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Shrines of Italy

11-DAY PILGRIMAGE

TRIP INFO

DATES: September 3 - 13, 2024

COST: \$4,900 from Dallas, TX

MORE INFO: Nativity Pilgrimage

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DAILY ITINERARY



DAY 1 DEPARTURE: U.S. TO VENICE

Your pilgrimage begins today when you board your flight to Venice. Rest assured, all necessary preparations for your journey have been taken care of. So, sit back, relax, and enjoy your flight. Your spiritual journey awaits in Venice!

DAY 2 VENICE

There is no wheeled transportation in Venice, which makes it one of the most charming and poetic cities in the world! Our visit begins at the Basilica of St. Mark, adorned with golden mosaics and religious icons. It was built to honor the body of St. Mark, brought from Alexandria in Egypt. After Mass, we will see the Piazza di San Marco and the Palazzo Ducale (the palace of the Doge, the political leader of Venice). The rest of your day is free to explore this exotic city, preferably on a gondola! Dinner and overnight accommodations will be at your hotel.

DAY 3 PADUA/ SAN MARINO

Today, we will depart Venice and continue our pilgrimage to Padua, where we will celebrate Mass at the Basilica of St. Anthony of Padua. After Padua, we will continue to San Marino for the evening. Dinner and overnight accommodations will be at your hotel.

DAY 4 SAN MARINO / LORETO / ASSISI

This morning, we will visit the city of Marino and explore the Historic Centre and Mount Titano, which became part of the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2008. Later, we will depart for Loreto, where we will celebrate mass at the Marian Shrine of Loreto and visit the Holy House of Nazareth and the beautiful Madonna of Loreto. After a basilica tour, we continue to Assisi. There will be free time to shop/explore depending on arrival time. Dinner & overnight accommodations will be at your hotel.

DAY 5 ASSISI

This morning, we will celebrate Mass at St. Mary of the Angels Basilica, the home of the Porziuncola, the small church where the Franciscan movement began. Next, we will tour the Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi and view many of his possessions, like the crucifix that said to him, "Rebuild my Church." We will also 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 6 SIENA / SAN GIMIGNANO

Our day begins by traveling to Siena. First, we will see the city's beautiful Romanesque-Gothic cathedral (built in 1380). Next, we will visit 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. Afterward, depending on time, we will visit San Gimignano and return to your hotel in Siena. If time doesn't allow, we will visit San Gimignano on our way to Florence in the morning. Dinner & overnight accommodations will be at your hotel.

DAY 7 FLORENCE

Today, our pilgrimage continues to the city of Florence. We will spend the whole day visiting many sites, including the Church of the Holy Cross and the Santa Croce, where Michelangelo, Galileo, and Machiavelli are buried. Next, we will walk through the Piazza Signorina, Palazzo Vecchio, Uffizi, Ponte Vecchio, and Republic Square to the Santa Maria del Fiore Cathedral, an iconic piece of Florence architecture. Afterward, we will visit the famous L'Accademia art gallery and view the works of Botticelli, Ghirlandaio, Pontorno, and Michelangelo's sculpture of David. Afterward, you will have some free time to explore on your own before returning to your hotel this evening for dinner and overnight accommodations.

DAY 8 PISA / ROME

We will depart Florence for Pisa. Upon arrival, we will visit the Piazza del Miracoli, one of the finest architectural complexes in the world dominated by Pisa Cathedral, the Pisa Baptistery, the Leaning Tower of Pisa, and the Camposanto Monumentale. Afterward, we will continue to Rome for the evening. Dinner & overnight accommodations will be at your hotel.

DAY 9 VATICAN CITY / BASILICA OF ST. JOHN THE LATERAN / HOLY STAIRS / BASILICA OF ST. MARY MAJOR

This morning, we will attend the Papal Audience in St. Peter's Square with His Holiness Pope Francis! Following the audience, we will visit the Basilica of St. John the Lateran, Rome's oldest major basilica. You will then cross the street to visit the Holy Stairs, brought to Rome by Saint Helena in the fourth century. They are the same steps Jesus climbed to Pontius Pilate's praetorian during his Passion. Finally, we conclude our day with Mass at the Basilica of St. Mary Major, the only Basilica that has kept its original structure and remains an authentic jewel in the crown of Roman Churches. Dinner and overnight accommodations will be at your hotel.

DAY 10 ST. PETER'S BASILICA / VATICAN MUSEUM / APPIAN WAY / BASILICA OF ST. PAUL OUTSIDE THE WALLS / CATACOMBS

This morning, we will have an early breakfast before visiting the magnificent St. Peter's Basilica! It stands on the site where St. Peter, the first Pope and Bishop of Rome, was martyred. Here, you will view Michelangelo's Pieta, the stunning marble sculpture depicting the Virgin Mary holding Christ after His crucifixion. Next, we will continue to the Vatican Museums and see the most impressive buildings, art galleries, and awe-inspiring relics. Additionally, you will observe the Tapestry Gallery, Raphael Rooms, and the world-famous Sistine Chapel. You will also see Michelangelo's Masterpiece, the restored mural of the Last Judgment. Your final stop will be the tomb of Saint John Paul II in St. Sebastian's Chapel. After lunch, we will continue our journey down the Appian Way, the earliest road of Ancient Rome. This afternoon, we will tour the Quo Vadis Chapel, the Baths of Caracalla, the Arch of Drusus, the Tomb of Cecilia Metella, the catacombs of St. Callixtus, and the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls. Dinner and overnight accommodations will be at your hotel.

DAY 11 DEPARTURE: ROME / U.S.

We will transfer to the airport this morning for your return flight home.



LATERAN
BASILICA OF ST. JOHN

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



SANTA MARIA DEL FIORE
FLORENCE

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.



ST. MARK'S SQUARE
VENICE

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 05/27/24 (100 days prior to departure)



ST. FRANCIS OF
ASSISI



TERMS & CONDITIONS

Your Package Includes

Air Transportation: Economy class and round-trip fares 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, portorage, 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 05/27/24 (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>	<u>Charge</u>
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



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.