

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

with Marcellino D'Ambrosio

**11 Days
April 16-26, 2024
plus an optional extension to Rome**



For More Information Contact:

Select International Tours

800-842-4842

jane@select-intl.com

selectinternationaltours.com



WHAT'S THE COST?

Land Only

\$4995.00

Group Air from NY

\$1000.00

Total Trip Cost from NY

\$5995.00

Group Air from DFW

\$1100.00

Total Trip Cost from DFW

\$6095.00

Solo Traveler

(Additional Cost)

\$995.00

Extension to Rome

\$1445.00

Rome Ext. Solo Traveler

(Additional Cost)

\$599.00

Prices are per person

Air Rates are guaranteed only for reservations made up to January 15, otherwise they are subject to change

**Group Air Price based on a minimum of 10 passengers*

Prices are valid only if the deposit is received no later than January 15, 2024

Final payment due February 15, 2024

Trip Code: 24JA04ITMD

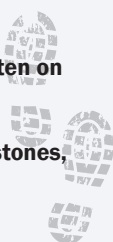
This active program requires

walking ten to thirteen

thousand steps daily, often on

uneven surfaces, cobblestones,

and some stairs.



DAILY ITINERARY

✚ April 16, Tuesday, Day 1: DEPART USA

Depart NYC area airport or Dallas- Ft. Worth airport on a flight to Venice, Italy. Dinner and breakfast will be served on the flight.

✚ April 17, Wednesday, Day 2: VENICE AIRPORT – PADUA

We arrive in Venice, where our English-speaking guide greets and assists us onto the bus. The ancient city of Padua, with one of the oldest Universities in Europe, will be our home for the next several nights. We visit the Basilica of St. Anthony to learn about the saint, celebrate Mass, and explore the magnificent church with its amazing altar by Donatello. Settle into our comfortable Marriot hotel for a welcome drink, dinner, and an overnight. (D)

✚ April 18, Thursday, Day 3: VENICE

Following breakfast, we depart by boat to Venice for a two-hour walking tour, private Mass, and a visit to the spectacular San Marco Cathedral. The afternoon is at leisure to explore the city on our own. Plan what you wish to see in advance by getting information about the city online. Perhaps a gondola ride and lunch sampling some Venetian specialties. In the pilgrimage handbook you will receive, Dr. Italy will provide suggestions of sites and typical foods of the city. Return to our hotel in Padua in the afternoon for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

✚ April 19, Friday, Day 4: VENICE – BOLOGNA – RAVENNA

After breakfast, we check out of our hotel and stop at Padua's ancient cathedral to see fabulous frescos by Giotto in Padua's Scrovegni Chapel. Next, we drive about 90 minutes while we hear why Bologna, our next stop, is one of Italy's culinary capitals. Following Mass and a visit to the tomb of St. Dominic, we have time to shop and explore the local food scene on our own with suggestions provided for a typical Bolognese lunch menu. Then, we drive to the historic Byzantine city of Ravenna on the Adriatic coast for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

✚ April 20, Saturday, Day 5: RAVENNA

The city of Ravenna is a little-known jewel whose churches and art are among Italy's most ancient and distinctive. Here, we see some of the most beautiful Byzantine mosaics in the world and celebrate Mass together. Our walking tour includes visits to the octagonal Basilica di San Vitale, the 6th-century Basilica di Sant'Apollinare Nuovo, and the cross-shaped Mausoleo di Galla Placidia. Dinner and overnight in Ravenna. Mass will be celebrated. (B,D)

✚ April 21, Sunday, Day 6: RAVENNA – GUBBIO – ASSISI

Following breakfast, we check out of the hotel and drive to the Umbrian hilltop town of Gubbio, one of Italy's best-preserved medieval gems, where we have our Mass. We will learn about the famous story of St. Francis and the wolf of Gubbio as we visit the Piazza Grande and the Basilica di Sant'Ubaldo. Gubbio is also known for its ceramics and olive oil, so this will be a good place to do some shopping. After departure, we arrive at the 5-star spa and wine resort nestled in the countryside, which will be our home for the next three nights. (B,D)

✚ April 22, Monday, Day 7: ASSISI

We have an entire day to explore the hilltop town of birds and silence on foot. We visit St. Francis Basilica, see the world-renowned frescos of Giotto, and celebrate Mass. Continue across town to visit the Basilica of St. Claire and the famous San Damiano crucifix, which spoke to St. Francis. We also see the relics of Blessed Carlo Acutis at the Sanctuary of Espoliazione. Before our overnight at our resort, we will have dinner at a local restaurant in Assisi and experience the medieval magic of a night-time stroll through Assisi's quaint streets. (B.Special dinner)

✚ April 23, Tuesday, Day 8: ASSISI

After Mass at San Damiano, the chapel, we descend into the valley to visit St. Mary of the Angels, the cradle of the Franciscan order. Both chapels were rebuilt by the hands of St. Francis and his first companions. In the afternoon, we visit the Ermo della Carceri, St. Francis' retreat hermitage near the summit of Mt. Subasio. We return to our spa/ wine resort for some relaxation and overnight. (B,D)

Marcellino D'Ambrosio, Ph.D. ("Dr. Italy")



Called "Dr Italy" due to his expertise in Italian culture and history, Marcellino has been leading tours to Italy since 1999. Author of the ground-breaking study on the Catholic Church filmed in Rome, What We Believe, Dr. Italy will be our principal guide on this pilgrimage. Learn more about him on DoctorItaly.com.

✚ April 24, Wednesday, Day 9: ASSISI – SIENA – FLORENCE

Leaving Assisi, we drive to Siena to celebrate Mass and venerate the relics of St. Catherine of Siena at the Basilica of St. Dominic. We have time to explore Siena on our own before driving to a nearby winery for a wine tasting and a lesson in Tuscan wine production. Arriving in Florence later in the afternoon, we settle into our hotel for an overnight. Dinner is at leisure, with an opportunity to explore the Tuscan food scene on our own, with menu suggestions from Dr. Italy. (B)

✚ April 25, Thursday, Day 10: FLORENCE

The culmination of our pilgrimage will be a visit to the magnificent Renaissance city of Florence. We see the iconic Duomo, with the famous dome by Brunelleschi, the bell tower by Giotto, and the baptistry with the Doors of Paradise by Giotto (outside views). We visit the Accademia to see Michelangelo's statue of David, the Convent of St. Marco with its frescos by Fra Angelico, and the Dominican Church of Santa Maria Novella. We also see the Signoria Square and the Church of the Holy Cross, where Michelangelo and Galileo worshipped. Mass will be celebrated. We also visit the stunning cast iron structure housing the San Lorenzo market where we can pick up lunch and explore the amazing local food products. Tonight we have a farewell dinner in a local restaurant. Overnight Florence. (B. Special dinner)

✚ April 26, Friday, Day 11: DEPARTURE TO THE USA

Transfer to Florence airport for our return flight home (B)

OPTIONAL EXTENSION TO ROME:

A minimum of 20 passengers are required for the extension to be offered.

✚ April 26, Friday, Day 11: FLORENCE – ROME

Following breakfast, we check out of our hotel and drive to Rome. Our first visit is to St. Paul Outside the Walls Basilica, where we celebrate Mass, and the nearby Tre Fontane Convent, where St. Paul was beheaded. Dinner is at leisure. Overnight in Rome. (B)

✚ April 27, Saturday, Day 12: ROME

We visit St. Peter's Basilica this morning and have lunch together in a local restaurant. Next, we visit the Basilica of St. John the Lateran, the Holy Stairs, and the church of Santa Croce in Jerusalem, where we see relics of the passion brought by Constantine's mother, Helena, back from her pilgrimage to the Holy Land in the 4th century. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. Mass will be celebrated. (B.L.D)

✚ April 28, Sunday, Day 13: DAY AT LEISURE IN ROME

Today is your day to explore as you wish. You may want to embark on a walking tour with Dr. D'Ambrosio and attend Sunday Mass at the Basilica of St. Mary Major, then perhaps take a cab over to the Vatican Square for the noon Angelus by the Holy Father, visit the Vatican Museum (be sure to purchase tickets online well in advance), toss a coin over your shoulder into the Trevi fountain, or just meander through Rome's beautiful piazzas. At night we'll meet for dinner in a local restaurant. Overnight in Rome. (B. Special dinner)

✚ April 29, Monday, Day 14: RETURN TO USA

We are transferred to Rome airport this morning, where we will board our flights home. (B)

YOUR COMPREHENSIVE TOUR INCLUDES

- Round trip airfare NYC area to Venice returning from Florence or Round trip airfare DFW to Venice returning from Florence
- Airport taxes and fuel surcharges (Rates are subject to change until the time of ticketing)
- Touring and activities as per the itinerary
- Accommodations in first-class hotels for nine nights
- English-speaking Tour Manager
- Buffet breakfast
- 6 hotel dinners
- 2 restaurant dinners with wine
- Local Hotel Taxes
- Baggage handling
- Whisper Sets
- Private Daily Mass
- Select International Travel Portfolio

Optional Rome extension includes:

- Return flight from Rome
- Three nights in a first-class hotel
- English-speaking tour guide
- Buffet breakfast daily
- One lunch in a Roman restaurant
- One hotel dinner
- Farewell dinner with wine
- Transportation by private motorcoach
- Baggage handling
- Private daily Mass
- Local taxes

RATES DO NOT INCLUDE

- Travel protection: we recommend you consider purchasing CFAR Travel Protection
- Personal expenses
- Medical Insurance
- Any items not explicitly mentioned in the listed inclusions
- Beverages at meals unless otherwise noted
- Gratuities for the guide(s), driver, and wait staff (please refer to the suggestions we will make available to you)
- Church donations

BAGGAGE CHARGES NOT INCLUDED IN TRIP COST:

- Any airline baggage charges
- Baggage handling at train stations, airports, and hotels in excess of one suitcase per person
- Any charges incurred due to excessive luggage including the cost of an additional baggage vehicle or portage charges

Enroll online to guarantee your spot immediately. You can manage your trip, see your documents and itinerary, and view or pay your invoice, from any computer or mobile device.

DEPOSITS AND FINAL PAYMENT: This is an exclusive, by invitation-only, pilgrimage hosted by Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio, who reserves the right to approve all requests to participate in the tour. Please see the bottom section of this page for instructions on how to enroll on this trip. A **deposit of \$500.00** per person and a copy of your passport picture page should be sent by **January 15, 2024. Final payment is due by February 16, 2024. A late payment fee of \$100 will be charged per person for all payments received after the final payment date. Please mail your payment to: Select International Tours, 85 Park Ave., Flemington, NJ 08822 Attn: Jane Allison, 800-842-4842, jane@select-intl.com.**

Your passport must be valid through October 29, 2024. Reservations will not be processed until we have passport copies. Prices quoted are based on payments by check. Prices: **\$4,995.00** for land only (air not included); **\$1,000.00** for group air from NY; **\$5,995.00** for total trip cost from NY; **\$1,100.00** for group air from DFW; **\$6,095.00** for total trip cost from DFW; **\$995.00** for solo traveler, additional cost, (in room by yourself); **\$1,445.00** for Rome Extension; **\$599.00** for Rome Extension solo traveler. A non-refundable 4% credit card convenience fee applies to all credit card transactions.

PILGRIMAGE PRICES: Prices are based on minimum 20 passengers. Prices may be adjusted in the event of fewer than 20 passengers, changes in currency conversion rates, or amendments in local government taxes and/or fuel surcharges. Prices are in US dollars. For European travel an exchange rate of US \$1.15 per Euro is assumed.

SOLO TRAVEL: A limited number of single rooms are available. Prices are based on two people per room. We do not guarantee roommates but will do our best to connect you with a someone willing to share.

LAND ONLY OPTION: Land only services start and end at the hotels and do not include any airfare. You are welcome to transfer from the airport with the group if you arrive at the same time, otherwise, transfers are not included.

TOUR CANCELLATION POLICY: Individual deposits are refundable except for a \$350.00 per person handling fee for cancellations made 91 days or more before departure. A \$500.00 non-refundable fee will be assessed if the reservation is canceled between 90 and 60 days prior to departure. Within 60 days of departure all payments are non-refundable regardless of reason for cancellations. All airline tickets are non-refundable once issued. All cancellations must be in writing. Unused portions of the trip are not refundable. If a roommate cancels, the cost of a solo supplement will be added to your invoice. You may be eligible for a refund through your travel protection. Refer to the U.S. Policy by State on our website.

TRIP CANCELLATION PROTECTION: We strongly encourage you to purchase a **Travel Protection Plan**, for the protection of your travel investment. Please consider purchasing this plan at the time of initial deposit in order to be covered for pre-existing conditions.

Visit portal.trawickinternational.com/affiliate/home/18184 or call **888-681-6272** for details and costs for the Select International Travel Protection Plan with optional Cancel for any reason (CFAR). Please note that CFAR is not available in NY State. The plans contain insurance benefits underwritten by the United States Fire Insurance Company. The plans also contain non-insurance Travel Assistance Services that are provided by an independent organization.

AIRLINE, SEATING AND SPECIAL REQUESTS: To best accommodate our pil-

grims, we often utilize Group Air Reservations. These allow more predictable transfer and tour schedules. However, when booking Group Air, the airline (not Select International Tours) controls seating assignments. If you require very specific seats, we suggest that you book your own airfare and take advantage of our "Land Only" options. You may communicate directly with the airline to request seating changes, provide mileage program information, or change passenger contact information once you receive ticket numbers—approximately three (3) weeks prior to departure. We work with instant purchase airline tickets and or group rates. If you switch from air and land to land only within 90 days from departure you will be charged a \$100 service fee in addition to any airline charges. All special needs and requests due to medical or dietary restrictions must be requested in writing at least 60 days prior to departure. Business class and Premium Coach seats are available upon written request; as are add-ons from your hometown airport. If you require very specific airlines or schedules, we suggest that you book your own airfare and take advantage of our "Land Only" options.

WALKING: Our trips require daily walking, sometimes up or down slopes, steps, and uneven terrain. We recommend preparing oneself, by walking before the trip. Anyone needing assistance is required to be accompanied by a qualified and physically-able travel companion. We are not responsible for any medical condition that occurs prior, during or after the trip.

SAFETY PROCEDURES: Select International Tours has undertaken a reasonable inquiry, with all the suppliers (including airlines, hotels, bus companies and other service providers) used on our trips to ensure they have instigated the best available procedures regarding the pandemic- protective policies advised by local government and health authorities. The client understands and agrees that the supplier(s) may not apply those policies as diligently as the policies suggest. In addition even if the supplier makes a good faith effort to enforce its good practices, some travelers may simply refuse to cooperate. Therefore the client agrees not to hold Select International Tours or group leaders responsible should they or anyone on the trip contract COVID-19 or any other illness during or after the trip.

RESPONSIBILITY: By accepting this confirmation, you agree that the Group Leaders and Select International Tours, Inc. have no responsibility for any acts or omission of the travel suppliers in your itinerary and during your trip. We have no special knowledge regarding the financial conditions of the suppliers, unsafe travel conditions, health hazards, or weather hazards at locations traveled. We are not responsible for flight delays or cancellations or any charges incurred due to unforeseen circumstances. Unused portions of the trip are non-refundable. For information about destination climate, risks, and safety please consult the appropriate on-line resources. For health information consult the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. You are responsible for checking passport, visa, vaccination, or other entry requirements of your destinations. Itineraries are subject to change. We are not responsible for any damaged, lost, or stolen articles. We are not responsible for any sickness, injury, or death during or after the trip. Travel documents will be mailed out approximately three (3) weeks before departure. Please review them carefully for any errors.

SHIPPING & HANDLING: \$15.00 per person—not included in package price—will be added to each invoice. Your invoice will confirm the trip registration.

Pilgrimage to Italy plus and optional extension to Rome with Marcellino D'Ambrosio

Trip Code: 24JA04ITMD

April 16-26, 2024 Optional extension to Rome: April 26-29, 2024

THE BENEFITS OF REGISTERING ONLINE FOR YOUR PILGRIMAGE:

Over the last several years, our clients have requested more control over the trip booking process, payments, and, most importantly, communication about the trips. Our response to these comments and requests had taken two years to implement, but we are happy with the results. Select has committed to a major financial and time investment in building an online reservation system that is easy to navigate using your home computer, tablet, or smartphone. We have addressed most of the requests and suggestions provided by clients. The benefits of the new system to you are a simplified registration process, the ability to access your information at your convenience, review your payment history and get trip information while easily communicating with your Account Manager and Group leader.

When you register online, you will receive regular email updates about your trip and useful tips and tricks for making your international travel more comfortable and enjoyable. And best of all, you can register online even if you prefer to pay by check or wire transfer; just choose that option upon checkout.

We understand that some people are not comfortable with technology and prefer to register via mail-in paper registration, regardless of the many benefits of registering online. To make that easy, we have created a generic registration form on our website at <https://selectinternationaltours.com/register-online/>. You may download and print the form, fill it out and mail it with your check to Select International Tours. However, before you choose to register by mail, please know that we cannot communicate with people who do not register online as frequently and seamlessly. And you may miss some important communication regarding balances and trip preparation, as well as communication from your group leaders. We want you to be in charge and be comfortable with the registration process; our job is to inform you so you can choose the best system for you.

To learn how easy it is to register online, please view THIS SHORT 6-minute VIDEO that explains the process at <https://selectinternationaltours.com/register-online/>.

Secure Your Spot!

Register online* ✓

Pay the deposit ✓

Complete the tasks
in your online profile ✓

*See how easy it is to
register online:



selectinternationaltours.com/easy/