

### **TOUR SUMMARY:**

Get the perfect introduction to Southern Europe with this incredible 8-day small-group tour of Italy! Your journey will begin in Rome, The Eternal City home to the world-famous Roman Colosseum. Visit Venice Square and Capitoline Hill among many other iconic attractions before you explore Vatican City, a principal center of Christianity in the world. From there you will drive to Assisi, a breathtaking town home to some of the most fascinating museums, art galleries, and World Heritage Sites in Italy. Next, make your way to Perugia, surrounded by the magnificent mountains and stunning valleys of Umbria, and travel to Siena, an extraordinary city that is rich in history and art! Travel to Florence, the Birthplace of the Renaissance where you will discover many artistic masterpieces such as the David of Michelangelo. Visit Santa Croce Church Square, home to the tombs of many beloved Italian artists, and stroll through Signoria Square before leaving for Rome where you will end your extraordinary tour of Italy!

<b>TOUR LODGING</b>	<b>INFO:</b> 7 Nights hotel accommodation on double
occupancy basis + 1 Nigl	its on board the flight

CITIES	NIGHTS	SUPERIOR HOTEL
Rome	3 Nights	Hotel Cristoforo Colombo
Perugia	1 Night	Hotel Gio Wine and Jazz Area
Montecatini Terme	2 Nights	Hotel Tuscany Inn
Rome	1 Nights	Hotel Cristoforo Colombo

Hotel may be replaced with similar superior property for operational reasons.

### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Visit Rome, the breathtaking capital of Italy, home to the famous Roman Colosseum
- Explore Vatican City and visit St. Peter's Basilica, the largest cathedral in the world
- Drive to Assisi, a holy pilgrimage city and the birthplace of St. Francis
- Travel back in time with a trip to Perugia, the largest walled medieval city in Italy
- Discover the architectural splendors of Siena, one of Italy's top medieval towns
- Travel to Florence, a beautiful city in Tuscany home to the Piazza Della Signoria

### **INCLUDES:**

- International roundtrip airfare from Pittsburgh
- 7 Nights' accommodation on double occupancy basis at listed or similar superior hotels
- Daily breakfast
- Two dinners in Montecatini Terme
- Arrival and departure airport transfers
- Meet and Greet service at the Airport on arrival
- Transportation in AC deluxe motor coach
- Services of English-Speaking Tour Escort for the whole duration of the trip
- Round trip train ticket to Florence from Montecatini
   Terme in 2nd class
- Full day guided tours in Rome & Florence
- Half day guided tour in Assisi
- Half Day guided tour in Perugia
- Entrance fees as Following:
  - o Vatican Museum and St. Peter Basilica
  - o St. Francis Basilica in Assisi
  - o The Accademia Gallery in Florence
- Air taxes, fuel surcharges & local taxes



### **TOUR ITINERARY:**

#### DAY 1 PITTSBURGH

Arrive in time at Pittsburgh Airport to check-in and board your overnight flight to Rome. Enjoy inflight meals and services.

Overnight Onboard Flight

## DAY 2 ARRIVAL IN ROME

Welcome to Rome! Upon arrival at the Rome International Airport, you will be met and transferred to your hotel. Spend the rest of the day at leisure.

Overnight in Rome

### DAY 3 ROME & VATICAN – FULL DAY TOUR (B/-/-)

This morning embark on a two-and-a-half-hour scenic tour of Rome with a local guide. This tour will be an incredible introduction to the Eternal City. You will visit various attractions such as the Caracalla Baths, Venice Square, Circo Massimo, the Capitoline Hills, the St. John Lateran. The tour will end in the Vatican City, the principal center of Christianity in the world with a visit to the Vatican Museum where works from the immense collection amassed by the Catholic Church and the papacy throughout the centuries, including several of the most renowned Roman sculptures and most important masterpieces of Renaissance art in the world are on display. There will also be time to visit St. Peter's Basilica. This evening, you will be provided transportation to the Trastevere district area, where you will find restaurants serving Italian, Indian, Chinese, and international cuisine. A return to the hotel will be included.

Overnight in Rome

### DAY 4/ THU ROME

(B/-/-)

Spend the day at leisure. You may pick and choose between the suggested optional tours and activities.

Overnight in Rome







# Optional tour: Crypts & Catacombs Tour (3.30 Hrs.) \$95 P/P on Seat in Coach basis

**Meeting Point & Time:** 2:30 PM at Center of Piazza Barberini, by the large Triton (Tritone) fountain

\*\* Clients have to reach the meeting point 15 minutes prior to departure

Return transfers form the hotel are not included

Discover imperial and early Christian Rome and millennia of history as you descend into the Eternal city's underground burial chambers, its long winding catacombs and its crypts. Go below and beyond to a time when Christianity was considered a simple cult whose members were executed as pagans and buried as martyrs. The one and only tour that takes you to crypts and catacombs from different historical eras, in various locations and with varying styles. Much of what Rome has to offer is buried underground-and through this tour, our guests can discover the underside of Rome through three select sites--The Cappuccini Crypt (chapel decorated entirely by human bones), Domitilla Catacombs (or San Callisto or San Sebastiano) and the Church of San Clemente (built over an ancient fourth century church built over an even older Roman house containing Christian artifacts and a pagan temple-with ruins reaching 57 feet deep).

## Optional tour: Dark Heart of Rome (1.30 Hrs.) \$40 P/P on Seat in Coach basis

**Meeting Point & Time:** 9.15 PM at the steps of S. Andrea della Valle Church.

\*\* Clients have to reach the meeting point 15 minutes prior to departure

Return transfers from the hotel are not included

When the sun sets on Rome, another side of the city comes to life, an older and more mysterious Rome where fact & legend are intertwined to stimulate the imagination as much as the eye. A Rome known only by a few... You are invited to discover this other side of the city for yourself on Rome s only night-time walking tour. Your guide will bring the Eternal city's most enthralling historical and supernatural mysteries to life in a highly entertaining and informative tour that is unlike any other. A night-time walking tour, based on history, legends, mysteries and Ghost stories, points out the lesser-known sights in Rome's historic center that any passer-by would easily miss. The tour wanders through the areas surrounding Campo de' Fiori and Piazza Farnese including Via Giulia, Via del Governo Vecchio and Castel Sant'Angelo.

## DAY 5/ FRI ROME – ASSISI – PERUGIA (B/-/-)

After a delicious breakfast, you will depart for a short drive to Assisi where you will have some free time to explore the historical town, surrounded by breathtaking walls that were built during the Middle Ages. Visit the Basilica of St. Francis during your guided tour, where you will see the incredible masterpieces of Giotto and Cimabue. This afternoon, continue your journey to Perugia, situated in a hilltop region surrounded by the

valleys and mountains of Umbria. Explore the city with a local guide as you will climb the ramps crossing the rocky outcrop, discovering its squares and stone cobbled streets.

Overnight in Perugia

## DAY 6/ SAT PERUGIA – SIENA – MONTECATINI TERME (B/-/D)

We leave Perugia and continue to Siena, an UNESCO World Heritage Site famous for the Palio, a historical horse race around the shell-shaped town square, the Piazza del Campo. You will have some free time in Siena to explore the medieval city center before travelling on to Montecatini Terme. Enjoy dinner at your hotel.

Overnight in Montecatini Terme.

# DAY 7/ SUN MONTECATINI – FLORENCE- MONTECATINI (B/-/D)

This morning after breakfast take a train to Florence. Meet your guide in Florence and set off on a walking tour with local licensed guide. Stroll through the picturesque Signoria Square, where you will discover magnificent statues by Cellini, Giambologna, and Ammannati, before continuing to the famous Ponte Vecchio. Explore Santa Croce Church Square where the tombs of distinguished Florentine citizens such as Michelangelo, Galileo, and Machiavelli can be found, as well as fascinating works by Giotto and Donatello. Visit the Accademia Gallery Museum and discover one of the city's eternal masterpieces — the David by Michelangelo.

Take a train back to Montecatini Terme accompanied by your travel assistant.

Enjoy dinner at the hotel.

Overnight in Montecatini Terme.

### DAY 8 MONTECATINI TERME – ROME (B/-/-)

After breakfast, you will depart from Florence to Rome. Upon arrival, spend the rest of the day will b at leisure.

Overnight in Rome

### DAY 9 ROME - PITTSBURGH (B/-/-)

After breakfast you will be transferred to Rome International airport to check in for your flight back home

## **DOES NOT INCLUDE:**

- Items of personal nature, tips, and gratuities
- Local city taxes to be paid directly at the hotels approx. €5 p/night/p/room
- Optional excursions
- Travel insurance
- Baggage fees may apply, and vary by carrier
- Visa fees (not for US citizens)
- Any other items not under inclusions.