

# Istituto Lorenzo de' Medici

THE ITALIAN INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE

Florence and Tuscania

LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE • CREATIVE ARTS • DESIGN  
NUTRITION, ITALIAN GASTRONOMY AND CULTURE  
SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS • AGRICULTURE



*In LdM's kitchens, theory meets practice as students delve into the art of Italian Gastronomy, applying their knowledge and honing their skills to create authentic dishes that capture the rich flavors and traditions of Italian cuisine.*

# 50+ Years of Excellence

Istituto Lorenzo de' Medici (LdM) is a renowned Italian institution with more than 50 years of expertise in international higher education. Its main campus is located in the center of beautiful Florence, birthplace of the Renaissance, and a sister campus resides in the historical town of Tuscania, a short ride south into the Lazio countryside. Students choose between Florence's urban environment and Tuscania's rural tranquility based on field of study as well as personal preferences to design the Italian experience of their dreams. Both LdM sites enjoy their own unique student culture, course offerings, and co-curricular activities, but the ties that bind our two sites are LdM's mission, core values, and a dedicated faculty committed to experiential and interdisciplinary teaching.

## Mission

---

By focusing on the lessons of past and present cultures to cultivate a better tomorrow, LdM challenges students to evolve within the global community and to expand their knowledge and understanding of the world.



## Core Values

---

### Learning is Empowerment

Through experiential learning, LdM students are active participants in the learning process.

### Professional Skills

Interdisciplinary and collaborative projects prepare LdM students for the challenges and opportunities of their chosen careers.

### Cultural Diversity

LdM is a dynamic, international environment that provides equal and open access to educational opportunities.

### Community Engagement

Creating opportunities for meaningful interaction between international students and locals, LdM is committed to creating an atmosphere of trust through reciprocal relationships with the neighbors who so warmly welcome our students each year.

### Personal Growth

By exposing students to a broad range of disciplines, ideas, and trials, LdM supports the development of their intellect, cognitive abilities, and individual moral compass.

*"I am honored and happy to welcome you here tonight to celebrate the 50 years of activity of the Lorenzo de' Medici Institute.*

*In this evening of emotions, I extend to you the most beautiful wish, the same that I wish for the Institute — the wish to embrace a movement that means encounter, with others and with yourselves."*

**Carla Guarducci**

**President and CEO of Istituto Lorenzo de' Medici**

Speech at 50th Anniversary Celebration, November 2023



*The LdM Gallery is an interdisciplinary space where academic research and artistic experimentation meet within a professional setting.*



# Accreditations & Certifications



## **NASPA**

Best Practices in Study Abroad  
Programming Award  
Spring 2024



## **Italian Ministry of Education**

Registered and authorized since  
12 December 1989



## **US Middle State Commission of Higher Education (MSCHE)**

Approved as a branch campus of  
Marist College since 2005



## **US Department of Veterans Affairs**

Approved since 2010



## **European Quality Assurance**

Certification ISO 9001:2015



## **Swedish Board of Student Finance (Centrala Studiestödsnämnden, CSN)**

Approved since 2006



## **Icelandic Student Loan Fund (Lánasjóður íslenskra námsmanna - LÍN)**

Approved since 2015



### **Academic Schools**

LdM offers courses in 36 departments.  
All courses are taught in English  
except Italian language courses.



### **Student Diversity**

LdM welcomes students from around  
the world, from roughly 89 nations,  
such as the United States, Mexico, the  
Netherlands, Sweden, and more!



### **Faculty & Staff Diversity**

LdM employs dedicated instructors  
as well as support professionals from  
more than 18 countries including Italy,  
Germany, Poland, Peru, Canada,  
and beyond.



### **Small Classes, Big Impact**

The average number of students  
in LdM lectures is 1:25, whereas the  
average number per lab and studio  
course is 1:12. By keeping the faculty-  
to-student ratio low, LdM promises an  
intimate academic environment.



### **Institutional Flexibility**

With more than 40 program options,  
LdM enrolls 3000+ students annually,  
each enjoying the plethora of  
educational opportunities available.

# Why Italy?

## Fifth most visited country in the world

65 million people can't be wrong! That's how many international travelers choose Italy each year, and LdM's location in central Italy allows for hassle-free access to neighboring cities (Milan, Rome, Venice). Italy's position in Europe also enables jetsetters to explore world-renowned cities like Paris, London, and Vienna. Getting around Europe is generally affordable and easy thanks to budget-friendly airlines and high-speed trains. What surprises many is that Italy is one of the most affordable European countries, making it an ideal destination for study abroad students.

---

## Live like an Italian

Situated in the center of the Mediterranean Sea, Italy has always been a cultural crossroad, a place where people from different backgrounds could influence one another through the exchange of goods, services, and ideas. For centuries, the Italian way of life has invited foreigners to cherish the beauty that surrounds them and to draw inspiration from it. Italians appreciate the simple pleasures in life and are often admired for their easygoing attitudes. Hospitality is another key cultural value, so Italians have a wonderful way of helping visitors feel right at home.



## Perfectly picturesque

Italy's nickname is *Bel Paese*, or beautiful country, so it's no surprise that geography and ecology make it a perfect backdrop for study abroad. Sprinkled throughout Italy are about 8,000 charming towns and villages, as well as vibrant cities everywhere, all ripe for exploration. Amidst the hustle of urban Florence, visitors can spot the Chianti Mountains or stroll through peaceful parklands like the Bardini Garden. Snowy Alps span Italy's northern border, and the southern peninsula is famous for serene beaches and more than 1,500 lakes. Whether you're a skier, a hiker, or an amateur photographer, Italy has something for you.

## Haven for history, art, and design

The significance of Italy's contributions to human history cannot be overstated. Most people recognize the surnames Gucci, Galileo, and da Vinci; however, a lesser known fact is that Italy is home to 58 UNESCO World Heritage sites - more than any other country in the world! The enduring influence of Italian architecture, invention, and design is universally accepted, and art lovers are delighted to discover that nearly one-third of the world's art treasures reside in Florence's city center. With history around every corner, learning opportunities are endless.

---

## Buon appetito!

Italian cuisine is more than pizza and pasta, but if you love these classic dishes as much as we do, where better to indulge than their country of origin? The *Slow Food Movement*, which started in Italy, celebrates local produce like olives and tomatoes. Italy is also the largest wine producer in the world. Treat your palate to regional delicacies and rainbows of gelato while learning to prepare traditional meals that can impress family and friends for years to come.

# LdM Sites



## High Speed and Fast Trains

### From Florence

Bologna - 40 mins  
Milan - 2 hrs  
Rome - 1.5 hrs  
Venice - 2.25 hrs

### From Tuscania

Rome - 1.5 hrs  
Naples - 3 hrs  
Perugia - 3 hrs  
Florence - 4 hrs

## Closest Airports

### From Florence

Peretola Airport  
Pisa Airport  
Bologna G. Marconi

### From Tuscania

Rome Fiumicino Airport

# Academic Schools

Florence ● Tuscania ▲

The courses listed below serve as examples. For the full course listing, consult the LdM Academic Catalog.

## Liberal Arts and Social Sciences ●▲

Leveraging blended curricula and distinctive course offerings, this school's 16 departments include the humanities, communications, business, and social sciences.

*The Ancient Roots of Florence. Archaeology Workshop. Palaces of Florence. Principles of Marketing. Intercultural Communication. Introduction to Multicultural Education. Sustainable Italy: Environmental Awareness and Ecotourism. History of Prostitution. The Quarters of Florence: History and Culture. Literature and Journalism. International Politics. War and Media. Social Psychology. The Pursuit of Happiness. World Religions. Organized Crime: Sociology and History of the Italian Mafia. Travel Writing.*

---

## Design ●

Interdisciplinary dialogue prepares design students at all levels to become international leaders in their professional careers.

*Sustainable Architecture. Public Space Design. Patternmaking. Fashion Styling. Global Fashion Merchandising. Retail Management. Fashion Marketing. Fashion Design/ Merchandising Internship. Trend Forecasting. Digital Graphic Techniques Fundamentals. Web Design. Brand Design. Rendering Essentials. Graphic Design Project Development. CAD for Interior Design. Lighting Design. Sustainable Design. Furniture Design. Exhibit Design. Jewelry Design. Jewelry Making. Florentine Jewelry Engraving Techniques.*

## Italian Language and Culture ●▲

Through courses offered by LdM's oldest school, students are introduced to Italian language conversation and gain insight into the legacy and influence of Italian culture in today's globalized world.

*Italian Language: Elementary, Intermediate, and Advanced. Italian for Conversation. Food in Italian Culture. Italian Through Theatre. Italian Women's Literature. Communications Internship in Italian. Contemporary Italy Through the Media. Italian Through Community Service. Translation Techniques. Italian Film. Italian for Business. Contemporary Italian Politics. Italian Through Children's Literature. Italian Through Mediterranean Cooking. Capping: Contemporary Italian Thought.*

---

## Nutrition, Italian Gastronomy and Culture ●▲

Students enjoy hands-on culinary courses inspired by Italy's food traditions, as well as academic exploration of food culture and the scientific study of nutrition research.

*Current Trends in Italian Cuisine. Wine Business and Marketing. The Journey to Well-Being. Where Food Meets Health: The Mediterranean Diet. Wines of Italy. The Science of Food, Health, and Well-Being. Sports Nutrition. Not Just Italian Food: Culinary and Cultural Traditions. An Italian Sensory Experience: Pairing Food and Wine. Ancient Sources of Italian Cuisine. Sustainable Food and the New Global Challenge. Cooking in Context: Traditions of Tuscania. Food Marketing and Communication.*

## Creative Arts ●▲

Introducing students to artistic traditions and contemporary innovation, this school empowers students to develop technical skills, personal expression, and self-awareness.

*Filmmaking. Screenwriting. Italian Cinema and Society. Music and Film. Principles of Drawing and Composition. Plein Air Landscape Painting. The Making of an Exhibition. Florence/Tuscania Sketchbook. Expanding Creativity. Principles of Fashion Photography. Landscape and Architecture Photography. Fundamentals of Food Design, Styling, and Photography. Acting Dante's Inferno. Exploring Opera and Music Theatre. Introduction to Ballet. Relief Printmaking. Fresco Painting and Restoration. Ceramics and Well-Being.*

---

## Science and Mathematics ●

Combining focused instruction with practical lab work, this school opens students' eyes to international perspectives of scientific knowledge and methods.

*General Chemistry I & II with Laboratory. Organic Chemistry I & II with Laboratory. Introduction to Neuroscience. Science for Conservators. Chemistry Applications for Art Conservation. Italy's Contribution to Modern Science.*

---

## Agriculture ▲

Tuscania-based faculty invite students to discover traditional as well as innovative approaches to environmentally sustainable agriculture.

*Agricultural Economics. Organic Agriculture. Sustainable Agriculture Systems and Management of Natural Resources: A Global Perspective. Sustainable Forest Management. Agri-Food Marketing. Multifunctionality of the Agricultural Sector.*



*"I took a semester certification in **Product Design Towards Sustainability** at LdM, and I can assure you this was one of the best experiences I've had. My teachers showed me new ways of applying design, opened my learning spectrum to new horizons, and pushed me to improve the abilities I already had."*

**José Ignacio Morejon,  
Fall 2022**



*"My time spent studying at LdM was nothing short of wonderful. I have all of my professors and peers to thank for helping me excel in my **art practice** and grow as an individual. Throughout my time studying, I appreciated learning about traditional art practices and mediums while also admiring the incredible landscape and history around me."*

**Tessa Gould,  
Fall 2022**

*"I've been studying **jewelry design** at LdM for the past year, and my already high expectations have been exceeded. Having teachers you can talk to like friends and finding out that there's always more to learn when it comes to jewelry just made it all even better. Plus, the city, the country, and the whole vibe are just unbeatable."*

**Joel Georgii,  
Spring 2023**



# Academic Programs

## Study Abroad Programs

### Academic Semester and Year Abroad

Long-term programs are customizable based on students' academic needs and personal interests. LdM suggests students register for one course in Italian language, as these classes provide students with tools for navigating Italy and are part of the traditional study abroad experience. Additionally, semester students are eligible for credit-bearing internships in various fields of study, from Art History to Communications and Design.

### Semester Internships

Italy is known for artisanal and small business structures. By dedicating 12 hours per week to an LdM partner company or organization, students gain familiarity with common characteristics of an Italian workplace while balancing a full semester of credits. LdM interns can obtain lifelong skills, cultivate relationships, and enhance resumes that help them compete in the global marketplace. Please note that placement opportunities are limited and are unpaid.

### Two Italies Program

Instead of concentrating an entire semester in either Florence or Tuscany, experience both LdM sites with the Two Italies program! Living and studying in the city before transferring to the Italian countryside, students learn to recognize local and regional differences, and gain a more complex understanding of contemporary Italy. A set schedule of five courses introduces students to Italian language and culture, Florence's ancient roots, wine business and marketing, philosophical and psychological approaches to the subject of happiness, and global development of sustainable food sources. This program is ideal for undergraduates who want to fulfill general education requirements abroad.

### Summer Sessions

In the summertime, LdM offers two shorter sessions, each consisting of month-long courses. Choose the Florence or Tuscany session that works better for your schedule, either June or July. Alternatively, students may combine the two sessions to maximize their summer study abroad in Italy.

### January Intersession

The shortest of LdM programs, this two-week program in Florence is open to undergraduate and independent students, as well as lifelong learners. Capitalize on the winter break by enrolling in one or two courses that complement your international adventures in Tuscany's capital city, the "Jewel of the Renaissance."

## Special Summer Programs

Available in both Florence and Tuscany, these 4-week intensive experiences balance academic instruction with hands-on practice.

### Archaeology Field School

Dig into a professional excavation environment while learning about ancient Etruscan culture and archaeological methods. Conducted in partnership with LdM's long-time partner CAMNES (Center for Ancient Mediterranean and Near Eastern Studies), students will be led by a team of Italian archaeologists into Tuscany's necropolises, or cities of the dead, and delicately uncover artifacts dating back 2,500 years. This year, Italian students will participate as part of a collaboration with Università di Napoli Federico II.

### Summer Conservation Workshop

Learn how to directly apply the most appropriate conservation and restoration techniques to authentic works of art in their historical Italian locations. Students practice the creative and scientific skills necessary to travel into the field and work in hands-on sessions that focus on original easel paintings, frescoes and wooden artifacts from past centuries. This workshop begins at the LdM restoration lab in Florence and continues at an off-site location in Italy for the remainder of the course. Past locations include ancient towns in Tuscany, Umbria, Calabria, and on the island of Capraia. This course is open to all levels and offers the unique opportunity to learn in a professional studio setting as well as the chance to study in an authentic Italian town.

### Stop-Motion Workshop

This newly introduced workshop introduces students to the cinematic art of stop-motion animation and takes place at the renowned Misseri Studio located in the stunning Castle of Montalbo in the nearby hills of Florence. Through hands-on learning, students learn the basics of creating stop-motion, such as creating and building characters, developing a storyboard, filming techniques, and post-production editing. While studying the evolving television and online market, and analyzing professional opportunities in the industry, students will also work as part of a team to create their own unique animations.





## Certificate Programs

### Summer Certificates

These programs were carefully designed to meet increasing demand for on-site educational opportunities that emphasize career readiness within structured yet flexible plans of short-term study. Addressing specific and relevant themes, Summer Certificates deliver a powerful advantage for those who are eager to progress along certain career paths. Subjects include: Branding, Global Sustainability, Human Creativity, and Wine Business & Culture.

### AIM Certificate Program

This semester certificate program is designed for highly motivated students majoring in Communications or Media, and for those with a serious interest in how media affects every aspect of our modern life. The AIM Certificate (Applied Integrated Media) program gives students a broad overview of all aspects of media and communications, as well as the larger cultural, political, and financial world in which they exist. The program consists of four parts: three related courses as well as required workshops with industry professionals. There are no prerequisites to enroll and students should integrate the AIM program within their studies to maintain full-time student status at LdM.

### One-Semester Certificates

Semester Certificates offer students an opportunity to gather the professional skills and theoretical underpinnings of exciting fields. Subjects include: Architecture in Urban Context, Balance in Nutrition, Interior Design in Contemporary Living, Italian Gastronomy, Product Design Towards Sustainability, Fashion Sustainability, Global Luxury, and Visual Communication for Fashion.

### One-Year and Professional/Advanced Certificates

Long-term certificates develop student creativity, artistic talent, and technical skills within intentionally structured plans of study. These programs begin every fall semester, and subjects include: Fashion Design, Fashion Marketing & Merchandising, Fine Arts, Graphic Design & Visual Communication, Interior Design, Jewelry Design, and Restoration & Conservation.

## Marist-LdM Programs

### Marist-LdM Degree Programs

International students can earn a US bachelor's degree through LdM's partnership with Marist College. These fully accredited, four-year degree programs offer the unique experience of extended undergraduate study at an Italian international institution. Subjects include: Art History, Conservation Studies, Digital Media, Fashion Design, Global Marketing Communication, Interior Design, Italian Language, and Fine Arts.

### Marist-LdM Venice Biennale Program

This biennial summer program invites students to visit the famous visual art exhibition, La Biennale di Venezia. Academics focus on studio art and the prominent role that Italy plays in the contemporary art world.



Learn more about our Certificate Programs!



**Florence:** Tuscany region

**Population:** 360,000 residents

**Known for:** Birthplace of the Renaissance, gelato, the statue of David

**Fun fact:** Home of one-third of the world's art treasures

**Geographic features:** Chianti hills and Arno River

**Key economies:** Tourism, furniture, food, wine, fashion, artisanal crafts, machinery

**Landmarks:** Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore, Ponte Vecchio, Pitti Palace



*"I love how here in Florence I am able to combine my love for fashion and photography with my marketing background. I really enjoy the idea of being able to immerse myself in a new culture through interning, while still getting valuable skills for my career."*

**Maya Mitchall, Spring 2023**

# Florence

Florence is the capital of the Tuscany region and home to approximately one-third of the world's art treasures. Living and studying in the birthplace of the Renaissance is an unparalleled experience! Walking to classes in Florence's historical center, the entirety of which is declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, LdM students enjoy jewels of the city, marvel at its beauty, and make meaningful memories every day.



## Study in Style

LdM buildings are situated in the San Lorenzo district, next to the bustling market and ancient church.

The LdM Florence campus comprises 16 properties peppered among the iconic Duomo, artisanal gelaterias, and the legacies of great scientists and artists of human history.

In addition, LdM partners with the University of Florence, enabling students to complete STEM coursework in the same laboratory facilities utilized by Italian university students.

LdM students will appreciate a full range of facilities: Wi-Fi equipped classrooms, specialized art and design studios, modern culinary labs, a courtyard garden, a library, and a computer center. In addition, the always delicious LdM Cafeteria offers affordable meal plans, frothy cappuccinos, and a cozy space where students can gather or collect their thoughts between classes.

## Delight in Culinary Arts

LdM's main building neighbors a lively Florence landmark: Mercato Centrale, one of the oldest indoor markets in town. Since its opening in 1874, locals have depended on this historic public market for the fresh, colorful ingredients commonly used in Tuscan cuisine. In the newly restructured food hall on the second floor, among contemporary culinary vendors, students and tourists alike can discover Cucina LdM, a modern kitchen with 16 professional workstations equipped with state-of-the-art appliances and utensils.

Thanks to LdM's partnership with Mercato Centrale, everyone is invited to learn from Cucina LdM's wonderful instructional chefs, who explain both the history and chemistry of each ingredient, thus allowing pupils to recognize what makes Italian cuisine so special.

## Immerse Yourself in Aesthetic

Florence is a favorite destination for high street fashion, architecture, and style. Luxury brands, from Ferragamo and Gucci to Cavalli and Pucci, have made the city a fashion capital of the world, and Florence enjoys a reputation for quality craftsmanship and design. LdM welcomes students of all disciplines to deepen their understanding of fine arts, design industries, and Italy's commanding monuments through a variety of introductory, intermediate, and advanced courses.

Curiosity and creativity are not restricted to students who major in art and design; so for those who always wanted the opportunity to roam Renaissance palaces and admire Michelangelo's David at close range, studying with LdM is truly the chance of a lifetime!

## Exhibit with LdM Gallery

Studying in Florence, students breathe beauty and find it around every corner and within the LdM Gallery. Here, programming often focuses on student perspectives with exhibitions that feature the most exciting and profound interdisciplinary art and design

projects by LdM's very own students. Encouraging the development of students' creativity and sophistication, the gallery's main goals are artistic experimentation and dialogue. Frequent exhibitions generate open discussion with the public and offer students the chance to experience professional realities of the art world beyond an institutional setting.

## Visit Fondazione Franco Zeffirelli

In 2018, LdM began a rewarding collaboration with Fondazione Franco Zeffirelli - International Center for Performing Arts. The Center aims to make the heritage of Franco Zeffirelli's 70-year career available to future generations, Florentine and international alike.

Courses in the performing arts, film and media arts, and literature are jointly offered by LdM and Fondazione Zeffirelli inside the beautiful Palazzo San Firenze, a 17th-century baroque architectural treasure.

Zeffirelli is known world-wide for cinematic masterpieces, such as Academy Award nominated *Romeo and Juliet* (1968) and *Taming of the Shrew* (1967). Affectionately nicknamed *Il Maestro* (The Master), he was a modern-day Renaissance man who also directed theater and opera productions at acclaimed institutions ranging from La Scala in Milan to the Met Opera in New York.

**Tuscania:** Lazio region

**Population:** Fewer than 10,000 residents

**Known for:** Quality of produce and food products, such as walnuts, chestnuts, olives, olive oil, cheese, and wine

**Fun fact:** Home to some of the most beautiful lavender fields in Italy

**Geographic features:** Volcanic Lake Bolsena and the Maremma coastlands

**Key economies:** Agriculture, wine, specialty food products

**Landmarks:** Chiesa di San Pietro, Etruscan necropolises, medieval towers



*“Back in the States I was a cook. One of the reasons I wanted to come to Italy is the rich culinary culture they have here. I was able to experience so much of it at LdM Tuscania, and I get to bring that back home, share it with my family, share it with other students, even with other cooks.”*

**Nicolas Rangel, Fall 2023**

# Tuscania

Tuscania is a hilltop town located in the Lazio region of central Italy, part of the breathtaking countryside of the Maremma coastlands. Given Tuscania's smaller size and its unique geography, students can live and study in a typical Italian environment, while interacting closely with the local community. LdM students maximize study-life balance because Tuscania makes the perfect base for a great range of cultural and outdoor recreational activities.



## Surrounded by Serenity

Tuscania is in the Lazio region and known for its natural beauty. Cultivated fields, abundant orchards, rows of olive trees, lush vineyards and fragrant fields of lavender offer the ever-changing charm of a landscape that boasts a brilliant color palette throughout the seasons. Surrounded by unforgettable scenery, students can learn about Etruscan history in proximity to ancient ruins. Etruscan civilization predated the Roman Empire by more than 800 years, and the only surviving Etruscan constructions draw curious archaeologists and researchers to Tuscania from all over the world.

## A Close-knit Community

LdM Tuscania is often described by students as a very warm campus where students easily get to know one another as well as the faculty and staff. All classrooms and student facilities are housed in one large building that is nestled inside medieval walls that encircle the tranquil town. Just down the street is the local bakery, where students regularly find themselves engaged in friendly conversation with local residents while choosing a loaf of freshly baked bread. Tuscania's neighbors are eager to meet LdM students and encourage Italian language learners. LdM's sister site of Tuscania is a great fit for students who are interested in connecting with Italians, practicing language skills, and learning about Italian culture in a peaceful, low-stress environment.

## Outdoor Adventure

At LdM Tuscania, students can choose from a wide variety of well-being initiatives and sport activities, which facilitate relationship building with the natural and cultural environments. For example, Lake Bolsena, the largest volcanic lake in all of Europe, gives students access to dark sand beaches, swimming, waterfront cafés, and boat rentals. In addition, the sparkling Tyrrhenian Sea is a short 30-minute ride away. Students can participate in hiking excursions around Vulci Archaeological Park, pick fruit and vegetables at local orchards, or take a dip in one of the many hot springs in the area, where water temperatures range from 30-42° Celsius (86-107° Fahrenheit)!

## Getting Around

The nation's capital, Rome, is just a train ride away from Tuscania, and LdM staff make it easy for students to reach the Eternal City! Free transfers from LdM Tuscania to the nearest train station in Tarquinia are available on Thursdays and Fridays, and Rome's Fiumicino Airport is approximately 1.5 hours away by train. On Sundays, students can arrive at the Tarquinia train station for a free return transfer back to Tuscania. With complimentary logistical support, students gain confidence planning weekend trips and participating in LdM-organized excursions to major cities as well as ancient towns, such as Viterbo, Orvieto, and Civita di Bagnoregio.

## Sustainability by Example

Tuscania is an unmatched location for the study of sustainable agriculture and the farm-to-table lifestyle. Seated among fertile hills rich in produce and Etruscan heritage, Tuscania has a mild Mediterranean climate in which agricultural activity takes place nearly year-round. Balancing traditional techniques and technology-inspired innovations, farmers obtain high quality food products while demonstrating deep respect for the environment. Extracting golden oil from their own olive trees and tending their own fields using organic methods that prioritize quality over quantity, Tuscania's families take pride in living off their own produce. In Italy, you will taste the difference.



# Housing

Studying abroad can be transformative and requires students to adjust to a new way of life in a different country. LdM makes this transition easier by offering a range of housing services for those who choose Italy as their home away from home.



LdM Applicants who secure housing through LdM are given the opportunity to express preferences as well as needs in their LdM Housing Application. The LdM Housing Services staff works diligently to take this information into consideration and accommodate requests, including roommate and apartment-mate requests, whenever possible.

Prior to program start, the following information is provided via email:

- Housing address
- Assigned roommates and/or apartment-mates
- Details for Housing Check-In
- Up-to-date travel instructions for arriving in Italy

To maintain this standard, students who opt into LdM housing receive emergency contact information, for use in the event of an urgent housing issue outside of business hours. Additionally, students receive guidelines for safety and well-being that address Italian housing laws, the importance of locking doors, recovery of lost keys, information about utilities and proper ventilation, and instructions for enjoying Italy's advanced waste collection and recycling systems.

## Student Apartments

Students attending LdM have the option to live in shared apartments. This is the most popular housing option and is ideal for those who want to live a more independent lifestyle.

Apartments in Italy, especially in the historic centers, are situated in antique buildings. Most often, Italian apartments are on the second floor (or higher) within buildings that do not have elevator access.

The apartments used by LdM are located in different buildings across Florence and Tuscania, all within walking distance of the school.

Each apartment is unique, so students can expect LdM apartments to vary in appearance, style, configuration, lighting, size/number of bedrooms, size/features of common space or living areas, and/or size/features of the kitchen. All LdM apartments are non-smoking.

A standard LdM apartment assignment consists of a double occupancy bedroom (two single beds in the same room) within a shared apartment.

Single occupancy bedrooms within a shared apartment are available upon request but limited in number; therefore, students should remain open to placement in a double occupancy bedroom.

### Included

- Wi-Fi internet connection
- One cleaning every two weeks during the semester programs
- Rent plus the average cost of utilities (water, gas, electricity)
- Repairs for damage not caused by students
- Furniture, television, bed linen, and towels
- Washing machine
- Kitchen equipment (pots, pans, utensils and basic appliances)

### Not included

- Air conditioning (except during summer sessions)
- Extra cleaning or cleaning during short-term programs
- Excessive consumption of utilities
- Damage caused by students
- Telephone
- Drying machine
- Meals

*Due to the surge in demand in Florence's housing market over the last few years, LdM informs those students interested in LdM Housing that alternative student housing options may need to be used to accommodate housing requests, when necessary. These facilities have been vetted by LdM and provide students with both comfort and safety.*





## Homestays

LdM students also have the option to live in a homestay with local Italians. This housing option is ideal for those who want to practice the language and learn about Italian family life and customs.

Students who want to live and bond with Italians enjoy the homestays arranged by LdM. Living with a host or host family has linguistic and cultural benefits, not to mention the homemade Italian cooking.

As part of an Italian household, students directly participate in Italian daily life and build relationships with their hosts.

They are involved in everyday routines and traditions, from holidays to birthday celebrations.

Homestays are recommended to LdM students who are committed to learning Italian. The combination of formal language lessons and home-based practice with native speakers is an authentic, effective means to better understand Italian culture.

Most Italians live in apartments, so students can expect to live in apartment-style housing, and apartment features will vary by placement. Like the student apartment housing option, LdM homestay assignments typically consist of a double occupancy bedroom within a shared apartment. Single occupancy bedrooms within a shared apartment are available upon request but limited in number.

### Included

- Wi-Fi internet connection
- One cleaning per week
- Rent plus the average cost of utilities (water, gas, electricity)
- Repairs for damage not caused by students
- Laundry services and changing of bed linen and towels (once per week)
- Continental breakfast (5 days per week, plus lunch for LdM Tuscania students) and homemade Italian dinners (5 days per week during semesters, 4 days per week during summer sessions)

### Not included

- Air conditioning
- Extra cleaning
- Excessive consumption of utilities
- Damage caused by students
- More frequent laundry service and/or use of washing machine
- Meals on the weekends



## Independent Housing

Students are not obligated to choose housing through LdM; however, some home institutions require study abroad students to live in LdM housing. If you are interested in finding accommodations independently, please consult your home institution. If approved by your home institution to pursue independent housing, you may request a list of Italian real estate agencies by sending an email to [housingapplication@lorenzodemedici.it](mailto:housingapplication@lorenzodemedici.it).

For questions or concerns related to independent housing, students should contact the responsible proprietor, landlord, or agent.



# Student Life

Providing a necessary complement to the rich and varied academic content at its two campuses, LdM's dependable team of advisors guides students to a deeper understanding of the Italian lifestyle, language, culture, and customs. Co-curricular learning is facilitated through recreational activities, student clubs, volunteer opportunities, and excursions. After all, a study abroad experience would be incomplete without fun and adventure!

In 2024, LdM was honored with the prestigious Best Practices in International Higher Education Award by NASPA's International Education Knowledge Community, with particular attention to our Student Services.

## Student Services

Every student receives constant support from an assigned LdM Advisor. Whether requesting a restaurant recommendation or referral to academic resources, students can rely on their LdM Advisor. In addition, LdM Advisors assist students with accessing local health care and navigating international insurance. Upon arrival in Italy, LdM's 24/7 emergency phone number is shared during orientation in case a student needs to speak with an advisor for any urgent reason outside of business hours. Mental health services are also available to LdM students at no additional cost, and appointments with certified counselors are easily booked online.

## Cafeteria

At the LdM Florence main building, students can enjoy freshly cooked meals, including daily vegetarian options. A meal plan card of 10 meals plus one free meal is available. LdM Tuscania offers students a student card which provides discounts at some local cafes and restaurants.

## Student Point

All LdM sites offer students free access to computing and internet facilities as well as wireless internet connectivity.

## Library

LdM's libraries enable students to complete their coursework successfully. The ever-growing collections have been built to cater directly to the needs of students and the subjects they study at LdM's different campuses. Students can consult books in the reading rooms and a limited number of books may be checked out.

## Mail and Packages Pick-up

LdM has a Student Mail Service to facilitate students receiving mail and packages sent from family and friends.

## Italian Language and Culture

LdM is committed to helping its students access and enjoy the world of Italian culture. Besides formal, credit-bearing Italian language classes, the Institute offers students free one-to-one Italian tutoring, the screening of Italian movies, and a conversation exchange project which matches LdM students with Italian university students wishing to improve their English.



## Activities

From the moment students arrive, LdM's team of advisors and activity coordinators organize a variety of activities to kickstart the semester. During orientation week, informative events and fun activities such as city walks, scavenger hunts, and cooking lessons are scheduled. Students are also greeted with a welcome dinner where they can socialize with classmates and enjoy a delicious meal. Throughout the semester, a diverse range of activities are planned every day and students are sure to find something to suit their wishes. Whether in urban Florence or tranquil Tuscania, LdM makes use of our nearby environments by organizing activities that capitalize on the rich culture in the surrounding area. Students can enjoy guided tours, marvel at masterpiece artworks in museums, visit local artisanal workshops, hike to new heights on nature walks, and so much more!

## Excursions

In addition to local activities, LdM also organizes day trips and overnight excursions that allow students to explore all that Italy has to offer. These faculty-led trips are a great way to discover new destinations while creating lifelong memories with fellow students. Transportation, accommodation, and ticket entry fees to scheduled visits are included in the price so as to facilitate convenience. During the course of their studies, students receive the field trip schedule with instructions on how to reserve a spot. Past examples include trips to Venice, Rome, the Amalfi coast, Cinque Terre, and the Italian Alps. Additionally, LdM holds classes on a Monday to Thursday schedule which makes it even easier to plan weekend getaways. Just don't forget to bring your camera!



### Weekend trips and shuttle service at LdM Tuscania

LdM Tuscania offers regular excursions to nearby towns like Viterbo and Orvieto, to the lovely volcanic Lake of Bolsena, and to seaside resorts in Lazio and Tuscany. In this way, students learn to use the local bus system, which enables them to plan their own trips to other destinations.

Weekends in Rome and Florence are easily facilitated. Free transfers on Thursdays or Fridays to Tarquinia station are offered. From there, students can easily reach via train the international Fiumicino Airport of Rome. On Sundays, students can return to Tarquinia train station for a free transfer back to Tuscania.



### Volunteering & Professional Opportunities

LdM students can volunteer to learn through service with local community organizations, such as food banks, clothing distribution centers, and primary schools. If the thought of building relationships through beautification initiatives or teaching English to school children appeals to you, talk with your LdM Advisor. Additionally, LdM students can sign up for a non-credit professional opportunity. Unlike internships, these opportunities are based upon the completion of a single experiential learning project arranged by LdM in collaboration with community partners and businesses. Students receive a certificate of participation upon successful completion of their professional opportunity project.

\*LdM meals consist of 1 bottle of water or soft drink, 1 coffee, 1 seasonal fruit or dessert, and 1 freshly prepared main dish (either a mixed plate with a selection of pasta, main courses, and side dishes OR 2 sandwiches and a side dish). For sample menus, check out @istituto\_ldm on Instagram!

\*\*In Tuscania, a complimentary shuttle from Rome's Fiumicino Airport is offered at the start of the semester. Students are responsible for their own return journey at the end of semester (approx. €175 / \$193 for a private van) and are encouraged to explore rideshare options with other students.



### Living costs in Florence

are lower than in many other major European cities, and students who study abroad in Florence are often surprised by the city's affordability. To compare the cost of living in Florence to your city, consider using free cost of living calculators available online.



### LdM Meal Plan (optional)\*

€150 for 11 weekday lunches at the LdM Cafeteria, Florence (2023-2024 Academic Year prices).



### Groceries

€200-300 / \$218-326 per month



### Dining Out

Budget meal €15-30 / \$17-24  
Mid-range meal €30-45 / \$32-49  
High-end meal €45-80 / \$49-87



### Local Transportation\*

Florence Bus / Tram fare €1.70 / \$1.85  
Tuscania Bus €2.20 / \$2.40  
Taxi from Florence city center to the airport €50 / \$54



### Train Travel

Regional (Tuscany) €10-75 / \$11-82  
National €45-185 / \$49-203  
Note: Fares vary by destination and train type.



### Textbooks and Materials

LdM lab fees vary by course, between €150-300 / \$165-330



### Social Activities

Museum / Gallery admission €12-30 / \$13-33  
Opera ticket €50-100 / \$55-110  
Movie ticket €10 / \$11  
Glass of wine €5.50 / \$6  
Cappuccino €2 / \$2.20  
Ice cream €3 / \$3.30

# Department Locations

		Florence	Tuscania
<b>School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences</b>			
ANC	Ancient Studies	●	▲
ANT	Anthropology	●	▲
ART	Art History and Visual Culture	●	
BUS	International Business	●	▲
COM	Communications	●	▲
EDU	Education	●	
ENV	Environmental Studies and Geography	●	▲
GND	Gender Studies	●	
HIS	History	●	▲
LIT	Literature	●	▲
PHI	Philosophy	●	▲
POL	Political Science and International Studies	●	
PSY	Psychology	●	▲
REL	Religious Studies	●	▲
SOC	Sociology	●	▲
WRI	Writing	●	▲
<b>School of Italian Language and Culture</b>			
ITC	Italian Language and Culture	●	▲
ITL	Italian Language	●	▲
<b>School of Creative Arts</b>			
FMA	Film and Media Arts	●	▲
PDM	Painting, Drawing and Mixed Media	●	▲
PER	Performing Arts	●	▲
PHO	Photography	●	▲
PRI	Printmaking	●	
RES	Restoration	●	
SCU	Sculpture and Ceramics	●	
<b>School of Design</b>			
ARC	Architecture	●	
FAS	Fashion Design, Marketing and Merchandising	●	
GRA	Graphic Design	●	
INT	Interior Design	●	
JWY	Jewelry Design	●	
<b>School of Nutrition, Italian Gastronomy and Culture</b>			
IGC	Italian Gastronomy and Culture	●	▲
NTR	Nutrition	●	▲
<b>School of Science and Mathematics</b>			
BIO	Biological Sciences	●	
CHM	Chemistry	●	
MAT	Mathematics	●	
<b>School of Agriculture</b>			
AGR	Agricultural Studies and Technologies		▲



*Understanding composition and acquiring fundamental drawing techniques are the pillars of our introductory course in drawing.*

# How to Apply

Students have the flexibility to apply to LdM programs at various times throughout the year, depending on their preferred term of enrollment. To begin the application process, follow the steps below.



## Step 1

Select your LdM program and campus.

## Step 2

If applicable, visit with your academic advisor and/or the study abroad advisor at your home institution, completing any and all necessary steps for study abroad approval.



## Step 3

Complete the online LdM Program Application.

## Application Deadlines

FALL SEMESTER: June 15

SPRING SEMESTER: November 15

JANUARY INTERSESSION: November 15

SUMMER SESSION I: April 10

SUMMER SESSION II: May 15

## General Academic Calendar

SPRING: February to May

FALL: September to December

SUMMER: June, July

INTERSESSION: January (2 weeks)

Please visit our website for more information about application dates and procedures:



[www.ldminstitute.com/admissions/](http://www.ldminstitute.com/admissions/)



*Students exploring the city during a field trip to Palazzo Strozzi.*

Visit the LdM website  
[www.ldminstitute.com](http://www.ldminstitute.com)



**LdM Italy Main Office  
Florence**

Via Faenza, 43  
50123 Florence, Italy  
Phone: +39.055.287.360  
Phone: +39.055.287.203  
Fax: +39.055.239.8920  
[info@ldminstitute.com](mailto:info@ldminstitute.com)

**LdM Academic Relations  
and Student Services**

3600 Bee Caves Road, Suite 205B  
Austin, TX 78746 US  
Phone: +1.877.765.4LDM (4536)  
Phone: +1.512.328.INFO (4636)  
Fax: +1.512.328.4638  
[info@ldminstitute.com](mailto:info@ldminstitute.com)



@Istituto\_LdM



@Istituto\_LdM



Istituto Lorenzo  
de' Medici



Istituto Lorenzo  
de' Medici



Istituto Lorenzo  
de' Medici