



Virginia Tech RSAP Summer 2019

Italy | Switzerland | Germany | Austria

Each year, Solstice partners with a select number of universities to create one-of-a-kind, fully customizable study experiences around the world. With careful guidance from Solstice's team of American and international educators, Virginia Tech RSAP students will gain invaluable insight into Europe's visionary science tradition and the future of some of its most relevant industries.

Solstice provides three core services: (1) assistance in developing your program itinerary; (2) comprehensive pre-departure support (see www.studycli.org/rsapeurope19); and (3) facilitation of all logistical provisions (e.g., domestic and international airfare, buses, hotel accommodations, restaurant recommendations and bookings, activity planning, and Solstice program leaders).

Please note that while the spirit of the below schedule will remain unchanged, certain aspects — in consultation with VT faculty leaders — are subject to be updated. Company and university visits are typically scheduled one to four months prior to program start date. As a result, our proposal may include a few placeholders for unspecified visits. Each will be specified in the months leading up to May 2019, and this process will be completed in close collaboration with Virginia Tech faculty leaders. Solstice maintains a strong track record of providing engaging and impactful company visits to both highly localized firms as well as multinational corporations. As always, please feel free to contact us anytime if you have questions, requests, and/or suggestions during the program planning and implementation process.

Our team looks forward to welcoming VT RSAP back to Italy, Switzerland and Germany in 2019!

May 19 - May 23: Italy | Masters of Design and Gastronomy

Day 1 | Sunday, May 19 (USA to Milan)

All Day Fly from Washington, DC to Milan, Italy

Day 2 | Monday, May 20 (Milan)

Early Morning	Arrive in Milan and travel into the city <i>While traveling into Milan, engage in a comprehensive orientation session to understand and conceptualize the journey ahead, and share program goals and expectations amongst your fellow travellers.</i>
Late Morning	Embark on a guided bus and walking tour of the streets of Milan
Early Afternoon	Small group lunches on your own before continuing tour
Late Afternoon	Check into your hotel; free time to relax or explore on your own
Evening	Group welcome dinner followed by gelato dessert!



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Day 3 | Tuesday, May 21 (Milan)

Morning	Visit the Politecnico di Milano campus for an engineering-focused lecture and cultural exchange with local engineering students
Noon	Group lunch near the university
Afternoon	Visit Arup Milan offices for a presentation on their local engineering projects
Evening	Free time to explore the city and small group dinners on your own

Day 4 | Wednesday, May 22 (Milan to Parma)

Early Morning	Check out; relax on a scenic bus ride to Sant'Agata Bolognese (~3 hours)
Late Morning	Tour the Lamborghini Factory & Museum <i>Gain an insider's look into this famous Italian brand's manufacturing factory for luxury supercars and sports cars as well as its accompanying museum.</i>
Early Afternoon	Drive to Parma (~1 hour) and check into the hotel; group lunch and free time to explore <i>The city of Parma is often recognized for its famous Parmesan cheese and prosciutto, as well as its Romanesque buildings gracing the city center.</i>
Late Afternoon	Take a behind-the-scenes tour of Monte Vigne winery to see how authentic Italian wine is made
Evening	Free time to enjoy small group dinners and explore the city

Day 5 | Thursday, May 23 (Parma)

Morning	Free time to explore on your own!
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May 24 - May 26: Switzerland | The Leading Edge of Scientific Discovery

Day 6 | Friday, May 24 (Parma to Geneva)

Morning	Embark on a train journey to Geneva (~4.5 hours); small group lunches on the train; check into your hotel upon arrival <i>Geneva is a global hub for diplomacy and banking, housing the headquarters of the UN and the Red Cross. Take in gorgeous views of the surrounding Alps and Mont Blanc while traveling in this unique city.</i>
Early Afternoon	Engage in interactive exhibits at the Wyss Center for Bio and Neuroengineering
Late Afternoon	Visit the Verbois Dam for a behind-the-scenes guided tour <i>Verbois opened in 1944 and is the principal hydroelectric works on the Genevan Rhone. The plant includes the dam and its four channels with two sluice gates each, as well as four Kaplan turbines and two lateral dykes. It's the largest source of electrical energy production in Geneva.</i>
Evening	Enjoy a group dinner downtown



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Day 7 | Saturday, May 25 (Geneva)

Morning	Visit CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research <i>CERN boasts the Large Hadron Collider, the world's largest machine and most powerful particle accelerator. Among other historic accomplishments, CERN is also the birthplace of the World Wide Web.</i>
Noon	Small group lunch on your own at the CERN cafeteria
Afternoon	Take part in a walking tour of the city's top attractions, including Jet d'Eau, Lake Geneva, and Palais des Nations, home to the UN's headquarters and several additional international organizations
Evening	Free time for small group dinners

Day 8 | Sunday, May 26 (Geneva)

All Day	Free time; suggested activities include Conservatory and Botanical Garden and Geneva Ethnography Museum
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May 27 - June 1: Germany | A High-Tech Powerhouse

Day 9 | Monday, May 27 (Geneva to Munich)

Early Morning	Fly nonstop from Geneva to Munich (~1.5 hours)
Late Morning	Arrive and head directly to Dachau Concentration Camp for a self-guided visit
Early Afternoon	Group lunch at Dachau cafeteria; head to Munich and check into your hotel
Late Afternoon	Embark on a walking tour of Munich
Evening	Free time to explore Munich and enjoy small group dinners on your own

Day 10 | Tuesday, May 28 (Munich)

Morning	Take a behind-the-scenes guided tour of the BMW Welt Factory and Museum <i>Engage in an exciting behind-the-scenes tour of all areas of production of this iconic automobile, from the press works to its assembly.</i>
Afternoon	Visit the engineering department of the Technical University of Munich <i>Engage in one-on-one cultural exchange activities, tour the campus with local university students as guides, and attend a guest lecture on Germany's largest engineering projects.</i>
Evening	Free time in Munich to explore with local peers

Day 11 | Wednesday, May 29 (Munich)

Morning	Company visit to Transsolar Klima Engineering <i>This international climate engineering firm creates exceptional spaces with a positive environmental impact. Their engineers are not just experts in physical</i>
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principles; their creativity enables the collaboration necessary to develop deeply integrated comfort and energy concepts.

Noon

Group lunch

Afternoon/Evening

Free time

Day 12 | Thursday, May 30 (Munich to Salzburg, Austria)

Early Morning

Travel by bus to Salzburg, the birthplace of Mozart (~1 hour 45 min)

Late Morning

Engineering company visit to a local firm

Noon

Group lunch in Marktplatz

Afternoon

Embark on an underground tour of the Salzbergwerk Berchtesgaden Salt Mine

Evening

Free time and small group dinners on your own

Day 13 | Friday, May 31 (Salzburg)

Morning/Afternoon

Free time to explore on your own!

Evening

Enjoy a festive group farewell dinner with your peers and program leader!

Day 14 | Saturday, June 1 (Munich to Washington, DC)

All Day

Depart for Munich and fly back to the USA

Please see the following page for additional information.