



The Art of Venice!

The Venice Biennale and Verona with Vassar College Alums

Grand Canal, Venice

We invite you to join Bart Thurber, Director of Vassar's Frances Lehmann Loeb Art Center, and Mary-Kay Lombino, Deputy Director and Curator, for a spectacular trip to two beautiful cities in Northern Italy.

The highlight will undoubtedly be a rare occasion to visit the Venice Biennale, one of the premier art events in the world, with these two expert art historians. You will experience a unique juxtaposition of engaging contemporary art and towering masterpieces of the past.

The tour begins in Verona, the setting of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, and the location of the grand, 1st-century Roman Arena. It is one of Italy's loveliest cities, little visited by Americans. A side trip takes us to Vicenza and its majestic palaces and villas designed by the Renaissance master Andrea Palladio.

Then it is on to Venice, the amazing city built on more than 100 islands in a lagoon. For 1000 years, the Venetian Republic dominated world trade on the Adriatic and Mediterranean seas. Its wealthy merchant class patronized art, architecture and music to make Venice one of the most beautiful and majestic cities anywhere. From the masterpieces of Titian, Tintoretto, and Bellini to a private tour of the modernist collection in the Peggy Guggenheim house and the latest art on view at the Biennale, this promises to be an extraordinary week of art exploration.

NB: The tour will also underwrite the participation of four specially selected Vassar art students, who will join the group for three days in Venice, providing them with the opportunity to visit the Biennale and other art sites.

The tour is limited to only 20 paying participants. Tours of some of the world's great artistic gems with expert guides, delicious local cuisine and fine wines, deluxe lodging, and great food make this an unforgettable experience!



circle detail: Villa Rotonda, Vicenza
top right: Verona Arena

October 13 – 23, 2024*

*Tour begins October 14 at Milan Malpensa Airport

Vassar Travel Program



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS & REGISTRATION

- Tours of the 60th Venice Biennale, and many other important historic and artistic sites in Venice and Verona with Bart Thurber and Mary-Kay Lombino as your guides
- After-hours, exclusive tour of the Doge's Palace in Venice
- Private tours of three masterpieces of the great Renaissance architect, Andrea Palladio
- Cruise along the Brenta Canal lined with Palladian villas
- Private reception and tour at the world-renowned Peggy Guggenheim Collection
- Exclusive glass-blowing demonstration by a top artist on the island of Murano
- Optional concert performance at the beautiful Teatro La Fenice in Venice
- Deluxe, 5-star accommodations in both cities
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout the tour
- Free time for additional sight-seeing, relaxing, or shopping

Tour Cost: \$8,975 ground only, based on double occupancy

Single supplement: \$2,585

Deposit: \$1,000 per person, due upon registration, first come, first served

Registration deadline: Friday, August 9, 2024. After that date, please call for availability.

Tour limited to 20 paying participants.

To reserve your place, send registration form with check or credit card information for the deposit amount to: Vassar Alums Italy Tour, The Grand Tour, PO Box 274, Peterborough, NH 03458.