

## TOURING RAPHAEL'S ROME : 9 - 13 October 2020

COMMEMORATING THE ARTIST'S DEATH ON 6 APRIL 1520

RAPHAEL VRBINAS



The Tour will concentrate on revisiting Raphael's places and life in 16 C. Rome and review our understanding of artists and patrons in what was then the Capital of Arts, Religion and Politics in the Italian Peninsula. We will try to capture all sides of Raphael's Art in Rome where, after his arrival between 1507/8, he acted as Painter and Decorator for Pope Julius II (della Rovere) and after Pope Julius's death of Pope Leo X (Medici), in the Vatican Palace. In 1514 Raphael was nominated by Leo X architect of St Peter but as aid to its main architect Bramante. In the summer of this very year he was promoted to full architect after the death of Bramante, his great friend and teacher.

In August 1515, Raphael was nominated again by the Pope "Conservator of the Roman Antiquities". Let us remember that during the second decade of the 16 C. in various areas of Ancient Rome the Greek Statues of the Torso Belvedere and the Laocoon were discovered by builders clearing the area: Michelangelo and Raphael were both called to come and see them and advise whether it was worth to dig them out or leave them.....



*The Laocöon, Roman Copy from Greek Original, 200 BC*

We will visit some of these areas trying to imagine and recreate in our minds what these parts of Rome would have been like in Raphael's time. We will see the statues in our visit to the Vatican later in the week.

Guests will choose their own flights in order to arrive at the Hotel by 1pm. Since taxis from Leonardo Da Vinci Airport to central Rome are on a fixed rate, we will coordinate time and pay so that 3 or 4 people will share a taxi when possible.

Hotel: Santa Chiara (Tel. 0039 066872979), a Family run Hotel, well located close to the Pantheon, by numerous restaurants and situated in the very Centre of Rome.

**Friday 9 October**

- 10 am** Leave Hotel for Guided Tour to the Roman Forum and Palatine Hill etc.  
We have organised private visits to the Houses of Emperor Augustus and his wife Livia. (A four hour visit)  
Free for afternoon
- 7.30 pm** Dinner by invitation

**Saturday 10 October**

- 10 am** Leave Hotel for Visit to Rome's Farnesina where Raphael worked in Frescoes from early in his Life in Rome, to the last years in 1519/20.
- 2.20 for 3 pm** Borghese Gallery - guided visit to see the antiquities which inspired the young Raphael. Here are some of his best paintings among which is his famous deposition of Christ "The Pala Baglioni" together with other works from many old masters among whom are Titian, Caravaggio, Rubens and many others.  
Free for dinner.



Raphael "The Pala Baglioni" 1507, Borghese Gallery

**Sunday 11 October**

- 9.30 am** Visit Nero's Villa the "Domus Aurea" - the Golden House - Guided by the Domus House archeologists still working on the Excavations now.  
Recent excavations and part renovation have made this visit spectacular.
- 3 pm** Meet in Hotel Lounge to visit the Trajan Forum, the Markets and Trajan's Palace, now a Museum. Recently restored and rarely visited it was the last Roman Forum. A must in our visit to Raphael's Rome.
- 7.30 pm** Dinner in Restaurant by the Forum (by invitation)

**Monday 12 October**

- Leaving Hotel at **7am for 7.30** visit "Breakfast in the Vatican" and visits to the Sistine Chapel and the Raphael Rooms, the Art Gallery, the Pio Clementino Museum with all the antiquities collected by the Popes, finishing with St Peter. This 4 hour Tour enables us to visit the Sistine Chapel and the Raphael Rooms before the crowds arrive, having breakfast after this.
- 6 pm** Visit to the Pantheon where Raphael was buried on Easter Day 1520.  
Final Dinner (by invitation) in a most typical Restaurant by Piazza Navona "L' Orso 80"

**Tuesday 13 October**

- 9 am** Leave for Capitol Square, Piazza del Campidoglio, the entry of Rome where was once Rome's Town Hall as it is now, but a different building. The Square rebuilt by Michelangelo overlooks the whole of Rome, at its centre in triumph is the copy of the Bronze Equestrian statue of Emperor Marcus Aurelius in front of the entrance to the famous Capitoline Museums. Here we start our final guided visit to Rome.

This is the oldest public collection in the world started in 1471 by a Papal Gift and it contains the most beautiful Greek and Roman sculptures and works that so inspired Raphael, his paintings and architecture.

We will stop in the middle of our visit in the Museum's cafe' where on the magnificent terrace that overlooks Rome, looking towards the Dome of St Peter, we will sip a Cappuccino or toast with a Prosecco to our past Roman days. Then in the final hall especially built as a glass dome to reveal the sun or stars of the Roman Sky (the Museums are also open in the evening) you can see again the original of Marcus Aurelius Gilt Bronze statue - still shining in its original gilt - proceeding towards other beautiful marbles and bronze works.

- 12 am** Return to the Hotel to leave for the Airport.



Equestrian Statue Of Emperor Marus Aurelius, Capioline Museums, Rome

<b>PRICE</b>	£ 1435 for Members	£ 1515 for Friends	£ 1595 for others
<b>The price includes:</b>	4 nights B&B in Hotel Santa Chiara, 3 Dinners, transport throughout, guiding and entrance tickets FLIGHTS NOT INCLUDED		

**To book contact Accademia Italiana / Artstur - 07720812183 - artstur@gmail.com**

Payment: should be made by bank transfer as follows: Bank: CARDONEBANKING - Name: Artstur Ltd; Sort Code: 23 18 84; Account: 78597529 or by cheque payable to Artstur Ltd, and posted to The Dell Pound Lane, Wood Street Village, Guildford Surrey GU33DT