

36TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF PUERI CANTORES ROME, ITALY

Congress Tour Itinerary #1 (6 nights / 8 days)

Sunday, December 26th, 2010

Depart from the USA via scheduled air service, including full meal, beverage service and in-flight entertainment. The destination is Rome, Italy.

Monday, December 27th Rome

Arrive in Rome. Meet your Tour Manager, who will assist the group to awaiting chartered motorcoach for a transfer to the hotel via panoramic tour of Rome's highlights, stopping at such sites as Piazza Navona, Trevi Fountain, and Spanish Steps. Evening Welcome Dinner (in individual accommodations) and overnight.

Rome - Popes, Vandals, the Borgias and Napoleon, Garibaldi, Michelangelo and Mussolini and, of course, the ancient Romans themselves all have left their physical and spiritual mark on Rome, but though she keeps the glory of an ancient day about her, she remains a wellspring of creative energy; she really is the Eternal City.

Tuesday, December 28th Rome

Breakfast at the hotel

Take a half-day guided tour of Religious Rome. Visit Vatican City, the home of the Pope and the center of Roman Catholicism, as well as the Vatican Museum (using the whisper system), St. Peter's Basilica and the Sistine Chapel (featuring Michelangelo's Ceiling Frescos and The Last Judgment).

Lunch on own (paying individually)

Afternoon at leisure; motorcoach and Tour Manager at the group's disposal

6:00pm Opening Ceremonies in Sala Nervi

Dinner in a nearby restaurant

Wednesday, December 29th Rome

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning Mass or Liturgy by Nations (to take place in several churches in Rome)

Lunch on own (paying individually)

6:00pm Participation in Star Concerts (to take place in parish churches)

Dinner in a local restaurant

Thursday, December 30th Rome

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning rehearsal for the closing Mass in Sala Nervi

Possible audience with the Holy Father

Lunch on own (paying individually)

Rehearsal for choirs singing in the Christmas concert

Afternoon Prayer for Peace service in St. Peter's Basilica

Rehearsal for the Gala Concert

Dinner in hotel or a local restaurant

Gala Concert (The Mysteries of the Rosary) in Sta. Maria Maggiore

Return to hotel for overnight



Friday December 31st Rome

Breakfast at the hotel

Half-day guided tour of Imperial Rome, including entrance to the Roman Forum and Colosseum. Also view the Pantheon, Baths of Caracalla and Palatine Hill

Evening Christmas Concert in Sala Nervi

New Year's Eve Dinner in a local restaurant

Return to hotel for overnight



Saturday, January 1st, 2011 Rome

Breakfast at the hotel

Sing in morning Pontifical Mass in St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican

Afternoon visit to Basilica di San Giovanni in Laterano and Basilica di San Paolo fuori le Mura. Basilica di San Giovanni in Laterano (St. John in Lateran) is the Cathedral of Rome, the mother of all churches in Rome and in the world. Founded by Constantine, during the time of Pope Silvester (314-335) it has been destroyed and rebuilt many times. The current Basilica dates from the 17th century. Basilica di San Paolo fuori le Mura (St. Paul Outside the Walls) was built over the burial place of the Apostle of the Gentiles and consecrated in 324. The building of the first place of worship over St. Paul's tomb has been attributed to the Emperor Constantine. A larger basilica was erected by the Emperors Valentiniano II, Theodosius and Arcadius. Destroyed by fire in 1823, it was rebuilt on the same foundations and consecrated by Pope Pius IX.

Farewell Dinner and overnight



Sunday, January 2nd Depart for home

Transfer to Rome's International Airport for return flight to USA. Arrive home in the evening of the same day.

