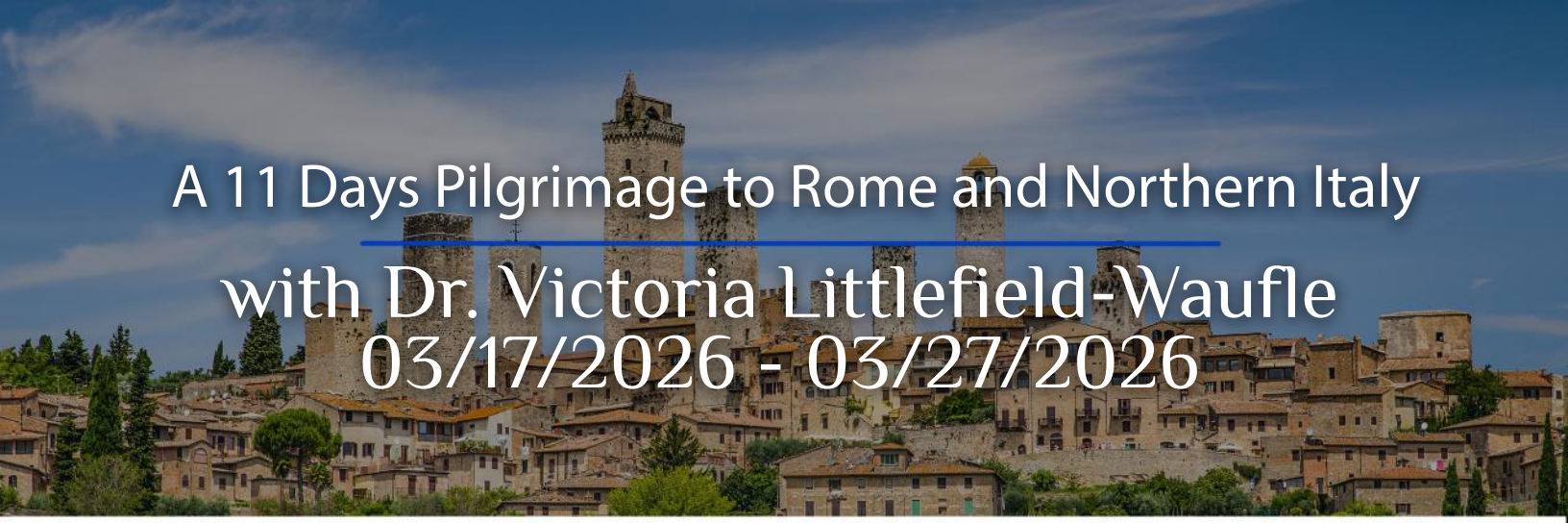

A 11 Days Pilgrimage to Rome and Northern Italy

with Dr. Victoria Littlefield-Waufle

03/17/2026 - 03/27/2026

Day 1

Departure: From your local USA international airport This evening we begin our journey to Europe. Meals will be served during our overnight flight.

Day 2

Upon arrival at Rome Airport we will meet our professional tour manager and proceed to our waiting motorcoach for the drive to our hotel. We will arrive in Mestre with time to check-in and relax before dinner at our hotel. Dinner and overnight.

Day 3

Leave the hotel after breakfast and drive towards south (3 hrs drive) we reach Pozzuoli (near Naples) .and after one day the south wind blew, and we came the next day to Puteoli. Acts 28:13Some time at leisure to relax at hotel, before moving to the centre of the village……Visit the area of the seaport and the Roman Amphitheater in order to get a sense of what Paul experienced once he arrived on the mainland of the "Roman Empire"…Take a break to taste a real Napolitano coffee or a pizza before returning to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 4

Leave the hotel after breakfast and reach Pompei in less than an hour…. Meet local guides to have an archeological journey through the ancient city.Buried under a layer of ashes and lapilli by a sudden eruption of Vesuvius in 79 A.D., after 1700 years the excavations have brought to light Pompei, a town whose daily life of the Imperial Age has been petrified, as if under a spell, in its gestures, secrets and in the panic felt by its inhabitants during their last moments.Visiting the "frozen city" would create a feeling similar to that experienced by Apostle Paul when he walked through similar streets from his time period Break for lunch and drive to Rome (3 hrs drive) Check in at the hotel, dinner and overnight

Day 5

The Basilica of San Clemente is not just another church in Rome, it is unique! Its magnificent frescoes and its twelfth-century mosaic of the Cross as the Tree of Life will engage your mind and heart. You can travel back in time and visit a fourth-century basilica before exploring what was once a pagan temple! Centuries of Christian faith, art and history wait to be discovered! Most important for us, is that it was one of the first house churches in which Paul taught and preached. Continue on a walking tour through the monuments of Imperial Rome . Colosseum (Inside) Palatine Hill and Roman Forums. The Mamertine prison can be added, in case the group is interested in visiting the prison where both St Peter and St Paul were held. In the afternoon, continue walking to the Trevi Fountain. Time at leisure for lunch. The afternoon walking , guided tour, continues to the Pantheon (inside) and Navona Square. Dinner at leisure. Return to the hotel for overnight

Day 6

The day tour includes the Vatican Museums, Sistine Chapel and San Peter's Basilica This afternoon we will drive to Abbey of the Three Fountains,The place of Paul's martyrdom; where tradition has it, that three different springs gushed out at each spot touched when Paul's head fell down.Legend claims that when St Paul was decapitated, his head bounced three times and fountains miraculously sprang out when it touched the ground. The legend is nice, but the springs were known in pre-Christian times as the Aquae Salviae, and the excavations revealed ancient mosaic pavements. Still, even if it is not true it helps identify the site of St Paul's martyrdom. It is also said that there was a stone-pine tree at the site of his death, and the identification of this place was strengthened when ancient stone-pine cones were found here during excavations in 1857. St. Paul Outside the Walls is a Benedictine Abbey which shares its name, origins and centuries of history, both joyful and sorrowful, with the adjoining basilica. Visit the Basilica where the bones of Paul have recently been found and you will leave Rome with the real spirit of first Christians in your mind and in your Heart….Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight

Day 7

Our tour of Rome continues while we drive along the Ancient Appian Way and stop to visit Catacombs of Santa Domitilla The Christian catacombs are extremely important for the art history of early Christians. At first they were used both for burial and the memorial services and celebrations of the anniversaries of Christian martyrs (following similar Roman customs). They probably were not used for regular worship. Many modern depictions of the catacombs show them as hiding places for Christian populations during times of persecution. Then we depart Rome towards north, to reach Florence in approx 3 hrs drive) Break for lunch on the way. Check in at the hotel, dinner and overnight

Day 8

We begin our day discovering why Florence is the cradle of the Renaissance – and where one breathes art in the medieval streets, in the craftsmen's workshops, the Uffizi Museum and in the Renaissance Palaces, and the world renowned museums all found within Florence. Enjoy a guided visit to the Baptistry of St. John), Piazza della Signoria, the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore, Giotto's Bell Tower and **the Basilica of Santa Croce** The -tour will conclude at The Accademia Gallery, which displays Michelangelo's famous "David", which you may choose to enter within to experience it. The remainder of late afternoon is at leisure to explore additional treasures of Florence Visit the outdoor Ponte Vecchio, covered since medieval times with goldsmiths' shops, is a must for Florence's other specialty – **handcrafted gold jewelry**. Dinner on our own tonight - Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight

Day 9

The power of Pisa lay out to the 11th century when it acquired traditional fame as one of the four main historical Marine Republics of Italy. At that time the city was a very important commercial centre and controlled a significant Mediterranean merchant fleet and navy . The Pisans also helped many other Mediterranean cities to defend themselves against the Saracens pirates.Pisa is also the **birth city of Galileo Galilei, the great Italian physicist,** mathematician, and astronomer.We will have time to wander about the square and photograph the Tower and enjoy a coffee or refreshing beverage if you so desire. We continue our cultural journey towards the north, to arrive in Venice/Mestre in the late afternoon....Check in at hotel , dinner and overnight.

Day 10

Soon after breakfast, transfer to central Venice by private motor-boat and meet your local guide.Enjoy a tour of the magnificent Piazza and Riding the boat to Basilica of St. Mark's, its marvelous Byzantine-style architecture studded with colored marbles and glittering gold mosaics and housing the tomb of the Evangelist Mark. **Visit also see (outside) the elaborate Doge's** Palace, sumptuous home of the former Venetian rulers with its famous Bridge of Sighs, where prisoners crossed before being led to the dungeonsSome time at leisure for an optional gondola ride or for shopping Return to your hotel in the late evening, dinner and overnight

Day 11

This morning we say "Arrivederci" to Italy and to our tour manager as we transfer to the local airport to begin our journey home. Arrive in the US carrying the memories you've created that are worth a lifetime. Welcome home!

We encourage you to provide gratuities to the team as a token of appreciation. Recommended amounts are $8 per day for the tour manager, $3 for the local guide, $4 for the bus driver, and $2 for the hotel team. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

$4,975 per person

on double occupancy basis

****$975 extra per single room***

****$499 extra per triple room***

-This Price Does Include:

- *Round trip airfare, including all airline taxes*
- *Meet and assist upon arrival and departure at Rome airport*
- *9 Breakfasts and 9 Dinners*
- *Accomodation in 4-star hotels on H/B basis*
- *Transportation in a Modern Coach for all the tour days with Wi-Fi*
- *Excellent English and/or Spanish speaking tour guide*
- *Entrance fees to all sights, as mentioned in itinerary*
- *Portage at hotels*
- *European transformer/adapter (if needed)*
- *Trip brochure, itinerary, and name tag*
- *Travel bag with some travel essentials*

-This Price Does NOT Include:

- *Health, cancellation, or baggage insurance*
- *Items of personal use (laundry, phone calls, and charger)*
- *Transportation to and from USA airport*
- *Meals not mentioned in the program*
- *Items not mentioned above on the itinerary*
- *Lunch on road, beverages (alcohol), gratuities for hotel, guide, or driver*
- *Personal Expenses*
- *Passport/Visa costs (if any)*
- *Trip cancellation protection*
- *Travel insurance*
- *Professional pictures taken*

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