

**AUGUST 4-13, 2009**

**BUTLER BULLDOGS MEN'S BASKETBALL TOUR TO ITALY**  
LAKE COMO, FLORENCE, VENICE AND ROME



**Tour Inclusions:**

- Ground transportation
- Hotel accommodation
- Breakfast daily
- Pre-game meals
- Welcome dinner
- Farewell awards dinner
- Tour director
- Guided sight-seeing tours
- Walking tours
- Entrances to attractions
- Four basketball games
- Flights (optional)

**Tour Pricing (land + air):**

- \$4,250 Double
- \$5,100 Single

**Tour Pricing (land only):**

- \$3,199 Double
- \$4,099 Single



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**Day 1 – Flight**

Depart on overnight flight to Milan, Italy.

**Day 2 – Arrive in Milan, Lake Como**

The tour director will meet the group at the airport, then transfer to the hotel in the Lake Como region. After checking in there will be an orientation walking tour and welcome reception dinner.

**Day 3 – Lake Como Cruise**

Take a cruise to the beautiful lake front village of Bellagio.

**Day 4 – Venice**

Bubbling up in a lagoon off the Adriatic, Venice is an absolutely unique and unquestionably beautiful city. The weight of its opulent architecture – the domes, gothic spires, and lacy marble – is said to be sinking the city by 10 inches a century. Make sure you experience the intricate labyrinth of streets and bridges the city has to offer.

**Day 5 – Venice Sight-Seeing**

Step into Piazza San Marco, an airy expanse of arches, sunlight, and pigeons. The multi-domed Basilica, completed in 1094 but decorated for centuries afterward, is the final resting place of the apostle St. Mark, Venice's patron saint.

**Day 6 – Florence**

Immerse in the charms of old-world Firenze, a red-brick splendor set in the green hills of Tuscany. The birthplace and focal point of the Italian Renaissance, Florence still has the masterpieces to prove it. Brunelleschi's elegant Duomo (dome) dominates the skyline and around every corner is an architectural triumph filled with walls of incomparable art. The local licensed guide will take the group to Giotto's Bell Tower

and the Gates of Paradise, the bronze east doors of the Baptistery that spurred the Renaissance.

**Day 7 – Travel to Rome and Walking Tour**

Enjoy a walk past Rome's most beautiful and unusual Baroque fountains. Make sure to see the Trevi Fountain, a Baroque extravaganza designed by master sculptor Bernini. At the Pantheon see the largest concrete dome ever constructed. An oculus, or hole, in the dome lets sunlight into the beautiful temple which is dedicated to all the gods.

**Day 8 – Holy Rome Sight-Seeing**

Take a guided tour of St. Peter's Basilica. Outside the church, four rows of columns radiate out like welcoming arms; inside, the size and scale of the church is mind blowing. The dome, partially designed by Michelangelo, rises 452 feet above the ground. Michelangelo's mark is everywhere, including the costumes worn by the Swiss Guards, his exquisite "Pietà" sculpture and the amazing frescoes of the Sistine Chapel.

**Day 9 – Ancient Rome Sight-Seeing**

Tour the ultimate symbol of ancient Rome, the Coliseum, with the tour guide. Built by the emperor Vespasian in A.D. 72, the structure held almost 50,000 spectators. Continue on to the relative calm of the Forum, Rome's commercial, religious and political center. The Forum held markets, temples and the Senate House. In the evening, conclude the tour with an awards dinner banquet.

**Day 10 – Return to US**

Depart on your flight(s) back to the US.

*Please note: Basketball game dates and destinations will be confirmed 90 days prior to departure.*