

— NORTHERN CALIFORNIA STUDY ABROAD CONSORTIUM —

# FLORENCE

---

SPRING 2020

---





*Study in*

# FLORENCE

is an exciting city in which to live and study. On an afternoon stroll through the streets of Florence, which is set amidst the golden hills of Tuscany, you can admire the architecture of Giotto and the Baroque sculptures adorning the fountains of the city; linger at the Uffizi Gallery with its vast collection of painting and sculpture; view the magnificent Santa Croce where Galileo, Michelangelo and Machiavelli are buried; discuss art with Florentine painters in their studios and explore the book shops near Via Cavour; and visit one of the most popular spots in Florence, the Ponte Vecchio, a 14th century bridge spanning the River Arno.

*Program Calendar:*

*Depart U.S.:*

Saturday, February 1, 2020

*Arrive Italy:*

Sunday, February 2, 2020

*Mid-Semester Break:*

Saturday, March 14 to  
Sunday, March 22, 2020

*Depart Italy:*

Friday, May 1, 2020



## INCLUDED

- Accommodation in apartments in the Historical Center of Florence. Students will be in twin rooms with typically 4 to 6 students per apartment. You will be right in the heart of the city with local Florentines as your neighbors.
- First night's accommodation will be in a centrally located hotel where AIFS staff will be on call to answer any questions and assist with the transition into Florence. Students will be transferred by taxi to their apartments the following day, after orientation.\*
- Orientation program in Florence consisting of an orientation meeting with AIFS staff covering topics such as safety/security and travel, workshops on cultural differences, half-day guided walking tour of Florence, and a welcome reception.
- Fully staffed AIFS office in the Study Center including a team of experienced AIFS Student Services staff to provide information, personal advising/counseling and 24-hour emergency contact service. The AIFS staff is there to make sure students get the most out of their time in Florence.
- Weekly program of subsidized cultural activities. The program allows students to experience typical Italian pastimes and explore the city in depth. Each semester we offer walking tours, traditional cooking classes, wine lectures, opera, soccer matches, day trips to Pisa and other nearby locations and concerts.
- For additional fees we also arrange weekend trips for the group. These include the Eternal City of Rome, Venice and its canals, and Sorrento to discover the sights of Capri and the amazing ruins of Pompeii. Details of the trips available each semester are sent out to students prior to departure.
- Guided day trip to nearby scenic Tuscan towns of Siena and San Gimignano, including round-trip transportation, a professional, English-speaking guide and an AIFS representative throughout.

- Free wireless Internet access in the Study Center during class hours Monday through Friday. Wireless access will also be available in the apartments.
- Italian Life and Culture course, taught by local professors. The course will consist of weekly lectures focusing on historical, political, economic and cultural aspects of Italy and Florence and will include field trips in addition to lectures.
- Mandatory police registration.
- Student medical and program fee refund insurance policies.

\*Hotel accommodation is not for students making their own living arrangements. Those students should check in directly to their apartments.

## FEES

The fee per person is \$7,995.

An optional meal plan will be available for \$525. The plan includes 30 vouchers for either lunch or dinner in local trattoria in Florence.

The program fee excludes airfare, optional insurance upgrades, passport or visa fees, meals other than those listed, personal expenses, any California community college tuition or administrative fees, textbooks, additional field trips or excursions required by the NCSAC faculty and anything not specified.

These fees are guaranteed not to change as a result of fluctuations in the \$ exchange rate.

## OPTIONAL TRANSPORTATION PACKAGE

On a space-available basis, students may purchase the optional transportation package consisting of round-trip airfare between SFO and FLR and round-trip transfers overseas between the airport and the housing in Florence for an additional \$TBC, excluding mandatory U.S. government and airline-imposed departure taxes, fees and fuel surcharges at \$TBC, for which students will be billed separately.

## COURSES

The following courses will be offered. For complete course listings and faculty bios, please visit [www.aifscustomized.com/ncsac](http://www.aifscustomized.com/ncsac).

**Italian Life and Culture:** This 3-unit course is required for all students. In addition, students will register for three or four of the following:

### OFFERED BY THE CONTRA COSTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT:

*Faculty: Danielle De Foe*

**ENG 123:** Critical Thinking: Composition and Literature (3 units)

**ENG 150:** Introduction to Literature (3 credits)

**ENG 222:** Creative Writing (3 units)

### OFFERED BY THE LOS RIOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT:

*Faculty: Diane Carlson*

**SOC 300:** Introductory Sociology (3 units)

**SOC 301:** Social Problems (3 units)

**SOC 350:** Sociology of Popular Culture (3 units)

### OFFERED BY THE SAN MATEO COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT:

*Faculty: Jessica Marshall*

**ANTH 125:** Physical Anthropology (3 units)

**ANTH 110:** Cultural Anthropology (3 units)

**ANTH 200:** Ethnographic Film (3 units)

### OFFERED BY SANTA ROSA JUNIOR COLLEGE:

*Faculty: Jeanette Benfarhat*

**POLS 1:** Introduction to U.S. Politics (3 units)

**POLS 25:** Introduction to International Relations (3 units)

**HIST 4.1:** History of Western Civilization to 1648 C.E. (3 units)





## MEDICAL INSURANCE

AIFS provides each student with a group insurance policy issued by Ace American Insurance Company. The policy provides two distinct types of coverage:

*1. Before the program begins*, AIFS will refund fees paid by students unable to participate on the program because of covered injury or illness or quarantine in a travel area. However, a fee is retained from the amount paid which includes a \$150 processing fee and a \$210 insurance premium.

*2. Once the program has begun*, the plan covers the cost of medical treatment abroad, up to a maximum of \$100,000 per sickness or accident and with a daily hospital charge limit of \$300. There is a \$50 deductible per incident for medical claims against this policy.

These two categories of insurance are mutually exclusive. That is, the policy does not cover medical expenses before the program begins, nor does it refund any portion of the AIFS program fees once the program has begun.

The insurance also covers costs associated with changing the return flight if a student is unable to complete the program due to accident, illness or quarantine in a travel area. It offers 24-hour travel assistance in case of an emergency, legal assistance, medical transportation and emergency cash transfer in case of theft or loss. Full details of the coverage are provided to students with their final invoice for payment of the balance of their program fees.

### OPTIONAL MEDICAL INSURANCE UPGRADE AND PERSONAL EFFECTS INSURANCE

A medical insurance upgrade provides a maximum \$250,000 per sickness or accident with a daily hospital charge of \$300 (\$50 deductible for each accident or illness). Optional personal effects insurance covers loss or theft up to \$2,500, subject to a maximum \$100 per item (\$500 for electronic devices) and a deductible of \$100 per incident. Students are advised to arrange additional insurance for special items. Expensive or irreplaceable items should be left at home.

## AIFS REFUND POLICY

All notification of withdrawal must be made in writing via fax or certified mail to: Registrar, Customized, Faculty-Led Programs, AIFS Study Abroad, 1 High Ridge Park, Stamford, CT 06905. The fax number is 203.399.5597. Postmark date or date of fax transmission is considered date of withdrawal. All withdrawal statements must be signed by the applicant, or they will not be processed.

If a student withdraws on or before Friday, November 8, 2019, a full refund will be made less \$150, plus any non-refundable deposits paid either by the student or by AIFS on the student's behalf.

If a student withdraws after Friday, November 8, 2019, but on or before Friday, December 6, 2019, for any reason except medical covered by the AIFS Fees Refund and Medical Insurance Policy, the \$450 deposit fee is forfeited, along with any non-refundable deposits paid either by the student or by AIFS on the student's behalf.

If a student is forced to withdraw from the program because of covered medical reasons after final fees have been paid but before departure, a refund will be made through the Fees Refund and Medical Insurance Policy, less a \$150 processing fee and the \$210 insurance premium. The policy requires written proof of medical reasons provided by your physician.

Students withdrawing voluntarily for any reason after Friday, December 6, 2019, including withdrawals because of medical reasons not covered under the medical refund policy, receive no refund of fees paid unless they are able to provide a qualified replacement. In this case, they receive a full refund of all payments made less the \$150 processing fee and any non-refundable deposits. Replacement students must pay in full at the time of application. Flights cannot be arranged for replacement students applying after Friday, November 8, 2019. Once the program has started, students withdrawing receive no refund under any circumstances. This refund policy is necessary because the booking of facilities in Florence requires substantial non-refundable payments and commitments by AIFS in advance.

## CONTACT US

For more information, visit [www.aifscustomized.com/ncsac](http://www.aifscustomized.com/ncsac), or contact the coordinator on your campus:

**Contra Costa Community College District**  
Harue Takanashi  
925.969.2507  
htakanashi@4cd.edu

**Los Rios Community College District**  
Study Abroad  
916.484.8967  
studyabroad@arc.losrios.edu

**San Mateo County Community College District**  
Stephanie Wells  
650.738.7098  
studyabroad@smccd.edu

**Santa Rosa Junior College**  
Patty Warne  
707.527.4441  
pwarne@santarosa.edu