

# Shrines of Italy

10-DAY PILGRIMAGE † SEPTEMBER 09 - 18, 2024





## DAY 1: DEPARTURE / USA TO ROME

Your pilgrimage begins today, boarding your flight to Rome. So, sit back, relax, and enjoy your flight. Your spiritual journey starts here!

## DAY 2: ROME: TREVI FOUNTAIN

Upon arrival in Rome, we will meet our tour guide and board our touring vehicle for a panoramic tour of the "Eternal City." Our first stop will be the Trevi Fountain, where you'll have free time for lunch before checking into your hotel for dinner and overnight accommodations.

# DAY 3: ROME / VATICAN CITY / ST. JOHN THE LATERAN / HOLY STAIRS / ST. MARY MAJOR

After breakfast, we will attend the Papal Audience in St. Peter's Square with His Holiness Pope Francis (pending the papal schedule). Following the Audience, we will visit the Basilica of St. John the Lateran, Rome's oldest major basilica. Our next stop will be the Holy Stairs, where Jesus walked during his Passion leading up to Pontius Pilate's praetorian. The Stairs were brought to Rome by Saint Helena in the fourth century. For today's final stop, we will celebrate Mass at the Basilica of St. Mary Major, Rome's only Basilica that has kept its original structure. Dinner and overnight accommodations will be at your hotel.

# DAY 4: ROME: ST. PETER'S BASILICA / VATICAN MUSEUM / ST. PAUL OUTSIDE THE WALLS / CATACOMBS

After breakfast, we will visit the magnificent St. Peter's Basilica, where St. Peter was martyred, and where we will view Michelangelo's Pieta. Next, we will continue to the Vatican Museums, followed by the Tapestry Gallery, Raphael Rooms, the Sistine Chapel, and Michelangelo's "Last Judgment." Our final Vatican stop will be the tomb of Saint John Paul II. After lunch, we will continue our journey down the Appian Way, the earliest road of Ancient Rome, to visit the Domino Quo Vadis Chapel, the Baths of Caracalla, the Arch of Drusus, the Tomb of Cecilia Metella, and the Catacombs of St. Callixtus. Today's last stop will be at the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls. We will then return to your hotel for dinner and overnight accommodations.

# DAY 5: ROMAN COLOSSEUM / ROMAN FORUM / BASILICA OF ST. GREGORY THE GREAT

We begin our day with a walking tour of Rome. We will start at the Piazza Venezia, where we will walk to some of Rome's most famous sights like Capitoline Hill, the Roman Forum, the Colosseum, the Arch of Constantine, and the Pantheon. Next, we will view one of Italy's finest collections of classical sculptures at the Capitoline Museums. Afterward, we will visit the Basilica of St. Mary of the Altar of Heaven (Santa Maria in Ara Coeli), the designated

Church of Rome's city council. We will also walk past the Mamertine Prison, where St. Peter and Paul were held before their executions. After lunch, we will visit the Basilica of St. Clement, the Basilica of St. Gregory the Great, and Mother Teresa's convent. Afterward, we will return to your hotel for dinner and overnight accommodations.

## DAY 6: ROME / ASSISI

This morning, we will celebrate Mass at St. Mary of the Angels Basilica. Here, we will see the Porziuncola, the small church where the Franciscan movement started. Afterward, we will tour the Basilica of St. Francis and view many of his possessions, like the crucifix that said to him, "Rebuild my Church." Next, we will visit the chapel where St. Francis spent most of his time, followed by the Church of St. Clare. The rest of the day is free for you to shop or relax. Dinner and overnight accommodations will be at your hotel.

# DAY 7: ASSISI / LORETO / LANCIANO / SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO

This morning, we head toward the Adriatic coast to the great Marian Shrine of Loreto to visit the Holy House of Nazareth and the beautiful Madonna of Loreto. Next, we will continue to Lanciano and celebrate Mass at the Church of St. Longinus, the site of the 8th-Century Eucharistic Miracle. Afterward, we will have free time to explore Lanciano before continuing to San Giovanni Rotondo. Dinner and overnight accommodations will be at your hotel.

### DAY 8: SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO / MONTE SANT' ANGELO

After breakfast, we will visit the Old Church, celebrate Mass, and tour the sanctuary. Here, we will view the crucifix, in front of which St. Pio received the stigmata. We will also see the confessional, where St. Pio spent innumerable hours listening to confessions. Afterward, you will board the bus and travel along the beautiful Gargano Peninsula to the Grotto of St. Michael the Archangel. On our way back to San Giovanni Rotondo, view the breathtaking ocean views and surrounding countryside. Dinner and overnight accommodations will be at your hotel.

## DAY 9: SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO / MONTE CASSINO / ROME

After breakfast, we begin our drive north through the rich Italian countryside of vineyards, orchards, and olive groves, taking in fantastic panoramic views as we arrive in Monte Cassino. First, we will tour the Abbey of Monte Cassino, where St. Benedict founded the Benedictine Order. Next, we will visit the Church of St. Peter and Paul before continuing our journey to Rome. Dinner and overnight accommodations will be at your hotel.

# DAY 10: RETURN FLIGHT HOME

We will transfer to the airport this morning to catch our return flight home.









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# Included

- Round-trip airfare
- All airport taxes and fuel surcharges
- First-class hotels (price based on double occupancy)
- Land transportation as per itinerary
- · Breakfast and dinner
- Sightseeing and admissions fees as per itinerary
- · Daily Masses
- Professional local guides
- Medical Protection Plan

# Not **Included**

- Trip cancellation insurance (strongly recommended). Nativity Pilgrimage offers a comprehensive policy through Trawick International at an additional cost.
- Passport & visa costs
- · Gratuities to the tour manager, guides, and driver
- · Personal items (hotel extras, laundry, phone calls, etc.)
- · Meals not specified in the program.
- Items not specifically mentioned above.

# Registration

- · A non-refundable deposit of \$300.00 is due at registration.
- · Names on the registration form and passport must match exactly, and passports must be current 6 months after the return date.
- The registration form must include a copy of your passport.
- · We are not responsible for Visa procurement.
- Full payment is due 05/31/24 (100 days prior to departure)









## **Your Package Includes**

Air Transportation: Economy class and round-trip airfares are based on the time of the reservation. Rates and times are subject to change without notice. Airfares, once issued, are non-refundable, non-transferable, and cannot be used towards future travel.

**Land Transportation:** All land transportation as described in the itinerary will be by Deluxe Motor Coach. Some may be equipped with Wi-Fi service.

**Hotels:** Your hotels will be first-class with double occupancy (2 people per room with a private bath). Neither Nativity Pilgrimage nor the trip coordinator are responsible for providing a roommate.

**Single Room:** There is an additional cost per person as specified on the registration form. Single rooms are limited and will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

Meal Plan: The meal plan offers two (2) meals per day: Breakfast & Dinner.

**Baggage:** Nativity Pilgrimage limits all passengers to one (1) piece of checked luggage and one (1) carry-on. All passengers should check with the airlines carriers for up to date baggage weight and dimensions.

Airport Fees: Airport Taxes, porterage, fuel surcharges and security fees.

Medical Protection Plan is provided during the trip.

# Your Package Does Not Include

**Cancellation Protection Plan:** We highly recommend purchasing travel insurance upon registration.

**Passport Expenses:** Passports or any additional documents that may be required. Passports must be valid 6 months after your return date.

**Personal Items:** Laundry, other beverages (wines, liquors, mineral water, tea, coffee, etc.) and food that are not on the menus of your included meal package, and any additional luggage.

**Non-itinerary fees:** Any sightseeing fees, other services, or personal items that are not specifically mentioned as being included in your itinerary.

**Lunch:** You are responsible for lunch or any other meals not specified in your itinerary. **Tips for your tour guide & driver:** The recommended amounts of tips per person are \$7.00 - \$9.00 per day for guides, \$5.00 - \$7.00 per day for drivers, \$1.00 - \$2.00 per day for hotels, and \$1.00 - \$2.00 per day for restaurants.

# **General Travel Information**

**Group Air:** Group air differs from individually purchased airline tickets in that it is subject to the terms and conditions of the airlines. For this reason, we need to receive your registration and full payment by the payment deadline. After that date, registrations may be subject to a different rate, ticketing method, or airline. Additional fees and charges may apply. Group air flights are confirmed 60 - 90 days prior to departure

**Departure Cities:** If your departure city is not listed on the brochure, indicate which airport you would like to depart from on the registration form. We will provide you with the best possible price and flight schedule in order to connect with the group. Additional fees and charges may apply.

Land-Only Option: If you would like to book your own air travel, indicate on your registration form that you want the "Land Only" option. By booking your own air, you may select your seat, airline, and travel schedule, use airline miles/points, provide airline reward program information, and make any special requests directly with the airline. No changes can be made after the final payment deadline. Land-only services begin and end at the hotels unless you are able to meet the group at the airport. Land-only travelers are responsible for their own airport transfers.

# **Important Nativity Pilgrimage Policies**

The airline selects seat assignments for group air. We do not. Seat upgrades are available for registered travelers, by request. Quoted rates for an upgrade are subject to change until payment is received. Some upgrades are not available until the group tickets are issued.

**Seat Upgrades:** Once Nativity Pilgrimage receives an upgrade request, we will contact the airlines to finalize your request. We cannot guarantee the acceptance of this request, as it is subject to availability and pricing (which changes daily).

**Seat Location Requests:** Once Nativity Pilgrimage receives a seat location request, we will contact the airlines to finalize your request. We cannot guarantee acceptance of this request, as it is subject to availability and pricing (which changes daily).

Other Special Requests: Once Nativity Pilgrimage receives a special request, such as a wheelchair, food, etc., we will contact the airlines to finalize your request. We cannot guarantee acceptance of this request as it is subject to availability and pricing (which changes daily).

# **Booking Conditions**

**Deposit:** A non-refundable deposit of \$300.00 per person is required at the time of booking. No reservation will be processed without a deposit.

Payment Deadline: Full payment is due 05/31/24 (100 days before departure). Registrations received after the deadline require an additional \$100 (subject to availability). If payment is not made in full 50 days prior to departure, your payments are non-refundable.

You may use any major credit card to pay your deposit online. There is an additional 3% fee for each credit card transaction. We also accept checks, money orders, Zelle payments, and ACH transactions.

# **Late Payment Policy**

Customers will receive late fees if they are not paid in full:

100 days - 61 days prior to departure.....\$150

60 days - 30 days prior to departure......\$300

30 days - day before departure.....Subject to cancellation

Customers are also responsible for any difference in fare due to late payment (subject to availability). Refusal to pay will be considered a cancellation.

# Cancellation/Refund Policy

We hope that nothing will prevent you from taking your pilgrimage with Nativity Pilgrimage. However, should you need to cancel your trip, your cancellation must be in writing via email or letter. It will be effective on the date of receipt. The following cancellation fees will apply:

# <u>Days Prior to Departure</u> Charge

100 + Days Lose Deposit

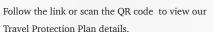
 99-50 Days
 50% of trip cost

 49 Days
 100% of trip cost

Insurance premiums are non-refundable. We highly recommend purchasing travel insurance to avoid these cancellation fees.

## **Protect Your Trip**







# Responsibility

Nativity Pilgrimage, Inc. and their agents assume no liability or responsibility in regards to travel in any form for any injuries or loss of property, accidents, delays, changes in schedule or itinerary, incidental damages or any irregular circumstances. This would include, but not be limited to, default or omission by any third party providing services or facilities related to and/or included in the tour or any part thereof. The IATA carriers, steamship firms, and other transportation companies whose services are featured in these tours, are not to be held responsible or accountable for any act, omission, or event during the time the passengers are not on board their respective conveyance. The passage contract in use by these companies, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the companies, the purchaser of these tours and/or passengers, and Nativity Pilgrimage Inc. does not assume any liability or responsibility in connection therewith. They are not responsible for any losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, guarantees, or other causes. All such losses or expenses shall be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. The right is reserved to substitute hotels of similar quality to those specified in the itinerary. Nativity Pilgrimage reserves the right to cancel any tour prior to departure. Refund details vary upon each trip. No refund will be made for any used portion of the tour unless arrangements are made prior to departure from the United States. Prices and itineraries are subject to change without notice if booking conditions are not complied with.