

# DIOCESE OF PETERBOROUGH – THE BEST OF ANCIENT AND RELIGIOUS ROME

**DATES OF TRAVEL: Tue, July 08 to Sat, July 19, 2014 (12 Days)**

**Day One: Tue, July 08, 2014**

**In flight**

Departure from Pearson International Airport with Air Canada non-stop service from Toronto to Rome. Flight as listed now is Air Canada 890 departing at 7:15 pm and arrival Rome at 9:45 am the next day. You lose 6 hours of time. Meals are served in flight and all meals and inflight service are complimentary.

**Day Two: Wed, July 09, 2014**

**Orientation tour of Rome**

Arrival into Rome at 9:45 am. You will be met at the airport with a deluxe coach and guide to provide you with a wonderful overview tour of Rome. A perfect way to get oriented to this amazing city as we see the highlights of Rome from our coach. Stop will be made at the downtown McDonald's for lunch on your own. Then we transfer to the Hotel Palazzo Carpegna for the next ten nights. The hotel is set in a beautiful historical building, overlooking the enchanting gardens of the Villa Carpegna Park allowing you a relaxing venue for outdoor meetings and gatherings. It is on the Via Aurelia which is the ring road that goes around Rome. Only 300 metres away is the nearest underground station – Cornelia line – A Metro station- allowing easy access to many important Roman landmarks. The Vatican City, St. Peter's Basilica and the city centre are just 3.5 km.

The Classic rooms and Tower Prestige Suites have been recently fully renovated and provide a wide range of comforts, thus making your stay very pleasant and relaxing. Non-smoking rooms and wheelchair users' facilities are also available. The Classic Room is 20 square meters, with one large Queen size bed or 2 single beds. They also have a limited number of triple rooms with 3 single beds. Rooms have LCD TV with Pay TV, direct dial phone, electronic safety box, minibar, hairdryer, working desk, wired and wireless high speed Internet Connection. Dinner this evening is included.

We will celebrate mass tonight at the church that is part of our hotel complex.



**Day Three: Thu - July 10, 2014 St. Peter's Basilica & Scavi Tour, St. John of Lateran, Santa Croce**

Following breakfast we activate our 3 Days ROMA Pass. Launched by the Municipal Authority of Rome, the Roma & Piu Pass is the cultural-tourist card of the Capital and its Province, offering discounts and services to encourage visits to their museums. It will allow tourists and other visitors to enjoy the sights of Rome and its Province. Free admission to the first two museums and/or archaeological sites visited (without queuing), full access to the public transport system reduced tickets and discounts for any other following museums and sites visited, as well as exhibitions, music events, theatrical and dance performances, and all other tourist services.

Today as a group we will use our pass to visit St. Peter's Basilica. We will have mass in one of the chapels early this morning followed by a Scavi Tour. This is one of the most interesting tours in Rome. Here you see the excavations in the Necropolis (city of the Dead) underneath St. Peter's Basilica. It there that Saint Peter was buried, after having been crucified in the circus of Nero that sat nearby. This 60 minute tour takes you in a specific language group through several excavated streets of the Necropolis and ends at the grave of Saint Peter. Note that the tour takes one hour and is done in maximum group size of 12. It is difficult to get access to this tour and we need the full passport names of all people included, the language in which you request the tour to be conducted, and the name and phone number of your hotel in Rome. Early afternoon we travel to St. John of Lateran, built under Pope Melchiade (311 – 314) and is the most ancient church in the world. Due to the fact that the Pope is also the Bishop of Rome, Saint John of Lateran – being the seat of the Bishop's residence – is also Rome's Cathedral. A short walk takes us to see Basilica di Santa Croce in Gerusalemme, one of the seven pilgrimage churches in the eternal city. Santa Croce is known for its extraordinary collection of relics from the Holy Land. Breakfast and dinner.



**Day Four: Fri, July 11, 2014 Catacombs, St. Mary Major and St. Paul Outside the Walls**

Today we travel to the Catacombs of Rome. In ancient Roman times, no one was allowed to be buried within the walls of the city. A few wealthy, landowning Christians allowed their land to be used as burial places. The 40 or so known catacombs are scattered outside the ancient walls of Rome. Christians dug an estimated 375 miles of tomb-lined tunnels here. We will have mass today in these underground tunnels. Then on to see the other two major Basilicas of Rome, St. Mary Major and St. Paul Outside the Walls. We return to our hotel for dinner. Breakfast and dinner.

**Day Five: Sat, July 12, 2014 Parthenon, Trevi Fountain & Spanish Steps**

Mass before departure at the church connected to our hotel. Then we will visit some of the sights of Historic Rome. We start with the Pantheon, built more than 1800 years ago and still standing today. The name Pantheon refers to the buildings original function as a temple for all Gods. The most remarkable part of the building is the more than 43 meter high. On to the magical Trevi, arguably the most beautiful fountain in all of Rome. It brings water all the way from the Salone Springs (approximately 20 km from Rome) and supplies the fountains in the historic center of Rome with water. The water at the bottom of the fountain represents the sea. Legend has it you will return to Rome if you throw a coin into the water. Then over to the Spanish Steps, a popular meeting place for people travelling to Rome. Breakfast and dinner.

**Day Six: Sun, July 13, 2014 Colosseum, Palatine Hill and Roman Forum**

The OMNIA Vatican and Rome Card is valid for 3 consecutive days and is the only complete sightseeing package for Rome and Vatican City that includes free attraction entry, a bus tour, free travel card and a guidebook. You save money with free entry to top attractions, free open top bus tour, free public transport ticket, save time by skipping the lines, free guidebook and maps. It includes Top Rome Attractions – Sistine Chapel & Vatican Museum, St. Peter's Basilica, Rome Bus Tour, the Coliseum, Roman Forum and Palatine Hill, National Museum of Castel St. Angelo, Vatican Gardens, St. John of Lateran and the Cloister, St. Peter's Prison and Borghese Gallery just to mention a few. [www.romeandvaticanpass.com/rome-pass-prices.php](http://www.romeandvaticanpass.com/rome-pass-prices.php).

Mass this morning. Then we are off with a guide to see the Colosseum and the Roman Forum. The Colosseum is probably the most impressive building of the Roman Empire. Construction was started in 72 AD and was completed in 80 AD. The elliptical building is immense, reaching a height of more than 159 feet. The magnificent structure was clad in marble and 160 larger-than-life statues graced the arches on the upper floors. The colosseum could accommodate some 55,000 spectators who entered the building through no less than 80 entrances. Imagine an enormous awning known as the velarium that protected spectators from the sun. We continue on with our guide to walk through the remains of the Roman Forum where the central area of the city in ancient Rome was. Here was where commerce, business, prostitution, cult and the administration of justice took place. Free time this afternoon. Breakfast and dinner.





**Day Seven: Mon, July 14, 2014 Vatican Museum & Vatican Gardens**  
 Mass this morning before departing for the Vatican City where we first take a walk around the Vatican Gardens, a group of gardens, medieval monuments, forests and flower beds spread over 50 acres within the walls of the Vatican City. Such a quiet oasis in the midst of busy Rome. After lunch we continue with our tour of the Vatican Museum and the Sistine Chapel. The Vatican Museums were founded under the patronage of two 18<sup>th</sup> century Popes – Clement XIV and Pius VI. They were among the first to open collections of art to the general public for viewing. Today there are 13 museums in about 14 Vatican palaces that are included on tours of the Vatican Museum complex. At the end of the tour you will see the famous Sistine Chapel whose ceiling was painted by Michelangelo. It is unbelievable that his figures look “correct” on curved surfaces, viewed from nearly 60 feet below. Built in the 1470s under Pope Sixtus IV, from whom it takes its name, the Sistine Chapel is more than just Vatican City’s most popular tourist destination. Beginning in 1492, the simple brick building has hosted numerous papal conclaves, during which cardinals gather to vote on a new pope. A special chimney in the roof of the chapel broadcasts the conclave’s results with white smoke indicating the election of a pope and black smoke signaling that no candidate has yet received a two-third’s majority. Breakfast and dinner.

**Day Eight: Tue, July 15, 2014 Free Day**  
 Free Day Following mass you have a free day to enjoy your Omnia pass and visit points of interest in Rome. Breakfast and dinner.

**Day Nine; Wed, July 16, 2014 Free Day / Castelgondolfo**  
 Mass this morning. If we find that we are able to gain an audience with the Pope we will travel out to Castelgondolfo today however at this time, we will leave this as a free day with itinerary to be advised. Breakfast and dinner.

**Day Ten: Thu, July 17, 2014 Beach Day in Ostia**  
 Mass this morning. While you may not think of Rome as a seaside destination, it is easy to take a day trip to the beach from Rome. To escape the heat of the city, the best place to go is Ostia Lido. Ostia beach is known for its dark sand. There also is a boardwalk and some public beach areas. For less crowded and more comfortable beach areas, you can pay about 10 euro for private beach entrance which includes use of beach chair and towel. Ostia Lido is about half an hour ride on the local train from Rome and you can use your Roma Pass to get here. You could also stop off at the ancient Roman ruins at Ostia Antica on the way if you wish. Breakfast and dinner

**Day Eleven: Fri, July 18, 2014 Full day coach tour to Assisi**  
 Mass before joining our coach and guide for a full day tour to Assisi. Guided tour includes visit to The Lower (Inferiore) and The Upper (Superiore) Basilica. Also visit to Santa Chiara Church, St Mary of The Angels (Basilica), The Church of St. Damian (Convento Di San Damiano) and Chiesa Nuova. Whisper System for guiding for 4 hours Guided tours finish in the early afternoon, then leisure time for personal devotions. Members of the group can walk to San Damiano or the Hermitage if they wish. Dinner in local restaurant this evening. Our return to Rome is early evening. Breakfast and dinner

**Day Twelve: Sat, July 19, 2014 Flight home**  
 Transfer to Rome Airport for the flight home. Air Canada 891 departs 11:30 am and arrives back into Canada at 3:10 pm. Here you gain back the time you lost going over so departure and arrival is the same day. Breakfast and meals in flight.

**Included in the tour cost;**

- 10-nights' accommodation twin at Hotel Palazzo Carpegna
- Breakfast and dinner daily
- Daily Mass
- 3 Day Omnia Pass
- 3 Day Roma Pass
- Sightseeing on the above passes organized as a group according to the itinerary
- Scavi Tour at St. Peter's Basilica
- Entrance to Catacombs
- Half day guided orientation tour of Rome upon arrival and transfer to the hotel
- Full day guided tour of Assisi with admissions and Whisper System with dinner
- Hotel Occupancy taxes
- Transfer from the hotel to the airport with assistance for airport check in
- Airport taxes and security fees. Current taxes are \$530 on Air Canada flight to Rome. This is an estimate only and not finalized until tickets are issued.
- Nav Can fee of \$30 per person

**NOT INCLUDED IN YOUR TOUR COST:**

- Items of personal nature like laundry, lunches etc.
- Optional deluxe package insurance

**COST PER PERSON CANADIAN DOLLARS, 2 TO ROOM****\$3250.00****Single - \$3900.00**

*For more information contact Mr. Ben Lukow, VEYO Program Manager, 820 Frank St. Peterborough, ON, K9J 4N4  
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**DEPOSIT AND CANCELLATION:**

- Deposit of \$300 per person plus optional insurance is required within 7 days of booking
- Final payment is due April 08, 2014

**CANCELLATION PENALTIES:**

- Between date of deposit and April 7, 2014, deposit is non-refundable. Change of name is permitted
- Between April 8 and departure – 100% non-refundable

**DOCUMENTATION:**

- You must have a passport valid for six months after your return date from Europe.

**DEVIATION FEE:**

- If the Diocese of Peterborough acknowledges that you are allowed to leave early or return later than the group, you will incur at \$200 deviation fee to change the outbound or return date of your ticket.

**TOUR PREPARED AND OPERATED BY TOUR DESIGN, 1211 DENISON STREET, UNIT 26, MARKHAM, ON, L3R 4B3  
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