



PROROME



REGISTER TODAY

Saint Mary's Basilica Pilgrimage to Italy

This itinerary features four nights in Rome and two nights in Assisi, with a day-trip to Orvieto along the way. The program includes daily Mass in the most sacred churches of Italy, privately guided Catholic tours and much more. Round-trip direct airfare on ITA Airways from Washington Dulles (IAD) is also included.

March 31 - April 6, 2024

\$3600 Per Person

Please note that this trip is only open to Confirmandi and their family members. Confirmandi must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

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

THE ITINERARY



Easter Sunday, March 31 Departure

Departure information from Saint Mary's Basilica will be communicated at a later date. Upon arrival at IAD we will check in for ITA (formerly Alitalia) flight 619, which is scheduled to depart for Rome (FCO) at 4:15 PM. Buon viaggio!

Monday, April 1 Arrive (Rome) - Orvieto - Assisi

We are scheduled to arrive in Rome at 7:00 AM. Welcome to Italy! Upon arrival we will meet our tour director and private coach and depart immediately for Assisi. On the way there we will stop in the beautiful city of Orvieto, home to one of Italy's finest

Gothic cathedrals, the Duomo of Orvieto, which serves as a solemn reliquary for the Eucharistic Miracle of Bolsena, the first Church-approved Eucharistic miracle and the impetus behind the institution of the Feast of Corpus Christi! Here we will have Mass.

After enjoying free time for lunch in Orvieto we're back on the bus and headed to Assisi. Prior to reaching the medieval city center of Assisi we will visit the original home of the Franciscan order, and the place of St. Francis's death at the Porziuncola chapel inside the great baroque Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels. We will then proceed to Assisi and check-in at a local hotel or religious guesthouse. We'll then enjoy a welcome group dinner together in Assisi.

Mass - **Duomo (Cathedral) of Orvieto**
Meals Included: **Breakfast and Dinner**

Tuesday, April 2 Assisi

Today begins with Mass and a tour of the Basilica of St. Francis. We will then enjoy a guided tour of Assisi, which includes visits to the Basilica of Santa Clare, the Cathedral of San Rufino, and so many other sacred churches and burial sites. On this tour you will explore the life and legacy of Saint Francis and Saint Clare, walking in their footsteps and praying at their tombs. Along the way there will be free time for lunch and shopping.

In the late afternoon we will convene in the church of Saint Mary Major, the

resting place of Blessed Carlo Acutis, for a Holy Hour. We will then enjoy dinner together.

Mass - **Basilica of Saint Francis**
Meals Included: **Breakfast and Dinner**

Wednesday, April 3 Rome: Saint Peter's Basilica

Following an early breakfast we will depart for Rome. Upon arrival in Rome, we will check-in at the three-star Casa per Ferie Santa Maria alle Fornaci before enjoying some free time for lunch.

After lunch we will visit St. Peter's Square, where we will enjoy an introductory tour of Rome, the Vatican and Christianity. We will then visit St. Peter's Basilica, the greatest church in the world - built over the tomb of St. Peter himself. We'll then celebrate Mass at the Altar of the Chair (concelebrated by our chaplain) in Saint Peter's Basilica. Following Mass we'll enjoy a group dinner before returning to our guesthouse.

Mass - **Altar of the Chair in Saint Peter's Basilica**

Meals Included: **Breakfast and Dinner**

Thursday, April 4 Rome: Saint Mary Major - The Lateran - The Catacombs - Saint Paul's

Today we will visit the Basilica of Saint Mary Major where we will have Mass in the Sistine Chapel (not to be confused with the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican). After Mass there will be a guided tour of this incredible church, which dates back



ITINERARY CONTINUED



to the 5th century!

After the tour off to the Cathedral of Rome, "the Lateran." Built by Constantine in the 4th century, this church is known as the "Mater et Caput" - the mother and head of all the churches in the entire world, as it officially became the seat of the bishop of Rome upon the legalization of Christianity under the emperor Constantine the Great. In addition to a guided tour of the Lateran we will also have the opportunity to venerate the relics of Christ's Passion, such as a relic of the True Cross and the Holy Stairs - the very stairs that Christ once walked in the Praetorium of Pontius Pilate. The stairs must be climbed on one's knees out of respect for our Lord and the suffering he endured.

After our time here we will make our way "outside the walls" to the Catacombs of St. Sebastian. We'll first enjoy lunch together at Ristorante Cecilia Metella before going underground on a tour of the Catacombs of Saint Sebastian, where we will venerate this great saint and martyr. We're then off to the Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls, the burial place of Saint Paul and the second-largest church in the world, second only to St. Peter's. We'll then return to the Vatican for a free evening.

Mass - **Saint Mary Major**

Meals Included: **Breakfast and Lunch**

Friday, April 5
The Centro Storico &
The Counter-reformation

Today we'll learn all about the Catholic Counter-Reformation, highlighting the saints, religious orders, art and architecture that all played a part in this great movement. This tour will take us through the "Centro Storico", the historic center of Rome, where you will explore Rome's most favorite and photographed places.

Our morning features visits to the Chiesa Nuova (where we will have Mass) the site of the laughing saint, Phillip Neri's tomb. Then on to the Church of Sant'Agnese, built on the site of Domitian's Stadium, where the child martyr was martyred, framing the Piazza Navona and its famed Bernini fountains, and finishing with the Church of San Luigi dei Francesi and Sant'Agostino to get a taste of Carravaggio's striking artwork.

After a group lunch together we'll pay a visit to arguably the greatest building in Rome, the Pantheon. The Pantheon is the only fully intact building from Roman antiquity. It is a masterpiece of architecture and yet no architecture degree is necessary to appreciate the simple beauty of this, now Catholic, church. We'll then enjoy a stroll through some of Rome's greatest piazzas and churches, including the Basilica of Saint Ignatius, the Gesu, the Trevi Fountain, the church of Sant'Andrea delle Fratte and the Spanish Steps. We'll then return to Santa Maria alle Fornaci for a free evening.

Mass - **Chiesa Nuova**

Meals Included: **Breakfast and Lunch**

Saturday, April 6
Ancient Rome & The Vatican
Museums & Sistine Chapel

Following breakfast we're off to the Roman Forum, where we will begin our day with Mass in the Basilica of Saints Cosmas and Damian. We'll then explore the ancient city of Rome, passing through the Roman Forum and the Colosseum. Here we will explore in detail the great story of ancient Rome, from its founding in the 8th century BC up through the fall of Rome in the 5th century AD.

After free time for lunch we will enjoy a tour through the Vatican Museums. On this tour our guide will take us on a fascinating journey through some of the greatest wonders ever created by man, including Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel. Following the tour we're off to a farewell dinner.

Mass - **Basilica of Saints Cosmas and Damian**

Meals Included: **Breakfast and Lunch**

Sunday, April 7
Departure

Following breakfast we will depart for Rome (FCO) airport. Upon arrival we will check-in for ITA flight 618, scheduled to depart for IAD at 10:20 AM. At 2:10 PM we are scheduled to arrive. Welcome home!



MORE DETAILS

► Cost

\$3600 per person (with a minimum of 20 paying travelers)

► Payment Schedule

\$200 - ProRome Registration Fee - Due upon Registration (online at <https://prorometours.com/saint-marys-basilica/>)

\$1700 - ProRome First Installment - Due November 20, 2023

\$1700 - ProRome Second Installment - Due January 10, 2024

► Price Includes

- Round Trip direct airfare on ITA Airways in Economy Class
 - One check-bag, one carry-on and one personal item included
- Four nights lodging (in a double occupancy room) at Casa per Ferie Santa Maria alle Fornaci, Rome
- Two nights lodging at a religious guest house in Assisi (in a double occupancy room) TBD
- ProRome tour manager throughout the course of the trip
- Professional qualified English-speaking guides for all visits according to the above itinerary
- Tours and all entry-tickets
- Daily buffet breakfast (without choice of menus)
- Daily lunch OR dinner without choice of menus (see itinerary for included meals)
- Water at meals
- Deluxe a/c coach when required (note that we will still walk 4-8 miles per day)
- Audio guiding system throughout the course of the trip
- All tips or suggested gratuities

► Price Does Not Include

- Any personal expenses
- One daily meal (see itinerary)
- Beverages other than water at included meals
- Trip Insurance (Available for purchase through ProRome)



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