

**\$50 Early Booking
Discount if Reserved
by
December 31, 2022**

Catholic Italy Pilgrimage

September 3-13, 2023 - 11 Days

\$4,399 from Indianapolis

For Information and Reservations, Contact Unitours, Inc.
Telephone: 800-777-7432 – Email: mpisano@unitours.com

Sunday, September 3 - Day 1 - DEPART

USA – Today, we depart from Indianapolis to connect with our overnight flight to Rome aboard a wide-bodied jet. We enjoy in-flight movies, dinner, and breakfast while aloft.

Monday, September 4 - Labor Day - DAY 2 -

ROME – This morning, we arrive in Rome and are greeted by our Tour Manager as we transfer to our deluxe coach bus and enjoy a driving tour of her many sites, following a stop for lunch on our own (pending exact flight times), as we conclude our day at one of the Catacombs, the burial places of early Christians. We celebrate Mass while here and view the 2nd and 3rd century fresco paintings. We then continue to our hotel for our “welcome” dinner and overnight at our hotel.

Tuesday, September 5 - DAY 3 - VATICAN CITY/ROME

- Following morning Mass at St. Peter's, we spend this morning viewing the treasures of the Vatican Museum. We marvel at Michelangelo's restored frescoes in the Sistine Chapel. Continue to St. Peter's Basilica to view the famous “Pieta”, as well as the famous Bernini alter columns, one Bernini engraved his own Rosary on and one contains the spear of St. Longinus, the roman centurion who pierced the side of our Savior and was healed by the blood and water that flowed from it! This afternoon, following lunch on our own, we visit two of Rome's major basilicas, St. John Lateran, and St. Mary Major before concluding our day. Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

Wednesday, September 6 - DAY 4 -

VATICAN CITY/ROME - Today, we make our way to St. Peter's for an audience with Pope Francis (pending if he is in residence). After lunch on our own, we journey to the Roman Baths at Caracalla. We conclude our day at St. Paul's Beyond the Walls. This huge, imposing Basilica, second only to St. Peter's and one of the largest churches in the Christian world, contains an unusual gallery of papal portraits: 265 tablets portraying the popes of the past. Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

Thursday, September 7 - DAY 5 – BAROQUE

ROME/ANCIENT ROME – This morning, after breakfast at our hotel, we begin our walking tour viewing the splendors of baroque Rome: from the Spanish Steps to the spectacular Trevi Fountain, on to the amazing architecture of the Pantheon, and the lively atmosphere of Piazza Navona, with the Fountain of the Four Rivers by Bernini. Some free time for lunch on own before continuing our tour towards Ancient Rome including the Palatine Hill, the Coliseum where the gladiators used to fight, the Roman Forum that was the center of the city life, the arch of Titus and that of Constantine. Late in the afternoon we return to our hotel for dinner and overnight at our hotel.

Friday, September 8 - Birth of Mary - DAY 6 -

ROME/ORVIETO/ASSISI – Today, we have an early morning departure from Rome, as we travel north through the Umbrian countryside. We stop at Orvieto for a visit and Mass at the breathtaking Cathedral, which is known as the jewel of Italian architecture. Inside the Cathedral is the Chapel of the Corporal, which houses the chalice cloth involved in the Eucharistic Miracle, which occurred in nearby Bolsena. In the 1263AD, a pilgrim priest named Peter of Prague was celebrating Mass at the crypt of St. Christina. He was having a faith crisis concerning the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist and while speaking the words of the consecration, blood started to drip from the consecrated Host. Subsequently, the following year Pope Urban IV instituted the Feast of Corpus Christi. Following a stop for lunch on our own, we continue to Assisi. Our first stop is in the lower town for a visit to the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels, and the Portiuncula, Francis' Church of the Little Portion. We thank St. Francis for two of his most notable gifts to humanity, the *Nativity Scene* and the *Stations of the Cross*. We then proceed to the hilltop village of Assisi for dinner and overnight at our hotel.

“Have questions about this pilgrimage? Ask us! Go to www.Unitours.com/questions.”



Saturday, September 9 - DAY 7 - ASSISI -

This morning, we begin with a short walk to the Basilica of St. Francesco for Mass. After our visit of the Basilica and the tomb of St. Francis, we begin our walking tour of the village with a visit to the Church of St. Clare "the little plant of Blessed Francis" as she loved to call herself, where we view the San Damiano crucifix that spoke to St. Francis. Kneeling before it, Francis composed the following prayer, which many consider to be among the oldest of his writings: *"All Highest, Glorious God, cast your light into the darkness of my heart. Give me right faith, firm hope, perfect charity, and profound humility, with wisdom and perception, O Lord, so that I may do what is truly your most holy will. Amen."* A Eucharistic miracle is attributed to St. Clare which is worth noting. In 1240AD, a band of Saracen soldiers were attacking Assisi and had reached the cloistered convent of a now sickly St. Clare. In fear that the soldiers would harm her sisters, she prayed in front of the Blessed Sacrament for protection. Tradition tells us that Our Lord assured her His protections and when she held the monstrance in front of the soldiers, they fled! This afternoon, following lunch on our own, our taxis take us up to the Hermitage of the Carceri, where Francis and his Friars retreated from the world to pray and fast. Here the grotto of St. Francis can also be seen. We return to our hotel for dinner and overnight at our hotel.

Sunday, September 10 - DAY 8 - ASSISI/CASCIA/LORETO/MONTESILVANO -

Today, we travel south to the town of Cascia, where we make a brief stop at the Basilica of St. Rita. The Basilica not only contains her glass sarcophagus but also the relic of the Eucharistic Miracle of Cascia. In 1330AD, a local priest was called to visit an ill woman and bring her the Holy Eucharist. Oddly, rather than carry it reverently, he simply placed the host between a few pages in his prayer book. When he arrived to give her communion, the host had turned to blood and the blood stained both pages it was placed between! We continue east towards Ancona to visit and celebrate Mass at Loreto, the site of the "Santa Casa" or Holy House. Ancient tradition tells us that to avoid destruction by Muslim invaders to the Holy Land, on May 10, 1291, seven angels carried the house of the Holy Family from Nazareth to Dalmatia (modern Trsat, Croatia) and then Italy, where it eventually rested in Loreto. After our visit a short break for lunch on our own, before we continue southwards via the coastal highway to the Montesilvano Pescara area for dinner

and overnight at our hotel on the shores of the enchanting Adriatic Sea.

Monday, September 11 DAY 9 - MONTESILVANO/LANCIANO/SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO -

This morning, we visit and pray at Lanciano, the site of the oldest Eucharistic Miracle certified by the Church. After almost eight centuries, the Body and the Blood still maintain all the characteristics of fresh human material! Following a stop for lunch on our own, we continue south to San Giovanni Rotondo, where we celebrate Mass at the tomb of St. Padre Pio and visit the sanctuary. We transfer to our hotel for dinner and overnight at our hotel.

Tuesday, September 12 - DAY 10 - SAN GIOVANNI/SUBIACO/ROME - Today, we depart for Subiaco. It was here that St. Benedict and his sister, St. Scholastica, retired at the end of the 5th Century and built five little monasteries. We visit the Monastery of St. Benedict, which dates from the 13th and 14th centuries. We visit the Sacred Cave where Benedict lived as a hermit for three years. The staircase holds the earliest portrait of St. Francis without his halo or stigmata. While there, we celebrate Mass. We stop for lunch on our own before continuing our journey back to Rome for our "farewell" dinner and overnight at our hotel.

Wednesday, September 13 - DAY 11 -

ROME/USA - This morning, we transfer to the airport for our flight to the U.S. arriving the same day with memories of a lifetime.

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12/31/2022**

Catholic Italy Pilgrimage

Mail to: Unitours, Inc. 10 Midland Ave. #202. Port Chester, NY 10573

Please reserve ___ seats on this Catholic Italy Pilgrimage - September 3-13, 2023

Enclosed please find deposit of \$300 per person (Payable to Unitours, Inc.)

PLEASE ENCLOSE A COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT (Passport MUST be valid until March 13, 2024. or later.)

Name(s) as appears on passport) _____

My Roommate: _____

Address: _____

_____ Please assign a roommate (if available)

City, State & Zip _____

_____ I prefer a single room - \$812 supplement and limited in number.

Daytime Telephone: _____

_____ I/we wish to purchase optional travel insurance starting at \$206 now in order to cover preexisting conditions. (See "Travel Insurance" on pilgrimage terms for price and details.)

Email Address: _____

_____ Apply \$50 if booked by December 31, 2022

Name(s) as you'd like them to appear on nametags: _____

Charge my deposit to ___ Visa ___ MasterCard ___ Amex ___ Discover

Card # _____

Exp. Date _____

I understand that certain charges such as air taxes, fuel surcharges and rates of exchange can affect the final cost and I agree to pay such costs should adjustments be necessary. _____

Signature _____

TOTAL TOUR PRICE: The tour price is based on airfare, cruise, land rates and rates of exchange in effect October 26, 2022. All rates are subject to change without prior notice. Should the rates go up or down, an adjustment would be made prior to departure. Refunds CANNOT be granted for any accommodations, services or events that are not used nor if you deviate from the tour. If fewer than 45 pilgrims participate a price adjustment may be necessary.

PASSPORT AND VISA REQUIREMENTS: A valid passport is required. At the time of printing, U.S. citizens holding valid passports DO NOT REQUIRE visas or immunization for the country or countries being visited. Passport MUST be valid until March 13, 2024, or later. Citizens of countries other than U.S. - please contact the consulate of the country or countries being visited to determine visa requirements.

AIR TRANSPORTATION: International flight reservations are being held on American Airlines. Once the tickets are issued, they are NON-TRANSFERABLE AND NON-REFUNDABLE. Any requests to change a ticket once issued will incur a reissue fee of \$200 plus any fare differential will apply. Cancellation of air seat within 90 days of departure will incur a \$200 penalty.

DOMESTIC AIRFARE: For those who make domestic air arrangements to the originating city of this tour, your tour host and Unitours strongly recommend the purchase of tickets that can be changed without heavy fees and penalties as international flight schedules are always subject to change.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS: Specially selected hotels based on twin occupancy with private bath. Single Room supplement of \$812 will be charged where requested and available. If you do not have a roommate and Unitours is unable to arrange one, you will be billed for the single room supplement. All singles are subject to availability.

MEALS: Breakfast and Table D' Hote dinners are provided daily except where noted in the itinerary. An extra charge will be made when coffee, tea or other beverages are not included in the menu of the day with the dinner meal.

TIPS AND TAXES: Tips and taxes normally appearing on hotel and restaurant bills as service are included, as are all government and local taxes on hotels and meals, portage of one suitcase per person. International departure taxes of \$119 plus current fuel surcharges of \$360 are included (subject to change). Tips to Tour Manager/Guides, drivers and dining rooms staff of \$107 are NOT included. One average sized suitcase not exceeding 50 lbs total weight and 62 linear inches (height plus width plus depth) is permitted throughout the trip.

NOT INCLUDED: Expenses and items not specifically mentioned in this brochure are NOT covered, including but not limited to: passport and visa fees, meals not listed and items of a personal nature such as laundry, wines, liquors, mineral waters, after dinner coffee or tea, sightseeing or services other than those specifically mentioned, tips and taxes mentioned above, excess baggage and insurance, etc.

DEPOSITS AND CANCELLATIONS: A deposit of \$500 is required to secure reservations. Any balance is to be paid in full no later than 60 days before departure of tour. Reservations made within 60 days of departure must include full payment. Amex, Discover, Visa and MasterCard are accepted with signed reservation form.

Final payments will be applied to same credit card on final payment due date including insurance. Cancellations made from time of reservation to within 61 days prior to departure - - \$100 processing charge plus any air penalties noted above. In the event of a cancellation from 60 to 31 days of departure - - \$150 processing charge plus up to 50% of the land cost, plus any air penalties noted above. There can be no refund for any services for cancellations received within 30 days of departure. All cancellation and refund claims must be in writing to Unitours, Inc.

BANK FEE: A fee of \$50 will be charged for any check that is returned to us for insufficient or unavailable funds.

DEVIATIONS: A service charge of \$50 pp will be applied for any deviations made in tour, (where possible), PLUS any additional air or land charges incurred.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: Optional Travel Insurance is strongly recommended for your trip. See www.Unitours.com/TravelInsurance for full details. Cost of travel insurance for this trip starts at \$206. To cover preexisting conditions, insurance must be purchased with your reservation. (See reservation form). If paying by check, add insurance cost to your deposit. Insurance can also be purchased at the time of your final payment.

LAND ARRANGEMENTS: The tour operator reserves the right to change the itinerary due to unforeseen emergencies.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Unitours, Inc., the organizer, and their representatives act only as agents for the tour members in making arrangements for hotels, transportation, sightseeing, restaurants or any other services in connection with the itinerary. They will exercise reasonable care in making such arrangements, however, they do not assume any liability whatsoever, for any injury, damage, loss, accident or delay to person or property because of any acts of war or terrorism, any act of default of any hotel, carrier, restaurant, company or person rendering any of the services included in the tours. The tickets, coupons, tariffs, rules or contracts currently in use by any carrier, hotel, restaurant or other contractor rendering services shall constitute the sole contract between such contractor and the tour member. Unitours Inc., or the organizer, accept no responsibility for any damage or delay due to sickness, pilferage, labor disputes, machinery breakdown, quarantine, government restraints, weather or any other cause beyond their personal control. No carrier shall be responsible for any act, omission or events during the time passengers are not on board its own conveyance. The right is reserved to cancel or change itineraries or substitute services without notice and to decline to accept or retain any passenger at any time. In view of statutory or contractual limitations that may apply to personal injury or property damage losses the purchase of accident and baggage insurance is strongly recommended. Optional travel insurance offered by Unitours must be paid with your final payment.

ERRORS. In case of printing, typographical errors, computer errors, verbal or human billing errors, we reserve the right to invoice or re-invoice participants with corrected billing.



Italy



100 km

STEPMAP