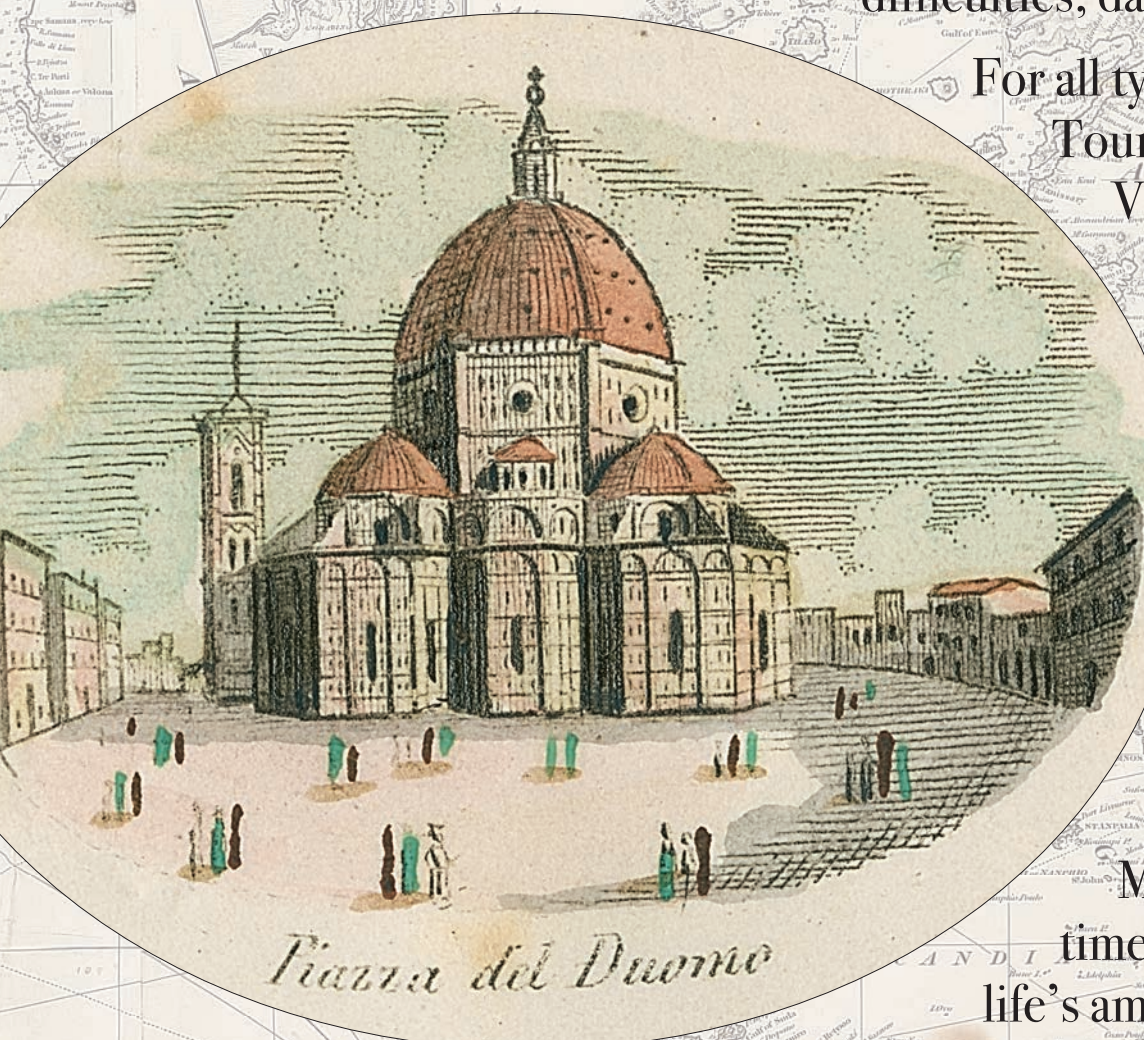




Engraving of the Roman Forum, Rome, from a drawing by JMW Turner, in Samuel Rogers' *Italy: a poem*. Special Collection PR 5234.19

Views of Florence, Italy, from commonplace book of Miss C Louisa Tisdall, 1820-1857. Marlay Collection My 21-8



DESTINATIONS

The places visited before the development of long distance travel by air and rail were mostly in Western Europe and to a lesser extent the eastern Mediterranean.

Although travel outside Europe was possible (mostly by sea), it was rarely undertaken for leisure before the end of the 19th century because of the difficulties, dangers and expense.

For all types of travellers – Grand Tourists and middle-class Victorians alike – Italy was a particularly desired location, a southern fantasy land of high art, poetry and music, with breathtaking landscapes, Classical sites and the exoticism of the Catholic religion. Seeing the Mediterranean for the first time was the fulfilment of a life's ambition for many.

This interest in Italian sites, history, art, people and culture is reflected in a particularly rich seam within the University's archival collections.

Some sites were essential to the regular 'tour' including Paris, Venice, Florence, Rome, Naples, Vesuvius, and, for the more intrepid, Classical Greece and Turkey.

Other much-frequented destinations (including Turin, Genoa, Bologna, Lausanne and Geneva) are significantly less popular now. Spain and Scandinavia were only occasionally visited.

Victorian travellers showed a marked preference for scenery, and the Rhine valley became popular.

The marriage of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert in 1840 increased Germany's appeal. Victorians devoted much more time to iconic medieval buildings and works of art than Grand Tourists had. They also had a gloomy penchant for visiting cemeteries.



GRAND TOURISTS AND OTHERS
TRAVELLING ABROAD BEFORE THE 20TH CENTURY



'Germans' from *The World in Miniature* (London, 1825). Briggs Collection LT210.C/W6

Photograph of Staglieno cemetery, Genoa, Italy, from an album of topographical photographs associated with Prince Leopold, 1st Duke of Albany, c1884. Manuscript collection MS 317

