Fees and Services

Requested Departure Date       January 2, 2007
Departure City                  New York City
Program Fee                    $2129
Membership Fee                  $95
Airport and Security Tax        $155 (estimated until final invoice)
Meals Not Included and Personal Expenses $500 (estimate)

Total Cost                     $2879 (based on numbers above)

Participants signing up with the $400 initial deposit plus the $95 Membership fee by postmarked date of May 1st, 2006, will receive an early enrollment credit of $150 from the above price. Weekend surcharges may apply for flights flown on Fridays, Saturdays, or Sundays. This program fee is valid until September 1, 2006. Students signing up after September 1, 2006 will pay 2007 program fees.

- Payment in full is due no later than November 1, 2006. Late charges will apply to payments received after this date as follows:
  Adult supplement: $60 flat fee plus $35 per night in Europe. This includes guaranteed double room (except on ferries). Single room supplement is a further $70 per hotel night.

It is strongly recommended that travelers take out the Total Protection Package insurance – cost $90.

Services Included:

- Roundtrip flights on a scheduled airline
- Airport Transfers in Europe
- Accommodation at 3 or 4 star hotels
- All Breakfasts and 2 Dinners
- The services of an experienced Tour Director throughout the trip
- Entrances and Local Guides as detailed on the itinerary
- Your own private touring coach as detailed on the itinerary
Itinerary for Dr. Elio Cuccaro: “Rome – the Eternal City”

Day 1/2, January 2/3: We fly overnight to Italy, arriving in Rome the next day. We are met by our bilingual European Institute Tour Director. We transfer to our centrally located hotel and take time to freshen up. Our Tour Director will then take us on an orientation tour of the area around our hotel, showing us where to buy the essential items such as postcards, stamps, phone cards and more importantly – espresso and dolci! Later, after our included Welcome Dinner, we may take a Walking Tour with our Tour Director to the Spanish Steps and Trevi Fountain.

Day 3, January 4: This morning we meet our Local Guide at the Vatican Museums where we have reserved admission which allows us to enter a full 45 minutes before the general public! We visit the impressive map rooms, the Pine Cone Square, the Raphael Rooms and the crowning glory of the collection – Michelangelo’s masterpiece, the ceiling and frescoes of the Sistine Chapel. We then continue with our Local Guide to the exterior of the Basilica of St Peter to note the Renaissance genius of Gian Lorenzo Bernini displayed in the beauty and the significance of his magnificent columns, symbolizing the Catholic Church embracing all visitors. We then enter the interior of the Basilica where we remark that there is not a single brush stroke in the entire building! Everything that looks like a painting is in actual fact a mosaic from the Vatican School. We also take time to appreciate one of the earliest works by Michelangelo, indeed, the only one he ever signed himself – his magnificent Pieta. We then visit the ancient Coliseum, in whose arena gladiators entertained Romans. After lunch, we visit the Mamertine Prison, where Sts Peter and Paul were incarcerated, the Roman Forum, and, time permitting, St Peter in Chains to see Michelangelo’s Peter in Chains.

Day 4, January 5: This morning we go to the 4th century St John the Lateran Basilica, which houses the heads of Saints Peter and Paul, and our Tour Director shows us the Scala Santa, or Holy Steps. These steps are said to be the steps from Pontius Pilate’s house which Christ walked down after his trial; the only way allowed to climb them is on one’s knees. We then go to the Basilica of St. Paul without the Walls, which houses the rest of St. Paul’s body. The original 4th century structure was rebuilt in the 19th century after a fire but still gives us a good sense of the size and grandeur of the original.

Day 5, January 6: We visit the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore, the 4th century architectural masterpiece whose interior is one of the finest example of Classical Roman architecture. We then walk the short distance to the ancient churches of Sts. Pudenziana and Prassede. We hear how St. Prassede tried to shelter 23 Christians from the wrath of the Roman Emperor, failed and had to see them all executed in front of him on this spot. This afternoon we may go on a Walking Tour with our Tour Director to the Pantheon, perhaps the
Day 6, January 7: This morning we may choose to go to the legendary Porta Pia flea market, where we see the beating heart of Rome. This lively scene, with its colorful characters, is a great place to shop for bargains. After time here, we stroll along the river Tiber to the quaint area of the Trastevere. This neighborhood has become one of the trendiest parts of the city, and is full of charming restaurants where we may take a leisurely lunch.

Day 7, January 8: This morning we drive out to the ancient Catacombs of St. Sebastian, where the Roman Christians risked their lives to bury their dead. Afterwards, we continue on to the Via Appia Antica, the Old Appian Way. Here, where cypresses and pines dot the landscape, we see the ancient monuments that made this a famous subject of Romantic poets and artists. This afternoon we visit the Galleria Borghese, generally recognized as the finest private collection of art in the world (excluding royal families.) The Cardinal who amassed this collection in the early 17th century had a great eye for art. The charm of this collection is that it is not overwhelmingly large and has so many masterpieces by such renowned artists as Titian, Giorgione, Raphael and Caravaggio. After our visit we stroll through the park that surrounded the estimable Cardinal’s Villa to the Piazza del Popolo, the huge square seen on the walls of a thousand pizzerias in the States!

Day 8, January 9: We enjoy a half day trip out to nearby Tivoli in the Roman countryside today to sample town life. We will visit the Villa D’Este, the Renaissance mansion built by the Cardinal D’Este. While the house has its charms, the gardens are the central point of interest here. They are ingeniously built into the side of the hill, each level adorned with playful fountains, including works by Bernini. It’s always rather an eye opener for modern travellers to hear that the estimable Cardinal ascended to the rank of Cardinal before his 10th birthday! We return to Rome for the afternoon to catch up on our souvenir shopping or to explore the city further. On this, our last night, we enjoy a special Dinner with the Tenors, a great way to say “Arrivederci, Roma!”

Day 9, January 10: we fly back home with many happy memories!

Operational reasons may necessitate change in the order of events in this itinerary.

Included Entrances: Vatican Museum, Coliseum, Villa D’Este, Museo Borghese, Catacombs, and Mamertine Prison.