



AN ORTHODOX PILRIMAGE TO ITALY WITH FATHER GABRIEL BULLOCK OCTOBER 7-18, 2024

Day 1. Monday, October 7, 2024

Meals: Dinner
Arrival to Venice-Mestre.
Check-in at the hotel.

Day 2. Tuesday, October 8, 2024

Meals: Breakfast

We'll start our tour with a **Greek church** that in addition to many holy relics contains an exquisite exhibit of Late Byzantine and post-Byzantine art. **St. Mark's Cathedral**, which hosts the relics of another Evangelist, St. Mark. The cathedral was built in distinctive Byzantine style in the mid-11th century, to store the relics of St. Mark, which the Venetians stole from Alexandria. The Cathedral is of exceptional beauty, and also has a magnificent collection of Byzantine treasures, that came to Venice, for the most part, after that universal tragedy, the sack of Constantinople by the Crusaders in 1204. There are over thirty Orthodox Saints that are in repose in Venice, among them St. Zacharias, St. Athanasius of Alexandria, St. Theodore





of Tyre, St. Marina (Marinus) of Bythinia, and St. John the Merciful. These relics and church historical artifacts deserve the most serious attention compared to similar ones throughout Western Europe.

Overnight: **Mestre**

Day 3. Wednesday, October 9, 2024

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will dedicated to the exploration of the Venetian Lagoon. Venice was known for centuries for its outstanding **glass**. We will start our day with a stop at the **island of Murano**, to see the glass factory and museum. Then we will continue to the **island of Burano** famous for its brightly painted houses and wonderful linens and lace. Here you can have a nice lunch at one of the numerous local restaurants. You also may shop at the dozens of shops that present local products. After lunch we will continue to the **island of Torchello** with its exquisite **Byzantine Basilica**, the origins of which date back to the early 12th century. The **mosaics** inside are still able to overwhelm you with their color and liveliness. Overnight: **Mestre**

Day 4. Thursday, October 10, 2024

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

After breakfast we will have a pleasant transfer to **Ravenna**, the former capital of the Byzantine Empire. Despite the fact that the city has never been the capital of the mighty empire and its glories pass over a thousand years, this present day sleepy Italian coast along the Adriatic shore conquers your imagination with images from the past. Its splendid **basilicas** with the most luxurious mosaics earned it the name of the **mosaic capital of the world**. No picture, photograph, exhibit, or story will ever do justice to what we are about to see today. Several basilicas, baptisteries and a splendid tomb will uncover to you the images of the glorious art and religious devotion of the Ancient Christian Empire. Overnight: **Assisi**



Day 5. Friday, October 11, 2024

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Transfer to **Rome**.

Upon our arrival, we'll visit several of the most important churches. Among them: **St. Maria Maggiore Church**, one of the largest and oldest churches dedicated to the Virgin Mary. In a special chapel you may see a few pieces of wood that are believed to be that of Christ's manger; **St. John Lateran Cathedral** is the cathedral of Rome, since the Vatican is a different state. The cathedral is built on the place where the ancient papal palaces once stood. The most important relics the church contains are the

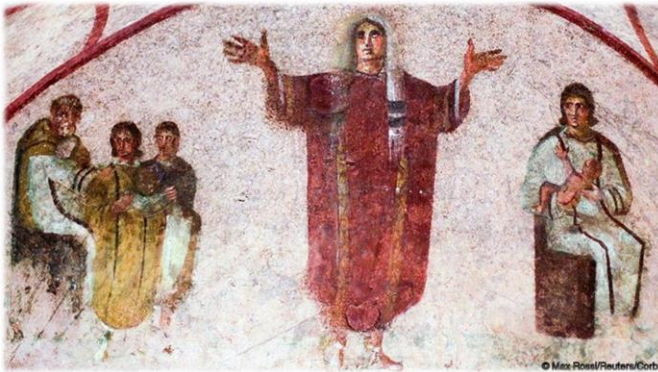
heads of the apostles Peter and Paul, executed in 64AD during the persecutions of Nero. Nearby the **Church of the Holy Stairs** was built for one reason, to hold the stairs that Christ ascended to the Roman Praetorium in Jerusalem on the day of His judgment by Pontius Pilate. Overnight: **Rome**



Day 6. Saturday, October 12, 2024

Meals: Breakfast

Today will start with the exploration of the remnants of the city that gave Rome the title “Eternal”. We will see the largest stadium of antiquity, the **Coliseum**, a circus that hosted up to 80,000 spectators, and the even larger **Circus Maximus**, the horse race stadium, witness to the cheer of 250,000 Romans. We will also see ancient Rome’s downtown, the **Forum** and the **Mamertine Prison**, the place of the Apostle Peter’s imprisonment. In the afternoon we will visit several ancient churches in the vicinity of the Forum: **SS. Cosmas and Damian**,



dedicated to the beloved unmercenary healers, “**St. Peter in Chains**” that houses the prison chains of the Apostle, and the **Church of St. Clement** with the most fascinating ruins hidden underneath the church.

Overnight: **Rome**

Day 7. Sunday, October 13, 2024

Meals: Breakfast

We will start our day by attending **Divine Liturgy** at one of the Orthodox churches in Rome. After light brunch you may explore famous “tourists traps” of city – the **Spanish Steps**, the **Pantheon**, **Trevi Fountain**, **Piazza Navona**, etc. Our visit will also include a visit to the **Catacombs of St. Priscilla**, known as the “Queen of the Catacombs”, famous for its Ancient Christian Art, with the earliest depiction of the Mother of God in existence.

Overnight: **Rome**

Day 8. Monday, October 14, 2024

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Vatican City is the smallest state in existence. But it is more famous for the residence of the Pope of Rome, once the most important out of five keepers of the ancient Christian Patriarchal sees. Besides that, few people know that the Vatican is built on the place of an early Christian cemetery where many Christian martyrs were buried. **St. Peter’s Basilica** itself is a resting place of many Orthodox saints, among whom is the beloved Orthodox and Ecumenical Teacher St. John Chrysostom, the author of our weekly





celebrated liturgy. There are no words to describe the glory and beauty of St. Peter's Basilica, the collections of the Vatican Museums of Sistine Chapel. In the afternoon we will visit the **Basilica of St. Paul outside the Walls**, the resting place of the "apostle of the gentiles". Transfer to Naples. Overnight: **Naples**

Day 9. Tuesday, October 15, 2024

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

This day will be dedicated to sightseeing of

Naples. After a brief sightseeing tour of the city, we will visit the Chapel with the relics of the first Bishop of Naples, St. Januarius in the **Duomo** (Cathedral). Adjacent to the Cathedral is an ancient Baptistery with some of the most ancient Christian Mosaics to be found anywhere. From the Cathedral we'll proceed to the **national archeological museum of Naples**, one of the most important archeological museums worldwide. Here on several floors, you'll see a lot of treasures discovered in the nearby ancient Roman towns of Herculaneum. Overnight: **Naples**

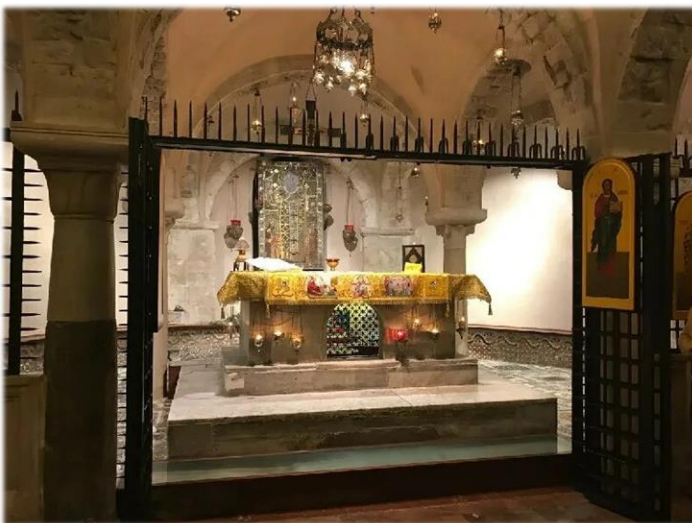
Day 10. Wednesday, October 16, 2024

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

This morning we'll transfer to the city of **Salerno** and visit the **Duomo** – Cathedral that hosts the relics of the apostle and evangelist Matthew. Then, we will make a ferry ride to the picturesque town of **Amalfi**, to venerate the relics of St. Apostle Andrew the First Called. His relics were taken away from Greece in order to prevent their desecration by the invaders. Upon return from Amalfi, we'll transfer to Bari for overnight. Overnight: **Bari** area



Day 11. Thursday, October 17, 2024



Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Today we will start our day with the **Divine Liturgy** in the city of St. Nicholas. **St. Nicholas** became the patron saint of the city in 1087 after his remains were moved from Myra in Lycia (modern day southern Turkey), where he was Bishop during his earthly life in the 4th century. The body of the saint is laid down in a crypt in the basilica of his name in Bari. Up until the present-day countless miracles proceed from his body, including the pouring of myrrh or "manna" that is yearly collected from under his bones by the rector of the cathedral in the presence of a multitude of clergy and laymen. On our way back we will visit **Alberobello**

village, famous for its unique cone type architecture known as trulli. That architectural style was typical for that area for thousands of years and remains practically unchanged till the present day. Overnight:
Bari area

Day 12. Friday, October 18, 2024

Meals: Breakfast

Departure back home

TECHNICAL INFORMATION:

Price includes:

- Accommodation in good Tourist-Class Hotels (4****) with breakfasts daily;
- Extra meals (seven dinners)
- City hospitality taxes
- Deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach for the transfers all along the tour according to the program;
- Road, local and city taxes for the tourist bus
- Private boat for the tour of the Venetian Lagoon
- English-speaking tour escort for the whole pilgrimage
- City tours as per the above itinerary, accompanied by local guides
- All entry and skip the line fees to the museums and churches as per itinerary
- Whisper sets

Price does NOT include:

- Flights
- Meals other than specified
- Beverages during meals (other than water)
- Optional/additional tours and associated entrance fees
- Porterage, gratuities* and extras
- Optional extensions
- Entrance to temporary exhibits ... or to any exhibits that cost extra to the general museum fee
- Anything that is not specifically mentioned in "Price includes"

* It is customary for the tour participants to tip, on a personal basis, the tour escort, driver and local guides based on the satisfaction of the services received. Please use the following as a guideline: Driver/Tour Escort: 3,00 Euros per person/per day each; Local guides: Euros 1,00 per person/per guided tour (half-day) or 4,00 Euros per person/per full day.

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS:

The current cost of the trip is \$3350 per person, based on double occupancy in a group of at least 30+ paying members. Single accommodations: extra \$750 and subject to availability. Please factor that the final price may fluctuate due to the actual number of participants or due to significant change in exchange rate of EUR vs. the US dollar at the time of the final payment. In case of unlikely need for financial adjustment you'll be informed right away.

All payments should be made by check to: "Palomnik, LLC", and mailed to: 1613 Campus Drive, Vestal, NY 13850. Any returned checks are subject to \$25 fee. Please contact us directly for information on payment via Zelle, credit card and for domestic or international bank wires.

REGISTRATION:

A \$900 deposit is required when you sign up for the trip. The deposit is non-refundable, unless it is cancelled by the organizers due to lack of participation. The deadline for signing up for the trip is January 1, 2024. The entire amount is due on June 21, 2022. Failure to pay in full by July 1, 2024 without written notice of explanation may lead to the cancellation of your participation, with no refund of any previously committed funds. To avoid any money loss, emergency/travel cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. If you decide to join the pilgrimage after the deadline, please contact tour coordinator regarding the availability.

CANCELLATION POLICY:

If you need to cancel after you signed up, please note the schedule of charges in addition to the amount of non-refundable deposit:

- 25% of the tour cost, 91 to 60 days prior to the departure
- 50% of the tour cost, 60 to 30 days prior to the departure

- 100% of the tour cost 30 or fewer days prior to the departure

SPECIAL REQUESTS:

All special requests, concerns and suggestions must be submitted in writing to Fr. Ilya Gotlinsky no later than the date of the final payment (July 1, 2024).

All cancellations must be done in writing as well and sent directly to agent/coordinator - Fr. Ilya Gotlinsky, and must be received for reimbursement by the dates shown in the cancellation schedule. We also have to add that should cancellation or alteration of the program occur due to Covid and associated emergencies, civil disturbances, acts of terrorism, war, natural disaster, and other events of force majeure or acts of God (including threat or fear of same), refunds will be made only to the extent that they are recoverable, and that such cancellation or alteration may result in the total loss of funds paid by participants. It is assumed each participant has reviewed the same with respect to their own comfort level of risk and personal safety. A decision to withdraw from the trip for these reasons or any others will be bound by the same terms of cancellation.

ALTERATIONS TO THE ITINERARY:

Fr. Ilya Gotlinsky reserves the right to alter, modify or withdraw the itinerary if air schedules and/or events beyond his control, including those of Covid and associated emergencies deem it necessary. In the event it becomes necessary for the comfort or well-being of the travelers to alter or modify the itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the tour operator and are not grounds for cancellation with refund. Fr. Ilya Gotlinsky assumes no responsibility over any consequences of Covid associated emergencies or anything that is a result of any participant deviating from the group tour. Because of the difference in language and customs, it is expected that the traveler will follow the directions of the Tour Director at all times. Tour Director reserves the right to restrict a person's participation in the group's activities, including exclusion from the group, when, in the opinion of the Director, such action is necessary.

REQUIRED TRAVEL DOCUMENTS:

A passport with validity for at least six months beyond end of stay Starting in 2024, U.S. passport holders traveling to Europe will need to apply for authorization through the European Travel Information and Authorization System (ETIAS) before their visit. For details and authorization, please visit: https://travel-europe.europa.eu/etias_en

IT IS STRONGLY SUGGESTED THAT YOU:

- Obtain insurance covering medical needs and coverage of personal property, possible Covid quarantine and/or hospitalization and treatment

- Be aware that financial coverage for all emergency medical and other emergency needs (including those related to COVID hospitalization, treatment, or quarantine) will be your sole responsibility. We will provide all possible logistical and personal assistance, but the financial aspect is your responsibility.

- Act in a manner consistent with the surrounding environment

- Make arrangements to have access to sufficient funds to cover personal needs and unexpected events

- Be aware that the places that we will be visiting may not have the same amenities that you are accustomed to. Medical facilities in some areas may be limited.

This agreement becomes effective upon acceptance into the tour by Fr. Ilya Gotlinsky

Copyright © 2001 - 2023 Palomnik, LLC dba Orthodox Tours.

All Rights Reserved.

1613 Campus Drive,

Vestal, NY 13850

Telephone: 001-607-797-1058

Member of the International Association of Travel Agents Network (IATAN)

**REGISTRATION FORM:
AN ORTHODOX PILRIMAGE TO ITALY WITH
FATHER GABRIEL BULLOCK
October 7-18, 2024**

*To register: please complete this registration form and return it along with
your deposit check (\$900.00) made to PALOMNIK, LLC to the following address:
Palomnik, LLC, 1613 Campus Drive, Vestal, NY 13850.
Please write "Italy 2024" on the memo line.*

Full Name (exactly as in your passport):

Date of Birth (day/month/year):

Nationality, Passport # :

Issue and expirations date (day/month/year):

Address:

City, State, Zip/Postal Code

Home phone:

Alt. phone and Email:

Emergency Contact Information (Name, Phone, Relation):

Medical restrictions:

Dietary restrictions:

Would you prefer single accommodations at additional costs specified in the itinerary?

Please let us know if there is anything else that we should know in order to make your travel experience more comfortable and pleasant:

*Your signature below confirms that you have read the itinerary and agree to abide by Terms and
Conditions that accompany the itinerary.*

NAME/SIGNATURE:

DATE: