

# ROME EXTENSION

4 NIGHT PROGRAMME

Join with :

- *The Holy Land* (see page 39)
- *Graces of Italy* (see page 35)
- *Medjugorje* (see page 46)

## DAY 1 ARRIVE ROME

Upon arrival in **Rome** we will be met and transferred to our centrally located hotel.

*Rome overnight (D)*

## DAY 2 ROME PILGRIMAGE

After a private Mass at St Peter's Basilica this morning we come to the nearby **Vatican Museums** for an unforgettable guided tour. Wander the spectacular chambers leading to the **Sistine Chapel** to view Michelangelo's masterpieces, including the magnificent fresco of the Last Judgment. Continue through to the awe inspiring **St. Peter's Basilica**, the largest church in the world for an informative exploration. Our guided tour will feature among other highlights Michelangelo's stunning **Pieta**, the **tomb of Bl. Pope John Paul II**, the great **Confessional** and the **Crypt** containing the tombs of several Popes.

Some free time will be afforded this afternoon to discover the sights of Rome. Strolling through the streets is like walking through the pages of a history book. Indulge in a gelato or enjoy a coffee while absorbing and admiring the history of this ancient city. Marvel at the Pantheon or visit the Church of St Ignatius with its amazing ceiling painted to look like a dome.

Set out after dinner to view **Rome by night** as we discover the city's renowned monuments from inside our comfortable coach. See the **Colosseum** alight, the **Victor Emmanuel Monument**, the **Piazza Della Repubblica**, **St Peter's Basilica** and **Capitol Hill**. Disembark

to throw a coin in the **Trevi Fountain** before strolling to the **Piazza Navona** to soak up the vibrant atmosphere.

*Rome overnight (BD)*

## DAY 3 ROME PILGRIMAGE

Enjoy a morning at leisure OR attend a **Papal Event** -

**Wednesday:** We will proceed to **St. Peters Square** where the Holy Father is expected to host a **General Audience** with pilgrims from around the world.

**Sunday:** We will proceed to **St. Peters Square** where the Holy Father is expected to pray the **Angelus** with pilgrims from around the world. *(These events are subject to the Pope's presence in Rome and may require amendments to the itinerary schedule.)*

Continue by coach this afternoon to the impressive **St. Mary Major Basilica**. Onwards to the **Basilica of St. John in Lateran** (First Papal residence) and the adjacent **Holy Stairs** brought from Jerusalem to Rome in 326AD by



Trevi Fountain

St Helena (as a favourite of pilgrims, these steps may only be ascended on the knees). Finally we visit the **Basilica of Santa Croce in Jerusalem** with its extraordinary collection of relics from the Holy Land including a full size replica of the Shroud of Turin. Mass this afternoon will be celebrated at one of the three Basilicas.

*Rome overnight (BD)*

## DAY 4 ROME PILGRIMAGE

This morning our Christian Rome pilgrimage features the **Basilica of St Paul Outside the Walls** as a special tribute to the Church's greatest evangelist. Here we will celebrate our group Mass. Journey on to the **ancient Catacombs** for a memorable guided tour. Marvel at these underground burial tunnels for Christians and Hebrews.

This afternoon we enter into the most visited attraction in Rome - the **Colosseum**. In 1749, Pope Benedict XIV declared the Colosseum a sacred site, as it was a place where early Christians had been martyred. Then view the **Circus Maximus** and the **Roman Forum** en route back to our hotel.

This evening we will celebrate our final night in Rome at a traditional Italian restaurant.

*Rome overnight (BD)*

## DAY 5 DEPART ROME

Today we join our onward flights or pilgrimage connections.

*The Rome extension is available only with specific pilgrimages indicated above.*