

AVE MARIA UNIVERSITY

ROME & FATIMA *Pilgrimage*



206
TOURS

May 25 - June 1, 2023

Group Leader:

Dr. Mark Miravalle, S.T.L., S.T.D.



Your Trip Includes

- † Inter-European Flight from FCO - LIS
- † 7 nights at centrally located hotels:
- † 4 ni: May 25 – 29: Hotel Morgana , Rome
- † 3 ni: May 29 – June 1: Hotel Santa Maria , Fatima
- † Breakfast daily
- † Dinner daily for first 3 nights in Rome
- † Dinner daily in Fatima
- † Transfers as per itinerary
- † Whisper Headsets where needed
- † Daily Lectures led by Dr. Mark Miravalle, S.T.L., S.T.D.
- † Assistance of Tour Escort throughout
- † Assistance of a professional Local Guide
- † Sightseeing and admissions fees as per itinerary
- † Flight bag & Portfolio of all travel documents

\$2,080

Land Only

Per Person

*All pricing is per person
based on double occupancy.*

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Day by Day Itinerary

Day 1, Thurs, May 25: Arrival in Rome

Welcome to Rome, also known as "The Eternal City". Upon landing at Rome airport, claim your baggage proceed to the arrival hall, where your tour guide and/or driver will greet you. Following check-in at the hotel, enjoy some free time to unpack, relax or explore Rome on your own. Your tour escort may suggest places to visit. Later this afternoon, your group will meet in the hotel lobby for a meet and greet with fellow pilgrims and your Priest. You will attend a Welcome Dinner, and then have to opportunity to join in a walk to St. Peter's Square for the Rosary (optional). Dinner and overnight Rome.

Day 2, Fri, May 26: Rome: St. Peter's Basilica - Vatican Museum - Appian Way - Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls - Catacombs

This morning, you will enjoy an early breakfast before making your way to the largest Christendom Church, St. Peter's Basilica. Build on the site where St. Peter, the first Pope and Bishop of Rome, was martyred. It is here that you will view Michelangelo's Pieta. This stunning marble sculpture depicts the Virgin Mary holding Christ after His crucifixion, death, and removal off the cross before being placed in the tomb. Continue to proceed to the Vatican Museums. At the world-renowned museum, view the most impressive of edifices, galleries, and awe-inspiring relics. Additionally observe the Tapestry Gallery, Raphael Rooms, Sistine Chapel, and Michelangelo's Masterpiece, the restored mural of the Last Judgment. The final stop on your Vatican tour is the tomb of Saint John Paul II. After free time for lunch, we will continue on a short journey down the Appian Way, the earliest road from Ancient Rome. This road leads to the Domino Quo Vadis Chapel, the Baths of Caracalla, the Arch of Drusus, the Tomb of Cecilia Metella, and the catacomb of St. Callixtus. The day concludes with a visit to the Basilica of St. Paul, outside the walls. Originally founded by Emperor Constantine in the 4th century this Basilica is the burial place of Saint Paul the Apostle. Next, make your way to a local restaurant for dinner. Following dinner, you will have time to explore the streets of Rome or return to the hotel for overnight.

Day 3, Sat, May 27: Rome: Spanish Steps - Trevi Fountain - Pantheon - Basilica of St. John the Lateran - Holy Stairs - Basilica of St. Mary Major

After breakfast, we start the day with a visit to Piazza del Popolo – also known as the "People's Square". From there we will walk through the streets and see the Spanish Steps, arriving at the Trevi Fountain, and then the Pantheon. Here you will enjoy some free time on your own for lunch. This afternoon, visit the oldest of the four major Basilicas in Rome and the home to the relics of Peter and Paul, the Basilica of St. John the Lateran. This Basilica is where Pope Francis became installed as Bishop of Rome. Next, you will cross the street to visit the Holy Stairs. These Holy Stairs are the very-steps leading up to the praetorium of Pontius Pilate in Jerusalem on which Jesus stepped on his way to trial during his Passion. In the fourth century, these stairs were brought to Rome by Saint Helena. People ascend on the Holy Stairs on their knees, in memory of Christ's agonizing Passion. We conclude your day with a Mass at the Basilica of St. Mary Major, dedicated to Our Blessed Mother. St. Mary Major is the only Basilica that reigns from its original structure and is an authentic jewel in the crown of Roman Churches. This Basilica contains a relic from the Manger of the Infant Jesus. From there conclude our day of touring by visiting the Basilica of the Holy Cross in Jerusalem. Originally built at around 320 A.D., it was attached to St. Helena's home and the floor contained soil brought back from the Holy Land. The most famous of the relics that are enshrined in the Chapel of the Holy Relics – the three (3) fragments from the True Cross. One nail used in the crucifixion, a small piece of the scourging pillar, and two thorns from the crown of thorns. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 4, Sun, May 28: Rome: Angelus Prayer – Free Day (No Transfers available)

Following breakfast, you will make your way to St. Peter's Square to attend the reading of the Angelus Prayer by His Holiness, Pope Francis, followed by the ringing of the Angelus bell (pending Papal schedule). After, you will have the remainder of the day free to spend as you would like. We recommend making a visit to Piazza Navona, which was built on the site of the Stadium of Domitian. You could

go shopping in that area, as well as visiting the wonderful Cafes in the area. Feel free to take a stroll across the Bridge of Angels as well. Return to the Hotel in time for dinner and overnight.

Day 6, Mon, May 29: Rome – Lisbon - Fatima

This morning, you will have an early breakfast, and then make your way to the Airport for your flight to Lisbon (Flight included). Upon arrival, you will exit the plane and make your way through Passport Control and Baggage Claim, and ending in the Arrival's Hall. Your Escort will be with you, and they will bring you to your Bus. Your bags will be placed under the bus, you will board, and continue on your way to Fatima. Time – Permitting, we will make a stop at St. Stephen's Church in the town of Santarem to celebrate Mass and venerate the 13th century Eucharistic Miracle. Continue to Fatima, this hamlet of Aljustrel, is the birthplace and home of the three (3) shepherd children. Dinner and overnight in Fatima.

Day 5, Tues, May 30: Fatima

Today will surely be a memorable experience as you pray and meditate at one of Our Blessed Mother's apparition sites. Our Lady appeared to three shepherd children; Lucia (age 10), Jacinta (age 7), and Francisco (age 9). These apparitions occurred monthly from May until October of 1917. Historically, as the entire world was in turmoil amidst World War I, the most prominent message from Our Lady of Fatima was to pray for world peace. In her messages to the children, specifically in the second secret, she mentioned the destruction of the world. Our profoundly reflective day begins with a visit to the Little Chapel of the Apparitions simple, yet modern, which is the site where the Virgin Mary first appeared on May 13th in 1917. Follow with a visit to the stunning neoclassical Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary. This Sacred space contains the tombs of St. Francisco, St. Jacinta, and Sister Lucia. View the monument that commemorates the Sacred Heart of Jesus in the square. Our Lady's messages included consistent reminders to pray the Rosary – the Basilica honors this, by featuring fifteen altars dedicated to the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary. While in the Basilica, you will feel, through the love of Our Lord and Lady, the many graces received here. Visit the museum with the exhibition: "Fatima: Light and Peace". Continue with a visit to the Holy Trinity Basilica. After free time for lunch, we will experience Christ's unconditional love by participating in the Stations of the Cross along the Via Sacra. "The Sacred Way" marks the path the shepherd children took to the first apparition of Our Lady of Fatima. The path is composed of fifteen small chapels in commemoration of the Passion of Our Lord. The fifteenth station, the Resurrection, can be found close to the Chapel of Calvary, dedicated to St. Stephen, King of Hungary. The day ends with a visit to Valinhos, the site of Our Lady's August 19th, 1917 Apparition, which was also the first and third apparition of the Angel. Your night will conclude with private devotions and a candlelight procession, requested by Our Lady (1917). Enjoy dinner and a comfortable night's rest in Fatima.

Day 6, Wed, May 31: Fatima – Free Day (No Transfers available)

After breakfast, you will have a Free Day to spend at your own leisure. You are steps away from the Shrine of Fatima, where you can revisit the Basilica, attend confession or the 24-Hour adoration that is held in the lower Basilica. You can take your time at the Little Chapel of Apparitions or light a candle in the Candle Garden. You can also shop and bring home gifts for friends and family. Following dinner, you can choose to participate in the candlelight procession at the Shrine before returning to your room to pack and a restful nights sleep.

Day 7, Thurs, June 1: Return Home

After an early breakfast and heartfelt farewells, your group will leave by motor coach and transfer to the Lisbon airport for return flights home.

