

# UNIV Trip Tips & Packing List

## 1. DOCUMENTS

**Be sure that you have your passport.** Make sure that it has not expired. US & Canadian citizens do not need a visa.

Make a copy of each of your documents, in case of theft or loss, and bring them with you to Rome. You might consider leaving a copy of these documents at home too. It will be much easier to solve any problem if you have copies of all your documents.

It is possible that students under 18 years of age will need a notarized written statement from their parents giving them permission to travel outside the country. Please ask your air carrier if it requires this documentation.

## 2. LUGGAGE

We recommend that you limit yourself to one piece of checked baggage and one carry-on bag. Be sure to keep your passport and other important documents on your person or in the carry-on. It is also a good idea to carry a minimum of overnight supplies in your carry-on bag in the unlikely event that your suitcase gets misplaced in transit.

## 3. WEATHER

We encourage you to review the 10-day forecast before packing. It is often chilly in the morning and evenings and can rain in late March / early April. You might consider bringing a sweater or spring jacket and rain gear. At the same time, the sun can be strong, so you may want to bring a hat, sunscreen, and sunglasses for your protection and comfort.

## 4. OTHER MATTERS

- i. We will have an opportunity to exchange money once in Rome, but you may find a better exchange rate at a bank at home. You can exchange money in Rome, either with cash, or through an ATM.
- ii. We are staying at a pilgrimage residence operated by nuns. You will most likely share a room with one or two people. The rooms have sheets, blankets, towels and soap provided and usually have their own bathrooms.
- iii. Bring enough clothes to last the entire trip. There will not be time to do laundry while in Rome.
- iv. If you want to be able to charge anything electronic (e.g. phone, laptop, shaver, etc.), bring a European adapter. The voltage in Rome is 220V ac. If your electronic device cannot run on this, you will want a converter, in addition to the adapter.
- v. Check with your phone carrier about what service you will have in Rome. You will not need to have service for this trip, but it can be helpful for staying in contact with the rest of the group.
- vi. Please do not bring unnecessary electronic devices, playing cards, etc. Once the trip starts, you are encouraged to refrain from using your phone or tablet for

entertainment. We ask that you refrain from things that will distract you from other people or from the themes and activities of the trip.

## **5. MONEY**

Lodging, transportation, and meals (starting with dinner on March 23 and ending with breakfast on April 1) as well as tours of the Vatican Museums, Catacombs, and Scavi are covered by the trip fee. You may want to bring money for gifts / souvenirs, snacks such as gelato (Roman ice-cream) and cappuccinos, and for additional museums (for example, the top of St. Peters €8 - €10).

## **6. PACKING**

The most important things to keep in mind when packing are:

1. Each day, once we leave our residence in the morning, we will probably not return until the evening.
2. Many days include events such as the academic conference or solemn liturgies for which you should dress well.
3. Every day we will be walking a lot. You will want to dress in clothes that are both comfortable and dressy. Rubber-soled shoes that look decently dressy, but are comfortable for walking are good to have.

## **7. PACKING LIST**

- Passport
- Photocopies of documents
- Money
- Toiletries
- Power adapter
- Pajamas
- Raincoat
- Umbrella
- Sweater
- Shoes
- Sport coat
- Ties
- Shirts
- Undershirts
- Pants
- Belt
- Underwear
- Socks
- Backpack, or some carrying-bag (suggested)
- Sunscreen
- Book to read (we spend time waiting in lines, riding buses, etc.)
- Prescriptions (it is difficult to obtain refills in Rome)