

THE FAITH & ESSENCE OF ITALY

ITALIAN PILGRIMAGE : JUNE 5 TO 16, 2022

12-DAYS VISITING THE CITIES OF ROME, SIENA, ASSISI, VENICE, FLORENCE, PADUA AND MUCH MORE!



WITH THE SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP OF
FATHER XAVIER DE PINTO
PASTOR OF PRECIOUS BLOOD PARISH
CELEBRATING HIS 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION

COME AND PRAY IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE MIGHTY SAINTS – LIKE ST. PETER, ST. FRANCIS AND ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

ITINERARY

DAY 1 SUNDAY JUNE 5 FLIGHT TO VENICE
We fly from Toronto to Venice aboard Air Canada. Sit back, relax and enjoy your flight. Group seating for our flight will be pre-assigned by the airline. Overnight on board.

DAY 2 MONDAY JUNE 6 VENICE-PADUA
Ciao Italy! Upon arrival and clearing customs and immigration, we meet our tour manager and board our bus to drive us to Padua. We Check-in at our hotel and enjoy time to rest. Our pilgrimage officially begins with prayers at the Basilica of Saint Anthony and devotion by the tomb of the Saint followed a Welcome Dinner with all the members of our group.
Overnight: Padua Dinner

DAY 3 TUESDAY JUNE 7 EXCURSION TO VENICE
Today we take the vaporetto through the Grand Canal to Venice. We'll see Piazza San Marco, the Doge Palace, famous bridges of Venice, pray at St. Mark's Basilica and enjoy a Gondola ride. For lunch we suggest you do what Venetians do, head out to a bacaro or wine bar, for some cicchetti or small bites of traditional Venetian fare and a glass of wine (a similar concept to Spanish tapas). Return to Padua. Dinner including pizza and Bigoli pasta (typical from this region).
Overnight: Padua Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 4 WEDNESDAY JUNE 8 BOLOGNA-FLORENCE
You may want to join other pilgrims for early prayers at the Basilica before breakfast. We leave Padua for Bologna well known all over the world for their pasta and cured meats. We'll enjoy a food extravaganza tasting Parmigiano Reggiano, local charcuterie and sip aged balsamic vinegar. We'll take time to stroll through the Piazza Maggiore and see the city's two famous towers, the Torre degli Asinelli and Torre della Garisenda. Lunch will be on our own. Our guide has great recommendations for restaurants highlighting Emilia-Romagna cuisine if you are interested. Continue to Florence, the "Cradle of the Renaissance". Tonight you will learn why there's no such thing as "Italian" food. We'll start with an aperitivo, then a typical starter of classic Tuscan soup, savour artisanal cheese and cured local meats paired with the perfect local vino and end your meal as Florentines do with a gelato (invented here in Florence).
Overnight: Florence Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 5 THURSDAY, JUNE 9 FLORENCE
This morning pray at the Cathedral Santa Maria del Fiore. Visit the Accademia Gallery to admire Michelangelo's David and enjoy a walking tour to see the Baptistery, Piazza della Repubblica, the sculpture-studded Piazza della Signoria and the Ponte Vecchio. You'll have the afternoon free to stroll and explore. Dinner tonight will include the famous "Bistecca alla Fiorentina" (steak Florentine style), one of the glories of Tuscan Cuisine.
Overnight: Florence Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 6 FRIDAY, JUNE 10 TUSCAN COUNTRYSIDE-SAN GIMIGNANO-SIENA
We depart Florence and drive through the heart of Tuscany and the Chianti region to San Gimignano, one of the most charming and picturesque hill towns in Tuscany. There will be free time to wander through the narrow streets, climb the "Torre Grossa" and take pictures of the gorgeous landscape. We visit a local winery and experience a farm-to-table lunch in one of the most beautiful settings in San Gimignano. Continue on a short drive to Siena, birthplace of St. Catherine. We arrive at our hotel, get settled and enjoy some time to rest before dinner. Our dinner will highlight traditional Sieneese delicacies, pecorino cheese, chewy panforte & much, much more.
Overnight: Siena Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 7 SATURDAY JUNE 11 SIENA
This morning we visit the Duomo of Siena, one of Italy's greatest cathedrals. Wander through medieval cobblestone alleyways, see splendid Renaissance palaces, Piazza del Campo and pray at the Church of St. Dominic which houses the reliquary containing the incorrupt head and thumb of St. Catherine. The afternoon is at leisure. Tonight we learn how to cook the Italian way and get to enjoy our own creation. This is going to be fun!
Overnight: Siena Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 8 SUNDAY JUNE 12 EXCURSION TO ASSISI
Today we visit Assisi, the town of St. Francis and St. Clare. Assisi is a spiritual treasure and one of the most peaceful spots in Italy. We visit the Basilica of St. Francis, which contains many of the possessions of St. Francis and a series of frescoes depicting his life. You will have a chance to see where St. Francis knelt before the crucifix and heard Jesus ask him to rebuild His church. We will also visit the Basilica of St. Clare and pray before the Holy Crucifix from which God spoke to Francis. Return to our hotel in Siena and enjoy some time to rest before another delicious meal with regional specialties and wines.
Overnight: Siena Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 9 MONDAY JUNE 13 SIENA-ROME
We depart towards Rome for the last leg of our pilgrimage. We arrive at our hotel and check-in for 3 nights. In the afternoon begin our sightseeing of Rome with a stop at the Colosseum for a picture opportunity. Continue with a leisurely walk through the historic center of Rome to see the Trevi Fountain, the Spanish Steps and Piazza Navona including dinner with traditional Roman dishes at one of its trendy restaurants for people watching and enjoy the ambiance of the Piazza.
Overnight: Rome Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 10 TUESDAY JUNE 14 ROME
Today we learn the stories and legends of early Christianity visiting three of the major basilicas: St. John Lateran, the oldest Basilica in Rome and the official seat of the Pope. Across from it we visit the Holy Stairs, regarded as the stairs climbed by Jesus on his way to face Pontius Pilate. Continue to the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls, believed to be the burial ground of St. Paul and finally the Basilica of St. Mary Major, one of the oldest shrines dedicated to the Blessed Virgin. The afternoon is at leisure. We'll meet again for supper and enjoy a classic of the Italian cuisine: Lasagna alla Bolognese.
Overnight: Rome Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 11 WEDNESDAY JUNE 15 PAPAL AUDIENCE & VATICAN CITY
Today is a very emotional day. We arrive at St. Peter's Square to participate in the Papal Audience and to be blessed by the Holy Father (providing His Holiness is in residence). We will also have some free time to shop for religious souvenirs, stroll and explore on our own. In the afternoon we embark on a visit to the Vatican Museum and the incomparable Sistine Chapel. We end our visit at St. Peter's Basilica. Built on the site where St. Peter was martyred, is the largest church in Christendom. A visit to St. Peter's Basilica is awe-inspiring, breathtaking, speechless. Tonight we toast to a fabulous trip and new friends, and enjoy a Farewell Dinner at one of the best restaurants in the heart of Trastevere.
Overnight: Rome Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 12 THURSDAY JUNE 16 FLIGHT TO TORONTO
Our pilgrimage has come to an end. We celebrate closing prayers and depart for the airport for our return flight.
Overnight: Breakfast



PRICE PER PERSON IN DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

\$ 5,490 CAD

Price includes Fuel Surcharge & Airport Taxes (\$ 698.37 CAD) and are subject to change without notice until time of ticketing
See next page for complete list of inclusions

To register and for more information please contact:



30 Wertheim Court # 20, Richmond Hill, ON L4B 1B9
(905) 889-1681 Toll-Free 1-800-268-0900 Ext. 233
edgar@gateways-international.com
TICO Reg. #2171876

THE TOUR INCLUDES

- ✓ Round trip airfare from Toronto
- ✓ 10 night accommodation in 3* & 4* hotels, std rooms, double occupancy
- ✓ Breakfast daily, 1 winery lunch in San Gimignano and 10 Dinners showcasing regional Italian cuisine at local restaurants
- ✓ Mineral water and Italian wine with all meals
- ✓ Gastronomic Tour in Bologna including tasting of Parmeggiano Reggiano cheese, aged Balsamic Vinegar and cured meats
- ✓ Wine & Olive Oil Tasting in San Gimignano
- ✓ Cooking class in Siena
- ✓ Private coach transportation throughout
- ✓ Entrance fees, tours and visit to holy sites as per the itinerary with English speaking escort and local guides where applicable
- ✓ Gondola ride in Venice
- ✓ Daily Mass and/or Spiritual activities
- ✓ Hotel taxes and service charges
- ✓ Fuel surcharge & Airport taxes (at time of printing \$698.37 CAD, subject to change at any time without notice until time of ticketing)
- ✓ Gratuities to hotels and restaurants

NOT INCLUDED IN THE PRICE

- ✓ Meals and drinks not mentioned above
- ✓ Passports: Canadian citizens require a valid passport for more than 6 months after the return date
- ✓ Gratuities to guides and drivers and other local staff: € 180.00 per participant collected in cash ahead for your convenience
- ✓ Costs of personal nature, optional excursions, excess baggage charges
- ✓ Insurance for medical, Cancellation and Interruption, baggage (strongly recommended)

BOOKING

A deposit of \$500.00 CAD per person is required at time of booking. If you opt to purchase Cancellation/Interruption or All-Inclusive insurance, it must be purchased at time of first deposit. See payment schedule below. Bookings after February 21, 2022 are subject to availability and full payment is due at time of booking.

PLEASE NOTE ALL PAYMENTS ARE 100% NON- REFUNDABLE.

CANCELLATIONS AND CHANGES

If you must cancel, Gateways International must be informed in writing immediately. All payments are 100% Non-Refundable. A \$75.00 CAD fee will be applied for any changes you wish to make before February 20, 2022. Changes after February 21, 2022 will be treated as cancellations.

PHYSICAL HEALTH

Participants on this tour take full responsibility for being fully able to participate in the daily scheduled activities of the group, noting that tours organized by Gateways International require physical fitness. There is daily walking, sometimes up or down slopes, and at times sidewalks and uneven terrain. One may choose not to participate in parts of the sightseeing; however, there is no refund for missed sightseeing.

OPTIONAL TRAVEL INSURANCE

(Effective October 4, 2021)

CAD\$ Premium per person	All-Inclusive	Non-Medical
up to 59 years	341.00	303.00
60-64 years	412.00	346.00
65-69 years	495.00	385.00
70-74 years	649.00	439.00
75-79 years	981.00	629.00
80-84 years	1,253.00	775.00

- ✓ **All-Inclusive Worldwide Plan** provides coverage for cancellation up to the amount paid, interruption, trip delay, \$ 10 million emergency medical, baggage & personal effects, baggage delay, personal money loss, passport loss, airlight accident and travel accident. Emergency Medical coverage for COVID-19 will only be available for fully vaccinated individuals or those not medically eligible --when the travel advisory is no longer in effect. In the event that the travel advisory would remain in effect, a COVID-19 Emergency Medical Waiver is available for purchase at \$ 4 per day premium supplement. See the policy for the full description and eligibility.
- ✓ **Non-Medical Plan** provides coverage for *cancellation, interruption* up to the amount paid, trip delay, baggage & personal effects, baggage delay, personal money loss, passport loss, airlight accident and travel accident. There is no coverage for Emergency Medical.
- ✓ **Premium per person is subject to change without prior notice**

Travel insurance is designed to cover losses arising from sudden and unforeseeable circumstances. Please contact us to get a copy of the policy. It is important that you read and understand the policy before you purchase as the coverage is subject to certain limitations, conditions or exclusions.

All participants must hold Trip Cancellation/Interruption + Emergency Medical Insurance to travel with us. Proof of coverage if purchased elsewhere must be provided at time of booking.

COVID-19 is known event and is excluded from cancellation coverage. However, if you contract COVID-19 prior to departure, you may be eligible to claim subject to your specific circumstances.

All participants must comply with the travel regulations and guidelines of Public Health and the Ministry of Health of each country we visit. Proof of vaccination and further testing may be required at time of travelling.

Please contact us if you are traveling in a Single room, adding optional tours, live outside the Province of Ontario and for other types of coverage.

***** FATHER XAVIER DE PINTO, FAITH & ESSENCES OF ITALY, JUNE 5-16, 2022 DEPOSIT REGISTRATION FORM *****

Name (as per passport): First _____ Middle _____ Last _____

Address: _____

City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

Home Phone (____) _____ Cell Phone: (____) _____ e-mail: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Do you have any Dietary restrictions? _____ Do you have any Medical problems? _____

I am departing from Toronto Other: _____ (fare supplement and flight details to be informed accordingly)

Passport #: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Enclosed is a photocopy of my passport (page showing name and photo)

I have a Roommate I need a Roommate (subject to availability) I would like a Single room and pay **CAD \$ 795** Supplement

Enclosed is my **deposit of \$500 CAD – Cheques payable to Gateways International, for credit card complete below**

I authorize Gateways International to charge a deposit of **\$500 CAD** now, and/or balance of **\$4,990 CAD** (plus or minus changes in Airport taxes and Single Supplement if applicable) by **February 21, 2022** on my credit card listed below

Credit Card Type: VISA _____ MASTERCARD _____ AMERICAN EXPRESS _____

Card Number _____ CVV _____ Exp. Date _____

Name as it appears on credit card _____

Signature _____ Date _____

INSURANCE: Please add the following Travel Insurance to my package (Payment will be collected separately)

All-Inclusive Worldwide Policy Non-Medical Policy I decline insurance. Proof of my own policy attached.

My signature below indicates that I have read and agreed to the Terms and Conditions outlined by Gateways International in this brochure. I also understand that Gateways International strongly recommends the purchase of trip cancellation and interruption insurance, which is not included in the trip price, and that Gateways International's cancellation policy cannot be waived for any reason. If I do not purchase trip cancellation and interruption insurance, I will hold Gateways International harmless in any matter that would have been covered by this added insurance.

Signature Participant: _____ **Date:** _____

PLEASE COMPLETE AND MAIL WITH PAYMENT TO: GATEWAYS INTERNATIONAL, 30 WERTHEIM COURT # 20, RICHMOND HILL, ONT L4B 1B9