

*Live the Language
Learn the Culture*

Foreign Language and Cultural Immersion Since 1968

NATIONAL REGISTRATION CENTER FOR STUDY ABROAD



Italy 2008-2009

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National Registration Center for Study Abroad (NRCSA)

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Learn the Culture  Live the Language  Since 1968

CITY AND SCHOOL INFORMATION – VIAREGGIO, ITALY

ABOUT THE SCHOOL AND THE CITY

Viareggio Puccini organizes from June to September Italian Language and Culture Courses in Viareggio, one of Tuscany's most beautiful beaches. Modern teaching methods, professional organization, a specialized team of teachers and a relaxed relationship between teachers and students guarantee good progress in a short time.

Communication and spoken language are emphasized at the Viareggio Puccini. The courses are based on the practical and everyday use of the Italian language.

Viareggio is one of the traditional and famous seaside resorts of Tuscany. The wide, endless beaches, the excellent cuisine and the exciting night life with its well-known discus of the 'Versilia' - all contribute to render Viareggio a favorite holiday resort. A visit to Viareggio means meeting young Italians and enjoying the seafood specialties of Tuscany. During the whole season the local tourist office organizes various activities offered to all guests in the city. Viareggio is the ideal holiday resort for all those who love sunshine, the sea, and enjoying themselves.

Sport and entertainment: for sports, infinite are the choices; sailing, windsurf, horse back riding, skating, mini golf and bocce. Viareggio is the Rimini of Versilia: night clubs, discos, restaurants, bars, café, pizzerias, ice cream shops. The Carnival of Viareggio is a manifestation of strong attraction (February and March). While during the summer the Premio Letterario (literary award) takes place and at Torre del Lago, at 6 kilometers, the 'Pucciniana' lyric season begins. Beaches: ample seashore of fine sand. Transportation to arrive: Viareggio train station; by car with the motorway A 12, tollhouse Viareggio-Camaione

Behind Viareggio, the Apuanian Mountains with their virgin countryside invite you to take part in fascinating excursions. Situated a few miles from Pisa, Viareggio offers good train and bus connections (just 1 hour from Florence) and the chance to visit Pisa, Florence, the Cinque Terre and the island of Elba.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Students' suitable ability level will be established by a written and oral test at the beginning of the course.

Standard Course

Group 20 hours per week. The classes are made up of small groups of not more than 12 students. The student's suitable ability level will be established by written and oral test at the beginning of the course. The 2 weeks courses include 4 lessons per day, 20 lessons per week and lessons are held from Monday to Friday. 2 lessons/day grammar and 2 lessons/day conversation with a second teacher.

Intensive Course

Group 30 hours per week. The course is based on the same structure as the Standard course with an additional 10 hours per week of instruction.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotels

Students will be staying in small Hotels in a friendly atmosphere. Accommodation always includes double room with washbasin, breakfast. Single rooms only on request. Students who book Hotel accommodation, the school can also offer you half board facilities which includes breakfast in the Hotel and dinner in a nearby restaurant.

Other Accommodations

For more independence, Puccini can offer double rooms in shared apartments with use of kitchen. Single rooms only on request.

The school can also provide for hotel accommodation in higher categories or places in nearby camping grounds.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Cultural & Social Activities

'Viareggio Puccini' cooperates with many other organizations: surfing and sailing schools, beaches, discos, riding schools, etc., offer special discounts to students. The Centre informs its students continuously about cultural and sporting events and organizes a large variety of leisure activities:

- * Guided visits in History of Art (to Pisa, Pietrasanta, Lucca, Torre del Lago Puccini etc.
- * Dinners, which enable teachers and students to get know each other better
- * Every Thursday a "Spaghetтата sul mare" (a spaghetti-party on the strand)
- * Every weekend Giacomo will inform the students about a day excursion to Florence or Cinque Terre or Elba Isle

Sailing School

Viareggio Puccini students have the possibility to join sailing courses in the nearby 'Centro Velico Giacomo Puccini'. The course duration is one week. The course consists of 25 lessons (from Monday to Friday afternoon). Information and enrollment is available directly at the secretariat of the school.

TO REGISTER:

Complete the NRCSA Preregistration Form or contact the National Registration Center for Study Abroad at 823 North 2nd Street, P.O. Box 1393, Milwaukee, WI 53201 USA, or by calling (414) 278-0631; by Fax (414) 271-8884.

Check out our website at <http://www.nrcea.com>
or e-mail us at study@nrcea.com

Program & Admission Information - Viareggio, Italy

Programs

The Italian Language lessons Grammar and conversation lessons -- The main emphasis of the course is placed on the development of communication skills in spoken and written Italian. Examples of the subjects covered in each of the lessons are:

- Grammar (forming words, sentence structure, spelling and word sounds). Not in the form of strict rules, but through communication and practice.
- Everyday situations which you will encounter during your stay in Italy such as meeting people, telephone conversations etc.
- Vocabulary and idiomatic expressions
- Styles of language use; when a particular use of language is acceptable
- Cultural factors such as the meaning of words in different contexts; the gestures and body language which accompany and influence communication.
- Language use.



The Methodology There are four skills: reading, writing, listening and speaking which need to be studied and developed from the start of the program. The emphasis on these four areas helps to enable the student to use their knowledge of the Italian language in day - to - day communication. An immersion approach to the language is used for all levels – this means that from day one only Italian is spoken in the classroom. This approach helps the student to become comfortable with the Italian language quickly. Teachers use authentic material in the classroom, role playing, and an adaptive approach to grammatical structures and vocabulary which become progressively more complex as the student advances between levels. At advanced levels different types of text are used to encourage the recognition and reproduction of different language styles.

To ensure each student receives the proper training, the students current verbal and oral proficiency in Italian will be established by a written and oral examination on the first day of class.

Italian Language Levels There are 5 different levels of Italian. —Students have to pass an entry test, written and oral, to be placed in the right level.

Basic (beginner) - This course is designated for those students who are beginning Italian for the first time. By the end of the course, students will be able to form some of the basic structures in Italian and will have a basic knowledge of the Italian culture.



Level 2 (elementary) - This course is designed for those students who already have a previous knowledge of some of the basic structures in Italian. By the end of the program, students will have increased their level of grammar and vocabulary so they can express themselves functionally according to different contexts. They will also have a greater awareness of Italian culture and society.

Level 3 (intermediate) - This course is designed for students having a general command of the more complex structures in the Italian language and a good vocabulary base. By the end of the course, students will be able to use their Italian more fluently and will have a greater understanding of the Italian way of life. The course attempts to improve the student's understanding of the linguistic and extra-linguistic structures in Italian.

Level 4 (advanced) - This course is designed for students possessing a solid knowledge of the Italian culture and are able to perform at a communicative level. By the end of the course, students will have gained a wider knowledge of the Italian culture and will be more proficient at expressing ideas at an abstract level.

Programs
Standard Course
Intensive Course

Admissions &
Academic Credit
Certificates

Activities
Cultural, Social &
Activities

Comments

"I chose NRCSA because a friend had used your service before. I was very happy with the friendliness of your company. "

Software Engineer, Darville,
CA

Level 5 (proficiency) - This course is designated for those students with a high command of the Italian language. Special emphasis is placed on perfecting the student's oral and writing skills and also in developing a global perspective of the Italian culture in relation to the student's particular field of interest.

The Standard Course Group 20 hours per week. The classes are made up of small groups of not more than 12 students. The student's suitable ability level will be established by written and oral test at the beginning of the course. The 2 weeks courses include 4 lessons per day, 20 lessons per week and lessons are held from Monday to Friday. 2 lessons/day grammar and 2 lessons/day conversation with a second teacher.



The Intensive Course Group 30 hours per week. The course is based on the same structure as the Standard course with an additional 5 or 10 hours per week of instruction.

Admissions & Academic Credit

Students age 16 years and older are welcome regardless of educational background, occupation or nationality. No previous knowledge of Italian is required except where otherwise indicated.

Students desiring credit for their study should contact their home school or request the NRCSA Credit Fact Sheet. Generally, U.S. universities consider 15 hours of study to be equal to 1 semester credit.

For general information on academic credit, [please click here](#).

Certificates

Studies at Puccini can be concluded with the following diplomas and examinations

Centro Puccini

1. "Certificato di frequenza"
2. "Certificato di Conoscenza"
3. "Diploma di lingua Italiana"

Accademia Italiana di Lingua (AIL)

1. "Certificate "Firenze" AIL (Intermediate level)"
2. "Diploma "Firenze" AIL (Advanced Level)"

CILS University of Siena

"Centro Puccini" is a member of the association ASILS and therefore preparation centre for the CILS-Certificates of the University of Siena. Detailed information upon request.

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ALL NRCSA PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

- ✓ Foreign language immersion classes
- ✓ Small interactive group and/or one-on-one instruction
- ✓ Culture program integrated into conversation classes, activities
- ✓ Meet-the-People interaction at school, homestays, & community events
- ✓ Orientation covering attractions, how to, health, safety, entertainment
- ✓ Academic assessments, placement-exit tests, Achievement Certificate
- ✓ Lodging (reduced fee if no lodging needed)
- ✓ Meals and/or cooking facilities at most centres
- ✓ Insurance: medical and accident - see below
- ✓ Emergency Hotline staffed 24 hours/day - see below
- ✓ Housing Coordinator familiar with area homestays, apartments, hotels
- ✓ Activity Coordinator facilitates transfers, cultural/social activities, tours
- ✓ Program Director experienced working with foreign participants
- ✓ Qualified, experienced, and certified educators
- ✓ Weekly proficiency goals and progress assessments
- ✓ Planning and Orientation materials
- ✓ International Ambiance, participants from around-the-world welcome
- ✓ Telecom assistance, web/e-mail access, usually on-site
- ✓ Local taxes for included services
- ✓ 24:7 Culture Immersion w/ native speakers: class, homestay, community
- ✓ **ALL NRCSA PROGRAMS INCLUDE the following INSURANCE***

ACCIDENT INSURANCE up to \$10,000 SICKNESS INSURANCE up to \$10,000

EMERGENCY MEDICAL EVACUATION up to \$25,000

EMERGENCY REUNION up to \$5,000

REPATRIATION up to \$7,500

LIFE INSURANCE \$5,000

plus

24 HOUR EMERGENCY WORLDWIDE MULTI-LINGUAL TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE

MANY ALSO OFFER

- ✓ **Tours:** cultural visits, day and weekend fieldtrips
- ✓ **Art:** classes/workshops, craft, dance, theater, fashion, music, photo
- ✓ **Humanities:** culture, area studies, hist, lit, gov't, educ, comm, plus...
- ✓ **Health:** golf, swimming, tennis, diving, skiing, riding, plus...
- ✓ **Special:** vocabulary classes tailored to your professional needs
- ✓ **Lodging:** homestay, apartment, dorm, hotel, special diet
- ✓ **Food:** home cooking, cooking classes, dine-around, wine tasting
- ✓ **Family:** services, daycare, child classes, community services
- ✓ **Teacher:** training, workshops, practicums, practice teaching, ECH
- ✓ **Teen:** camps and youth programs (including experiential)
- ✓ **University:** credit, undergraduate and graduate
- ✓ **Professional:** development credit in many fields, licensure, CEU
- ✓ **Volunteer:** medical, social service, ecology, teach plus...
- ✓ **Internships:** business, media, arts, eco, tourism, computer, plus...
- ✓ **Business:** classes, visits, networking, executive support services
- ✓ **Peer-to-Peer:** share interests, network by profession or hobby
- ✓ **Current Events & Professional Workshops, Holiday Courses**
- ✓ **Distance** educ liaison service, independent studies, research assist
- ✓ **Free** books and course materials. Return at end of studies
- ✓ **Free** airport transfers and internet access
- ✓ **Assessment** reports for attendance, progress, acculturation if needed
- ✓ **Medical:** professional training, law, social work, sciences etc.

** If you have a problem while studying abroad, call the 24 hour hotline! Call Any Time from Anywhere! Medical or travel emergencies, legal or medical or embassy referrals, lost passport or luggage, emergency message relay, coordinating emergency prescription replacement or cash transfer, emergency translations, 24-hour medical monitoring. Problems seldom occur, but when they do, it is nice to know insurance and worldwide assistance are included in your cost for study dates prepaid through NRCSA as reflected on your NRCSA confirmation. Additional optional insurance available upon request. Refer to the certificate for specific terms, conditions and other details regarding benefits, limitations, eligibility and exclusions of this plan. Questions? Contact NRCSA: Tel: 414-278-0631 ... E-Mail: info@nrcca.com ... Web: <http://www.nrcca.com>*

For Questions, Concerns, or Registration, Contact NRCSA
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