\$50 Early Booking Discount if Reserved by November 30, 2022

# **Catholic Italy Pilgrimage** November 5-17, 2023 - 13 Days \$4,499 from Chicago

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

Sunday, November 5 - Day 1 – DEPART USA – Today we depart Chicago on our overnight flight to Europe aboard a wide-bodied jet. We enjoy in-flight movies, dinner and breakfast aloft.

### Monday, November 6 - Day 2 - VENICE -

Upon arrival in Frankfurt, we connect to our continuing flight to Venice where we are greeted by our Unitours guide, who will remain with us for the duration of our pilgrimage. We journey together to Venice for an orientation tour and Mass. We return to our motor coach and on to our hotel in the nearby Mestre area and celebrate Mass before dinner and overnight. **Tuesday, November 7 – Election Day - Day 3** 

- VENICE - Known as the Queen of Cities; the glories of Venice have attracted Byron, Goethe, Wagner, Shakespeare and now – us! Following Mass in one of her beautiful churches, we spend time enjoying the sights, including the splendid Piazza San Marco and the incredibly rich Byzantine Basilica of San Marco. We marvel at the intricate network of elegant squares lined with stately Renaissance villas and palaces. This afternoon we are free for personal adventure or an optional romantic gondola ride through the inner canals of Venice. Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Mestre.

### Wednesday, November 8 - Day 4 -VENICE/TUSCANY /MONTECATINI -

This morning, we depart and journey to Tuscany. On our scenic drive through the beautiful countryside, we stop at Padua, where we celebrate Mass and tour the Basilica of St. Anthony to view the largest bronze work of Donatello. Next, we continue to the delightful spa town of Montecatini Terme, on the outskirts of Florence, whose streets invite us to stroll after dinner at our hotel.

## Thursday, November 9 - Day 5 -

**FLORENCE** - After breakfast, we drive to Florence where our first stop will be a visit to the Academia Gallery. Here we view Michelangelo's famous "David". We continue to the Duomo, in the heart of the city, where we celebrate Mass. We also admire the cupola by Brunelleschi, completed in 1240, and its campanile by Giotto. Once outside we view the Baptistery with its incomparable bronze doors by Ghiberti. Afterwards, we set out to the Piazza della Signoria, dominated by the Palazzo Vecchio and its embattlement crowned tower. Across from the Palace, we visit the Loggia dei Lanzi with the statues including Perseus by Cellini, Giambologna's "Rape of the Sabines" and "Hercules." Following free time for lunch on our own, we visit the Basilica of Santa Croce. Among the most famous interred here, lie Galileo, Rossini, Michelangelo and Machiavelli. Following time for personal adventure, we conclude our day with a drive to the panoramic view at "Piazzale Michelangelo" We return to our hotel for dinner and overnight in Montecattini.

## Friday, November 10 - Day 6 -

**MONTECATINI/ SIENA/ASSISI – This** morning, we ride through the Italian countryside arriving in the magnificent city of Siena, which invites us to stroll through its gothic streets. After we celebrate Mass at the Dominican Church commemorating St. Catherine, we walk down to the famous Piazza del Campo. This shell shaped square is the dramatic setting for the annual Palio bareback horserace. The piazza's focal point is the Palazzo Pubblico, the public palace, which dates back to 1250. We continue uphill to visit the monumental Cathedral dedicated to the Virgin Mary. We enjoy free time for lunch and browsing. In the afternoon we travel south through Umbria to the hilltop village of Assisi, the home of Saint Francis. 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 continue to the upper village and visit the tomb of St. Francis. Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Assisi.

"Have questions about this pilgrimage? Ask us! Go to <u>www.Unitours.com/questions</u>."



Saturday, November 11 - DAY 7 – ASSISI FREE DAY – Today is free for rest, shopping, or prayer. In late afternoon, we will celebrate Mass at 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. We proceed to our hotel for a special dinner with Fathers Doctor and Potter. At dinner, the priests will talk about their experience so far and what lies ahead to see as the pilgrimages is unfolding...The priests will lead a time of reflection and prayer...that flows into a nice relaxing peaceful meal among pilgrims.

# Sunday, November 12 - DAY 8 - LORETO/

MONTESILVANO – Today we drive east towards Ancona and visit and celebrate Mass at Loreto, the site of the Santa Casa or Holy House. Ancient tradition tells us angels carried the house of the Holy Family from Nazareth to Loreto as it was about to be destroyed by Holy Land invaders. After our visit, we continue southwards via the coastal highway to the Montesilvano Pescara area for dinner and overnight at our hotel on the shores of the Adriatic Sea.

## Monday, November 13 - DAY 9 -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. We continue south to San Giovanni Rotondo where we celebrate Mass at the tomb of Saint Padre Pio and visit the sanctuary. We transfer to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

## Tuesday, November 14 - DAY 10 - SAN GIOVANNI/ SUBIACO/ROME – This

morning, we board the bus and travel along the beautiful Gargano Peninsula to the Grotto of St. Michael the Archangel, a shrine consecrated by St. Michael. At this grotto, St. Michael appeared to a Bishop to assure him that his diocese would not be annihilated as he feared. We celebrate Mass here and then depart for Subiaco. It was here that Saint Benedict and his sister Scolastica 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. We continue to Rome for dinner and overnight at our hotel.

#### Wednesday, November 15 - Day 11 - ROME -

This morning, we make our way to St. Peter's for an audience with Pope Francis, if he is in residence. This afternoon, we visit the Holy Stairs and Basilica of St. John Lateran. We continue to St. Paul Outside 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. We conclude our day at one of the Catacombs, burial place of early Christians. We celebrate Mass here and view the 2nd and 3rd century fresco paintings. Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Rome.

#### Thursday, November 16 - Day 12 - ROME -

Today we visit the Vatican and celebrate Mass below St. Peter's. Afterwards we enjoy the treasures of the Vatican Museum. We marvel at Michelangelo's restored frescoes in the Sistine Chapel and the wonders of St. Peter's Basilica. This afternoon, we visit the Basilica of St. Mary Major. We then visit the Church of St. Peter in Chains to view Michelangelo's possibly most celebrated sculpture, the "Moses." Farewell dinner with Show near the Coliseum. Return to the hotel and overnight.

Friday, November 17 - Day 13 – ROME/USA -Today we make our way home to the USA with memories to treasure forever. \$50 Early Booking Discount if Reserved by 11/30/2022

# Catholic Italy Pilgrimage – LH1105BF

Mail to: Unitours, Inc. 10 Midland Ave. #202. Port Chester, NY 10573 Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ seats on this Catholic Italy Pilgrimage - November 5-17, 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 May 17, 2024, or later.)
Name(s) as appears on passport)	My Roommate:

Address:	Please assign a roommate (if available)
	I prefer a single room - \$617 supplement and
City, State & Zip	limited in number.
	I/we wish to purchase optional travel insurance
Telephone:	starting at \$206 now in order to cover preexisting
1	conditions. (See "Travel Insurance" on pilgrimage
Day Evening	terms for price and details.)
Email address:	Apply \$50 if booked by November 30, 2022
Charge my deposit to Visa	MasterCardAmexDiscover
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.

**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 35 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 May 17, 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 El Al 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 \$617 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, porterage of one suitcase per person. International departure taxes of \$166 plus current fuel surcharges of \$320 are included (subject to change). Tips to Tour Manager/Guides, drivers and dining rooms staff of \$128 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.

Signature

**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 is subrigity feedimended for AVAILABLE FOR NEW YORK RESIDENTS.) 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.



