

Verona

featuring Venice and
the Italian Lakes



SMALL GROUP
MAXIMUM OF
28 TRAVELERS

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UCLA Alumni

Sept 11-19, 2020

**Featuring UCLA Research Professor Emeritus
Teo Ruiz Department of History**



A World Apart

The story of travel involves more than a ticket and a passport. It should weave together discovery, education and humanity, the best elements of any compelling tale. Your personal travel story begins with our commitment to delivering authentic experiences with local people.

The incomparable value of your journey lies in the personalized care you receive from your Travel Director and the knowledge you gain from expert guides and lecturers, who call this area home.

By eliminating logistical worries, your multilingual Travel Director allows you to immerse yourself comfortably in your surroundings. This high-caliber professional makes you feel safe and important by creating a convivial, welcoming atmosphere.

The other important characters in this story are the guides and lecturers, whose regional expertise shines in their insider perspective and commentary.

There's much to discover in the fascinating Veneto region! From lovely Verona, set off to nearby cities and delight in beautiful Venetian art and architecture. Along the way, skim across Lake Garda, sip fine Valpolicella and grappa, and enjoy a musical treat!

Above: Rocca Scaligera, Lake Garda | Cover photo: Verona

Inspiring Moments

- ▶ Embrace the **romantic ambiance of Verona**, where Romeo and Juliet fell in love, brimming with pretty piazzas, quiet parks and a Roman arena.
- ▶ Wander through the warren of narrow streets and bridges that cross the **canals of Venice**.
- ▶ Dine on classic cuisine and sip the **Veneto's renowned wines** as you enjoy a homemade meal.
- ▶ Cruise **Lake Garda** and experience the chic Italian lakes lifestyle.
- ▶ Admire **Palladio's architectural genius** in Vicenza.
- ▶ Taste **grappa** in the town where the famous Italian brandy was created.



Teofilo Ruiz

Teofilo Ruiz received his doctorate from Princeton University and has taught at many universities, including the University of Michigan and Princeton. He served as UCLA History Department chair (2002-2005) and chair of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese (2008-2009). A medievalist and early modern historian, Ruiz was selected by the Carnegie Foundation as one of the four Outstanding Teachers of the Year in 1994. The author of 14 books, he received the prestigious 2007 Guggenheim Fellowship and the Distinguished Teacher Award at UCLA. In 2012, Ruiz was selected as the Senior Research Lecturer at UCLA and received the National Humanities Medal from President Obama. With 13 past tours, Professor Ruiz is the most popular and beloved lecturer traveling with UCLA Alumni Travel.

UCLA Alumni

Dear UCLA Alumni and Friends,

Fall in love with “fair Verona,” the pink-hued city that set the stage for Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet*. Spend seven nights at a first-class hotel in the historic center, your base for explorations throughout the alluring Veneto. Travel to a string of gems across this northeastern Italian region, including Venice, Vicenza, Padua and Bassano del Grappa, plus visit the Italian Lakes district and Valpolicella wine country. Delight in absorbing history and unforgettable cultural treasures, from Roman ruins and Renaissance frescoes to classical Palladian buildings and an opulent villa. Other unique experiences — an exclusive operatic event, grappa and wine tastings and a Lake Garda cruise — round out your trip!

Travel in the company of UCLA Alumni Travel’s most beloved travel lecturer, Research Professor Emeritus Teo Ruiz, Department of History. In addition to Teo’s lectures, enjoy local lecturers and expert guides that are on hand to offer insights and context of Veneto’s rich history.

With all these wonderful features at such an excellent value, this trip will fill quickly, so guarantee your place by reserving today. We look forward to welcoming you in Verona!

Regards from Westwood,

Christel Aragon
Director, Alumni Travel

P.S. This trip can be combined with the Apulia trip, Sept. 2-10, 2020. One international airfare, two fabulous trips to Italy AND Professor Teo Ruiz on both departures! Call us for more information or see <https://travel.alumni.ucla.edu/tours/2020-09-apulia/>

310-206-0613

travel.alumni.ucla.edu

Palladio's wooden bridge, Bassano del Grappa





Day 1 | In Transit

Depart your gateway city for Verona, Italy. 🌐

Day 2 | Verona

Transfer 🔄 to the Grand Hotel des Arts.

Socialize with your fellow travelers at this evening's Welcome Reception and Dinner.

Day 3 | Verona

Enrichment: History and Architecture of the Veneto. The vibrant Veneto region lies in Italy's northeast corner between the Dolomite Mountains and the Adriatic Sea. From Roman ruins to medieval churches to Renaissance palaces, its architecture tells the region's story under Roman rulers and powerful families.

Discovery: Verona. Explore this enchanting, very walkable city, a UNESCO World Heritage site and the setting of Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet." Begin at the Arena, built in the first century. During the city's annual summer opera festival, thousands of spectators enjoy open-air entertainment here, just as past audiences reveled in gladiator contests and medieval tournaments. Visit lively Piazza Bra and Piazza Erbe, surrounded by grand palazzi. Juliet's House and her balcony are close by. Conclude with lunch in the historic center.

Free Time: Spend your afternoon at leisure. If you'd like, join an optional walk across the Adige River, and take in scenic sunset views in the cypress-lined Giusti Gardens.

Day 4 | Lake Garda | Valpolicella Winery

Discovery: Lake Garda. The resplendent



Above: Piazza Bra, Verona | Inset: Juliet's Balcony, Verona

beauty of Italy's largest lake has long inspired poets and writers. Appreciate its allure as you travel to glamorous Sirmione, a resort town on a narrow peninsula at the lake's southern end, known for its ruins of a Roman villa and Rocca Scaligera, a 13th-century castle. Cruise across the shimmering water to picturesque Lazise.

🌐 **AHI Connects: Azienda Agricola Coali.** The Valpolicella wine region east of Lake Garda produces acclaimed red wines. Visit a small, family-owned winery for lunch and a tasting in the countryside.

Enrichment: Contemporary Italy. Discuss issues influencing Italian society.

Day 5 | Venice

Discovery: Venice. Board a high-speed train bound for Venice this morning. This most entrancing city, where arched bridges stretch over tiny canals and narrow walkways lead to astonishing churches and lovely palazzi, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Cruise by private boat along the Grand Canal, then start your guided walk. Stand in the center of St. Mark's Square, bordered by palatial



St. Mark's Square, Venice

arcades and cafés, and gaze up at the stately Campanile bell tower and the elaborate St. Mark's Clock Tower. Admire the Byzantine façade of St. Mark's Basilica and tour its glittering, mosaic-covered interior. Visit the lavish Doge's Palace, the political heart of the once mighty Venetian Republic.

Free Time: Enjoy lunch and explore more before returning to Verona by train.

Day 6 | Verona

Enrichment: Music and the Arts of

Verona. Learn about the city's long and proud tradition of supporting the performing arts.

Free Time: The day is yours to plan! Perhaps you'll take a stroll and linger in inviting squares like the Piazza dei Signori, or browse on the city's main shopping avenues, the Via Mazzini and the Corso Porta Borsari.

Look forward to a special Veronese dinner this evening, capped off by an exclusive operatic performance.

Day 7 | Bassano del Grappa | Vicenza

Discovery: Cities of Veneto. Journey to Bassano del Grappa in the foothills of the Italian Alps, which boasts a covered wooden bridge designed by the famed Renaissance architect, Andrea Palladio. Walk over the bridge and then sample aromatic grappa, a classic brandy that's been produced here since the Middle Ages. Head next to Vicenza, known as the city of Palladio and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, to delve into this influential architect's work. View



the loggias of Basilica dei Signori and visit Teatro Olimpico, his majestic indoor homage to ancient Roman theaters. Then, savor lunch at a family-owned restaurant/deli that specializes in a popular dish, *baccalà*, or codfish.

Free Time: Pursue your own interests when you return to Verona this afternoon.

Day 8 | Padua | Villa Pisani

Discovery: Padua and the Villa Pisani.

Venture off to Padua, another of Veneto's medieval gems, richly steeped in the cultural traditions of art and learning. With your guide, walk through the historic center's arcaded streets and see its highlights. Meander in the vast square Prato della Valle, a favorite of locals and students from the University of Padua, founded in 1222. Inside Scrovegni Chapel, marvel at the spectacular frescoes painted by Giotto in the early 1300s, depicting the lives of the Virgin Mary and Christ, which



UNESCO World Heritage

1. City of Verona
2. Venice and its Lagoon
3. City of Vicenza

are regarded as a milestone in Western art. Spend some time on your own for lunch and sightseeing before rejoining the group. Depart for a tour of Villa Pisani, the most sumptuous of the Venetian villas. Once owned by Napoleon, it hosted emperors and kings in its heyday in the early 1800s. The villa's landscaped gardens also feature Europe's most challenging garden maze.

With your fellow travelers, celebrate the journey you've shared at a Farewell Reception and Dinner tonight.

Day 9 | In Transit

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for the return flight to your gateway city.

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions.

Flights and transfers included for AHI FlexAir participants.

A Note About Activity Levels

We want you to have a comfortable and enjoyable experience. That's why we have rated all of our excursions with activity levels to help you assess this program's physical expectations. Depending on the excursion, more leisurely alternatives may be available. Please call or visit our website to review the itinerary for full details about our activity levels.

Excursions on this program require:

- ▶ walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths or uneven surfaces
- ▶ getting on/off motor coaches, trains and boats

Accommodations

(with baggage handling)

- **7 nights** in Verona, Italy, at the first-class Grand Hotel des Arts.

Extensive Meal Program

- 7 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 3 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
- Opportunities to sample authentic cuisine and local flavors.

Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- Expert-led **Enrichment programs** enhance your insight into the region.
- **Discovery excursions** highlight the local culture, heritage and history:
 - Admire the historic gems of Verona.
 - Cruise on captivating Lake Garda and enjoy a Valpolicella wine tasting.
 - Glide along Venice's Grand Canal, visit St. Mark's Basilica and revel in the city's extraordinary grandeur.
 - See more of the Veneto's treasures in Bassano del Grappa and Vicenza.
 - Stroll through medieval Padua, view frescoes by Giotto and tour a magnificent Venetian villa.
 - Attend an exclusive operatic performance.
- **AHI Connects:** Local immersion.
- Free time to pursue your own interests.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.

Below: Valpolicella wine region



AHI Travel Expertise

From your reservation to your return home, we are here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

Before you go:

- ▶ **Travel Consultants** | These experts stand ready to answer your questions about activities, meals, accommodations and more as they guide you through the reservation process.
- ▶ **Passenger Service Representative** | Once you have reserved your spot, enjoy personalized assistance from this specialist, your one point of contact who will help you with everything from arranging flights to booking elective activities to fulfilling special requests.
- ▶ **Travel Information** | Receive extensive destination information and travel tips compiled by our travel-savvy team to prepare you fully for your journey.

Once you arrive:

On the ground, three layers of top-quality professionals offer their insiders' perspective. From suggesting the best café or pub to sharing a laugh over the stories of the day, our dedicated team takes your adventure to the next level.

- ▶ **Travel Director** | Throughout your journey, you will be in the care of a seasoned AHI travel professional who will manage all the logistics, allowing you to relax and simply soak up the ambience. Resourceful, knowledgeable and attentive, your Travel Director helps to ensure you enjoy an unforgettable travel experience.
- ▶ **Expert Guides** | Who better to show you around than the people who live there? We've specially selected informed and enthusiastic local professional guides who understand the needs of our educated and curious travelers. Warm and genuine, they're ready to share their passion for their country with you.
- ▶ **Lecturers** | Coming from all walks of life, our entertaining local lecturers open your eyes to history and current events. The breadth of their knowledge deepens your appreciation for the region and its heritage.



GRAND HOTEL DES ARTS | VERONA



Our travel experts have carefully selected this first-class property for its prime location, just an easy stroll from the central square, Piazza Bra. After an exciting day of sightseeing, return to this elegant hotel and relax in the tranquil garden. Of utmost importance is the superior quality of the services, amenities and accommodations, allowing you to enjoy your stay fully.

Reserve your trip to Verona today!

Trip #:11-25421W

Send to UCLA Alumni Association
Attn: Alumni Travel
James West Alumni Center
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1397
Phone: 310-206-0613 Fax: 310-209-4271
Email: travel@alumni.ucla.edu

UCLA Alumni Travel is a benefit of the UCLA Alumni Association Gold, Life or Blue Membership. Please select an option below:

I am currently a (circle one) Gold | Life* | Blue Member of the UCLA Alumni Association.

I have enclosed a check made payable to the UCLA Foundation for:
 \$1,000 Gold Membership
 \$100 Blue Membership

Detailed Alumni Association benefit information can be found at alumni.ucla.edu/benefits.

*The UCLA Alumni Travel benefit has been grandfathered in for existing Life Members. Life Membership is not currently available for purchase.

Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on passport)

1) _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____

2) _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home: (_____) Cell: (_____) _____

Sharing with _____ (Form sent separately)

Name(s) you would like on your name badge(s):

(1) _____ (2) _____

I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:

Land Program and AHI FlexAir

I/we reserve the Land Program and request the round-trip AHI FlexAir to Verona, Italy, to depart from:

_____ Departure City

Land Program

I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.

Single Accommodations

- I prefer single accommodations at an additional \$695 (limited availability).
- I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations to be paid in full by **June 28, 2020** (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard, Visa, Discover or Amex. Make checks payable to AHI Travel.

Enclosed is a deposit of _____ (\$600 per person required) to reserve _____ place(s).

- Accept my check made payable to **AHI Travel**.
- Charge my: MasterCard Visa Discover Amex

Card # _____

Expires _____/_____/_____

(Signature as it appears on credit card)

Please note: Any payment to AHI Travel constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out herein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

PROGRAM DATES

Air Program dates: Sept 11-19, 2020

Land Program dates: Sept 12-19, 2020

LAND PROGRAM

Full Price	Special Savings	Special Price*
\$3,645	\$250	\$3,395

*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.

VAT is an additional \$295 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

Single accommodations are an additional \$695 (limited availability).

Let us arrange your flights!

AHI FlexAir | Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:

- ▶ **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase.
- ▶ arrival and departure **transfers** on group dates.
- ▶ **flexibility** to change or cancel your reservations without penalty up to 60 days before departure on most flights.
- ▶ **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays.
- ▶ **flight insurance** worth up to \$250,000, subject to policy terms.

Travel stress-free with AHI FlexAir.

Villa Pisani



NOT INCLUDED-Fees for passports and, if applicable, visas; entry/departure fees; personal gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning; excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and meals not mentioned in this brochure under included features; travel insurance; airport transfer costs for those not participating in AHI's FlexAir; all items of a strictly personal nature.

MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL-The right is retained to decline, to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

AIR TRANSPORTATION-The price of air transportation offered by AHI Travel is based on Advance Purchase Excursion fares. After tickets are issued, penalties up to 100% of the ticket price may be levied. If connecting flights are requested, special promotional fares may be used, in which case penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or canceled after ticketing. After departure, if the reservations are changed, you will be charged the higher, all year Economy class fare.

VARIATIONS TO THE GROUP ITINERARY MUST BE REQUESTED NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. Passengers who choose to make their own airline reservations independently will be wholly responsible for arrival and departure transfers, and any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of program cancellation and/or change in travel dates, or airline schedule(s).

BAGGAGE-Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provided with your pre-departure information. Baggage allowances are subject to change by the carrier without notice. Excess baggage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces are expensive and not included in your trip price; plan your wardrobe accordingly. Transport of baggage and personal effects is at the owner's risk throughout the travel program.

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ASSOCIATION DISCLAIMER-Services of a UCLA faculty lecturer are based on a minimum of 15 booked passengers.

CANCELLATION-All cancellations for any reason will be subject to a \$300 per person administrative fee. You may choose, at the time of cancellation, to apply the withheld administrative fee to a future AHI Travel program that will operate in the current calendar year or year following. The credit will be applied to the final billing and may not be used as part of the initial deposit. It is non-transferable and is not valid toward the purchase of an AHI Cruises independent cruise. Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 15% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 75-30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. **TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE. AN APPLICATION WILL BE SENT AFTER YOU RESERVE.** All cancellations must be submitted in writing to AHI Travel. **CANCELLATION OF TRIP OPTIONS**-Purchases of optional excursions, trip extensions and additional hotel nights become fully non-refundable 45 days prior to departure. Air transportation and private transfer purchases are subject only to penalties assessed by the airlines and transfer suppliers.

UCLA Alumni

UCLA Alumni Association
James West Alumni Center
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1397

ITAVERNON20.2

310-206-0613
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Verona Arena, Piazza Bra



The Grand Canal, Venice

Cultural treasures and remarkable history await you in the vibrant Veneto region!

AHI Travel's mission is to deliver inspirational educational and cultural travel programs that delight travelers.

With AHI you can rely on:

- Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey.
- An exceptional travel value.
- Unique access to local sites.
- Flexibility and customization.
- Safety and security.



Please call or refer to our website for the most current program information, discounts and pricing.

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