

Female Saints... 2021

Venezia, Mesero, Bologna, Siena, Assisi, Cascia, Roma, Nettuno



Day 1 Welcome to Italy - Mestre

Upon arrival at Venice Airport, we will be greeted by our English speaking tour manager who will be with the group during the entire stay in Italy. We will board the private deluxe bus and transfer to our hotel. Following check-in, we will have free time to unpack and relax. If possible, we will celebrate Mass in a local church. Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Mestre (D)

Day 2 Venice and St Lucia

Today, we will depart to the magical city of Venice. After Mass, we will visit the Church of St Geremia which houses the tomb of St Lucia, who is celebrated on December 13th and known as "eye protector". Then we will enjoy a walking tour which includes a visit to St. Mark's Square, the largest square in the city and the site of many government buildings; the Golden Basilica of St Mark, known for the great mosaics that depict the Old and New Testament of the Bible; the Bridge of Sigh and the Doges' Palace (from outside), which served as the seat of the Government for the Republic of Venice during centuries. Free afternoon for shopping or to enjoy a gondola ride. Return to Mestre for dinner and an overnight (B, D)

Day 3 Magenta and St Beretta Molla

After breakfast and check out, we will drive to Mesero, near Milano, to visit the Shrine of St Gianna Beretta Molla. We will celebrate Mass at the Shrine which houses her tomb at Mesero. We will visit Magenta and Pontenuovo to see the house where she was born, the Basilica di San Martino where she was baptized and the chapel of Madonna del Buon Consiglio where she used to pray and where her children has been baptized. Then we will continue to our hotel in Bologna. Dinner and overnight (B, D)



Day 4 Bologna and St Caterina da Bologna

Today we will reach the the Monastery of Poor Clares and we will visit the chapel with the uncorrupted sitting body of Saint Caterina de' Vigri, who lived in Bologna six centuries ago. We will continue our walking tour in Bologna, discovering medieval market, towers and porticoes, the oldest university town in western world with the incorrupted body of Blessed Imelda Lambertini and Basilica of Saint Petronio. In the afternoon, we will visit the Sanctuary of Blessed Virgin of Saint Luke on the top of the Guardia Hill. Celebrate Mass. Then we will drive to Siena. Dinner and overnight at our hotel. (B, D)

Day 5 Siena and St Catherine - Assisi

This morning we will continue our tour with a scenic drive to the Tuscan city of Siena. This medieval city is the birthplace of St. Catherine "Doctor of the Church". Upon arrival we will visit the Basilica of St. Domenico. St. Catherine passed a large part of her life inside the walls of this Basilica. It is here we will also view the incorrupt head of St. Catherine. After mass, we will visit the Shrine of St. Catherine, which occupies the site of her family home. Then we will enjoy a walking tour through the Siena including a visit to its Cathedral. The tour will end at one of Italy's finest squares, the Piazza Del Campo, where we will have free time to spend at our own leisure. In the afternoon, we will drive to Assisi and set into our hotel. Dinner and overnight (B, D)

Day 6 Assisi and St Clare

Today we will enjoy a full day of touring the hometown of St Francis and St Clare. First of all, we will visit the Convent of St Damiano, where St Francis received his miraculous calling in 1205 and where in 1253 St Clare died. Then we will visit the Basilica of St Clare, the foundress of the Poor Clare Sisters. She followed the teachings of St. Francis very closely by also living a life of poverty and humility. Here we will celebrate Mass, Finally we will visit the Basilica of St Francis. The upper Basilica with Giotto's frescoes representing the life of St Francis. We will have time to pray on the Tomb of St Francis. In the afternoon we will visit the Basilica of St Mary of the Angels. This Basilica is where St. Francis spent most of his life, and is made up of two structures; the Portiuncola is where St. Francis founded his order of the Friar Minor (Franciscans), and the Cappella del Transito, which is the place of St. Francis' death. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight (B, D)



This is a suggested itinerary:

We will be glad to customize a program that meets your specific needs, requirements and budget. You may also choose your own travel dates and city of departure.

For information on our Fund Raising Program and benefits for your group please email: anton@travelwithus.com

Day 7 Walking day: from Roccaporena to Cascia - St Rita da Cascia (3,8 miles)

Following breakfast, we will depart to Roccaporena, the birthplace of St Rita da Cascia. Here we will see the sanctuary and her family house. Furthermore we will climb the "Rock of St Rita". It is traditionally believed to be the place where she prayed. After lunch, we will enjoy a simple and spiritual walking along the "Path of St Rita" from Roccaporena to Cascia, following the Corno river valley. Upon arrival in Cascia, we will visit the Basilica which houses the incorrupt body of the Saint and celebrate Mass. If it's possible, we will visit also the Monastery where St Rita lived as a nun. Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Cascia (B, D)



Day 8 Rome and St Faustina Kowalska

After breakfast and check out, we will drive to Rome. Upon arrival we will start a visit of Vatican Museums where we will see the magnificent rooms painted by Raphael as well as the Sistine Chapel, followed by a tour of the Basilica of St Peter. We will celebrate Mass in the afternoon at the Church of Santo Spirito in Sassia, also known as Sanctuary of Divine Mercy. The devotion to Divine Mercy was popularized by the 20th-century Polish nun, St Faustina Kowalska, as requested to her by Jesus in visions and conversations. Saint Pope John Paul II instituted Divine Mercy Sunday on the occasion of the canonization of St Faustina, April 30, 2000, the Second Sunday after Easter, thus opening the devotion and the feast of Divine Mercy to the Universal Church. Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Rome (D, B)



Day 9 Rome and St Teresa D'Avila, St Catherine da Siena, St Agnese and St Cecilia

This morning we will start with a visit of the Church of Santa Maria delle Vittoria to see the Bernini's masterpiece titled Ecstasy of Saint Teresa. It illustrates a moment that Saint Teresa of Avila described in her autobiography of envisioning an angel piercing her heart with a golden shaft, causing her both great joy and pain. Celebrate Mass. From here we will enjoy a relaxing downtown walking tour of Rome including Trevi; Pantheon; Basilica of

Santa Maria Sopra Minerva which houses the incorrupt body of St Caterina da Siena; and Navona with the Baroque Church of St Agnese in Agone. After lunch, we will visit the old neighborhood of Trastevere and the Church of St Cecilia, young Roman martyr. Tonight we will enjoy a dinner in a local restaurant in Trastevere. Overnight in Rome (B, Special dinner)

Day 10 Papal Audience - Nettuno and St Maria Goretti

Today, early in the morning, we will return to Vatican City to attend the Papal Audience in St Peter's Square with Pope Francis. After lunch we will drive to Nettuno and visit the Shrine of St Maria Goretti. Celebrate Mass. Return to our hotel in Rome for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

Day 11 Departure

After an early breakfast, we will leave by motor coach and transfer to Rome airport for return flights home (B)

