



10 DAY PILGRIMAGE INCLUDING ROME, SIENA, FLORENCE, ASSISI AND ORVIETO

(Overnights: 1 Assisi, 2 Siena and 5 Rome)

Day 1: Wednesday, January 20 – HOME/ROME

Depart from the home city airport on the flight to a gateway city and on to Rome. Dinner and breakfast will be served on board. (M)

Day 2: Thursday, January 21 - ROME/ASSISI

Arrive at the Da Vinci Airport in Rome. After passport control, meet the tour leader and board the private motor coach that will take you north through the Umbrian countryside, the “green heart of Italy”. Stop along the way for an included light lunch before reaching Assisi, home of St. Francis. Settle in and adjust to the new time. Later in the afternoon, a Mass of thanksgiving for a safe arrival will be celebrated at the **Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels**. View the **Porziuncola**, the small church within the church, from where the Franciscan movement began. Return to the hotel in time to enjoy dinner. (L, D)

Day 3: Friday, January 22 - ASSISI/SIENA

Celebrate an early Mass, possibly at the Tomb of St. Francis. Afterwards, a guided tour will include the **Basilica of St. Francis**, the **Basilica of St. Clare**, **St. Francis’ birthplace** and the **Piazza del Comune**. After free time for lunch, board the coach that will take you to Tuscan town of Siena. Complete check-in formalities then enjoy dinner at the hotel. (B, D)

Day 4: Saturday, January 23 - SIENA/FLORENCE/SIENA

Leave the hotel early to board the coach for an excursion to Florence. On arrival, begin a guided, walking tour of the city which will include the **Academy** with Michelangelo’s statue “**David**”, the **Cathedral of St. Mary of the Flower and Baptistery**, the **Piazza della Signoria** and the **Church of Santa Croce**, where possibly Mass will be celebrated. There will be free time afterwards to explore further this Renaissance city. Stroll past the never ending “gold” boutiques that line the Ponte Vecchio or visit the Uffizi Museum. Return to Siena and, on the way, stop in the Tuscan hills for an included wine tasting and dinner. (B, D)

Day 5: Sunday, January 24 - SIENA/ORVIETO/ROME

Begin the day with a guided tour of the **Basilica of San Domenico**, holding the remains of the head of Saint Catherine. Move on to discover other treasures of Siena, the splendid **Cathedral** and **Piazza del Campo** where each year the famous and dangerous “Palio” horse race takes place. After free time for lunch, depart for yet another lovely Umbrian town, Orvieto. Mass will be celebrated at the **Cathedral of Orvieto** followed by a visit. Free time to browse the narrow streets for souvenir shopping before departing for Rome. Tonight, take a short walk to a nearby restaurant for dinner. (B, D)

Day 6: Monday, January 25 - ROME

This morning, walk to St. Peter's and celebrate Mass. Afterwards, take part in a **Scavi Tour**, the excavations beneath St. Peter's Basilica. After free time for lunch, the tour continues with a visit of the 4th Century **Basilica of St. Paul's Outside the Walls**. In the evening, savor dinner near the hotel. (B, D)

Day 7: Tuesday, January 26 - ROME

Begin the day with an early Mass at St. Peter's. Afterwards, tour the impressive **Vatican Museums**. Walk through some of the most unique rooms and view the works of art of famous artists, the **Sistine Chapel** with Michelangelo's masterpiece "The Last Judgment" and visit the most magnificent of churches, **St. Peter's Basilica**. Spend the remainder of the day at your leisure. (B)

Day 8: Wednesday, January 27 - ROME

What a way to begin the day at St. Peter's Square to attend the unforgettable **General Papal Audience** given by His Holiness Pope Francis. After an included lunch, a guided tour features the massive **Colosseum** and the incredible excavations of the **Roman Forum**. The tour ends with a visit to the **Basilica of St. Mary Major**, the largest church of Rome, where Mass will be celebrated. In the evening, explore for another one of Rome's endless restaurants. (B, L)

Day 9: Thursday, January 28 - ROME

In the morning, a guided tour will feature the **Holy Steps**, believed to be the actual ones Jesus climbed when He was sentenced to death, and the basilica of Rome, **St. John Lateran**. The tour continues with visit of the **Church of the Holy Cross of Jerusalem**, housing the Passion relics brought to Rome from the Holy Land by St. Helena of Constantinople. The rest of the day has been left open for last minute shopping, sightseeing or packing. In the evening, an "Arrivederci Roma" toast is in order at the Farewell Dinner. Let the wine flow as you tune in to some of Italy's most famous melodies. (B, D)

Day 10: Friday, January 29 - ROME/HOME

This morning you will be accompanied by your tour leader to the airport and assisted with check in formality to board the flight home. You will be asking yourself "where did the time go?" (B, M)

Legend: M = Meals served on board – B = Breakfast – L = Lunch – D = Dinner



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