

12 Day Pilgrimage to Northern Italy

visiting Rome, Assisi, Siena, Florence, La Verna, Padua, Venice, Stresa



Spiritual Director
Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano
Bishop of Bridgeport

September 15th – 26th, 2018

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES:

- Roundtrip Air from JFK or Newark
- Deluxe Motorcoach
- English Speaking Guide
- 4 Star First Class Hotels
- Sightseeing as per itinerary
- Breakfast & Dinner Daily (except in Florence where dinner is on your own)
- Daily Mass and Rosary

Highlights:

- Visit the Basilicas of Rome – St. Peters', St. Mary Major, St. John Lateran and St. Paul Outside the Walls
- Welcome Dinner at Da Meo Patacca
- Visit the Basilicas of St. Francis of Assisi and St. Clare
- Basilica of St. Domenic also known as Basilica Cateriniana
- Visit La Verna – where St. Francis received the Stigmata
- Visit the Basilica of St. Anthony of Padua
- Tour of Venice
- Visit the Basilica of St. Mark
- Visit the Church of St. Lucy to see her body

PILGRIMAGE PRICE: \$ 3,699.00 per person Double or Triple
\$ 750.00 Single Supplement

ITINERARY

Sat, Sep 15th: New York/Rome Depart Newark or JFK Airport on your overnight flight to Rome.

Sun, Sep 16th: Rome Upon arrival in **Rome** we are transferred to our hotel. Remainder of the day is free.

Mon, Sep 17th: Tour of the Basilicas of Rome and Welcome Dinner Today we visit the four major Basilicas of Rome. *St. Peters', St. Mary Major, St. John Lateran and St. Paul Outside the Walls.* This evening we have a *Welcome Dinner at Da Meo Patacca.*

Tue, Sep 18th: Rome Free day to enjoy Rome on your own.

Wed, Sep 19th: Papal Audience/Assisi This morning we go to St. Peter's Square for the Holy Fathers Papal Audience (provided the Holy Father is in residence). After our audience, we depart to **Assisi**. Upon arrival, we visit the *Basilica of Santa Maria degli Angeli* where we see the *Porziuncola* (the little church St. Francis built). After our visit we go to the upper city to visit the *Basilicas of St. Francis and St. Clare*, where we see the *Tombs of the two Saints*.

Thu, Sep 20th: Assisi/Siena/Assisi After breakfast we depart to **Siena** where we visit the Basilica of San Domenico, also known as Basilica Cateriniana. The Basilica is the most important Church in the city. In St. Catherine Chapel, we see the Altar that houses the head and the thumb of St. Catherine of Siena. Throughout the Basilica we see many artworks depicting the life of St. Catherine.

The Cappella delle Volte is an old praying place of Dominican nuns, connected to numerous episode of sanctity of Catherine of Siena's life. It houses the Canonization of St. Catherine by Mattia Preti. On the main wall we see a portrait of St. Catherine.

After Mass and our visit of the Basilica, you will be free to walk down to the town center where The Palio di Siena is held. The Palio horse race is held twice each year, on July 2nd and August 16th. Ten horses and riders, bareback and dressed in the appropriate colors, represent ten of the seventeen contrade, or city wards. The Palio held on July 2nd is named Palio di Provenzano, in honor of the Madonna of Provenzano, a Marian devotion particular to Siena which developed around an icon from the Terzo Camollia. The Palio held on August 16th is named Palio dell'Assunta, in honor of the Assumption of Mary. Sometimes, in cases of exceptional events or local or national anniversaries deemed relevant and pertinent ones, the city community may decide to have an extraordinary Palio, run between May and September. The last one was held in the year 2000, to celebrate the entering of the city into the new century. A pageant, the Corteo Storico, is held before the race. After our visit, we return to Assisi.

Fri, Sep 21st: Assisi Today we visit the *Church of San Damiano*. In the summer of 1205, St. Francis, who had retired for a prayer in the small country oratory, heard the Crucifix (now at St. Clare's Basilica) talk to him ordering him to restore the church in decay. The Crucifix at the main altar is a copy of the one now at St. Clare's. In 1212 St. Clare and her companions established themselves in this place. Between 1224-25, St. Francis wrote his Cantico delle Creature (Song of the Creatures) here.

Sat, Sep, 22nd: Assisi/Florence Morning departure to **Florence**. Upon arrival we tour the city's priceless treasures including the *Piazza del Duomo*, center of religious life in medieval Florence. We also, visit the *Church of Santa Croce*, burial place of *Michelangelo*, *Galileo* and *Machiavelli*, for Mass.

Sun, Sep 23rd: Florence/La Verna/Padua Morning departure to **Padua**. En route we stop in **La Verna**. *La Verna Sanctuary* is perched in an amazing setting in the forest on a high rocky promontory, visible from a distance. The sanctuary sits on the site where *Saint Francis received the stigmata*. It's now a monastic complex that includes the monastery, church, museum, chapels, and the cave that was his cell. From the sanctuary there are fantastic views of the valleys below.

Santa Maria degli Angelli, a small church founded by Saint Francis, was built on this spot in 1216. In 1224, Saint Francis came to the mountain and little church for one of his retreats and it was then that he received the stigmata. In 1263, a small chapel was built over the spot where Saint Francis received the stigmata. La Verna became an important pilgrimage site for Franciscans and followers of Saint Francis and a large monastery developed.

After our visit, we continue to Padua, we visit the *Basilica of St. Anthony of Padua* where we have Mass near the *Tomb of St. Anthony*. After Mass, we have free time to visit the Basilica and see the *Fresco of the Eucharistic Miracle of Padua*. Remainder of the day is free.

Mon, Sep 24th: Venice This morning we are transferred to **Venice** for our short cruise along the Grand Canal to the *Church of St. Geremenia and St. Lucy* for Mass and to view the body of St. Lucy. After Mass we start our walking *Tour of Venice* including St. Marks Square where we view the *Clock Tower with its*

famous Moors, next we visit *St. Marks Basilica* with its Byzantine and European architectural styles and dazzling mosaics. We stop to pray at the *Tomb of St. Mark* before continuing our walking tour of Venice. We have free time for lunch (on our own) and shopping before our late afternoon return to Padua.

Tue, Sep 25th: Padua/Stresa Morning departure to **Stresa**. Upon arrival we check into our hotel. The remainder of the day is free to enjoy this lovely resort town.

Wed, Sep 26th: Stresa/Milan Morning departure to Milan airport for our return flight to the USA.

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Will your room be a: () single (limited) () double () triple			
Name of Roommate:			
Are you a US citizen? () Yes () No Date of Birth			
Passport No.		Expiration Date	
Contact in the USA		Telephone No.	Relationship
<p>Please return this form with your check to:</p> <p>LITTLE FLOWER TOURS & TRAVEL, LTD. 145 Fieldstone Road, Staten Island, New York 10314 ☎ 718-761-1251 or outside NY call 888-843-7373 susan@littleflowerpilgrimages.com</p> <p>A \$700.00 DEPOSIT IS DUE AT TIME OF BOOKING FINAL PAYMENT IS DUE June 15, 2018</p>			
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Signature		Date	