

Tour to Follonica / Tuscany (+ Rome) 5 – 12 October 2021					
DATE	PLACE	TIME	PROGRAMME	RESPONSIBLE	DETAILS
TUE 5 OCT	Oslo Airport	09:00	Departure	Each of us	Rome: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rome Follonica: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Follonica https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l7kHjfiJ47Q&t=355s Hotel: https://www.hotelausonia.net/en/
	Rome Airport	12:10	Rome/lunch	Solfrid & Paolo	
	Follonica	19:00	Dinner at the hotel	Aage & Kristin	
WED 6 OCT	Follonica	All day	Lunch Dinner	Aage	Presentation of apartments for sales/rent Tuscan food dinner & wines https://www.ristorantelimonaia.it/
THU 7 OCT	Follonica	09:00	Departure	Antologi Aviaggi	SIENA & MONTERIGGIONI https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Siena https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monteriggioni
	Sienna	10:30	Sightseeing/lunch	Aage & Paolo	
	Monteriggion	14:00	Sightseeing/dinner	Aage & Paolo	
FRI 8 OCT	Follonica	09:00	Departure	Antologi Aviaggi	Wine searcher https://www.wine-searcher.com/regions-tuscany
	Wine tour	10:00	Wine tour	Aage & Paolo	
	Casalappi	14:00	Castle lunch	Aage & Paolo	
SAT 9 OCT	Follonica	08:00	Departure	Antologi Aviaggi	FLORENCE (+Pisa - Lucca - Uffizi Gallery) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pisa https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lucca https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pistoia https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Florence https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uffizi
	(Pisa - Lucca)	09:30	Guided bus tour	Antologi Aviaggi	
	Pistoia	12:00	Sightseeing/lunch	Paolo	
	Florence	orence 14:00	Sightseeing/dinner	Paolo	
	Ufizzi Gallery		Guided tour	Museum guide	
SUN 10 OCT	Follonica	-	Departure	Antologi Aviaggi	MASSA MARITTIMA & POPULONIA https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Populonia https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Massa_Marittima Fish dinner in Follonica https://www.ilsottomarino.it/
	Populonia	09:30	Sightseeing	Aage & Paolo	
	M. Marittima	12:00	Sightseeing/lunch	Aage & Paolo	
MON	Follonica	All day	Relaxation	Aage	
11 OCT	Fallanias	07:20	Dinner at the hotel	Antologi Avioggi	
TUE 12 OCT	Follonica		Departure	Antologi Aviaggi	
	Rome Airport	13:00	Departure	Each of us	
	Oslo Airport	16:10	Arrival	Each of us	

PRICE: Per person in double room - NOK 19 340,-

Prices for single rooms / comfort rooms / suites - on request to Pearl Journeys.

The exchange rate NOK (Norwegian kroner) – EUR (Euro) is about 10: 1 (hence NOK 19,340 = about EUR 1,950).

NOTE: Booking and inquiries regarding the trip must be directed to Pearl Journeys by Solfrid Gjengset



<u>Tour Director</u>: Solfrid Gjengset, Pearl Journeys Tel +47 41 46 56 68

Email: info@pearljourneys.com Web: www.pearljourneys.com

Tour guides/facilitators:

Kristin Tonje – Paolo Bresci

Initiator/tour guide:

Architect Aage Myhre



ARCHITECT AAGE MYHRE AS STRØMSBORGVEIEN 33B N-0287 OSLO, NORWAY www.aagemyhre.no aage.myhre@gmail.com TELEPHONE: +47 90 22 00 27

INCLUDED IN THE PRICE:

- Flights Oslo Airport Gardermoen Rome Airport (SAS roundtrip) Please contact Solfrid if you plan to fly in from a different country / airport
- Accommodation: 7 nights in Ausonia Hotel, Follonica
- Food: 7 breakfasts 7 dinners 4 lunches
- All transfers and tours described in the following programme
- Countless experiences of nature, culture, architecture and more
- Local Tuscany food and marvelous wines!
- Complementary: Friendship, creativity and laughter!

PLEASE NOTE:

- All sightseeing tours will take place with a bus from the local tour operator Antologi Aviaggi
- Aage and Paolo will share the responsibility for the main guiding.
- Together they will make sure that we will get the best of culture, architecture, nature and more ... wherever we go.
- Language will be English, but the Tour Team are Norwegians.
- Every evening before dinner Pearl Journeys will make sure that we go through the programme for the next day. Details and any changes in the plans according to local conditions, will be well informed.



GROUP TOUR TO FOLLONICA / TUSCANY

- plus a quick visit to Rome

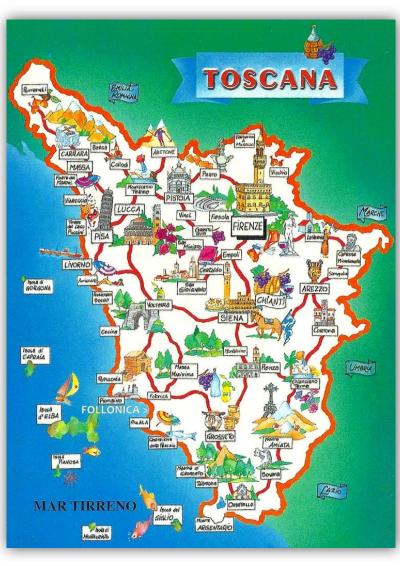
5 - 12 October 2021

We land in Rome at 12:10 on the 5th of October, and start it all with a tour around Rome by bus. There we also have lunch, before in the afternoon we drive a couple of hours north to Follonica, to the beautiful coast of Tuscany, our main location during the trip.

It is in Follonica that we eventually plan to develop our international community in good village spirit, and also develop a "Global Round-Table Headquarters," presumably in Casalappi Castle a few kilometers away.

Programme and other details on the following pages, for the tour and the stay in Tuscany.

The Renaissance will be our backdrop!



Day 1 - Tuesday 5th of October: ROME ♥ 11 15 15 15

• FROM THE AIRPORT: Sightseeing by bus + lunch. Rome is a heady mix of haunting ruins, awe-inspiring art and vibrant street life, Italy's hot-blooded capital is one of the world's most romantic and charismatic cities.



READ MORE: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rome

Day 2 - Wednesday 6th of October: **FOLLONICA **** ** WELCOME 'HOME'! Follonica is our headquarters for the trip and in the future!



• It is in this beautiful, small town on the azure blue Follinca Bay, inside the Elba island at the Tuscan coast that we will eventually establish our international community, based on good social village principles, culture, Renaissance ideals, food / wine traditions and much more. Follonica is one of Italy's most preferred family holiday destinations for the quietness of the place and the easy access to a fantastic, white, long, sandy beach. There are very short distances from Follonica to Tuscany's rolling vineyards, the cultural cities of Florence, Pisa, Siena and many small towns, as well as to pine forests, mountains, winter sports, and of course the amazingly beautiful Mediterranean!

READ MORE: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Follonica

VIDEO: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ew1boWR3pfg

HOTEL: https://www.hotelausonia.net/en/

DINNER, RESTAURANT LIMONAIA: https://www.ristorantelimonaia.it/

• Our first day trip goes inland, northeast of Follonica, to Siena and the mountain village of Monteriggioni.



Siena offers a heady mix of haunting ruins, awe-inspiring art and vibrant street life, Italy's hot-blooded capital is one of the world's most romantic and charismatic cities.

Monteriggioni is a medieval walled town, located on a natural hillock, built by the Sienese in 1214–19 as a front line in their wars against Florence.

READ MORE: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Siena

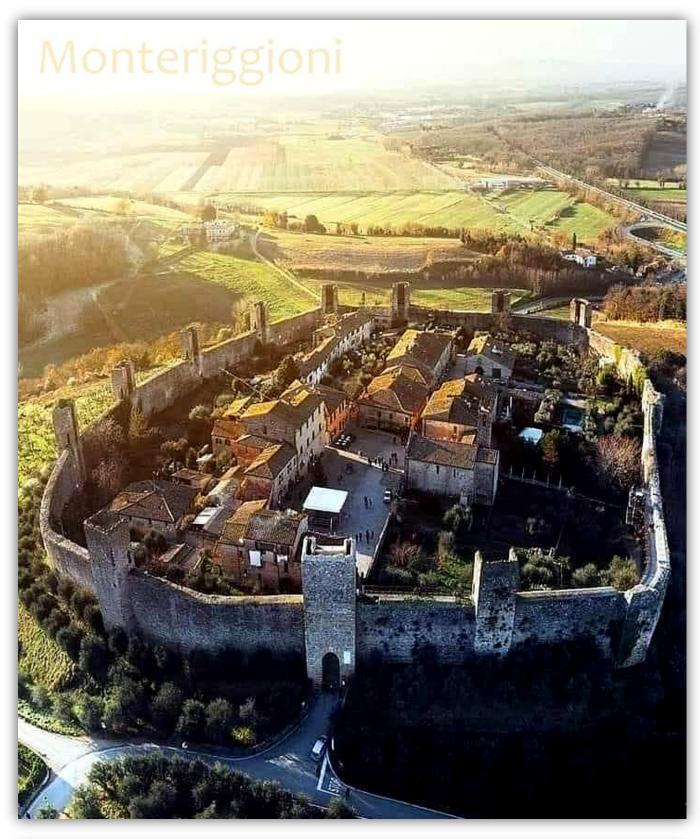
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monteriggioni

Day 4 - Friday 8th of October: FOLLONICA REGION / CASALAPPI CASTLE VIVE S

• This will be a day with a relatively open programme so you can relax and get to know Follonica and the region on your own, maybe go for a walk along the beautiful sandy beach, possibly also take a bath in the amazing Follonica Bay? Those who are interested in buying or renting apartments can look at alternative offers on this day. But we also arrange a trip to Casalappi Castle a few kilometers away. This is the castle we consider to be the possible headquarters of our planned "Global Round-Table Organization" in the future.



The Casalappi Castle takes its name from the Latin "Castrum Appii" from the time of the civil wars between Caesar and Pompey, when the inhabitants of the Via Appia escaped from Rome came to take refuge on this splendid, small hill, strategically located a short distance from the sea and surrounded by a plain partly made fertile by the Etruscans. The Castle is a rare example of historical testimony more than a thousand years old, unique in the Val di Cornia in terms of antiquity and continuity of its function as a human abode, overcame other events and passages until it became the property of the Guidi Counts who still live there today.





Day 5 - Saturday 9th of October: PISTOIA & FLORENCE **

This will be a long day. We start from Follonica early in the morning, drive the motorway north, before
turning east and taking quick sightseeing tours through Pisa and Lucca before stopping for lunch in Pistoia,
the city where our friend and guide Paolo Bresci was longtime tourism manager. We spend the afternoon
and early evening in Florence, where the highlight will be the visit to the Ufizzi Gallery. Dinner in Florence!









ABOVE PHOTOS: Pisa - Lucca - Pistoia - Uffizi Gallery / river Arno / Ponte Vecchio (the bridge)



Florence, capital of Italy's Tuscany region, is home to many masterpieces of Renaissance art and architecture. One of its most iconic sights is the Duomo (see photo), a cathedral with a terracotta-tiled dome engineered by Brunelleschi and a bell tower by Giotto. The Galleria dell'Accademia displays Michelangelo's "David" sculpture. The Uffizi Gallery exhibits Botticelli's "The Birth of Venus" and Leonardo da Vinci's "Annunciation."

READ MORE: Pisa: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pisa

Lucca: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lucca
Pistoia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pistoia
Florence: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Florence
Uffizi Gallery: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uffizi

Afternoon day 5 - Saturday 9th of October:

UFFIZI GALLERY, FLORENCE 💗 🧐



- One of the world's finest and oldest art galleries, the Uffizi in Florence, Italy, has housed the world's masterpieces since the time of Leonardo da Vinci. Established in 1581, it was designed by Vasari, architect and author of Lives of the Artists. The same loving detail that went into that masterpiece of art writing went into the curation of the museum, and has continued to do so ever since.
- The gallery is still home to an almost unparalleled collection of masterpieces, and while it attracts a lot of tourists, it really is a must-visit if you're heading to the Birthplace of the Renaissance.



The 10 Most Important Artworks at the Uffizi Gallery

https://theculturetrip.com/europe/italy/articles/the-10-most-important-artworks-at-the-uffizi-galleryflorence/?fbclid=IwARoYgp4fbAeJxj6Hmy8ZYagX5WT2XG-hqevojF3SWee750IFYgnfd6htlfg



The Birth of Venus' by Sandro Botticelli in the Uffizi Gallery. Perhaps the Uffizi's most famous work,

Day 6 - Sunday 10th of October: MASSA MARITTIMA & POPULONIA **

• Our Sunday trip goes to the nearby mountain villages of Massa Marittima and Populonia. We drive this day through some of Tuscany's most beautiful coastal areas and through endless vineyards. Maybe it's time to taste some of the noble wines from this area?



Massa Marittima. Perched atop a hill overlooking lots of picturesque countryside, boasting a beautiful Old Town and is thankfully devoid of large crowds and tour groups. Founded more than a thousand years ago, the small town is home to many impressive and interesting historic sights, with its gorgeous cathedral being the highlight. Founded more than a thousand years ago, the small town is home to many impressive and interesting historic sights, with its gorgeous cathedral being the highlight. Built in a Romanesque-Pisane style, it exhibits some wonderful art and architecture; its majestic bell tower rises dramatically above a mesmerising mess of medieval streets.

READ MORE: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Massa Marittima



Populonia. Have you heard of the Etruscans? Not? Then you are hereby invited to a trip up into the mountains off the coast of Tuscany to visit the mountain village of Populonia with roots 3000 years back in time! Today's Populonia (Fufluna) is located within a small portion of the walled acropolis of a large ancient city, which covered the entire north end of Monte Massoncello, a promontory, its northern slopes down to the Bay of Baratti, and the shores of the bay, which was its port.

READ MORE: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Populonia

Our restaurant (in Follonica) of the evening has fish as specialty: https://www.ilsottomarino.it/

Day 7 - Monday 11th of October: FOLLONICA VIII (S)

Last day and last night in Follonica. For now ... We hope this will be a phenomenally good day / evening for reflections and confirmations of new friendships. Tuscany has so much to offer, and we hope many of you will consider living here as well, for shorter or longer periods throughout the year. We will do our utmost to facilitate you, also in that way! Dinner in the hotel



Day 8 - Tuesday 12th of October: DEPARTURE DAY ♥□□

• Early Tuesday morning, the bus picks us up at the hotel, to drive us to the airport in Rome. But we can enjoy a good breakfast before that! The flight Rome – Oslo is at 13:00.



Welcome back!

Follonica





Ausonia Hotel will be our headquarters/main location during the trip

Our hotel for the group trip in October. Hotel Ausonia is located on the beach and seafront in the centre of Follonica, right on the beautiful Mediterranean coast of Tuscany and the azure Gulf of Follonica inside the islands of Elba and Corsica.





Hotel Ausonia and its "tropical garden"







Restaurant "Limonaia" (TUSCAN SPECIALTIES: https://www.ristorantelimonaia.it/)



Restaurant "Il Sottomarino" (FISH SPECIALTIES: https://www.ilsottomarino.it/)



The wines





An Etruscan SPA paradise just a few minutes from Follonica centre

- Calidario Etruscan SPA – among the best in the world. See: Calidario https://www.calidario.it/en/

The Etruscans, the people who inhabited Tuscany already a few thousand years ago, knew very well how to live and enjoy life. Their way of life was to work hard and efficiently, then eat delicious food of many kinds, drink the best wines and afterwards relax and enjoy life in natural, healing thermal baths. Maybe this was a lot of the reason why the Etruscans settled right here in Tuscany, not so much in other Italian areas, because this is the region that has absolutely everything, including many hot springs, today also many thermal pools and spa combined with excellent restaurants and good hotels.





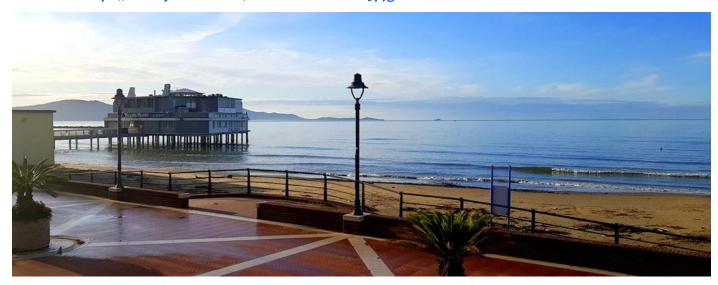






Why Follonica? Maybe even live here ...

- see video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ew1boWR3pfg



I like it here on the coast of Tuscany. I want to live here, at least part of the year, and here I / my group will offer houses and apartments for people who want a place to live, and help build a warm, international community like in a good, old-fashioned village – right here on the Tuscan coast, a project we on a modest scale start this autumn by offering apartments and houses for those who are interested, later by developing a separate village.

The Follonica Bay inside the Elba island offers some of the whitest sandy beaches of the Mediterranean ... as a setting for the slow, azure waters of the bay - while Tuscany's characteristic, undulating vineyards, mountains, cultural treasures and ancient Renaissance towns are only a short drive away ... from Follonica you can see with the naked eye Elba island in the west and the hills with vineyards and small villages in the east.

A WARM, SOCIAL COMMUNITY

Research shows that villagers are among the happiest people in the world. Two factors seemed to explain the good feelings: close social ties and a meaning to life (ref biologist Bjørn Grinde), and our goal is to facilitate such a community between people from several nations here in today's established Follonica, and eventually also build an entire village with housing and more outside Follonica town centre. The hope is to start building the village in about two years and be finished in about five years.

APARTMENTS & HOUSES AVAILABLE ALREADY IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR

Already this autumn, we will offer apartments and other types of housing for purchase or rent in existing Follonica and in the surrounding neighbourhoods, and in the late summer we will start selling and renting apartments, as well as start the process of creating a good social community for people from different nations!

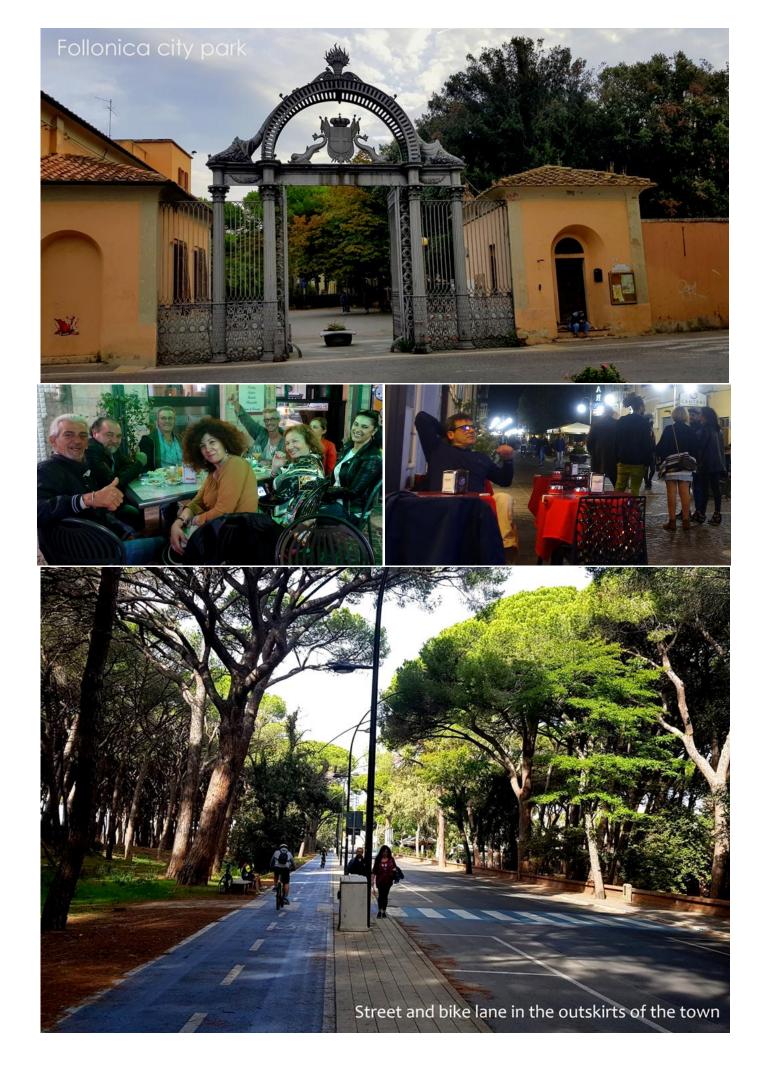
At the same time, we are in the process of building up a village organization in Norway. The goal is to develop the village model as "a healthy Norwegian brand" in several countries, and we are already involved in specific projects in this country - villages for homes as well as for cottages - with a number of joint initiatives that will characterize the villages in different ways. There will be close contact and exchange between the villages in Norway, Italy and eventually other countries. I envision that the city of Follonica will have an ever-growing crowd of residents from Norway and other countries participating in the community, with thoughts and input as the village is planned and progresses.

PRICES AND MORE

The purchase prices for apartments in Follonica are currently plus / minus EUR 3.000,-/m2 if you want a reasonably decent standard, ie around EUR 200.000,- for an apartment of 70 m2. We will eventually also offer houses and apartments for rent. We work with one of the region's most experienced real estate agents, and we have in place notaries and other / other things you must stop by when buying property in Italy. We also have bank contacts, such that the system we are now carefully building up after the age of the corona will represent a very serious, safe and flexible system for Norwegians and others who buy an apartment or house there. When we eventually become a larger grouping, we will also be stronger in relation to local authorities, etc. I also know personally both former and current Mayor and have in place a solid network in Follonica and Tuscany in general.

Follonica





My visions for a commitment in Follonica, Tuscany





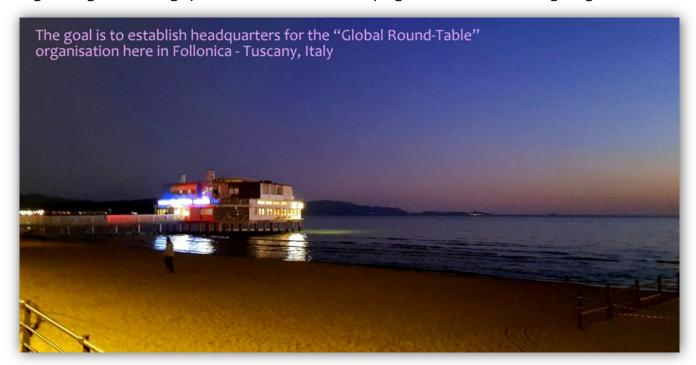


- A. To gradually develop an international society with a warm village spirit in the existing Follonica town.
- B. To find a separate land area for the development of an international village over the next 2 5 years.
- C. To develop a Global Round-Table Organisation with headquarters on the outskirts of Follonica town.

At the beautiful, azure blue Tuscany seaside:

Follonica town as an international village/society – and Casalappi Castle as headquarters for a "Global Round-Table Organisation"?

The castle is located only a few minutes' drive from Follonica town where we already this autumn start selling/renting out existing apartments and start developing our international village organisation.

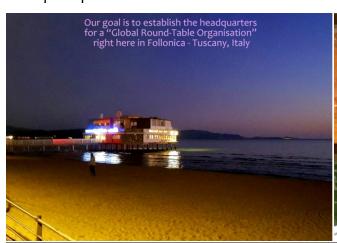




"Global Round-Table" – Follonica, coast of Tuscany

The goal is to establish the headquarters for a planned "Global Round-Table Organisation" right here in Follonica, at the beautiful coast of Tuscany in Italy.

Our "Global Round-Table" will be based on the principles of equality, tolerance, and mutual respect, a special form of communication and interaction where participants agree on specific topics from event to event and each person is given equal right to participate, symbolised by the idea of a circular table layout - physical or imaginary. The historical round-table was King Arthur's famed table, based on the same principle.





"Thank you for inviting me to the Round-Table. Your ideas about living a beautiful, enriching, dignified human life resonate with me deeply. It is a joy to witness the wonderment of human goodness and greatness in a fertile nurturing environment"

- Agnes Miller, State of New York, USA





The innovative ideas of a Tuscan Round-Table project appear to have beeen carefully conceived and developed, enabling people of good will to meet in ideal conditions to discuss issues of mutual interest while enjoing life together is indeed a useful and positive venture for our times.

This modern version of the Thélème Abbey (Rabelais) obviously has a great potential!

I fully support it.

- Attorney Yves Plasseraud, Paris.

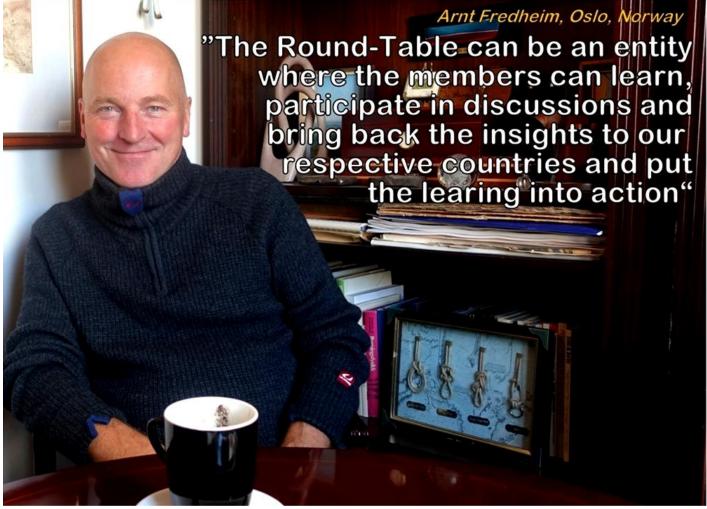


It's warming my Nordic/Sami heart

"Thank you for daring to think differently, and for bringing the Circle back into consciousness of the "square" world. The Norse society was the first modern democracy, and it is warming my Nordic/Sami heart to see that you carry this proud heritage back into the new world. It is soo important now, in these day og big changes. I'll help wherever I can be useful!"

- Lone Beate Ebeltoft, Tromsø, Norway

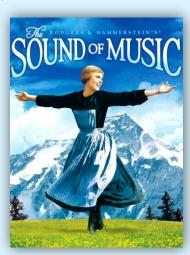




I got my original idea for a Global Round-Table in Salzburg, Austria, in 1981 – with Schloss Leopoldskron as the inspiring role model

The palace has been home to the Salzburg Global Seminar since 1947





In 1965 the film The Sound of Music, directed by Robert Wise and starring Julie Andrews, was produced in Salzburg with the grounds adjacent to those of Schloss Leopoldskron as one of the main locations.

By Aage Myhre

Early in the 1980s, while having a beer in a Salzburg bierstub, I fell into conversation with an elderly gentleman. I asked what he was working with, and he then pulled out a 1000-shilling note from his wallet, pointing to the picture of a castle, and said that was where he worked, as castle manager. The castle, he said, was named after Count Leopold Anton Eleutherius von Firmian (1679-1744).

Schloss Leopoldskron is a rococo palace and a national historic monument in a southern district of the city of Salzburg. The palace is located on the lake Leopoldskroner Weiher. Leopoldskron-Moos, an affluent residential area, reaches to the foot of the 1853m high Untersberg and features a number of still working farms as well as a peat-bog.

The palace has been home to the Salzburg Global Seminar since 1947. https://www.salzburgglobal.org/

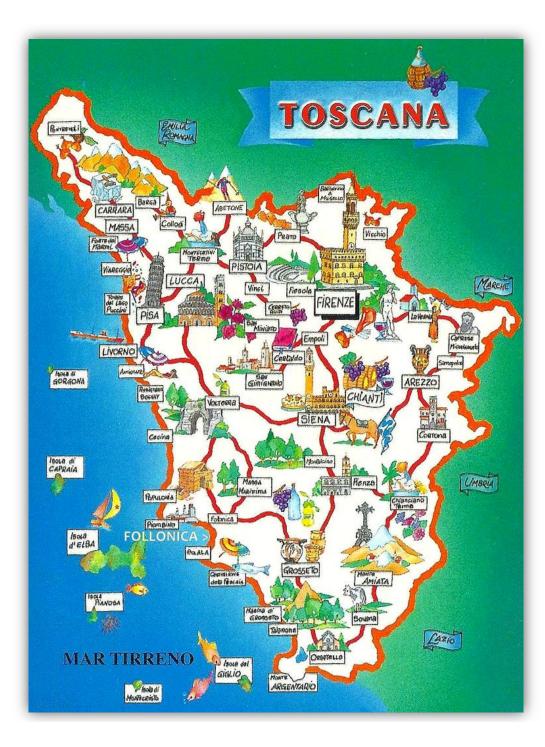
The Salzburg Global Seminar is an American non-profit organization that holds seminars on economics, politics, and other issues for future political, economic, and business leaders from around the world. Its purpose is to "challenge current and future leaders to develop creative ideas for solving global problems." and to "lead the conversation for global change" through seminars held at the Schloss Leopoldskron.

The organization was founded in 1947 by three men at Harvard University--Clemens Heller, a graduate student originally from Austria, a college senior named Richard Campbell and a young English instructor named Scott Elledge.

"We hope to create at least one small centre in which young Europeans from all countries, and of all political convictions, could meet for a month in concrete work under favourable living conditions,"

Campbell said of their intentions in January 1947, "and to lay the foundation for a possible permanent centre of intellectual discussion in Europe." The Salzburg Seminar, as it came to be called, was created to be a venue to encourage intellectual exchange among Europeans and Americans and to ameliorate rifts created by World War II.

Con amore



Why Tuscany?

Why we have chosen Tuscany and not another region in Italy or other countries for our planned international society and the Round-Table project? The thing is that for almost 47 years I have personally studied the many different regions from the far north to the far south of the country, driving around with my own car since 1977, and I have concluded that Tuscany's beautiful coast southwest of Florence is the perfect location for this project – both the Round-Table and the very Follonica village.

One of the most important things for me is that Tuscany is in many ways the cradle of our European culture, yes I dare say that had it not been for the pioneering ideas and attitudes of the Renaissance, we would have a completely different world than what we have today. So for me, this is not just about location, but also about culture, history and mindset.



THE RENAISSANCE - WHY AND HOW IT CHANGED THE WORLD?

– that cultural, political, scientific and intellectual explosion in Europe between the 14th and 17th centuries – represents perhaps the most profoundly important period in human development since the fall of Ancient Rome.

From its origins in 14th-century Tuscany, the Renaissance spread across Europe – the fluidity of its ideas changing and evolving to match local cultural thinking and conditions, although always remaining true to its ideals.

The Renaissance changed the world in just about every way one could think of. It had a kind of snowball effect: each new intellectual advance paved the way for further advancements.

Families such as the Medicis looked to the Ancient Roman and Greek civilisations for inspiration – and so did those artists who relied on their patronage.

Renaissance art did not limit itself to simply looking pretty, however. Behind it was a new intellectual discipline: perspective was developed, light and shadow were studied, and the human anatomy was pored over – all in pursuit of a new realism and a desire to capture the beauty of the world as it really was.

If the Renaissance was about rediscovering the intellectual ambition of the Classical civilisations, it was also about pushing the boundaries of what we know – and what we could achieve.

The Renaissance changed the world. You might even say it created all of what we now know as modern life.

"Never before (or since) had there been such a coming together of art, science and philosophy"



Follonica - surroundings:

All cities and districts of Tuscany are just a short drive away

Follonica is not an old city compared to the Renaissance cities further into Tuscany, but here we are right down by the most beautiful coast and beach Italy has to offer, and the more famous destinations are all within a relatively short drive! In Follonica you can swim, walk on the silky soft, white beach and enjoy the good, social life along the promenade and eventually in the international community we will now build ... And a short drive away you will find all the cities of the Renaissance, with associated art, music, literature and other cultural forms ... you can experience some of the world's most breathtaking landscapes and vineyards you can sail or do other water sports ... you can play tennis, golf, ski and do all kinds of sports ... TUSCANY - THE ART OF LIVING.



