



MONTESSORI TOURS AND TRAVEL

... your window to the world of Montessori

Montessori's Italy & The Netherlands Study Tour

See, explore, discover...



This small group tour has been designed for lovers of Montessori history to expand their knowledge of Dr Montessori's life and times in Italy & The Netherlands.

27 October 2024 – 13 November 2024 (17 nights)

COST: Single – EUR 5460

Double / Twin Share – EUR 5020

Deposit of EUR 200 per person required to secure your place.

Balance due Monday 01 July 2024

This tour requires travellers to be able to walk 3+ miles / 5+ kms in any given day.

It is possible to do Italy & The Netherlands or one of your choice.

Highlights include: Sites in Montessori's Rome, Perugia, Villa Montesca, Città di Castello, Chiaravalle (Montessori's birth town), Montessori Training Centre, Montessori School, Nienhuis, Dr Montessori's Study and grave, cultural activities

Included in cost: 17 night's accommodation including daily breakfast, all hotel taxes and tourist fees, private transportation during this tour, local English-speaking guides, Italian and English-speaking tour guides, meals as specified in this itinerary



ITINERARY - ITALY

Sunday 27 October: ROME

Make your own way to Rome. Be sure to arrive at our accommodation by late afternoon to meet your fellow travellers followed by free time.

Meals included: N/A

Accommodation: Casa San Giuseppe di Cluny, Rome

Monday 28 October: ROME

After breakfast, put on your walking shoes and let's head out for the first day of our historic walking tour of 'Montessori's Rome'. Our local guide, Karin Slabaugh will help us better understand the times and life of Maria Montessori. You will be excited when we visit sites significant to Montessori's history, some you may know about, some you may be surprised by. We will experience the places where she lived and worked and studied from 1875 to 1951.

The evening is yours to discover and be delighted.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Casa San Giuseppe di Cluny, Rome

Tuesday 29 October: ROME

Today we get our hands busy and dirty as we enjoy a cultural hands-on experience at an art school. While we work, we will learn about an unknown aspect of the development of Montessori's methods thanks to this art school. The historical items in the museum have a fascinating connection with Maria's mission at that time.

After lunch, our walking exploration of 'Montessori's Rome' continues.

When we are finished for the day, why not choose a new flavour of gelato and continue your own exploration of exciting Rome.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Casa San Giuseppe di Cluny, Rome

Wednesday 30 October: ROME

After breakfast we will delight in a lecture about the Montessori work in Rome with newborns from 1947 to present and how to offer respect, dignity and an "*education from birth as a help to developing life*" for the very youngest infants.

We will learn about the Montessorini - the Italian nickname for those who attended the *Scuola Assistente all'Infanzia Montessori* with Adele Costa Gnocchi and visit historic 0-3 sites as we learn about this part of Rome's Montessori legacy.

The evening is yours to explore and check off any Montessori sites yet on your list.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Casa San Giuseppe di Cluny, Rome

Thursday 31 October: ROME

Today is our last day together in Rome with further discoveries and learnings about Montessori's life and times, the people she met, the work she did. Where will we go? What will you explore? What will you experience?

Last chance for shopping, photos, further exploring, time with friends and Roman treats.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Casa San Giuseppe di Cluny, Rome

Friday 01 November: MONTEFALCO & ASSISI

Today is *Ognissanti*, or *All Saints Day*, a public holiday in Italy. A perfect day to visit the saints.

After early breakfast we say goodbye to Rome. Our private transport will take us to the beautiful town of Montefalco where we will learn more about Adele Costa Gnocchi (known for her work with the 0-3 age group) and her relationship with Dr Montessori. A delicious lunch offering local cuisine will follow.

Our next visit is the beautiful city of Assisi, birthplace of Saint Francis (1181 - 1226), one of the most venerated religious figures in Roman Catholic History and the patron saint of Italy. There will be time to explore this exquisite town, learn more about St Francis' incredible life and legacy and why he is associated with 'peace'.

As night falls we will arrive at our accommodation in Perugia.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel Europa, Perugia

**Saturday 02 November: CHIARAVALLE & ANCONA**

Another early start today. Wear your walking shoes for our trip east to Chiaravalle by private transport. Stand in the house in which Dr Montessori was born. Walk the streets and hear the stories of what life was like in the mid-1800s as we experience Chiaravalle with our local Chiaravalle-born guide. Lunch will be delights of the region before heading to nearby Ancona for a sensorial experience at the Museo Omero, a tactile museum created especially for blind people. Return to Perugia and the night is yours to explore this beautiful hill town.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel Europa, Perugia

Sunday 03 November: PERUGIA

Take a breath after breakfast and plan your day to do what you wish. There are many options in Perugia, including the annual Fiera dei Morti (Fair of the Dead), a huge open-air market with lots of travelling merchants displaying their wares, situated not far from our hotel.

Gelato is fabulous in Perugia, as is the chocolate. There's a beautiful cathedral and museums to visit. It will be hard to choose what to do with so many options.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel Europa, Perugia

Monday 04 November: CITTA DI CASTELLO

After breakfast we head to the beautiful grounds of the Villa Montesca. Here we will meet our local guide who will share stories about the Baron & Baroness Franchetti and how they supported Montessori in her work. The first course Dr Montessori conducted was held at this Villa.

After lunch we make our way to the nearby town of Città di Castello. Here we watch while the intricacies of the beautiful famous textiles from Tela Umbra are produced. Learn about weaving at the historic machines that are still used today.

View original Montessori materials used so long ago by the children of the factory workers.

Return to Perugia for an early night or further exploration of the delights by night.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel Europa, Perugia

Tuesday 05 November: PERUGIA

After breakfast there are a few more special places to visit in Perugia.

The Sorbello Foundation has an amazing museum, with connections in so many different ways to Dr Montessori's journey. Learn from our guide what influential women at that time were doing to enhance the lives of others, including children.

After lunch (gelato is a good option), we will visit the University for Foreigners, where Dr Montessori held her last international course. Did you ever think that you would sit in the lecture room, in Perugia, where Montessori delivered her course?

Tonight you may continue to wander as you wish through the old city on the hill.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel Europa, Perugia

Wednesday 06 November: PERUGIA

Our last full day in beautiful Perugia will be visiting Antoinetta Paolini's Santa Croce Montessori School.

As we walk the corridors of this old school, be enthralled as we learn how a convent for the Carmelite nuns became a pre-school in 1861, eventually transforming into a Montessori school. We will stand in the observation space specially designed by Montessori, learn more about how her influence quickly spread throughout this city and the development of the Montessori District in Perugia.

We end our day, and our time in 'Montessori's Italy' with a presentation from staff of the Montessori Training Centre, Perugia.

It will be sad to leave fascinating Italy tomorrow so let's spend time together tonight, sharing stories and enjoying delicious local food.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel Europa, Perugia



ITINERARY – THE NETHERLANDS

Thursday 07 November: AMSTERDAM

After breakfast today the Italy Tour ends. We return to Rome and connect with our flight to Amsterdam.

Private transport will transfer us from Schiphol Airport to our accommodation.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Amsterdam

Friday 08 November: AMSTERDAM

After breakfast, we make our way to the Association Montessori Internationale (AMI) head office and meet some of the team whilst enjoying a typical Dutch morning tea. We will spend time in Dr Montessori's study. Be enthralled by the stories relating to the photos and items on display. In the library, hear more about the collection of books. Here you will have the opportunity to make purchases of Montessori related books and items.

After lunch we will visit the Jacaranda Montessori 0-3 Environment, run by Australian Montessorian and author, Simone Davies.

Visit Anne Frank House Museum to learn more about Anne Frank, the effect the war had on many Jews in Amsterdam, and what life was like for Anne, her friends and family.

Stay in the old city and walk the canals, enjoy dinner and make your way back to the hotel at your leisure.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Amsterdam

Saturday 09 November: AMSTERDAM

This morning we head by private transport to Noordwijk on the North Sea. Here we will have time to see the house where Montessori had holidays with her family, walk along the beach, dabble your toes in the North Sea and enjoy the open space. We will also visit Montessori's grave and meet a local artist and sculptor of Maria Montessori statues.

On return to Amsterdam, the rest of the day is yours to explore.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Amsterdam

Sunday 10 November: AMSTERDAM

After breakfast we catch up with our local guide, who will walk with us through the streets of Amsterdam.

She will tell stories of this busy trading city and the interesting buildings as well as answer any questions you have.

We will stop for lunch along the way before arriving at the Van Gough Museum. Have you ever wanted to paint like Vincent? Today is your chance as you learn some tips to paint like a 'master'. There will also be time to explore the museum.

Time on your own to explore Amsterdam further is tonight's activity. Have fun.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Amsterdam

Monday 11 November: AMSTERDAM

After early breakfast today, we leave the hotel by private transport to visit Nienhuis, manufacturers of Montessori Materials. Chris Willemsen will share the story of Montessori's relationship with Albert Nienhuis and how the Nienhuis company has grown. Be amazed at the busyness of the warehouse, the fabulous new office and enjoy the small museum of historic items relating to Dr Montessori.

Lunch at a nearby café, where the delicious cooking and food preparations are done by recent migrants to The Netherlands.

Tour an old working windmill and hear what life was like when wooden windmills were scattered across The Netherlands.

There are no set plans for tonight. You are free to do as you wish.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Amsterdam



Tuesday 12 November: AMSTERDAM

After breakfast we will see how Montessori Sports has been implemented into the curriculum in a 3-6 environment when we visit a local Montessori School.

The rest of the morning is free to shop, rest, explore.

Old Amsterdam is made up of many canals. See Amsterdam from another aspect as we enjoy together a Canal Tour late afternoon.

For our last night in Amsterdam, we will dine together and delight in a typical Dutch meal in a very old restaurant.

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodation: Amsterdam

Wednesday 13 November: Depart AMSTERDAM

After breakfast we say farewell, and Bon Voyage.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Amsterdam

This tour requires travellers to be able to walk 3+ miles / 5+ kms in any given day.

It is possible to do Italy & The Netherlands or one of your choice.

There will be local wines, local foods, local guides, local cultural experiences, local larrikins.
There will be surprises and activities, time to chat, time to play, time to learn, time to wonder.
Led by Roelie Hartwig and Karin Slabaugh.

Small group tour - maximum 12

This itinerary will always be a work in progress and what we end up doing on some days may be different to what is stated here. All will be done to ensure the tour proceeds as per the itinerary whilst maintaining the integrity of the tour. Should this happen your understanding and cooperation will be appreciated. This tour will be conducted in English with local guides and local drivers.

**To find out more or to secure a place, please email
Roelie Hartwig at: montessoritoursandtravel@gmail.com**

Inclusions:	Exclusions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Accommodation with breakfast at hotels ● Transportation on tour ● Sightseeing with local English-speaking guides ● English and Italian speaking guides on entire tour ● Taxes and fees ● Meals (food only) as specified in this Itinerary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Other meals where not mentioned in the Itinerary ● Alcoholic & drinks ● International flights and airport taxes ● Overweight luggage ● Personal expenses ● Travel Insurance (compulsory) ● Tips and gratuities ● Other services not listed in inclusive column

COST: Single – EUR 5460

Double / Twin Share – EUR 5020

Deposit of EUR 200 per person required to secure your place.

Balance due Monday 01 July 2024