

## TRAVEL with Bates

By Sandi Bate



Discover the excitement of Rome, Italy; the Eternal City, one of the greatest centers of Western Civilization and the first truly cosmopolitan city in the world.

Rome belongs to the world. Here stood Mark Anthony, Caesar, Michelangelo and Da Vinci. Rome is ancient, modern, sophisticated, religious, cosmopolitan and historical.

Back in 1880, Elizabeth Field, heiress to the Chicago Marshall Field fortune, was so thrilled to have married a prince she built him a palace in Rome. The Brancaccio Palace. You can experience a gala dinner dance in her masterpiece. You can revel in cocktails, the sumptuous food, the flowing wines and dancing to the delightful Roman orchestra. This is only one example of enjoyment, congeniality and camaraderie that naturally flows when traveling in Rome.

Italy is the leading tourist country in Europe. Every year millions of visitors from other countries come to Italy. Rome is the capital and the largest city; it has been an important center of civilization for more than 2,000 years. Millions of visitors explore Rome's historic ruins, ancient monuments, and beau-

tiful churches and palaces.

Vatican City, the world center of the Roman Catholic Church, lies completely within Rome. Vatican City is the smallest independent state in the world. It serves as the spiritual and governmental center of the Roman Catholic Church; the largest Christian church in the world. Although Vatican City covers only 108.7 acres it exercises spiritual sway over 572 million followers.

The Vatican Palace is a group of connected buildings, chapels, apartments, museums, clustered around several open courts. The Pope's apartment, the offices of the Secretariat of State, and reception rooms and halls occupy one part of the palace.

Vatican Museum has a priceless collection of statuary with large sections devoted to Pagan and Christian inscriptions and Egyptian Antiquities. Some of Michelangelo's greatest paintings decorate the ceiling.

Tourists can also enjoy the art museums of Florence, the Beautiful Bay of Naples, and the great opera in Milan. Many vacationers enjoy the beaches of the Italian Riviera, the country's many lake resort, or the famous ski lodges in the

# BUSINESS

Alps. The tourist industry is one of Italy's more important businesses.

The historic land of Italy is a peninsula that extends into the Mediterranean Sea from southern Europe. The country also includes two large islands, Sardinia and Sicily. Italy is shaped like a boot with the toe pointed toward Africa.

Northern Italy is one of Europe's most modern and wealthy industrial areas. Southern Italy is poor and largely agricultural. Much of the land is dry and stony with tremendous mountains.

Italy is one of the world's

largest wine producers, and grapes are grown in all parts of the country.

Pasta is the basic food throughout Italy. Pasta includes spaghetti, macaroni, ravioli, lasagna, and vermicelli. Italy has a Spaghetti Historical Museum which shows the history of the food. Pizza is another popular dish. Butter, olive oil, and tomatoes are often used in Italian cooking. Almost every region has its own food specialty.

Opera is popular in Italian cities. The most famous opera house is La Scala in Milan. In summer, operas are held outdoors in the ruins of the Baths in

Rome.

Italians also like many kinds of popular music. They enjoy sports, soccer, bicycle racing, and auto racing. Bowling on a court of flattened soil is a favorite game. For more than 2,000 years, the Italian people have been leaders in architecture, painting sculpture, and other fine arts.

Some of the greatest artists of all time were Italians. The Renaissance is an outstanding period of achievement in the arts which began in the 1300's and reached its peak there.

Take a travel opportunity to savor an intimate look at fasci-

nating Italy.

### TRAVEL TIPS

**Language** - The official language is Italian however English is prominently spoken.

**Money** - The basic unit is Lira. Take extra money for unique purchases.

**Museums and Libraries** - Italy has more than 70 government-owned museums and art galleries. Many of them are former palaces of kings or the houses of royal families.

**Climate** - The climate is generally warm, because the Alps protect the country from the cold air of the north. Winter is rainy and cloudy.

## SBA BOOSTS SMALL FIRMS' CHANCES TO LAND FEDERAL PROJECT CONTRACTS

WASHINGTON — A just-completed overhaul of the largest federal database of small businesses willing to do work for the government is expected to lead to increased contracting opportunities for those firms, according to the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). The federal government now spends almost \$200 billion per year for various goods and services.

The SBA database, the Procurement Automated Source System (PASS), is used by federal purchasing agents and

prime contractors looking for firms to work on federal projects. Over 236,000 small companies across the country are now in the PASS system and more than 850 buyers from the public and private sectors scan the system.

In PASS, detailed company profiles are maintained "on line" (accessed by computer modem) in the fields of manufacturing, construction, services, and research and development.

With the expanded capabilities, users can now tailor their searches for a specific company name, key words describing a product or service, Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) or

Federal Supply Classification (FSC) codes, among other criteria. The time it takes for searches has been reduced to just a few seconds, rather than several minutes under the old procedures. Computer searches can also be made according to ownership profiles, which tell prospective buyers whether the businesses listed are owned by minorities, women or veterans. Currently, there are on file 38,000 minority-owned firms, 53,200 women-owned concerns and 69,700 companies owned by veterans.

Last year, federal agencies spent more than \$109 billion,

much of that in military purchases, and around \$43 billion in federal contract awards went to small firms. An additional \$23 billion in subcontracts was awarded to small businesses by the federal government's prime contractors.

The SBA considers PASS, first introduced in 1978, as a highly effective tool in introducing small businesses to buyers involved with government projects. For more information or for an application to enter the PASS system, contact the nearest SBA office, or call toll-free 1-800-8-ASK-SBA (1-800-827-5722).

## UNION EQUITY PARTNERS, THE FIRST UNION SECURITIES FIRM IN AMERICA, PROMOTES FIVE SENIOR EXECUTIVES

Las Vegas, Nevada - Union Equity Partners (UEP), America's first and only unionized securities brokerage firm, recently announced the election of five UEP executives to new positions of responsibility.

Michael D. Moody, the first securities broker to be employed

when the company opened just a year ago, is now President, and Fred T. Snyder is Secretary-Treasurer.

Three Executive Vice President positions have been created and the three executives in those positions have also been elected to the UEP Board of

Directors. They are Bonny A. Robison, Michael E. Sample, and Garren J. Sepede.

"Our extraordinary growth in the last year in Las Vegas which has seen the firm go from its initial five employees to twenty today, also requires that we have a General Manager. That position will be filled by Executive Vice President Garren J. Sepede," said Jerry Smiley, UEP Chairman.

UEP is a full service securities broker/dealer with headquarters at 1701 W. Charleston Blvd., Suite 300 in Las Vegas. In addition to being union members, the employees are part-owners of the firm, which is a correspondent of Prudential Securities.

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