ITALY & MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE October 7 - 18, 2024

Rome - Vatican - San Giovanni Rotondo - Monte Sant' Angelo - Loreto Assisi & Medjugorje



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Italy & Medjugorje October 7 - 18, 2024

with

Fr. Vincent Chirichella & Deacon Michael Chirichella

Day 1 - Departure, October 7, 2024

Your pilgrimage starts with the overnight **intercontinental flight to Italy, to Rom**e. Meals are served onboard the plane.

Day 2 - Arrival in Rome, October 8, 2024

Arrive at the Rome airport, meet with your guide and the bus driver before you, and start the Christian Tour of Rome. First, on your schedule, today is the **Holy Mass at St. Mary Major Basilica** (or any other church we visit today). Then visit the **Basilica of St. John Lateran**, **the Cathedral of Rome, and the seat of the bishop of Rome (Pope)**, the Papal residence from the 5th century until the papacy departed to Avignon in France. Across the street, we will visit **the Holy Staircase** (Scala Sancta) actual stairs Jesus walked on the day he went to Pilate (Antonia Fortress). We will end our day at our hotel with dinner and the first night in Rome.

Spiritual Director on Tour

Fr. Vincent Chirichella Pastor of St. Joseph's Parish Astoria, NY

Deacon Michael Chirichella Deacon Of Christ Of Our Lady Of Mount Carmel Parish Brooklyn, NY

BOVE CONTINENTAL TRAVEL

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Day 3 - VATICAN & GENERAL AUDIENCE POPE FRANCIS, Oct. 9, 2024

Today, we are up early for the General Audience with Pope Francis at St. Peter's Square! The whole morning, we are with dozens of thousands of pilgrims from all over the world. Later we will continue our tour of Rome by bus, sightseeing Rome and its sites like Piazza Venezia, with King Victor Emmanuel II Monument, passing by the **Colosseum**, Arch of Constantine, **Imperial Forums** (Caesar, Augustus, Trajan), and Circus Maximus. As part of today's tour, we will go to the Basilica St. Paul Outside the Walls, and our tour of Rome finishes with Domitilla Catacombs.

After some free time in the late afternoon for shopping, we end our day at our hotel with dinner.



Day 4 - ROME HISTORICAL - SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO, Oct. 10, 2024

Our entire morning will be inspirational and educational. This morning we are heading to Vatican Museums, a work of art by the famous Michelangelo Bernini...from antiquity to Renaissance... The tour will include a walk through the Gallery of Geographical Maps until the Sistine Chapel with the magnificent fresco of The Last Judgment and many more halls and rooms filled with Christian art, history, and inheritance of all civilization. Today is also our visit to the heart of the Vatican State, St. Peter's Basilica, and underground burial stones with the tomb of St. Peter and Square dedicated to the same Saint. Early afternoon we leave Rome and will be on time for dinner in San Giovanni Rotondo. Dinner and first night in St. Pio's town.

<u>Day 5 - SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO - MONTE SANT'ANGELO, Oct. 11, 2024</u>

After Mass and sightseeing at the Shrine of St. Padre Pio, you are on your way to Monte Sant' Angelo. Here we will visit the Grotto where Michael the Archangel had appeared on a few different occasions from the 5th to 17th centuries. This is an ancient pilgrimage destination seen by many, among them Bishop Karol Wojtyla; Padre Pio loved coming here.....After the visit and lunch break here, we will return to the Our Lady of Grace - Sanctuary of St. Padre Pio, free time until dinner, our second overnight in SGR.



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Europe tours

Day 6 - SAN G. ROTONDO - LANCIANO - LORETO - ASSISI, Oct. 12, 2024

After breakfast, we will leave SGR and will be heading northwest along the "Autostrada Adriatica," our goal today is **Assisi.** On the way to Assisi, a short stop at **Lanciano**. The place of one of the **greatest Eucharistic Miracles**, in the **8th century**, during Holy Mass, the wine turned into blood and the host into flesh. You will spend some time in the church where the relic is exposed. We **continue to Loreto**. **Holy Family town** for a visit of about two hours before we continue to Assisi. Tonight we are at our hotel in Assisi.



Day 7 - ASSISI, Oct. 13, 2024

This early morning after a good night's rest and breakfast, we will have a sightseeing tour of **Assisi, the City of Peace, St. Francis**, and **St. Claire**. The group will be learning about St. Francis and his life. Your walking guided tour will start at the **church of Santa Chiara, where you will** see **The Cross that spoke to St. Francis** and pray his prayer before the same Crucifix. The group will learn more about St. Claire, the founder of Poor Clair's, and see her incorrupt body. The visit will also include the crypt with the **tomb of St. Francis** in the basilica dedicated to the saint. Our tour of the City of Peace will end with "**Porziuncola**," one of three restored churches of young Francis that is currently inside the **Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels**. After a guided tour of the **City of Peace**, leisure time until dinner at our hotel! Second night in Assisi.



Day 8 - ASSISI - CROATIA - MEDJUGORJE, Oct. 14, 2024

After breakfast and Holy Mass, we are going to **Rome airport**. The same day, later in the afternoon, flight to Split in Croatia and transfer to Medjugorje. Dinner and overnight in **Medjugorje near the St. James church** and the Shrine of Our Lady Queen of Peace.

POPE FRANCIS:

"I think there's grace in Medjugorje. There's no denying it. There are people who have conversions."

Pilgrim & Pilgrimage

Old French pelegrin, from Latin peregrinus: foreigner

One who travels to a holy place to obtain some spiritual benefit, and the trip itself; the purpose of the pilgrimage may be to venerate a sacred object or religious relic, to bein a presence of a holy person, to do penance, or to offer thanksgiving in return for graces received

(cf. Jgs 21:2,1 Sm 1:3)

Day 9, 10, 11 - MEDJUGORJE, Oct. 15 - 17, 2024

On your first **morning in Medjugorje**, after breakfast, you will meet with your local English-speaking guide, who will give you an introduction, a little walk from your hotel to the **Church St. James** just before **English language Holy Mass at 10:00 am**. You will have a chance to participate in many activities during your stay in Medjugorje. Visiting **Bijakovici village**, all six visionaries come from it; you will go up the Apparition Hill, **Podbrdo place where Our Lady first appeared**. Visionaries Ivan, Marija, and Vicka, according to their words, still receive daily apparitions, while for Jakov, Vicka, and Mirjana, this happens only once a year.

Every evening before Mass at 6:00 pm, you and thousands of other pilgrims will pray for The Rosary. All three Mysteries are prayed during the evening program. In Our Lady's messages, it was repeated many times how important it is to come to Mass, where "we meet Jesus alive." Messages of **Prayer of the Rosary**, **Holy Mass**, and Confession are the center of the program at St. James church. On Thursdays and Saturdays, **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**, and Fridays, **Veneration of the Cross** in the Church. After the Mass, there is also the **Blessing of the Sick** and the religious items and souvenirs you have with you. With your guide you will have a chance to climb the "**Cross mountain**", **Krizevac** as local people know it, and visit the "**Blue Cross**", another place of the apparition of Our Lady.

Each pilgrim will have time for private devotions, lunches, and shopping...



Day 12 - MEDJUGORJE - FLIGHT BACK HOME, Oct. 18, 2024 Early morning breakfast (or breakfast box) and **transfer to Split International Airport**, flight back home, arrival the same day!

RATES - per person in double room:

Air & land price from New York, JFK\$	4100.00
Land Only (Rome - Split flight included)\$	2500.00
Single room supplement:\$	540.00

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS TOUR, PLEASE CONTACT BOVE TRAVEL

IMPORTANT NOTE for inquiries outside the New York area: Price is a close estimate until the airline ticket is issued in your name!

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ARCHBISHOP HOSER World meeting of families in Dublin

"In these times of terrible crisis for the family, it is crucial to go back to the roots, to God's project, to the model of the Holy Family: this is the reason why so many families come to Medjugorje"



Includes:

- Flights from your departure city, New York, JFK
- Flight Rome Split on Oct. 14, 2024
- Airport taxes subject to change by the airlines
- 4* First-class Hotels:
 - 2 nights in Rome, Oct. 8 10, 2024
 - 2 nights in SGR, Oct. 10 12, 2024
 - 2 nights in Assisi, Oct. 12 14, 2024
 - 4 nights in Medjugorje, April 14 18, 2024
- Breakfast and dinner daily, a glass of wine & water incl.
- High-class tour coach
- Tour escort with group
- English-speaking local guides, Rome, Assisi, Medjugorje
- Entrance fees as per itinerary
- Tour system, whispers for the city tours
- Daily Holy Mass, with the priest in the group

Not Included:

- Lunch, the third meal daily
- Travel Insurance strongly recommended!
- Gratuities, tips for guides, tour escort, and drivers
- Any personal expenses
- Possible visa/passport expenses for non-US citizens



Loreto, Italy - House Of The Holy Family



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