

SHRINES OF ITALY

Pilgrimage

with **Fr. Bing Colasito**

St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, Anthem, AZ



206
TOURS

September 18 - 27, 2023

SCAN TO SITE



Your Trip Includes

- † Round-trip Air from Phoenix
- † Airport Taxes and Fuel Surcharges
- † 8 nights at centrally located hotels:
 - 3 nights: Sept 19 – 22: Rome
 - 2 nights: Sept 22 – 24: San Giovanni Rotondo
 - 3 nights: Sept 24 – 27: Assisi
- † Transfers as per itinerary
- † Breakfast and Dinner daily
- † Wine/Mineral Water with Dinners
- † Transportation by air-conditioned motor coach
- † Free Wi-Fi on motor coach
- † Free Bottles of Water on motor coach throughout
- † Assistance of a professional local Catholic Guide
- † Sightseeing and Admissions fees as per itinerary
- † Luggage handling (at Hotels – 1 piece per person)
- † Tips to Hotel Staff, Restaurants, and Luggage Handlers
- † Mass daily & Spiritual activities
- † Flight bag & Portfolio of all travel documents

\$4,499

With Airfare from

PHX

Phoenix, AZ

\$3,499 *Land Only*

All pricing is per person based on double occupancy

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Contact Danielle at 206 Tours: danielle@206tours.com





Day by Day Itinerary

Day 1, Monday – September 18 - Depart for Rome

Make your way to your local airport, where you will board your overnight flight(s). Your meals will be served on board.

Day 2, Tuesday – September 19 - Arrival in Rome

Welcome to Rome, also known as, "The Eternal City." Upon arrival at Rome airport, collect your luggage in the baggage claim area, and continue to the Arrivals Hall, where you will be greeted by a tour escort and/or driver. You will make your way to the bus and transfer to your hotel. Following check-in, you will have free time to unpack and relax or explore Rome on your own. Your tour escort may suggest places to visit. Later in the afternoon, your group will meet in the hotel lobby for a "Meet and Greet" with your fellow pilgrims and depart for Mass. Following Mass, you will attend a welcome dinner. After dinner, you will have the opportunity to walk to St. Peter's Square as a group, for the Rosary (optional).

Day 3, Wednesday – September 20 - Rome: St. Peter's Basilica - Trevi Fountain – Pantheon - Basilica of St. John the Lateran – Holy Stairs - Basilica of St. Mary Major – Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls - Catacombs

We begin with the day with breakfast and then celebrate Mass at St. Peter's Basilica, built on site where St. Peter, was martyred. After, we will have time to pray at the tomb of St. John Paul II. View the Michelangelo's Pieta, a sculpture depicting the Virgin Mary holding Christ after His crucifixion. Then we visit the Trevi Fountain, followed by the Pantheon, and then there you will enjoy some free time on your own for lunch. This afternoon, you will 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 was 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. The Stairs were brought to Rome by Saint Helena in the fourth century. Ascending these stairs on your knees, in memory of Christ's agonizing Passion. We conclude your day, with a Mass at the Basilica of St. Mary Major. Church dedicated to Our Blessed Mother, St. Mary Major reigns as the only Basilica that has kept 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, we continue on to the catacomb of St. Callixtus where we will take a tour. 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. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 4, Thursday – September 21 – Rome – Nettuno - Rome

Start the day with breakfast and then make your way to Nettuno, a quaint seaside city with a medieval quarter right on the water. The town was founded by the Latin's as "Antium" and is a popular destination for its medieval streets and small squares. There is also the Forte Sangallo, a castle that was built in 1503 by renaissance architect Antonio Da Sangallo II Vecchio. We will make our way to the Basilica of Our Lady of Graces and Saint Maria Goretti to celebrate Mass. This Basilica is a 20th century parochial Church dedicated to the Italian virgin-martyr and one of the youngest Saints to be canonized. Her remains rest below the main altar in the lower chapel. There is also a priceless polychromed wooden statue of Our Lady of Grace on display. It is honoured by the town with a procession every year on the first Saturday of May. You will have free time to spend in the afternoon to grab lunch, or shop. Return to the bus for your return to the Hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 5, Friday – September 22 - Rome - Montecassino - San Giovanni Rotondo

Following breakfast, you will board your bus to enjoy the scenic route to Montecassino. Passing through the Roman countryside is known for its villas and vineyards. During the bus ride, your tour escort will share interesting information regarding the spiritual, historical, and cultural aspects of Italy. Montecassino, the principle monastery of the Benedictine Order, was founded by Saint Benedict around 530 A.D. Following the tour, there will be an opportunity to visit the gift shop, before you board the bus to continue toward San Giovanni Rotondo, the hometown of Saint Padre Pio. Upon arrival in San Giovanni Rotondo, you will check-in, enjoy dinner in a restaurant, and overnight.

Day 6, Saturday – September 23 - San Giovanni Rotondo (View Incorrupt Body of St. Padre Pio) - Monte Sant' Angelo

This morning, after breakfast, you will visit the Old Church. After Mass, you will tour the sanctuary, it is here you will view the crucifix, in front of which St. Pio received the stigmata. Visit the confessional from where St. Pio spent an innumerable amount of hours listening to confessions. Next, you will 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. Following the visit to the grotto, enjoy free time. On the way back to San Giovanni Rotondo, view breathtaking views of the ocean and surrounding countryside. Upon arrival, you will have time for devotion and reflection. Dinner and overnight in San Giovanni Rotondo.

*Candlelight Procession - Between May and October you can attend the weekly Candlelight Procession at the Sanctuary of St. Pio after dinner, at 9:00 PM. These processions are lit by candlelight, and are guided by the Most Holy Rosary. Following this prayerful experience, you will return to your hotel for a restful overnight.

Day 7, Sunday – September 24 - San Giovanni Rotondo - Lanciano - Loreto - Assisi

After breakfast, you will head to Lanciano. Upon arrival in Lanciano, celebrate Mass at the Church of St. Longinus. This Church is the site of the Eucharistic Miracle that occurred in the eighth century. At the time of the Miracle, there was a Basilian monk who struggled with the belief in the real presence of The Lord Jesus in the Eucharist. During the time of Mass, the monk, with doubt in his voice, said the "Words of Consecration" and the bread turned into living flesh, and the wine transformed into live blood. There will be some free time to explore Lanciano, before continuing toward the Adriatic coast to the great Marian shrine of Loreto to visit the Holy House of Nazareth and the beautiful Madonna of Loreto. More than 50 Pope's have made a pilgrimage to the house transported by angels to this hill in central Italy, in 1294. Tradition has it that this is the house in which Mary first prayed the Magnificat, in which Jesus grew to manhood, and in which the Holy Family lived. Continue on to Assisi, the hometown of St. Francis. Upon arrival in Assisi, you will enjoy dinner, before retiring to your room for a restful night's sleep.

Day 8, Monday – September 25 - Assisi (St. Francis)

As you visit the birthplace of St. Francis, you will become captivated as the atmosphere has not changed since St. Francis began his ministry, in the early 13th-century. You will start your tour at the St. Francis Basilica, visit his tomb of St. Francis, and have the opportunity to view a series of frescoes depicting his life, along with a few of the saint's possessions. Followed by a visit to the Santuario Della Spogliazione where Blessed Carlo Acutis' tomb is placed. Carlo is the first millennial to be declared Blessed who loved the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. From there, you will continue on a walking tour through this picturesque town, including the birthplace of St. Francis, and end with a tour of the Church that honors St. Clare, the foundress of the Poor Clare Sisters. This Saint followed the teachings of St. Francis very closely by also living a life of poverty and humility. Enjoy some free time on your own - you may take this time for additional prayer, shop in the many gift shops, or enjoy a nice lunch. After lunch, you will board the bus, which will take you outside of the walls of Assisi, to the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels. This is where St. Francis spent most of his life. This Basilica is made up of two structures, both of which you will visit. The first structure is the "Porziuncola", which is where St. Francis founded his order of the Friar Minor (Franciscans). The second is the "Capella del Transito", which is the place of St. Francis' death. During your time here, you will have the opportunity to visit the beautiful Rose Garden where St. Francis and other friars lived, as well as the cave where the Saint retired to pray. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 9, Tuesday – September 26 - Assisi - Gubbio - La Verna - Assisi

After breakfast, you will drive through the beautiful Umbrian mountains to Gubbio. Enjoy this medieval town with a visit to St. Francis Church, where you will be celebrating Mass. After Mass, visit a town that seems painted onto the hill, a succession of backdrops against which towers and houses stand out, all embraced by walls. The town had been freed by St. Francis from a terrible and fierce wolf who afflicted it. After lunch on your own, continue to La Verna, the place where St. Francis, over the years, had been seven times, the last time in 1224 where he received the stigmata. Here you will be able to pray in the Chapel of the Stigmata, the Basilica, and the Chapel of Saint Mary of the Angels. You will also be able to admire the beautiful artworks of Andrea Della Robbia. Return to Assisi for dinner and your last overnight.

Day 10, Wednesday – September 27 - Assisi - Siena - Florence

After an early breakfast and heartfelt farewells, your group will leave by motor coach and transfer to Rome Fiumicino Airport for your return flights home.

