

**PERUGIA & ENVIRONS**  
**WITH GUEST LECTURER PETER LAURITZEN**  
**SEPTEMBER 15-23, 2010**



*Collegio del Cambio*

This program, specially designed for the American Museum in Britain, takes us to Perugia, lying between Rome and Florence. Imbued with medieval charm, it is a jewel in Umbria's crown. Perched atop the city's highest hill is the *Hotel Brufani Palace*, our home for seven nights. It is the region's most distinguished address, with its views of the rolling hills of Umbria dotted with castles and watchtowers.

Besides the sights in Perugia, we will enjoy intriguing excursions to other medieval cities, including Assisi, Urbino and Gubbio, as well as Arezzo, Monterchi and Cortona. We will also visit the hill towns south of Perugia – Spello, Montefalco, Spoleto and Todi – and see the great cathedral in Orvieto.

This fascinating part of Italy, not previously visited by the American Museum, offers private visits and historic sites – so please be sure to sign up early to avoid disappointment.

# ITINERARY

## **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 – USA**

Depart the United States on your overnight(s) flight to Rome.

## **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 – ROME/PERUGIA**

Arrive at Rome's Leonardo Da Vinci International Airport. After customs formalities, you will meet guest lecturer Peter Lauritzen and transfer by private motorcoach to the medieval city of Perugia. Our accommodations for seven nights are at the elegant, five-star *Hotel Brufani Palace* appointed with exquisite antiques and modern amenities. The medieval vaults conceal a wellness club with a transparent glass floor under the pool showcasing millennium-old Etruscan ruins. The balance of the day is free, perhaps for afternoon tea by the stone fireplace at the hotel's Collins Bar & Club.



*Hotel Brufani Palace*

We will gather this evening at the hotel on the rooftop terrace of Collins Restaurant for a reception, introduction by Peter Lauritzen and a dinner of exceptional Umbrian cuisine.

## **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 – PERUGIA: PIEGARO/MONTEGABBIONE**

This morning's walking tour in the heart of the old city includes a visit to the Duomo – the cathedral dedicated to San Lorenzo, one of the patron saints of Perugia. Built in several phases, it was started in 1345 and completed in 1490. Next we visit the Collegio del Cambio – the meeting rooms of Perugia's Exchange Guild – making up one of the best-preserved "office suites" of the Renaissance. The audience chamber is decorated with frescoes by Pietro Perugino – perhaps his masterpiece in the medium, replete with a studied naturalism and precise portraiture. In the nearby Palazzo dei Priori, among the most renowned civic structures built by the Italian municipalities of central Italy during the High Middle Ages, visit the Galleria Nazionale dell'Umbria, the Italian national paintings collection of Umbria comprising the greatest representation of the Umbrian School of painting, ranging from the 13th to the 19th century.

Following lunch at the charming Ristorante Altromondo, we will have some leisure time. Later we drive to the ancient village of Piegara where glass was produced from the Middle Ages into the twentieth century. We will visit the Museo del Vetro housed in a glass factory founded by the Misciattelli family. We then continue to Montegabbione to visit La Scarzuola, where a convent was founded in 1218 by St. Francis of Assisi and a church was built on the site later that century. Abandoned at the end of the eighteenth century, the Marchesi Misciattelli took it over as their family church, and in 1956 it was restored by the renowned architect Tommaso Buzzi.

Then its on to the thirteenth-century Castello di Montegiove, the property of the Marchesi Misciattelli for the last four centuries. It is the center of a grand estate in the beautiful Umbrian countryside, where oak forests, vineyards, olive fields and arable land blend in harmony with ancient dry walls and farmhouses built of local stone. Lorenzo and Rikke Misciattelli have then kindly invited us to dine at their home and to see their gardens and farm.

### **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 – PERUGIA: ASSISI/TORGIANO**



*Assisi*

Today's excursion takes us to the small Umbrian town of Assisi, best known as the birthplace of St. Francis of Assisi – patron saint of Italy and founder of the Franciscan order. With its Roman ruins, winding medieval streets and sacred shrines, the town has been a major Catholic pilgrimage destination for centuries. Our walk through the town's center stops first at the church of Santa Maria Sopra Minerva, built over a Roman temple to Minerva, goddess of wisdom. Dating from the first century BC, parts of the Roman temple still remain. We will then visit the grand thirteenth-century Basilica di San Francesco, containing the sacred relics of Francis and beautiful frescoes depicting his life. It is a powerful place for believers and art-lovers alike. We will also visit the specially-opened Sacro Convento constructed at the same time as the basilica, including papal apartments for visiting pontiffs and an impressive supporting portico.

Enjoy lunch on the terrace of the renowned Hotel Subasio, linked to the basilica by an arched colonnade. We will then visit the church of Santa Maria degli Angeli, venerated as the place of St. Francis' death. Inside the grand Baroque basilica are two small, humble structures – the Capella del Transito and the Porziuncola.

Returning to Perugia, we will visit the fifteenth-century Oratorio di San Bernardino with its beautiful pink, white and black marble facade, and interior altar made from a fourth-century paleochristian sarcophagus. This evening we will drive to the quaint village of Torgiano to dine at Hotel Le Tre Vaselle. Converted from a large seventeenth-century house, it is renowned for its cuisine and wine.

## **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 – PERUGIA: URBINO/GUBBIO**

After driving to the walled city of Urbino, a gem of a Renaissance city located in Italy's seldom visited Marche region, we will visit the great Palazzo Ducale. Built for the Montefeltro dukes, it is one of the most important monuments in Italy and is listed as UNESCO World Heritage Site. Today it houses the Galleria Nazionale delle Marche, one of the most important collections of Renaissance art in the world, including works by such prominent artists as Raphael, Piero della Francesca and Titian. We will also visit the family house/museum of Raffaello Sanzio da Urbino, better known simply as Raphael.



*Urbino*

After a lunch of regional cuisine at the charming Ristorante Vecchia Urbino, we will continue to the well-preserved medieval hill town of Gubbio to visit the Palazzo dei Consoli. This huge fourteenth-century limestone Gothic building is home to an art gallery, archaeology museum and civic museum, and houses the prized Eugubine tablets – seven bronze plaques, over two thousand years old, written in the ancient Umbrian language. We will also visit the Palazzo Ducale, built for the Duke of Urbino in 1476, and the Duomo, a thirteenth-century church with a simple fifteenth-century facade. Its high altar is a Roman sarcophagus, and there are notable stained glass windows, choir stalls and a carved throne.

Enroute back to Perugia we will stop in the countryside for a delicious *Merenda* (an late afternoon snack) at Borgo di Carpiano, a charming farmhouse that was part of a medieval castle. Later in Perugia, we will attend the closing concert of the Sagra Musicale Umbra 2010 (music festival) at the historic Teatro Morlacchi. We dine independently this evening.

## **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 – PERUGIA: A DAY IN TUSCANY**

Today we travel to Tuscany, first visiting Arezzo, an important city during Roman times. We will visit the Duomo, one of the greatest Gothic monuments in Tuscany, famous for its splendid stained-glass windows and its highly valuable works of art. We will also visit the twelfth-century Santa Maria della Pieve, one of the most original examples of Roman architecture, and see the Piazza Grande, whose surrounding buildings bear witness to six centuries of Arezzo's civil architectural development.

At the monastery church of San Francesco we will see Italian Renaissance painter Piero della Francesca's masterpiece, the newly-restored cycle of frescoes depicting the *Legend of the True Cross*. Enjoy lunch nearby at the Buca di San Francesco, an arched and vaulted cellar restaurant decorated with frescoes.



*Legend of the True Cross*

Our drive proceeds to the town of Borgo San Sepolcro, founded around 1000 AD along the Tiber River. The birthplace of Piero della Francesca, we will see another of his famous works housed in the Museo Civico, the fresco *Resurrection*, painted in 1460. The museum is housed in a thirteenth-century palace, where we will see other works by this master. In the town of Monterchi, built on a high hill and resembling an island in the center of the valley, we will see another painting by Piero della Francesca, *Madonna del Parto*, one of the most important Renaissance works of art.

We continue to the city of Cortona rising high on a hill between Arezzo and Perugia. On the city's outskirts, we hope to visit the famous, but currently closed, Renaissance church of Santa Maria delle Grazie al Calcinaio. Entering this ancient and noble Etruscan city, we will have leisure time to explore its picturesque streets and to visit the Museo dell'Accademia Etrusca with its fine collection of archaeological findings. After returning to Perugia we will be at leisure for the evening.

## **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 – PERUGIA: SPELLO/MONTEFALCO/SPOLETO/TODI/CASTEL DEL PIANO**

On today's visits to the hill towns south of Perugia our first stop will be in the medieval, walled town of Spello to see the famous Pinturicchio frescoes in the church of Santa Maria Maggiore. Then it's on to Montefalco, with its 360-degree view of the surrounding countryside, to visit the Franciscan monastery church decorated by Benozzo Gozzoli. His cycle of frescoes depicts the most important stages and deeds from the life of St. Francis.

We then continue to Spoleto, Umbria's most charming town whose well-preserved walls stand as testament to the one-time grandeur of this Roman colony. After lunch at Ristorante Il Tartufo, offering a local fusion cuisine between old and modern, we will visit the twelfth-century

Cattedrale di Santa Maria Assunta situated at the bottom of a monumental staircase on the Piazza del Duomo. The duomo features a lovely Romanesque facade and a magnificent fresco cycle by Fra Filippo Lippi. Proceeding to the picturesque hill town of Todi, surrounded by medieval, Roman and Etruscan walls, we will stop on its outskirts to visit the sixteenth-century shrine church of Santa Maria della Consolazione, one of central Italy's best Renaissance churches. We will also see Todi's late medieval palaces of government, and visit the remarkable Tempio di San Fortunato with its wonderful views over the valley. It houses beautiful frescoes and magnificent inlaid wooden choir stalls.



*Todi*

We will return to the hotel to freshen up before driving to the village of Castel del Piano for dinner at Villa Aureli, set like a jewel in the peaceful and hilly countryside. It dates back to the middle of the eighteenth century when a Perugian nobleman transformed a sixteenth-century tower into his country residence, adorning it with frescoes, stuccowork and furniture that can still be admired today. The current owner, Count Sperello di Serego Alighieri, is a descendant of Dante Alighieri.

### **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 – PERUGIA: ORVIETO**

A morning excursion will take us to the grand hill town of Orvieto to see the magnificent Gothic cathedral, one of the most celebrated in Italy. Its west facade, a fine polychrome monument of richly sculptured marble, is divided into three gables, and the interior is richly decorated with the work of a number of medieval sculptors and painters – including frescoes by Luca Signorelli and Fra Angelico. We will experience incomparable cuisine in the restaurant at La Badia di Orvieto while enjoying the extraordinary view of the cliffs of Orvieto.

After returning to hotel, there will be leisure time to explore medieval Perugia before dining this evening at Ristorante Da Cesarino.

### **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 – PERUGIA/ROME/USA**

The program concludes this morning with a group transfer by private motorcoach to Rome's Leonardo Da Vinci International Airport for your return flight(s) to the United States.

## GUEST LECTURER

**Peter Lauritzen**, renowned art historian, author and lecturer, has accompanied many American Museum tours. He was born in Illinois and has lived in Italy since leaving Princeton with a Fulbright Grant for study in Florence. For over 35 years his home has been in Venice, about which he has written a number of books, as well as the UNESCO report on the restoration of art and monuments in the city over a period of twenty years. Mr. Lauritzen has lectured in the United States, in London at the invitation of the Royal Academy, and has accompanied many visits throughout Europe.

## TOUR COSTS

**LAND ARRANGEMENTS, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY:** \$5,995.00 per person occupancy  
**SUPPLEMENT, DOUBLE FOR SINGLE OCCUPANCY:** \$ 975.00  
**CONTRIBUTION TO HALCYON FOUNDATION:** \$1,000.00 per person, tax deductible

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## TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS BY



SUSAN GULLIA  
PROTRAVEL INTERNATIONAL  
515 MADISON AVENUE  
NEW YORK, NY 10022  
(212) 409-9555 OR (800) 227-1059 EXT. 455  
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**NOTE:** The itinerary is planned at this time, but is subject to subsequent confirmation and change.

## TERMS & CONDITIONS

**RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS:** Reservation Form must be accompanied by a deposit in the amount of **\$1,000.00** per person, and a contribution in the amount of **\$1,000.00** per person. (*Both payments may be made by either check or credit card.*) Final payment is due no later than **July 16, 2010**. Any pre- and post-tour arrangements not finalized by **July 16, 2010**, may result in an additional service fee. *Note:* Members living outside the United States should refer to "Tour Costs" for special instructions regarding payments.

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**INCLUDED:** Hotel accommodations as shown in the itinerary (the right is reserved to substitute another hotel in a similar category); breakfast daily and other meals as indicated in the program; a complete program throughout the tour, including transportation and admission to all points of interest; group airport transfers upon arrival and departure.

**NOT INCLUDED:** Transportation to and from Rome, Italy; items of a personal nature, such as laundry, phone/fax communications; gratuities; items not on the regular menus; expenses of hotels, meals, guides, buses, cars, railroad, boats, etc., for sightseeing not included in the itinerary; insurance of any kind; any other items not specifically included.

**TRIP INSURANCE:** *Cancellation/Baggage/Medical insurance is strongly recommended (an application will be sent with your tour confirmation).*

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**TRAVELER'S REPRESENTATIONS:** Acceptance of the Confirmation/Invoice covering this tour and payment thereof certifies that you have not recently been treated for, nor are you aware of any physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard to yourself or other members of this tour, and is also an acceptance of the tour conditions applicable to the tour and that you have read and understand those conditions.

# RESERVATION FORM

## THE AMERICAN MUSEUM IN BRITAIN

### PERUGIA & ENVIRONS

SEPTEMBER 15-23, 2010

**PLEASE BE SURE TO COMPLETE BOTH SIDES OF THIS RESERVATION FORM**

At this time, both your **\$1,000.00** per person deposit and your **\$1,000.00** per person contribution to the Halcyon Foundation are due. Both payments may be made either by check or by credit card. If paying by check, your deposit should be payable to Protravel International, and your contribution payable to the Halcyon Foundation.

Members living outside the U.S. should refer to "Tour Costs" for special instructions

**FINAL PAYMENT IS DUE NO LATER THAN JULY 16., 2010.**

Please mail or fax this Reservation Form, together with your check(s) or credit card information to:

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PROTRAVEL INTERNATIONAL  
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FAX: (212) 755-1376

**NAME(S)** \_\_\_\_\_  
**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP CODE** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PHONE** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ **FAX** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ **E-MAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** ( ) One Large Bed ( ) Two Beds ( ) Double for Single Occupancy

**AIR:** From \_\_\_\_\_ Outbound Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Return Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_  
**CLASS OF SERVICE:** ( ) Coach ( ) Business ( ) First (if available)

**CREDIT CARD PAYMENT FOR DEPOSIT AND/OR CONTRIBUTION:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(name on credit card) (credit card number) (exp. date)

I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the *Terms & Conditions* of this program, and agree to full payment to Protravel by check or credit card no later than March 15, 2009. Each participant must sign below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (required) Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (required) Date

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** This program is open only to members of the Halcyon Foundation – Friends of the American Museum in Britain. Please see the reverse side of this Reservation Form for membership details.

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**HALCYON FOUNDATION**  
**FRIENDS OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM IN BRITAIN**  
**MEMBERSHIP**

Please enclose a separate check payable to the **Halcyon Foundation** (or enclose credit card details on the reverse side of this form) for membership as follows:

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**General Membership**

Individual      \$ 75  
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Supporter        \$ 500  
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