

16
DAYS

ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH, DUNDAS VALLEY

Marian Shrines of Italy

Not only is Italy a land of unforgettable charm and beauty, it is also a land made rich in grace by its colourful history of holy men and women. Follow their paths etched into our faith heritage from the great Christian centre of Rome to sacred towns made famous by St Benedict, St Francis, St Catherine and St Clare.

COMMENCES THURSDAY 07 SEPTEMBER 2023 - 13 NIGHTS / 16 DAYS

Milan (2) • Turin (1) • Padua (1) • Ravenna(1) • Rome (3) • San Giovanni Rotondo (2) • Assisi (3)



Accompanied by
**Fr Ruben
Martello FSF**



the genuine pilgrim experience

harvest
journeys



DAY 1: THURSDAY 7TH SEPTMEMBER – DEPART AUSTRALIA - ARRIVE MILAN

Arrival at Milan airport and meeting with our English-speaking Tour Manager. Transfer to the hotel for check-in. Spend free time exploring this busy city on your own. Welcome dinner at your hotel.

Milan Overnight (D)

DAY 2: FRIDAY 8TH SEPTMEMBER - MILAN

Buffet breakfast. Dedicate the morning to visit (with local guide) Milan's most important Catholic Churches: St. Ambrose Basilica and the Gothic Duomo. St. Ambrose is the Patron Saint of beekeepers, beggars, learners, and Milan. Celebrate Mass and discover the treasures of the Basilica and the Duomo (entrance included). Free afternoon for personal activities.

Milan Overnight (B)

DAY 03 –SATURDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER MILAN TO TURIN

Buffet breakfast. Transfer to Turin. Turin is known in the Catholic community worldwide as the home of the Holy Shroud, only available to the public on very special occasions. The city was also home to St. John Bosco, the Priest who founded the Salesian religious institute to help poor children with their education during the Industrial Revolution. Your visit (with local guide) includes the Holy Shroud Museum (entrance included), the Basilica of St. Mary Ausiliatrice and St. John's rooms. You'll have time to appreciate the elegance of this city and former capital of Italy before attending Mass.

Turin Overnight (B)

DAY 04 – SUNDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER – TURIN / PAVIA / PADUA

Buffet breakfast. Transfer to Pavia to see (with Tour Manager) the beautiful Carthusian Monastery, built in the 1400s by Gian Galeazzo Visconti, Duke of Milan. The monastery is one of Italy's "hidden treasures"

with lavish decorations and it is inhabited and looked after by monks who still live a traditional life of seclusion and prayer. Transfer to Padua.

Arrival for dinner and overnight in hotel.

Padua Overnight (B,D)

DAY 05 – MONDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER – PADUA / POMPOSA / RAVENNA

Buffet breakfast. Attend the morning Mass and visit (with Tour Manager) St. Anthony Basilica in Padua, then enjoy a short city sightseeing tour and time on your own. In the afternoon, on the way to Ravenna, we'll stop to see (with Tour Manager) the Abbey of Pomposa, where the Benedictine monk Guido d'Arezzo invented modern musical notation in the 11th century. On to Ravenna.

Arrival for overnight in hotel.

Ravenna Overnight (B)

DAY 06 – TUESDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER – RAVENNA / ROME

Buffet breakfast. UNESCO declared the early Christian monuments of Ravenna as having "outstanding universal value". Ravenna was the seat of the Roman Empire in the 5th century and of Byzantine Italy until the 8th century. It has a unique collection of early Christian mosaics and places of worship. All buildings — the Neonian Baptistry, the Basilica of St. Apollinare Nuovo, St. Vitale Church and the Archbishop's Chapel of St. Andrew (entrances included) were constructed in the 5th and 6th centuries. They show great artistic skill, including a wonderful blend of Greek-Roman tradition, Christian iconography, and Asian and Western styles. The morning is dedicated to discovering (with local guide) these masterpieces and focusing on the Byzantine-style mosaics. In the afternoon, travel to Rome.

Arrival for dinner and overnight in hotel.

Rome Overnight (B,D)

DAY 07 – WEDNESDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER - ROME

Buffet breakfast. Today you have the unique chance to attend the Papal Audience in the Vatican (subject to availability). Afterwards, enjoy a city tour (with local guide) to see the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls, where St. Paul was buried after his martyrdom, St. John Lateran Basilica, the Cathedral of Rome, and seat of its Bishop (the Pope) and the Holy Stairs. Said to have led Jesus to the praetorium of Pontius Pilate, the stairs were transferred to Rome by Empress St. Helena. Finally, visit St. Mary Major Basilica, where a reliquary contains wood from the Holy Crib.

Attend Mass here before returning to your hotel for overnight.

Rome Overnight (B)

DAY 08 – THURSDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER - ROME

Buffet breakfast. A special treat today: visit (with local guide) the Papal Summer Residence in Castel Gandolfo (entrance included to the Gardens of the Pontifical Villas and the Apostolic Palace). Wander through its manicured gardens, an opportunity to reflect and meditate in quiet and relaxing surroundings. Walk through the rooms where many Popes have spent the summer months in the cooler countryside on the hills outside Rome. Later, you can join the optional excursion (not included) that will take you back to St. Peter's to discover the treasures of the Vatican Museum, or you can spend time at leisure enjoying the many monuments of Roman heritage.

Rome Overnight (B)

DAY 09 – FRIDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER – ROME / PIETRELCINA / SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO

Buffet breakfast. On your way south to San Giovanni Rotondo, stop in quaint Pietrelcina to visit (with Tour Manager) the house where the beloved St. Pio was born. Then, head towards San Giovanni Rotondo on the east



coast, the Saint's home from 1916 until his death in 1968.

Arrival for dinner and overnight in hotel.

San Giovanni Rotondo Overnight (B,D)

DAY 10 – SATURDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER - SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO / MONTE SANT'ANGELO / SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO

Buffet breakfast. Attend Mass this morning at Santa Maria delle Grazie (Old Church), then visit (with Tour Manager) St. Pio's friary, including his tomb, cell, confessional, and St. Pio Pilgrimage Church (New Church). Afterwards, take a short drive to visit (with Tour Manager) the nearby Shrine of Monte Sant'Angelo, one of Christendom's most celebrated, where St. Michael the Archangel appeared in 490, 492, and 1656. Tonight, attend the Candlelight Procession in San Giovanni Rotondo.

Dinner and overnight in hotel

San Giovanni Rotondo Overnight (B,D)

DAY 11 – SUNDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER - SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO / LANCIANO / LORETO / ASSISI

Buffet breakfast. Transfer to Lanciano to visit (with Tour Manager) St. Francis Church, home of the Sanctuary of the Eucharistic Miracle, and attend morning Mass. Continue to the famous Marian Sanctuary of Loreto for a visit (with Tour Manager) including the Holy House, where, according to tradition, angels transported the house of the blessed Virgin Mary. Arrive at the hilltop village of Assisi, birthplace of St. Francis and St. Clare.

Dinner and overnight in hotel.

Assisi (B)

DAY 12 – MONDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER - ASSISI

Buffet breakfast. Today, learn more about St. Francis, Patron Saint of animals and the environment. Attend early morning Mass at St. Francis Basilica, famous for its 14th-century Giotto frescoes depicting the life of St. Francis.

Visit (with local guide) the Upper and Lower Basilicas of St. Francis and the Basilica of St. Clare, founder of the Order of Poor Clares. Next, visit (with Tour Manager) the Basilica of Santa Maria degli Angeli, situated at the foot of Assisi's hills and protecting the Porziuncola, where St. Francis is said to have founded the Order of Friars Minor in 1209, and the Cappella del Transito, where the saint died in 1226.

Assisi Overnight (B)

DAY 13 – TUESDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER – ASSISI

Buffet breakfast. Free time today to explore this wonderful city.

Assisi Overnight (B)

DAY 14 – WEDNESDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER - ASSISI / CASCIA / ROME DEPARTURE

Buffet breakfast. Travel to Cascia, a scenic town located in Umbria and home of St. Rita, the "Patron Saint of Impossible Causes". Visit (with Tour Manager) the Sanctuary and see the Major Basilica, housing the chapel with St. Rita's tomb. Stop in prayer at the Minor Basilica, site of the Eucharistic Miracle, commemorated each year with the Feast of Corpus Christi.

Transfer to the airport to take the return flight.

(B)

DAY 15 – THURSDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER - TRANSIT

DAY 16 – FRIDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER – ARRIVE AUSTRALIA

*"My spiritual life has been enhanced in a way I could not have foreseen."
— Marlies Smitfoort*

PILGRIMAGE DETAILS

TOUR CODE	PV2341
STARTS	Thursday 07 September 2023
FINISHES	Friday 22 September 2023
AIR & LAND	AUD \$7710 (twin share) *
SINGLE ROOM	AUD \$1560 Supplement
PREPAID TIPS	AUD \$260 per person

* Costs have been based on prices as at January 2023 and must remain subject to possible change in the event of significant exchange rate variations, tax increases or minimum group size factors beyond Harvest's control. Refer to Harvest Booking Terms & Conditions for more details.

INCLUSIONS

Accommodation & Meals: Based on superior standard central accommodation • 5 Dinners / 13 Full Breakfasts.

Touring & Transportation: Return Economy Airfares from Sydney • Deluxe Air Conditioned Coach touring • Professional Christian Escort / Local Guides • Sightseeing & Entrance Fees.

Other: Fully Escorted by Spiritual Chaplain • Portage at hotels • Harvest Backpack, Pilgrim Journal & Tour Wallet.

NB: Visa fees at additional expense (if required)

BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

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