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LORD BYNG SECONDARY SCHOOL 9 DAY PERFORMING TOUR OF ITALY March 8 – 16, 2007

Finalized Itinerary – March 2, 2007

Note: It is the responsibility of all participants to be in possession of the correct documentation to travel overseas. Failure to do so will result in participants being denied boarding and returned home at the expense of the individual. It is recommended that your passport must be valid for at least 3 months (90 days) beyond your return date when visiting Italy.

Note: Special meal arrangements have been made for the 5 vegetarians and 1 vegan on the tour.

Day 1 – Thursday March 8, 2007 – INFLIGHT

- 4:15 am arrive at Lord Byng on Crown St. to load buses
- 5:30 am - arrive at **Vancouver International Airport** to check in for your flight
- 8:20 am - depart on **Air Canada #142 to Toronto**, there will be food available for purchase on board; set your watches ahead 3 hours; flying time is 4 hours and 25 minutes
- 3:45 pm - arrive Toronto, Terminal 1 and proceed to your connecting flight which also departs from Terminal 1
- you will meet your **tour manager, Tracey McCormick** at the gate
- 5:10 pm - depart on **Air Canada #872** overnight to **Frankfurt, Germany**; flying time is 7 hours and 50 minutes; set your watches ahead 6 hours
- dinner will be served in flight

Day 2 – Friday March 9, 2007 – MILAN TO CREMONA

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- breakfast will be served in flight
- 7:00 am - arrive into **Frankfurt**, Terminal 1 and proceed to your connecting flight which also departs from Terminal 1
- 8:30 am - depart on **Lufthansa (LH) flight #3954 to Milan**; flying time is 1 hour and 10 minutes; refreshments served in flight
- 9:40 am - arrive into **Milan's Linate Airport**, pass through Customs
- board your **75-seat coach from Troiani Bus**; the rented **double-bass** will be on board
- travel to **Cremona** (approx. 1 ½ hrs driving time) the city famous for the art of making stringed instruments
- 12:15 pm - upon arrival in Cremona enjoy a **self-guided visit to the Museo Stradivariano** where drawings, models and violins made by the master craftsman are displayed; your tour manager will have the entrance fee
- time for lunch on your own
- meet your coach and depart for your hotel
- arrive at the **Hotel Ibis and check in for a 1 night stay**
- 7:00 pm - **group dinner** included at **Restaurant Al Portico** (set menu); jugs of water will be on the tables for the group, additional beverages are at your own expense
- evening free to explore Cremona with chaperoned groups

Day 3 – Saturday March 10, 2007 – CREMONA TO MESTRE **B/D**

- **continental breakfast buffet** at your hotel (served between 6:30 am – 10:00 am) and check-out
- 8:00 am - depart for the little town of **Malcesine** which lies among the fragrant olive and lemon groves of the lower slopes of Monte Baldo, on the eastern shore of Lake Garda; once a sleepy fishing village, it now bustles with life as cafes, bars, restaurants and boutiques line the narrow cobbled streets that wind down to a picturesque harbour
- 11:30 am - depart for **Verona** for a **visit** of the **Arena di Verona**, the best preserved Roman Amphitheatre in the world; your tour manager will have the entrance fee
- you will have time for lunch and to also see Juliet's Balcony from the famous Shakespeare play
- 4:00 pm - board coach and depart for **Venice, Mestre**
- arrive into **Mestre**, on the outskirts of Venice, and check in for a **2 night stay** at the **Hotel Delfino**
- 7:30 pm - **dinner** included at the hotel (set menu chosen by the group); jugs of water will be on the tables for the group; additional beverages are at your own expense

Day 4 – Sunday March 11, 2007 – VENICE SIGHTSEEING & PERFORMANCE **B/D**

- **continental breakfast buffet** at your hotel (served from 7:00 am to 10:00 am)
- 8:45 am - transfer by coach to the **Tronchetto parking lot**
- 9:30 am - board your **“Canal Grande” private boat with your instruments for the transfer** to St. Mark's Square
- 10:00 am - disembark and walk with your instruments to Chiesa della Pietà, then take the first left (on side of the church) to reach Casa per Ferie Pietà (walk almost to the bottom of the street along the side of the Church)
- **store your instruments** in this building on the 3rd floor for the day
- 11:00 am - arrive St. Mark's Square and meet your **guides Antonella and Martina at the exit of Doge's Palace for a walking tour of Venice**, you will see the Piazza di San Marco famous the world over with its covered galleries, the Basilica of San Marco, built in 1063 – 1073 with its great variety of styles, the Campanile – a 325 ft Bell Tower – stroll along the narrow streets and over the interesting bridges, among them the Rialto Bridge and the Bridge of Sighs
- during your guided tour you will visit the **Doge's Palace** – the unique façade of the Palazzo Ducale is perhaps surpassed only by the incredible interior; your guides have the tickets for the palace
- lunch on your own
- a visit to Venice would not be complete without a ride on a gondola; head to the Hotel Danieli on Piazza San Marco
- 3:00 pm - enjoy a 40 minute **gondola ride** with **Servizio Gondole “Danieli”** meandering along the Grand Canal (known by the Venetians as *Canalazzo*) that sweeps through the heart of Venice, following the course of an ancient river bed. (gondolas hold 6 persons each)

After the gondola ride, please find some time to eat as your dinner will not be until quite late this evening

- some free time to explore on your own in chaperoned groups (suggestions below – admission if applicable is extra)
- The Peggy Guggenheim Collection – The modern art fan may visit the former home of Peggy Guggenheim that today houses one of the finest collections of modern art including the works of such famous artists as, Picasso, Kandinsky, Dali, and many others. Groups should pre-book. Estimated Cost 10€/per person/ students 5€

Day 4 – continued...

- Galleria dell' Accademia – This gallery contains the most important collection of Venetian paintings in existence. Included in the collection are the works of Bellini, Titian, Veronese and Tintoretto. Estimated Cost 7.00€/per person
 - The Arsenale and Naval Museum – The Arsenale, founded in the 12th Century became one of the greatest shipyards in the world, employing, at its height in the 16th Century, 16000 workers and completing one ship a day using an early version of the production line. Adjacent to the remnants of the Arsenale can be found an excellent Naval Museum housing beautiful models of the greatest ships constructed in Venice including the famous Bucintoro, the barge of the Doge. An interesting addition to the visit is the house of Giovanni Caboto[John Cabot], one of Venice's famous native sons. Estimated Cost for the museum 3.00€/per person
 - The Jewish Ghetto – remnants of the oldest Jewish Ghetto in the world, dating back to the early 16th Century, can be seen in Venice. Included in the area are the Museo Ebraico and a bronze tablet commemorating Jewish suffering during the Holocaust. Free except for the museum
- 6:15 pm - meet on Riva degli Schiavoni to walk to the **Casa per Ferie della Chiesa della Pieta**
- 6:45 pm - go to the 2nd floor where the museum is attached to the **Ospedale della Pieta** (an orphanage) where **Antonio Vivaldi**, the teacher and composer, taught his students in the early 1700's
- 7:30 pm - meet your **Pieta guide** for a visit to the small museum
- 8:45 pm - get your instruments and set up for your performance
- 8:45 pm - **performance** by Lord Byng Secondary School
- 9:30 pm - after the performance, walk with your instruments and board your **private boat** at **San Marco to Tronchetto** and put your instruments on the coach; depart to your restaurant in Mestre for a late dinner
- 9:30 pm - dinner at **Brek Ristorante** (set menu); a small bottle of water will be provided; additional beverages are at your own expense
- 9:30 pm - after dinner board your coach for the transfer to your hotel in **Mestre**

Day 5 – Monday March 12, 2007 – VENICE TO MONTECATINI TERME

B/D

- 6:45 am - **continental breakfast buffet** at your hotel and check out
- 7:30 am - board the coach and transfer to **Bologna**
- 9:30 am - arrive at the **Parrocchia Sacra Famiglia** and set up for your performance
- 10:00 am - **performance by Lord Byng Secondary School**
- 10:00 am - after your performance you will have time to interact with the students of the local school who came to watch you perform
- 10:00 am - transfer to the market to purchase lunch and further explore Bologna (suggestions available by your tour manager)
- 10:00 am - continue on to **Montecatini Terme** where you will check into the **Hotel Le Fonti** for a **2 night stay**
- 7:30 pm - **dinner** included at the hotel (set menu); jugs of water will be on the tables for the group; additional beverages are at your own expense

Day 6 – Tuesday March 13, 2007 – FLORENCE SIGHTSEEING DAY

B/D

- **continental breakfast buffet** plus ham and cheese at your hotel (served from 7:00 am to 10:00 am)
- 9:00 am - transfer into **Florence** for the day, a city which bustles with industry and craft, commerce and culture, art and science
- 10:00 am - meet your guides at Via della Dogana bus drop off point and reach the **Galleria Accademia** where you will make a short visit to see Michelangelo's famous statue of **"David"**; reservations made for 10:15 for 33 persons and 10:30 for 33 persons

Day 6 – continued...

- continue on a **city walking tour** past such famous sights as the Duomo and Baptistry, the Galleria degli Uffizi, the Ponte Vecchio and the Basilica of Santa Croce; tour ends at noon
- time to purchase lunch and do some additional sightseeing, visiting the leather market and shopping
- 6:30 pm - board your coaches and return to Montecatini Terme
- 8:30 pm - **dinner** included at the hotel (set menu); jugs of water will be on the tables for the group; additional beverages are at your own expense

Day 7 – Wednesday, March 14, 2007 – MONTECATINI TO ROME**B/D**

- 6:45 am** - **continental breakfast buffet** plus ham and cheese at your hotel and check-out
- 7:00 am - travel towards Rome and the town of **Civita Castellana**
- 10:00 am - **performance by the Lord Byng Secondary School** at the **Concert Hall** of this medieval town assisted by the maestro Paolo Matteucci and Mr. Norman Fanelli, the English-speaking concert coordinator
- 12:00 pm - transfer to **Rome** with time to purchase lunch en route
- 3:30 pm - transfer to the Villa Borghese across the street from the Piazza del Popolo and walk with your instruments to the church
- 5:30 pm - **performance** by Lord Byng Secondary School at the **Chiesa degli Artisti in the Piazza del Popolo**
- after the performance, meet your coach at the drop off point in Villa Borghese and transfer to your restaurant for dinner
- 7:30 pm - **dinner at Restaurant Zeus** (set menu) on Via Nazionale; jugs of water will be on the tables for the group; additional beverages are at your own expense
- 9:30 pm - transfer to the **Hotel Sisto V** to check in for a **2 night stay**

Day 8 – Thursday, March 15, 2007 – ROME SIGHTSEEING DAY**B/D**

- 6:45 am** - **continental breakfast buffet** at the hotel
- 7:30 am - **departure no later than 7:30 am** to **Vatican City**, the world centre for the Roman Catholic Church, to meet your guides **Sonia de Santis** and **Carolina Mancia**,
- 8:00 am - **guided tour of the Vatican Museums** – originally a group of Papal palaces, the Vatican Museums, including the Raphael Rooms and the Sistine Chapel, contain a truly awe-inspiring and diverse collection of art
- then visit **St. Peter's Basilica**
- purchase lunch in the area
- 1:00 pm - transfer to the **Colosseum** entrance
- 2:00 pm - enjoy a **visit of Rome's greatest amphitheatre** – commissioned by Emperor Vespasian in AD 72, it was used to stage wild animal fights and many deadly gladiatorial battles for the wealthy citizens of Rome; **you must be at the Colosseum no later than 1:30 pm for your 2:00 pm tour**
- after the visit you will enjoy a **tour of ancient Rome**
- the remainder of the afternoon is free to further explore on your own in chaperoned groups or with your tour escort (suggestions below – admission if applicable is extra:)
- **St Peter in Chains** – In close proximity to the Colosseum, the church itself dates back to the 5th Century and is worth a visit, but the most important feature of St Peter in Chains is the statue of Moses by Michelangelo. Moses is among Michelangelo's most famous works and the visitor may see at close range the exquisite and mysterious masterpiece. Free
- **The Campidoglio** – Built on one of Rome's seven hills, the Campidoglio was the site of government in Rome throughout its history. Michelangelo designed the Piazza and the steps and the square includes the Capitoline Museum, a powerful statue of Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius and a reproduction of the famous statue of Rome's founders Romulus and Remus being suckled by a wolf. Free

Day 8 – continued...

- The Trevi Fountain – This imaginative, theatrical, baroque fountain, completed in the 18th Century is one of the most romantic sites in Rome. Legend has it that tossing a coin in the fountain assures a return to Rome. Free
- 7:30 pm - **farewell dinner** (set menu) including beverages (water, coke or fanta) at **Restaurant Insalata Ricca** near Piazza Navona
- return to your hotel for overnight

Day 9 – Friday March 16, 2007 – HOME**B**

- 7:00 am** - check out of your rooms first and then enjoy **continental breakfast buffet**
- 8:00 am - board your coach and depart for the airport
- 9:30 am - arrive at **Rome's Fiumicino Airport** to check in for your flight at Terminal B
- say goodbye to Tracey
- 12:30 pm - **Air Canada Flight #891** departs to **Toronto**; flying time is 10 hours; set your watches back 9 hours; meals will be served in flight
- 5:30 pm - arrive **Toronto's Pearson Airport**, Terminal 1 and proceed to your connecting flight which also departs from Terminal 1
- 8:40 pm - **Air Canada Flight #149** departs to **Vancouver**, food is available for purchase on board
- 10:45 pm - arrive Vancouver International Airport
- Welcome Home!

Students will need to be picked up at the airport. There won't be a bus back to the school.

B - Breakfast / L - Lunch / D - Dinner - denote meals included in tour cost