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**Secret Rome & the Countryside: Exemplary Private Palaces, Villas & Gardens and Archeological Sites**

Sponsored by The Institute of Classical Architecture & Art

Organized by Pamela Huntington Darling

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**Saturday, October 3rd to Sunday, October 11th, 2015 8 days/8 nights**



Called the Eternal City, Rome is a treasure of architecture and art, history and architecture. Call the Eternal City, Rome is a treasure of architecture and art, history and architecture. Call the Eternal City, Rome is a treasure of architecture and art, history and architecture.

Program



Day 1: Saturday, October 3rd

Afternoon welcome and visit to the Capitoline Museums, with Professor Thomas Greene Rankin. Professor Rankin and Pamela Huntington Darling will welcome you with a brief introduction to our exceptional program, followed by a walk with Professor Rankin to the Capitoline, the most important of the Seven Hills of Rome, where we will visit the Capitoline Museums to view masterpieces of classical sculpture to set the context of the Grand Tour.

Late afternoon pmn2 Tof)Tj 0 Tj 0 Tc 3.441 0 Td ( )Tj 0.0075 Tc 0.306 0 Td (of)Tj 0 Tc 0.845 0 Td ( )Tj 0.014 Tc 0.306 0 Td

The Hypogeum and the third level of the Flavian Amphitheatre, commonly known as the Coliseum, this iconic edifice of classical Rome is rarely visited in depth. We will enter on the arena floor, descend to the subterranean chambers of the Hypogeum, and view the Seven Hills of Rome from its uppermost levels.

Lunch at the residence of a member of Rome's cultural and social elite, offering stunning views of Rome. Our gracious hostess will receive us for a convivial, delicious meal.

Afternoon private visit & tea with Prince Nicolò and Princess Rita Boncompagni Ludovisi at their historic residence, Villa Aurora. Our eminent hosts extend a rare invitation to discover their spectacular residence, built in 1570 and expanded in 1858, to admire splendid frescoes by Guercino, the only ceiling painted by Caravaggio and antiquities dating back to 500 BC, followed by tea with the Prince and Princess.

Cocktail & dinner at the residence of Baroness Natalia Coppa Solari, Palazzo Massimo di Pirro. Historian Anthony Majanlahti and Professor Rankin will accompany us to the Palazzo Massimo di Pirro, where Baroness Natalia Coppa Solari will warmly receive us.

[Luncheon at a private residence next to the Palazzo Colonna with the distinguished owner.](#) Our hostess an eminent member of Roman society, a prominent businesswoman and an art collector, will welcome us to her private residence in a splendid Baroque palace for a convivial lunch on the veranda of her large terrace overlooking the Palazzo Colonna.

[Afternoon exceptional private visit: Palazzo Colonna.](#) At the invitation of Prince Prospero Colonna, the Chief Curator and Head of the Palazzo Colonna Collection will welcome us to the Galleria and the private apartments of Princess Isabelle Colonna for a private visit led by Frank Dabell. One of Italy's most historic and luxurious palazzi, Palazzo Colonna has remained in the family for 20 generations and reflects their esteemed position by its grandeur, sumptuous architecture and works of art, the largest and most significant private collection in Rome.

[Dinner with the French Ambassador to the Holy See at his residence, Villa Bonaparte \(to be confirmed\).](#)

Accompanied by our experts, our eminent hosts, Tel: +33 (0) 1 45 67 62 81 – Cell: +33 (0) 6 75 86 67 75 – Email: pdarling@exclusiveculturaltours.com

