



ROME NEW YEAR INFORMATION



**All the information you need
for taking part in Rome's
New Year Parade & Festival.**

ROME NEW YEAR

Here are some statistics about Rome New Year:

- Rome New Year is now in its 14th year
- Hundreds of thousands of spectators crowd the streets to witness the events
- 1,500 performers from the USA, UK and Italy
- A week of indoor and outdoor concerts in Rome and Frascati

Bob Bone, the event's Founder and Executive Director, tells you more.



DESTINATION EVENTS: ABOUT US



Rome New Year is organised by one of Europe's foremost event organisers – Destination Events Ltd.

Destination Events boasts a supremely accomplished, experienced and dedicated team of staff. They are expert not only in the production of world class events, but also in the delivery of superb hospitality arrangements and educational touring experiences for performers in their events.

The Comune di Roma, and the Arts and Cultural Departments of the City ensure that the Rome Parade is an outstanding event in Rome on New Year's Day. We, the organisers, receive from the Rome Administration every assistance in operating and presenting the event. The City of Rome actively supports and promotes the event.

Meet key member of the Destination Events team by visiting our [Destination Events](#) website.

With a dedicated team of experts and consultants, Youth Music sources groups for Destination Events to be considered for an invitation to Rome New Year. Once a group has been accepted for invitation by Destination Events and the Parade's Patrons and sponsors, Youth Music then develops a unique performance tour to make it possible for the group to participate in Rome New Year. Meet key members of the Youth Music team by visiting our [Youth Music website](#).



ROME NEW YEAR: THE PARADE

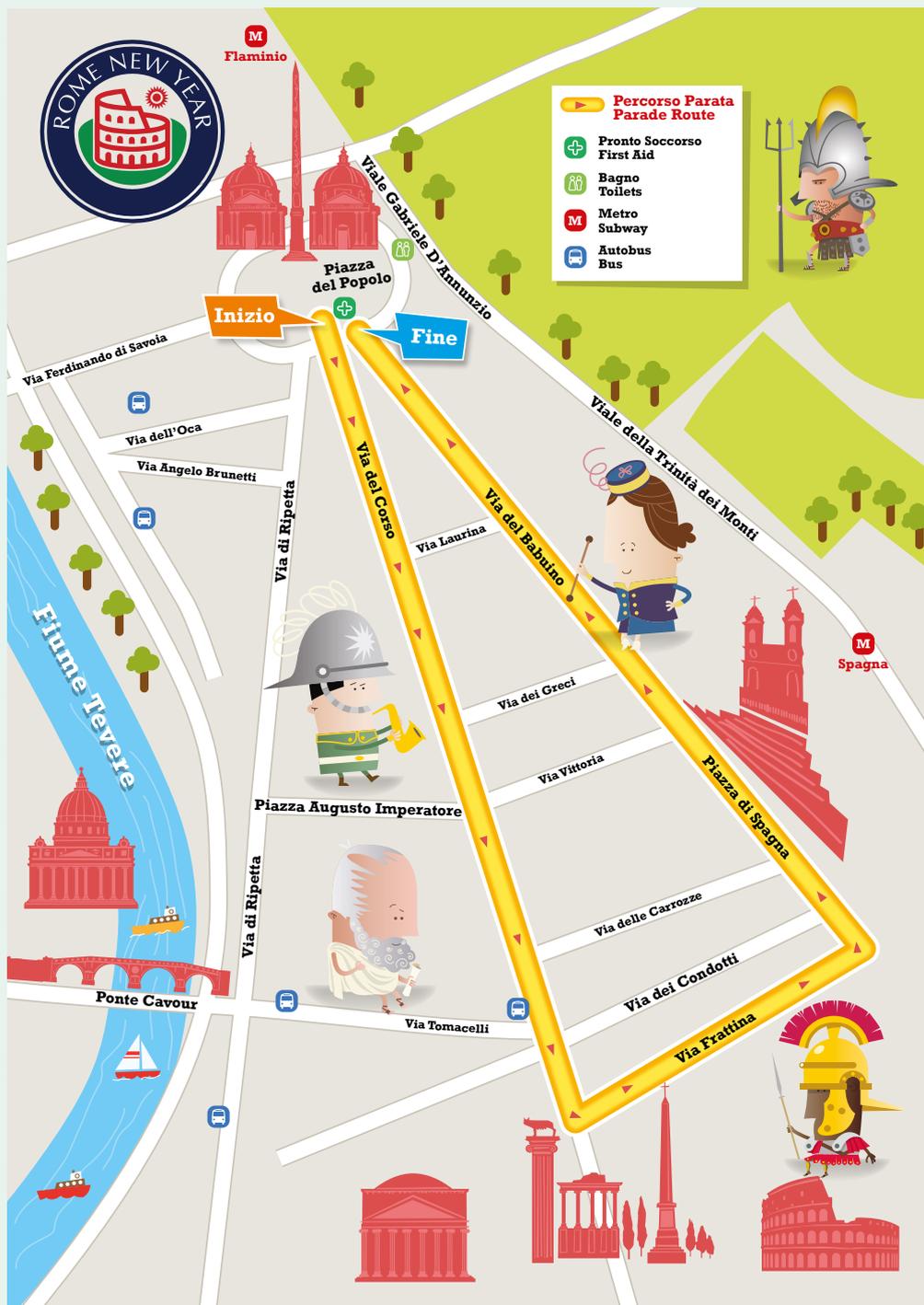
The Parade on January 1st is the central point of the week long Festival. Huge numbers of people come out to the route of the Parade to watch and enjoy the performances of all the acts taking part. The warm and friendly crowds are simply incredible. The Parade begins at 3:30pm and ends at 5:30pm; it passes through:

- [Piazza del Popolo](#)
- [Via del Corso](#)
- [Piazza di Spagna](#)

Find out more about the Parade by [clicking here](#).

Have a look at our Rome Parade map.

Dan Kirkby,
Communications
Director talks about
Rome.



ROME NEW YEAR: THE CONCERTS



In addition to the Parade, there is a splendid series of indoor and outdoor performance opportunities at superb venues in Rome. The concerts allow groups to showcase their musical skills and perform to audiences of Romans and visitors to the city.

Indoor Rome Concert venues include:

- [Santa Maria dei Miracoli](#)
- [Santa Maria in Montesanto](#)
- [Basilica Sant'Andrea della Valle](#)
- [Santa Maria in Portico in Campitelli](#)
- [The Papal Basilica of St Peter \(Vatican City, choral only\)](#)



Outdoor Rome Concert locations include:

- [Piazza del Popolo](#)
- [Pincio Terrazza](#)
- [Piazza Mignanelli](#)

Click [here](#) to read more about our selection of concert venues.

THE FRASCATI FESTIVAL

In addition to marching band performance opportunities in Rome, the [Frascati Festival](#) is held on the 31st December in the hilltop town of Frascati located thirty minutes outside of Rome. Frascati is famous for its porchetta and sparkling wine, its winding cobbled streets, independent shops, museums and churches. It is an important town for music and concerts.

Outdoor Frascati Concert locations include:

- Piazza Mercato
- Piazza San Pietro
- Viale Vittoria Veneto



Listen to Benita Wakefield the Production Director tell you more.



ROME NEW YEAR: PASSPORTS & VISAS



Before embarking on an international flight to Europe you must have a valid passport. The passport should have an expiry date of at least six months after the date you return into the United States. If you need to secure a passport for the first time please ensure that you do so as soon as possible. Allow an absolute minimum of eight weeks to secure your passport.

Holders of full USA passports (American Citizens) do not need a visa to enter Italy.

Holders of non USA passports may need a visa to enter the Italy. Full information of which passport holders do need visas to enter Italy are available on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy website. The same website will tell you where and how to apply for your visa. [Click here](#) to visit the website.

On occasions to secure a visa you will need a letter from Destination Events to confirm that you are a member of a performing group in the event and that you will be entering and leaving Italy on specific dates and that accommodation is provided for you whilst you are there. Destination Events can supply such a letter, but need a minimum of 10 days notice that such a letter is required. Some Visa applications can take several months so, if you do not have or are not eligible to have a full US passport, check if you need a visa and make your application as early as possible.

Non American Citizens staying in the USA on a Green Card should also check with the Department of Homeland Security to ensure that they will be able to re-enter the USA without difficulty after their visit overseas. [Click here](#) to visit the website.

We are committed to helping any group members who need assistance in the visa process.



ROME

USA

ROME NEW YEAR: GETTING YOU THERE

Youth Music's staff and consultants at Performance Travel Ltd (PTL) are experts in arranging air travel from the USA to Rome for groups invited to perform in Rome New Year*.

It is a complicated business arranging air travel for what are often very large groups. PTL work tirelessly to secure the best blocks of seats with the best airlines and the most convenient schedules for performing groups.

For travelling American groups we use a mixture of British and European airlines. There is not a huge amount of direct non-stop service to Rome but there are some flights from major US gateways with American Airlines, Delta and United Airlines. Where possible we try to make use of these services**. However, more often than not you can expect an intermediary European stop en route to Rome from most US gateways. This arrangement allows us to make use of the extensive flight network of such carriers as Air France/KLM, Lufthansa/ Swiss and British Airways. We try to ensure the stop en route is in the USA, allowing morning arrival times into Rome.

The service on all airlines in coach (economy) is much the same. You get a free main meal and drinks soon after take-off, and maybe a small snack meal before landing. All flights booked by PTL allow you one item of checked luggage. (We deal with the transportation of instruments and musical equipment in a very special and super convenient way). You get a 'carry on' as well – the sizes and weights allowed vary airline to airline. All airlines booked by PTL offer a good range of inflight entertainment.

Check out our airlines:

[United Airlines](#)

[American Airways](#)

[Delta Airlines](#)

[Al Italia](#)

[Swiss](#)

[Air France](#)

[KLM Airlines](#)

[Lufthansa Airlines](#)

[British Airways](#)



* Using the services of PTL to book your flights is not obligatory but is recommended.

** We do not mention the Italian airline 'Alitalia' as their financial position is precarious and we currently do not deem them sufficiently reliable for our groups.

ROME NEW YEAR: GETTING YOUR INSTRUMENTS & EQUIPMENT TO ROME



One of the most beneficial and appreciated elements included in the Destination Events portfolio and provided as part of the Youth Music programme to Rome, is the hassle free way that musical instruments and equipment are transported to Rome and back to the USA.

- All instruments*, uniforms and essential equipment** are collected from your home base in the USA – school, college, university, or rehearsal centre – and air freighted to Rome.
- Everything is delivered to your hotel in Rome just before you arrive and is placed in a secure storage facility exclusive to your group in your hotel.
- When all performances are complete, your consignment will be collected from your hotel and air freighted back to the USA and then delivered to your home base a few days after your return from Rome.

What do you have to do?

- Complete a detailed and precise ‘equipment and instrument’ manifest from our template.
- Ensure you have hard/durable cases and boxes for your consignment.
- Pack and label your consignment accordingly.

It’s so easy – let our Logistics Director, Joe Bone, tell you how.



* We recommend that smaller instruments – piccolos, flutes and even clarinets are either taken by individual performers in their checked luggage or consolidated in to larger boxes of multiple instruments for inclusion in the freight consignment.

** For concert performers we provide timpani, a limited number of pit instruments, string basses etc. without charge, and so these items do not need to be shipped.



ROME NEW YEAR: ACCOMMODATION



It is really important to Rome New Year organisers that every performer in the event has a great place to stay.

The hotels used are very carefully selected and regularly checked by Rome New Year staff to ensure that their standards are maintained.

All hotels used are categorised as superior first class. Standards of decor, furnishing and housekeeping are always high.

Most participants are accommodated 2 per room (2 beds or 1 Queen or King bed). Most hotels can offer limited numbers of 3 bedded rooms.

All bedrooms have private bathrooms (some with baths and showers and some with walk in showers only) with amenities included, for example soap, shampoo and shower gel.

All rooms have televisions, direct dial phones, and hair dryers.

All hotels offer complimentary wifi.

All rooms have mini bars that we ensure are either emptied or locked.

All hotels offer meeting room facilities to our groups and most offer rehearsal facilities.

All hotels provide locked and secure rooms for the storage of musical instruments and equipment.

Take a look at our current hotel portfolio:

[Marriott Courtyard](#)

[Barcelo Aran Mantegna](#)

[H10 Roma Citta](#)

[Crowne Plaza St Peter's](#)



ROME NEW YEAR: MEALS



Breakfast is included every day. A special buffet breakfast is offered to all groups in their hotel. Juices, fresh fruit, yogurts, bread and pastries, ham and cold meats, cheeses, plus always at least two hot items – eggs, and either bacon, or sausage or ham etc. Hot drinks will include coffee, hot chocolate and hot teas.

Dinner is included every day. On some days this is a pre-arranged buffet or plated meal served in a banqueting room at the hotel, on others it is a meal served in a typical Italian restaurants in the centre of Rome or on a sightseeing route.

A simple two course hot lunch is provided on the trip to Frascati, as well as on the day trip to Pompeii for the groups that chose that option. In addition a sack lunch is provided in the Parade Assembly area for all performers taking part in the Parade on New Year's Day. This lunch consists of a gourmet sandwich, a cake/brownie, fresh fruit and bottled water.



During your time in Rome one of your dinners will be a traditional three course Italian meal starting with a pasta dish, a risotto dish, or a substantial soup. This is followed by the secondo, a meat or fish dish served on its own without any accompaniment. Lastly there is the dolce (dessert) where tiramisú and gelato are firm favourites. The meal will be accompanied with opera singing from famous operas and plenty of audience participation.



ROME NEW YEAR: SIGHTSEEING

It is very important to us and to our Patrons, Sponsors and Supporters that all Rome New Year participants get a fantastic impression of Rome during the time they are here to perform. We start by securing great hotels, sourcing quality meals and, of course, providing excellent stages on which to perform. Then our brilliant team of experienced itinerary planners and hosts come into play to create and deliver a stunning collection of tours, visits and opportunities that give, in a short time, a terrific overview and introduction to the long history and rich culture of Rome.

Whenever motor coach transportation is included in our programme it is provided on luxury, modern, motor coaches, fully certified to the highest levels of industry safety and security and with experienced, safe and qualified drivers. Our motor coach providers have to submit proof of insurance cover to the equivalent of ten million dollars. Modern Italian motor coaches have large panoramic windows, state of the art sound systems, passenger seat belts and have effective air conditioning systems. All motor coaches provide a smoke free environment and our drivers are not permitted to smoke whilst on duty. All transportation for the Rome programme is by motor coach, no public transport is required.

Our guides are all fully qualified and licensed, and speak excellent English. We choose guides who are able to provide educational, interesting and fun commentary and who can relate well to students.



ROME NEW YEAR: TOURS



TOURS

Half day combined coach and walking tour of Rome

Once the capital of the huge Roman Empire, today it is the capital of Italy and contains the City State of the Vatican, headquarters of the Roman Catholic Church. The combined coach and walking tour of Rome uses chartered motor coaches and the services of fully qualified English speaking guides.

This half day tour will give an insight into the history and culture of Rome and provide the opportunity to photograph most of the famous buildings and landmarks. The coach portion of the tour takes you to the city walls of Rome, along the Tiber River, past Tiber Island, the Circus Maximus, and The Palatine and Capitoline Hills. After disembarking from the coach the tour will take you to more of the major landmarks in Rome, including The Spanish Steps, The Trevi Fountain and The Pantheon.

Half day tour of the [Colosseum and Forum](#)

This half day consists of a tour around the ancient [Roman Colosseum and Roman Forum](#). You will be guided by a specially produced Youth Music audio tour taking you around the largest amphitheatre built in the Roman Empire. Capable of seating 50,000 spectators, it was used for gladiatorial contests and public spectacles such as mock sea battles, animal hunts, executions and re-enactments of famous battles. A short walk from the Colosseum is the Roman Forum, the centre of the City around which ancient Rome developed, in which commerce, business and the administration of justice took place. The audio tour will take you to all of the most important ruins including the Arch of Titus, The Temple of the Vestal Virgins and the Curia where the Roman Senators met.

Half day tour of [The Vatican City](#)

This is a half day tour around [Vatican City](#), including entrances to The Vatican Museum, The Sistine Chapel and St Peter's Basilica with the services of a fully qualified English speaking guide. The Vatican City is a sovereign city-state, almost completely walled, within the city of Rome. It is the smallest independent nation in the world and is governed by the Pope, the Holy Father of the Catholic Church. The tour will start in the Vatican Museum where you will be taken through all of the rooms including the famous Raphael Rooms. The tour will then continue into the Sistine Chapel where you can see the



ROME NEW YEAR: TOURS, CONTINUED



Lizzie Bone, Operations Director explains hotels, meals and sightseeing.



famous ceiling fresco which Pope Julius II commissioned Michelangelo to paint in 1483, and which took him four years to complete! After visiting the Sistine chapel you will be taken into St Peters Basilica. St Peters is one of the largest churches in Christianity covering an area of 6 acres with a capacity of over 60,000 people. It is also one of the holiest sites of Christendom being the burial site of Saint Peter.

Full day guided tour to [Pompeii](#)

This day involves an early morning departure by coach from your hotel to [Pompeii](#), near modern Naples in the region of Campania. This day includes a tour of the city with a fully qualified English speaking guide, and lunch at the Hotel Victoria. Pompeii was buried under a layer of ash after the catastrophic eruption of the Mount Vesuvius volcano in AD 79. The city was lost for 1,600 years before its accidental rediscovery. Since then, its excavation has provided an extraordinarily detailed insight into the life of a city at the height of the Roman Empire. Today, it is one of Italy's leading tourist attractions and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The tour will take you around the preserved streets of Pompeii to see the old Roman temples, public baths and houses of the city.

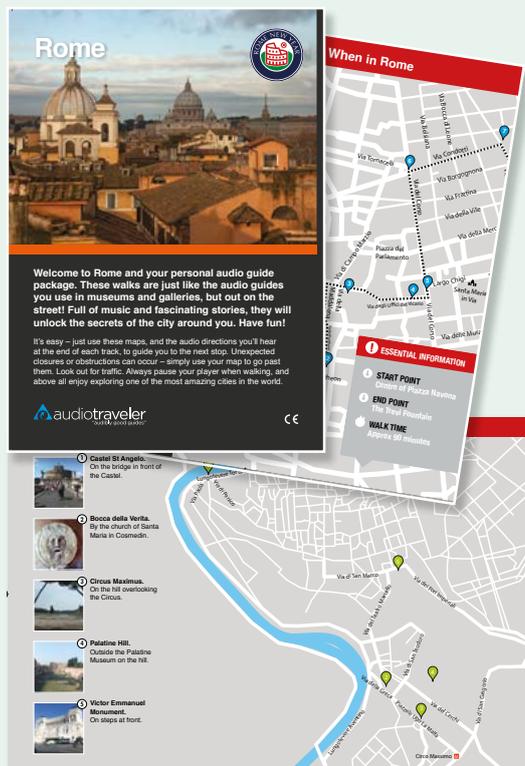
OR

Your day starts with your coaches taking you from your hotel to Roma Termini Station to catch the fast train to Santa Maria Novell Station, [Florence](#).

Your Tuscan experience starts as soon as you arrive in Florence, with our bespoke 2-hour self-guided tour using your personal audio players and maps created specially for Youth Music of the World by Audiotraveler Ltd. After your tour, there will be time for independent lunch in the central market area and free time to shop, whilst meandering around the ancient streets of Florence taking in more of the sights. You will return to Rome by fast train where your coach will be waiting to take you back to your hotel.



ROME NEW YEAR: GUIDED AUDIO WALKS WITH AUDIOTRAVELER



Destination Events has partnered with the market leader in audio guided walking tours, Audiotraveler Ltd, to exclusively create special tours for participants on programmes in Rome, London, Madrid and Paris. Only participants on our programmes have access to the fantastic tours which are updated and made even better each year.

The Rome walks and tours on your specially designed audio player have been carefully prepared by a knowledgeable team of historians and qualified guides whose material has then been developed by professional script writers and finally performed by the acclaimed radio actor Tyler Butterworth. Every group member will receive an audio player loaded with a selection of walks, tours and bonus tracks.

Walks

‘Rome Revealed’ – a two hour walk taking you to Campo dei Fiori, The Farnese Palace, Tiber Island and the bohemian Trastevere District.

Frascati – a walk around this delightful hilltop town overlooking Rome. The town is replete with history and culture not to mention terrific shopping and is also the venue of some of your festival performances.

Tour

Colosseum and Roman Forum – explore the first and second tiers of the Colosseum learning about the gladiators who competed in the games and the Emperors who decided their fates. Then continue on to tour the Roman Forum and admire incredible ruins, including the Temple of Julius Caesar and the Arch of Titus.

Get a taste of the audio walks, tours and tracks by clicking on the links below:

Santa Maria in Trastevere

Santa Maria is the oldest Church in Rome, located in the art district of Trastevere.

Campo de Fiori

The former flower market in Rome, today a market filled Piazza.

Colosseum

The largest amphitheatre on earth. In front of you stands the might of ancient Rome, written in stone: the legacy of the largest empire the world has ever seen.

Listen to Tyler Butterworth tell you about these wonderful walks.



ROME NEW YEAR: NEW YEAR'S EVE



It's time to party – but not till too late as you'll be taking part in Rome New Year the following day.

But we do throw a great party to welcome in the New Year.

- A private room is reserved at the hotel for you and all the other groups of performers staying in your hotel.
- The room will be prepared for the party by the hotel's tour assistants – you are always welcome to help out.
- We provide glow bands, balloons and party poppers to help the evening go with a bang!
- A top rated dj and light show will be provided with a terrific playlist of just about anything you can think of – give your tour assistant advance notice and your favourite tracks can be ready to go – or you can request on the evening
- All parties are 100% secure, free of alcohol, and exclusive to Rome Parade and Festival performers.



ROME NEW YEAR: UNIQUE SERVICE



We have been organising educational performance travel programmes for a long time and have developed what we consider to be the very best team of professionals to ensure that your programme to take part in Rome New Year is as good as it can possibly be. A little earlier we took a look at the great Destination Events team who organise Rome New Year and your hospitality arrangements. If you want to see these again just [click here](#).

Likewise you are in really good hands with the Youth Music/Performance Travel teams in the USA and Rome. Again if you want a reminder of who they all are just [click here](#).

So you have great people taking care of you but what else makes our service so special?

- **Our Group Organiser's Guide**

An absolutely invaluable manual detailing out every step of the way of how we need you to prepare for your group's participation in Rome New Year. This guide is delivered to you electronically in the early part of the year that you travel. Regular updates are sent as modifications and improvements are made.

- **Summer Site Inspection**

It is imperative that every group is represented by its leader/s on a fixed date Summer Site Inspection programme in Rome. On this site inspection there are a series of seminars, meetings, venue tours, Parade route walks and hotel tours that prepare you for leading your group at the end of the year.

- The ace up our sleeve is our team of **Tour Assistants**. Each group will be allocated one. Your Tour Assistant will have been carefully trained and will be an ever present resource of organisation, information and friendship whilst you are in Rome – '24/7', from the moment you arrive in Rome until the time you leave. During site inspection we will secure from you the profile of the type of person you want, and then we will make our staff allocation in November and have your allocated Tour Assistant contact you in December to introduce him or herself and see what they can do to help you in your last minute preparations. All our Tour Assistants have an excellent knowledge and passion for Rome New Year.



ROME NEW YEAR: IMPORTANT EXTRAS



For performers:

- All performers in Rome New Year are presented with a specially struck medal to acknowledge their participation in The Rome Parade.
- Every performer will receive a digital high resolution JPEG photograph of the band taken on New Year's Day.
- All non-performing members of your group will have a free place at all performances.



ROME NEW YEAR: SECURITY AND PEACE OF MIND



A comprehensive travel insurance policy is included for everyone on every performance tour programme to The Rome Parade and Festival.

Coverage includes:

- cancellation
- medical and emergency expenses
- personal accident
- baggage
- delayed baggage
- musical instruments
- rental or replacement musical instrument

This protects the vast majority of the performance tour cost should you be forced to cancel for a significant number of reasons.



ROME NEW YEAR: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?



Youth Music's (YM) Directors of International Participation, along with their Consultants are constantly scouring the Americas for groups we would like to invite to take part in Rome New Year.

If you are contacted by a member of the Youth Music team and are interested in going a step further, then Youth Music will put your name before the steering committee for approval. If you secure this approval then you will receive written confirmation that you have been accepted for invitation.

You will then enter into negotiations with Youth Music who will produce for you a document entitled 'Offer of Performance Tour'. This encapsulates your discussion with Youth Music, listing out the dates that you would travel and the gateway you would travel from, the number of places we can offer you, an exact listing of performance, hospitality and educational touring features, and a cost and payment schedule. The final page of this document requests that you secure signatures from all relevant parties that you may accept the offer.

Once accepted the Offer Document is returned to Youth Music/Performance Travel who then create a contract based on the contents of the Offer. Once you have signed and returned the contract you will then be contacted to set up a date for the presentation of the official invitation. This will be undertaken during a visit to your group in the USA by the Event Director or one of the Event Patrons. You are not invited, and the contract is not valid if you do not receive the official invitational visit.

Ela Gurmen, Manager of Rome New Year, welcomes you to Italy.





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