



SELECT ITALY

THE ULTIMATE SOURCE FOR TRAVEL TO ITALY

NEWS FROM SELECT ITALY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE ARIA NEVER ENDS ON [SELECT ITALY'S OPERA TOUR](#), WITH ACCOMPANIMENT BY OPERA LECTURER AND AUTHOR, BURTON D. FISHER

Select Italy Creates An Escorted Tour Based On Great Operas and Stunning Musical Venues, With In-Depth Lectures Provided By Opera Lecturer And Author, Burton D. Fisher

Chicago, IL - March 20, 2006 Tour operator and travel agency Select Italy has long been known for the depth of its knowledge of the Italian travel market, superior customer service, and its wide selection of travel products. As travel to Italy becomes more and more common, today's globetrotters are looking to true Italian specialists to provide unique services that go beyond the usual destinations of Rome, Florence and Venice. Select Italy has been at the forefront of niche specialization for travel to bell' Italia. With this in mind, the company has created a completely unique opera tour that offers a level of detail and quality of service unmatched in the tour market today.

The 10-day "Italian Opera Odyssey" tour departs the U.S. July 12, 2006 and will be accompanied by noted author and lecturer, Burton D. Fisher of Opera Journeys. Mr. Fisher is a former opera conductor, principal lecturer for the Opera Journeys Lecture Series at Florida International University, a commissioned author of Season Opera Guides for regional opera companies, and a frequent opera commentator on National Public Radio.

This tour is special because Select Italy has contracted some of the most well-respected and knowledgeable experts in the field to guarantee tour clients the highest level of service and an unforgettable vacation. Before each of the five famous operas included in the tour, travelers will enjoy Burton D. Fisher's lively presentation on the opera's story, its history and more.

"The bottom line is, it's show business" says Fisher. "The guideline of all of my programs is to find a balance of substance and entertainment." Every member of the group will also receive a complimentary copy of the Opera Classics Library Series pertaining to the opera. In addition to the opera performances, privately guided tours are included for each city and will include visits to some of the most recognizable Italian sites, including the Colosseum in Rome, the medieval walls of Lucca and Leonardo da Vinci's masterpiece "The Last Supper" in Milan. An

English-speaking escort will travel with the group to make each guest feel pampered and happy.

The Opera Tour features tickets to some of the most spectacular opera venues in Italy including the magnificent La Scala in Milan, Verona's ancient Arena, and the ancient Baths of Caracalla in Rome. Says Select Italy's president, Andrea Sertoli: "Opera at the Terme di Caracalla is so appropriate. They were constructed for the people; to experience culture, relaxation, and all forms of pleasure. It's very moving to attend an event within its ancient walls."

Pricing and a day-to-day itinerary can be found at Select Italy's website: **Italian Opera Odyssey** : http://selectitaly.com/tours.php?product_id=19

For more information on Select Italy's "Italian Opera Odyssey," log onto www.selectitaly.com. To discuss story ideas, contact Maria Meyer at 1-800-877-1755 or by email at maria@selectitaly.com.

Select Italy is an award winning travel agency specializing in Italy. Select Italy offers a wide array of products and services, which include customized itineraries, museum reservations, tickets to music & cultural events, private guided services, transportation and accommodations. All of which are available for purchase online at www.selectitaly.com. Select Italy has been on the Travel +Leisure "A-list of Super Agents" for 4 years, and in 2005 its website won an Ultra Web Award and was also nominated as a Webby Award finalist. Founded in 1997, company President Andrea Sertoli said, "Italy remains an unmatched destination with the warmth of its people, its heritage, its sheer physical beauty. With our specialized knowledge and inside information behind every travel plan we make, our clients enjoy everything Italy has to offer." More information can be accessed through <http://selectitaly.com/pressroom.php> or by calling (800) 877-1755.

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