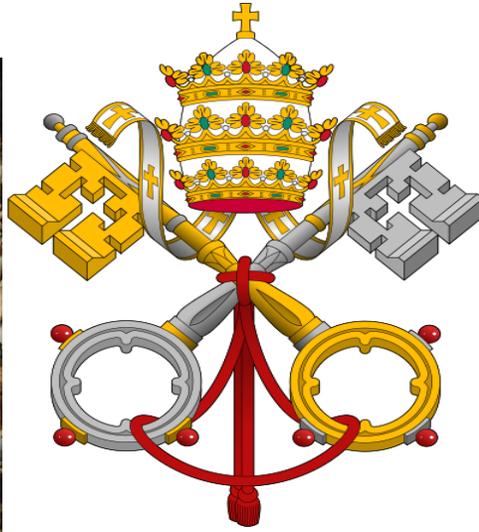




St. Mary Landover Hills 2024 Pilgrimage to Italy

September 28—October 6, 2024



ROME



FLORENCE



ASSISI



SIENA



Dear Friends ;

I am pleased to announce that St. Mary Landover Hills will be going on an exciting and spiritually nourishing pilgrimage/tour of the Eternal City, Rome, Florence, Pompeii, Assisi, Sienna and other places. This pilgrimage promises to encourage your Catholic faith and enhance your sense of beauty as you behold the beautiful churches that have served as testament to our faith. It will cover some the major Churches, antiquities and attractions of these magnificent Cities. We have arranged for excellent guides knowledgeable in church history and deeply committed to the faith to give us inspiring and factual points of some of the most sacred places we hold dear as Catholics.

*Sincerely Yours in Christ,
Fr. Ebuka Mbnude*

Day 1 — September 28 / Washington/Dulles Airport, USA to Rome, Fiumecino Airport, Italy

Today we depart from Dulles International Airport, USA on our overnight flight into Rome, Italy, dinner and overnight onboard. Anyone coming from other parts of the US join the group in Dulles Airport or in Rome, Italy. Please see time schedule below and on page 6. Alternatively, we can assist you in making your air independent travel reservations, for a nominal fee, if you wish.

UNITED AIRLINES - Flight # UA 884 IAD/ FCO (Rome) Depart 5:35 PM Arrive 8:15 AM

Day 2 — Arrival in Italy/ Transfer to Florence Center / 29/September

Upon your arrival in Florence, you will check in to your hotel and have some time to settle in, unpack and freshen up before tonight's group **supper (included)** in a local Florentine restaurant with wine, water and coffee included. Overnight will be in Florence. For those still energized after supper we can take a walk around city center in the evening to catch some of the sites beforehand.

Day 3— Florence City Tour / 30/September

This morning, after breakfast, we will begin our walking tour of Florence. We'll begin with the Academia to see Michelangelo's famous "David" and "Prisoners in Stone", then onto Piazza del Duomo, once the center of religious life in medieval times. We continue on to visit the Piazza della Signoria which was named after the Palazzo della Signoria, also called Palazzo Vecchio. It is the main point of the origin and history of the Florentine Republic and still maintains its reputation as the political and governmental focus of the city. The next stop will be the famous Ponte Vecchio; the bridge spans the Arno at its narrowest point where it is believed that a bridge was first built in Roman



times. Butchers initially occupied the shops; the present tenants are jewelers, art dealers and souvenir sellers. After the tour there will be free time to visit the city or visit the Uffizi Gallery; (on your own if you wish) one of the most important Italian museums, and the most visited, it is also one of the largest and best known in the world and holds a collection of priceless works, particularly from the period of the Italian Renaissance. On your own. Tickets can be purchased at the main entrance for approximately 16.50 Euro per person. (The museum is vast so you should allow at least 3 hours or more to visit the many galleries). **Supper (included)** with wine, water and coffee. Overnight in Florence.

Day 4— Siena—City of St Catherine - 01/October

Siena is small enough for you to reach every corner of it on foot, so enjoy the pleasure to wander across the incredibly charming alleys and hidden corners of this beautiful Gothic town. Here in Siena, we will begin our tour at the Basilica of St. Domenic where are housed the relics of St. Catherine. Continuing on we will visit the house of St. Catherine and the beautiful chapel . Later onto one of the most magnificent Cathedrals of the world, the Cathedral of Siena is dedicated to the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Afterwards, we will see the main square where twice a year the Palio takes place, a medieval horse race between the 7 districts of Siena, all dressed and horses decorated in medieval garb. Afterwards, there will be some free-time for lunch and shopping. Piazza del Campo - Il Campo is the core of Siena, an amazing and spectacular huge curving square with the strange shape of a shell. You'll not find a similar square anywhere else, it's unique and particular, one of the most beautiful squares in the world. I suggest you walk all across the square and stop here and there to admire it and all the beautiful historical buildings surrounding the piazza. Right at the highest point of the piazza is the beautiful Fonte Gaia, the fountain of Joy, carved by Jacopo della Quercia in the 15th century and representing the Virgin surrounded by the Virtues. It's a place full of atmosphere, even more evocative and enchanting at night. As it was in the past, il Campo is still the focus of public and daily life, from the city's marketplace to the Palio horse race. The Duomo—The 12th century Cathedral of Siena is simply beautiful, a true Gothic masterpiece in black and white marbles, that really offers a lot to the traveler: from the amazing panorama you enjoy from its unfinished nave to the wonderful mosaic pavement and the superb fresco cycle by Pinturicchio in the Piccolomini Library, to the masterpieces by Duccio and Donatello. Afternoon departure to Assisi. Overnight in Assisi with **supper (included)**.

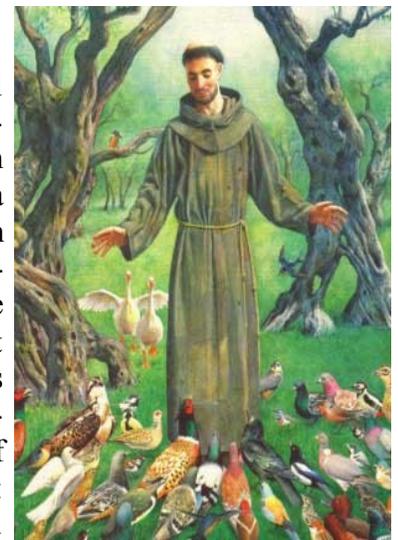


Day 5 - Assisi—City of Sts. Francis & Clare / 02/October

This morning after breakfast we depart for our day trip to Assisi. Upon arrival, we will begin our day with a visit of the Basilica of S. Maria delle Grazie within it the Portuncula. The Portuncula is a small church located within the Basilica of Santa Maria degl'Angeli, the place from where the Franciscan movement began. Later we travel up the hill to the Basilica of St. Francis. We will visit the Basilica of St. Clare. In St. Clare's basilica we will be able to see her incorrupt body and visit the Cross of San Damiano that spoke to Francis: saying "Francis, rebuild my Church".



Assisi is a UNESCO world heritage site known for the magnificent medieval architecture and for being the birthplace of Saint Francis, the patron saint of Italy, founder of the Franciscan order and one of the most popular Catholic saints in history. The Basilica of St. Francis is a massive, 2-level church, consecrated in 1253. Its 13th-century frescoes portraying the life of St. Francis have been attributed to Giotto and Cimabue, among others. Departure for Rome. Overnight in Rome with **supper (included)**.



Day 6 —Full Day Excursion to Pompeii./ 03/October

This morning, after breakfast, we depart for our full day will journey to the remarkable and extraordinary city of Pompeii at the foot of Mount Vesuvius; the volcano responsible for the destruction of this city and the surrounding area of the Bay of Naples. En route we will pass beneath the awesome and mysterious shadows of Mount Vesuvius, which in 79 AD, destroyed most of the area and created an entirely new coastline with its cataclysmic eruption. Pompeii lay under ashes



and lava for almost 2000 years until it was discovered in the 19th century. Here, we can marvel at the advanced culture of this Roman city and the Pompeian citizens. The baths, the homes, the market place and the gardens had all been remarkably preserved under the lava for nearly two millennium. The catastrophic eruption re-shaped the entire coastline of the Bays of Pompeii, Naples and Sorrento. **Pizza Lunch (included)** and overnight in Rome.

Day 7 - St. Peter's Basilica / Vatican Museum / Sistine Chapel / 04/October

At 22,067 square meters, St. Peter's is the world's largest church; regarded as one of the holiest Catholic shrines, it is a popular place of pilgrimage, even though it is neither the Mother Church nor a cathedral. It is hard to grasp its proportions until you have seen it. Particularly impressive is its height, 136 meters from the ground to the top of the magnificent dome, the tallest in the world. According to Catholic tradition, the Basilica is the burial site of the apostle St. Peter, the first Pope and Bishop of Rome. St. Peter's tomb is said to be below the high altar. Many popes have



been buried here since the Early Christian pe-riod. A church has been on this site since Roman Emperor Constantine the Great. Construction of the present basilica, which replaced the basilica of the 4th century, began on 18 April 1506 and was completed in 1626. St. Peter's Basilica is also famous as a magnificent work of art, to which major Renaissance artists, including Michelangelo, Bramante, Raffaello, Sangallo and Giacomo della Porta contributed. Gian Lorenzo Bernini designed the ample staircase and elliptical square surrounded by columns, which "introduces" the basilica, with the façade by Carlo Maderno. We will also visit the Vatican Museum and culminate with the Sistine Chapel. The Vatican Museums originated as a group of sculptures collected by Pope Julius II (1503-1513) and placed in what today is the Cortile Ottagono within the museum complex. The popes were among the first sovereigns who opened the art collections of their palaces to the public thus promoting knowledge of art history and culture.

As seen today, the Vatican Museums are a complex of different pontifical museums and galleries that began under the patronage of the popes .

At the end of the tour there will be free time for anyone who would like to visit the Cupola: Not that many visitors know that it is possible to climb up to the top of St Peter's dome: it is a fantastic experience, and a great opportunity to enjoy a dizzying city panorama all around Rome and to admire a top down view of St Peter's basilica nave. **Lunch (included) dinner on your own** and overnight in Rome.

The Dome visit would be on your own.



To the Dome (La Cuppola) At the entrance to the basilica, after the security check, there is a sign that directs you to the far right of the portico (past the Holy Door) and to the kiosk for the elevator. You can take the elevator to the roof level (saving 320 steps), but if you want to be on the top of the cupola you must take the stairs for the last portion (551 steps in total). The entrance cost is 7 Euros for elevator, 5 Euros for stairs. After the brief elevator ride (or the first 320 steps), before your climb to the



dome, you can stop and enjoy the view from the gallery inside the dome looking down into the basilica . Take a few moments to absorb the astonishing beauty of the cupola from within, looking down onto the main altar. Michelangelo himself designed this dome, which measures 135m (450 ft.) above the ground at its top and stretches 42m (139 ft.) in diameter. Legend has it that in deference to the Pantheon, Michelangelo made his dome 1.5m (5 ft.) shorter across, saying "I could build one bigger, but not more beautiful, than that of the Pantheon." Carlo Maderno later added the dome-top lantern. The climb to the top of the dome proceeds through progressively narrower and sloping stairs. The narrow passageway can be uncomfortable if you are claustrophobic.

Day 8—Ancient & Monumental Rome - 05/October

As legend has it, Rome was founded in 753 B.C. by Romulus and Remus, twin sons of Mars, the god of war. A people known for their military, political, and social institutions, the ancient Romans conquered vast amounts of land in Europe and northern Africa, built roads and aqueducts, and spread Latin, their language, far and wide. Today, after breakfast, we will begin our full day tour of some of the most important and popular sites of Ancient Rome. The Eternal City was the capital of the Roman Kingdom, the Roman Republic and the Roman Empire, which was the dominant power in Western Europe and the lands bordering the Mediterranean for over seven hundred years from the 1st century BC until the 7th century AD. The city is regarded as one of the birthplaces of western civilization. Since the 1st century AD Rome has been the seat of the Papacy and, after the end of Byzantine domination, in the 8th century it became the capital of the Papal States, which lasted until 1870. In 1871 Rome became the capital of the Kingdom of Italy, and in 1946 that of the Italian Republic. **Coliseum:** Located just east of the Roman Forum, the massive stone amphitheater was commissioned around A.D. 70 -72 by Emperor Vespasian of the Flavian dynasty as a gift to the Roman people. In A.D. 80, Vespasian's son Titus opened the Colosseum—officially known as the Flavian Amphitheater—with 100 days of games, including gladiatorial combats and wild animal fights. **Capitoline Hill:** The Capitoline Hill is the smallest among the seven hills of Rome.



Even though it is the smallest it played a huge part in the religious and political aspects of Rome since the founding of the city center.

Pantheon: The Pantheon is the best preserved building from ancient Rome and was completed in 125 AD in the reign of Hadrian. Its magnificent dome is a lasting testimony to the genius of Roman architects and as the building stands virtually intact it offers a unique opportunity for the modern visitor to step back 2,000 years and experience the glory that was Rome.



Piazza Navona: is one of the most beautiful and famous squares in the centre of Rome. In 86 CE, emperor Domitian commissioned this square with its unique, elongated shape. This shape is the result of its original function as the stadium for athletics competitions (Circus Agonalis) with stands for 20,000 spectators. Piazza Navona's main attraction of Piazza Navona is the trio of fountains that adorn the square. The central and largest fountain is the Fontana dei Quattro Fiumi (Fountain of the Four Rivers). It was constructed between 1647 and 1651 on request of pope Innocent X.

Spanish Steps: The elegant staircase of 135 steps was inaugurated in the Jubilee Year of 1725 by Pope Benedict XIII, originally used to link the Bourbon Spanish Embassy to the Church of Trinità dei Monti. The name comes from the Spanish Embassy to the Vatican that has been located in the piazza since the 1600s. The Spanish steps also represent figuratively and metaphorically the close relationship between the Sacred and the Eternal city, shown through the elevation and vastness of the monument. The longest and widest steps in Europe are also an important landmark in Rome as they host events and are home to Italian traditions.

Fountain of Trevi: It is the largest Baroque fountain in the city and the most beautiful in the world. A traditional legend holds that if visitors throw a coin into the fountain, they are ensured a return to Rome. The Trevi Fountain is situated at the end of the Aqua Virgo, an aqueduct constructed in 19 BC by Agrippa, the son-in-law of Emperor Augustus. Over time the legend of the Trevi Fountain evolved to tossing a coin in to ensure a return to Rome. The precise legend of the Trevi Fountain says you should stand with your back to the fountain and toss a coin over your left shoulder to guarantee a return trip to Rome. The monies in the fountain are collected by the city of Rome to assist the homeless and poor. This evening we will enjoy a "**Farewell Dinner with wine and music included** at a local trattoria. **Much of today's tour will be on foot, please wear comfortable shoes and clothing.**



Day 9—Departure Day /October 6

Today, we bid not farewell, but *Arrivederci* (see you again) to Italy as we transfer to airport. Not only will we be carrying many kilos of Italy in your luggage, but many memories of spiritual and fun days, wonderfully interesting meals shared with friends, a bit more culture to add to our already



cultured consciousness, but above all, the recollection of an impressive and wonderful journey through central Italy on the **ITALIAN PENINSULA**. Morning departure from Leonardo d'Vinci Airport (FCO) to Washington Dulles Airport (IAD) . **UNITED AIRLINES - Flight # UA 885 FCO / IAD Depart 10:20 AM—Arrive USA 2:10 PM**

INCLUDED:

AIRPORT TRANSFERS IN ITALY

ENGLISH SPEAKING TOUR ESCORT FROM DAY of ARRIVAL to DAY of DEPARTURE

ENGLISH SPEAKING LOCAL GUIDES THROUGHOUT

ENTRANCE FEES TO SITES INCLUDED

CONTINENTAL BUFFET BREAKFAST DAILY with coffee, tea, juice

DINNERS & LUNCHESES as per itinerary

DE LUXE AIR-CONDITIONED MOTORCOACH

PORTERAGE in HOTELS in ITALY

TAXES (22% VAT) & SERVICE CHARGES

CITY HOTEL STAY TAXES (\$25 per person)

EXCLUDED:

ROUND TRIP TRANSFERS TO US AIRPORTS

PASSPORTS and/or VISA FEES

GRATUITIES to DRIVER, GUIDES, TOUR ESCORTS

PORTERAGE IN AIRPORTS

ITEMS OF PERSONAL NATURE (Laundry, telephone calls, room service, etc)

BEVERAGES at MEALS UNLESS LISTED IN THE ITINERARY

UNITED AIRLINES—Washington/Dulles to Rome, Italy

						Arrive	
				Depart		Sept 29	
Sat	28SEP24	UA	884	VASHINGTON, DC IAD	5:35PM	ROME, ITALY FCO	8:15AM
						Arrive	777
				Depart		Oct 6	
Sun	06OCT24	UA	885	VROME, ITALY	10:20AM	WASHINGTON, DC IAD	2:10PM
							777

AIRFARE & TRANSFERS

This trip is priced Land & Air separately. The reason: *anyone wishing to procure their own air travel through frequent flyer miles or other, may do so, keeping in mind, they must adhere to the “group” arrival and departure schedule in Rome, Fuimecino Airport in Italy, to be able to take advantage of the “included” transfers to and from the airport in Italy. Otherwise you may be obliged to take taxis or hire a private transfer to meet the group or return to the airport at your own expense. We will be pleased to assist you in booking your flights from the USA to Italy. If you are booking “your own” air, please contact us.

INSURANCE

Many times we are asked about travel insurance. We, unless licensed by the State of New Jersey, we cannot sell you insurance of any kind. There are several options that you can research such as; AARP Members, AAA Members, check your “homeowner’s policies” for travel provisions, other organizations to which you may be a member, or check online at <https://www.insuremytrip.com/> . This web site will give you comparisons from which to choose.

PRIOR to DEPARTURE

Prior to all of our group departures Fratelli & Company LLC will provide you with an “information” packet which will answer many of your concerns and questions about the trip. It will give contact information, flight schedules, hotel information and telephone numbers to leave at home with family members. It will give you info for packing suggestions, type of weather to expect, Euro vs US Dollar exchanges, US Embassy telephone numbers and much more. However, if you have a question or concern beforehand, please do not hesitate to call or email our office.

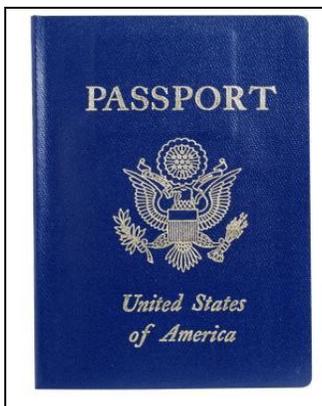
PASSPORTS

Make two copies of all of your travel documents (passports picture page) in case of an emergency or loss and leave one with a trusted friend or relative.

Travel to European Countries in the Schengen Area

Entry into any of the 26 European countries in the Schengen area for short-term tourism, a business trip, or in transit to a non-Schengen destination, requires that your passport be valid for at least six months beyond your intended date of return. Because many Schengen countries assume all travelers will stay the full 6 months allowed for *visa-free visitors, we recommend that U.S. citizens:

- Have at least **six month’s validity remaining** on your passport whenever you travel abroad.
- Check the expiration date on your passport carefully before traveling to Europe.
- **Carry your passport with you at all times in Europe. ID must be shown upon request by Government officials anytime in the Schengen areas.**



***The possibility exists that after January 1, 2024 all visitors to Italy will need a VISA.**

For US Citizens they will be obtainable online.

We will provide you with that info if and when the time comes.

Foreign Nationals, please check with your Consulates.

Fratelli & Company Group Travel, LLC.

E-mail — louis@fratelliandcompany.com – tel. or fax (908)766 -8994

***Land Package - \$2,700. per person (double occupancy)**

For Airfare — \$1,550. (see page 10 “Airfare & Transfers”)

Total Package Price \$4,250. *Land Price is based on 25 passengers.

Single Supplement/Private Room \$400.

Price quoted is based on payments made by check or cash only. **For credit cards please add 3.50%**

RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR DEPOSIT — PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Pilgrimage—2024 - September 28—October 6, 2024

Name as it appears on passport: _____ Male _____ Female _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Cell or Res. Tel: _____ Work Tel: _____ Email: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: (City, State, Nation) _____

US CITIZENS

U S Passport #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

(please include a photocopy, photo or email a PDF scan of your passport)

FOREIGN NATIONALS—Contact your Consulate in case you need a VISA to travel to Italy

Foreign Passport # _____ Expiration Date _____

Alien Registration # (Green Card) _____

If you DO NOT have a passport at this time, please indicate, then provide to the tour operator/tour organizer with the passport info ASAP.

I wish to room with: (room mate name) _____

Private Accommodations or Single Room: + Single Supplement Fee \$400.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

Fratelli & Co., LLC.

26 Pill Hill Road

Bernardsville, NJ 07924

\$500. – Due Now with Tour Application

Balance in Full Due 60 days prior to departure date. July 28, 2024

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFO: Please provide one or 2 Names and telephone numbers in case of an emergency.

1. _____

2. _____

I am GLUTEN INTOLERANT ___yes or ___no

(Optional) Do you have any SEVERE FOOD or MEDICATION ALLERGIES: Please list use separate sheet if necessary

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Reservations/Deposits/Payments: Deposit of two hundred fifty (\$500.00) is required at the time of booking. No reservation is confirmed until the deposit is received by the tour operator. Balance of the tour price is due and payable sixty (60) days prior to departure.

Minors And Infirm: Children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian or a responsible adult deemed worthy by the parent/guardian. If a minor is traveling with any person other than parent/guardian then the responsible adult will provide the travel agent/tour operator and have in his/her possession a notarized letter from the parent/guardian giving that adult full permission to make decisions on their behalf and permission to room with the minor. No minor will be allowed to room alone without the parent/guardian or named responsible adult. Due to the physical demands of the tour and the inaccessibility of handicap facilities abroad, no physically handicapped person may be a tour passenger.

Tour Price: The tour price in this brochure is based upon the U. S. currency vs. the European Euro at the time of printing, January 2024. If changes in these rates occur, it may change the price accordingly. The tour price is based on booking a minimum of 25 paying passengers. A lesser amount could increase the price of the tour. Should the price of the tour change for any of the reasons mentioned above, the passenger will then have the right to cancel the reservation and receive a full refund of payment made to date, provided that written notice be received by Fratelli & Co. within 7 (seven) days of the notification of the price change. Otherwise, the cancellation policy written below prevails. Airport Taxes which are included in the tour price are subject to change. No refund will be made if the passenger is dissatisfied with any of the accommodations; fails to use any of the accommodations included in the tour price, or must return home prior to completion of the tour.

Cancellations: Land and Air arrangements may be canceled and passenger may receive a full refund less one hundred (\$100.) dollars cancellation fee if the cancellation is made no less than ninety (90) days prior to the scheduled departure date. If cancellation is made less than sixty (60) days prior to scheduled departure, there is no refund unless a suitable replacement passenger books the tour in his/her place. For these reasons we recommend you take Travel Insurance.

Travel Insurance: Health, accident, Trip Interruption/Cancellation and baggage insurance are NOT included; brochures can be made available through your travel agent.

Sightseeing & Itinerary: Sightseeing is included as specified in the itinerary with English-speaking guides and customary entrance fees. The tour operator reserves the right to vary the sequence of the itinerary and/or reroute the order of cities, should circumstances arise.

Passports: A valid passport is required, and MUST be shown upon request to the travel agent/tour operator, tour leaders and any airline personal and customs officials.

Responsibility: Fratelli & Co.,LLC, your tour operator, has arranged a vacation package which may include one or more of the following: air, land transportation, hotel accommodations and food service. Neither the tour operator nor the organizer own, operate, manage, or control any hotel, bus company, railroad, cruise line, service provider, restaurant, airline transportation company, person or persons rendering any of the services, and/or accommodations offered in connection with this tour. The tour operator and/or tour organizer do not guaranty any passenger's safety who participates in the tour. Accordingly, the passenger understands that he or she has no claim against the tour operator or organizer for any delay, or other irregularity caused by a third party service provider, damage to or loss of property, injury to or death of the person due to any action or failure to act by the air carrier, bus carriers, private cars, livery carriers, railroad, ships, hotels, restaurants and any service providers in connection with this tour, strikes, war, or any acts of God. Under these circumstances, no portion of the tour price will be refunded. It is advisable that you cover any potential risks with insurance coverage.

Cancellation of Passenger's Rights: In an effort to make the tour pleasant for all, the tour operator reserves the right to: 1. cancel any reservation and refund the tour price, pursuant to the cancellation clause, of any passenger who acts irrational by words, actions and demeanor prior to the tour departure; 2. refuse further participation in the tour once the tour begins, with no refund given, to passengers who: act unruly, irrational, unduly argumentative, incite trouble among passengers, endanger the health and/or safety of the other passengers, tour operator, tour organizer, and/or tour escort, or if they become physically or emotionally disabled and create a burden that the remaining passengers are unwilling to accept. No tour passenger, tour operator, tour organizer, tour escort, will be obligated to assist any infirm, handicapped or injured passenger.

Inclusions: Hotel City Tax, Service charges, First Class Three Star Hotel or Pilgrim Lodgings, Comprehensive sightseeing as per itinerary, English-speaking guides, Breakfasts, lunches and dinners (including in flight meals) as per itinerary.

Exclusions: , Passport and visa fees, tips for tour escorts, drivers, guides, food service personal, hotel maids, phone calls, laundry services, and other items of a personal nature. Rates do NOT include beverages at meals unless specified in the itinerary. Rates do not include transportation to and from US airports or baggage handling in the United States.

Physical and Emotional Limitations: The tour operator cannot be held responsible for any part of the tour missed due to physical or emotional limitations. Anyone who cannot participate in an event will not receive a refund for any unused portion. Further, if anyone must stop or return to a hotel or motor-coach during a tour, and uses public transportation or taxis, it will be their responsibility to pay for the transportation.

Miscellaneous: Any Litigation concerning this tour shall be brought in the State of New Jersey. This agreement shall be construed according to New Jersey and Federal law. The tour operator shall not be responsible for any typographical errors or misprints. The tour operator reserves the right to substitute in its discretion any air, land and sea carrier, hotels, and service providers and itinerary.

I have read terms and conditions of the tour and accept them. I represent I am not physically or emotionally challenged and I am able to meet the physical demands required by this tour.

signature:

date: