

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA STUDY ABROAD CONSORTIUM

NEWSLETTER

Vol: 1

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NCSAC ARRIVALS

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During the first week in Florence, students settled in with the aid of Orientation, Travel & Safety, a Historical Walking Tour of the City Center and also a Practical Walking Tour of their neighborhoods. Students began classes on Tuesday afternoon, were introduced with their first lecture in their Italian Life & Culture course and were granted access to see and sign up for Cultural events that AIFS hosts throughout the semester.



TRAVEL & SAFETY WORKSHOPS

NCSAC students participated in Travel and Safety Workshops on Tuesday morning. This offers them information in regards to traveling and ways of moving around in Europe as it is very different than the US. The safety workshop offers useful information for students to remember and take caution to as they are away from their home environments.



GUIDED WALKING TOURS

Students participated in a Practical Walking Tour on Monday specific to their neighborhoods by AIFS staff. This aids in finding information on where to go if you need groceries, to mail something, markets, the bank, etc. They then participated in the ILC walking tour of the city-center where they were introduced to the city and historical bits and pieces of Florence by professional guides on Thursday before enjoying the Welcome Reception.

WELCOME RECEPTION

Students enjoyed a Welcome Reception Aperitivo in the city-center with all AIFS staff, faculty and each other at an famous place named Colle Bereto on Thursday evening. There were light bites, eccentric mocktails and great company! It was a lovely event and space to have all students come together after the first week!



ROSE GARDEN PICNIC

Saturday morning, students met in a square at the base of the city. We then walked to Piazzale Michelangelo, the hill above Florence that overlooks the entire city, and then we continued back down the hill a bit where we eventually reached the Rose Garden to enjoy a picnic. We all enjoyed an Italian panino and dessert!



PISA & LUCCA

Students enjoyed a trip to Pisa and Lucca on Sunday. In Pisa, there was a guided tour of Piazza dei Miracoli, where the leaning tower is, along with the Cathedral of Pisa and the baptistery of St. John. Students then traveled to Lucca, a small, quaint town for the afternoon to have lunch and enjoy some free time.

THIS WEEK...

NCSAC students this week will have the opportunity to participate in the first Wine Tasting with a wine connoisseur who offers an informational session on wine in Italy, followed by a tasting. Students will have their second ILC lecture on Tuesday regarding Florence: Birthplace of the Renaissance. Wednesday and Thursday, students will be visiting the Uffizi Gallery here in Florence as part of their site seeing activity for ILC. This coming weekend, students have the choice to participate on a hike to Fiesole, the hills surrounding Florence and to take a trip on Sunday to the Viareggio Carnevale.

