

## Going Slow on The Burchiello

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While on the Grand Tour trip of 2019, my study abroad group was granted the opportunity to take a guided tour boat to Venice from Padova. The tour boat was an approximate eight hour ride and was filled with multiple stops where we exited the boat and received tours of different villas and their histories. We even got taken off the boat to enjoy a meal, and while the meal wasn't as great as the rest of the boat ride, I enjoyed taking the time to eat instead of a hurried meal before or after a train ride. Finally, we arrived in Venice on the water and it felt like a grand entrance of sorts. It was a breathtaking view with the breeze blowing through our hair.

At UNCG, the sustainability department is made up of four “leaves” like a clover. These leaves are social equity, the environment, the economy, and aesthetics. Out of these four, the environment and aesthetics were the biggest aspects of this boat trip. In comparison to this trip, we took a bullet train from Bologna to Venice later on that was about a two hour trip. In regard to the environment, slow travel is much more sustainable. In addition, the arrival in Venice was absolutely less aesthetically pleasing from the bullet train. From the train station, it felt as if we were thrown into the plaza with little anticipation.

Riding the bullet train compared to the boat felt very rushed, and while I'm glad I got to experience both forms of travel to Venice, I much preferred the slow way. Although it may be considered less “convenient”, some of my best memories from this trip were made during the slow travel experience that we were able to take part in.

