



PROROME



Catholic France

A Pilgrimage for Christendom College Alumni, Family & Friends

FEBRUARY 29 - MARCH 10, 2024

\$4600, air-inclusive from Washington Dulles

For more information or to register, please visit
<https://prorometours.com/france-with-christendom-college/> or contact
ProRome Tours directly at office@prorome.com or by phone at (434) 953 1112.

THE ITINERARY



Thursday, February 29 Depart for France

Today we depart from Washington Dulles (IAD) on KLM flight 652 to Amsterdam(AMS) at 5:45 PM.

Friday, March 1 Paris, Lisieux

At 7:10 AM we are scheduled to touch down in Amsterdam. Welcome to Europe! After a brief layover we will then board KLM flight 1229, scheduled to depart for Paris (CDG) at 8:10 AM.

At 9:35 AM we are scheduled to arrive in Paris. Here we will be greeted by our English-speaking tour manager who will accompany us for the entire trip. We depart immediately for Normandy and Lisieux, home of St. Therese the Little Flower. It is here that she reached the heights of sanctity within the cloister of the Lisieux Carmel. After checking into our hotel, Le Grand Hotel de l'Espe-

rance, we will visit the final resting place of St. Therese in the Carmel chapel as well as the Cathedral of St. Pierre where Therese attended daily Mass for ten years of her life. We will also visit the Basilica of St. Therese, which was constructed in honor of her canonization. Dinner at the hotel, known for its Normandy cuisine.

Saturday, March 2 Lisieux, Mont Saint-Michel

Mass at 8:00 a.m. at the Lisieux Carmel. After Mass we depart Lisieux and drive to nearby Bayeux, the first town to be liberated by the Allies in 1944. Bayeux Cathedral was consecrated in 1077 in the presence of William the Conqueror. This was the original home of the renowned Bayeux Tapestry (now in the Bayeux Museum). We continue to the Normandy coast where we will visit the American Cemetery and Omaha Beach, one of the sites where the Allies came ashore on D-Day. We continue to our final Normandy destination, the island of Mont Saint-Michel, one of Europe's great wonders. Dinner at our hotel, the four-star Hotel Mercure.

Sunday, March 3 Mont Saint-Michel, Paris

Explore Mont Saint-Michel, the holy island-mountain where a sanctuary dedicated to St. Michael has existed since the 8th century. At low tide one can easily walk to the island from the mainland; at high tides during certain times of year water surrounds the island, making it inaccessible. The island is crowned by a Benedictine monastery that became an important place of pilgrimage during the Middle Ages. Morning Mass in the monastery crypt. We will visit the ancient Saint-Aubert chapel at the rocky base of the mountain before returning to the charming island village. We will stroll the medieval village main street, le Grande Rue, before departing for Paris and the Hotel Provinces Opera. Dinner at the hotel.



Monday, March 4 Paris

Our first stop is the Basilica of Our Lady of Victories to whom the parents of St. Therese, Louis and Zelle Martin, had a great devotion. Their relics are housed in the Basilica. We will make our way up to the hill of Montmartre to visit the Basilica of Sacre Coeur where we will have Mass. The Montmartre section of Paris is like its own small town, with vestiges of the village feel that would have once existed in other parts of the city as well. Many of Montmartre's residences retain charming private gardens, and a vineyard even adorns the hill. But the crowning glory of Montmartre is the Basilica of Sacre Coeur, built atop the highest point of the city. The gleaming white basilica (1885-1912) was begun during the Pontificate of Blessed Pius IX, when the Pope was a "prisoner of the Vatican." The building of Sacre Coeur was to fulfill a vow of reparation:

In the presence of the misfortunes that have befallen France and the greater misfortunes that perhaps still threaten her. In the presence of the sacrilegious attacks committed in Rome against the rights of the Church and the Holy See and against the sacred person of the Vicar of Jesus Christ. We humble ourselves before God and uniting in our love both Church and Fatherland, recognize that we have sinned and been justly punished. And to make honorable amends for our sins and obtain through the infinite mercy of the Sacred Heart of Our Lord Jesus Christ pardon for our faults, as well as the extraordinary help that alone can deliver the Holy Pontiff from his captivity and put an end to the misfortunes of France, we hereby promise to contribute to the construction, in Paris, of a sanctuary dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Return to the hotel to freshen up before dinner near the Arc de Triomphe. End the day with an optional evening visit to the Eiffel Tower.

ITINERARY CONTINUED



Tuesday, March 5 **Paris: Rue de Bac, Shrine of** **Saint Vincent, Notre Dame,** **Sainte-Chapelle**

Our day of pilgrimage begins at the Shrine of the Miraculous Medal in Rue du Bac (the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity) where Our Lady appeared to St. Catherine Laboure, followed by a visit to the nearby Shrine of St. Vincent de Paul, where the saint's relics are housed. Lunch on your own followed by visits to two of the world's greatest architectural treasures. We will see Notre Dame Cathedral (though it is unclear how much of the Cathedral will be open to the public, due to the ongoing restorations following the tragic fire in 2019). We will also see Sainte-Chapelle, the chapel built by King St. Louis IX (1214-70) to house relics of the Passion of Christ given to him by the Emperor in Constantinople. Sainte-Chapelle is arguably the most beautiful Gothic interior ever constructed. Au revoir to Paris with dinner in the hotel.

Wednesday, March 6 **Paris, Nevers, Paray-le-Monial, Ars**

From Paris we travel south to Nevers and the Sanctuary of St. Bernadette Soubirous where we will have Mass. We will visit the Convent of St. Gilard where the incorrupt body of St. Bernadette lies. The Saint spent her life in prayer and solitude here, following the Blessed Mother's apparitions to her at Lourdes. We proceed to Paray-le-Monial where Our Lord appeared to St. Margaret Mary asking that she propagate devotion to His Most Sacred Heart. We will venerate the relics of Blessed Claude de Colombiere at his tomb in the Basilica. Continue to Ars for dinner and overnight at Hotel Regina.

Thursday, March 7 **Ars, Avignon**

Morning Mass in the Basilica at Ars at the Altar of St. John Vianney, patron saint of parish priests. After breakfast we depart for Avignon, a magnificent medieval city sitting on the banks of the Rhone river in southern France. On the way to Avignon we will stop for lunch.

When the popes fled the chaos of 14th century Rome they took refuge here, in Avignon, much to the delight of the powerful French monarchs who enjoyed considerable power with the Catholic Church at the time. Due to this exodus from Rome, Avignon would become a sort of "second Rome," and the magnificent Papal Palace and surrounding historic city are testament to its grandeur. Upon arrival we will check in at a centrally-located three-star hotel and then embark on a tour of the Papal Palace. It took nearly twenty years to construct this building and it is the largest Gothic construction of the Middle Ages! We'll explore this great Christian fortress's many chambers, chapels and ramparts as we learn the incredible story of the Avignon Papacy, and the even more incredible story of how the Popes would eventually return to Rome. Dinner at our hotel.

Friday, March 8 **Avignon, Carcassonne, Lourdes**

Our day begins with a visit to the church of the Holy Cross where a Eucharistic miracle occurred on November 30, 1433. The entire church building was completely consumed by a flood, but the Eucharist, exposed for adoration, remained dry. Ever since that day pious Christians have come here to pray and to worship God in the Eucharist, the great mystery of our Faith. Here we will celebrate Mass.

After Mass we will depart for Carcassonne and Lourdes. Carcassonne is a magnificent, exceptionally well-preserved fortified city of rare beauty situated between the Mediterranean Sea and the Pyrenees mountains. Historically, it was an Albigensian stronghold in the 13th century. Today it is a UNESCO World Heritage site. Lunch in Carcassonne. From Carcassonne we travel to the Pyrenees and the Sanctuary of Lourdes. We arrive in time for dinner and the torchlight Marian procession. Lodging at the three-star Hotel Sainte-Rose.

Saturday, March 9 **Lourdes**

Today we will embark on a spiritual journey through the life and legacy of St. Bernadette. We will visit her childhood home, hear her incredible story, and celebrate Mass in the very grotto where Our Lady appeared to her! In the afternoon we will have time to go to the baths to wash ourselves or perhaps to spend some time in quiet prayer. After such a blessed day we will come together again for a farewell dinner at the hotel.

Sunday, March 10 **Lourdes**

In the early morning we will collect our bagged breakfasts and board our bus for Toulouse airport (TLS). Upon arrival we will check-in and board Air France flight 7401 for Paris (CDG), with scheduled departure at 9:15 AM. Upon arrival in Paris at 10:50 AM we will join fellow travelers in the airport chapel for an 11:30 AM Sunday Mass. We'll then have some time for a quick lunch before boarding Air France flight 54, scheduled to depart for Washington Dulles (IAD) at 2:00 PM. At 5:40 PM we are scheduled to arrive at Washington Dulles. Welcome home!



► Cost

\$4600 per person

Single Room Supplement

\$900

► Payment Schedule

\$200 - Due at Registration

\$2200 - Due July 30, 2023

\$2200 - Due October 30, 2023

Single Supplement?

Due October 30, 2023

► Price Includes

- Roundtrip Airfare on /Delta Air France in Economy Class
 - Luggage included (one carry-on, one personal item, one check bag)
 - No choice of seats (couples will be seated together)
- One night (Double Standard Room) at three-star Le Grand Hotel de l'Esperance (or similar), Lisieux
- One night (Double Standard Room) at four-star Hotel Mercure (or similar), Mont-Saint Michel
- Three nights at (Double Standard Room) at three-star Hotel Provinces Opera(or similar), Paris
- One night at (Double Standard Room) at three-star Hotel Regina, Ars
- One night (Double Standard Room) at a three-star hotel in Avignon
- Two nights (Double Standard Room) at three-star Hotel Sainte-Rose (or similar), Lourdes
- Private ProRome tour director throughout the course of the trip
- Professional qualified English-speaking guide for all visits according to the above itinerary
- Tours and all entry-ticket prices for all visits as listed in above itinerary
- Daily breakfast (without choice of menus)
- Daily dinner (without choice of menus). See itinerary for included meals.
- Water at meals
- Deluxe a/c coach throughout the tour for all transfers and visits according to the above itinerary
- Audio guiding system
- All gratuities

► Price Does Not Include

- Daily lunch. See itinerary for included meals.
- Any personal expenses
- Any drinks during included meals other than water
- Trip Insurance (Available for purchase through ProRome)



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