



TEKTON MINISTRIES
Encounter Christ on a Catholic Pilgrimage

DRINK *OF THE* RICHNESS *OF* FAITH & TRADITION

***YOU'RE INVITED ON A PILGRIMAGE TO
THE SHRINES AND STEINS OF***

BELGIUM & GERMANY

October 21-31, 2024



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.

A pilgrimage to Belgium and Germany is an exploration of the Catholic roots of this region and a celebration of the gifts those in religious life have given the world. Travel to the heart of Europe and walk into layers of history, faith, prayer, and culture. Venerate the relics of the Magi – perhaps the most famous pilgrims of the New Testament – and pray at numerous shrines dedicated to the Blessed Mother and Germanic saints.

- **Day 1 - Monday, October 21**
Depart USA

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

- **Day 2 - Tuesday, October 22**
Arrive Brussels

After our midday arrival in Brussels, we will be met at the airport by our local pilgrimage manager, who will accompany us throughout our pilgrimage. We will then enjoy a half day visit of Brussels including the Grand Place, the central square of the city; the magnificent St. Michael's Cathedral; and the National Basilica of Koekelberg, one of the most imposing churches in Europe. We then proceed to our hotel to check-in to our home for the next 3 nights. (D) Overnight Brussels



- **Day 3 - Wednesday, October 23**
Brussels – day trip to Bruges and Westvleteren

Today we will take an excursion to the scenic town of Bruges. Here we will visit the famous Church of Our Lady, featuring Michelangelo's masterpiece, Madonna and Child. We proceed to the Basilica of the Holy Blood which houses a revered vial containing cloth stained with the actual blood of Christ. After Mass, we will visit the De Halve Maan Brewery and see the two-mile underground beer pipeline. Then, depart Bruges and drive to the Saint Sixtus Abbey in Westvleteren. The abbey is famous for its spiritual life characterized by prayer, reading, and manual work – the three basic elements of Trappist life. It has also a reputation for its brewery, one of the several breweries of Trappist beer in Belgium. After visiting the unrestricted portions of the abbey

and tasting some of its famous beer we will return to Brussels for overnight. (B, D, Mass) Overnight Brussels

- **Day 4 - Thursday, October 24**
Brussels – Our Lady of Beauraing and Scourmont Abbey

Following breakfast, we journey to the Shrine of Our Lady of Beauraing, the Virgin with the Golden Heart where, in 1932-1933, the Blessed Mother appeared to a group of 5 young children 33 times. After Mass at the shrine, we will proceed to Scourmont Abbey, another Trappist monastery, settled in 1850. Now famous for its Chimay beers and cheeses, the Abbey is integral to the village life on the Scourmont plateau. After visiting portions of the abbey and tasting some of its famous beer we will return to Brussels for overnight. (B, D, Mass) Overnight Brussels



- **Day 5 - Friday, October 25**
Brussels / Banneaux / Aachen / Cologne

This morning, we will depart Brussels and drive to Banneux where we will visit the Shrine of the Virgin of the Poor. It was here in 1933 where the Virgin appeared to 11-year-old Mariette Beco eight times. After celebrating Mass, we proceed to the Abbey of Val-Dieu, a Cistercian – not Trappist – Abbey founded in 1216 and famous for its beer, now the only Belgian abbey beer still 100% brewed in a living abbey. After enjoying some beer tasting we continue across the border into Germany and on to Aachen, where we visit the Cathedral and the Gothic Marian Shrine housing the swaddling clothes of Jesus, the loin cloth of the Lord, the cloth for John the Baptist's head, and the Blessed Virgin's Cloak. We will finish our day by journeying to Cologne and checking-in at our hotel, our home for the next two nights. (B, D, Mass) Overnight Cologne



- **Day 6 - Saturday, October 26**
Cologne

This morning, we will enjoy a full day tour of the city of Cologne (Köln in German). We will begin our day with a visit to the magnificent Cathedral which holds the relics of the three Magi and the staff belonging to St. Peter. We will admire some of the Romanesque

churches that survived World War II including the Church of St. Andreas containing the remains of the St. Albert the Great, teacher of St. Thomas Aquinas; and the Church of St. Ursula which houses the remains of St. Ursula and 11,000 martyrs, all killed in Cologne at the hands of the Huns in the 2nd century. Our day's sightseeing also includes visits to Cologne City Hall, the Old Town district, bustling Roncalliplatz, and the historic Alter Markt square. While in the city, we should be sure to try the local specialty – Kölsch Bier – brewed only in this region. (B, D, Mass) Overnight Cologne



● **Day 7 - Sunday, October 27**
Cologne / Munich

After breakfast this morning we will depart Cologne by train for Munich, the capital of Bavaria, located in southern Germany and known for its annual Oktoberfest celebration and beer halls. Upon arrival in Munich we will be transferred to our hotel, our home for the next four nights, for check-in with the remainder of the day free to explore this historic city. (B, D, Mass) Overnight Munich

● **Day 8 - Monday, October 28**
Munich

Today we will enjoy a full day tour of Munich including visits to the Burgersaal, the Michaelskirche, the Frauenkirche, the Marienplatz and its famous Rathaus-Glockenspiel clock, and Nymphenburg Palace - the summer home of the Bavarian monarchs. We will round out our day with a visit to the Spaten-Franziskaner Brewery where we will enjoy a tour of the brewery followed by a beer tasting. (B, D, Mass) Overnight Munich



Gnadenskapelle (Chapel of Grace)

W. Bulach, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons

● **Day 9 - Tuesday, October 29**
Munich – day trip to Dachau and Altötting

This morning, we drive a short distance outside of Munich to the Dachau Concentration Camp, the first of the Nazi concentration camps opened in Germany, intended to hold political prisoners. We proceed to Altötting, the site of Germany's premiere Marian Shrine. Here we visit the Gnadenkapelle (Chapel of Grace), is a tiny octagonal chapel which holds a venerated statue of the Virgin Mary. According to legend, in 1489 a 3-year-old local boy who had drowned in the river was revived when his grieving mother placed him in front of a wooden statue of the Virgin Mary at the high altar and prayed for his healing. At the end of this historic day, we return to our hotel in Munich. (B, D, Mass) Overnight Munich

● **Day 10 - Wednesday, October 30**
Munich – excursion to Neuschwanstein Castle and the Wieskirche

Today we will take a full day tour outside of Munich. We travel first to Neuschwanstein Castle to see the most famous of the fairytale castles built by King Ludwig II, and the inspiration for Cinderella's castle. Next, we will visit the Wieskirche (Church in the Meadow) also known as the Church of Scourged Redeemer, considered to be the most beautiful Rococo church in Europe. We return to Munich for our final evening and enjoy a farewell dinner at the festive Hofbrauhaus Beer Hall. (B, D, Mass) Overnight Munich

● **Day 11 - Thursday, October 31**
Munich / USA

Following breakfast, we transfer to the airport to catch our return flight home, cherishing all of the wonderful memories and graces of this pilgrimage. (B)

B=Breakfast D=Dinner



BELGIUM AND GERMANY PILGRIMAGE DETAILS

REGISTER ONLINE AT
TektonMinistries.org

PRICE PER PERSON

Double occupancy with base airfare \$4,135.00
Current airline taxes/fuel surcharges \$597.90

(subject to change until final ticketing)

Gratuities to guide, driver, hotel/restaurant staff \$150.00
(estimated/pre-collected with final invoice)

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST \$4,882.00

OPTIONS:

- For a single room: add \$894
- Land-only option: \$3,593 (no intercontinental flights or gratuities included)

Final Payment Due

July 2024

BASE RATE INCLUDES:

- Daily Mass at holy sites
- Roundtrip economy class airfare from Indianapolis on Delta Airlines
- One-way ICE 2nd-class train ticket from Cologne to Munich
- 9 nights' accommodation, including taxes and service charges
- Beer tasting at 2 breweries and 2 abbeys
- 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
- Farewell dinner on day 10
- 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 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. Late payments may be subject to a late fee and/or possible removal from the pilgrimage. This pilgrimage is based upon a minimum of 21 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 - 46 days prior to departure, \$300.00 will be charged. If canceled 45 - 15 days prior to departure, \$1000.00 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 Belgium or Germany. 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 Airlines and. 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 \$597.90 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.