

Assisi & Rome

Follow the Footsteps of Francis

Fr. Bennet Tran
St. Stephen's Catholic Church

October 15-24, 2019
\$3,795 plus airfare



MAGI
TRAVEL



YOUR TOUR INCLUDES

- Accommodations in four star hotels:
 - Four nights in Assisi at Hotel Giotto
 - Four nights in Rome at Starhotel Michelangelo
- Breakfast daily
- Four dinners, including welcome dinner in Assisi, farewell dinner in Rome
- Dinners include limited wine, water and coffee
- Cooking class and lunch with wine pairings in Montefalco
- Sightseeing and where applicable admissions to:
 - Colosseum and Forum
 - St. Peter's Basilica
 - Castel Gandolfo
 - Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel
 - All other sightseeing described in itinerary
- Excellent local guide for entire trip
- Porterage of luggage
- Deluxe motor coach throughout tour
- Personal headsets
- Mass daily
- Gratuities for local guides and drivers

Itinerary

Tuesday, October 15, 2019: USA to Rome: Optional overnight flight across the Atlantic. Dinner and breakfast served on board.

Wednesday, October 16: Assisi

Arrival at Rome airport (FCO). Travel north into the green Umbria region to Assisi, the magical town of Saint Francis built on pink stone on the slopes of Mount Subasio. Mass at the Basilica of St. Francis. Welcome dinner and accommodation in the historic center of Assisi. (D)

Thursday, October 17: Assisi

After breakfast begin a guided tour of Assisi, including visits of the Basilica of St. Clare and the Basilica of St. Francis, a fundamental reference for art history, consisting of two superimposed churches and a crypt, and hosting admirable frescoes from Cimabue and Giotto. After lunch on your own, transfer by minivan to nearly the top of Mount Subasio to visit the Carceri Hermitage, a sanctuary in the woods that evolved around the cave chosen by Francis for prayer and retreat. Mass will be celebrated at the Hermitage.

The remainder of the afternoon is free in Assisi. Consider a walk up to the peaceful convent of San Damiano, where Saint Francis wrote his Canticle of the Creatures and Saint Clare founded the order of Poor Clares. Dinner is on your own this evening. (B)

Friday, October 18: La Verna / Assisi

Excursion to the Franciscan Sanctuary of La Verna, located in the heart of the Apennines at 4,200 feet above sea level, surrounded by large forests of fir and beech, a perfect place for contemplation amidst nature where Francis and his followers spent long periods of meditation and prayer. In 1224, when he was already tired and ill, Francis received the stigmata here, which he carried until his death two years later. Celebrate Mass in the Sanctuary. In the afternoon visit Gubbio, one of the oldest towns of Umbria. The town remains marvelously well preserved over the centuries, with elegant stone palaces, medieval churches, narrow streets and a Roman Theater.

Return to Assisi. Dinner for the group will be at a local restaurant tonight. (B,D)

Saturday, October 19: Assisi / Montefalco

In the morning, visit the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels to celebrate Mass and visit the little church of the "Porziuncola", where St. Francis consecrated St. Clare as the Bride of Christ and where he had the vision which inspired the Pardon of Assisi.

Transfer to Montefalco, in the heart of the Sagrantino wine region, to experience a special "hands-on" cooking class, focused on the local Umbrian cuisine. Enjoy lunch including excellent local wines before returning to Assisi for an afternoon and evening of relaxation. (B,L)

Sunday, October 20: Sanctuary of Greccio / Classic Rome

After breakfast leave Assisi and transfer to the picturesque Sanctuary of Greccio, where, in December 1223, Francis devised the first living nativity scene. Celebrate Mass in the Sanctuary and proceed to Rome, Italy's capital and a sprawling, cosmopolitan city with nearly 3,000 years of globally influential art, architecture and culture on display. Accommodation at your first-class hotel located next to St. Peter's Basilica.

In the afternoon, go on a walking tour to visit the most famous and charming squares of Rome: the Trevi Fountain, a grandiose late Baroque monument; the Spanish Steps, dominated by the majestic stairways of Trinità dei Monti; and the Pantheon, an ancient building perfectly preserved, founded in 27 BC by Agrippa, a former temple then converted into a church. Free time to stroll around the scenic Piazza Navona, a large square built on the site of Domitian's Stadium, adorned by the Baroque masterpiece, Bernini's Fountain of the Four Rivers.

Dinner at a local restaurant. (B,D)

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Monday, October 21: Papal Basilicas / Imperial Rome

Enjoy a full day tour of three Papal Basilicas and Imperial Rome. First visit the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls, founded by the Roman emperor Constantine over the burial place of St. Paul, then travel to Esquiline Hill where you will discover the treasures inside the Basilica of St. Mary Major.

See Piazza Venezia, the Roman Forum, the Circus Maximus and the Palatine Hill, the Arch of Constantine and finally the Colosseum, the Flavian amphitheatre dating back 80 AD, a masterpiece of ancient architecture where Christians were literally thrown to the lions.

Continue by coach to see the Holy Staircase and the Lateran Palace, before entering the Archbasilica of St. John Lateran, the cathedral of Rome, where you will celebrate Mass. Dinner on your own this evening. (B)

Tuesday, October 22: Rome / Castel Gandolfo

Walk to St. Peter's Basilica for a private morning Mass in the Vatican caves.

Morning excursion to Castel Gandolfo to visit the Apostolic Palace, the former summer residence of the Popes, recently opened to visitors by Pope Francis. We will admire the Papal Apartment, paintings, relics, liturgical vestments, uniforms and other curiosities. Also on display are the sedan chair of Pope Pius IX and the BMW used by Pope John Paul II. On board a comfortable ecological vehicle we will then discover the Barberini Gardens, the natural and archeological treasure of the Pontifical villa. Free time for lunch.

Return to Rome in the afternoon, time free for independent activities. Dinner on your own this evening. (B)

Wednesday, October 23: Papal Audience / Vatican Museums

Walk to St. Peter's Square to attend the Papal Audience, a truly unique experience for all Catholic pilgrims.

Early afternoon guided tour of the Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel. Take the beautiful spiral staircase and go through the Gallery of Tapestries and the Gallery of Geographical Maps before arriving in the famous Sistine Chapel, a masterpiece of Renaissance art, with its magnificent fresco of the Last Judgement by Michelangelo. The Sistine Chapel is the place where the conclave meets and the scene of the most solemn ceremonies of the Holy See. You will then visit St. Peter's Basilica, built on the tomb of the apostle Peter, constantly revised during the centuries and decorated in Baroque style by Bernini. See Michelangelo's statue of the "Pietà" and the famous baldachin crowning the pontifical altar.

Evening Mass, near the hotel, at the church of Santa Maria alle Fornaci. Transfer by bus to restaurant "Da Benito" for a special farewell dinner with music. (B,D)

Thursday, October 24: Morning transfer to Rome's Leonardo da Vinci airport.

Must be Physically Able to Travel: Magi Travel tours require participants to be able to do a considerable amount of walking (3-5 miles per day), sometimes on uneven, rough or hilly terrain. If you have mobility issues, you must travel with someone who is physically able to assist you and they will also need to register for the trip. Magi Travel Tour Coordinators, Hosts and Tour Guides are unable to assist individual passengers with mobility issues. Please note that scooters cannot be accommodated on this tour.

Register Online at
www.magitravelinc.com

Trip #1919 with
Fr. Bennet Tran

Go to www.magitravelinc.com

Click the appropriate **Destination**.

Click the appropriate "**Learn More**" button. Follow the prompts to register and make your deposit online.

If you do not have access to the internet, please call Magi Travel at 952-949-0065 to register. You will also need to read, sign and return our Terms and Conditions form.

Optional Group Airfare from Minneapolis/St. Paul: \$1,495

Group airline arrangements include round trip flights from Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport to Rome (FCO) and airport transfers. The price is estimated. You will be notified once airline contracts are available of any price difference. Aisle and/or window seats can be requested, but are not guaranteed. Flight schedules are subject to change until 90 days before the tour.

Making Your Own Airline Arrangements

If you plan to make your own airline arrangements, you will need to obtain flights to Rome arriving before the group flights on October 16th. Contact Magi Travel to coordinate your arrival.

Departure is on October 24th, from Rome. Your return flight will need to depart Rome at the same time or after the group flight in order to utilize the group transportation to the airport.

Doing your own ticketing can have advantages if you have frequent flyer miles, want to upgrade your seats, want to have greater control over seat selection or fly Business Class. All group ticketing is coach class. Often you can find lower airfare compared to the group airfare price.



Online Registration: www.magitravelinc.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Deposit and Final Payment: A deposit of \$500.00 per person must accompany all reservations for the tour. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure. We accept Visa, MasterCard, Discover and checks. Make all checks payable to Magi Travel. Upon completion of your online registration, you will automatically receive an email confirmation to review along with a link to your registration and links to purchase an optional travel protection plan. If you do not receive this email, please contact Magi Travel.

Passport: Your passport must be valid for 6 months beyond the return date of your trip.

Visa: No Visa is required for US citizens.

Airline Seating Requests and Special Meals: Any special airline seating (aisle/window) or airline meal requests must be made 90 days prior to departure. We cannot guarantee seat requests.

Items Not Included: Possible airline-imposed baggage fees (not anticipated), some meals (see itinerary for specific details), Travel Protection and all items of personal nature are not included.

Single Supplement: There are a few private single rooms available. The cost of the single supplement is \$1,000.

Tour Price: The tour price is based on existing airfare tariffs and currency exchanges as of March 2018, and are expected to be in effect at the time of the tour. If they should be increased, the price of the tour will change accordingly. You will need to indicate how you plan to pay your final balance (due 90 days prior to departure) as that will determine your land price. If you pay your final balance with a check, you will receive a \$100.00 discount per person.

Cancellation Policy: All cancellations must be received in writing. Please send your email to: info@magitravelinc.com. There is no refund within 90 days of departure. Therefore, we strongly encourage travel protection. Plans offer benefits for trip cancellation/interruption and more. When you purchase your plan, make sure you understand the "covered reasons" for canceling a trip. Read through the Plan Document as it contains benefits, coverages, and exclusions & limitations.

Travel Protection Coverage: Go to www.magitravelinc.com and select the link for this tour to see the details on Travel Protection Coverage. There are two plans to choose from. Both plans are based on the cost of the trip- not your age! You may sign up for coverage by clicking the link on the Magi Travel tour website or the link on your emailed registration confirmation. Magi Travel highly suggests the purchase of Travel Protection and it is up to you to purchase it through Travel Insured or with another carrier of your choosing.

You may call Travel Insured at 844-440-8113 with any Travel Protection related questions.

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