



**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

September 27- October 7, 2025



# A TRULY CATHOLIC 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 - Saturday, September 27 *Depart USA*

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

## ● Day 2 - Sunday, September 28 *Arrive Milan*

Upon arrival in Milan, we will be met by our tour manager who will be with us for the duration of our pilgrimage. Upon arrival, we will visit the Duomo, one of the world's largest Gothic Cathedrals. The Duomo houses the tomb of St. Charles Borromeo, known for his leadership during the counter-reformation, as well as the baptistry where St. Augustine was baptized by St. Ambrose. We then proceed to the Basilica of Sant' Ambrogio honoring St. Ambrose, the patron saint of Milan. Afterwards we will check into our hotel for dinner and overnight. (D) *Overnight Milan*



## ● Day 3 - Monday, September 29 *Milan*

We depart Milan for a day trip to Turin. Here we begin in the Duomo – the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist – housing the reliquary containing the Shroud of Turin. We will have what is perhaps a once in a lifetime opportunity to view the Shroud (pending confirmation). After time for prayer here and veneration of the shroud, we can visit other side chapels of the Cathedral, including the resting place of Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati (soon to be canonized). This afternoon we proceed to the Basilica di Maria Ausiliatrice (Mary, Help of Christians). This church houses the body of St. John Bosco (and was originally part of the home for boys he founded), St. Mary Mazzarello, St. Dominic Savio, and relics of over 6,000 other saints. After time for prayer here we return to our hotel in Milan for dinner and overnight. (B, D) *Overnight Milan*



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## ● Day 4 - Tuesday, September 30 *Milan: day trip to Pavia*

Today we depart Milan and journey to Pavia. The remains of St. Augustine, Doctor of the Church and author of many works integral to our Catholic faith, lie here in the Basilica of San Pietro in Ciel d'Oro. The relics of St. Augustine are kept in a marble reliquary on the upper floor of the church. After time for veneration and free time for lunch, we will return to Milan with the balance of the day free, including dinner on our own. (B) *Overnight Milan*

## ● Day 5 - Wednesday, October 1 *Milan / Verona*

Depart Milan this morning for a journey around the picturesque Lake Garda to the Santuario Madonna della Corona (Sanctuary of Our Lady of the Crown). According to local legend, sometime in

the 16th century a young shepherd boy discovered a painting of the Blessed Virgin Mary in a cave and brought it to the local priest. This priest had the painting placed in a small chapel built on the site where it was found and over the centuries it became a popular pilgrimage destination. The unique location upon the side of a cliff had made building, maintaining, and visiting the site a challenge throughout the centuries. The main sanctuary including the basilica was reconstructed last century and there is also a shuttle bus from the car park, so a hike is no longer required to visit. Afterwards, descend the mountain for an afternoon wine tasting experience in this unique wine-making region. Later this afternoon, continue a short distance to the medieval town of Verona. Made famous as the setting of Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet," it will be our home for the night. (B, D) Overnight Verona

● **Day 6 - Thursday, October 2**  
**Verona / Padua**

We will spend much of today exploring Verona, beginning at the Verona Cathedral, housing the 16th century painting by Titian entitled "The Assumption of the Virgin." Afterwards, enjoy some free time touring the various sites along the Adige River or enjoy a leisurely lunch at one of the numerous cafes along within the Piazza delle Erbe. We'll come together again this afternoon and journey to the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes, which lies atop the hill of San Leonardo just outside the city center. From here, we travel east a short distance to Padua, where we check into our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, D) Overnight Padua



Padua

● **Day 7 - Friday, October 3**  
**Padua**

Today we tour this unique city - the burial place of two great saints - St. Luke and St. Anthony. First, we venerate the tomb of St. Luke in the 16th-century Basilica of St. Justina. Continue to the Basilica of St. Anthony. Upon his death, he was buried at the small St. Mary Chapel, part of a small convent that he founded. Just one year later construction on the basilica chapel began and was built to incorporate St. Mary's. In the basilica, we can venerate the tongue and larynx of St. Anthony, which are preserved in a reliquary of the basilica's treasury. Our last stop of the day is the Scrovegni Chapel, a very small yet beautifully painted building, containing frescoes painted by Giotto. The balance of the afternoon will be free for personal exploration and dinner on our own. (B) Overnight Padua

● **Day 8 - Saturday, October 4**  
**Padua / Venice**

We depart Padua today and journey a short distance to Venice, the

incredible city built upon 118 islands crisscrossed by 160 canals and linked by 400 footbridges. On the way, we stop at a local winery for a tour and tasting. After checking into our Venetian hotel this afternoon, the balance of the day will be free for personal activities and dinner on our own. (B) Overnight Venice

● **Day 9 - Sunday, October 5**  
**Venice - St. Mark's Square, Doges Palace, Bridge of Sighs**

We journey to the spectacular epicenter of Venice - St. Mark's Square - around which Venetian life revolves. Called the "drawing room of Europe," by Napoleon, the square gets its name from St. Mark's Basilica, the stunning church where the body of St. Mark the Evangelist is buried. We have ample time to visit and pray in this intricately designed cathedral of 85,000 square feet, five domes, and beautiful golden mosaics. The famous Doges Palace awaits us next. Pure Venetian and built for the rulers of Venice, we wander its opulent halls before crossing the famous Bridge of Sighs. Dinner tonight will be on our own in one of the charming restaurants around the city. (B) Overnight Venice

● **Day 10 - Monday, October 6**  
**Venice**

We begin today at the church of San Giacomo di Rialto, commonly called Chiesa di San Giacometto, meaning "little Giacomo." Though small in stature, it is big in importance for Venice. Stories say it is the oldest church in Venice, originally built by a carpenter in 421. Afterwards we'll have some free time to explore the Rialto Market and the surrounding area. The balance of the day will be free for personal activities until our farewell dinner at a local restaurant this evening. (B, D) Overnight Venice

● **Day 11 - Tuesday, October 7**  
**Venice / USA**

Today we say "Ciao" to Italia and transfer to the airport for our return flight home, cherishing all the wonderful memories and graces of this pilgrimage. (B)

B=Breakfast D=Dinner



# ITALY PILGRIMAGE DETAILS

REGISTER ONLINE AT  
TektonMinistries.org

## PRICE PER PERSON

Double occupancy with base airfare \$4,865.00  
Current airline taxes/fuel surcharges \$683.31

(subject to change until final ticketing)

**ESTIMATED TOTAL COST \$5,548.31**

Gratuities to guide, driver, hotel/restaurant staff \$160.00

(estimated/pre-collected with final invoice)

## OPTIONS:

- For a single room: add \$1,567
- Land-only option: \$4,393 (no flights included)

Final Payment Due

June 2025

## BASE RATE INCLUDES:

- Daily Mass at holy sites
- Roundtrip economy class airfare from Houston on KLM
- 9 nights' accommodation, including taxes and service charges
- Porterage 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 Venice 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 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 \$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 KLM. 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 \$ 683.31 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.



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