

Florence Summer Program FAQs

October 2024

What classes are offered in Florence in the summer?

- ITAL-1000 Beginning Italian I (4 cr.); fulfills BC's foreign language requirement
- ITAL-1020 Beginning Italian II (4 cr.); fulfills BC's foreign language requirement
- GNST-3000 International Study Reflection and Practicum (1 cr.)

Total credit hours: 9

When should I apply?

Students will be able to apply at the beginning of November. You have to pay \$400 fee at the Business Office by the application deadline (January 31, 2020).

How to apply?

A link to the online application form is available at <https://www.benedictine.edu/academics/international/study-abroad/florence-summer>. In addition to completing and submitting the online form you have to pay a \$400 fee. You will receive instructions on how to pay in the confirmation email you receive after submitting your application.

When will I know if I have been accepted into the program?

Students are notified if they are accepted about a week after the deadline, and anyway before registration for summer starts. The specific date is indicated in the application packet.

How many people are accepted into the program every semester?

The maximum capacity is currently 50 students.

What are the selection criteria if you receive more than 30 applications?

Selection criteria include seniority in college, majors that require study abroad or have restrictions on the semester when students can go abroad, GPA, business office and student life record (students must not be on probation and have no big or recent disciplinary issues).

Will I get the deposit back if I am not accepted? What about if I withdraw?

You will get the \$400 back if you are not accepted. If you withdraw after you have been accepted for the program, you will get the refund only if your spot is filled by another student. If this doesn't happen, the college will consider the possibility to refund all or part of the deposit if the withdrawal is due to serious reasons that are beyond the student's control. You can also choose to roll the payment over to the next summer in case you intend to apply again.

What is the cost to attend the program?

This is a list of program costs that will help students estimate their budget for the semester in Florence.

- Application Fee: \$400
- Tuition, Room and Board – Check the website for the current semester cost. Summer 2025 cost is \$7,270 (in addition to the application fee). The meal plan includes full board Monday to Friday, and Bed and Breakfast for Saturdays and Sundays (except during the Assisi weekend, when all the meals will be provided).
- Airfare - Cost depends on the airline and varies over time.
- Books - You don't need to buy books for the classes offered during the summer.
- Laundry - Washing: € 3.5 per load. Drying: €2.5 per load.
- Telephone - Consider buying an international plan with your carrier or renting/buying a local SIM card.

- Four meals on weekends - Saturday and Sunday lunch and dinner are not covered by the meal plan at Villa Morghen.
- Local transportation - when not on site visit with class. Cost of local transportation is €1.70 for 90 minute bus ticket. Monthly bus passes in Florence cost €38.70.
- Personal expenses - The total amount of money for personal expenses largely depends on the lifestyle you choose. In particular, consider if you are planning to:
 - Travel before or after the program, as well as during weekends (trips to Italian cities by train are relatively inexpensive, trips to European destinations are more expensive, however, you can find excellent opportunities by flying with low-cost airlines like Ryanair)
 - Buy souvenirs for family and friends (including wine, food, clothes, etc.)
 - Spend on meals and entertainment during weekends.

Are there medical insurance and other insurances that need to be purchased? If so, what are they and the approximate cost for the premiums?

You will be enrolled in iNext Platinum Insurance, which covers all travel medical insurance needs; it does not cover trip cancellation and interruption, nor security evacuation. Visit iNext website for more information. The cost of the insurance is included in the price of the program.

Will we have information meetings before we leave?

Students accepted into the program will have to attend three orientation meetings. They will also be provided with a detailed handbook.

When should I buy the plane ticket?

After the first orientation meeting, where you will be given the information you need to buy your plane ticket.

How do most students pay for personal expenses while on the trip? Do they use debit or credit cards or other methods?

Students can withdraw cash from ATMs with their debit card and also use their credit card for purchases. Full information will be given during orientation.

What day do they leave for Florence? Do the students travel together? Does BC make their flight arrangements? Do they leave from Kansas City?

Students fly on their own leaving from the airport that is more convenient for them. Often students associate to travel in small groups, some of them decide to visit other countries before getting to the program location by the start of the program. Information on how to get to destination will be given during orientation.

My parents are planning on visiting me in Italy during the program. Are there things they should consider when making their travel plans?

The best period to visit is after the end of the program. We don't encourage visiting while students have class and school commitments. Benedictine College does not allow family members and friends of students participating in the Summer Italy Program to stay at Villa Morghen during the program.