

EASTER IN ITALY!

Tour Dates:
April 7 - April 12, 2023





Tour Itinerary

Tour Host: Derek Cooper, MBA, PhD



Dr. Derek Cooper has written 13 books and traveled to more than 75 countries. He has led dozens of tours to all lands of the Bible and is also an ordained minister. He is the founder and director of both Thomas Institute and Dodekagram.

Day 1: Good Fri, April 7: Rome – Begin Your Tour

Arrive in Rome and transfer to hotel. Depending on arrival time, start with the Pantheon before attending the Via Crucis ceremony led by the Pope. Overnight: Rome.

Pantheon



Day 2: Holy Sat, April 8: Forum, Mamertine Prison, Colosseum – Walk through the Classic Sites of Rome

Imagine what Roman life was like by exploring the Roman forum, the place where everything happened and where Caesar, Cicero, and Augustus worked. Pass by the Arch of Titus and the Mamertine Prison, the place of Peter and Paul's imprisonment. After lunch, imagine yourself to be a gladiator or spectator at the timeless symbol of Rome: the Colosseum. Overnight: Rome. (B)

Day 3: Easter Sun, April 9: Ostia Antica and St. Paul Outside the Walls – Visit Rome's Port and St. Paul

Start the morning with a visit to one of the best-preserved archaeological sites outside Rome: Ostia Antica. This is Rome's ancient port where the apostles Paul and Peter docked. This incredible site offers a wonderful place to consider how Christians in the Bible lived their daily lives.

Continued

Afterward, visit St. Paul's Outside the Walls, which houses the remains of St. Paul. Overnight: Rome. (B)

Ostia Antica



Day 4: Mon, April 10: Lateran, Catacombs, Crypt – Discover Catholicism's HQ and Explore the Cities of the Dead

Begin at St. John's Church in Lateran, the pope's seat in Rome and perhaps the most historically rich church. Afterward, stop at the Church of Quo Vadis, where Jesus famously met Peter before Peter was killed. Then trek underground in the Catacombs, the place where early Christians buried their dead. Afterward, visit Rome's most eerily interesting museum: a living cemetery of monks whose bodies are converted into furniture. An alternative is to learn about immigration in Rome with a nonprofit. Overnight: Rome. (B)

Crypt



The order or items on this itinerary are subject to change. If so, appropriate substitutions will be made.

Tour Continued

Day 5: Tues, April 11: St. Peter's and Vatican – Tour the Greatest Church and Museum on Earth

St. Peter's Basilica is the largest church on the planet, the most historically significant, and the unofficial center of the Roman Catholic Church. It's the size of a small city, with its most important relic lying deep beneath the altar. Visit Vatican's St. Peter's Square, the church, Vatican museums, the city, and, of course, walk through the Sistine Chapel. Enjoy one final dinner in Rome before departing home in the morning. Overnight: Rome. (B, D)

Vatican



Museum



Day 6: Wed, April 12: Departure – Return Home

Say *ciao* to your wonderful excursion and begin the journey back home from Rome's Airport. (B)



Price (Per Person)

- **Per person in double occupancy: \$1,364***
- Added cost for single occupancy: \$750

*Estimated price. The final price varies based on exact number of travelers.

Inclusions

- 5 nights in 4-star hotel in downtown Rome
- Daily breakfasts with coffee/tea/juice
- Professional English-speaking guide
- Entrance fees for museums and sites on itinerary
- Transportation costs for sites on itinerary
- 1 group transfer to and from airport
- Pre-trip travel and learning guidance
- 1 Dinner on Day 5

Exclusions

- International flight to and from Rome (FCO)
- Lunches and most dinners
- Drinks (other than included at breakfast)
- Any tips or taxes to local vendors or guides
- Travel or health insurance (No Covid test needed)
- Any other item not mentioned above

Payment Schedule (Per Person)

- \$300 deposit by March 1, 2023
- Full payment by March 15, 2023

Registration and Additional Information

- This tour is contingent upon sufficient travelers.
- Refund of deposit issued only if the traveler requests refund by email before March 1, 2023.
- **Make deposit for trip by copying and pasting: <https://thomas-institute.com/shop/ols/categories/tour>**