



## RELIGIOUS PILGRIMAGE IN ITALY



### **Day 1:**

Arrival of group in Siena in late afternoon. Check-in at hotel, dinner and overnight stay.

### **Day 2:**

Guided visit in the morning to Siena, the city of St Catherine, with a visit to the church of San Domenico, where her relics are kept, the Cathedral and the Piazza del Campo, continuing after lunch to Rome, with dinner and overnight stay.

### **Day 3:**

General Audience in the morning with Pope Benedict XVI (only on Wednesday morning). Lunch in a restaurant in Rome's old city centre, followed by the first guided visit to Rome with the Roman Forum, the Coliseum and other famous monuments. Return to hotel for dinner and overnight stay.

### **Day 4:**

Full day dedicated to Christian Rome with a guided visit to the Vatican Museums, the Sistine Chapel, St Peter's Basilica and St Peter's Square. Lunch in a restaurant near the Vatican. Visit in the afternoon to the Holy Steps and the papal basilicas of St John Lateran and St Mary Major. Return to hotel for dinner and overnight stay.

### **Day 5:**

Departure from Rome after breakfast for Monte Cassino, with a visit to the famous abbey founded by St Benedict, located in a panoramic position on top of a mountain. Continues after lunch to San Giovanni Rotondo, one of Italy's most famous pilgrimage destinations, where Padre Pio lived and died. Dinner and overnight stay in hotel.

### **Day 6:**

Morning dedicated to a visit to the sanctuary with the church of St Mary of Grace and the tomb of St Pio. Possibility of attending Holy Mass. Lunch in hotel. Visit in the afternoon to the picturesque town of Monte Sant'Angelo, famous for the cave where the Archangel Michael appeared several times between the 5th and 17th centuries. Return to hotel in San Giovanni Rotondo for dinner and overnight stay.

### **Day 7:**

Departure after breakfast for Lancia, with a visit to the Sanctuary of the Eucharistic Miracle, where around the year 700, while a priest was celebrating Holy Mass, the sacramental bread and wine changed into flesh and blood. Continues after lunch in a restaurant to Assisi. Visit to the Basilica of St Mary of the Angels, with inside it the Porziuncola Chapel. Dinner and overnight stay in hotel at Santa Maria degli Angeli, located at the foot of the hill of Assisi.

### **Day 8:**

Guided visit to Assisi after breakfast, including the Basilica of St Francis with the saint's tomb, the Piazza del Comune, the house where St Francis was born and the Basilica of St Clare. Possibility of attending Holy Mass. Return to hotel for lunch. Trip in the afternoon to Cascia, indissolubly linked to St Rita, with a visit to the Basilica dedicated to her. Return to hotel in Santa Maria degli Angeli for dinner and overnight stay.

**Day 9:**

Departure after breakfast for Loreto, with a visit to the Shrine of the Holy House, where the Virgin Mary lived in Nazareth, miraculously transported to Loreto by angels in the 12th century. Continues after lunch to Padua, for dinner and overnight stay.

**Day 10:**

Guided visit in the morning to the city of Padua, with its famous Basilica of St Anthony, where the relics of the saint are conserved. Lunch and afternoon free. Possibility of organizing an excursion to Venice. Dinner and overnight stay in a hotel in Padua.

**Day 11:**

Breakfast and end of our services.

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