



EXPERIENCE THE WONDERS OF ITALY

A Pilgrimage to Italy with Betsy Taylor, Pastoral Associate Resurrection Catholic Parish, Tualatin, OR

May 10 - 23, 2027

DAY 1: May 10th - DEPARTURE: Depart the USA on our overnight flight to Italy.

DAY 2: May 11th - VENICE - PADOVA: Arrive in Venice, meet our tour escort, and travel by private coach to Padova. Visit the Basilica of St. Anthony and view the saint's relic before hotel check-in, dinner, and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 3: May 12th - PADOVA - VENICE - PADOVA: Travel by motorboat to Venice for a guided visit to St. Mark's Basilica and an outside view of the Doge's Palace. Enjoy free time for an optional gondola ride, then return to Padova for dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 4: May 13th - PADOVA - FLORENCE: Drive to Florence for a walking tour featuring the Duomo, Giotto's Bell Tower, the Baptistry's Gates of Paradise, Piazza della Signoria, and Santa Croce, home to the tombs of Michelangelo and Galileo. Enjoy time at Ponte Vecchio before dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 5: May 14th - FLORENCE - SIENA - ASSISI: Tour Siena's Gothic Duomo, Piazza del Campo, the Basilica of St. Francis and its Eucharistic Miracle, and St. Dominic's Basilica with a relic of St. Catherine. Continue to Assisi and visit St. Mary of the Angels and the Porziuncola. Dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 6: May 15th - ASSISI: Celebrate Mass at the Basilica of St. Francis and visit his tomb. Continue to the Basilica of St. Clare, San Damiano, and the Hermitage of the Carceri, with time for prayer and leisure before dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 7: May 16th - ASSISI - CASCIA - LORETO: Visit the monastery in Cascia where St. Rita lived and her incorrupt body is preserved. Continue to Loreto to visit the Shrine of the Holy House. Dinner and overnight. (B, D)



DAY 8: May 17th - LORETO - LANCIANO - ROME: Visit the Eucharistic Miracle shrine in Lanciano, then continue to Rome for dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 9: May 18th - IMPERIAL ROME - CATACOMBS: Visit St. Peter in Chains; view the Colosseum, Roman Forum, Trajan's Column, Capitoline Hill, and Piazza Venezia; then tour the Catacombs of St. Callistus and St. Paul Outside the Walls. (B, D)

DAY 10: May 19th - PAPAL AUDIENCE & BASILICAS: Attend the weekly Papal Audience and blessing, then visit St. John Lateran, the Holy Stairs, and St. Mary Major. (B, D)

DAY 11: May 20th - VATICAN MUSEUMS & BAROQUE ROME: Tour the Vatican Gardens and Museums, including the Raphael Rooms and Sistine Chapel. Later, visit the Trevi Fountain, Pantheon, Piazza Navona, and possibly St. Augustine, where St. Monica is buried. (B, Special Dinner)

DAY 12: May 21st - ROME - SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO: Travel to San Giovanni Rotondo to visit Santa Maria delle Grazie and the crypt where St. Pio's body is preserved. (B, D)

DAY 13: May 22nd - MONTECASSINO - ROME: drive to Montecassino Abbey, founded by St. Benedict in 529. Celebrate Mass, then return toward Rome for free time and the final hotel night. (B, D)

DAY 14: May 23rd - DEPARTURE: Transfer to the airport for the return flight to the USA.



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DAY 1: 10 MAY DEPART USA

DAY 2: 11 MAY ARRIVAL VENICE - PADOVA Arrive Venice Airport. Meet Tour Escort, board private bus and drive to the city center of Padova, visit the Basilica where St. Anthony is buried. We also see the Saint's tongue. Check in at the hotel, dinner and overnight (B, D)

DAY 3: 12 MAY PADOVA - VENEZIA - PADOVA This morning we depart our hotel by bus, to reach the dock. From here, by private motorboat, we reach Venice in 30 minutes by sea. Full day of excursion in this fascinating town. In the morning, there will be a guided tour to see the Doge's Palace (outside) and the Basilica of St. Mark the Evangelist (inside). Balance of the day at leisure for an optional "Gondola ride", or to discover the city on your own. Return to our bus and drive back to Padua. Dinner at the hotel and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 4: 13 MAY PADOVA- FIRENZE After breakfast, we will drive to Florence. Here we will start with a walking tour through the streets of Florence stopping to visit the Duomo. See also Giotto Bells Tower and the Baptistery Doors, Gates of Paradise. Continue to Signoria Square considered as an "open-air museum". Then we visit the Franciscan church of Santa Croce, which houses the tombs of many Italian artists, among which Galileo and Michelangelo. Time at leisure for shopping at Ponte Vecchio. Check in at the hotel, dinner and overnight (B, D)

DAY 5: 14 MAY FIRENZE - SIENA - ASSISI Today, in the morning, we will explore the city of Siena with the guide. See the Gothic Duomo, the famous Piazza del Campo, one of the most beautiful squares in all of Italy, the church Saint Francis Basilica, site of the Eucharistic Miracle and of St. Domenico, site of the relic of St. Catherine of Siena. In the afternoon we will drive to Assisi, where upon arrival we can visit the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels, to see the Porziuncola, the rose bush and the cave where the Saint retired for prayer. Check in at the hotel, dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 6: 15 MAY ASSISI This morning we celebrate Mass in one of the chapels of St. Francis Basilica and see the tomb of the saint. We then walk across the hilltop town of Assisi to the Basilica of St. Clare to see where St. Clare is buried. We will visit also San Damiano convent, to see where the Miracle of the Eucharist of Assisi took place in 1241, twelve years before St. Clare died. Visit the church where St. Francis wrote the "Canticle of the Sun" and see where St. Clare lived. Visit the castle and the hermitage of Cerceri to pray in the same peaceful spot where St. Francis prayed. Balance of the day at leisure. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 7: 16 MAY ASSISI - CASCIA - LORETO Today we will check out and drive to Cascia, upon arrival we visit the monastery where St Rita lived and where her incorrupt body is preserved. Some time at leisure for lunch. We will continue our drive to Loreto. Upon arrival we will visit the Shrine of Holy House. . Check in at the hotel, dinner and overnight (B, D)

DAY 8: 17 MAY LORETO - LANCIANO -ROMA After breakfast we check out and drive to Lanciano to visit the Eucharistic Miracle shrine. Then we will drive to Rome, check in at the hotel, dinner and overnight (BD)

DAY 9: 18 MAY-IMPERIAL ROME-CATACOMBS & ST PAUL BASILICA OUTSIDE THE WALLS After breakfast, depart the hotel for a panoramic tour of Imperial Rome We start from the church of San Peter in chains, which houses the chains that held St. Peter when he was imprisoned in Rome and in Jerusalem. Then walk down to the Coliseum (visit from outside) and walk passing by the Roman Forum, the Traian Forum and column, till Capitol Hill and Venice Square. Break for lunch. Then we continue with a guided tour of the Catacombs of St Callistus and Basilica of St Paul outside the Walls. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight (B, D)

DAY 10: 19 MAY WEDNESDAY PAPAL AUDIENCE & BASILICAS Early morning transfer to St Peter's square to join pilgrims from all over the world who coming to Rome to attend the weekly Papal Audience and blessing. After lunch, we will visit the major Basilicas of Rome: San John Lateran, Holy Stairs and Saint Mary Major. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight (B, D)

DAY 11: 20 MAY VATICAN MUSEUMS / BAROQUE SQUARES After breakfast, we will visit the Vatican Gardens, we then continue visiting the Museums which house what can be described as the most important collections of art in the world. Highlights include The Tapestry Gallery, The Raphael Rooms, and The Sistine Chapel where we will gaze on Michelangelo's incredible masterpiece. After lunch, we will enjoy a walking tour through the imposing baroque squares, fountains and churches of Rome. We start from Trevi Fountain. Then we continue to the Pantheon and, finally, we reach Navona Square with the famous Bernini's fountain of the Four Rivers. Possibly, celebrate Mass at the Church of St Augustin that houses the Caravaggio's painting "Madonna dei Pellegrini" and the tomb of Santa Monica. Return to the hotel for overnight (B, Special Dinner).

DAY 12: 21 MAY ROME - SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO After breakfast, we check out and drive approx. 6 hours to San Giovanni Rotondo. Upon arrive will enjoy a guided tour of the convent of Santa Maria delle Grazie. We will visit also the crypt where the body of San Pio is preserved. Check in at the hotel, dinner and overnight (B)

DAY 13: 22 MAY MONTECASSINO - ROMA After breakfast, we drive to Montecassino to visit the Abbey founded by Saint Benedict in 529. The abbey has been destroyed four times, most recently in World War II. Here we Celebrate Mass - continue towards Rome. For a Free Time. Dinner and overnight (B, D)

DAY 14: May 23 Departure In the morning, transfer to the airport.

Price: \$5,995 including Flights / \$4,795 Land Only

Single Supplement (no roommate)- \$1,195

Rates are based on accommodation at the following suggested hotels *or similar*

Venice / Mestre:	2 nights at Hotel Belstay Mestre 4*
Florence:	1 night at Hotel Nil 4*
Assisi:	2 nights at Hotel BV Grand Hotel Assisi 4*
Loreto:	1 Night at 1 night in Hotel San Francesco
S.G.Rotondo:	2 nights at Hotel Gran Paradiso 4*
Rome:	4 nights at Hotel Barcelo 4*

Included in the above rates

- Transportation as per program
- English speaking professional tour manager throughout the pilgrimage
- Accommodation at the above suggested hotels or similar, for a total of 12 nights
- Local city taxes
- Porterage at the hotels
- American Breakfasts (unless departure from the hotels is before 6:30 am)
- 11 dinners at the hotels
- Local guides: Venice, Padova, Florence, Assisi, Siena, Loreto, San Giovanni Rotondo , Montecassino and in Rome for 3 days
- Entrance fees: St Mark's Cathedral in Venice, Santa Croce church in Florence, San Francis' Basilica in Assisi, Catacombs + Vatican Gardens + Vatican Museums + San Peter's Basilica in Rome
- Private boat transfers IN and OUT central Venice
- whispers set

The rates don't include

- Porterage at the airports
- Lunches
- Gratuities

There might be some small changes in the itinerary if needed