

12-DAY PILGRIMAGE

# SHRINES OF ITALY

ROME TO MILAN





# DAY 1: FLIGHT TO ROME

Your pilgrimage begins today by boarding your flight to Rome.

## DAY 2: ROME

After arriving in Rome, we will meet our guide and driver at the airport, board the tour bus, and begin our journey. We will have an excellent panoramic tour of "The Eternal City" and continue to our hotel for the evening. Dinner and overnight stay at your hotel in Rome.

# DAY 3: ROME / VATICAN CITY / PAPAL AUDIENCE

We begin our day by attending a public papal audience with Pope Francis. Afterward, we will visit the incredible Vatican Museums, which hold centuries of beautiful artwork and artifacts, such as Michelangelo's Pieta. We will also visit the famous Sistine Chapel before our St. Peter's Basilica tour. This great church has many things to see, including the Tomb of St. John Paul II in St. Sebastian's Chapel. Afterward, we will drive through Rome and take in more of the sites as we head back to our hotel for dinner and overnight stay this evening.

# DAY 4: ROME

This morning, we begin at the Basilica of St. Mary Major, Rome's largest church dedicated to the Blessed Mother. Next, we will climb the Scala Sancta, the stairs Christ climbed to stand before Pontius Pilate. Next, we will see the Basilica of St. John Lateran. Once the residence of popes, Pope Innocent III permitted St. Francis to begin the Franciscan Order here. Afterward, we will visit the Church of St. Paul Outside the Walls, Rome's second-largest basilica, one of the five most significant in the world, and the final resting place of St. Paul. Next, we will visit the Church of Domine Quo Vadis, where Saint Peter had a vision of the risen Christ while fleeing persecution in Rome. Today's last site is the catacombs of St. Callixtus, where martyrs and popes of the early church are buried. Afterward, we will continue to your hotel for dinner and overnight accommodations.

# DAY 5: ROME / MONTE CASSINO / SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO

After breakfast, we will head south through the rich Italian countryside of vineyards, orchards, and olive groves to Monte Cassino, a town founded by St. Benedict in 529. We will tour the Monte Cassino Abbey, where St. Benedict founded the Benedictine Order. Next, we will visit the Church of St. Peter and Paul before continuing to San Giovanni Rotondo, the hometown of St. Padre Pio. We will check into your hotel for dinner and overnight accommodations upon arrival.

# DAY 6: SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO / GROTTO OF ST. MICHAEL

Our day begins with Mass at the tomb of St. Padre Pio, followed by a sanctuary tour. We will visit the old church where he received the stigmata in 1918. Next, we will see the confessional, where he directed people on their path and stood before his incorrupt body in prayer. Afterward, we will have a stunning view of the Gargano Peninsula as we travel to the Grotto of St. Michael the Archangel. Finally, we will transfer to your hotel for dinner and overnight accommodations this evening.

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

After breakfast, we will travel to Lanciano. We will visit the Church of St. Longinus to see the Eucharistic Miracle and celebrate Mass. Afterward, we continue toward the Adriatic coast to the great Marian Shrine of Loreto to visit the Holy House of Nazareth and the Madonna of Loreto. After lunch, we will go to Assisi, the home of St. Francis, the patron saint of animals and the founder of the Franciscan Order. We will transfer to your hotel this evening for dinner and overnight accommodations.

# DAY 8: ASSISI

Our day begins by celebrating Mass at St. Mary of the Angels Basilica, where St. Francis and St. Clare started their religious life. We will tour the Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi and view many of his possessions, such as 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 to shop or relax before returning to your hotel this evening for dinner and overnight accommodations.

# DAY 9: ASSISI / SIENA / FLORENCE

Our day begins by traveling to the city of Siena. First, we will see the city's Romanesque-Gothic cathedral (built in 1380). Next is the Sanctuary of St. Catherine of Siena, which holds the Miraculous Crucifix from which she received her stigmata. We will then walk the Piazza del Campo and see the Palazzo Pubblico (Town Hall) and the Tower of Mangia. Finally, we will view the incorrupt relics of St. Catherine of Siena at the Basilica of St. Dominic before continuing to Florence. Once we arrive, we will check into our hotel for dinner and overnight accommodations.

### **DAY 10: FLORENCE**

Today, we will spend the whole day in Florence. We'll start at the Church of the Holy Cross, followed by Santa Croce (where Michelangelo, Galileo, and Machiavelli are buried). Next, we'll take a walking portion through Piazza Signorina, Palazzo Vecchio, Uffizi, Ponte Vecchio, and Republic Square. Afterward, we will see the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore and the L'Accademia art gallery to view the works of Botticelli, Ghirlandaio, Pontormo, and Michelangelo's David. Afterward, you can enjoy some free time to explore on your own. We will transfer to your hotel this evening for dinner and overnight accommodations.

# DAY 11: FLORENCE / MILAN

Get ready because today, we are traveling to Milan! First, we will visit the most magnificent Gothic building in Northern Italy, the Duomo. Next, we will tour the Basilica di Sant'Ambrogio and the Tomb of St. Ambrose before continuing to the Church Santa Maria Delle Grazie, where we will celebrate Mass (subject to availability and reconfirmation). Our next stop is Sforzesco Castle to see history and style combined with Milanese flair. Afterward, we will visit the famous La Scala Opera House and shop at the Forza boutiques for the rest of the day. You'll enjoy a stroll through the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele arcade with its many luxury outlets. Enjoy a special meal with your spiritual director and fellow pilgrims this evening. Share your experiences and expectations of your spiritual journey together in Italy. We will transfer to your hotel this evening for dinner and overnight accommodations.

# **DAY 12: RETURN FLIGHT HOME**

We will transfer to the airport this morning to catch our return flight home. We hope you've enjoyed this spiritual journey with us and we hope to see you on a future pilgrimage real soon! God bless!



# FLORENTA MARIA DEL FIORE







# 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.

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- Passport & visa costs
- Gratuities to the tour manager, guides, Heraclea 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 07/26/24 (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 07/26/24 (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:

Days Prior to Departure	Charge
100 + Days	Lose Deposit
99-50 Days	50% of trip cost
49 Days	100% of trip cos

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

# **Protect Your Trip**



Follow the link or scan the QR code to view our Travel Protection Plan details.

https://nativity.trawickinternational.com

# 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.