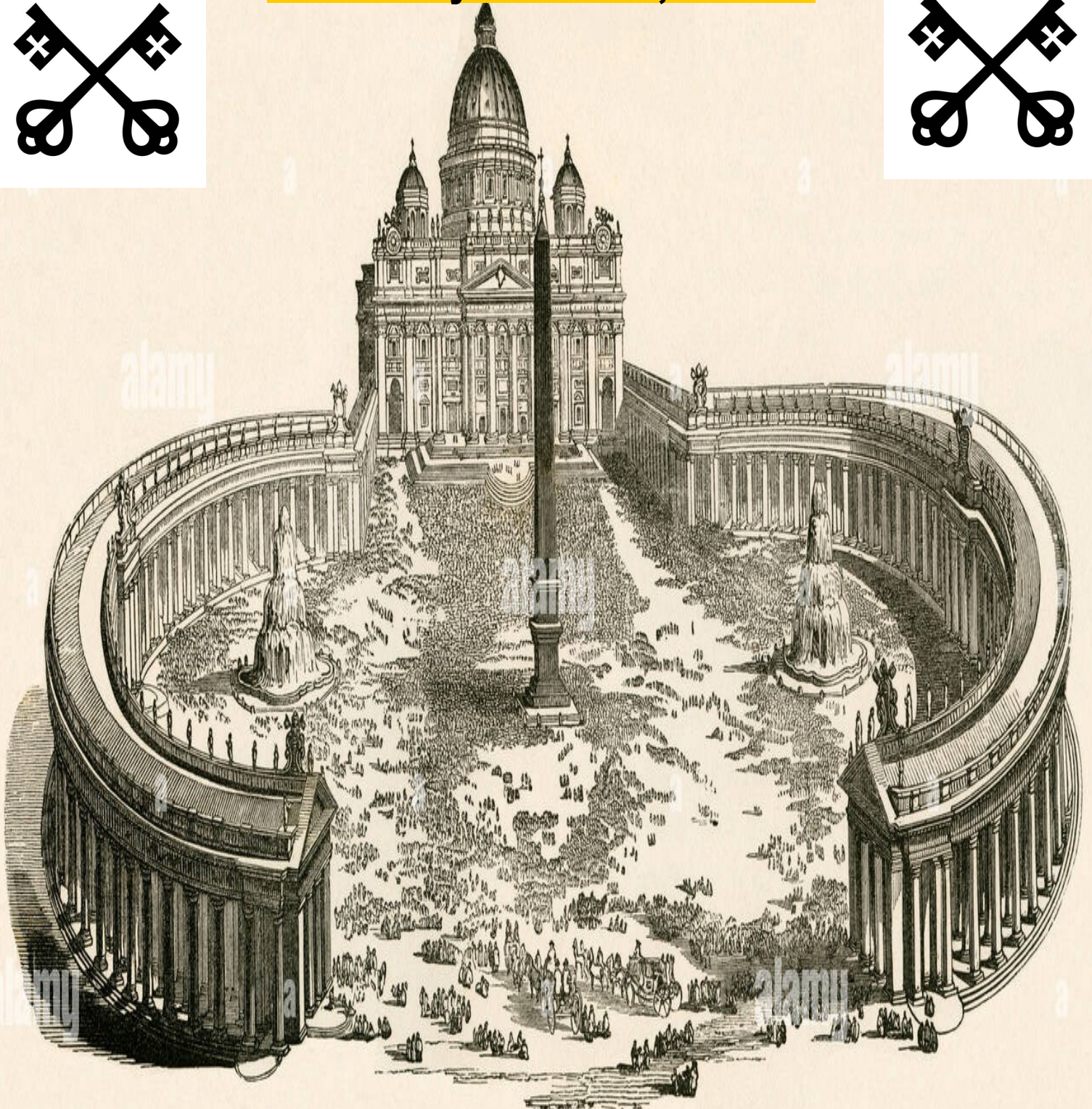
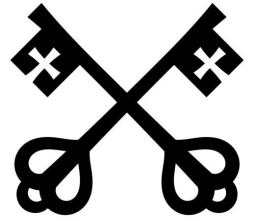
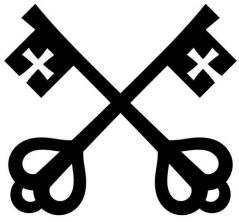


"MOUNT ST MARY'S SEMINARY" PILGRIMAGE 2026

February 27—March 7, 2026



Dear Friends

*I am very pleased to announce an exciting pilgrimage/tour of the Eternal City; Rome, Orvieto, Castel Gandolfo, Tivoli Villa d'Este and more departing **February 27, 2026**. I 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 as Catholics.*

Sincerely,

Fr. J. Trigilio

Day 1 Departure Washington Dulles (IAD) to Rome (FCO) Friday, February 27, 2026

Early evening departure from Dulles International Airport to Leonardo d'Vinci International Airport in Rome, Italy.

Day 2—Arrival Rome Airport— Saturday, February 28

After our arrival, baggage claim and customs, we will board our motorcoach to Rome center city to our hotel very close to St. Peter's Basilica and Castel Sant'Angelo. After check in and some time to freshen up we will gather again in the hotel lobby for a short walk over to the Basilica for a short orientation. **Dinner (included)** tonight will be in a local restaurant and overnight in Rome.



Day 3— Mass & Visit the North American College / Vatican Square Sunday Papal Blessing —Sunday, March 1



This morning we will arrange to join the men at the NAC for the Sunday morning mass. Afterwards, we will walk down to Vatican Square for the Sunday Papal Blessing at noon. Afterwards, you are free to enjoy the afternoon with your friends from the NAC or shopping in the Borgo or sightseeing around the city. We'll gather again in the evening for **dinner (included)** and overnight.

Day 4—Castel Gandolfo in the Alban Hills / Castelli Romani -Monday, March 2

Today, after breakfast, once again, we will board our motorcoach for a short drive into the Castelli Romani hills outside of Rome. Here our first stop will be to Castel Gandolfo, the Summer Papal Palace. Castel Gandolfo is a town located 25 kilometers southeast of Rome. Occupying a height on the Alban Hills overlooking Lake Albano. Much of Castel Gandolfo is discreetly dedicated to the various Pontifical villas and religious foundations. The Papal Palace - with its astronomical observatory attached - dominates Piazza della Libertà, but other locations, like the sprawling papal gardens, are tucked away out of sight. Tours of the Palace are independent and by audio-guide. Immediately following there is an audio guide of the Barberini Gardens by vehicle. Later, we will travel to a working vineyard, agritourism for a delicious meal with wine pairing. **Dinner (on your own)** and overnight in Rome.



Day 5 - St. Peter's Basilica / Vatican Museum / The Squares of Rome—Tuesday, March 3

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 (San Giovanni in Laterano is both, as explained above). 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 period. 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 .

On your 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. 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 Cost 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 5 Continued—The Squares of Rome Trevi Fountain The Spanish Steps Piazza Navona

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.



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**

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**.

The 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. **Dinner (included)** and overnight in Rome.

Piazza Navona is one of the most beautiful and famous squares in the center of Rome. In 86 CE,



Day 6— Vatican Square—Morning Papal Audience Afternoon Free —Wednesday, March 4

Vatican Square is only a short walk from the hotel where we will be staying. We will depart on foot right after breakfast as to clear security at the Vatican early and get our seats. It is best to arrive before the tour buses and crowds if possible. After the Audience you will have the balance of the day free.

This evening you will be on your own for supper.

Day 7—ITINERARY CHANGE—Orvieto canceled

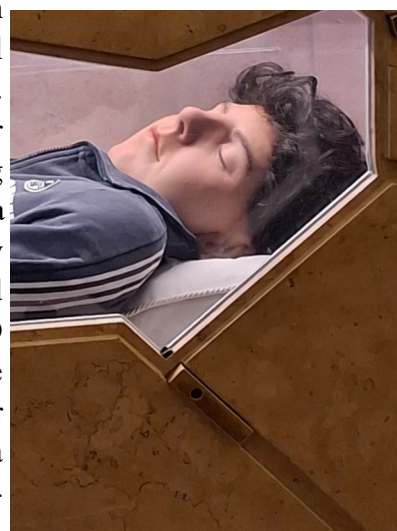
Day 7—ASSISI—Thursday, March 5



In honor of the 800th anniversary of his death, Pope Leo XIV has approved the temporary public display of the relics of Saint Francis of Assisi from February 22 to March 22, 2026. This is the first time in history his remains will be publicly displayed for an extended period, moving them from his crypt to a position at the foot of the papal altar in the Lower Basilica for veneration.



Today after breakfast we depart for the city of Assisi. Upon arrival, we travel up the hill to the center of the medieval city of Assisi where we will spend most of the day. In Assisi we will visit the Basilica of St. Francis and 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". Afterwards, we will visit the church of Santa Maria Maggiore to see and venerate the relics of St. Carlo Acutis, recently canonized by Pope Leo. Our appointment to view and venerate the relics of St. Francis, with an English speaking friar, is at 1:30 pm in the major basilica. 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. Time allowing, we will visit the Basilica of Saint Mary of the Angels in the lower town of Assisi before returning to Rome. Overnight in Rome and **dinner (included)**.



Day 8—Ancient & Christian Rome Friday, March 6

Today, after breakfast, we will begin our full day tour of some of the most important and popular sites of Ancient & Christian Rome. Probably the most famous monument in the world and a symbol of the greatness of Rome, the Flavian Amphitheater, better known as the Colosseum, stands in the archaeological heart of the city, and from almost two thousand years tells an uninterrupted story of charm and magnificence. The Colosseum, still the largest amphitheater in the world today, was commissioned by the emperor Titus Flavius Vespasian who chose the area between the Palatine, Esquiline, and Celio hills, previously occupied by the artificial lake of Nero's Domus Aurea. Its construction began in 70 AD. and ended in 80 A.D. under the empire of Titus, son of Vespasian. The building hosted fights, games between gladiators, simulations of hunting wild and exotic animals, and naval battles. It was composed of four architectural orders. Three displayed eighty arches framed by semi-columns, and one had squares interspersed with windows. In the last order, masonry and wooden supports held a huge tarpaulin (velarium) to shelter the spectators from the sun and rain.



Rome, The Basilicas — We continue our tour with the three of the major Basilicas of Rome. St. Mary Major, St. Paul Outside the Walls and St John Lateran. The largest church in Rome dedicated to the Virgin Mary, hence the name, and one of the first to be built in her honor, **Santa Maria Maggiore** is located on Piazza Esquilino, not far from the Termini train station. It is the only basilica among these four to have preserved the Paleochristian structure of the 5th century, even though it underwent several makeovers and additions externally. It closely resembles a 2nd-century imperial basilica, imposing in its aspect, perhaps to signify Rome's Christian future. Under the high altar is the Crypt of the Nativity, with a crystal reliquary said to contain wood from Jesus' crib.



Ma-

ter et caput of all Rome's and the world's Catholic churches, **San Giovanni in Laterano** is the oldest church of the Western World, founded in the 4th century by Constantine the Great. Dedicated to John the Baptist and John the Evangelist, it stands on the piazza by the same name, within Rome's city center. San Giovanni in Laterano is also the city's cathedral, seat of the Bishop of Rome. The basilica was reconstructed a few times until the 18th century, when the monumental façade, a two-storied portico supported by giant columns, crowned by 15 seven-meter-high statues, was redesigned.



San Paolo Fuori Le Mura is the second largest basilica of the four. It was founded by the Roman emperor Constantine over the burial place of St. Paul (now under the papal altar), making it a popular pilgrimage site. The huge basilica has maintained the original structure with one nave and four aisles, but it was almost entirely reconstructed in 1823 following a fire. The covered portico that precedes the façade is a Neo-classicist addition from the reconstruction. What remains of the ancient basilica is the interior portion of the apse with the triumphal arch. South of the transept is the cloister, considered one of the most beautiful of the Middle Ages. **We will gather again in the evening for Farewell Dinner**

included with Local Folkloric Entertainment. Overnight in Rome.

Day 9—Departure Day—Rome to USA Saturday, March 7

This morning you will prepare your luggage for the journey home. Our departure time from the hotel will be approximately at 8:30 am. The famous but unpleasant cliché, “all good things come to an end”, unfortunately and accordingly also this pilgrimage/journey to Rome, Italy. Upon our arrival at the airport, we will board our homebound flight with many memories, stories and some kilos of Italy with us to recount and share.



PRIOR to DEPARTURE

Prior to all of our group departures Fratelli & Company Group Travel 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 departure. 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.**



Seminarians who are foreign Nationals studying here in the USA on Study Visas; Please check with your country's Consulate and/or the Italian Consulate whether or not you need a VISA to travel to Italy.

Italian Honorary Consulate in Baltimore, United States
2200 Broening Highway Suite 260 Baltimore, MD
21224

United States

- Telephone
- (+1) (443) 983.6597
- Email

mauro.dalbo@msc.com

Consulate General of Italy

600 Chestnut St

Suite 956

Philadelphia, PA 19106

Phone: (215) 592-7329

FOR FURTHER INFO CALL

Fratelli & Company. LLC

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

Fr. John Trigilio / trigilio@msmary.edu

**TOTAL PACKAGE \$3,050. per person (double occupancy) Including Hotel City Tax
(price includes Airport Taxes and Fuel Surcharges they are subject to change)**

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—2026

February 27—March 7, 2026

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 \$500.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

Fratelli & Co., LLC

26 Pill Hill Road

Bernardsville, NJ 07924

\$500. – Due Now with Tour Application Balance in Full Due 75 days prior to departure date. December 14, 2025

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

1. _____

2. _____

Severe Food Allergies: (please List)

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, September 2024. If changes in these rates occur, it may change the price accordingly. The tour price is based on booking a minimum of 20 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., 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: Service charges, First Class Three Star Hotel, 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: