



TEKTON MINISTRIES

Encounter Christ on a Catholic Pilgrimage



WITNESS THE LIVES *OF THE* SAINTS

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

ITALY

October 5 - 15, 2025



A EUCHARISTIC PILGRIMAGE

Tekton Ministries has been leading Catholic pilgrimages for more than 25 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 - Sunday, October 5 *Depart USA*

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

• Day 2 - Monday, October 6 *Arrive Rome / Orvieto / Assisi*

After our arrival in Italy, we will be met by our tour manager at the airport and drive north, stopping in the walled town of Orvieto. In the 13th century, in nearby Bolsena, a priest doubted the Eucharistic Presence during Mass and the host turned to real flesh and the wine to real blood during the consecration. The priest brought the blood-stained Corporal to Pope Urban in Orvieto, and it is now kept in a special reliquary for the faithful to view. It was also in Orvieto where Pope Urban IV called for a world-wide Feast of Corpus Christi. After venerating the sacred Eucharistic miracle, we will continue our drive through the beautiful Umbrian countryside to Assisi, a town which welcomes us in the spirit of St. Francis and St. Clare, and our home for the next four nights. We will then proceed to our hotel for check-in and dinner. (D) *Overnight Assisi*

Orvieto Cathedral



• Day 3 - Tuesday, October 7

Assisi

We begin our day in the heart of Assisi in the Shrine of Renunciation within St. Mary Major church. This shrine was built to commemorate the spot where St. Francis renounced his wealth and family and began his life of poverty and service to the Lord. It is now where the tomb of Bl. Carlo Acutis lies. Bl. Carlo – the first millennial saint – dedicated part of his short life to cataloging Eucharistic Miracles from around the world. After venerating his resting place, journey to the Basilica of St. Francis to venerate this saint's burial place. After a tour of this marvelous basilica, proceed to 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 and St. Francis' poor patched tunic are kept. This afternoon, we will 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 and held the Blessed Sacrament in the air and saw the advancing army flee in terror establishing "The Miracle of the Eucharist of Assisi." The balance of the afternoon will be free until dinner and overnight in our hotel. (B, D) *Overnight Assisi*



• Day 4 - Wednesday, October 8 *Assisi - Day trip to Siena*

The home of St. Catherine of Siena beckons as we venerate the great Eucharistic Miracle of Siena at the Basilica of St. Francis on our day trip from Assisi. Thieves stole a container of consecrated Hosts, which were later found in the church's offertory box. They were reverently collected and have remained incorrupt since 1730. We then visit the Basilica of St. Dominic where St. Catherine attended daily Mass and went into spiritual ecstasy. Inside, the Chapel of Vaults holds the only portrait of the saint painted while she was alive. Some of her relics are also here to venerate. Adjacent to the church is the home where she lived, fasted, and prayed. We take a stroll through the ancient streets of Siena, which converge on the Piazza del Campo known as one of the most beautiful squares in the world with its soaring bell tower and unique shell-like shape. We'll enjoy some time for personal activities before returning to Assisi.

(B, D) *Overnight Assisi*

• Day 5 - Thursday, October 9 *Assisi*

This morning we will visit St. Mary of the Angels Basilica, the site of the beloved Porziuncola the tiny chapel rebuilt by St. Francis and his fellow friars after Francis took the commandment from the Lord to "rebuild my church" literally, and where St. Clare began her life as a nun. Afterwards, we will make our way up Monte Subasio –

either on foot or minibus (our large motorcoach cannot handle the sharp turns) – to L' Eremo delle Carceri, or the Carceri hermitage. These caves are where St. Francis and his followers first prayed and started their ministry to the world. Here, where St Francis often prayed, in the midst of the lush green forest and the singing birds, one gets a deep sense of the Franciscan spirit. After some time for prayer and our own private reflections, we return to the valley of Assisi. We will have some personal time for reflection to walk the streets of this medieval town and absorb the spirit of Saints Francis and Clare. Dinner tonight will be on our own. (B) *Overnight Assisi*

- **Day 6 - Friday, October 10**
Assisi / Rome

This morning, we will depart Assisi and journey south to Rome, our home for the next five nights. Our first site in the Eternal City is St. Lawrence Outside the Walls, commemorating the martyrdom of St. Lawrence, one of the first deacons of Rome. Peek through one of the grates under the altar and you might see some of the ancient tunnels that led to a catacomb where he was first buried. The remains of the martyrs St. Justin and St. Stephen are buried beneath the altar. This gem of a church also holds the body of Pope Pius IX who declared the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. Afterwards, journey to the Piazza Navona and enjoy a walking tour of this section of the city, including the Pantheon, the Pontifical Gregorian University, the Trevi Fountain, and the Spanish Steps. Continue to our hotel where we check in before dinner and overnight. (B, D) *Overnight Rome*



- **Day 7 - Saturday, October 11**
Rome

Today is filled with wonder and awe as we steep ourselves in the beauty of St. Peter's Basilica, which beckons us into its interior through the arms of Bernini's Colonnade. After walking through the first set of Holy Doors on this pilgrimage, we marvel at Michelangelo's Pieta and the Perpetual Adoration Chapel renovated by St. John Paul II. We then walk through the Vatican Museums which house artifacts from around the world and Eucharistic art to prepare ourselves for the greatest masterpiece yet: The Sistine Chapel. Painted by Michelangelo, it is the most famous ceiling in the world under which popes are chosen to lead the faithful. One is always looking up at the masterwork of art that explains the theology of God. Afterwards, we take a peaceful tour of the tranquil Vatican Gardens. Later this afternoon, we will split up into small groups for tours of the Scavi – the necropolis under St. Peter's Basilica, *pending confirmation*.

- **Day 8 - Sunday, October 12**
Rome

We begin this morning with a little bit of free time before heading

over to St. Peter's Square to pray the Angelus with Pope Leo and receive his blessing – as his schedule allows. This afternoon, we walk a short distance to the Pontifical North American College, known as the NAC, for a tour and to see where our spiritual director and many other American priests went to school. The balance of the day will be free for personal activities, including dinner on our own. (B) *Overnight Rome*

- **Day 9 - Monday, October 13**
Rome

The Scala Santa, or Holy Stairs, are prayed this morning by climbing them on your knees because they are so sacred. Christ walked on these 28 marble stairs at the home of Pontius Pilate to be condemned to death. For those who cannot climb the stairs on their knees there are other stairs available for walking up that also lead to the chapel at the top. Our prayerful experience continues with a visit to St. John Lateran, the Mother Church of the Roman Catholic faithful and the oldest basilica in Europe. Here, we walk through our second set of Holy Doors. At nearby St. Mary Major we venerate the crib of Christ, view the famous icon painting attributed to St. Luke, and see inestimable artwork that makes Rome renowned throughout the world. We also walk through our third set of Holy Doors before returning to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

(B, D) *Overnight Rome*

- **Day 10 - Tuesday, October 14**
Rome

This morning, we travel to the last of the four major basilicas of Rome – and our final set of Holy Doors – St. Paul Outside the Walls. Though it was destroyed by a fire in 1823, it was originally built by Constantine in the fourth century over the site of St. Paul's tomb and was rebuilt in the 19th century exactly as it was before the fire. We then journey into the lives of the martyrs as we visit the Catacombs. Here Christians celebrated the Mass in secret and buried the martyrs, including several popes. The balance of the day will be free until the evening, when we gather once more to enjoy our farewell dinner together at a local restaurant. (B, D) *Overnight Rome*

- **Day 11 - Wednesday, October 15**
Rome / U.S.A.

Today we say "Ciao" to Italia and transfer to the airport for our return flight home, cherishing all of the wonderful memories and

B=Breakfast D=Dinner



ITALY PILGRIMAGE DETAILS

REGISTER ONLINE AT
TektonMinistries.org

PRICE PER PERSON

Double occupancy with base airfare	\$4,675.00
Current airline taxes/fuel surcharges	\$553.41

(subject to change until final ticketing)

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST	\$5,228.41
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Gratuities to guide, driver, hotel/restaurant staff	\$165.00
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(estimated/pre-collected with final invoice)

OPTIONS:

- For a single room: add \$1,249
- Land-only option: \$3,945 *(no flights included)*

Final Payment Due

July 2025

BASE RATE INCLUDES:

- Daily Mass at holy sites
- Roundtrip economy class airfare from Atlanta on American Airlines
- 9 nights' accommodation, 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
- Farewell dinner at a local restaurant in Rome 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 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 American Airlines. 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 \$553.41 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.