

UNDISCOVERED ITALY Art, Food & Wine in Piedmont & Liguria

October 4-17, 2018 (14 days) with Carleton Professor Emeritus John Schott

"It is wonderful to travel to a fascinating place with a bunch of curious, friendly people who like to talk about ideas, and to be treated to a series of lectures by a fabulous Carleton professor. In fact, this is sort of my idea of heaven." - Marian, Oregon

Sacra di San Michele

Dear Carleton College Alumni and Friends,

This unique program, accompanied by cinema and media studies expert John Schott, Carleton Professor Emeritus, incorporates visits to fascinating, lesser-known sites with fine food and wine experiences in the spectacular Piedmont and Liguria regions of Italy. These regions could hardly be more photogenic and historically rich, with a seemingly endless supply of charming churches and castles housing masterpieces of medieval art, not to mention a long tradition of delectable cuisine and wines, set amid backdrops of the Alps and the Mediterranean.

An **expert trip manager and local guides** will illuminate the historical and cultural backgrounds of the places you explore, while Professor Schott will lend charm and insight to group discussions and casual conversation. Throughout this trip, Prof. Schott will offer **photography workshops** for both beginners and advanced photographers. These will address **a range of topics on travel photography**, including workshops on landscape, architectural, "people," and food photography. You will learn new **strategies for improving your photos** through editing after you have taken them. Additionally, Prof. Schott will give an overview on how to produce a photo-book of your images once you are home, with recommendations on software and graphic design. Whether you will be taking pictures with your mobile phone or an advanced digital SLR, you can count on developing your skills and returning from this trip with some handsome images.

Other highlights include:

• Two nights at beautiful **Lake Orta**, at the foot of the Alps; two nights each in **Turin** and **Milan**; and three nights in the UNESCO World Heritage site village of **Pollenzo**, in the same complex as the **University of Gastronomic Sciences**;



- A gourmet dinner at La Ciau del Tornavento restaurant, a fabulous Michelin-starred restaurant featuring a wine cellar with over 70,000 bottles;
- A visit to the renowned International White Truffle Festival in Alba, plus a morning truffle hunt with a local trifolao and his dog;
- A world-famous **Barolo-wine tasting and food pairing**, plus a tasting workshop at Pollenzo's unique **Wine Bank**;
- Turin's National Cinema Museum and CAMERA (the Italian Centre of Photography), plus an option to visit the famous Egyptian Museum;
- Spectacular religious art and architecture, such as **Sacra di San Michele**, a 12th- to 15th-century Romanesque monastery atop a rocky crag; the remote mountain chapel of **Notre-Dame des Fontaines**, noted for its medieval frescoes; and Mondovi's **Church of the Missione**, with its astonishing *trompe l'oeil* ceiling;
- The UNESCO World Heritage site of Sacro Monte di Varallo, a fascinating 16th-century religious "theme park" and major pilgrimage site;
- A guided orientation tour of Milan, including the **Pinacoteca di Brera**, one of Italy's foremost art collections; plus the **Santa Maria delle Grazie** church to see Leonardo **da Vinci's celebrated** *Last Supper* (pending confirmation); and an optional **opera performance** (at additional cost) at world-famous "La Scala."

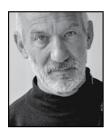
This exclusive Alumni Adventure is limited to a maximum of 24 travelers. We hope you will join fellow Carls and Professor Schott for this unforgettable learning adventure.

Sincerely,

Jack Ladre Maris '85

Sarah Ladner Maris '85 President, Carleton College Alumni Association

Carleton College Faculty Leader



John Schott, James Woodward Strong Professor of the Liberal Arts, Emeritus, came to Carleton in 1980 as a visiting filmmaker and photographer, and stayed for 37 years. He founded the Cinema & Media Studies Department, where he offered classes in production and history in film, photography, and graphic design. John has been the Executive Producer of several national television series on the arts for PBS, including *American Photography: A Century of Images*. Two books of his early photography have been published recently by Nazraeli Press. John and his wife, **Elizabeth Schott**, have led off-campus study programs on six occasions to destinations throughout Europe, North Africa, and Japan. Elizabeth is a food enthusiast and an irrepressible traveler who circled the globe three times on her own while in her 20s. As a young woman she studied cooking at Cordon Bleu in London and La Varenne in Paris. Elizabeth was private caterer in New York, and had a restaurant—anyone remember *Treats* on Division street?—in Northfield. Join her in seeking out great eating and special culinary goodies along the journey.

ITINERARY

(B)= Breakfast, (L)= Lunch, (D)= Dinner

Thursday, October 4, 2018: Fly to Milan, ITALY

Depart home today on overnight flights to Milan Malpensa Airport (MXP).

Friday, October 5: Arrive Milan Malpensa Airport | Transfer to Lake Orta | Basilica of San Giulio | Welcome dinner

Upon arrival at Milan Malpensa Airport (MXP), a private, individual transfer will bring you to our hotel in the medieval village of Orta San Giulio, on the shores of beautiful Lake Orta, at the foot of the Alps. Gather for a brief introduction to the tour by your faculty leader, John Schott, and trip manager. Then take a ten-minute boat ride to the island of San Giulio, in the center of Lake Orta, for a short visit to its medieval Basilica with its vibrant frescoes and other treasures. Return to Orta San Giulio for a welcome dinner. *Overnight at the 4-star Hotel San Rocco for two nights.* (D)

Saturday, October 6: Sacro Monte di Varallo | Santa Maria delle Grazie | Varallo's Pinacoteca

Drive to the Sacro Monte di Varallo, a UNESCO World Heritage site and fascinating 16th-century religious "theme park" in a striking natural reserve. The park is comprised of a basilica and 45 chapels with dioramas and more than 800 life-sized painted statues. At the bottom of the Sacro Monte is the church of Santa Maria delle Grazie, with frescoes by Gaudenzio Ferrari, an early Renaissance master. Also visit the Pinacoteca, Varallo's fine arts museum, including 17th-century paintings by local Caravaggesque artist Tanzio da Varallo and Ferrari's early sculptures. Return to Orta San Giulio for an evening at leisure. (B,L)

Sunday, October 7: Sacra di San Michele | Turin | Walking orientation tour

Drive to the spectacular Sacra di San Michele, a 12th- to 15thcentury monastery atop a rocky crag at the foot of the Alps and an iconic symbol of the Piedmont region. One of the most important examples of Romanesque architecture, this monastery inspired Umberto Eco's medieval detective novel and the movie called *The Name of the Rose*. After lunch, continue to Turin, capital of Piedmont, and enjoy an orientation tour by foot, featuring the Roman ruins of the city and the Cathedral (which conserves the revered Holy Shroud). Walk past the Royal Palace, and stop at a historical café to taste a local specialty, *bicerin* (a delightful mix of chocolate, coffee, and cream). Return to our hotel, freshen up, and gather for dinner. *Overnight at the 4-star Hotel NH Collection Torino Piazza Carlina for two nights*. (B,L,D)



Above, Orta San Giulio Island. Below, Varallo's Pinacoteca. Bottom left, the Royal Palace of Turin. Bottom right, the National Museum of Cinema, Turin.









Monday, October 8: National Cinema Museum | Italian Center of Photography | Walking photo tour

Walk to nearby Mole Antonelliana, a landmark of Turin that was built as a synagogue, to visit with an expert the unique and fascinating National Cinema Museum. After an independent lunch, discover CAMERA, the Italian Centre of Photography, together with its curator (schedule permitting). Then, meet a local expert photographer for a short, walking photographic session in downtown Turin. Dinner is at leisure. (B)

Tuesday, October 9: AM at leisure or Egyptian Museum | Castello della Manta | La Brigue, FRANCE

The morning is at leisure to relax and explore Turin at your own pace, <u>or</u> to join an optional visit (at additional cost) led by an Egyptologist to the famous Egyptian Museum, one of only two museums in the world (the other being the Egyptian Museum in Cairo) that is dedicated entirely to art and artifacts of ancient Egypt. After lunch on your own, we drive south to explore Castello della Manta, viewing the stunning frescoes of the castle's chapel and baronial hall, including a rare masterpiece of Late Gothic painting. Then drive across the French border into the Alpes-Maritimes to the remote mountain town of La Brigue. Gather for dinner at our hotel this evening. *Overnight at the 2-star Hotel Le Mirval.* (B,D)

Wednesday, October 10: Notre-Dame des Fontaines | Bordighera, ITALY

Above, a street in Apricale. Below, the sanctuary of Notre-Dame des Fontaines. Below left, Bordighera. Below, right, La Brigue France.



Drive to nearby Notre-Dame des Fontaines (Our Lady of the Fountains), a chapel noted for striking, 15th-century frescoes depicting the cycle of the Passion of Christ by Giovanni Canavesio. Walk down to the once-believed-miraculous intermittent springs and, on the way back, stop to take a look at the beautiful Pont (Bridge) du Coq. After lunch on your own in La Brigue, drive to the Italian town of Bordighera, on the Mediterranean coast. Gather for a seaside dinner this evening. Overnight at the 4-star Hotel Parigi for two nights. (B,D)









Thursday, October 11: Dolceacqua | Apricale | Taggia | Montegrazie

Drive up mountain roads, admiring the beautiful villages of Dolceacqua and Apricale, where we will enjoy lunch. Return to the Italian Riviera to visit Taggia's Dominican Monastery, admiring frescoes in the refectory and the church's collection of great Renaissance altarpieces. Drive to Montegrazie to visit the splendid 15th-century Sanctuary of the Madonna delle Grazie (including a spectacular depiction of the Last Judgement and the torments inflicted upon the damned). Return to Bordighera for an evening at leisure. (B,L)

Friday, October 12: Albenga | Mondovì | Wine Bank, Pollenzo

Drive along the Mediterranean to the ancient city of Albenga and visit the 5th-century, early Christian baptistery and the town's outstanding ancient and medieval center. Head north to Mondovì and visit the Church of the Missione, with its baroque façade and art, astonishing *trompe l'oeil* ceiling by Andrea Pozzo (1642-1709) and two marble side altars. After lunch in Mondovì, continue on to the attractive village of Pollenzo (ancient Pollentia), a UNESCO World Heritage site where Carlo Petrini, forefather of the Slow Food movement, founded the University of Gastronomic Sciences. Visit the Wine Bank, a unique project that preserves the historical memory of Italian wines, where we have a tasting workshop. *Overnight at the 4-star Albergo dell'Agenzia for three nights.* (B,L,D)

Saturday, October 13: Alba's White Truffle Festival | Serralunga d'Alba

Drive to Alba, "the city of 100 towers." Our trip is timed to coincide with the renowned International White Truffle Festival, which offers thousands of products for tasting and for sale: wines, spirits, liqueurs, cheeses, meats, fresh and dried pasta, bakery products, traditional sweets, chocolate, vegetables, special flours, mushrooms, and (of course) truffles. There will be time to explore and shop at the festival and in nearby stores. After lunch on your own, explore the medieval village of Serralunga d'Alba and visit the impressive 14th century fortress that dominates the stunning Langhe landscape of rolling hills, vineyards, and farms. The evening is at leisure in Pollenzo. (B)

Sunday, October 14: Truffle hunt | Barolo wine tasting & food pairing | Michelin-starred restaurant

Go on a morning truffle hunt with a local *trifolao* and his dog. Continue on to one of the many wineries producing world-famous Barolo wine, where we will have lunch with a wine tasting and food pairing. The balance of the afternoon is at leisure. Dinner tonight will be a gourmet affair at *La Ciau del Tornavento*, a fabulous Michelin-starred restaurant featuring a wine cellar with over 70,000 bottles. (B,L,D)

Above left, Sanctuary of the Madonna delle Grazie, Montegrazie. Above right, exterior of the Baptistery of Albenga. Below, Apricale. Bottom (3) our hotel in Pollenzo.









Monday, October 15: Milan | Duomo | Pinacoteca di Brera (art gallery) | Optional opera performance

Drive to Milan and take a guided orientation tour of the city, including a stop at the iconic Gothic Cathedral. After an independent lunch, explore the lively Brera district, including a visit to the Pinacoteca di Brera, one of the foremost art collections in all of Italy, with masterpieces by Mantegna, Bellini, Raphael, Caravaggio, Piero della Francesca, and Tintoretto, to name a few. The evening is at leisure in Milan. You might choose to delight in an optional opera performance (at additional cost) of Mozart's "La Finta Giaridiniera" ("The Pretend Garden-Girl") at the world famous Teatro alla Scala ("La Scala"). *Overnight at the 4-star Uptown Palace for two nights.* (B)

Tuesday, October 16: Basilica di Sant'Ambrogio | Santa Maria delle Grazie | Farewell dinner

Visit the Basilica di Sant'Ambrogio, an important early church with a golden altar, and proceed to the Santa Maria delle Grazie church for a viewing of Leonardo da Vinci's celebrated *Last Supper* (pending confirmation). The afternoon is at leisure to continue exploring Milan at your own pace. Gather this evening for our farewell dinner. (B,D)

Wednesday, October 17: Fly home

Private individual transfers to Milan Malpensa Airport (MXP) for independent flights homeward. (B)



Above, the Pollenzo Tower and Church. Below left, inside the Milan Cathedral. Below, right, the White Truffle Festival in Alba. Bottom, the exterior of Milan's Gothic Cathedral.









What to Expect

You must be able to walk long distances, unassisted, over uneven terrain and up and down steps. **Participants who are not able to <u>walk</u> <u>unassisted for extended periods</u> (at least two miles a day) are kindly advised not to join this tour unless accompanied by a companion who will be available to assist you at all times. All participants are expected to be physically active and not be an impediment to others on excursions, to enjoy traveling as part of a group, and to be ready to experience cultural differences. If you have any questions about your ability to participate, we suggest that you visit your personal physician with this brochure in hand and discuss whether or not this program is appropriate for you. <u>Hotels</u> have been chosen for their location and generous comfort. Included <u>meals</u> are of a very high quality. Average October <u>temperatures</u> in Turin range from 45° to 70°, and in Bordighera they range from 50° to 75°. Complete pre-departure details will be sent to participants.**

Air Arrangements

Airfare from/to home is not included. Individual airport transfers are provided for those arriving on Oct. 5th and departing on Oct. 17th. Once you have received your final payment invoice, you should book your flights. If you are considering booking your flights before receiving your final payment invoice, please contact our office first. We do not accept any liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets.

For questions and reservations, please contact us:



800-811-7244

Fax: 603-756-2922 Toll: 603-756-4844 Email: carleton@studytours.org Website: go.carleton.edu/adventures P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608

With fewer than 15 participants, a small group surcharge may be added. Prices Include:

- Leadership of Carleton **Professor Emeritus John Schott** plus a **professional Tour Manager** and English-speaking **local guides**;
- 11 nights in lovely **4-star hotels** and 1 night in a comfortable 2-star hotel;

- Delicious meals: 12 breakfast buffets; 5 lunches and 7 dinners with bottled water or soft drinks; plus coffee or tea and wine with dinners; 1 dinner is at a Michelin-starred restaurant; welcome and farewell dinners include cocktails, beer, and wine;
- **Special events include:** a **wine workshop** with tastings at the Wine Bank in Pollenzo, a **truffle hunt**, a *bicerin* tasting at a historical café in Turin, and a **photographer-guided walk** in Turin;
- Individual arrival and departure airport transfers on group travel days;
- All transportation by **private motor coach**, including bottled water;
- Private boat transfer from Orta to San Giulio Island;
- All gratuities to drivers, waiters (for included meals), porters, guides, and Tour Manager;
- All sightseeing and excursions as per itinerary;
- Baggage handling at hotels where available;
- VAT, local taxes, and service charges;
- Comprehensive pre-departure information, including a suggested reading guide, travel guide, and packing list.

<u>Prices Do Not Include</u>: Airfare from/to home; passport and visa fees; all airport fees and departure taxes; cost of personal, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; transportation of excess baggage; meals other than those listed in the itinerary; personal tips; items of a personal nature, such as laundry; alcoholic or other beverages except as noted above; taxi, telephone, and fax charges; optional excursions or deviations from scheduled tour and other items not listed as included.

<u>Passenger Cancellation Fees</u>: All requests by passengers for cancellations must be received in writing. Cancellations received at least one hundred twenty one (121) days prior to departure are fully refunded less an administrative fee of five hundred dollars (\$500) per person. Cancellations received between one hundred twenty (120) and ninety one (91) days prior to departure are subject to a fee equal to fifty percent (50%) of the tour cost. Cancellations received ninety (90) days or less before departure are subject to a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost. *You are strongly encouraged to obtain trip cancellation insurance (an application will be sent with confirmation of receipt of your deposit).*

<u>Payments</u>: A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour and is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or check made payable to EOS-Passenger Account-CAA NItaly10/18. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure and must be by personal check only; credit cards are not accepted for final payment. By submitting your deposit you are bound by the terms and conditions delineated throughout this brochure or elsewhere published.

Prices, itinerary, and leader are subject to change. Prices quoted are based on group participation and no refunds will be made for any part of the program in which you choose not to participate. It is understood that refunds cannot be made to passengers who do not complete the tour for whatever reason.

Due to space limitations, this is abbreviated information. Complete terms and conditions will be sent upon confirmation or upon request, and can be viewed online at https://apps.carleton. edu/alumni/adventures.