

Tracing Paul's Last Journey

Acts 27

Malta



Sicily



Italy



A 12 DAY JOURNEY MAY 13- 24, 2024
Led by The Rev. Dane and Marty Wagner

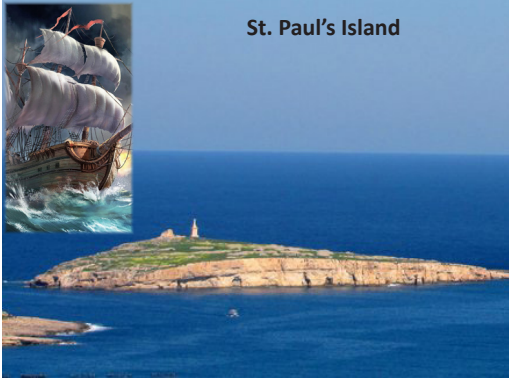
Paul's Last Journey MALTA

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



Mdina-Rabat

The Malta Experience



Valletta Center



Paul's Last Journey MALTA

Day 1 – 13 May, Monday

FLIGHT TO MALTA

Depart the U.S. to Malta International Airport.

Day 2 – 14 May, Tuesday

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 – 15th May, Wednesday

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 – 16th May, Thursday

GOZO ISLAND

A short ferry sail then visits to:

The Temples of Ġgantija -

a megalithic temple complex from the Neolithic era and older than the pyramids of Egypt.

The Citadel -

Built on the site of an early Stone Age settlement with wide open views out over the island.

The Cathedral -

Built between 1697–1711 in Baroque style and dedicated to the Assumption of Mary.

Dinner & Overnight in

VALLETTA

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 5th c. 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 – 17th May, Friday

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.

Day 6 – 18th May, Saturday

St. PAUL'S SICILY

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

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 Amphitheatre that combine to make this a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The Roman Amphitheatre -

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 7 – 19th May, Sunday

St. PAUL'S SICILY

THE MORNING

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.

THE AFTERNOON

Free for leisure to explore the Old Town area.

Dinner and Overnight in

SYRACUSE

Paul's Last Journey
ROME



AGRIGENTO

*A stunning display of Greek and Roman Temple in the 'Valley of Temples'.
UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE*



Mount Etna (above)

Taormina (below)





Paul's Last Journey
ROME

Day 8 – 20th May, Monday

SICILY

THE MORNING.

Mount Etna -

Depart after breakfast by coach travelling the east coast of the Island to see the volcano - the highest an active in Europe.

Taormina -

Time to browse in the quaint hillside town with an ancient brick built theatre,

Dinner and Overnight in

SYRACUSE

Day 9 – 21st May, Tuesday

SICILY/AGRIGENTO

A day trip to the '**Valley of the Temples**' and this major impressive site in central Sicily.

The city was founded on a plateau overlooking the sea around 582-580 BC by Greek colonists.

It once was It was one of the leading cities of Magna Graecia during the golden age of Ancient Greece. A UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE

It displays a variety of Greek and Roman Temples some of which were later used as Christian places of worship during the Byzantine period.

Continue to Palermo for the evening meal -

Then fly from Palermo the short distance to Naples and transfer to the htoel.

Dinner and Overnight in

POZZUOLI

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 Amphitheatre—with 100 days of games.

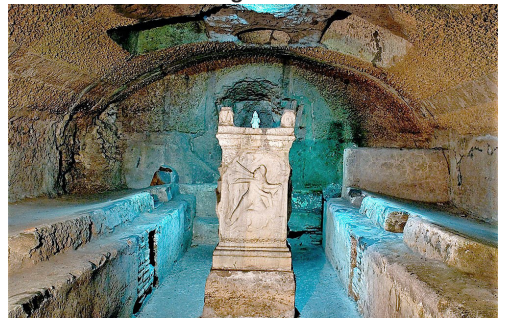


The Roman Forum

The Triumphal Arch



The Underground Church



Paul's Last Journey ROME

Day 10 – 22nd May, Wednesday

PAUL'S ROME

*.....and after one day the south wind blew, and we came the next day to Puteoli.
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 walk on a 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 – hence the expression, “*All roads lead to Rome*”.

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 amphitheatre in the Roman world. Unlike many earlier amphitheatres, 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.

Dinner & Overnight in
ROME.

Paul's Last Journey ROME



Vatican City State

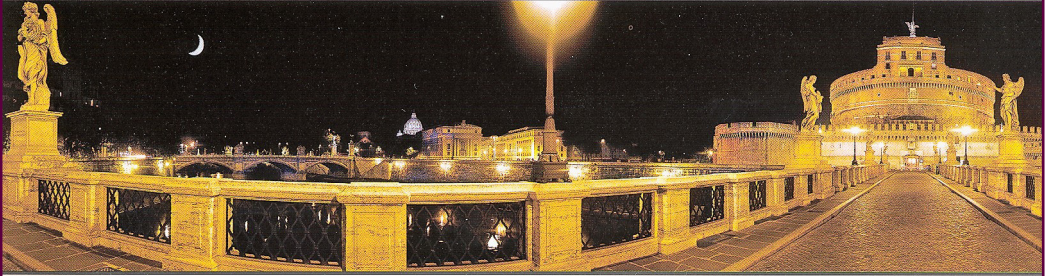
An independent city state, and enclave within Rome with a population of around 825 it is the smallest sovereign state in the world by both area and population. It became independent in 1929.

St. Peter's Basilica



Paul's Last Journey ROME

Day 11 - 23rd May, Thursday
ROME



THE MORNING

The Vatican –

A 'City State' encompassed by a retaining wall and housing the famous Sistine Chapel and St. Peter's Basilica which is claimed to be the largest church in the world by interior measure.

Basilica of St. Paul –

Founded by the Roman Emperor Constantine over the burial place of Paul of Tarsus

THE AFTERNOON

Free to visit places of personal interest.

Dinner & Overnight in ROME

Day 12 – 24th May, Friday

RETURN FLIGHT

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





MALTA

SICILY

ITALY