

JUNE 4-15, 2025

WALKING WITH MARY: FATIMA, LOURDES, ROME

Fr. Sergio Rodriguez, St. Dominic Parish, Bolingbrook, IL

Early Bird Price - Valid until February 1, 2025

Price presupposes 18 paying pilgrims, the minimum required for the pilgrimage to go forward.

\$5,350 per person in a shared room if paid by check, Zelle, or bank transfer \$5,500 per person in a shared room if paid by credit card

Standard Price - Deadline for sign up April 18, 2025

\$5,500 per person in a shared room if paid by check, Zelle, or bank transfer \$5,750 per person in a shared room if paid by credit card

With 30 paying pilgrims the price drops to \$5,100.
With 40 paying pilgrims the price drops to \$4,850

All pilgrims, whether registered early bird or standard, will receive a cash refund for any over-payment once the final number of pilgrims, and price, is determined on April 18, 2025

Send checks to Peregrino, PO Box 212, 25 Tesler Rd., Lake Zurich, IL 60047. Do not send checks via Certified Mail. First Class postage is sufficient.

\$900 supplement for a single room. Single rooms are not guaranteed and should be requested as soon as possible. Triples and quads are available.

\$500 deposit required to register

Final payment due date: April 18, 2025

Credit Card payments can be made on our website. Questions? travel@myperegrinotour.com or call 872-227-0988; myperegrinotour.com. Hablamos Español – llámanos a mándanos un correo. See the Questions & Answer below for more specific information.

Itinerary

Day 1: Wednesday, June 4, 2025:

Depart U.S. on flight from Chicago O'Hare to Lisbon, Portugal. The flight will depart in the evening U.S. central time, and either be direct or have a brief layover.

Day 2: Thursday, June 5:

Flight arrives in Lisbon in the morning hours. Transfer to hotel via private bus to drop off luggage at hotel. Begin a tour of the highlights of beautiful Lisbon. Conclude touring by 8 p.m. for a well deserved night's rest.

Day 3: Friday, June 6:

Breakfast at the hotel. Travel two hours to Fatima by private bus. We'll spend the day getting to know the shrine where Mary appeared to three holy children in 1917. There will be time for Mass, rosary, stations of the cross, and other devotions as we bask in the quiet spirituality of this famous place of pilgrimage.

Day 4: Saturday, June 7:

Breakfast at the hotel. There will be time for prayer, Mass, devotions, quiet reflection, and shopping as we continue to walk with Mary on our pilgrimage of faith.

Day 5: Sunday, June 8:

Breakfast at the hotel. Leave early for Lisbon to catch the 2 hour flight to Toulouse, France. Once the group arrives in Toulouse, we'll take a private bus 2 hours to Lourdes, the second stop on our pilgrimage of walking with Mary. Lourdes is a relatively small town but a large complex of churches, altars, shrines, shops, restaurants, and grottoes dedicated to the Virgin Mary. There is a beautiful candle-light rosary procession every night in Lourdes.

Day 6: Monday, June 9:

Breakfast at the hotel. We'll continue to walk with Mary as we soak up the serenity and beauty of Lourdes. There will be time for prayer, Mass, devotions, Stations of the Cross, the rosary and shopping.

Day 7: Tuesday, June 10:

We'll say "au revoir" to Lourdes in the morning and head to Toulouse by private bus for our flight to Rome. After arriving in the eternal city we'll take our private bus to our hotel to drop off our bags and then start to tour one of the most beautiful and interesting cities in the world. On virtually every corner there is an amazing church or structure to visit.

Day 8: Wednesday, June 11:

Breakfast at the hotel. Walk to St. Peter's Basilica for Mass and the papal audience with Pope Francis. After St. Peter's, your private guide will lead you through the Vatican museums to see the Sistine Chapel and the many treasures of one of the world's great museums. In the afternoon

walk the streets of Rome to see Castel Santangelo, Piazza Navona, the Church of San Luigi Francese and its paintings by Caravaggio, and the Pantheon.

Day 9: Thursday, June 12:

Breakfast at the hotel. Mass in the catacombs on the outskirts of Rome. Lunch near the catacombs. In the afternoon, go on a guided tour of some of the most significant and beautiful sites and churches in the heart of ancient Rome: San Ignazio, Il Gesù, where St. Ignatius of Loyola is buried, San Andrea della Valle, San Lorenzo in Damaso, Chiesa Nuova, where the body of St. Philip Neri lies in peace in a glass coffin, and other sites. The tour will end in the charming Trastevere neighborhood of Rome with a visit to the Basilica of Santa Maria in Trastevere. Group dinner in Trastevere.

Day 10: Friday, June 13:

Breakfast at the hotel. The group will visit the Basilica of St. John Lateran, its nearby ancient baptistery, and then the Holy Steps, which were brought back to Rome from Jerusalem by St. Helen in the 4th century. After lunch there will be an optional tour to the Basilia of St. Paul Outside the Walls but the rest of the afternoon is also open for shopping or exploring Rome on your own with your friends or loved ones.

Day 11: Saturday, June 14:

Breakfast at the hotel. Today the group will visit the Basilica of Saint Mary Major and its famous chapel dedicated to Mary, Wellbeing of the Romans. There will follow a visit to the ancient basilica of Santa Prassede and then a visit to the Colosseum and the Roman Forum, the heart of ancient Rome.

Day 12: Sunday, June 15:

Departure in the morning for Rome's international airport for the flight back to Chicago.

Fr. Sergio Rodriguez Walking with Mary Pilgrimage June 2025

Questions and Answers

What does the cost include? Round trip economy flight Chicago – Europe, and other flights enumerated in the itinerary; all airline taxes and fuel surcharges, transfer to and from airport to hotels, bus throughout per itinerary; clean, private bath, 3 star hotel rooms; all museum entrance fees; audio headsets throughout tour; all professional guides; all breakfasts; five lunches; and five dinners.

What does the cost *not* include? City occupancy taxes levied per person (not per room) per night for hotel stays. In Rome these taxes will total 5-7 Euros per person per night. The tax must be paid before hotel departure by each guest, along with any incidental hotel costs such as laundry service or room service. Also not covered: meals not specified in the itinerary, taxis, tips for your guides,

and the carrying of luggage from the airport baggage claim area to the bus, and to and from the bus to the hotel. We recommend bringing about \$100 for taxis and always sharing taxi rides.

What is the cancellation policy? All cancellations must be made by e-mail by the same person(s) who registered for the trip. The following penalties are applicable if you cancel:

From date of reservation until payment deadline, \$500 is non-refundable, but transferable to a person replacing the person cancelling, for the same tour and dates.

As of the final payment deadline, 100% of the tour price is non-refundable and non-transferable per person.

Is there a registration form? There is no registration form. Peregrino tries to make registration as easy as possible. To register send an e-mail to travel@myperegrinotour.com with the name, address, phone, and e-mail for each pilgrim who would like to go. Please indicate the parents or legal guardians of minor travelers. You will be officially notified of your registration via e-mail the day your check is deposited or your credit card payment clears. After sending your check, please allow one week for us to confirm your registration via e-mail.

Do I need a passport? Yes, you will need a passport to travel to Europe. Passports are required for everyone, even children and infants. The expiration date of the passport must be beyond six months after the date of re-entry into the U.S. A scan of the ID page of your passport must be received by e-mail at travel@myperegrinotour.com or a copy must be sent via mail to Peregrino prior to the final payment deadline. The copy of the passport and its information will be shared with no one. All documentary or digital traces of the copy of the passport will be destroyed at the conclusion of the tour.

Do I need to obtain a visa? U.S. citizens do not need a visa to enter Portugal, France, or Italy for fewer than 90 days. Non-U.S. citizens must verify with the relevant consulate if they will need a visa, and with U.S. State Department regarding their ability to re-enter the U.S.

Is there any chance the trip would be cancelled? In the remote possibility that the trip is cancelled, the entire cost of the trip will be reimbursed. An extraordinary event such as an airline strike, weather event, act of God, or international incident will not necessarily cause the trip to be cancelled. Trip insurance would provide total protection against such unlikely eventualities.

I'd like to go, but I don't have a roommate to share the cost. What can I do? You can either pay the single occupancy supplement of \$900 or be willing to be assigned a roommate if one is available. That will depend, of course, on the number of solo travelers of the same sex, but Peregrino will keep track of who needs roommates and coordinate as needed. If a roommate is available but is refused, the traveler will be required to pay the single supplement. And if there is an odd number of pilgrims and no roommate can be found for a single traveler, the single supplement must be paid, with the latest registrant being obligated to purchase a single room. If non-spouses or non-family members would like to share a room with another pilgrim, they must each communicate such to Peregrino in an email.

What about travel insurance? Peregrino Tours does not offer travel insurance. But for the protection of our pilgrims, we recommend they purchase travel insurance. Information is readily

available online and some recommendations are linked on our website. These recommendations are not an endorsement of any company but only the result of prior traveler's experiences.

Why would I want travel insurance? Insurance is a good idea for those who have an unpredictable medical condition and for those who have a family member whose ill health, or even death, may preclude going on the pilgrimage. Travel insurance must normally be purchased shortly after registering for the trip. It normally cannot be purchased close to the date of departure, or it may be priced exorbitantly.

Can I use airline miles or points? Peregrino prefers that all pilgrims fly together both to and from their destination and arrive at, and leave from, their hotel together. Based on experience, we do not allow pilgrims to be part of our pilgrimages if they travel apart from the group.

Can I upgrade my plane seating or arrange to sit with family and friends? Peregrino organizes its tour pricing based on economy seating. Any desire for economy plus, business or first class, aisle seats, or other upgrades must be communicated to Peregrino via e-mail by the individual traveler. All costs related to upgrades or special seating must be paid in full *before* the upgrade will be implemented by Peregrino. We also try to accommodate friends and family who request to sit together on flights. But plane seating is ultimately a decision for each airline and airlines are not always transparent about how seating is apportioned.

Where can I exchange U.S. dollars for Eurodollars? Talk to your local bank to see if they offer that service. Otherwise you can change money at O'Hare airport or in Europe. ATM machines in Europe also accept Visa and Mastercard credit cards and dispense Eurodollars. Using a credit card at an ATM in Europe will require a PIN. Almost all American banks charge a fixed fee for foreign ATM withdrawals and/or a percentage of the amount withdrawn. ATM's in Europe will normally not accept debit cards from American regional banks. Credit cards are accepted everywhere in Italy. You will not need to exchange much cash.

What about travelers with special needs? Any pilgrim with special needs or dietary restrictions must inform Peregrino at the time of registration. There will be considerable walking on the tour so being able to stand for long periods and to walk long distances is presumed upon registering. A physically capable companion must accompany travelers who need assistance. Coach buses are not equipped with ramps, so all travelers must be able to mount steps into a bus. European buildings are also less handicap accessible than American buildings. Taking the occasional taxi can greatly alleviate a day's number of steps.

Can anyone go on the trip? Although this will be a Catholic focused pilgrimage, non-Catholics are welcome to come. Minors are welcome provided they travel with family.

What if I have more questions? Most questions about this pilgrimage can be answered by your group leader or by consulting this information sheet. You can also contact us at travel@myperegrinotour.com or at 872-227-0988.