

MT. GIDEON BAPTIST CHURCH TEENS NEWSLETTER

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Globetrotter' Italy Trip

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In December 2018, I was informed that I would get the chance to travel to Italy. I was so excited and blessed that I was able to go on this trip. June 6th, 2018 our bags were packed and at 12pm that day we departed to the airport. Once we got there, we checked in and boarded a 1.5-hour flight to Atlanta. When we arrived in Atlanta we had time to relax and prepare ourselves for a long 9-hour flight to Venice, Italy. It was a nice plane, but the time change was exhausting. We got off the plane in Venice, Italy and immediately grabbed our luggage and waited for our tour guide, Isabella. After we met Isabella, we went straight to touring the city of Venice and passed many interesting buildings on our way there. When we got to one of the most popular places in Venice, St. Marco Square, I was so amazed. The buildings were so tall and beautiful! The streets were full of vendors selling beautiful and cool things. Next, we toured the bell tower and then we had a chance to explore around St. Marco Square, which had a lot of alley ways. We got to pick a place to eat lunch, and after lunch we had gelato! My first gelato! (Gel-ah-toe) Gelato is an ice-cream like treat that is in Italy. After exploring we boarded the bus for the hotel. The hotels in Italy are different than the hotels here. Their beds are smaller, the showers are smaller, and basically everything is smaller in Italy! After we got to the hotel the kids were able to see the beach! It was rocky and there wasn't that much sand. After the beach we went to dinner and then to bed. The other days are like this day except we saw many different things.

Friday morning, we loaded our luggage on the bus. We board the bus in route to St. Marco Square in Venice one last time where I purchased a leather bag, and my mom got a leather purse. After shopping we went to the Doge's Palace! It was so beautiful and there were so many artifacts inside. After the Doge's Palace we saw one of Venice's churches. There were so

many beautiful paintings on the ceiling. Around 3:15pm we departed for Bologna, the place of food where Bologna is made. We got to experience an interesting place where you can stand in one of the four corners and speak, which allows you to hear the person from the other corner. After we experienced this we had green lasagna and pasta for dinner. We departed for the hotel in Florence to shower and sleep.

The next day in Florence we had to walk to the Duomo! We had the opportunity to walk up all 463 steps. The Duomo is a chapel in Florence, which has beautiful painting on the ceilings. The Duomo is still being used for mass today. Once we walked up the steps you could see the whole city of Florence. Once we walked down we explore more shops, vendors and I purchased a pink purse. We visited the Galileo Museum, which has many of his interesting inventions; such as, telescopes, pendulum clock, Sector, thermometer, and other inventions. After having lunch outside at a pizza restaurant, we toured another museum where David's statue is located. My favorite section of the museum was the musical instrument section, which showed all the musical instruments from the past and present. We walked back to the hotel after touring the museum.

The next day six of us traveled to Pisa. We toured the Baptistery in Pisa, Italy that is devoted to St. John the Baptist. We were able to climb the 257 steps of the Leaning Tower of Pisa that had 5 bells at the top. The Leaning Tower of Pisa is a bell tower for the Baptistery, which is still used today.

After Pisa we traveled to Assisi, which has many hills. We toured the Basilica of St. Francis and we got to explore around the town. In the church we saw Michael Angelo's paintings on the ceiling, which illustrated his beliefs of the bible. We did not agree with most of his beliefs that he painted. After touring Assisi, we traveled back to the hotel.

The next day we traveled to Pompeii and it was so eye opening. Pompeii was one of my favorite cities. Pompeii was an ancient Roman city that was devastated by a volcanic eruption in the year of 79 A.D. We toured the path that the lava flowed, and we stepped on real obsidian! After departing Pompeii, we traveled to Capri, the city of love! Once we arrived we were able to tour Capri by boat and go through the tunnel of love! After Capri, we went to a little town called Positano. We saw a beach made from ashes, which was very warm! I purchased a hat and a dress.

After Positano we traveled to Rome! When we arrived in Rome we toured a museum and a church! It was cool because it was a small church but later they built a bigger church around the small church. We saw street performers and toured the Sistine Chapel! Rome has many cool and unique things to do. All the things I saw was so cool. I am very grateful for being able to travel and tour Italy.