

Great Art Series

May 21–June 1, 2019

Travel with The Met

Leonardo da Vinci, Genius of the Renaissance
From Florence to the Loire Valley

with Page Knox,
Lecturer and Educator



THE
MET

Leonardo da Vinci, Genius of the Renaissance

From Florence to the Loire Valley

Dear Members and Friends of The Metropolitan Museum of Art,

Please join me next spring for a journey immersed in the rich history of the Renaissance as we celebrate the life and times of one of Western civilization's greatest artists and inventors, Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519).

During the 500th anniversary of his death, you will witness the artistry and intellect of Leonardo, whom we celebrate not only for his paintings but also for his contributions to science, engineering, and architecture. Walk with me in the footsteps of this legendary genius and experience the places he lived, studied, and worked — from his birthplace in the Tuscan town of Vinci to the Château de Clos-Lucé in France's Loire Valley, where he spent the last years of his life.

Visit permanent collections at the Uffizi Gallery in Florence — a 16th-century palace of the wealthy Medici family where Leonardo's early paintings, *The Annunciation* and *The Adoration of the Magi*, secured his legacy as a gifted artist. In Milan, learn how art historians interpret *The Last Supper* and then stroll through "Leonardo's Vineyard," a small vineyard he once owned. Then it's on to the Louvre in Paris, home to one of the largest da Vinci collections, including the famed Mona Lisa.

As a special treat, we're making a stop in Florence at the Opificio delle Pietre Dure, for a private, behind-the-scenes look at how conservationists painstakingly restore treasures of the art world.

Guest accommodations and activities include historic, luxurious, and boutique-style lodging; cocktail hours; leisure activities, and a backstage tour of La Scala opera house.

I hope you will join me for this culturally enriching and unforgettable Leonardo experience.

Sincerely,
Page Knox
Lecturer and Educator
The Metropolitan Museum of Art



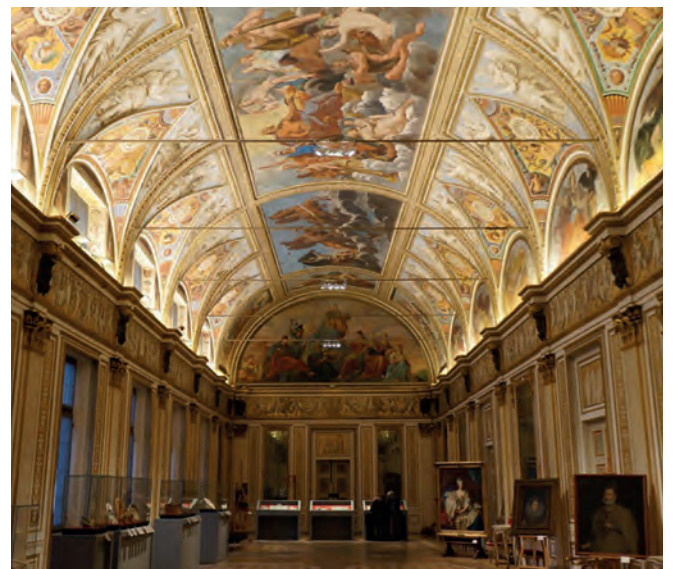
Traveling with You

Page Knox

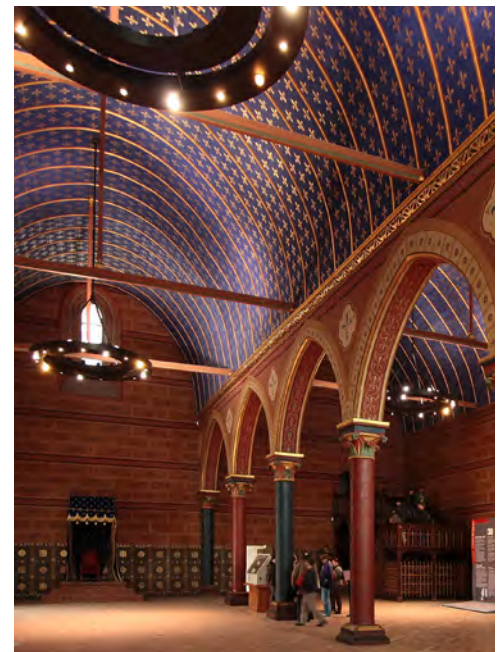
Page Knox is an adjunct professor in the Art History Department of Columbia University, where she received her PhD in 2012. She is a Lecturer for the Education Department at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, where she gives public gallery talks and lectures on special exhibitions as well as the permanent collection and teaches membership classes. She is delighted to be joining Travel with The Met.

Trip Highlights

- Travel with art historian Page Knox, an expert in Leonardo da Vinci and popular Met lecturer
- Enjoy a private tour of a world-renowned center for art conservation in Florence
- Follow in the footsteps of Leonardo from Vinci, his birthplace in the Tuscan countryside, to the Loire Valley, where he is buried
- Get a behind-the-scenes view of Mantua, the city of Isabella d'Este, a patron of Leonardo's who was known as the First Lady of the Renaissance
- In Milan, view *The Last Supper* and go backstage on a private tour of the La Scala opera house
- Spend two nights in a château-hotel in the Loire Valley, to tour area castles including the one where Leonardo spent the last three years of his life



Palazzo del Te, Mantua



Photos clockwise from top right: map of the region; Ceiling frescoes, Uffizi Gallery, Florence; Interior, Château de Blois; The *Duomo*, Milan; and gardens of the Château d'Amboise, photo Château d'Amboise © L. De Serres; Da Vinci's *Last Supper*. Front cover: Rooftops of Florence. Back cover: The Louvre, Paris (top) and Château de Clos-Lucé (bottom).

Leonardo da Vinci, Genius of the Renaissance

From Florence to the Loire Valley

May 21 – June 1, 2019

Departure

Tuesday, May 21

Depart for Florence on an overnight flight.

Florence, Italy

Wednesday, May 22

Arrive this morning and transfer to your hotel. Enjoy an afternoon walking tour, which includes such iconic sights as the *Duomo (cathedral)*, Piazza della Signoria, and the Ponte Vecchio. Return to the hotel for introductory remarks followed by a welcome dinner. D

Florence

Thursday, May 23

This morning visit the Uffizi Gallery, a 16th-century Medici Renaissance palace, to view Leonardo's early works, *The Annunciation* and *The Adoration of the Magi*. Take a secret corridor to reach Palazzo Vecchio, the city hall, and admire the Salone dei Cinquecento, with a sculpture by Michelangelo and fresco by Giorgio Vasari. In the afternoon, enjoy a private visit to the Opificio delle Pietre Dure, an art restoration laboratory. Meet conservation experts and look at a few masterpieces under restoration. Dinner is at Palazzo Borghese, the fine residence of a noble family in the 15th century. B, D



Leonardo's *Landscape drawing for Santa Maria della Neve* (detail), Uffizi Gallery, Florence

Vinci

Friday, May 24

Drive through the beautiful Tuscan countryside to reach Vinci, birthplace of the Renaissance genius. Visit Leonardo's house and dedicated museum, which will display one of his earliest known works, *Landscape Drawing for Santa Maria della Neve*. The Uffizi will loan the drawing to the museum in commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the artist's death. Attend a special lecture to learn more on the early life of Leonardo. After lunch, visit one of the area's famous Medici villas before returning to Florence for an evening at leisure. B, L

Florence / Mantua

Saturday, May 25

Depart for Mantua, home of the Gonzaga ruling family. Beginning in late 1499, Leonardo spent several months here, where he met Isabella d'Este, an arts patron and one of the most important noblewomen of the Italian Renaissance. Upon arrival check into your hotel, and after lunch visit Palazzo del Te, a masterpiece of the Mannerist style built by Giulio Romano. This evening enjoy a private reception at a charming *palazzo*. B, R

Mantua / Milan

Sunday, May 26

Embark on a walking tour through Mantua's charming historic center. Admire Andrea Mantegna's celebrated frescoes in the Ducal Palace, where you will also see Isabella d'Este's apartment and the Hall of Mirrors. Continue to the stunning Teatro

Bibiena, completed in 1769 and quickly declared by a 13-year-old Mozart to be the most beautiful theater in the world. In the afternoon, depart for Milan. Upon arrival check into your hotel and enjoy an evening at leisure. B, L

Milan

Monday, May 27

Following a morning lecture, your walking tour starts at the Sforza Castle, which includes several museums and art collections. See Leonardo's forest mural in the Sala delle Asse and Michelangelo's last sculpture, the *Rondanini Pietà*. In the afternoon gather for a private tour of the famous La Scala opera house. Conclude with a cocktail at a renowned contemporary design studio or art gallery followed by dinner. B, D

Milan

Tuesday, May 28

This morning lose yourself in the city's iconic *Duomo* (cathedral), one of the world's most complex Gothic structures. Continue to the Pinacoteca Ambrosiana (Ambrosiana Gallery), to view masterpieces by Raphael, Botticelli, and Caravaggio and a section dedicated to Leonardo's *Codex Atlanticus*. In the afternoon, head to the church of Santa Maria delle Grazie for a private viewing of *The Last Supper* and discover Leonardo's Vineyard, where the genius used to take breaks from his work. Conclude with a visit to the Pinacoteca di Brera, which hosts a splendid collection of 15th-century paintings, before enjoying an evening at leisure. B, L

More Travels with The Met

High Art in the Low Countries Aboard *Magnifique III* May 17–25, 2019

The Art & Architecture of Chicago June 28—July 2, 2019

Undiscovered Greek Islands Aboard *Sea Cloud* July 21–29, 2019

Ireland's Historic Homes & Glorious Gardens September 16–24, 2019

For details please go to metmuseum.org/travel

Milan / Paris, France

Wednesday, May 29

Depart Italy and fly to Paris. Following lunch attend a lecture before heading to the Louvre to admire one of the largest collections of Leonardo's works, including the *Mona Lisa*. The evening is at leisure. B, L

Paris / Loire Valley

Thursday, May 30

Travel to the Loire Valley and visit the Château de Blois, an outstanding example of early Renaissance architecture in France. After lunch, embark on a walking tour of the historic city of Blois, which Joan of Arc made her base of operations in 1429 before departing with her army to drive the English from Orléans. Check in at your hotel and partake in a wine tasting before dinner. B, L, D

Loire Valley

Friday, May 31

Spend the morning at Château de Clos-Lucé, a former fortress converted into an elegant mansion that was Leonardo's home from 1516 until his death on May 2, 1519. Today it's a beautifully restored manor house. Lunch is at leisure in Amboise before we explore the nearby Château d'Amboise. One of the most impressive *châteaux* of the Loire Valley, it boasts amazing views, enchanting gardens, and the Chapel of Saint-Hubert, Leonardo's burial place. Tonight, gather for a festive farewell dinner. B, D

Loire Valley / Return

Saturday, June 1

Depart for the airport and flights home. B



Blois



Domain de la Tortinière, Loire Valley

Accommodations

Domain de la Tortinière, Loire Valley

Located in a 19th-century *château*, this boutique hotel offers luxury accommodations on 37 acres of countryside in the heart of the Loire Valley. Rooms are charmingly appointed, containing antique furnishings, exposed beams, fireplaces, and free Wi-Fi. On-site amenities include an outdoor pool, tennis courts, and a row boat for trips on the river that flows through the property.

Westin Excelsior, Florence

The Westin Excelsior combines modern luxury with authentic Renaissance details.

Hotel Casa Poli, Mantua

Centrally located in Mantua, Hotel Casa Poli offers contemporary design and modern amenities including flat-screen televisions and free Wi-Fi.

Grand Hotel et de Milan, Milan

Opened in 1863, the Grand Hotel et de Milan is within walking distance of La Scala Opera House.

Hotel Montalembert, Paris

The Hotel Montalembert, built in 1926, is the first five-star boutique hotel on the Left Bank.

This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.

Program Rate

\$11,999 per person, double occupancy

\$13,999 single occupancy

Rate Includes

- Ten nights accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner); bottled water and coffee/tea with all meals, house wine at included lunches and dinners
- Economy-class flight from Milan to Paris
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation and entrance fees for all included visits
- Airport/hotel/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers
- Taxes, service charges, and portorage

Not included in rate

International airfare; passport fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than as noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; trip insurance; baggage in excess of one suitcase; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

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To secure your reservation, please call Arrangements Abroad at 844-TRVLMET (844-878-5638), or complete this form and return it with your deposit of \$1,000 per person (of which \$500 is non-refundable for administrative fees), to be paid by debit card, credit card, wire transfer, or check payable to *Arrangements Abroad*. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd Floor, New York, NY 10018-3721.

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Signature (required)

Date

Signature (required)

Date



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**The Metropolitan
Museum of Art**

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New York, NY 10028

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