reveals the Piazza Matteotti and its Baroque Town Hall and Gothic Basilica of Santa Maria di Nazareth.

Excursion: *Santa Margherita and Portofino.* Travel the coastal road to Santa Margherita, a town of colorful flowers, swaying palm trees and hillside villas. Cruise to Portofino, playground of the rich and famous, and stroll the promenade between the harbor and the brightly colored shops and houses. Admire the sparkling bay from the Church of San Giorgio, and see the medieval fortress of Castello di San Giorgio and the Punta del Capo lighthouse.



Far left:
Florence
Center
(upper):
Cathedral, Siena
Center
(lower):
Vineyards,
Cinque Terre
Left:
Portofino
Left: View from
Hotel Vis à Vis,
Sestri Levante

DAY EIGHT CINQUE TERRE

Excursion: Beautiful Isolation. For centuries, rugged mountains separated the five villages of the Cinque Terre from the surrounding area. Today, it still is accessible only by train, boat or foot. Cruise to pretty Portovenere on your way to Vernazza, an elegant village overlooking the azure water. Marvel at Genoese towers and the Gothic Church of Santa Margherita d'Antiochia. A train takes you to Riomaggiore, where colorful houses cover the hills. Walk along romantic *La Via dell'Amore*, a paved trail that reveals breathtaking vistas of the glistening sea and coast. At the trail's end, admire the homes that cling to the cliffs in Manarola. Return to Sestri Levante by train.

Local Flavor: Enjoy lunch in Vernazza.

DAY NINE

Educational Focus: Contemporary Italy. Discuss Italy's role in the European Union and its political, economic and social status.

Independent Exploration: The day is at leisure to explore Sestri Levante or to pursue other interests.

Educational Focus: Tasteful Cinque Terre. Sample the region's food and wine with local residents who can explain Cinque Terre cuisine.

This evening, attend a *Farewell Reception* and *Graduation Ceremony* before dinner.

DAY TEN

After breakfast, transfer to the Florence airport for the return flight(s) to your gateway city. (*Transfer and flight(s) provided for Air Program participants only.*)

NOTE: *Itinerary schedule may change due to local conditions. Many excursions in this program involve an element of walking as some of the finest attractions are located in areas not closely accessible by motorcoach.*

INCLUDED FEATURES

Accommodations

- Four nights in Tavnarnelle Val di Pesa at the First-Class **Villa Borgo di Cortefreda**.
- Four nights in Sestri Levante at the First-Class **Hotel Vis à Vis**.

Meals

- Enjoy an extensive meal program, including eight breakfasts, three lunches and seven dinners, in addition to in-flight dining service. Tea or coffee is included with all meals, plus wine with dinner. Take advantage of leisure time to try local cuisine independently.
- Sample **authentic regional specialties** at featured **local restaurants**.
- Gather at a **Welcome Reception and Dinner** at the hotel.
- Attend a **Farewell Reception**, followed by your *Graduation Ceremony* and **Farewell Dinner**.

Your Exciting Travel Program

(For full details, please refer to the *Day-by-Day Itinerary*.)

- **Informative educational programs** presented by local experts to enhance your insight into the region.
- **All excursions:**
 - Journey to **San Gimignano**.
 - Travel the **Chianti Road** to **Castellina**.
 - Tour the **Castello di Monsanto** winery and enjoy a tasting.
 - Explore Renaissance **Florence**.
 - Admire Gothic **Siena**.
 - Discover **Lucca** and **Carrara**.
 - Travel to **Santa Margherita** and **Portofino**.
 - Explore the **Cinque Terre**.
- Attend a **private cooking demonstration** by the chef at the hotel.

Many Included Extras

- Consultation services of a dedicated **Passenger Service Representative** prior to departure.
- Services of a professional **Campus Director** and **expert English-speaking local guides** throughout your stay.
- **Tipping** of all guides and drivers.
- Detailed travel and destination information to assist you in your planning.
- Deluxe travel wallet.

ITALY

Portofino
Santa Margherita
Carrara
Lucca
Sestri Levante
Cinque Terre
Tavarnelle Val di Pesa
San Gimignano
Florence
Castellina
Siena

ACCOMMODATIONS



VILLA BORG DI CORTEFREDA

TAVARNELLE VAL DI PESA

Ideally located in the Tuscan countryside—in the village of Tavarnelle Val di Pesa near the city of Siena—the Villa Borgo di Cortefreda combines the charming ambience of a scenic country estate with state-of-the-art technology and comfort. Situated atop a hill, it features a marvelous view of the beautiful Chianti Valley. Hotel amenities include a restaurant and bar, fitness room and sauna, large outdoor swimming pool and Jacuzzi.® Its air-conditioned guestrooms offer direct-dial telephone, satellite television, safe and minibar.



HOTEL VIS À VIS

SESTRI LEVANTE

This hilltop hotel commands breathtaking views of the water and is close to local shops and other places of interest. Enjoy a leisurely walk through the garden or enjoy a swim in the outdoor pool. Relax on the terrace and watch the sunset. Enjoy culinary delights in the hotel's restaurant and a stunning panorama of the surrounding scenery. At the end of the day, retire to the comforts of your guestroom. Each is tastefully appointed with individual climate controls, satellite television, minibar and direct-dial telephone.

Reserve your trip to Italy today!

For Office Use Only: B #: _____ Date: _____
Trip #: 5-19290 PSR: _____

Send to: ACA Chianti and the Italian Riviera
Brown Travelers
c/o AHI Travel
6400 Shafer Court
Rosemont, IL 60018

Please contact AHI Travel at **800-323-7373** with questions regarding this tour.

Legal Name (as it appears on passport)

(1) _____
Title First Middle Last Class/Parent Year

(2) _____
Title First Middle Last Class/Parent Year

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

Home: (_____) _____

Office: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

Yes, please e-mail me information about special Brown University travel opportunities.

Sharing with _____ (Form sent separately.)

Name(s) you would like on your name badge(s):

(1) _____

(2) _____

I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:

Land Program

I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.

Please call me/us to discuss my/our air options.

I prefer single accommodations at an additional \$525 (limited availability).

I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

Land and Air Program

I/we reserve the Land Program and request the Air Program to/from Florence, Italy, to depart from:

Departure City _____

Please send me information on upgrading my flights.

*Please note: Air prices will be sent with your Reservation Confirmation, which will be sent to you upon receipt of your reservation. Air schedule will be sent to you at approximately 90 days before departure. International flight arrangements can be canceled with **no obligation up to 75 days before departure.***

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first come, first served basis. Reservations to be paid in full by February 19, 2010 (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard or Visa. Make checks payable to AHI International.

Enclosed is a deposit of _____ (\$600 per person required) to reserve _____ place(s).

Accept my check made payable to **AHI International**.

Charge my deposit to: MasterCard Visa Expires _____/_____/_____

Card # _____

(Signature as it appears on credit card)

Please note: Any payment to AHI International constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out herein, including but not limited to the Cancellation terms.

Need pre- or post-trip assistance? *

If you are interested in making independent travel arrangements before and/or after this program, please contact **AHI Travel** at **800-323-7373** no later than **60 days prior to departure** and they will be happy to assist you with your reservations.

* A nonrefundable service fee and additional air/land charges based on reservations apply.

LAND PROGRAM

May 6-14, 2010

Full Price

\$3,245

Special Savings

\$250

Brown Travelers Price

\$2,995*

*Special Brown Travelers Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.

VAT is an additional \$125 per person.

All prices quoted are per person, based on double occupancy (unless otherwise stated). Single accommodations are an additional \$525 (limited availability).

AIR PROGRAM

May 5-14, 2010

For your convenience, AHI offers a flexible Air Program featuring special air fares available at an additional cost in conjunction with the Land Program.

AHI has designated specific Group Air Schedules for this departure utilizing round-trip, scheduled jet service from North America to Florence, Italy.

Those passengers participating on these flights will enjoy motorcoach transfers between the arrival/departure airport abroad and the hotels, including baggage handling. Prices are dependent upon dates, air routes and class of service chosen and will be reflected on your *Reservation Confirmation*, which will be sent to you upon receipt of your reservation. Air schedules will be sent with your *Final Invoice* approximately 90 days before departure. Air prices quoted to you will include all domestic and foreign governmental airport departure taxes and fees and any applicable fuel surcharges. AHI ticketed passengers will also receive **Automatic \$250,000 Flight Insurance**, subject to policy terms.

NEW ULTIMATE FLEXIBILITY- The AHI Travel Passenger Protection Plan now offers a low-cost **Any Reason Cancellation** feature. Book worry free!

NOT INCLUDED- Fees for passports and, if applicable, visas; personal gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning; excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and meals not mentioned in this brochure under included features; travel insurance; all items of a strictly personal nature.

MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL- The right is retained to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel, is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

AIR TRANSPORTATION- The price of air transportation offered by AHI Travel is based on Advance Purchase Excursion fares. After tickets are issued, penalties up to 100% of the ticket price may be levied. If connecting flights are requested, special promotional fares may be used, in which case penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or canceled after ticketing. After departure, if the reservations are changed, you will be charged the higher, all year Economy class fare. **VARIATIONS TO THE GROUP ITINERARY MUST BE REQUESTED NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.** Passengers who choose to make their own airline reservations independently will be wholly responsible for any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of program cancellation and/or change in travel dates, or airline schedule(s).

CANCELLATION- In addition to airline cancellation penalties, all cancellations for any reason whatsoever will be subject to a \$250 per person cancellation fee.

Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 10% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 75 days to 30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; Cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. **TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE. AN APPLICATION WILL BE SENT AFTER YOU RESERVE.** All cancellations must be submitted in writing to AHI International Corporation.

BAGGAGE- Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provided with your pre-departure information. Baggage allowances are subject to change by the carrier without notice. Excess baggage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces are expensive and not included in your trip price; plan your wardrobe accordingly. Transport of baggage and personal effects is at the owner's risk throughout the travel program.

RESPONSIBILITY- AHI Travel, Brown University and the Brown Alumni Association act only as agents for the suppliers of travel conveyance, transport, accommodations or other service and have no responsibility for any delays, delayed departure or arrival, missed carrier connections, loss, death, damage or injury to person or property, or accident, mechanical defect, failure or negligence of any nature howsoever caused in connection with any accommodations, transportation or other services or for any substitution of hotels or of common carrier equipment, with or without notice, or for any additional expenses occasioned thereby. Dates, Program Details and Tour costs, although given in good faith and BASED ON TARIFFS, EXCHANGE RATES and other information CURRENT AT THE TIME OF PRINTING, ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT OR BEFORE THE TIME OF DEPARTURE. No revisions of the printed itinerary or its included features are anticipated; however, the right is reserved to make any changes, with or without notice, that might become necessary, with the mutual understanding that any additional expenses will be paid by the individual passenger. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. If the entire program is cancelled for any reason, participants shall have no claim other than for a full refund. By forwarding the deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she has no physical, mental or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for himself/herself or other passengers and accepts the terms of this contract. The airlines and other transportation companies concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event, during the time passengers are not on board their conveyances. The passage contract in use, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the company(ies) and the passenger and/or purchaser of this trip.



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Portovenere
Carrara
Ponte Vecchio, Florence
Italian Renaissance
painting, Uffizi Gallery,
Florence
Cover photos:
Chianti
Vernazza, Cinque Terre

A word about your Tour Operator

Since 1962, the experienced, professional staff at **AHI Travel** has offered a high level of service in deluxe, innovative travel programs sponsored by universities and alumni associations.

In AHI Travel's care, you can rely on:

- **An exceptional travel value.** It would be impossible for an independent traveler to arrange all of these unique experiences, inclusions and services at a comparable price.
- **Unique access to local sites.** Take advantage of their 47 years of travel experience to gain preferred entrance to popular sites and to uncover the region's hidden treasures.
- **Flexibility and customization.** Free time during the trip allows you to pursue your own interests. They will also help you tailor your dream trip with add-ons and extensions.
- **Safety and security.** In a country where you might not know the language or culture, their professional staff is on hand to ease your way and get you any help you need.

• **Full endorsement by the USTOA.**
This professional association safeguards consumers' deposits and payments with a \$1 Million *Traveler's Assistance Program*.



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Special Offer!
**Book by December 1, 2009
and save \$500 per couple!**