



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Traveling Bulldogs™

Northern Italy

from the Alps to the Adriatic

August 19-September 2, 2026

15 days from \$6,474 total price from Boston, New York

(\$5,795 air & land inclusive plus \$679 airline taxes and fees)



7-TIME HONOREE

This tour is provided by
Odysseys Unlimited,
seven-time honoree
Travel + Leisure World's
Best Tour Operators award.



A Special Small Group Tour for
Alumni and Friends of Mississippi State



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
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Dear Mississippi Alumni and Friends,

Join us on a special 15-day journey to experience the rustic Lake District, Tuscan countryside, and the vibrant cities of Florence and Venice.

Begin in Stresa with a three-night stay on lovely Lake Maggiore and cruise to the Borromean island of Isola Bella. Continue to Italy's beautiful Liguria region and the Italian Riviera resort town of Santa Margherita, stopping at a premier vintner for a tasting of Barolo, the "king of wines." Travel by boat to the renowned port of Portofino and enjoy a full-day Cinque Terre excursion. Then tour Tuscany, from Lucca through Florence and Siena. Moving on, stop in storied Verona en route to the South Tyrol and Bolzano, gateway to the Dolomites. This adventure concludes in wondrous Venice, with its canals and unforgettable St. Mark's Square. For those who want to enjoy a longer stay in Venice, an optional 3-day/2-night post-tour extension is available.

We are pleased to be sharing this departure with alumni and friends from Lehigh University. Space is limited to 24 guests from both schools, and we expect this tour to fill quickly. Book today!

Sincerely,

Leanna P. Smith

Assistant Director of Alumni Partnerships & Business Development
Mississippi State University Alumni Association

MISSISSIPPI STATE RESERVATION FORM: NORTHERN ITALY

To reserve your place on tour, **please call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765**. Please have the information outlined below available to share with an Odysseys Unlimited Travel Counselor.

If you prefer, you may also complete this Reservation Form and submit it to Odysseys Unlimited's office. Once this request is received, a Travel Counselor from Odysseys Unlimited will contact you within two business days to review the tour information and provide you with a secure link to enter your credit card information. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA, or by personal check. If paying by check, please make check payable to **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.** and include with the form. Final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure.

Send to: **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.**

Attn: Special Interest Groups

One Newton Place

275 Washington Street, Suite 300

Newton, MA 02458

NORTHERN ITALY • AUGUST 19-SEPTEMBER 2, 2026

I/We would like to request _____ place(s). (Deposit amount is \$500 per person.)

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

E-mail(s) _____ Badge Name(s) _____

Please book my/our air from _____ I/We request an air upgrade to _____

I will share a room with _____ I request a single room (limited availability) ☐

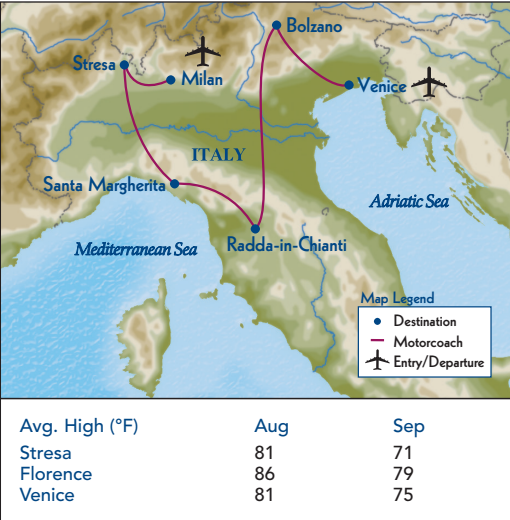
Post-Tour "Venice – On Your Own" Extension: Please sign me/us up ☐

Northern Italy

from the Alps to the Adriatic

15 days from \$6,474 total price from Boston, New York
(\$5,795 air & land inclusive plus \$679 airline taxes and fees)

This leisurely exploration of Italy’s varied northern regions, from the romantic Lake District and dramatic Cinque Terre to beloved Tuscany, the majestic Dolomites, and canal-laced Venice, offers a refreshing perspective on a well-known land. In the company of our congenial small group, we celebrate the Italian penchant for hospitality, good food, and good living. In a word, splendido!



Day 1: Depart U.S. for Milan, Italy

Day 2: Arrive Milan/Stresa After arriving in Milan, we drive to the international resort of Stresa on lovely Lake Maggiore, straddling the border between Italy and Switzerland. This afternoon is at leisure before tonight’s welcome dinner. *D*

Day 3: Stresa We embark this morning on a cruise to Isola Bella, the beautiful Borromean island in the middle of Lake Maggiore. Fully occupied by 17th-century Palazzo Borromeo and its extravagantly landscaped gardens, the island offers lovely views of the lake and surrounding mountains. We take a guided tour of the *palazzo* with its priceless works of fine art, stroll through the flower-decked gardens, and then enjoy lunch together on nearby Isola dei Pescatori. *B,L*

Day 4: Stresa/Orta San Giulio This morning, we visit the lovely lakeside town of Orta San Giulio – dubbed “God’s watercolor” by Italian writer Piero Chiara – with its cobblestoned streets, 16th-century town hall, and medieval houses flanking the inviting town square. After lunch on our own here, we return to our hotel for an afternoon at leisure. *B*

Day 5: Stresa/Barolo/Santa Margherita We leave the Piedmont region today, bound for Santa Margherita and the Cinque Terre. En route, we stop in the village of Barolo for lunch and to sample Barolo, the “king of wines,” at Marchesi di Barolo, Italy’s premier vintner of its greatest wine. We continue on to the Italian Riviera resort town of Santa Margherita, with its palm-lined esplanade overlooking the harbor. Tonight, we enjoy dinner together at our hotel. *B,L,D*

Day 6: Santa Margherita/Portofino This morning, we travel by boat to the renowned – and beautiful – resort town of Portofino, a former fishing village where palatial yachts now crowd the port and where the good life is celebrated. We have free time to wander the colorful streets and visit the chic boutiques and galleries here before we return to our hotel midday. *B*

Physical Activity Level



Moderate

Walk 2-4 miles per day, often on uneven terrain or cobblestones; occasional long walks from motorcoach drop-off to sights; embarkation/disembarkation from multiple boats; numerous staircases on bridges in Venice

Your Tour at a Glance

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Milan		
2-4	Stresa	Hotel La Palma	First Class
5-7	Santa Margherita	Hotel Metropole Santa Margherita	First Class
8-10	Radda-in-Chianti	Palazzo Leopoldo Dimora Storica & Spa	First Class
11-12	Bolzano	Hotel Scala Stiegl	First Class
13-14	Venice	Palazzo Veneziano	Sup. First Class
15	Depart Venice for U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.



We enjoy stunning Dolomites scenery in the South Tyrol.

Day 7: Santa Margherita/Cinque Terre/Portovenere

We depart this morning by train for the hour-long trip to the Cinque Terre (literally, “Five Lands”), the five cliff-clinging villages seemingly carved from the mountains. Originally medieval fishing villages, the Cinque Terre were inaccessible by land centuries; even today, no road connects all five. We stop in scenic Vernazza and then board a boat for a comfortable cruise along the rugged coastline to visit another village of the Cinque Terre. From here, we cruise to the port town of Portovenere, with its cluster of colorful column-shaped houses. After a brief walking tour of the Old Town, we have time to explore and enjoy lunch on our own. We dine together tonight at our hotel. *B,D*

Day 8: Santa Margherita/Lucca/Radda-in-Chianti

Moving on today, we travel south to beloved Tuscany, stopping first in the atmospheric medieval town of Lucca. We take a walking tour of this incredibly well-preserved gem, whose city walls and ramparts remain intact and a popular attraction. After time for lunch on our own, we continue on to our lodgings. *B,D*

Day 9: Radda-in-Chianti/Florence

We spend today touring Florence, a living monument to the Renaissance. Our day includes a guided morning walking tour followed by free time. Together, we visit the Galleria dell’Accademia to view Michelangelo’s sublime *David* and his pieces for the papal tombs; and the *Duomo*, with its stupendous dome by Brunelleschi. Then, we’re free to stroll the 14th-century Ponte Vecchio, with its many jewelry shops; visit renowned museums and churches; shop for leather goods and artful Florentine paper; and enjoy lunch on our own.

We return to our hotel in the mid-afternoon and tonight we dine together at a local restaurant. *B,D*

Day 10: Radda-in-Chianti/Siena Today we visit the walled city of Siena, whose historic center is a UNESCO site and whose ochre-colored buildings and ancient ramparts vividly evoke its medieval past. Fan-shaped Piazza del Campo is one of Europe’s greatest public squares; its *Duomo*, with pillars of black and white marble, is one of Italy’s finest, with masterpieces by Donatello and Michelangelo. Following a guided walking tour that includes an inside visit to the *Duomo*, we have free time to explore on our own. We return to our hotel late afternoon, with the evening at leisure. *B*

Day 11: Radda-in-Chianti/Verona/Bolzano As we travel north today, we stop in storied Verona, renowned as the setting of several Shakespeare plays, including, of

Post-Tour Extension

September 2-4, 2026

Venice – On Your Own

3 days/2 nights for \$595 total price

Single Supplement: \$395

*End your journey with a longer stay
in this most beautiful of cities.*

Your Tour Price Includes

- 2 nights’ accommodations at Palazzo Veneziano (Superior First Class)
- 2 meals: 2 breakfasts
- Transfer to airport

“

OPEN MY HEART AND
YOU WILL SEE, GRAVED
INSIDE OF IT, ‘ITALY.’”

– ROBERT BROWNING

course, *Romeo and Juliet*. A UNESCO site, Verona boasts well-preserved monuments from antiquity, including a 1st-century Roman amphitheater still in use today, as we see on our guided walking tour. After time for lunch and to explore on our own here, we continue our journey to the South Tyrol, Italy’s German-accented northern reaches bordering Austria and Switzerland. We’re bound for the regional capital of Bolzano, gateway to the Dolomites in the Italian Alps. Late afternoon, we reach our hotel, where we dine together tonight. *B,D*

Day 12: Bolzano Set in a basin surrounded by forest-green hills, Bolzano boasts an enviable quality of life – and truly spectacular scenery. We take a cable car to a spot for views of the 18-peak Dolomites, their vertical walls and sheer cliffs presenting a magnificent backdrop to the surrounding woodlands, valleys, and pastures. Then we walk through Bolzano’s colorful historic center and visit the South Tyrol Museum of Archaeology, well known for housing the mummified corpse of Ötzi the Iceman, dating to 3300 BCE. This evening is at leisure to enjoy dinner on our own in this surprisingly cosmopolitan city. *B*

Day 13: Bolzano/Venice En route to Venice today, we travel through the Dolomites themselves, enjoying jaw-dropping scenery at every turn. When we reach Venice late this afternoon, we are free to begin savoring this wondrous city as we wish and enjoy dinner on our own. *B,L*

Day 14: Venice This morning we take a guided walk through vast St. Mark’s Square. The afternoon is free for independent exploration; tonight we bid “*arrivederci*” to Italy and to our fellow travelers at a farewell dinner. *B,D*

Day 15: Depart for U.S. We depart early this morning for our connecting flights to the U.S. *B*

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
- 13 nights’ accommodations in Superior First Class and First Class hotels
- 23 meals: 13 breakfasts; 3 lunches; 7 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers



Florence’s Duomo

Tour Departs: August 19, 2026

Prices include int’l airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

Boston, New York	\$6,474
Chicago, Washington, DC	\$6,774
Atlanta, Baltimore, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Philadelphia	\$6,874
Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, Orlando, Phoenix, Portland (OR), San Francisco, Seattle, Tampa	\$6,974
Columbus, MS	\$7,174
Land Only (transfers not included)	\$5,495

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$679, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,495. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Airline upgrades on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: Business Class – \$4,995 per person; Premium Economy – \$1,995 per person (upgrades are subject to availability and pricing is subject to change). Upgrade costs are in addition to the costs above.

Please contact Odysseys Unlimited for information on our new Flexible Travel program, which allows you to arrive on tour up to three days before your tour begins and/or extend your stay after touring ends.

For reservations and questions, call
Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at
888-370-6765
Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–7:00 PM, Eastern Time

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The following is intended to provide you with a description of what to expect when you reserve this tour. Upon booking, you will be asked to acknowledge your acceptance of the full Terms and Conditions on the secure on-line portal, My Odyssey.

Not included in Tour Price: Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas; immunizations, and inoculations; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; communication charges; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10-\$15 per traveler, per day); optional sightseeing; and travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Cancellations, Refunds, and Changes: If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.'s receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: **cancel 95 days or more before departure: \$200 charge; cancel 94-65 days before departure: 25% of tour price; cancel 64-45 days before departure: 50% of tour price; cancel 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; cancel 29-0 days before departure: no refund.** If you make any changes to your reservation from 94 to 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a \$100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. **No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure.**

Upon reservation, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport, as well as your date of birth and gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.

Travel Insurance: An application for trip cancellation, baggage and medical insurance will be sent to you by the MSU Alumni Association's travel program once you are registered for the tour. Travel insurance is strongly recommended. Contact Leanna Smith at 662-325-3360 or email lsmith@alumni.msstate.edu for further information.

Responsibility: The liability of the Mississippi State Alumni Association, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. The Mississippi State Alumni Association and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

Medical Conditions: We request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There is a considerable amount of walking, and you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own as well as keep pace with the tour group. We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our tour itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, the Mississippi State Alumni Association and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

Air Transportation – Important Information: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown, and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignment on your international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. **Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.**

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Mississippi State University Alumni Association
Post Office Box AA
Mississippi State, MS 39762-5526



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A SPECIAL TOUR TO
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*Guaranteed Small Group:
Limited to 24 Guests*