



**Choral-Orchestral Performance Tour to Italy
May 20 – 31, 2025**

**Rome, Florence, Venice, Verona
ITALY**

Brahms Requiem

Conductor: Dr. Kent Hatteberg

Day 1: Tuesday, May 20 – Departure for Rome

Departure from the USA to Rome, Italy

Day 2: Wednesday, May 21 - Arrival in Rome

Upon arrival, the Tour Manager will meet the group at the Rome Fiumicino Airport (for group arrivals arranged through Varna International only). The group will transfer to the hotel for check-in, followed by free time to rest and explore the area.

Welcome dinner in Rome (included in the cost)

Evening choral rehearsal, conducted by Dr. Hatteberg

Overnight in a 4-star Hotel in Rome

Day 3: Thursday, May 22 - Rome

Breakfast at the hotel

9:00 – 11:00 am - Choral rehearsal with Dr. Hatteberg



11:30 pm – Transfer to city center travel to the city center of Rome with a modern a/c coach and tour guide to enjoy a guided tour.

12:15 pm - Lunch in the city center (not included).

1:30 – 4:30 – Guided tour of Rome, including the Spanish steps, Piazza del Popolo, Piazza Navona, and Trevi Fountain.

4:30 pm - Transfer back to the hotel

5:30 – 7:30 pm - **Orchestra rehearsal with Dr. Hatteberg**

7:30 – 8:30 pm – Dinner (included)

8:30 pm – **Evening choral rehearsal with Dr. Hatteberg - soloists to join.**

Overnight in a 4-star Hotel in Rome

Day 4: Friday, May 23 - Rome

Breakfast at the hotel and transfer to the city center (Dr. Hatteberg to rehearse with the soloists)

9:30 am – 12:30 pm - Guided tour of the Coliseum, Forum Romanum, and other sights suggested by our professional tour guide.

12:30 – 1:30 pm - Lunch in the city center (not included).

2:00 pm – Transfer back to the hotel

3:00 pm – **Tutti rehearsal: chorus, orchestra, soloists with Dr. Hatteberg**

6:00 - Dinner (included)

7:30 pm - **Tutti rehearsal: chorus, orchestra, soloists with Dr. Hatteberg**

Overnight in a 4-star Hotel in Rome

Day 5: Saturday, May 24 – Rome

Breakfast at the hotel

10:00 am - **Tutti rehearsal: chorus, orchestra, soloists with Dr. Hatteberg**

Lunch (not included)

2:00 pm – **Dress rehearsal: chorus, orchestra, soloists with Dr. Hatteberg**



5:00 pm – Early dinner in Rome (included)

6:00 pm - Transfer from the hotel to the concert venue.

7:00 pm - Evening sound check

8:30 pm – Brahms Requiem performance at a concert venue: theater, local church, or cathedral in Rome.

10:00 pm - Transfer back to the hotel

Overnight in a 4-star Hotel in Rome

Day 6: Sunday, July 25 – Florence / Tuscany area

Breakfast and check out of the hotel.

9:00 am - Transfer with our a/c coach and tour manager to Florence (approximately 4 hours)

1:30 pm - Arrive in Florence city center, lunch on our own (not included). Restaurants will be suggested by our tour manager.

3:00 - 5:00pm – Walking guided tour of Florence with our local tour guide.

5:00 pm - After the guided tour, free time in Florence

6:30 - Transfer and check into a 4-star hotel in the Tuscany area.

8:00 pm – Dinner (included)

Overnight in a 4-star hotel in the Tuscany area

Day 7: Monday, May 26 – Optional tour to San Gimignano and the Chianti area

Breakfast at the hotel, followed by an optional tour to San Gimignano and the Chianti area.
Cost: \$120 per person.

Transfer with our private coach to San Gimignano.

This charming UNESCO World heritage site is famous for its well-preserved 14 towers and incredible ancient architecture featuring buildings of the Romanesque and Gothic styles. After our guided tour of this extraordinary town, we will enjoy some free time, wondering about the streets, savoring Italian coffee and gelato, and acquiring souvenirs in the quaint small shops of this amazing Medieval town.



10:00 am – 11:30 pm - Guided tour of San Gimignano

11:30 am – 2:00 pm - Lunch (not included) and free time in San Gimignano

2:00 pm - Transfer to the Chianti area

3:00 – 5:30 pm - Chianti area for a cheese and other delicacies tasting tour (including optional wine). The tour includes private transfer, private guide, tour of the farm, authentic wine and cheese tasting on the farm – a worldclass experience not to be missed!

Transfer back to the hotel with our private a/c coach.

7:00 – Dinner (included)

Overnight in a 4-star hotel in the Tuscany area

Day 8: Tuesday, May 27 – Concert in the Tuscany area

Breakfast at the hotel followed by free time to explore the area with the guidance of our tour manager.

Lunch (not included)

After lunch, free time to rest prior to the evening performance.

6:00 – Dinner (included)

Transfer to the concert venue.

7:45 pm - Sound check

9:00 pm - Performance at a concert venue (theater), local church or cathedral in the Tuscany area.

Transfer back to the hotel.

Overnight in a 4-star hotel in the Tuscany area

Day 9: Wednesday, May 28 – Venice

Breakfast and check out of the hotel.

8:00 am - Transfer to the Mestre area with our a/c coach (4 hours)

12:00 – 1:00 pm – Lunch in Mestre (not included)

1:30 pm - Transfer with the train from Mestre train station to Venice with the tour guide



2:00 – 4:00 pm Guided tour of Venice. During the tour, we will visit the ACCADEMIA, and the San Marco Square.

The ACCADEMIA is a great way to cross centuries of Venetian history through its wonderful painting. Each room is dedicated to a different century and there are several paintings where we will see ancient musical instruments of the highest documentary interest.

Free time in Venice, during which participants may wish to visit the Church of San Sebastian or La Pieta (free admission).

5:30 pm – Return to the Santa Lucia train station to transfer to the hotel and check in.

8:00 pm - Dinner (included)

Overnight in 4-star hotel in the Veneto area

Day 10: Thursday, May 29 – Veneto area

Breakfast at the hotel, followed by free time to explore the area with the guidance of our tour guide.

Lunch (not included)

Transfer to the concert venue in the Veneto area.

6:00 pm - Early dinner at a local restaurant (included)

7:45 pm - Sound check

9:00 pm - Performance at a local concert venue (theater), church or cathedral in the Veneto area

Overnight in 4-star hotel in the Veneto area

Day 11: Friday, May 30 – Verona

Breakfast at the hotel, followed by a guided tour of Verona.

10:30 am– 12:00 pm - Guided tour of Verona.

12:00 – 3:30 pm – Lunch in Verona (not included), followed by free time.

3:30 - Transfer back to the hotel.

Farewell dinner (included)

Overnight in 4-star hotel in the Veneto area



Day 12: Saturday, May 31 – Departure

Breakfast and check out of the hotel. Transfer to the airport for our return flight back home (only group flight departures are arranged through Varna International).

LAND TOUR COST:

Choristers: \$3290 per person

Instrumentalists: \$2590 per person

Travelling audience: \$4290 per person

Participants may pay with checks or by credit cards (Visa, MasterCard, Discover). Credit card payments are subject to a 3% processing fee.

TOUR INCLUSIONS:

1. Three performances of Brahms Requiem and choral repertoire.
2. Ten nights lodging in 4-star hotels in Rome, Tuscany area, and Veneto area in Italy (double occupancy).
3. Half-board: Breakfasts and dinners daily, based on the tour itinerary.
4. Ground transportation throughout the tour (A/C coach and driver) and Mestre – Venice train tickets.
5. Procurement of concert venues (theaters, churches, or cathedrals).
6. Engagement of orchestra and soloists for all scheduled rehearsals and concerts.
7. Professional concert publicity & concert management.
8. Licensed English-speaking Tour manager.
9. Guided tours per the tour itinerary with local English-speaking licensed tour guides.
10. Entrance fees to sights, based on the tour itinerary.

TOUR EXCLUSIONS:

1. Roundtrip airfare: Varna International will provide a group airfare quote (for 10 people or more), or individual airfare quotes, upon request (not included in the tour cost and payment schedule). Tour participants who purchase their own airfare are responsible to secure and pay for their own airport transfers.
2. Single occupancy: \$100 per night, per person.
3. Travel insurance: Participants obtain their own travel insurance.
4. Tips and gratuities on provided services / personnel (tour guides, tour managers, bus drivers. Hotel and restaurants personnel): \$15 per person, per day.

**The tips and gratuities will be collected with the final tour payment.*



Payment schedule:

- First tour payment due by Monday, July 15, 2024 _____ \$300 Per person
(Non-refundable deposit)
- Second tour payment due by Tuesday, October 29, 2024 _____ \$600 Per person
- Third tour payment due by Tuesday, February 11, 2025 _____ \$900 Per person
- Fourth tour payment due by Tuesday, March 11, 2025 _____ \$900 Per person
plus single occupancy and optional tour payments
- Final tour payment due by Tuesday, April 8, 2025 _____ Balance in full
plus tips and gratuities

– Participants who register after the first payment is due are responsible for making all payments up to date, per the payment schedule.

Cancellation fees schedule:

- Cancellation fee between October 29 and February 11, 2024 _____ \$350 per person
(Total refund: \$250 per person)
 - Cancellation fee between February 11, 2024 and March 11, 2025 _____ \$1050 per person
(Total refund \$450 per person)
 - Cancellation fee between March 11 and April 8, 2025 _____ \$1750 per person
(Total refund \$650 per person)
- All monies non-refundable after April 8, 2025