

ITALIAN language vacation

UMBRIA, OCTOBER 2018

INTERMEDIATE Level OCTOBER 6–13

Led by **Dr. Tom Means**

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- PhD in Italian and Applied Linguistics, Rutgers
- Widely published author of language books, journal articles, textbooks
- Voted “National Foreign Language Teacher of the Year,” SCOLA Network



Expected 2019 trips in
April and June, details at
Means Language Center

JOIN US for eight unforgettable days of Italian language and culture. On this unique *viaggio* created by Means Language Center just for our *amici*, you will live in an Umbrian hilltop town that epitomizes *la bellezza di* Umbria and Tuscany. The entire *esperienza* is full immersion in Italian. No *inglese* is allowed for the eight *giorni*—we will study and live in Italian.

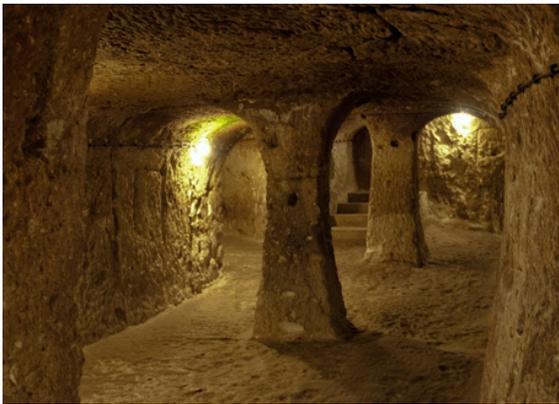
Citta’ della Pieve, virtually unknown to Americans, is a charming and *sofisticato* portrait of Umbrian lifestyle.

This town of 5,000 is unique in that it is positioned halfway between Rome and Florence yet it is still off the beaten touristic path. We have selected and curated *indimenticabile* experiences for your full immersion week in Italy. All activities require extensive comprehension and production *della bella lingua*. And they are *divertenti!*

There will be a maximum of eight participants.

We will live together at the **4-star Hotel Vannucci** in the middle of Citta’ della Pieve. Every day will be built around one central activity, entirely in Italian. We will also work toward specific goals articulated by each student. Based on your preferences, a daily excursion may be:

excursions



Saffron cultivation and meal preparation on a small

“Zafferano” farm. Saffron is an important product from the region. A local gentleman farmer, Stefano, will walk us through his saffron fields before we make some zafferano dishes with his wife in their lovely farmhouse.

Tour and tasting at an Etruscan cave converted into a vineyard/cantina.

This vintner, Fabio, was a physician before dedicating his work to the family’s cantina. Fabio and his wife, Monica, will lead us on a tour and tasting through the cantina, tunneled from Etruscan caves under their house.

Pappardella production. Located in the stunning valley, Val D’Orcia, this stone mill is run by local Tuscans. We will walk through their grain fields, mill some grain with them, shape the flour from the mill into pappardelle, and then enjoy the fruit of our labors.

Painting lessons. Paint and frame your preferred backdrop. We have organized this excursion with the region of Umbria. After a few days in Umbria, we will decide as a group which backdrop to paint. After we set up our easels a painting instructor will guide us in Italian to capture the beauty of the landscape.

Italian cinema viewings with renowned film critic. Tom and the film critic will describe some scenes from the finest work of Fellini, DeSica, Benigni, Rossellini, etc., before we watch a 10-minute clip of the film. We will discuss your reactions to the clip before moving on to the next classic.

Orvieto’s underground city. The Renaissance jewel, Orvieto, sits majestically above its valley. It was first settled by the Etruscans around 500 B.C. Underneath today’s striking city lies the imprint the Etruscans made. A private tour guide in Italian will take us through some of the thousands of tunnels the Etruscans dug for safety and food.

Food-market shopping and cooking with our personal chef.

Our friend, Sabrina, who regularly caters for notable villas in Tuscany, invites us to her family’s country house to prep our lunch together. We will then savor our creations together on her family’s terrazza, overlooking the hills of Umbria and Tuscany.

Pienza’s pecorino. Pienza, a touchstone of the Renaissance’s urbanism, is an unforgettable hilltop gem. We will enjoy a private tasting of some of the many flavors of pecorino that Pienza is known for. Our friend, Matteo, will guide our taste buds to recognize the many flavors in his cheese shop.

Chocolate making in Perugia. The petite capital of Umbria, Perugia, is a network of stunning piazzas connected by tiny alleys. Perugia is also known for her chocolates. Our friend, Giancarlo, will take us through his family’s small chocolate facility and he will guide us as we make a reproduction of the world-famous Baci.

typical day



7am–9am: Breakfast

Breakfast served in hotel; hotel staff instructed to only serve you in Italian. Options for private walking/biking tour available. Our expert Italian teachers are there to chat if you want.

9am–10:30am: Morning lesson/prep for excursion

Every excursion is task-based. Our morning lesson will prepare you for some of the language you may require on your excursion. You will be given your task before we leave, e.g., “After we view/discuss several films with the film critic, present your favorite (and why!).”

10:30am–1pm: Excursion

All excursions take place in the surrounding Umbrian or Tuscan countryside. As you are guided in Italian, you are also prompted to “complete” your homework. You will report on your excursion during the afternoon.

1:30–3pm: On-site lunch

Pranzo, tutto in Italiano. On most days, we will lunch by the site of our excursion.

3:30pm–5pm: Afternoon lesson

Italian lesson in hotel conference room. All students will report their task in Italian. Teachers will provide grammar and vocabulary lessons after every student presents. The afternoon lesson will also function as a wrap-up for all questions from the day’s excursion.

5pm–8pm: Free time

Our expert Italian teachers are available for *un gelato* or to accompany you to go shopping if you want to stroll and chat with them.

8pm–10pm: Dinner

Dinner at a local trattoria, where arrangements have already been made with staff—NESSUN INGLESE!



I am/we are pleased to join Means Language Center, LLC (MLC) for the **7 night/8 day Full Immersion Italy Trip 2018**.

Please reserve _____places for:

INTERMEDIATE (OCTOBER 6–13)

I/we would like:

Single Room(s) at a cost of \$5200 per person

Double Room(s) at a cost of \$8400 for two people

TRIP PRICE INCLUDES

- Transportation: Private motor coach to and from all events during the week.
- Accommodations: Eight nights hotel
- Meals, including all drinks: Seven buffet breakfasts at the hotel; seven lunches; seven dinners
- Sight-seeing: Entrance and guides to all sites in the itinerary
- Language coaches: One expert director per trip and one full-time coach per every four participants.

The following are noted as examples of things that are not included in the price: International airfare; Passport fees; Meals and other items not specified above; Gratuities; Personal costs including telephone calls and personal services such as travel, room service, laundry, valet service, mini-bar items and a la carte orders. If due to weather, flight schedule changes, or other uncontrollable factors, additional hotel nights are required patrons are responsible for their additional hotel, transfers, and meal costs. Trip cancellation and medical insurance is not included but strongly recommended. Events, activities, programs and artists may be subject to change. Airport Transfer is not included, we can arrange private transfer to/from airports.

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

I agree to all responsibility/terms/conditions.

SIGNATURE _____

A \$1,000 deposit per person is required to reserve space. Please see below for cancellation policies. We kindly ask that you pay by check.

Please find enclosed a check for \$ _____ payable to Means Language Center.

Please charge my American Express/ Visa/ Mastercard.
Please note that credit card trip payments are subject to a 3% surcharge.

CARD # _____ EXP. _____

SECURITY CODE _____ BILLING ZIP _____

NAME ON CARD _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

For information and reservations, please contact:
Ms. Traci Attardi, Director
Means Language Center
732-807-3646

Please return this page to:
Means Language Center LLC
601 Bangs Avenue, Suite 509
Asbury Park, NJ 07712

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

MLC reserves the right to cancel the tour prior to departure for any reason including insufficient numbers of participants, as well as the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour at any time. If MLC cancels the trip prior to departure, participants will receive a full refund of any monies paid to MLC. If bookings fall below the minimum required, participants will be advised of itinerary alterations or trip cancellation no later than September 6, 2018. Cancellations by participants must be received in writing by MLC. Cancellations received before August 6, 2018 incur a \$500 cancellation fee, and charges received after August 6, 2018 result in loss of \$1,000 deposit. After the tour has commenced, it is not possible to issue any refunds. No refunds are given for any unused portion of the tour including, but not limited to, missed meals or other events. A package of cancellation, baggage, and medical insurance is recommended. A \$1,000 per person deposit is required to confirm a space for the trip. The balance is due in full by August 6, 2018.

RESPONSIBILITY: MLC acts as the agent for the suppliers of services (including, but not limited to, ground transportation, meals, and lodging) provided in conjunction with the tour. MLC is not liable for the negligent acts, omissions, defaults, willful misconduct, or failure to perform of suppliers. The Participant releases MLC from any and all liability resulting from acts or omissions of the suppliers of services, including, but not limited to, loss, damage, delay or injury, or damage to Participant (including death) or personal property. MLC is not liable for losses or delays arising from sickness, quarantine, government restraints, war, acts of terrorism, weather conditions, earthquakes, or acts of God. In no event shall MLC's liability exceed the amount received by MLC from Participant. MLC has no special knowledge of hazards regarding health or safety in the destinations visited by Participant. Participant agrees to assume full responsibility for his/her safety. Participant assumes all risks of damage or injury in connection with any risks and agrees to indemnify and hold harmless MLC against any and all claims arising from Participant's travel to such destinations. Dates, schedules, program details, and costs stated by MLC's itinerary and brochure are given in good faith and based on information available at the time of publication of the brochure and of pricing the tour and are subject to change and revision at any time by the MLC. MLC does not guarantee the rates of any suppliers and reserves the right to substitute alternate suppliers if deemed necessary by MLC. MLC reserves the right to change Participant's itinerary if, in MLC's sole discretion, such change is advisable to protect Participant's safety. No refund shall be due from MLC in conjunction with changes in rates or itineraries, substitution of suppliers, or Participant's decision not to complete a tour itinerary. MLC reserves the right to refuse to accept any Participant, cancel any tour at any time, or request a Participant to withdraw from a tour if, in MLC's sole discretion, such refusal, cancellation, and/or withdrawal are in the best interest of Participant or other tour Participants. Participants are encouraged not to purchase airline tickets until after receiving a message stating that they are confirmed on the tour, and MLC does not accept liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable ticket to the tour departure cities and return. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times.