



**SEPTEMBER 2<sup>nd</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> 2024**

**VICENZA, ASSISI, AND BEYOND**

**Fr. Mark Krylowicz**

**Essential Information:**

**Early Bird Price – Valid until April 10, 2024**

**\$3,800 per person in a shared room if paid by check or cash**

**\$3,950 per person in a shared room if paid by credit card**

**Standard Price as of April 11, 2024**

**\$3,950 per person in a shared room check or cash**

**\$4,100 per person in a shared room credit card**

**Deadline for pilgrimage registration June 1, 2024**

Send checks to Peregrino, PO Box 1242, 1000 E. Oakton St., Des Plaines, IL 60018. Do not send checks via Certified Mail. First Class postage is sufficient.

**\$750 supplement for a single room.** Single rooms are not guaranteed and should be requested as soon as possible.

**A \$1,000 deposit guarantees registration**

**Final payment due date: June 1, 2024**

**Credit Card payments can only be made on our website, not by phone.**

Questions? [travel@myperegrinotour.com](mailto:travel@myperegrinotour.com) or call 335-488-1473

Hablamos Español – llamanos o mándanos un correo

See the Questions & Answer below for more specific information

## Itinerary

### Day 1: Monday, September 2, 2024 (Labor Day):

Depart Chicago O'Hare Airport on flight to Rome Fiumicino Airport. The flight will depart in the afternoon U.S. central time, and either be direct or have a brief layover.

### Day 2: Tuesday, September 3:

Flight arrives in Rome in the morning hours. Transfer to a private coach bus and head directly about 2 ½ hours to Assisi. Check in at the hotel in the lower town for a short rest and to get refreshed for some touring. See the huge Basilica of Saint Mary of the Angles, the namesake of Los Angeles, California. Then take the bus to Assisi's upper town to see the church and body of Saint Claire, the family home of Saint Francis, and finally the stunning Basilica where the great saint is buried and venerated. Mass in a chapel in the Basilica. Assisi is a uniquely well-preserved Italian hill town with lovely shops, historic churches, and charming restaurants. Overnight in Assisi.

### Day 3: Wednesday, September 4:

Breakfast at the hotel. Head by private bus to Ravenna, about 2 ½ hours away. Ravenna has many buildings classified as UNESCO World Heritage Sites – a select designation for places of unique historical or artistic value. The city is like a mini- Constantinople, a jewel box of ancient and perfectly preserved mosaics. The group will tour San Vitale and other ancient palaces, piazzas, and palaces in central Ravenna to soak up the special vibe of this unique city. Group dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight in Ravenna.

### Day 4: Thursday, September 5:

Breakfast at the hotel. Travel by bus about 2 hours to Padua. This large but low-key city is not as touristed as Ravenna but has its own charms. The group will have time for prayer and Mass at the famous Basilica of Saint Anthony of Padua, the greatest early follower of Saint Francis of Assisi. After praying at the tomb of St. Francis days before, it will be time to venerate the relics of St. Anthony. He was known as a great homilist, so his larynx is displayed in a reliquary! Padua has a well-known chapel of early medieval art by the master Giotto which we will visit and an interesting bishop's palace stuffed covered in paintings from floor to ceiling. In the evening the group will take the bus to Vicenza and settle into the hotel where it will spend the next four nights.

### Day 5: Friday, September 6:

Breakfast at the hotel. Today the group will tour the elegant and relaxed city of Vicenza, the commercial and cultural hub of its region. It was the home of a famous architect named Andrea Palladio, whose noble buildings dominate its cityscape. We'll tour some of these famous Palladian palaces in Vicenza's old town along with its opera house and other sites. We'll make a pilgrimage to the Shrine of St. Mary of Monte Berico, a large church which sits watch over the city below. Mass in the Basilica. There will be free time in the evening for shopping or strolling the city center.

### **Day 6: Saturday, September 7:**

Breakfast at the hotel. Some free time before leaving the hotel at 11:00 via coach bus for Verona, about 45 minutes away. We'll spend the day seeing Verona's roman ruins, gorgeous city center, and its famous Romeo & Juliet balcony. Lunch on your own in Verona. At 7 p.m. the group will attend the world-famous opera Carmen at Verona's spectacular open air roman amphitheater. There are few more spectacular venues to watch a live show than in Verona's famous amphitheater. You won't find anything like it in the United States. Think you don't know Carmen? Look up the "Habanera" and "Toreador" and you'll immediately recognize their famous melodies. After the opera head back on our coach bus to our hotel in Vicenza, arriving before 11 p.m.

### **Day 7: Sunday, September 8:**

Breakfast at the hotel. September 8th is the birthday of the Virgin Mary and the patronal feast day of Vicenza. The group will attend Mass at the shrine of St. Mary of Monte Berico in the morning and soak up the atmosphere of this shrine on the Virgin's special day. After Mass travel by bus to the countryside around Vicenza to see a monumental estate designed by the local architect Palladio. The late afternoon evening is free to stroll through central Vicenza before enjoying a "last supper" with the group.

### **Day 8: Monday, September 9:**

Departure from the hotel in the morning and travel by bus to Venice's Marco Polo International Airport, about 45 minutes from Vicenza. Check-in for your flight to Chicago O'Hare and arrive home in the afternoon.

## **Vicenza Pilgrimage September 2024**

### **Questions and Answers**

**What does the cost include?** Round trip economy flight Chicago - Italy, all airline taxes and fuel surcharges, transfer to and from airport to hotel, bus throughout tour, clean, private bath, 3 star or better hotel rooms; all museum entrance fees; audio headsets throughout tour; all professional guides; all breakfasts; three lunches; and three dinners.

**What does the cost *not* include?** City occupancy taxes levied per person (not per room) per night for some hotel stays. These taxes might total approximately 30 Euros per person for the entire trip. The tax must be paid before hotel departure by each guest, along with any incidental hotel costs such as laundry 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 June 1, 2024 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 for the pilgrimage send an e-mail to [travel@myperegrinotour.com](mailto: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 Italy. 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](mailto:travel@myperegrinotour.com) or a copy must be sent via mail to Peregrino Tours at PO Box 1242, 1000 E. Oakton St., Des Plaines IL, 60018 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 Italy for fewer than 90 days. Non-U.S. citizens must verify with an Italian consulate if they need a visa to enter Italy, 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 \$750 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 otherwise 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 Rome. ATM machines in Italy also accept Visa and Mastercard credit cards and dispense Eurodollars. To use a credit card at an ATM in Italy 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 Italy 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. In order to ensure a rewarding, positive, and faith filled experience for all pilgrims, Peregrino reserves the right to reject any guest, either before or during the trip, whose comportment contradicts or is otherwise harmful to the interests of the group.

**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](mailto:travel@myperegrinotour.com) or at 305-448-1473.