October 3, 2005 - Always a pleasure to come back to CasaActun. Melk
gracias a Luciana for taking us back through some
wonderful memories

Eric & Susan Wise
spring 1977

November 2005 - It is impossible to believe that I am standing here with Luciana a
Mamm after 14 years. Time stands still here, it seems. My heart returns often
to this place and the most wonderful moments of my life. I am a lucky woman.

Love, Venezia

Giovanni Rizzo, Fall 1977
OK, I guess I'll give it a go:

Think about what you want to get out of this semester.

- Learn the language?
- See the sights?
- Make great friends with the casa?
- Balance everything.

Get past the "I'm too shy to talk to this Italian dude" fast. Get past being homesick, you want to be homesick so you enjoy the goal of US offA. There ARE ways to get to San Marco and Rialto without seeing a single tourist.

The bedroom doors downstairs are locked and the doors are not locked. (Just found that out an hour ago.)

Cook a lot. Eat out a lot. Gain weight. Lose it when you get home. F. Bicci

Mondo club Chigiri's where the party's at last classroom. The water's not THAT dirty, take a dip. Travel Europe but stay in Italy more than I did. Just think about the big picture + make a goal it. Go nuts! - Parker spryly spry spicey oopsie.
Welcome to Casa Anton. It's a great house so enjoy it. Venice is an amazing city. See all of it, not just San Marco & Rio. Walk around as much as possible & use a map only when absolutely necessary. Don't stress about class, it's not worth it b/c the experiences you have at the house is more important than a simple grade. Travel as much as possible. Don't worry about money because everything is worth the expenses that they cost. (People that know me would probably call me out on that last sentence.) Anyway, Aqua alta is fun & so is jumping in the grand canal. Don't believe what they say when people tell you you will get sick. Oh yeah, one great idea that I wanted to do is play football in San Marco during Aqua alta. You can't be afraid of bird poop though. Hopefully you come w/ a great teacher, that makes the experience much more enjoyable. Don't get too frustrated by the Italian inefficiency, it will drive you crazy but in the end you want want to leave. Whatever you do here will be amazing so have fun. Learn the language and travel to new places. Buy 2 liter bottles of wine, they are delicious. Now I'm just writing to take up more space. I don't really have any other advice that hasn't been said by my other house members or by the other groups throughout the years. Oh yeah, don't get too pissed at people constantly coming in for a tour of the house, it's annoying, but that may be me in the future. Oh yeah, watch out for Italian guys, you'll figure it out. Venice is such a cool city, don't be afraid to act like a stupid American. I mean if we start acting like everyone else then none of the stereotypes will work for us. Alright, just about done with my message.

Long story short, is a phrase w/ origins that are complicated and rambling. I got nothing else to say but just have fun! Best damn time you can have it goes extremely fast. —Josh Greene

So, after living here for about 4 months now, I've learned that the ONLY Italian you need to know is:

Ciao! Alora, si, valente, no, basta, and ciao grazie ciao ragazzi ciao!

Say those words (preferably in one breath) and you have mastered Italiano. Seriously, that's all anybody ever says ever.

Oh, and whatever Josh, Brion, and Tripp and Parker tell you to do, don't. You'll either die or get arrested... believe me I've seen it happen.

Go out and enjoy the city and more importantly enjoy the people here; because no one back home will truly understand your experiences but the people you live with here.

Don't say Aqua alta and get in it... you won't regret it. No other city in the world has anything else like it.

Don't rely on Italians, wait, make them Europeans to ever be on time or organized.

Casa Anton is an amazing house and an unbelievable experience. This program is Wake Forest. It's one of the most important part of Wake. Don't ever let it end.

Get Paolo Venardol to teach you how to make a Sprite... a valuable life lesson.

Drink a lot of coffee

Chill out.

Could some one find out what those words actually mean?? What does Alora mean; it's the same as valente and cosi and ma and vabene!!!

Basta!

Will Dickinson
December 9, 2005
I wish that I did not have to leave Venice and Casa Artom tomorrow after spending four amazing months here. I forget what “real life” feels like without the incredible sights and sounds that I have almost come to take for granted. I hope that whoever reads this has plenty more time in Venice to enjoy every second. Some advice: Go to Bar da Gino’s with Matteo every day for a cappuccino or my favorite sandwich, the ortolano. Walk on the zattere at sunset...there is nothing else like it. On that note, just get out and walk as much as possible—get lost, shop the Rialto Market, sit down somewhere and just take it all in. Also, find a Venetian at a restaurant or store and take a personal investment in them—our favorites were Kaiya (the kebab volguy), Rosella (antique jewelry lady in San Angelo) and of course everyone at Bar da Gino’s (especially Matteo) and the waiters at San Trovaso. Go to Ristorante San Trovaso because the atmosphere is much better and the prices are the same as Taverna. Although I do not think that Casa Artom could ever see a more unified group than ours, make sure that you get to know your housemates! Group dinners (out or huge feasts at the casa!), dance parties in the projector room, and just sitting around together talking about anything will be my most cherished memories from this place. It will be amazing to take our unique connection back to the Wake Campus in the spring. And we were so lucky that we were able to form such a tight bond throughout the semester. Do not put too much pressure on your experience here because it can be stressful to plan trips—but just remember to relax and enjoy every single second. Don’t take the schoolwork too seriously either because it’s just not worth it—go outside and do something Venetian. I could definitely give advice for several pages because there are so many incredible things to do in Venice. Your experience is what you make it and I hope that everyone after me is lucky enough to spend a semester with a great group of people and discover all that Venice has to offer. It’s weird that I will never live here again, but I can’t wait to come back and see Venice from a completely different perspective.” Enjoy being a local here because you definitely get treated much better! Thanks to all of my housemates who will always be my “Casa Artom!” - Caroline Anderson

8:21:05 - 12:10:05

December 9, 2005
It’s so hard to put this semester into words... all I have to say is that you can’t take any moment for granted, you have to live everyday like its the last, because pretty soon it will be you, and you’ll be writing in this book before you know it. If you are out wandering, the city, wonderfarin. If you and your housemates are lingering after dinner, linger longer. If you are laughing with your roommates, laugh louder. You have nothing to do here but enjoy it. Really get to know your housemates, and professors. I have met the most amazing people here and this experience wouldn’t have been the same without them. Don’t be afraid to get to know Venice. Know that you can wander everywhere and talk to any (Venetian minor exception: a few of the “bella” ladies who shall be remained anonymous). You get to know the city inside and out and have been the greatest solucion of all. Get out and wander for hours taking pictures of anything—there’s nowhere in this city that’s not breathtakingly beautiful, say hello to “Helene” at the meat shop, everytime you walk by this friendly hellos will make your day, but at Bar da Gino’s and people watch, and of course make laughs jokes with Matteo and Gabriele. Go and sit at the park (past the animals/duomo). Sitting there and just looking through the sunsets is something I’m going to miss so much, wander into random churches, go running on the zattere. At the venice film festival you might see George Clooney, eat breakfast on the terrace, jump “aula Pagnotti” into “Club Pagnotti”. Dance, laugh, mixer, relax, and some moments you just have to take a step back, breathe, and realize that you get to spend 4 months in a Palace on a Grand Canal. “It’s a beautiful day, don’t let it get away!”

8:21:05 - 12:00:05
December 9, 2005

I have been dreading this day all semester, and since time plus by so incredibly fast there, the day to leave an amazing paradise has come! These past few months have felt like a dream, and never in my lifetime will I forget all of those special memories. The friendships and the experiences I have gained are all precious and completely unforgetable. I am sitting in my favorite room of the house as I write this, on my favorite cozy couch next to the Grand Canal! Venice will hold a very special place in your heart, Venice as a city and all the people you share it with. My only advice is to live every day here as if it were your last and only. Take advantage of every moment, get to know our neighborhood, and just consider Venice as home, it has and will be "home" to me, and soon it will be yours as well. Ciao for now.

- Kristina Iversen
FALL 2005
August 21 - December 10

Dear peeps,

So, ya, listen to this advice,

1) Get to know housemates, b/c it’s not where but who you are with that really matter (thanks Dave)

2) Bring IPOD to Bella... turn it up loud... drown at everything else

3) Have an amazing time! See everything and nothing, do what you want sometimes (b/c it’s fun to just be who you are in this crazy place

4) Go to Bar Da Giuno!

Basta!! I will miss Artoooooom

Yay!! Have fun!!!

Hug Paolo

December 10, 2005

Only four short months ago when I arrived in Venice, I sat here on this same couch looking out onto the Grand Canal, reading all the advice of former Casa Artom students and thinking about how far away this day was. But now it’s my turn to write, to say final words of wisdom to future students, and to enjoy this incredible room one last time. In reality there are no words to describe the experience that you will have living at Casa Artom. Of all the places I’ve traveled this semester, Venice is and always will be my favorite because it is now “home” to me. As for advice—wander around Venice by yourself—get to know the random little cafes on your own. Have fun traveling in Europe, but make sure to spend a few weekends just in Venice—you won’t regret it. Never put off doing something another day because one day it will be your last day here. Get to know the people in the neighborhood—Matteo, Stefano, and even Mauro. And finally, bond with your housemates—they’re the ones who will make your time here truly special and absolutely unique.

Venetia, ritornerd…

P.S. If you go to Florence, go to Perche No Gelateria and get a cone of pistachio for me!
9 December 2005

Well, it's actually 2:00 am now, so I suppose it's 10 December, but that's not important. I want you to know how fortunate you are to be here, in this house, in this place, and in this time. It will be hard sometimes and you will have bad days, but you will have a million moments that take your breath away. You have a house full of people who have probably felt the same way - don't lose sight of how important your housemates are! One of my favorite things about my experience here is that I came into it and I go out of it differently. I am in a wildly different place than I was four short months ago. Don't be afraid of those changes. It just happens. So let it." I am tickled to death every time I think of the ways these people have changed me so, spend time together. Take a real interest in the people with whom you share this space. Secondly, take a real interest in this place. Venice is a place unlike any other; you will be affirmed of this belief after travelling more. It is so full of idiosyncracies and I adore it for that. Things happen here that could happen nowhere else in the world. You will know what I mean! Get lost here and look around: you will surprise and horrify yourself by how the incredible beauty of this city becomes oiled hat. Learn something new every day - it won't be hard to do. Talk to people and invest time in them. Some of the most important lessons that I can't stand to go are: Matteo at Bar da Bino and his lovely teasings, Nauvo and his obsession with American women, looking for peace, Kari at Kebab at Volo who spoils us rotten and Rosella at La Stanza Delle Soprae in Campo San Angelo - ladies, this girl has really fabulous antique jewelry that she makes herself. She only speaks Italian and I could just eat her up! She's wonderful! You will get out of Venice and your time here what you put into it. So take chances and laugh all of the time. Life reads "live each day as if it were an experiment." I love that quote and I would want you to do the same. I guess just be present here. Be open to new people, new challenges and new happiness. Also, smells and sounds will stay with you long after you're left, so take it all in. Treat yourself to something totally fabulous and dangerously cheesy, patries, gelato, whatever your thing is - you won't regret it! I didn't say it enough while we were here, so I'll say it now: thank you to my housemates, you have made an indelible mark on my experience and in my life. I will hear echoes of Venice for a very long time and I do believe your voices and your laughter will often be the sounds I miss most! VIVA LA CASA!

Con l'amore, Nina Binocchio 21 August 2005
10 December 2005

P.S. It is absolutely relevant to be curious about the Babay Christ - don't you ever forget it!
December 9, 2005

It is really ridiculous to me, still, the fact that we are all leaving tomorrow and we won't live here anymore. These four months have really changed my life and it is only now looking back that I realize how far I've come. I came into this semester excited to be abroad but also pretty heartbroken to part with my life at Wake Forest. Now, I'm heartbroken to part with Venice. Advice I would give to future residents of Casa Atoma would first and foremost be to get close, crazy close, to the people you live with. I was fortunate enough to have the 2 most fabulous roommates, who really are my soulmates in a lot of ways, and I can't imagine this semester, or my life, without them. It is so important to find people to laugh with on late night train rides, cracked-out hotels in Florence, Cem in Barcelona, pubs in Dublin, giant smoos in Amsterdam and anywhere else you might find yourself. Bond with your entire house. One thing I wish we had done earlier was take a weekend trip with the whole house. With 19 people the logistics would have been messy but it would have been worth it. Finally, this is an insanely gorgeous place and if you're like me you might not realize how much you're going to miss it until you're leaving. I'll miss it very much.

Until next time,

Betsy Brown

August 21, 2005

December 10, 2005

You will figure this all out yourself in due time:

- drink coffee, eat pastries - don't worry about your weight
- have dance parties in the art classroom
- look out the window, you've probably forgotten where you are
- don't call home very often, you're not missing much
- Aqua Alta = Aqua Awesome
- have sleepovers, late night talks, hugs, liters of wine on random weekdays
- don't worry about school work
- love your housemates, discover yourself
- kidnap pigeons from San Marco and bring them to the house
- kiss Paolo and Marissa at every given chance

Ciao a presto,

Jill Bridgy
Ciao!

What a ride this has been and always will be in my mind forever. Beginning from the first day when I arrived and thought it was Disney World until tomorrow morning when I leave, Casa Arton is a memory maker. I’ve met people here who will be lifelong friends, I’ve traveled with lots of different combinations of people and get the opportunity to know each of them well, and I’ve learned a lot about myself. I hope that as you read this, you are still enamored by everything around you — I promised myself the very quiet day that I arrived in Venice that by the time I left, I would still look around at my surroundings with awe, admiration, and appreciation. Please remember to pinch yourself every once in a while to remind yourself that you are living like a king/queen. The word literally THE WORLD — is waiting for you to explore it. I traveled as much as possible, and though these journeys, I think I learned the most about myself. Remember to take moments to stop, look, and listen — stop the busy schedule, look at beauty around you, and listen to the people around you and yourself. Some of the best memories I have are right here in Casa Arton, our neighborhood, and Venice. Take the time to leave the house and explore. Don’t be afraid to go downtown a city you have never been before because that is where you find the best places in Venice. Go to San Marco and therie at night, hang out with your housemates and get to know them because you definitely won’t regret it. Try to stay open to new ideas, cultures, opinions, etc. — it is those moments that you grow the most. Also, get to know the people and the community — buy meat at Stazione, buy bread in Campi San Barnaba, go to the vegetable stand in Campo Santa Margherita, go to Rialto. Obviously go to Bar da Gino, and acquaint yourself with local stores. Venice is really a city and we ARE a part of it! And, if I had to give you one piece of advice, it would be this: BE HAPPY!! This is your time to have the time of your life, and no one can ever take that away from you. Do what makes you happy and whatever will give you the most happiness over your time here at Casa Arton. I wish that I could better put into words how much this experience has meant to me, but you will find out! Make every day count because time flies by when you’re having fun. I can’t believe this is goodbye for me already, but I would rather just say “Amoretti.” For now, smile, it will be back and I only hope that I will find many more students who have written in this book and who enjoyed Venice as much as I have. Thank you, Casa Arton.... You will always be my home away from home. Until next time, may many more dreams be realized, much happiness found, and many more footsteps walked to bring me back to where I will always have a piece of my heart....

On behalf of Casa Arton Fall 2005

December 10, 2005 10:00 am

To whoever is reading this right now I am jealous of you because you are in Casa Arton in the most amazing city!! My time here has been absolutely amazing and I have been dreading writing in this book because that means it’s time for me to leave. I am not ready to leave this city, this house, and especially these people, some of the most amazing people I have ever met. To whoever is reading this please remember every time you walk over academia bridge to stop and take in the view and realize, yes that really is my address right on the Grand Canal right next to Peggy’s. Travel as much as possible, see the world, experience new cultures, don’t only go to London and Paris, check out Slovenia and Palermo, trust me you’ll come back with stories to last a lifetime, sleep on trains, go to San Marco at midnight, hang out w/ your housemates, get to know them and only make your experience here richer. Go to Bar da Gino’s at least once a day for your coffee fix. Enjoy every min of it. You are at such an amazing time and place in your life, enjoy every minute of it. You’ll laugh, you’ll cry, you are in for the ride of your life and it will all be over all too soon, make it count! Thank you Venice, thank you Casa Arton, thank you Dr. It was this place will always have a special place in my heart so wait until next time.

Viva la Casa! Katie Whelley Casa Arton Fall 2005
December 10, 2005

Start at the front door (the one your dog works at) take a left and walk up the stairs of the bridge.

1. Climb with your hand to the wall - my favorite place to sit.

Walk back down in front of Casa Adam, past the Guggenheim. On your right is:


On your left is:


Continue walking straight till you come to a campo & bridge on your left is:

4. A coffee/sandwich shop - sandwiches good but Bar de Sino is better.

Cross the bridge you will probably see:

5. Ottone - a little dog who loves his ball and will always play.

Walk straight & on your left is:


Walk straight and turn right when the street dead ends; on your right is:

7. The closest ATM.

Walk in front of the Accademia & veer to your left & take the 1st Right, walk straight and turn left when the canal is infront of you. Walk straight & on your left is:

8. San Lucao - good food - good discount

Walk straight some more until you come to the 2nd bridge. Two places on your left are:

9. A wine store that sells amazing cicchetti - delicious appetizers.
10. Squero - a delicious gelato store, maybe the best.

Cross the bridge in front of the cicchetti store, turn right & walk to the next bridge. Take a left and follow this street until you are to Campo San Barnaba (Indiana Jones Church) take a left on the canal and you will see the

11. Fruit boat - delicious fruits and vegetables from a boat.

Cross the bridge and walk straight and veer to the left at:

12. Punto Sma - grocery store.
Continue past Punto and come into Campo Santo Margherita:

13 Bar Orange, Du Champs, etc...
   - sprity bars.

14 On your left facing the Campo all the way at the left most corner is
   keto; Al Volo - best kebabs anywhere run by Kaya.

15 At about 1:30' clock is Pizzeria Al Volo - delicious.

16 Wine store to the right top corner of the bar is the store to fill up your
   2 liter bottles w/ wine for 3 Euros.

Walk to the right Top end of the Square (w/ a bridge) & Cross the bridge and
you should see a bridge, to your left - go to your right and take the first left.
Walk straight till you dead end at:

17 Cafe Noir - good bar - lots of guys - girls get free fruit

18 Bar Blu - Favorite bar in Venice - Drinks Here

Signed: [Signature]

05 WKA

P.S. go to

Devil Forest hub - irish/italian Bar
Pigo Peckle

Il Old Well

Pietro - my favorite peddler

you will be missed
Ciao ragazzi, come vole.

Casa Antom is the coolest place ever! The semester will be the most fun you will ever have, but it will be over before you know it, so enjoy every second. Paolo is the coolest, most amazing Italian teacher ever. If you see him, tell him "Brian Morris says "mi mancaiali!" Make sure you become friends with him and drink lots of spritz. Going out to dinner is fun, but cooking is way more fun. Marcella Hazan recipes are god-like. Also, buy the pre-made packaged spaghetti carbonara or 4-cheese macaroni at Billa. You drop it in boiling water for like 10 minutes and everyone thinks you just made a gourmet meal. The 2-litre bottles of red wine are a bargain and great for having a party.

As for your partying, Piccolo Mundo is a sketchy club, so stay away, but if you hook up your laptop in the projection room, it can become your own private dance club. Finally, take advantage of Aqua Alta! Go to St. Mark's and run through the square and have a big wrestling match in the middle. You'll be really wet and cold, but it is worth it. Although you'll never be as cool as me because I read Reuters international news! If you wish to view the video, it is on the loaner R-51 in Laura's office, check it out! Aqua Alta is also the best day to jump into the Grand Canal from the dock because the water is nice and high and you won't have to worry about being impaled by a sharp pole or anything.

O.K. I think these are the best pieces of advice I can give, have a great semester!

[Signature]

Fall 2005

P.S. Tell Paolo: Brian Morris says "mi mancaiali!"

It's been a wonderful semester at Casa Antom this fall, as student assistant.
We've had a home full of engaged, exciting, adventure some students!
After eating our way through Venice, discovering its hidden treasures... it's
time to go. Tanti auguri to future students & guests - take good care of our
palace at the Grand Canal!!

Caroline & Steve Braskang
Ciao Tuttii!

On our first day here, I was somewhat intimidated by the size of the city. It's hard to imagine living in a place like this. There is so much to see and do, and it's easy to get lost. But I think it will take some time to really get to know the city. I'm looking forward to exploring it more in-depth and getting to know the locals.

Make sure you take advantage of this experience because it will only be as good as you make it. Try to find the hidden gems and keep an open mind. Don't be afraid to ask questions and take the time to learn about the history and culture of the city.

I hope you enjoy your time here. I'm looking forward to hearing about your experiences and seeing all the places you visit. Take lots of pictures and write down your impressions.

Ciao Amici! I will be back! I promise.

Con molto amore,
Kathryn Beeler
August 21st - December 11th
2005
Given all the sage advice already contained in these pages, it is
woops, let's try that again!
Ciao tutti,

I'm writing this on the plane back to the US after an unforgettable semester at Casa Artom. I overslept the morning I left and didn't have time to write in the book, but it is important that I leave my advice and memories for the following classes. First, I would like to say GET OUT OF THE HOUSE as much as possible. Casa Artom is your palace on the grand canal and it is easy to spend an entire day inside without even trying, but there is sooooo much beauty in Venice around every corner that needs to be found. GO WALKING and GET LOST as much as possible. Second, get to know your housemates. Early! It may take some energy but once you get to know each other your semester will be more fun and memorable. Third, study but never let it keep you from an opportunity to travel, go out to dinner, or experience something that isn't waiting for you back at home... and trust me, work will be there when you get home. Fourth, make this time in Europe your own. Do what makes you happy. If that's traveling every weekend, DO IT. If it means staying in Venice every weekend, DO IT. Consider what everyone else is doing, but don't feel pressure to do things you won't fully enjoy just because you don't want to miss out. You can't do everything, so find the few things you want to accomplish this semester and take the time to enjoy them. Fifth, develop a coffee addiction and go to Bar da Gino's EVERY DAY so you get to know Mateo, Fabrizio, and the rest of the gang. And of course, enjoy the food and gelato! Keep your eyes open, try new things, and embrace the Italian culture.

In bocca all'upo,

Preston Fletcher (Fall 2005, room 6)