

PILGRIMAGE

ROME - ST. PADRE PIO

ASSISI-LORETO-LANCIANO-MONTECASSINO

September 21-30, 2010

Spiritual Director: Msgr. Leonard F. Troiano

\$3099.00 per person (Double or Triple Occupancy)

Single room: \$3499.00

(\$250.00 deposit per person)

NOT INCLUDED: Lunch, beverages, gratuities and travel insurance.

TOUR COST INCLUDES:

- Roundtrip airfare from JFK.
- Touring with English speaking guide.
- Departure taxes and entrance fees.
- Breakfast & Dinner daily.
- Mass & Rosary daily.
- 3 & 4 stars hotels as follows: (or similar)
 - 1) Hotel Subasio (Assisi)
 - 2) Hotel Miramare (Civitanova)
 - 3) Hotel Degli Angeli (S.G. Rotondo)
 - 4) Hotel Al Boschetto (Cassino)
 - 5) Hotel Casa Bonus Pastor (Rome)

SAMPLE DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY:

SEPT-21/TUE:

JFK-ROME:

Board your overnight transatlantic flight to Rome. Dinner and breakfast are served on board.

SEPT-22/WED:

ASSISI:

Upon arrival your escort will warmly greet you and welcome you to Italy. Board our deluxe motor coach for our scenic drive to Assisi. Upon arrival in Assisi we will check in your hotel and have some time to rest and refresh. Late afternoon tour of the Basilica of Santa Maria degli Angeli. It was in this Basilica where St. Francis spent most of his life. Here we visit the Chapel, Portiuncola, the rose bush, and the cave where the St. Francis retired for prayer. Dinner and overnight in Assisi.

SEPT-23/THU:

ASSISI-LORETO:

This morning we will meet our local guide and start our sightseeing tour of Assisi. We will be visiting the major sites associated with St. Francis, the Saint who shaped Christianity. We will visit the Basilica of St. Francis: the upper Basilica with Giotto frescoes representing St. Francis life, the lower Basilica and the Tomb of St. Francis. After some free time for our own prayers and private reflections, we will continue our tour and visit the Basilica of St. Clare, dedicated to the faithful disciple of St. Francis. Continuation to Loreto, the scene of famous pilgrimages to the House of Mary. Dinner and overnight in Civitanova Marche.

SEPT-24/FRI:

LORETO-SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO:

This morning has been set aside so that you may visit the Sanctuary of the Holy House. This building, also known as the Santa Casa was carried, we are told, from Nazareth to a hill in Dalmatia by angels in 1291, and then, in 1294 from Dalmatia across the Adriatic to the Marches region, Italy. The angels set the house down in a wood of laurels which gave its name to Loreto. Late morning leisurely drive will take you to the city of Lanciano, city of one of the greatest Eucharistic Miracles on record. In the 8th century during the Holy Mass the wine turned into blood and the host into flesh. We will spend some time in the church where the relic is exposed. Continuation to San Giovanni Rotondo for dinner and overnight.

SEPT-25/SAT:

SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO:

Wake up to the pleasant sound of ringing bells coming from St. Padre Pio Basilica. Begin your morning with a visit to the Sanctuary and see the places where Father Pio spent the last 50 years of his life. (Optional) afternoon excursion to Monte Sant' Angelo and visit the famous and mystic Grotto of the "Archangel Michael". The town is built on a spur, dominated by the Norman ruins of a castle and overlooks both the Gargano Massif and the sea. Dinner and overnight in San Giovanni Rotondo.

SEPT-26/SUN:

SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO-CASSINO:

This morning we depart San Giovanni Rotondo and visit Petralcina. Its in this town that St. Padre Pio was born, we will have time to visit the house where he lived, the church where Padre Pio began his apostolate. Continue to the city of Cassino for dinner and overnight.

SEPT-27/MON:

CASSINO-ROME:

After breakfast transfer from the Hotel to the Abbey of Montecassino. The Abbey is one of the holy places of Roman Catholicism. The mother house of the Benedictines was founded by St. Benedict in 529. The Basilica is richly decorated with marble, stucco, mosaic and gilding. Under the chancel an urn containing the remains of St. Benedict and St. Scolastica recently found. After your private Mass and visit of the church, we will continue on to Rome. Your afternoon sightseeing tour will unveil some of Rome's ancient splendour. Among the highlights, the Basilica of St. John Lateran and St. Paul outside the Walls. Afterwards, ride along the Appian Way to the Catacombs, a network of underground cemeteries, a vivid sign of the origin of Christianity. Dinner and overnight in Rome.

SEPT-28/TUE:

ROME:

This morning we will visit the Vatican Museums, a group of most impressive edifices with hundreds of galleries filled with art treasures. See awe-inspiring relics and works of art donated throughout centuries as tributes of faith. We'll cover The Tapestry Gallery, The Raphael Rooms and the most overwhelming Sistine Chapel, Michelangelo's Masterpiece, restored mural of the Last Judgment. Later, enter the largest church in Christendom, St. Peter's Basilica, built on the site where St. Peter was martyred. Unsurpassed in beauty, a monument to the long history of the Catholic Church, to which pilgrims come from around the world. St. Peter's is the grandest of the world's churches. After lunch, afternoon's guided tour will continue to the Basilica of St. Mary Major, one of the oldest shrines dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, a shrine that contains a relic from the manger of the infant Jesus. The Coliseum where the gladiators use to fight. The Roman Forum, Piazza Venezia (from where Mussolini's delivered some of his most notorious speeches). Dinner and overnight in Rome.

SEPT-29/WED:

ROME:

Today's program includes St. Peter's Square, where you will be admitted to the Papal Audience. After a hopeful message pronounced in various languages, his Holiness Benedict XVI will impart his blessing. Rest of the day at leisure, to explore your own paths, to shop, or just to sit in one of the outside cafes and watch the world go by. Farewell dinner in one of Romes romantic restaurant. Overnight in Rome.

SEPT-30/THU:

ROME-USA:

"Be sure not to pack your passport". Your memorable journey has come to an end. This morning you will be transferred to the airport for your return flight home. You will be asking yourself, "Where did the time go?"

SPACE IS LIMITED!

**To secure your Spiritual Journey of a lifetime,
must book by February 15, 2010.**



A & G Peace Tours Inc. (718)423-5077