



IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF VIRGIN MARY: AN ITALIAN PILGRIMAGE

10 days – 9 nights

*Italy has long been a land where faith, history, and beauty meet in profound harmony. For centuries, pilgrims have journeyed across its hills, cities, and sanctuaries seeking spiritual renewal, inspired by the life and presence of the **Virgin Mary**. This carefully designed 10-day pilgrimage invites you to follow that sacred path—beginning in the eternal city of **Rome** and culminating in the vibrant northern capital of **Milan**.*

*Created especially for travelers who may be visiting **Europe** for the first time, this journey combines the depth of Marian devotion with the richness of Italian culture. You will encounter not only some of the most important **Marian shrines** in the world, but also the artistic, architectural, and spiritual treasures that have shaped Christian history for over two millennia. Your pilgrimage begins in **Rome**, home to the universal Church and the heart of Catholicism. Here, you will visit some of the oldest and most beloved **Marian churches**, including the magnificent **Basilica of Saint Mary Major**. A full day in **Vatican City** will allow you to experience the grandeur of **St. Peter's Basilica** and the artistic wonders of the **Vatican Museums**, bringing you closer to the spiritual center of the Catholic world.*

*From there, the journey continues to **Loreto**, one of the most important **Marian pilgrimage sites** in existence, where tradition holds that the **Holy House of Nazareth** was miraculously transported. As you move through the peaceful landscapes of **Assisi** and the forests of **Tuscany**, you will discover places of deep prayer and contemplation, where saints walked and faith was lived with simplicity and devotion.*

*The pilgrimage concludes in northern **Italy**, where **Marian** devotion continues to flourish in sanctuaries such as **Sanctuary of the Madonna of Caravaggio**, an important site of **Marian** apparition. Your final days in **Milan** offer a harmonious blend of spirituality and culture, allowing time for reflection as well as appreciation of **Italy's** artistic heritage.*

This is more than a journey—it is an invitation to walk in faith, to encounter beauty, and to deepen your spiritual life in the footsteps of Mary.

DAY 1 ROME Arrival

Welcome to Rome, the Eternal City, where your pilgrimage begins. Upon arrival at the airport, you will be greeted and transferred to your hotel. As you settle in, the atmosphere of this historic city—where ancient ruins stand alongside vibrant piazzas—offers a first glimpse into the richness of Italy. In the evening, enjoy a gentle orientation walk through nearby streets, allowing you to absorb the rhythm of Roman life. This is a day to rest after your journey, meet your fellow pilgrims, and prepare your heart for the days ahead. As the sun sets over Rome, you begin not just a tour, but a spiritual path that has been followed by believers for centuries. (D)

DAY 2 ROME Marian Rome

Today is dedicated to discovering Rome's deep Marian heritage. Your first visit is to the awe-inspiring Basilica of Saint Mary Major, one of the oldest churches in the world dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Here, art, history, and devotion come together in a powerful way. You will continue to Santa Maria in Trastevere, a jewel of early Christian architecture, known for its golden mosaics and warm spiritual atmosphere. The visit concludes at the peaceful Sanctuary

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Every pilgrimage is unique. Our team will prepare a personalized itinerary and quotation tailored to your group.

TOUR DEPARTURES 2026

Also, contact us to customize your trip if you want to make changes or travel with family or friends. We will be very happy to assist you choosing the best deals.

INCLUDED SERVICES

- All transfer in private bus
- 9 nights in 3*** and 4**** selected hotels including breakfast. 5**** upon request
- Welcome dinner on the first day
- All excursions mentioned in the program.
 - ✓ Visit of the most important Marian churches in Rome
 - ✓ Piazzas and fountains guided walking tour
 - ✓ Day visit of Vatican and its Museums
 - ✓ Visit the renowned Shrine of the Holy House of Loreto, the Sanctuary of the Madonna of San Luca and the Sanctuary of the Madonna of Caravaggio.
 - ✓ Guided visit in Assisi, Siena, Florence and Milan.
- Local english-speaking tour guide in all aforementioned excursions.
- Entrance fees for all visits in Museums.
- 24 h. support (Hotline)

NOT INCLUDED

- International and local flights.
- Local airport taxes
- Tips for Guides, drivers and Porters
- Personal expenses
- Optional tours
- Other services not mentioned in the program





of Our Lady of Divine Love, a place of pilgrimage for Romans themselves. In the afternoon, you will experience the vibrant life of Rome with a guided walk through its famous piazzas and fountains. Wander through the heart of the city, from the iconic Piazza Navona, adorned with Bernini's magnificent Fountain of the Four Rivers, to the majestic Piazza di Spagna, where the famous Spanish Steps rise gracefully above the city. Along the way, admire the elegance of the Trevi Fountain, the Fontana del Pantheon, and other historic sites, each telling a story of Rome's artistic and cultural legacy. This afternoon stroll not only allows for a relaxing and scenic immersion into the Eternal City but also connects the spiritual dimension of the pilgrimage with the living, vibrant culture that surrounds it. Throughout the day, you will begin to understand how devotion to Mary has shaped the spiritual identity of this city. **(B)**

DAY 3 ROME Vatican city

Breakfast at the hotel. A highlight of your pilgrimage unfolds today with a full visit to Vatican City. Entering St. Peter's Basilica, you will be struck by its grandeur and sacred significance. Here, you may pause for prayer at the tomb of Saint Peter, the first Pope. The journey continues through the extraordinary Vatican Museums, home to centuries of artistic masterpieces, culminating in the breathtaking Sistine Chapel. If available, you may also participate in a Papal Audience, a deeply meaningful experience for pilgrims. Today is a profound encounter with the universal Church and its living tradition. **(B)**

DAY 4 ROME - LORETO

Breakfast at the hotel. Leaving Rome behind, you travel through the Italian countryside toward Loreto. Upon arrival, you will visit the renowned Shrine of the Holy House of Loreto, believed to be the home where the Virgin Mary lived in Nazareth. This sacred place has drawn pilgrims for centuries and offers a deeply moving spiritual experience. The peaceful surroundings invite reflection and prayer, making this one of the most memorable stops of the pilgrimage. As evening falls, you will feel a profound connection to the mystery of the Incarnation. Overnight in Loreto. **(B)**

DAY 5 LORETO - ASSISI

Breakfast at the hotel. Your journey continues to Assisi, a town that radiates peace and simplicity. Here, you will visit the Basilica of Saint Mary of the Angels, home to the Porziuncola, a small chapel deeply connected to Marian devotion and Saint Francis. Surrounded by rolling hills and olive groves, Assisi offers a serene environment ideal for contemplation. Optional visits, such as the Eremo delle Carceri, provide further opportunities for quiet reflection in nature. Overnight in Assisi. **(B)**

DAY 6 ASSISI Exploring the surroundings

Breakfast at the hotel. Today is a day of quiet reflection and spiritual immersion in the gentle Umbrian hills. You will explore the Sanctuary of the Madonna delle Grazie, a serene church dedicated to the Virgin Mary, known for its exquisite frescoes and peaceful chapels that invite intimate prayer. The sanctuary's history dates back to the Renaissance, offering a perfect blend of Marian devotion and artistic beauty. Your time in Assisi is also an opportunity to walk through its charming medieval streets, breathe in the fragrance of the olive groves, and meditate on the lives of saints who lived here, particularly Saint Clare and Saint Francis, who fostered a profound devotion to Mary. This day allows your heart to rest and open, connecting both to the contemplative spirit of the region and the living faith that has drawn pilgrims for centuries. Overnight in Assisi. **(B)**

DAY 7 ASSISI - LA VERNA - FLORENCE

Breakfast at the hotel. Departing from Assisi, you journey through Tuscany to the Sanctuary of La Verna. Perched in the Casentino Forest, La Verna is a sacred retreat where Saint Francis is said to have received the stigmata. The sanctuary, surrounded by towering cliffs and forested slopes, offers chapels, grottoes, and meditation areas, all radiating a quiet, contemplative energy. Here, pilgrims can pause to pray, reflect, and experience the profound connection between nature and spirituality. Continuing to Florence, you will visit the Basilica della Santissima Annunziata, home to the miraculous image of the Annunciation, an iconic representation of the Virgin Mary. Its Renaissance architecture, adorned with elegant





frescoes, provides a perfect moment for both aesthetic admiration and devotional contemplation. Florence's streets, filled with centuries of art, culture, and spiritual heritage, make this stop both uplifting and enriching. Overnight in Florence. **(B)**

DAY 8 FLORENCE – BOLOGNA - MILAN

Breakfast at the hotel. Today begins with a scenic drive to Bologna. Your first stop is the Sanctuary of the Madonna of San Luca, a majestic hilltop church visible from the city below. Pilgrims often ascend the 666-arch portico or enjoy a scenic drive, arriving at a sanctuary famed for its miraculous icon of the Madonna and its centuries-old tradition of devotion. The sanctuary's commanding views and spiritual ambiance create a memorable experience. Later, you continue to Milan, Italy's bustling northern capital. The city offers a harmonious blend of historical grandeur and modern vitality, providing a fitting transition between the contemplative northern sanctuaries and the cosmopolitan atmosphere where your pilgrimage concludes. Overnight in Milan. **(B)**

DAY 9 MILAN Caravaggio and Marian Milan

Breakfast at the hotel. Today, you venture to Caravaggio, to visit the Sanctuary of the Madonna of Caravaggio. This sanctuary commemorates a Marian apparition in the 15th century, and its Baroque interior, adorned with chapels and devotional art, draws pilgrims seeking spiritual renewal. Here, the combination of devotion, history, and tranquility makes for a profoundly moving experience. Returning to Milan, you will visit the Duomo di Milano, one of the world's largest and most beautiful Gothic cathedrals, dedicated to the Nativity of the Virgin Mary. Its intricate spires, statues, and stained glass tell stories of faith spanning centuries. Optional visits include Santa Maria delle Grazie, the home of Leonardo da Vinci's *Last Supper* and a symbol of Renaissance devotion to Mary. The rest of the day is at leisure to explore Milan, reflect on your journey, or simply absorb the vibrant energy of the city. Overnight in Milan. **(B)**

DAY 10 MILAN Departure

Your pilgrimage concludes in Milan. After a final breakfast together, you will transfer to the airport for your return journey. As you leave, carry with you the memories of sacred sites, historic cities, and spiritual encounters that have marked your path from Rome to Milan. This journey has been more than a tour—it has been a profound spiritual experience, walking in the footsteps of Mary, surrounded by art, history, and the living faith of Italy. End of our services. **(B)**

(B) Breakfast **(L)** Lunch **(D)** Dinner

