

# St. Paul's Journey to Rome

## A 10-Day Pilgrimage to Italy

Suggested Pilgrimage #3 (8 nights/10 days)

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**Day 1 Tuesday**

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Depart via scheduled air service. The destination is Palermo, Italy

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**Day 2 Wednesday Palermo (D)**

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Arrive in Palermo

Meet your Faith Journeys Tour Manager who will assist the group to awaiting chartered motorcoach for a transfer to the hotel for check-in

Afternoon at leisure for relaxation, sightseeing, shopping, or other activities

Evening Welcome Dinner and overnight

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**Day 3 Thursday Palermo / Monreale (B,D)**

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Breakfast at the hotel

Palermo is Sicily's cultural capital is a city rich in history, spirit, art, and diversity. Our tour this morning will include *San Giovanni degli Eremiti*, Quattro Canti, Palatine Chapel, and the Cathedral

Lunch, on own

Drive to the small town of Monreale. There we will explore the Benedictine Abbey with its mosaics depicting scenes from the Old and New Testaments

Return to Palermo for evening dinner and overnight

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**Day 4 Friday Palermo / Agrigento (B,D)**

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Breakfast at the hotel

This morning, we will transfer to Agrigento, an ancient city on the southern coast of Sicily. Here we visit the *Valle dei Templi*, where seven monumental Greek temples were constructed during the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> centuries B.C. Visit the largest Doric temple in the world, the Temple of Jupiter

Lunch, on own

Explore Santa Maria della Catena. The interior includes a canvas of *Nativity with Adoration of the Shepherds* (17<sup>th</sup> century) from an unknown master

Evening dinner and overnight

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**Day 5 Saturday Agrigento / Taormina (B,D)**

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Breakfast at the hotel

We will drive along the Mediterranean coast and transfer to Taormina.

Lunch, on own

Visit the ancient Greek Theatre. From the still existing fragments, we learn that this theatre was of the Corinthian order and richly ornamented.

Enjoy time at leisure for additional sightseeing, shopping, or other activities

Evening dinner and overnight

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**Day 6 Sunday Taormina / Calabria / Naples (B,D)**

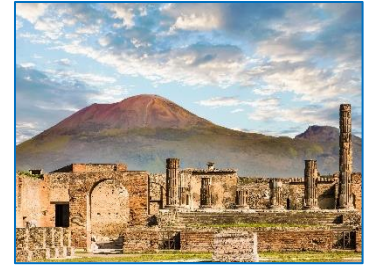
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Breakfast at the hotel

We will begin the day by taking a ferry between the eastern tip of Sicily and the southern tip of Calabria called the Strait of Messina. The coast of Calabria rivaled Athens as a cosmopolitan center in 8 BC



Lunch, on own  
We will enjoy magnificent vistas as we journey north along the Tyrrhenian Sea en route to Naples  
Evening dinner and overnight



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**Day 7      Monday                                  Naples / Pompeii / Rome                                  (B,D)**

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Breakfast at the hotel  
This morning we will transfer to Rome via Pompeii to witness the ruins of one of the most devastating volcanic eruptions in the history of the region. What is left of the city, including beautiful frescoes and mosaic floors, will give us a glimpse into that era and an idea of what was going on in the lives of Pompeii's inhabitants moments before that catastrophic eruption  
Lunch, on own  
Continue to Rome for evening dinner and overnight



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**Day 8      Tuesday                                  Rome                                  (B,D)**

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Breakfast at the hotel  
Our day will start with Mass at the Basilica of St. Mary Major  
We will also visit the Basilica of St. John Lateran, which is the oldest of the major basilicas in Rome and ranks first as the actual "parish church" of the Pope (Bishop of Rome) and see the Santa Scala or the Holy Steps which reputedly are the steps that Christ climbed to meet Pontius Pilate  
Lunch, on own  
Visit the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls, which was founded by Roman Emperor Constantine I over the burial place of Saint Paul.  
Other sites we will see include the Appian Way, the Baths of Caracalla, the Arch of Drusus, and the ancient catacombs of Rome  
Evening dinner and overnight



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**Day 9      Wednesday                                  Rome                                  (B,D)**

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Breakfast at the hotel  
We will begin the day by visiting Vatican City to attend an audience/blessing with our Holy Father (schedule permitting) then tour the Vatican Museum. Highlights include the Tapestry Gallery, the Raphael Rooms, and the Sistine Chapel where we will gaze on Michelangelo's incredible masterpiece. We will also enter St. Peter's Basilica which has the largest interior of any Christian church in the world  
Lunch, on own  
Afternoon at leisure for sightseeing, shopping, reflection or other activities  
Evening dinner and overnight



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**Day 10      Thursday                                  Depart for home                                  (B)**

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Breakfast at the hotel  
Transfer to Rome's airport for return flight



***This is a very flexible itinerary.*** Except for confirmed appointments, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable

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