**ROME AND POMPEII WITH DR./PASTOR JEFF HINDS**

**APRIL 25 – MAY 4, 2019**

**INCLUDED IN OUR PRICE:**

\* ROUND TRIP AIRFARE to/from ORD to Rome (Quotes for other airports are available upon request)

\* FULL BREAKFAST every morning.

\* 7 DINNERS

\* AIRPORT TRANSFERS (one per group) while in Rome

\* TRANSPORTATION IN Rome and Sorrento (using modern, luxury class, air-conditioned tourist buses.)

\* 7 DAYS SIGHTSEEING - ADMISSION TO SITES LISTED

\* LICENSED, English speaking Italian GUIDES for all sites where required

\* 8 night accommodations: (2 in Sorrento; 6 in Rome).

 COST PER PERSON: **$2799.00\*\*\*** (land price; based upon double occupancy)

**SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT: $700.00**

**\*\*\*NOTE: cost for group airline travel is estimated to be approximately $1200 and is subject to change until June 2018 when postings and reservations become available.**

  **Final payments are due: FEB 1, 2019**

 **A $700 deposit made payable to: Gifts From Above, is due: beginning Feb 15, 2018. (sorry, we do not accept credit cards). Group size will be strictly limited to 45 people on a “first come, first serve basis”**

**NOT INCLUDED:** airline fuel surcharges, tips & gratuities (in the amount of $140), excess baggage, Internet or Fax expenses, Travel Insurance, cost of U.S. passport, beverages, meals other than specified, items of a personal nature (such as laundry and telephone calls), Nighttime optional Segway or Tiber Riverboat Dinner Cruise.

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Mail application (below) and direct all questions to:

**ROBERTA KLEIN**

**GIFTS FROM ABOVE**

3130 MEMORIAL HWY, SUITE 102

DALLAS, PA 18612

**Phone: 570.575.1710 // Fax: 570.675.3225 //Web site: giftsfromabove.info // E-mail:** **ark2@epix.net**

**OUR REFUND POLICY** – PLEASE NOTE: Travel insurance is highly recommended.

Gifts From Above Inspirational Travel will issue a full refund of all deposits within a 30 day period of application. Due to supplier regulations, a $350 administrative fee will be deducted from all refunds made after 30 days and until airline seats are purchased.

Upon receipt of final payments, we will purchase group airline seats. Airline seats are non refundable/ non transferable and are not exchangeable. **Once group airline ticketing is completed, cancellations will receive only a 40% refund of total tour cost.**

**60 days prior to departure only a 25% refund will apply.**

**Cancellations made between 59 and 30 days prior to travel will receive only a 10% refund.**

Cancellations made 29 days or less before travel date are ineligible for any refunds.

– ANY REQUESTS FOR CANCELLATIONS MUST BE MADE **IN WRITING** TO GIFTS FROM ABOVE. THE POST MARK ON THE ENVELOPE WILL SERVE AS DATE OF OFFICIAL NOTICE OF INTENT TO CANCEL.

**Please mail all cancellation requests to address listed above:**

 **Gifts From Above Inspirational Travel -- ATTN: Roberta Klein**

**DAY BY DAY ITINERARY**

\*\*\*\* ALL ITINERARIES ARE SUBJECT TO REVISION \*\*\*\*

**DAY 1 – THURS, APR 25** - We depart for a late afternoon or overnight flight to Rome.

**DAY 2 – FRI, APR 26** - Upon arrival to Rome we go through customs, gather our luggage and are greeted by our Italian tour director/escort. We board a luxury motorcoach for an orientation tour of beautiful Rome. We enjoy a special welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

**Dinner & overnight in Rome**

**DAY 3 – SAT, APR 27** - This morning (taking care to adhere to the Vatican’s strict dress code regulations) we rise early to prepare for nearly an entire day at the **Vatican**. Our guide leads us into **St. Peter’s Square** past long waiting lines, directly into **St Peter’s Basilica** for a tour.

After, we will have a private tour of the **Vatican Museum** (site of the **Sistine Chapel** and an extensive art collection). At day’s end a visit to **Hadrian’s Mausoleum//Castel Sant’Angelo** (Castle of the Holy Angel – specifically referencing Michael the Archangel) now a museum, originally it was chosen by the Emperor Hadrian as a mausoleum for himself and his family, it was eventually converted to a military fortress and castle.

**Breakfast, Dinner & overnight in Rome**

**DAY 4 – SUN, APR 28** – Today’s agenda includes a guided, walking tour of the **Colosseum –** (built by the emperors for gladiatorial shows and hunts of wild and exotic animals for the primary purpose of entertaining the masses). If time permits, we may have the opportunity to walk through the tunnels, stand where the gladiators stood and enjoy a panoramic view. Next, we visit **the** **Roman Forum and the Palatine. Later we visit the Mamertine Prison** (believed to be the prison that housed both Peter and Paul)**.** Free evening – in addition to the option of dining on your own at a local restaurant, each person in our group **MAY CHOOSE AT THE TIME THEY MAKE APPLICATION** -- BETWEEN TWO OPTIONS WE ARE PLANNING: #1) ***EITHER*** a **2 Hour Segway tour of Rome by night** (**cost: approximately 80 Euros//$98) and does not include dinner –** limited to 20 people and led by Dr. Hinds) ***OR*** --- #2) **a Dinner Cruise on the Tiber (cost: approximately 65 Euros//$88) –** (group size unlimited and led by Dr. Bobbie)either way, we see the city of Rome awash with light.

**Breakfast & overnight in Rome**

**DAY 5 – MON, APR 29** – We visit the **Scalia Sancta Staircase** (Also called the “Holy Stairs” -- by tradition these 28 white marble steps were in the Praetorium of Pontius Pilate in Jerusalem. Jesus is said to have walked on them when he appeared before Pilate. Queen Helene (reputedly) brought them to Rome around 326 AD. Next we walk the **Spanish Steps** (there are 135 steps whose unique design and elegance made the area a popular place for artists, painters and poets who were attracted to the place and inspired in return. The artists’ presence attracted many beautiful women to the area, who hoped to be taken as models. This in turn, attracted rich Romans and travelers. This tradition of the Spanish Steps as a meeting place has lived on ever since. Our guide then leads us to the famous **Trevi Fountain.** After we are allowed some free time to explore -- wandering cobblestone streets lined with delightful shops and cafes.

 **Breakfast,** **Dinner & overnight in Rome**

**DAY 6 – TUES, APR 30** – Our morning is spent at the **Pantheon** (ancient temple dedicated to ‘all gods”) which was eventually converted to Santa Maria ad Martyrs **and the Capitoline Hill Museum** (a world-class museum of Roman artifacts) which takes us on a journey through the history of Rome and the epic characters who ruled the city. Boarding our bus, we travel west (toward the Tyrrhenian Sea coast) to visit the ruins of **OSTIA ANTICA** the ancient Roman seaport city. Ostia Antica is commonly referred to as the *Better Pompeii* due to the astonishingly highly preserved condition of its buildings. Structures included taverns, baths, apartments, groceries and theatres which are far better preserved than the Roman Forum, Imperial Forum and Pompeii itself.

**Breakfast, Dinner & overnight at Rome**

 **DAY 7 – WED, MAY 1** – Before breakfast we check out of our rooms. Today is an Italian National Holiday (comparable to our Labor Day). Many museums are closed. Our day’s journey begins at the **ANCIENT BATHS OF DIOCLETIAN**, built between 298AD and 306AD in honor of the Roman Emperor Diocletian. Next we have the opportunity to walk in the footsteps of ancient Romans on the **Via Appia Antica.** We’re allowed a brief visit to the **CATACOMBS OF SAN CALLISTO.**

Leaving Rome behind, we travel south to Sorrento and lavish in the fabulous scenery.

 **Breakfast in Rome; Dinner & overnight in Sorrento.**

**DAY 8 – THURS, MAY 2** – Our morning tour takes us to **POMPEII (**destroyed and preserved by an eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in 79AD) we have the opportunity to walk through a city which would have existed at the time of Jesus. Our guide leads us to patrician homes, public baths and commercial districts that strikingly recall day-to-day life when Rome was at the apex of her power. In the early afternoon we travel atop **Mt. Vesuvius** for a bit of hiking and an amazing panoramic view of the Bay of Naples. In late afternoon we visit the **National Archaeological Museum in Naples** to view the many valuable and historical statues, mosaics and other finds that were removed from Pompeii and relocated to this museum for safekeeping. These artifacts provide insight into the Greco-Roman lifestyle and culture which proved so offensive to the highly religious Jews. It was this extreme clash of cultures which caused the zealots to revolt – and eventually led to the destruction of Jerusalem and Masada.

 **Breakfast, Dinner & overnight in Sorrento**

**DAY 9 – FRI, MAY 3** –Following breakfast, we return to Rome to explore one of Rome’s most distinctive historic quarters. We walk **Trastevere’s** old **Jewish Ghetto** as our guide shares the history as he leads us down winding narrow alleys and through charming piazzas. We are then allowed some free time to shop and explore on our own (the tour director will be available for suggestions). Our ‘farewell’ dinner is at a popular Roman restaurant.

**Breakfast in Sorrento; Dinner & overnight in Rome**.

**DAY 10 – SAT, MAY 4 –** We depart for the airport for our return flight home .

 **Breakfast**