



TEKTON MINISTRIES

Encounter Christ on a Catholic Pilgrimage

**DISCOVER
THE BEAUTY
OF THE FAITH
IN THE
FOOTSTEPS OF
ST. BENEDICT**

***YOU'RE INVITED ON
A PILGRIMAGE DISCOVERING THE BENEDICTINE HISTORY OF***

ITALY & SWITZERLAND

September 18-29, 2020



A TRULY CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE

Tekton Ministries has been leading Catholic pilgrimages for more than 20 years. Working closely with your priest to create thoughtfully planned itineraries, we help make the Catholic faith more tangible to your daily life by taking you to the heart of our Mother Church today. Although we visit numerous sites in this holy and historic region, daily Mass and time for prayerful reflection are important parts of each day's experience.

We use only experienced Christian or Catholic guides, so you receive truthful explanations of scripture and the places we encounter. When the disciple Philip asked the Eunuch (who was reading Isaiah) if he understood what he was reading, the man responded, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" (Acts 8:35) Just as Philip guided the Eunuch with "the good news of Jesus," your Tekton pilgrimage will guide you into a deeper understanding of the Scriptures. Our prayers, service, and love of our Lord go with you.

- **Day 1 - Friday, Sep. 18**
Depart USA

Our pilgrimage begins as we depart on our overnight flight to Rome. Meals and refreshments will be served aloft.

- **Day 2 - Saturday, Sept. 19**
Rome

After our arrival in the "Eternal City" of Rome we will be met by at the airport by our local tour manager. Go to St. Paul Outside the Walls which was originally built by Constantine in the fourth century over the site of St. Paul's tomb. Afterwards, will visit the Catacombs of San Callistus where we will celebrate Mass. Check in at our local hotel. (D, Mass)

- **Day 3 - Sunday, Sept. 20**
Day Trip to Subiaco

This morning we will have a short drive to Subiaco where we will visit Benedict's monastery, built around the Sacro Speco (Holy Cave) where he lived for three years. Here St. Benedict wrote his Rule. After Mass, visit St. Scholastica's Monastery, built by Benedict and his twin sister, Scholastica, originally one of twelve in this area. We will see the cloisters from the 6th and 11th centuries, as well as the medieval church decorated by Cosmati. (B, Mass)



Subiaco

- **Day 4 - Monday, Sept. 21**
Rome

We'll begin our day in Rome with Mass in St. Peter's Basilica, followed by a tour including the Pieta and Adoration Chapel which opened in 1981. We will then split into groups for a tour of the Scavi Excavations (pending confirmation) below the main altar where we will view the actual tomb of St. Peter. If the afternoon, we will visit

the Sistine Chapel and the Vatican Museum, focusing especially on Eucharistic art and artifacts. For those with the stamina, join Abbot John in the evening for a walking tour, seeing the Pantheon, Piazza Navona with Bernini's famous fountains, and the Trevi Fountain, where a coin thrown over your shoulder will guarantee you another visit to Rome. (B, Mass)

- **Day 5 - Tuesday, Sept. 22**
Day Trip to Monte Cassino

This morning we visit the famous Abbey of Monte Cassino, founded by Benedict in 529 after he left Subiaco and where he lived until he died. Monte Cassino is considered by many to be the birthplace of monasticism in Western Europe. We will have a guided tour of the Abbey, including the extensive museum and the relics of Benedict and his sister Scholastica which are interred beneath the main altar. Return to Rome. (B, Mass)



Abbey of Monte Cassino



Papal Audience

- **Day 6 - Wednesday, Sept. 23**
Rome

Today we will experience a highlight of our pilgrimage, attendance at the Papal Audience at St. Peter's (subject to the Holy Father's schedule). Join thousands of pilgrims from throughout the world to listen to the Holy Father and receive His Blessing. In the afternoon, we'll visit the Basilica of St. John Lateran and the Holy Stairs. Proceed to St. Peter in Chains to view Michelangelo's magnificent Moses followed by a visit to St. Mary Major. (B, Mass)

- **Day 7 - Thursday, Sept. 24**
Rome / Assisi / Florence

This morning we will drive to Assisi and visit St. Mary of the Angels Basilica, site of the Porziuncola, the tiny church in the woods where St. Francis began his ministry and where St. Clare began her religious life. Then proceed to the Basilica of St. Francis where the saint lies in rest, and the Basilica of St. Clare. After we explore this peaceful town we will drive to Florence, the regional capital of Tuscany for our overnight. (B, D, Mass)



Assisi



Benedictine Monastery of Einsiedeln

● **Day 8 - Friday, Sept 25**
Florence

Our tour of Florence is an artful experience as we take in the Ponte Vecchio, the Duomo, and the Baptistery with its renowned bronze doors, the replica of the famous statue of David by Michelangelo outside the Palazzo Vecchio, the Basilica of Santa Maria Novella Church and the Basilica of Santa Croce where we will celebrate Mass. The balance of the afternoon will be free for personal activities. (B, Mass)

● **Day 9 - Saturday, Sept. 26**
Florence / Como

After Mass, depart Florence for the beautiful lake district in the north of Italy. Check into our hotel and relax in this alpine retreat. Enjoy dinner together overlooking the lake. Overnight in Como. (B, D, Mass)



Basilica of Santa Maria Novella

● **Day 10 - Sunday, Sept. 27**
Como / Bellagio / Villa Carlotta

Enjoy a boat ride across Lake Como to the enchanting village of Bellagio which is known not only for the famous movie stars who reside here but for the quaint medieval streets winding up the mountain with spectacular lake vistas. After time to explore Bellagio, we will continue by ferry to Tremezzo to visit Villa Carlotta with its acres of magnificent gardens. Return to Como for overnight (B, D, Mass)

● **Day 11 - Monday, Sept. 28**
Como / Einsiedeln / Zurich

This morning we will depart Como and drive to the Benedictine Monastery of Einsiedeln whose name derives from the German word Einsiedler, or hermits. Among these was the famous Meinrad who, in the early 9th century, retired to the forest with a little statue of the Madonna which was given to him by a local abbess. Meinrad was killed by robbers who were then eventually brought to justice for their crime. Since the early 10th century, Einsiedeln has remained a place of fervent pilgrimage. We will celebrate Mass at the Monastery, which is situated amidst green pastures and dense forests with some of the country's most beautiful scenery. Arrive in Zurich this evening, where you will have the opportunity visit the Altstadt (the Old Town) of Zurich on your own. (B, D, Mass)

● **Day 12 - Tuesday, Sept. 29**
Zurich / USA

Following breakfast, transfer to the airport to catch our return flight home with all the memories of St. Benedict and Rome forever planted in your heart! (B, Mass)

B=Breakfast D=Dinner



ITALY PILGRIMAGE DETAILS

REGISTER ONLINE AT
TektonMinistries.org

BASE PRICE PER PERSON

Double occupancy w/ airfare **\$4,295.00**

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL EXPENSES *(applied to final invoice)*

- **Current airline taxes/fuel surcharges** **\$264.56**
(subject to change until final ticketing)
- **Gratuities to tour manager, driver, hotel/restaurant staff** **\$155.00**

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST **\$4,714.56**

OPTIONS:

- For a single room: add \$955
- Land-only option: \$3,783 *(no flights included)*

Final Payment Due

July 5, 2020

BASE RATE INCLUDES:

- Daily Mass at holy sites
- Roundtrip economy class airfare from Chicago O'Hare on Lufthansa/Swiss Air
- 10 nights' accommodations, including taxes and service charges
- Porterage of one piece of luggage at airports and hotels
- Knowledgeable, friendly tour manager; whisper headsets; deluxe motor coach transportation to holy sites; all entrance fees listed on itinerary (except for the Scavi Excavations)
- Arrival and departure transportation
- Breakfast and dinner per itinerary (excluding drinks)

Rates do not include: lunches, drinks with meals

Reservations and Payment: Tekton Ministries requires a deposit of \$300.00 per person at the time of booking. This deposit forms a part of your final payment which is due 75 days prior to departure. Reservations made within 74 days of departure must be accompanied by payment in full. Payments made by credit card will incur a convenience fee. Any reservations received within 45 days of departure will incur a late booking fee of \$100.00 per person. This pilgrimage is based upon a minimum of 23 total pilgrims. Surcharges may be assessed for a smaller group size.

Cancellations: All cancellations must be in writing. The following per person cancellation charges will apply in addition to any airline penalties and charges incurred by our suppliers: If canceled 91 days or more prior to departure, a \$75.00 administrative fee will be charged. If canceled 90 - 31 days prior to departure, \$175.00 will be charged. If canceled 30 - 15 days prior to departure, \$450.00 will be charged. If canceled 14 - 7 days prior to departure \$700.00 will be charged. No refunds will be made within 6 days of departure. In addition, once the airline tickets have been issued, 100% of the airfare is non-refundable unless you have been advised otherwise at the time of your booking.

Travel Documents: A passport which is valid for 6 months past the date of your return flight home is required of all U.S. citizens. However, U.S. citizens do not require visas for Italy. If you are not a U.S. citizen, please call to find out if you need a visa. Tekton Ministries is not responsible for individual visas or passports.

Hotels: Accommodations are based on double occupancy rooms with private facilities. A limited number of single rooms are available at the supplement quoted and should be requested at the time of booking.

Air Transportation: Air travel is in economy class on Lufthansa/Swiss Air. Fares are based upon levels in effect at the time of printing and fares and flight schedules are subject to change without notice. Note that any ticketing changes made within 90 days of your departure date will incur airline penalties.

Baggage: Each passenger is allowed one checked bag and one carry-on. Tekton Ministries is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen baggage.

Travel Insurance: We strongly recommend that you purchase comprehensive travel insurance for your trip. Registration information will be provided upon receipt of your deposit.

Not Included in base price: Airline taxes/fuel surcharges (currently \$264.56 per person, but subject to change until the time of ticketing), gratuities to guide, driver, and hotel staff, passport/visa fees, personal travel insurance, laundry, beverages and items not on the regular menu of included meals, excess baggage charges, optional sightseeing and expenses of a personal nature.

Refunds: Subject to the foregoing Cancellation Terms, upon cancellation of travel related services, all sums paid to Tekton Ministries/George's International Tours for such services will be promptly returned to the passenger, provided the passenger has not caused such cancellation and is not in violation of any of the terms and conditions previously, clearly and conspicuously disclosed and agreed to by the passenger. This refund provision does not apply where Tekton Ministries/George's International Tours has remitted the payment to another registered seller of travel or a carrier and they default in providing the agreed-upon transportation or service without providing a refund. In such a situation, Tekton Ministries/George's International Tours agrees to provide

passenger with a written statement accompanied by a copy of the bank records establishing the disbursement of the payment, and if disbursed to a seller of travel, proof of their current registration.

Trust Account Disclosure: California law requires certain sellers of travel to have a trust account or bond. George's International Tours has such a trust account.

Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation ("TCRC"): George's International Tours is a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation ("TCRC"). You, the passenger, may request reimbursement from TCRC if George's International Tours was registered and participating in the TCRC at the time of sale and the passenger is located in California at the time of payment. Please be advised that passengers purchasing from outside of California are not covered by the TCRC. Eligible passengers may file a claim with TCRC if the passenger is owed a refund of more than \$50 for transportation or travel services which George's International Tours failed to forward to a proper provider or if such money was not refunded to you when required. The maximum amount, which may be paid by the TCRC to any one passenger is the total amount paid on behalf of the passenger to George's International Tours, not to exceed \$15,000. A claim must be submitted to the TCRC within six months after the scheduled completion date of the travel. A claim must include sufficient information and documentation to prove your claim and a \$35 processing fee. You must agree to waive your right to other civil remedies against a registered participating Seller of Travel for matters arising out of a sale for which you file a claim with the TCRC, if you were located in California at the time of the sale. You may request a claim form by writing to: Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation, P.O. Box 6001, Larkspur, CA 94977-6001; or by faxing a request to 415-927-7698.

Responsibility Clause: Tekton Ministries, George's International Tours and/or their co-operating selling agents and/or their suppliers of services offer these tours for sale only on the express understanding that they themselves do not perform or in any way assume liability for the performance of the individual components, transfers, hotels, flights, car, motorcoaches, etc. of these tours and act only to combine these components into a single unit of sale for the convenience of the general public, and are not responsible therefore, either directly or indirectly, for any loss, accident, or injury which may result from any act, omission, negligence in or responsible for performing or providing these component services. The transportation companies concerned take no responsibility for any act, omission, or event during the time the passengers are not aboard their conveyances. The passenger contract issued by the transportation company shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation company and the passenger. Additional expenses incurred as a result of delay, change of schedules, illness, weather, strikes, hostilities, quarantine, government requisition of hotel space or any other reasons beyond the control of the tour operator or travel agent shall be borne by the passenger. Tour operator reserves the right to substitute hotels of similar category if necessary and to alter itineraries. Your deposit certifies that you agree with the above terms and conditions.



tektonministries.org

(317) 574-4191
pilgrimage@tektonministries.org

9924 Cedar Ridge Dr.
Carmel, IN 46032