

**15 Day Tour & Cruise to Italy, Greece & Turkey**  
**visiting Rome, Naples, Sorrento, San Giovanni Rotondo,**  
**St. Michael's Cave, Catania, Izmir,**  
**Santorini, Mykonos, Piraeus & Athens**  
**July 22 – August 5, 2009**

**Wed, July 22<sup>nd</sup>:** New York/Rome - Depart JFK or Newark airport on your overnight flight to Rome. Dinner served in flight.

**Thu, July 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Rome - Upon arrival in **Rome**, we visit the Basilicas of St. Paul Outside the Walls and St. Mary Major. Free day to relax and enjoy Rome on your own. This evening we have a "Rome by Night Tour." (B,D)

**Fri, July 24<sup>th</sup>:** Rome - Today we visit St. Peter's Basilica, the Vatican Museum and Sistine Chapel. This afternoon an **Optional Tour of the Catacombs will be offered.** (B,D)

**Optional Tour of the Catacombs**

As you leave Rome, half a mile from St. Sebastian Gate, you reach the "Quo Vadis?" Church, then the Pretextatus and St. Sebastian Catacombs and, farther on, the tomb of Cecilia Metella. In the middle of this archaeological area, within the Appian Way, the Ardeatina and the Vicolo delle Sette Chiese (the Lane of the Seven Churches) there extends the "Callixtian Complex", a large area of nearly 90 acres of land, half of which are occupied by catacombs. The galleries, sometimes in four levels, are 12 miles long. The tombs are numerous, perhaps half a million. This complex developed from different nuclei over the centuries. Some have been even joined to one another. They are: the Cemetery of St. Callixtus, the Crypts of Lucina, the Cemetery of St. Soter, the Cemetery of St. Mark, Marcellianus and Damasus and lastly the Cemetery of Balbina. Of these, the ones that concern us most are the Crypts of Lucina and the Catacombs of St. Callixtus, which formed a single cemetery from the second half of the 4th century. The Catacombs of St. Callixtus are the most important and imposing of the about sixty catacombs of Rome. They may be considered as *"the cradle of Christianity and the Archives of the primitive Church"*, because they illustrate the usage and customs of the early Christians, the "Credo" they professed and the history of martyrdom.  
**Price to be determined!**

**Sat, July 25<sup>th</sup>:** Rome/Naples - Morning departure to **Naples**. En route we stop in **Sorrento**. This small town is wonderfully located over white steep cliffs and offers a fantastic view over the Bay of Naples. Sorrento lies on a Tufa terrace and is encircled by impressive rocks from the, limestone, mountains. For 2000 years visitors from all over the world have been attracted to Sorrento by breathtaking sunsets and fragrances of orange and lemon gardens. The small fishing harbor of Marina Grande is especially beautiful in the low season, where one can sense the naturalness of Sorrento. Sorrento is well known for its splendid big lemons. Typical products from Sorrento are produced with these "Limoni": Limoncello, a very tasty lemon liqueur, lemon chocolate, colorful ceramic articles with lemon motives or lemon soap. One should also try the over 70 different ice cream flavors that are sold here. You'll be tempted to shop in the small street Via S. Cesareo, the heart of Sorrento. We arrive in time for lunch on our own. After lunch, visit the **Cathedral** to see the many paintings including the altar to St. Joseph Moscati. Free time for shopping before we continue to **Naples**. Upon arrival in Naples, we have a panorama of the city which includes a stop at the Chiesa Gesu Nuovo (Church of the New Jesus). After our visit we drive to Plebiscite Square to see the front of the Royal Palace and the beautiful church of St Francesco di Paula in its neoclassical style. We continue to the Town Hall Square and the New Castle built by the French Family of Anjo. At Posillipo admire the wonderful views of the city. We stop at the port of Santa Lucia to walk around and take in some of the most colorful scenes of Naples. Once an old fishing port now, Santa Luica, is the jet set part of town with its' trendy restaurants and Luxury hotels. (B,D)

**Sun, July 26<sup>th</sup>:** Naples/Monte Sant'Angelo/San Giovanni Rotondo /Naples - Morning departure to **San Giovanni Rotondo** to visit the Basilica of Our Lady of Grace. **During our visit of San Giovanni Rotondo we visit Padre Pio's Tomb where we will see his exhumed body.** En route we stop at Monte Sant Angelo. Upon arrival you will have the opportunity to walk around this beautiful town set on a promontory overlooking the Bay of Manfredonia and have some lunch on your own before your visit to **St. Michael's Cave** where St. Michael the Archangel appeared. St. Michael the Archangel first appeared at Monte Sant'Angelo in 490. According to tradition, a local nobleman named Elvio Emmanuele lost the best bull of his herd. After much searching, he found it kneeling in a cave. Unable to approach it, Elvio shot the bull with an arrow, but the arrow turned around and struck the man instead. Bewildered Elvio went to see his bishop, who ordered three days of prayer and fasting. St Michael appeared to the bishop and asked him to enter the

cave. After a third time, Michael ordered him to enter the cave. He said: It is not necessary that you dedicate this church that I have consecrated with my presence. Enter and pray with my assistance and celebrate the Sacrifice. I will show you how I have consecrated this place. The bishop then entered the grotto, where he found an altar covered with a red cloth, a crystal cross, and a footprint on the ground. The bishop thereupon commissioned a chapel to be built at the entrance to the cave and did not consecrate it because Michael had already done so. The church came to be known as the [Celestial Basilica](#).

**Mon, July 27<sup>th</sup>: Naples/Civitavecchia/Cruise on the Costa Romantica** - Morning departure to Civitavecchia, the port of Rome, where we board the **Costa Romantica** for our **Mediterranean Cruise**. Upon embarkation, we will be shown to our cabins. While on board, all meals are included. Our ship departs at 5:00 PM.

**Tue, July 28<sup>th</sup>: Catania, Italy**

**Arrival in Catania 1:00 PM Departure 7:00 PM Optional Excursions will be offered**

"Touched by the sea, kissed by the sun, blessed by the gods". A Greek historian wrote the first unplanned advertising for the city and its coast, in one of the first descriptions found in history. Mount Etna is particularly feared and in some way the real master of the city and surrounding valleys. Over three thousand meters high, it is the highest active European volcano.

Presently **Catania** is an extremely busy city, geared to the industry and commerce of agricultural products and tourism. History places its foundation, in approximately the 8<sup>th</sup> century BC by Naxos Calicles who for over five hundred years exploited the land and the strategically successful position for commerce. A series of reigns followed with particular characteristics. Their nature was of commercial exploitation and not military.

**Wed, July 29<sup>th</sup>: At Sea**

**Enjoy a quiet day at sea. There will be many activities on board to entertain you.**

**Thu, July 30<sup>th</sup>: Izmir (Ehpesus), Turkey**

**Arrival in Izmir 9:00 AM Departure 7:00 PM Optional Excursions will be offered.**

**One of the highlights of this port is the home of the Virgin Mary. Mary lived here with St. John for 46 years.**

Capital of a province, with nearly three million inhabitants, Smirne (**Izmir** in Turkish) is Turkey's second city, after Istanbul, thanks to its busy port and to the intense industrial activity which, from traditional fields tied to agriculture, has expanded to include shipbuilding, mechanical and chemical plants for oil refinery.

Located within a beautiful bay, surrounded by lovely hills, the town has changed in the course of recent years, into a modern metropolis with an established urbanistic structure and new residential area.

Archaeological diggings have indicated that Izmir was probably first inhabited in the third millennium BC. In the 10<sup>th</sup> century BC farmers from the island of Lesbos took up residence in Izmir. Occupied by the Ioni toward the end of the 9<sup>th</sup> century BC, Izmir experienced a long spell of economical and cultural development, followed by domination from many local dictators, until it was conquered by Alessandro Magno (334 BC).

Starting in 27B.C., following Roman rule, Izmir experienced a new period of prosperity which was enriched by sumptuous monuments, however, few traces remain. Destroyed by a violent earthquake in 178 it was then rebuilt under the command of Marco Aurelio. After becoming an important Bishop Seat during the Costantino era, Izmir began a slow decline due to Arabic incursions.

**Fri, July 31<sup>st</sup>: Santorini and Myknoos, Greece**

**Arrival in Santorini 7:00 AM Departure 1:00 PM optional Excursions will be offered**

**Sail to Mykonos**

**Arrival in Mykonos 6:00 PM Departure 11:00 PM optional Excursions will be offered**

One of the Cyclades islands, **Santorini** is a spectacular jewel of the Aegean. Born out of a volcanic eruption in approximately 1500BC, which formed the two islands of Aspronissi and Terrasia, Santorini is a magnificent mixture of dramatic cliff side villages, glorious black sand beaches and ancient treasures. Steep cliffs plunging into a crystalline sea distinguish the west coast, while the east coast is gentler, featuring a fertile plain and delicate bays, with the Profitis Ilias mountains in the background.

Archaeological investigations have shown that the 69 kilometers of coastline of Santorini was probably inhabited in prehistoric times, while the first chronicled civilization to live on the island were the Phoenicians.

Through the centuries the island continued to fall under different rulers, including the Spartans, Athenians, Byzantines and Turks.

The island of **Mykonos** is one of the most picturesque islands of the Cyclades archipelago, situated between Tinos and Naxos, the picture-postcard main town of Mykonos is a maze of narrow streets lined with pretty white-washed houses and shops. Nearby are several splendid beaches.

The history of civilization on Mykonos is not well chronicled, although the generally accepted view is that the island was first colonized by the Ionians and later developed by the Athenians. There followed a relatively prosperous period under Ptolemy and again under the Romans. Little knowledge exists of the island's fate during the Byzantine era and the next major landmark appears in 1537 when Mykonos was under Turkish rule.

**Sat, Aug 1<sup>st</sup>: Piraeus (Athens) Greece**

**Arrival in Piraeus 8:00 AM Departure 1:00 PM Optional Excursions will be offered**

The cradle of Greek civilization, **Athens** today is a bustling, frenetic, modern city with six million inhabitants, one third of the total population of Greece. The port of Athens, **Piraeus**, is very much an integral part of the city.

Although Athens is a huge, sprawling city, much of its political, historical and administrative life is concentrated in a small area including Syntagma (Constitution) Square, the Acropolis and Omonia Square.

According to Greek mythology, the establishment of Athens was the result of a dispute between the goddess of wisdom Athena and her fellow gods, under which the city was given as a peace offering. In historical terms, the city was founded by the Phoenicians at least 2,000 years before Christ. The founding fathers of democracy, Athenians had to go into battle many times to defend their freedom and built up a mighty military strength.

**Sun, Aug 2<sup>nd</sup>: At Sea.**

**Enjoy a quiet day at sea. There will be many activities on board to entertain you.**

**Mon, Aug 3<sup>rd</sup>: Civitavecchia/Rome - Arrival in Civitavecchia 8:00 AM**

Upon arrival in Civitavecchia we are met by our guide and transferred to **Rome**. Remainder of the day is free to enjoy Rome on your own. This evening you have dinner on your own. There will be an **Optional Tour of the Wine Country including lunch**.

#### **Optional Tour of the Wine Country - A TASTE OF CIOCIARIA!**

Less than one hour drive south-east of Rome lies Ciociaria, untouched by mass tourism and a perfect day trip. A journey among forgotten smells and flavors where the old-time taste of typical rural dishes can be appreciated on the tables of many typical restaurants, accompanied by local DOC wines, such as Cabernet of Atina, Cesanese del Piglio, Passerina del Frusinate and Torre Ercolana of Anagni. The marvelous hilly landscape is covered with olive trees, forests of oaks, castles, hilltop towns and monasteries. An opportunity to enjoy excellent wines with fine cuisine.

Pick up at the hotel and transfer to the medieval hamlet of Piglio, famous for the production of the DOC Wine Cesanese del Piglio. We stop at a winery to taste some of the local wines. We have lunch in a medieval farmhouse to taste the genuine cuisine and of course the famous wine. After lunch we will drive along the hills to admire the gorgeous landscape and the different types of vineyards. We stop at one of the many hilltop villages to visit a winery where you can meet the wine grower who will show you the techniques of Viticulture. **Price to be determined**

**Tue, Aug 4<sup>th</sup>: Rome – Free day to enjoy Rome on your own.** This evening we go to “Da Meo Patacca” for a Farewell Dinner. **An Optional Tour of Florence will be offered**

#### **Optional Florence – Price to be determined**

Morning transfer to Rome train station for our train to **Florence**. Upon arrival we meet our local guide for a walking tour of the city. Our tour includes some of the priceless treasures of Florence - Piazza del Duomo, center of religious life in medieval Florence. You'll see the Baptistery with its' masterfully crafted bronze doors – Michelangelo declared them the “Gates of Paradise.” Next to the Academy to see Michelangelo's David. We end our tour at the Basilica of Santa Croce. After our tour we have free time for lunch and to visit Florence on our own. (B,D)

**Wed, Aug 5<sup>th</sup>: Rome/USA - Morning departure to Rome airport for our return flight to the USA. (B)**

Tour Includes: Air Fare from New York, Three & Four Star Hotels, Deluxe Motorcoach, Sightseeing as per itinerary, Continental Breakfast & Dinner Daily (except one night in Rome), Porterage (one piece of luggage) at hotels, Taxes and Service Charges. **All Meals are included on board the Costa Romantica. Excursions on board ship are optional.** Visit Costa's website to see the excursions offered. [www.costacruiises.com](http://www.costacruiises.com)

**Due to the recent increase in Fuel it may become necessary to increase our rate by the Fuel Surcharge.**

**Based on 20 full paying passengers**

**Inside I2 Cabins:** \$ 4,505.00 per person Double  
4,260.00 per person Triple  
3,259.00 Child over 2 with 2 adults

**Outside E2 Cabins:** \$ 4,850.00 per person Double  
4,493.00 per person Triple  
3,259.00 Child over 2 with 2 adults

**Outside E4 Cabins:** \$ 4,940.00 per person Double  
4,550.00 per person Triple  
3,259.00 Child over 2 with 2 adults

**Based on 25 full paying passengers**

**Inside I2 Cabins:** \$ 4,410.00 per person Double  
4,170.00 per person Triple  
3,259.00 Child over 2 with 2 adults

**Outside E2 Cabins:** \$ 4,755.00 per person Double  
4,405.00 per person Triple  
3,259.00 Child over 2 with 2 adults

**Outside E4 Cabins:** \$ 4,850.00 per person Double  
4,455.00 per person Triple  
3,259.00 Child over 2 with 2 adults

**Based on 30 full paying passengers**

**Inside I2 Cabins:** \$ 4,359.00 per person Double  
4,119.00 per person Triple  
3,259.00 Child over 2 with 2 Adults

**Outside E2 Cabins:** \$ 4,709.00 per person Double  
4,353.00 per person Triple  
3,259.00 Child over 2 with 2 Adults

**Outside E4 Cabins:** \$ 4,799.00 per person Double  
4,413.00 per person Triple  
3,259.00 Child over 2 with 2 Adults

**\*The above rates do not include Excursions on the Cruise**

**Children under 2 years old pay Taxes and Fees only approximately \$ 500.00 air and taxes and fees \$ 300.00 approximately for cruise**

If you would like to use Master Card, Visa or American Express Card you will be charged 2 ¾% for the charge.

Tour No. ITA0721		
Name (as it appears on your passport):		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Telephone:	Email address:	
Will your room be a: ( ) single (limited) ( ) double ( ) triple		
Name of Roommate:		
Are you a US citizen? ( ) Yes ( ) No      Passport No		
<p>Please indicate which cabin you prefer:</p> <p>I2 Inside Cabin ____ E2 Outside Cabin ____ E4 Outside Cabin</p> <hr/> <p>Please return this form with your check to: LITTLE FLOWER TOURS &amp; TRAVEL, LTD. 145 Fieldstone Road, Staten Island, New York 10314 ☎ 718-761-1251 or outside NY call 888-843-7373 Website: <a href="http://www.littleflowertours.com">www.littleflowertours.com</a>      Email: <a href="mailto:susan@littleflowertours.com">susan@littleflowertours.com</a> <b>A \$1,000.00 DEPOSIT IS DUE AT TIME OF BOOKING</b> <b>FINAL PAYMENT IS DUE May 1, 2009</b> <b>If you would like to use Master Card, Visa or an American Express Card</b> <b>you will be charged 2 ¾% for the charge.</b></p>		
<b>TERMS AND CONDITIONS: Cancellation made by passengers.</b> Of the \$1,000.00 deposit, \$300.00 is non-refundable in case of cancellation. 70 days to 46 days a \$1,000.00 penalty is imposed. 45 days to 16 days a \$1,000.00 penalty PLUS any penalty imposed by the airlines and hotels. 15 days or less may result in loss of entire cost, depending on what we can recover. Once travel has commenced, no refunds for unused portions can be made. <b>TRAVEL INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE AND ADVISABLE</b> If you have a pre-existing condition, it is important that you take Travel Insurance within 10 days of booking.		
Signature:	Date:	

**“EVERYONE MUST FILL OUT THIS FORM AND SIGN IT BELOW.”** If you are NOT taking the Travel Insurance you must still fill out the Insurance form below and indicate NO in the premium box and return it with your reservation form.

Please note that insurance is strongly recommended but is optional. If you want to receive a waiver for pre-existing conditions, your premium must be received by Little Flower Tours within 14 days of your initial trip deposit/payment,

provided you are not disabled from travel at the time of your premium payment.  
Insurance payments are non-refundable.

<b>Tour Number</b>	<b>Tour Name</b>	<b>Premium</b>
<b>ITA0721</b>	<b>15 Day Tour &amp; Cruise</b>	<b>Adult \$ 260.00</b> <b>Child \$ 210.00</b>

<b>Insurance Form</b>		<b>Tour Number ITA0721</b>	
<b>Name</b>			
<b>Address:</b>			
<b>City:</b>		<b>State:</b>	<b>Zip:</b>
<b>Telephone:</b>		<b>Are you a US citizen? ( ) Yes ( ) No</b>	
<b>Additional Family Names</b>			
<b>I will take the Insurance ( ) Yes ( ) No</b>			
<b>Premium \$ 260.00 Adult per person \$ 210.00 Child per person</b>			
<b>Please make your Insurance Premium check payable to Little Flower Tours &amp; Travel Ltd.:</b>			
LITTLE FLOWER TOURS & TRAVEL, LTD. 145 Fieldstone Road, Staten Island, New York 10314 ☎ 718-761-1251 or outside NY call 888-843-7373 Website: <a href="http://www.littleflowertours.com">www.littleflowertours.com</a> Email: <a href="mailto:susan@littleflowertours.com">susan@littleflowertours.com</a>			
<b>If you want to receive a waiver for a pre-existing condition, your premium must be received by Little Flower Tours within 10 days of your initial trip deposit</b>			
<b>Signature</b>		<b>Date</b>	