



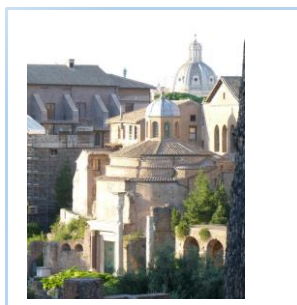
Italy with TLC

What's happening with TLC Travels?

Vol 2. February 2017

Hero's Journey Tour, 2017

I'm very excited about our upcoming [Hero's Journey Tour](#) happening in May, just three months from now. We'll be based in Perugia, and each person will be exploring his or her own personal journey through the 10-12-14 steps (depending on how you count) of the Hero's Journey. Using writing, sketching, photos, walks to cathedrals, conversation, or another avenue of their own choosing, these journeyers will find out just where they are on their lives various overlapping adventures... and where to go from that moment forward.



Summer

Wheels up for me this year happens on May 9 and I'll arrive just about 24 hours later in Perugia, Italy. After the Hero's Journey Tour, I'll teach for five weeks at the [Umbra Institute](#), my fourth year. I am once again

looking forward to teaching Writing Italian Food. Students learn about Italian food traditions and history, Italian wine and coffee culture, and the importance of all of the above.

It looks as if two classes for Umbra are likely in 2018; I've begun to develop a class on Italian architecture that I'll be offering as well. It may focus on Renaissance and Mannerist Gardens, or perhaps on a particular architect such as Pirro Ligorio—the principle designer / architect of Villa d'Este outside Rome.

Museums / Treasures

One of my favorite museums in Rome is the Doria Pamphilj. A family home—well, a palace—it's one of the destinations for TLC Travelers on our Rome visit. As museums go it's small, and in a two hour visit we see the private collection of a family.

As we stroll the halls looking at one family's treasures we ask ourselves: what do **we** value? What is **our** treasure? How can we gather to ourselves the things, the people, the moments that make a difference, and that make us who we are?

The answers arrive quietly

Springtime in Rome

I haven't been to all the cities in the world so to say that Rome is my favorite is perhaps disingenuous, but there you have it. It stole my heart 17 years ago and has it still, and I dream often of being there, especially in the spring. The colors of the city are magnificent, and the fresh food is beyond compare.

Springtime in Rome means, among other things, artichokes—carciofi romaneschi. They are a speciality on the menu starting soon, and running through May. I might just get to eat a few when I first arrive.



Another favorite Roman specialty dish is pasta alla cacio e pepe—pasta with cheese and pepper. I'm looking forward to ordering my first dish of this as soon as I arrive.

Come with me!

Italy Photos / Info

[TLC-Travels](#) for posts about traveling, about Italy, about history and culture

[ItaliaMia.com](#) for biographies of Italian artists, Italian news, and more

[This site](#) for 62 Interesting Facts about Italy

A live [webcam](#) of the Coliseum – with sound!

[Akhi Cruise](#), for amazing yacht cruises along the Amalfi Coast & nearby Islands

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{Except for the first link, this section will change every month; send suggestions!}