



By Monica Soladay

Anonymous tourists return Colosseum piece to Rome

Two American tourists anonymously returned a piece of the Colosseum they chipped off 25 years ago as a souvenir.

The bit of stone, small enough to fit into a pocket, arrived in Rome in a package from California.

“We should have done this sooner,” read the anonymous note accompanying it. “Every time I looked at my souvenir collection and came across that piece it made me feel guilty.

“Over the years, I started thinking that if all the

visitors to that beautiful monument took a piece of it away with them nothing would be left standing.

It was a selfish and superficial act.”

Rome archeological officials accepted the couple’s apology, saying the episode proved that “Rome and its monuments are the dream of all the world’s tourists.”

“The message is that visitors to our city continue to cherish it even after so many years,” said Lazio Tourism chief Claudio Mancini. He invited the couple to return to Rome. ▲

Stay and Visit[®]
ITALY

ITALY FROM
\$499

7-8 days all inclusive first class tours

1.877.222.4857 ■ WWW.STAYANDVISIT.COM

