



TEKTON MINISTRIES
Encounter Christ on a Catholic Pilgrimage

WITNESS THE LIVES OF THE SAINTS

Join Us

**ON A PILGRIMAGE TO THE
SAINTS AND SHRINES OF**

ITALY

November 2 - 13, 2023



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 - Thursday, November 2 *Depart USA*

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

● Day 2 - Friday, November 3 *Arrive Rome / Assisi*

Upon arrival at the airport in Rome, we are met by our tour manager who will be with us for the duration of our Italian pilgrimage. Continue north through the Umbrian countryside to Assisi, the picturesque town made known by the piety and works of St. Francis and St. Clare. This afternoon visit the Sanctuary of the Renunciation, located within the church of St. Mary Major. Built over the site where St. Francis is said to have renounced his family's riches and embraced the poverty of religious life, it is also where the tomb of Bl. Carlo Acutis is now located. Venerate the remains of the first millennial beatified by the Church through the viewing glass of his tomb. Afterwards, proceed to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (D) Mass



● Day 3 - Saturday, November 4 *Assisi*

Witness where the power of the Eucharist turned away an army. The invading Saracen army was about to attack the Convent of San Damiano where St. Clare lived with her nuns in 1241. Even though bed-ridden, St. Clare got up, held the Blessed Sacrament in the air, and saw the advancing army flee in terror, thus establishing

"The Miracle of the Eucharist of Assisi." Also in the convent, we will visit the chapel where Jesus spoke to St. Francis, then visit the Basilica of St. Francis to venerate his burial place. Afterwards is the Basilica of St. Clare, which holds the famous San Damiano Crucifix that spoke to St. Francis, and where the golden locks of St. Clare's hair along with St. Francis' poor patched tunic are kept. This afternoon we will travel up Mt. Subasio to L'Eremo delle Carceri (the Carceri Hermitage), St. Francis' favorite retreat center, where he could remain in seclusion and prayer. Enjoy some personal prayer time in this peaceful location before descending into Assisi for the evening, where dinner will be out on our own. (B) Mass

● Day 4 - Sunday, November 5 *Assisi / Siena*

This morning, 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. We then journey to Siena, home of St. Catherine of Siena. There, we celebrate Mass at St. Dominic, the saint's parish church where she attended daily Mass and went into ecstasy. Adjacent to the church is her home, which we'll visit and see the cell where she fasted and prayed. After checking into our hotel, this evening you may enjoy this beautiful city on your own, strolling the ancient Gothic streets which converge on the Piazza del Campo, one of the most beautiful squares in the world. Dine at one of the many charming local eateries at your leisure. (B) Mass



● Day 5 - Monday, November 6 *Siena*

Our morning begins in the Basilica of St. Francis, venerating the Eucharistic miracle of Siena. Next, we'll explore the beautiful Tuscan countryside, traveling through the rolling hills and the historic towns of Buonconvento (hailed as one of the most beautiful villages in Italy), Pienza (considered by many to be the incarnation of a Renaissance utopia), and Montepulciano (famous for its red wine), before returning to Siena. (B, D) Mass

● Day 6 - Tuesday, November 7 *Siena*

Today we explore Tuscany further with a visit to the quaint hill town of San Gimignano. Afterwards, enjoy a wine tasting/tour in this region. Upon return to Siena, the balance of the day will be free, and dinner will be on your own. (B)

● Day 7 - Wednesday, November 8 *Siena / Orvieto / Rome*

Depart this morning for Orvieto where we visit the Signorelli Chapel in the Cathedral and venerate the sacred Eucharistic miracle. See the

steps of the Papal summer residence where Pope Urban IV held up the blood-stained corporal and announced his intention to institute the Feast of Corpus Christi. After Mass, continue to Rome to check into our hotel. The remainder of the day is free to begin exploring “the Eternal City” on your own. (B, D) Mass

● **Day 8 - Thursday, November 9**
Rome

We begin our day in Rome with Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica, followed by a tour including the Pieta and Adoration Chapel which St. Pope John Paul II renovated in 1981. Later, explore the Vatican Museum and the Sistine Chapel with its breathtaking frescoes painted by Michelangelo. We conclude our group time in the Vatican with a visit to the Scavi excavations underneath St. Peter’s (subject to availability). The remainder of the afternoon will be free for personal exploration – perhaps climb to the top of St. Peter’s dome for a panoramic view of the city or enjoy people watching at the Piazza del Popolo. Dinner tonight will be on your own. (B) Mass



St. John Lateran

● **Day 11 - Sunday, November 12**
Rome

Proceed to the charming Trastevere district. Venerate the remains of the patron saint of music at the Church of St. Cecilia and then visit the Basilica of Santa Maria - one of the oldest churches of Rome. The balance of the day will be free for personal activities before our farewell dinner together this evening. (B, D) Mass

● **Day 12 - Monday, November 13**
Rome / USA

Today we say Ciao to Italia and return home, cherishing all the wonderful memories and graces of this pilgrimage. (B) Mass

B=Breakfast D=Dinner



St. Clement Basilica

● **Day 9 - Friday, November 10**
Rome

Today we visit St. Paul Outside the Walls, originally built by Constantine in the fourth century over the site of St. Paul’s tomb. Afterwards, tour the Catacombs of St. Callistus and venerate the early martyrs of the Church. In the afternoon, proceed to St. Peter in Chains to view Michelangelo’s magnificent Moses. We then have outside visits of the Forum and Coliseum. In the evening visit the Pantheon, Piazza Navona with the famous Bernini’s fountains, and the Trevi Fountain where a coin thrown over your shoulder will guarantee you another visit to Rome. (B) Mass

● **Day 10 - Saturday, November 11**
Rome

Visit the final two major basilicas of Rome today, but first we climb the Scala Santa (Holy Stairs), which our Lord climbed on His way to His condemnation. Afterwards, enjoy a tour and time for personal prayer and reflection in the Basilica of St. John Lateran, the official seat of the Bishop of Rome. Continue to St. Clement’s Basilica, a minor basilica in Rome, which houses an original fresco depicting St. Clement celebrating the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, giving us a picture of Eucharistic worship in the earliest days of the Church. Finally, we proceed to St. Mary Major where we venerate the crib of Christ and view the famous icon attributed to St. Luke. (B) Mass



ITALY PILGRIMAGE DETAILS

REGISTER ONLINE AT
TektonMinistries.org

PRICE PER PERSON

Double occupancy with base airfare \$4,995.00

Current airline taxes/fuel surcharges \$447.35

(subject to change until final ticketing)

ESTIMATED COST \$5,442.35

Gratuities to guide, driver, hotel/restaurant staff \$150.00

(estimated/pre-collected with final invoice)

OPTIONS:

- For a single room: add \$747
- Land-only option: \$1,264 *(no flights or gratuities included)*

Final Payment Due

August 2023

BASE RATE INCLUDES:

- Daily Mass at holy sites
- Roundtrip economy airfare from Omaha on Delta Airlines
- 10 nights' accommodations, including taxes and service charges
- Portage of one piece of luggage at airports and hotels
- Knowledgeable, friendly, Catholic/Christian guides; whisper headsets; deluxe motor coach transportation to holy sites; all entrance fees listed on itinerary
- Breakfast and dinner as per itinerary (excluding drinks)
- Farewell dinner at a local restaurant in Rome on day 10

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 90 days prior to departure. Reservations made within 89 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 17 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 \$150.00 administrative fee will be charged. If canceled 90 - 31 days prior to departure, \$300.00 will be charged. If canceled 30 - 15 days prior to departure, \$1,000.00 will be charged. No refunds will be made within 14 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 Delta. 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 or cancellations made within 120 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 \$447.35 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 estab-

lishing 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.



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