

# Tracing Paul's Last Journey

## Malta

A photograph of the Grand Harbour of Malta at sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and pink. In the background, the city of Valletta is built on a hillside, featuring a prominent church with a tall spire and a large dome. The water in the foreground is calm, reflecting the colors of the sky.

## Sicily

A photograph of the Sicily coastline at night. The sky is dark blue, and the mountains in the background are silhouetted against a faint light. The coastline is dotted with lights, and the sea is dark with a few small boats visible.

## Rome

A photograph of Rome at night. The Tiber River flows through the center, reflecting the lights of the city. In the background, St. Peter's Basilica is illuminated, showing its large dome and classical architecture. A stone bridge with multiple arches spans the river in the foreground.

10 DAYS

# Paul's Last Journey MALTA

The Grand Harbour



## ST. PAUL'S BAY

*Like many of the fishing resorts in Malta, this was a small fishing village dating back almost 1000 years. It's main physical attraction is the arguably best looking bay on the Island, with the photogenic St Paul's Islet in the focal point.*



St. Paul's Island



The Malta Experience



Valleta Center



# Paul's Last Journey MALTA

Day 1 – Friday,

## **U.S FLIGHT TO MALTA**

Depart the U.S. to Malta International Airport.

Day 2 – Saturday,

## **MALTA ARRIVAL**

On arrival:

### **The Grand Harbour -**

A private Cruise sailing in a traditional “dghajsa” and a splendid relaxing way to appreciate Valetta’s fine buildings and skyline. Then to the hotel for room assignment with the rest of the day free to relax and settle in.

Dinner & Overnight in

VALLETTA

Day 3 – Sunday,

## **PAUL'S MALTA**

*And when they were escaped, then they knew that the island was called Melita. And the barbarous people shewed us no little kindness: for they kindled a fire, and received us every one, because of the present rain, and because of the cold. (Acts 28:1).*

### **St. Paul's Bay -**

To the north of the Island and stop where the ‘two seas meet’ and location of Paul’s shipwreck - weather permitting, a sail to the Island where the site is marked by a statue of Paul commemorating the event.

### **Mdina-Rabat -**

A visit to the CATHEDRAL OF MDINA (known as the silent city) which is said to stand on the site of Publius’ house the Roman Governor in St. Paul’s day.

Then to St. PAUL’S CHURCH where in the basement is the Grotto St. Paul where according to tradition, the Apostle lived during his stay on the island in A.D. 60.

Dinner & Overnight in

VALLETTA

Day 4 – Monday,

## **MALTA to SICILY**

THE MORNING:

Attend the ‘Malta Experience’ – an educational audio-video show telling the story of around 7,000 years of Maltese history.

THE AFTERNOON:

To the airport for the short 45 minute flight from Malta to CATANIA in Sicily - Then on to the hotel for room allocation.

Dinner and Overnight In

SYRACUSE.

# Paul's Last Journey SICILY



Ortygia island (Old Town)

## ORTYGIA ISLAND

By around 750 BC, Sicily had three Phoenician and a dozen Greek colonies. Syracuse's island of Ortygia, stretches out over the sea. Ortygia Island is connected by a bridge to the mainland, where the modern city extends. According to the 5thc. BC historian Thucydides, the ancient city was founded in 734-733 BC by a group of Corinthian settlers led by the oecist Archias.



Greek Theatre (in regular use)

Mount Etna



Syracuse Old Town



# Paul's Last Journey SICILY

Day 5 – Tuesday,

## **St. PAUL'S SICILY**

*And landing at Syracuse, we tarried there three days (Acts 28:12).*

### **Syracuse Old Town –**

A guided walking tour of the little Ortigia island (the heart of the town) including a visit to the Chiesa di San Filippo Apostolo, built on a medieval synagogue, this church has a burial crypt, tunnel system, and Jewish ritual bath hiding deep underneath. Then visit the 'Giudecca', the ancient Jewish Ghetto of Syracuse.

### **Syracuse Archaeological Site –**

Two of the most significant ancient archaeological sites from both Greek and Roman history are situated adjacent to one another in the northwest corner of Siracusa. The Neapolis Archaeological Park of Siracusa contains the stunning Greek Theatre as well as the Roman Amphitheater that combine to make this a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

### **The Roman Amphitheater -**

One of the largest amphitheatres ever constructed and dates to the 3rd century A.D.

### **The Greek Theatre -**

Dates back to at least the 5th century B.C.

Nearby is the Temple of Apollo, and "Dionysus' Ear" - which is very similar to the "Siq" at Petra !.

Dinner and Overnight in

SYRACUSE

Day 6 – Wednesday,

## **SICILY TO ROME**

THE MORNING.

### **Mount Etna -**

Depart after breakfast by coach travelling the east coast of the Island to ascend the 1800 metres to Etna's summit - the highest active volcano in Europe. Time to view spectacular eruptions and learn the history of the mountain.

THE AFTERNOON

### **To Rome -**

Depart from Catania airport on the direct flight to Rome and on to the hotel for room assignment and the evening meal.

Dinner & Overnight in

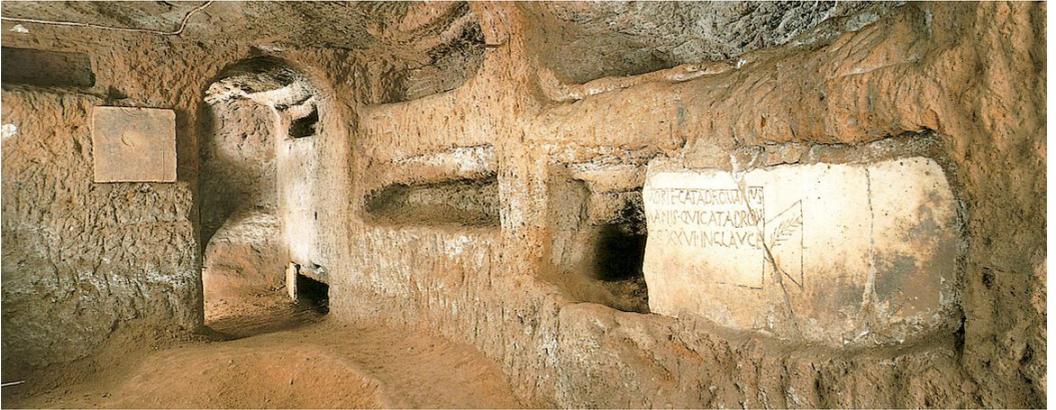
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## Paul's Last Journey ROME



### **VIA APPIA (The Appian Way)**

*The Romans judged that the slaves had forfeited their right to live. In 71 B.C., 6,000 slaves were crucified along the 200-kilometer (120 mi) Via Appia from Rome to Capua (nrear Naples).*



**Catacombs of St. Sebastian (above)**

**Basilica of St. Pail (below)**



## Paul's Last Journey ROME

Day 7 – Thursday,

### **PAUL'S ROME**

*.....and after one day the south wind blew, and we came the next day to Puteol. ....  
and so we went toward Rome. (Acts 28:13-14)*

*And when we came to Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain  
of the guard: but Paul was suffered to dwell by himself with a soldier that kept him.  
(Acts 28:16)*

#### **The Appian Way -**

A visit to the nearby preserved section of this ancient Roman road on which St. Paul would certainly have travelled.

Of all the roads that led to Rome, Via Appia Antica (built in 312 B.C.) was the most famous. It eventually stretched all the way from Rome to the seaport of Brindisi, through which trade with the colonies in Greece and the East was funnelled. It was used as a main route for military supplies since its construction for that purpose in 312 BC. By the late Republic, the Romans had expanded over most of Italy and were masters of road construction – hence the expression, “*All roads lead to Rome*”.

#### **Catacombs of St. Sebastian -**

These tunnels or catacombs, were where early Christians buried their dead and during the worst times of persecution, held church services discreetly out of the public eye. Local Priest's tend to escort parties through with very interesting insight and explanations.

#### **St. Paul's Churches –**

The Basilica of St. Paul is Rome's 2nd largest church commemorating the life of Paul and where after his execution, St. Paul was buried in a cemetery at this site, about two kilometres from the city walls by the road to Ostia.

The 'Three Fountains Church' nearby is the traditional site of Paul's beheading and was built in the 5th century to commemorate the event.

Dinner & Overnight in  
ROME.

# Paul's Last Journey ROME



## **The Colosseum**

*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.*



## **The Roman Forum**

## **The Triumphal Arch**



## **The Underground Church**



# Paul's Last Journey ROME

Day 8 – Friday,

## **PAUL'S ROME**

By coach and on foot to see the Rome that Paul knew –

### **The Colosseum –**

Visit the huge structure of Imperial Rome where the roar of the crowds would have been heard by Paul as he wrote his Epistle. Measuring some 620 by 513 feet, the Colosseum was the largest amphitheater in the Roman world. Unlike many earlier amphitheaters, which had been dug into hillsides to provide adequate support, the Colosseum was a freestanding structure made of stone and concrete.

### **The Forum –**

Walk through Rome's main market place as it would have been in Paul's day and the central area for public speaking, banking, trading and shopping. For centuries the Forum was the center of day-to-day life in Rome: the site of triumphal processions and elections; the venue for public speeches, criminal trials, and gladiatorial matches; and the nucleus of commercial affairs.

### **The Underground Church –**

Underneath St. Clement's Church, is a 4th-century basilica that had been converted out of the home of a Roman nobleman, part of which had in the 1st century, briefly served as an early church - rooms of this ancient building is where the early believers met and worshipped.

### **The Mamertine Prison –**

The site has been used for Christian worship since medieval times and is currently occupied by two superimposed chapels - an upper and lower church. The Cross on the altar in the lower chapel is upside down, since according to tradition Peter was crucified that way. It has been long referenced that St. Peter was imprisoned here.

Simon bar Giora, the Jewish revolutionary leader, was captured in Judea and brought to Rome to be displayed during the triumphal procession and imprisoned here.

Dinner & Overnight in

ROME

# Paul's Last Journey

## ROME



### **Vatican City State**

*An independent city state, and enclave within Rome with a population of around 825 it is the smallest sovereign state in the world by both area and population. It became independent in 1929.*

### **St. Peter's Basilica**



# Paul's Last Journey

## ROME

Day 9 – Saturday,

### ROME/VISITS & LEISURE

#### THE MORNING

##### **The Vatican**

A visit to ST. PETER'S BASILICA /VATICAN MUSEUM/SISTINE CHAPEL

#### THE AFTERNOON

The rest of the day is FREE for personal pursuits, pehaps visit places of personal interest or some whopping

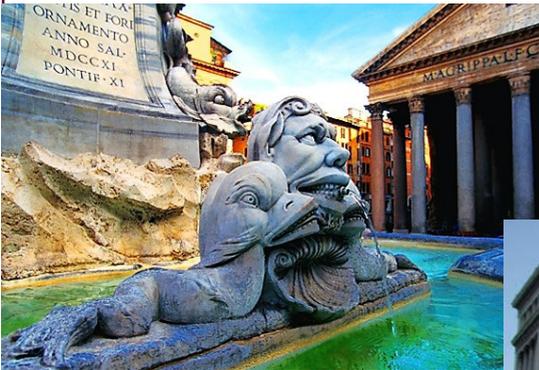
#### Dinner & Overnight in

#### ROME

Day 10 – Sunday,

#### **RETURN FLIGHT**

To Rome airport for the return flight to the U.S.



#### **The Trevi Fountain**

the largest Baroque fountain in the city and one of the most famous fountains in the world.



#### **The Parnhenon**

*A former temple on the Athenian Acropolis, Greece, dedicated to the goddess Athena*



#### **Monument of Vittorio Emanuele II**

*Commemorating the Italian unification and Victor Emmanuel II., first king of the Kingdom of Italy .*



**MALTA**

**SICILY**

**ROME**