

Visiting Gonzaga-in-Florence

Parents & family are welcome to visit the Gonzaga-in-Florence program during the semester your Zag is a participant. The Study Abroad Office hopes the following guide will assist you in your planning.

WHEN to GO

- ⇒ The GIF semester calendar is online and provides dates of holidays and important academic dates (see hyperlinks to the right).
- ⇒ Classes are Monday through Thursday.
- ⇒ We ask that when visiting you *AVOID mid-terms and the week of finals* so your student can focus on his/her academics.
- ⇒ The school sponsored travel weekends are scheduled throughout the semester, approximately 4-5 per semester. There is typically a sponsored travel weekend program over Thanksgiving and Spring Break. Approximately 2 months prior to the start of the program, students will be given the trip dates and destinations.
- ⇒ Students will hopefully be more familiar with the city, culture, and language later in the semester compared with earlier.

WHERE to STAY

- ⇒ The GIF program does not have or provide accommodations for visitors or alumni. Refer the links to the right for nearby options.
- ⇒ Due to Italian government regulations, visitors are not permitted to stay overnight with students in their pensiones.
- ⇒ In some cases, depending on the pensioni, students can often make arrangements for their visitors to stay at other pensiones (sometimes at a discounted price) owned by their pensione managers. GIF participants should contact the pensioni manager about this upon arrival.
- ⇒ GIF participants will be given the specific GIF center address and housing details during the semester prior to their departure once it is available.

SUGGESTIONS

Travel Pre or Post Program

Travel before or after the program is a viable option should you want to spend more time with your student without having to coordinate with their academic schedule.

Entry requirements for US Citizens permit individuals to enter simply with their passport as a tourist for up to 90 days.

Links:

- ◆ [GIF Calendar](#)
- ◆ [Parent FAQs](#)

Helpful Online articles:

- ◆ [Sightseeing Tips](#)
- ◆ [Tips about Traveling in Italy](#)
- ◆ [Travel Agent vs. Booking Online](#)
- ◆ [Travel Tips about Transportation](#)
- ◆ [Booking Flights](#)
- ◆ [Timing Your Trip](#)
- ◆ [When to Travel in Italy](#)

Accommodations:

- ◆ [Hotel Giglio](#)
- ◆ [Hotel Athenaeum](#)
- ◆ [Hotel Number Nine](#)
- ◆ [Galileo Hotel](#)
- ◆ [Hotel Mario](#)
- ◆ [Additional hotels](#)