

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Journey to Italy

OCTOBER 9-20, 2023



PROGRAM LEADERSHIP BY
REVS. PAUL AND KAREN NELSON



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Pastor Paul and Karen Nelson invite you to join them on an inspirational tour of Italy. Explore the rich history and amazing architecture of Florence and Rome. Embrace the opportunity for spiritual renewal as we examine the theology and faith disciplines of the past in Assisi. Be awed by the beauty of the Amalfi Coast and intrigued by the dramatic past of Pompeii. The theme that will guide our exploration is “Heaven, Hell, and Everything In Between”, guiding us in our examination of how many of our Christian beliefs were influenced by medieval Catholicism and Italian writers and theologians. Together, we will experience some of the most beautiful sights in the world. We will seek to be renewed in faith as we examine our shared beliefs in new ways, inspired by the antiquity that surrounds us.



Sunrise is about 7:15 a.m. and sunset is approximately 6:30 p.m. Most days begin early with return to hotel in the late afternoon, a few days will be later due to driving distances and activities.

Visits and tours described in the itinerary require considerable walking. Requirements for full participation: walking some days up to four miles; often walking one mile at a time at a moderate pace; managing uneven surfaces, steps, and inclines without assistance. Itinerary is not wheelchair, scooter, or walker accessible. Consult with Carrousel Travel or tour host with questions about walking and mobility requirements. Carrousel Travel, in consensus with tour host(s) and destination partner, reserves the right to not accept or withdraw any traveler whose ability to participate in the tour or whose conduct is incompatible with operation of tour or the interests of the entire group.

PROGRAM PRICE

\$5,175 PER PERSON*
BASED ON SHARED OCCUPANCY

Price includes tour package and roundtrip economy class airfare. Program cost based on a minimum group size of 35.

*Air is estimated and will come into range to book late November

SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT: \$835
(REQUEST BASIS ONLY)

Limited availability of single accommodations.

LAND-ONLY PROGRAM (WITHOUT AIRFARE)
ON REQUEST ONLY

REGISTRATION

To register for this tour, please click here:

[Immanuel LCA Journey to Italy 2023 Registration](https://cvent.me/yom7wl?RefId=FBG122)

If you are viewing this as a printed brochure, please visit the website: <https://cvent.me/yom7wl?RefId=FBG122> or email Specialgroups@carrouseltravel.com

TRIP INSURANCE

Basic group insurance is included for each traveler with limited coverage for trip delay, baggage delay, medical evacuation, political or security evacuation and natural disaster, and accident and sickness medical expense. This insurance does not include trip cancellation or coverage for any pre-existing conditions and is purchased within 30 days prior to departure. Carrousel Travel recommends travelers individually purchase supplement travel insurance, preferably at time of registration.

Purchasing trip cancellation insurance is highly recommended to assist with unforeseen situations or events. Although travel insurance may be purchased at any time, it must be purchased within 14 days of the registration deposit date to Carrousel Travel for coverage to apply for pre-existing medical conditions. The deposit date is stated on deposit invoice. Medical insurance coverage when traveling outside of the United States is very important. (Coverage may change)

Travel Insurance covering trip cancellation and pre-existing medical conditions is available from Carrousel Travel. Information may be requested at time of registration.

HIGHLIGHTS + INCLUSIONS

- » Experience the enrichment, spiritual education and fellowship as part of a 12-day traveling community under the leadership of Rev. Paul and Karen Nelson.
- » Learn about the history and culture of Italy while experiencing Florence, Assisi, Sorrento, the Amalfi Coast, Pompeii and Rome.
- » English speaking professional tour manager to accompany group from Florence arrival to Rome departure.
- » Travel on flights from Minneapolis St. Paul to Florence returning from Rome including current taxes and surcharges. Flights currently estimated and will be in range to confirm late November.
- » Stay in select accommodations for 10 nights, based on sharing a room in 3 and 4-star hotels. Two nights in Florence, two nights in Assisi, 3 nights in Sorrento and 3 nights in Rome.
- » Journey throughout in a private, deluxe motorcoach along with handling of one piece of baggage at hotels.
- » Enjoy 17 meals including breakfast daily and one lunch and five dinners.
- » Feel the ease and comfort of knowing entrance fees for inside visits and activities described in itinerary are included along with the gratuities for the tour managers/guides, motorcoach drivers, restaurant and hotel staff and baggage handling.
- » Group travel insurance to be included in program cost to cover medical and medical evacuation. Group insurance does not cover cancellation or pre-existing conditions. An additional individual travel insurance policy is highly recommended. Further information will be provided at the time of registration.



Itinerary

DAY 1: MONDAY, OCTOBER 9 MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL DEPARTURE

Gather and meet a Carrousel Travel representative at the air check-in counter at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport, Terminal 1-Lindbergh. Check baggage through to Florence.

*Air to be confirmed late November 2022

DAY 2: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10 FLORENCE ARRIVAL

Arrive in Florence at the Aeroporto di Firenze and meet your tour manager and board an awaiting private touring motorcoach. Before arriving at Florence's historic center, stop at Piazza Michelangelo for a memorable panoramic view of the city. Check-in at [Hotel de Lanzi](#) with the remainder of the afternoon at leisure to get settled. Group dinner at a restaurant within walking distance to the hotel the hotel. (B,D)

DAY 3: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11 FLORENCE

Begin a memorable discovery of Florence exploring the city's highlights with a local guide on a three-hour walking tour featuring the Cathedral of St. Maria del Fiore, Grotto's Bell Tower and the Baptistery of St. John with the Gates of Paradise doors, ending with a visit to the Accademia, home of Michelangelo's masterpiece, David. Afternoon free with lunch on own and time for independent exploration. Perhaps visit the famous Ponte Vecchio or the Uffizi Gallery on own. Other options include a tour of the Duomo, Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore, and/or a climb to the dome. Walk back to the hotel with evening free for dinner on own. (B)

DAY 4: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12 FLORENCE / ASSISI

Visit the peaceful setting of the Florence American Cemetery, final resting place of over 4,000 American soldiers from WWII. Continue to the sacred hilltop town of Assisi, where St. Francis was born in 1182, lived most of his life and established the Franciscan Order. Before getting to the hotel, visit an olive farm to taste the local produce during a group lunch. Arrive at the parking area for the Upper Town of Assisi and walk (with carry-on baggage) to [Hotel Giotto](#). This evening, dinner at a local restaurant within walking distance of hotel. (B,L,D)

DAY 5: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13 ASSISI

Discover Assisi on a locally guided three-hour walking tour highlighting a visit to the Basilica of St. Francis, visiting both the upper and lower church. Be inspired by this magnificent structure and learn the story of Francis of Assisi as told in the fresco art throughout the church. Continue the tour with a visit to the historic city center including Piazza del Comune. Remainder of the afternoon free to explore Assisi with dinner on own. (B)

DAY 6: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14 ASSISI / SORRENTO

Morning departure for Deruta, approx. 30-minute drive, for a brief visit to learn about the tradition of ceramics imported here from Majorca in the 15th century with a short time to shop. The rest of the day is approximately a seven-hour drive to Sorrento with rest stops and lunch break. Just south of Rome from the motorway, see perched on a hill Montecassino Abbey founded in the 6th century and during WWII the location of a tragic battle. Most of the drive this afternoon is close to the ancient Roman Appian Way. Arrive in Sorrento, wedged on a ledge under the mountains and over the Mediterranean. Early evening check-in to [Central Hotel](#) and group dinner at hotel or a local restaurant within walking distance of the hotel. (B,D)

DAY 7: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15 SORRENTO

Enjoy a full day at your leisure to explore. Sorrento features an unspoiled old quarter and lively main shopping streets set atop a spectacular cliffside setting. Perhaps stroll through the historic center, paying a visit to the Basilica of Sant'Antonio. Maybe visit Ballone dei Mulini, the Valley of the Mills which were abandoned in the 1940s. The weed-covered ruins are still clearly visible. Visit Gelateria David, a

family run institution dating back to 1957 which has been passed down three generations. Maybe book a Gelato making class or venture to the western part of Sorrento to visit Marina Grande, a postcard-pretty fishing village set around a small bay. (B)

DAY 8: MONDAY, OCTOBER 16 SORRENTO

Today is stunning scenery of hill towns hugging the sea in private 8-seater minivans* for a drive along the beautiful Amalfi Coast. Stops en route at the picturesque towns of Amalfi for lunch on own, and Minori including a visit of the ruins of the Roman Villa and the Antiquarium (time permitting). The drive back to Sorrento is inland with a stop in Tramonti for a wine tasting served with local farm products at a family owned and operated vineyard. Evening free in Sorrento with dinner on own. (B)

*New regulations do not allow larger coaches to stop along the coast.

DAY 9: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 SORRENTO / POMPEII / ROME

Morning departure to the archaeological site of Pompeii where a local guide hosts a two-hour walking tour of the amazing ruins of a Roman town both destroyed and preserved by the explosive eruption of Vesuvius in 79 AD. Enjoy a casual lunch on own outside the ruins. The remainder of the day is a three-hour drive to Rome for check in at [Bettoja Hotel Mediterraneo](#) with time to get settled in for a three-night stay. Dinner at a local restaurant within walking distance of the hotel. (B,D)

DAY 10: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18 ROME

This morning begins the first of two days of discovery in Rome with a local guide. Exploration of Vatican City this morning. Marvel at the beauty of the Basilica of St. Peter and the art treasures in the Vatican Museums including the Sistine Chapel, Tapestry Gallery and Rooms of Raphael. Later this afternoon a walking tour of Rome's landmarks include the Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain and the Pantheon. Final group dinner this evening at a restaurant within walking distance of hotel. (B,D)

DAY 11: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 ROME

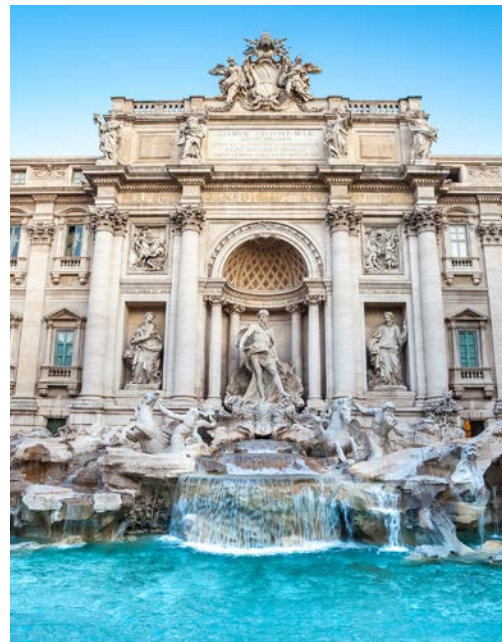
Journey along the Via Appia, an ancient road revealing the history of early Christian Rome. Visit the Santa Domitilla Catacombs for a guided tour hallmarking the Early Christian movement and time for a brief worship. Continue for an inside visit of the Colosseum, built in 70 AD and still in use despite damaging earthquakes and fires, followed by a walk through the remains of the Roman Forum. Learn about the long-held tradition that Apostles Peter and Paul were imprisoned at Mamertine Prison, located at the bottom of Capitoline Hill. Remainder of the afternoon and evening free for individual exploration. Dinner on own this evening. (B)

DAY 12: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 ROME / MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL RETURN

Transfer to Rome Fiumicino Airport for flights homeward bound. Check baggage through to Minneapolis-St. Paul. (B)

Itinerary is subject to change due to local scheduling and conditions.

Included meals: **B**=Breakfast, **L**=Lunch, **D**=Dinner





TERMS + CONDITIONS

PASSPORT A valid passport with 6 months validity from your scheduled return is required for U.S. citizens. Passport applications are available at the [U.S. Department of State website](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports.html) (travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports.html). If renewing/applying for passport at time of registration, note Carrousel Travel must have passport details no later than 90 days prior departure; late information will result in additional fees and could jeopardize participation. Travelers who are not U.S. citizens may require a visa for entry.

COVID-19 REQUIREMENTS Immanuel Lutheran Church requires all participants on this tour to be fully vaccinated. At time of preparing the brochure, no testing for COVID-19 is required upon arrival in Italy and there is no testing requirement to return to the U.S. Requirements are subject to change. Current CDC COVID-19 information for Italy <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/italy>. Itinerary is based on no restrictions on group size due to COVID-19 in the country visited. Updated entry and departure requirements for COVID-19 are provided as appropriate for travel dates.

RESERVATIONS All reservations will be handled directly with Carrousel Travel. Complete instructions are found on the [Tour Registration Website](#).

DEPOSIT \$750 per person due with enrollment by **February 1, 2023**. This is the last date to register if space is still available. Registrations above a group size of 45 may need to be placed on a waiting list. Please register early to secure a spot

FINAL PAYMENT Due no later than **July 10, 2023**. Invoices are emailed to participants approximately four weeks before due date.

FORM OF PAYMENT Check, cash, or credit card accepted. A 3.5% service fee will apply for all payments made by credit card.

CANCELLATIONS Cancellations must be received in writing and are effective upon receipt by Carrousel Travel. Cancellation fees are as follows:

From 1st deposit through June 9, 2023 = \$375 per person cancellation fee.

From June 10, 2023 through July 9, 2023 = \$750 per person cancellation fee.

From July 10, 2023 through August 9, 2023 = 50% of program price.

From August 10, 2023 through departure, October 9, 2023 = No refund of program price.

Should the program be cancelled due to a change in travel conditions, a \$200 administrative fee per traveler applies plus any unrecoverable airline costs.

This policy is based on the contracts required to secure the services for this customized program, the commitments to other group travelers and the services rendered on behalf of all group travelers by Carrousel Travel. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended.

To protect program payment, consider trip cancellation insurance.

RESPONSIBILITY Carrousel Travel purchases transportation, hotel accommodations and other services from various suppliers that are not subject to its immediate control. Carrousel Travel cannot, therefore, be liable for any personal injury or property damage or personal loss in connection with any service which may occur due to (1) any act or omission of such a supplier, or (2) defects in or failures of any aircraft, vessel, automotive vehicle or other means of transportation that is not under their control, or (3) any circumstances arising as a result of military or political action, terrorism, weather, acts of God, epidemiological events or any other circumstances over which Carrousel Travel has no control. Carrousel Travel reserves the right to alter, change or omit any part of the itinerary as they deem necessary or desirable, and to pass on to participants any expenditures or losses caused by delays or events beyond their control.

**FOR
QUESTIONS
+ DETAILS**

Rev. Paul Nelson
Paul@immanuel.us

Karen Nelson
knelson62@comcast.net

Carrousel Travel
800-800-6508
Specialgroups@carrouseltravel.com



6625 Lyndale Avenue S.
Suite 104
Minneapolis, MN 55423

STATEMENT OF CONDITIONS

Acceptance of conditions: Receipt and retention of the Carrousel Travel itinerary/invoice shall constitute acceptance of all the provisions listed here as well as those terms and conditions set forth in the announcement, brochures, and circulars of the tour package.

Program cost and minimum number group size: Cost is based on exchange rates in effect as of September 13, 2022, and subject to change in the event there is a fluctuation of more than 4%. Minimum group size is 35. Should numbers fall below a minimum of 35 travelers, Carrousel Travel reserves the right to reprice or cancel the tour.

Upon request, Carrousel Travel and sponsor/host(s) will try to pair travelers registering as a single and preferring a roommate. There is no guarantee of a roommate and if one is not available, the single supplement is assessed at time of invoice. Some hotels provide a smaller room size for single occupancy.

Program inclusions:

- Group insurance is included for each traveler including basic coverage for trip delay, delayed baggage, medical evacuation and accident and sickness medical expense. **This insurance does not include coverage for trip cancellation or coverage for any pre-existing conditions. Carrousel Travel recommends purchasing additional insurance.**

- Air transportation roundtrip from Minneapolis-St. Paul on a major airline, subject to change, restrictions, and cancellation penalties by the airline; current taxes and surcharges are included and subject to change until ticketed. Air is currently estimated and will be confirmed late November 2022.

- Ground transportation by private, deluxe motorcoaches throughout, including handling of one piece of baggage in/out of hotels.

- Shared hotel occupancy in twin-bedded room or room with one double bed as indicated in non-smoking rooms. Hotels described in itinerary are confirmed and subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

NOTE: U.S. king and queen bed sizes are often not available. A double bed may be two twin beds arranged side by side. Supplemental cost for single room occupancy.

- Total of 17 meals as indicated in itinerary – daily buffet breakfast, one lunch and five dinners.

- English-speaking professional tour managers/guides throughout the itinerary.

- Use of audio headsets for touring in Italy.

- Visits as described in itinerary including entrance fees as needed.

- Gratuities for tour manager/guides, motorcoach drivers and hotel/restaurant wait staff.

Deviation policy: Some travelers may wish to extend their stay, upgrade their ticket, originate, or deplane from different cities, or purchase the land program only (without airfare). Early flight departure on group airfare is not permitted. Every effort will be made to assist participants within the rules of the group air contract for a \$100 per person service charge, plus any additional charges levied by the airline or other supplier. Any further changes may incur additional costs. No refund will be granted to travelers who wish to omit portions of the itinerary. **All deviation requests must be submitted in writing by June 9, 2023;** requests made after this date incur additional fees or may be unavailable.

Upgraded seats in Premium Economy, Comfort, Business or First Class may be available upon request and with a separate booking. The additional cost varies based on inventory and date of request and is subject to change until ticketed. Travelers should inquire about supplement cost/fees and availability if interested in an upgrade. Be advised a seat upgrade requires a reservation separate from the group block along with immediate full payment of the airfare and

ticketing plus cancel fees different than the group program cancellation policy. Group travelers purchasing flights outside of the group reservation could be subject to schedule changes different than the group arrival and departure times, resulting in additional costs and which are the responsibility of the traveler opting to upgrade. The use of frequent flyer mileage for upgrades is not permitted on a group airfare.

Registration for the land-only program means Carrousel Travel does not hold seats on the group airline reservation. If a traveler changes plans and later requests to utilize the group flights, space may no longer be available. Group travelers registering as land-only may be subject to schedule changes different than the group arrival and departure times and could incur additional costs at the responsibility of the traveler.

Special Needs: Be advised the Americans with Disabilities Act is inapplicable outside of the United States, and facilities outside the United States, such as ramps, elevators and hand railings may not exist. This itinerary is not wheelchair, scooter, or walker accessible.

Exclusions: Items not included: meals other than those indicated; beverages except at breakfast; baggage handling at airports; optional entertainment and excursions; any baggage charges; all personal items, such as telephone calls, laundry expenses, individual room service; trip cancellation insurance; non-tour related gratuities; passport fees; increases in air ticket taxes or fuel surcharge; increases in VAT or city/hotel taxes; any required or optional COVID-19 testing; expenses related to isolating during travel due to positive COVID-19 results; any items not specifically mentioned as included.

Trip delay: In the unforeseen circumstance your program experiences travel delays and unexpected expenses are incurred, Carrousel Travel will invoice travelers for any additional costs associated with the delay. Obtaining additional travel insurance may offset these expenses.

Leadership: The person(s) identified as the leader/host is subject to change in the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of Carrousel Travel. In the unlikelihood of a change in leadership, a qualified replacement will be selected by the sponsoring organization or previous leader. Carrousel Travel will operate the program as planned and is not responsible for the change in leadership. The cancellation and refund policy remain as stated.

Responsibility: Carrousel Travel purchases transportation, hotel accommodations and other services from various suppliers that are not subject to its immediate control. Carrousel Travel cannot, therefore, be liable for any personal injury or property damage or personal loss in connection with any service which may occur due to (1) any act or omission of such a supplier, or (2) defects in or failures of any aircraft, vessel, automotive vehicle or other means of transportation that is not under their control, or (3) any circumstances arising as a result of military or political action, terrorism, weather, acts of God, epidemiological events or any other circumstances over which Carrousel Travel has no control. Carrousel Travel reserves the right to alter, change or omit any part of the itinerary as they deem necessary or desirable, and to pass on to participants any expenditures or losses caused by delays or events beyond their control.

Supplier Default/Bankruptcy: If a supplier declares bankruptcy, cancels, or postpones service or otherwise fails to provide or perform the services you have purchased, it is the supplier, and not Carrousel Travel, that is legally responsible to you. Refunds or reparations must come directly from the supplier or the bankruptcy court. In this case, Carrousel Travel would do its best to provide assistance.

Carrousel Travel

Founded in 1977 and recognized as a Best Places To Work for several consecutive years, Carrousel has grown into one of the largest privately owned travel companies in the Midwest. By melding the knowledgeable expertise of our professional consultants, the latest in travel technologies and the power of the Signature Travel Network, Carrousel Travel is dedicated to providing the best solutions for our client's needs and well-being.