



FRANCISCAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE MARIAN SHRINES

April 22-May 2, 2025

GEORGE'S
INTERNATIONAL TOURS

ITINERARY

Day 1 – Tuesday, April 22: Depart USA

Our pilgrimage begins as we depart on our overnight flight to Lisbon.

Day 2 – Wednesday, April 23: Arrive Lisbon / Fatima

Upon arrival in Lisbon, we will be met by our tour manager who will remain with us for the duration of our pilgrimage. Journey north to the Church of the Holy Miracle in Santarem to see one of the greatest Eucharistic Miracles, “The Bleeding Host.” In the 13th century, a woman stole the host to take to a fortune-teller, but as she was taking it out of church the host began to bleed profusely. Afraid, she put it in a trunk at her home only to be awakened in the middle of the night to a bright light coming from the trunk. Taking the host back to the priest, he put it in a wax pyx. Another miracle happened the next morning when they found that the wax had turned into its own crystal pyx, where it can be venerated to this day. After time for prayer here, continue to Fatima, our home for the next two nights.



Day 3 – Thursday, April 24: Fatima

A full day is ours in Fatima, where in 1917 three young shepherd children were graced with apparitions of the Virgin Mary. The message of Fatima has inspired generations of Catholics to pray the rosary daily for peace and reparation. Visit the Chapel of Apparitions before praying at the graves of Sts. Francisco and Jacinta, and Servant of God Lucia. Explore the tiny village where the three children lived and continue to Valinhos where Our Lady appeared to the children after they were unjustly imprisoned. It is here she encouraged them and told them they must still come every 13th of the month to see her. This evening, we participate in a beautiful Stations of the Cross along the Via Sacre or the candlelight rosary procession in the heart of the shrine.

Day 4 – Friday, April 25: Fatima / Salamanca

This morning leave Portugal for Spain. En route we will visit Coimbra, a famous university town. It is here where you will visit the Convent of Santa Teresa where Sister Lucia lived, the final visionary who passed away in 2005. Continue across the Portuguese-Spanish border to Salamanca, one of Spain's foremost cultural centers, a great university city and a showcase of intricately sculpted Renaissance architecture in

golden stone. Visit the Plaza Mayor, which is regarded as one of the most attractive squares in Spain, and the Cathedrals Vieja and Nueva.

Day 5 – Saturday, April 26: Salamanca / Madrid

After breakfast, depart Salamanca for Alba de Tormes to visit the Carmelite Convent which contains St. Teresa of Avila's incorrupt arm and heart. Continue to the walled city of Avila, the birthplace of St. Teresa. Then visit the Convent of St. Teresa which was built after her canonization over the house where she was born. Visit the Monastery of the Incarnation where St. Teresa spent many years of her life, then the Monastery of St. Joseph, her first foundation. Proceed to Madrid to check into our hotel for dinner and overnight.



Day 6 – Sunday, April 27: Madrid

This morning, visit Segovia where we will pay our respects to another great Carmelite, St. John of the Cross, who served as spiritual director to St. Theresa of Avila. Celebrate Mass at his tomb in the Convent named after him, in which he had lived near the end of his life. We will discover the treasures of Segovia such as the great Gothic Cathedral, the Monastery of St. Joseph, the extraordinary Alcazar fortress, and the splendid Roman Aqueduct. Every corner of this old town sparkles with Romanesque churches and fine old houses. Return to Madrid.

Day 7 – Monday, April 28: Madrid

Today we enjoy another day trip from Madrid – this time to the former capital of Spain: Toledo. Known as the “City of Three Cultures,” Toledo's history and architecture blend Catholicism, Judaism, and Islam throughout the city. Marvel at the Gothic Cathedral – seat of the bishop of all of Spain – and El Greco's masterpiece *The Burial of the Count of Orgaz* in the Iglesia de Santo Tome. Our tour through the historic center – a World Heritage Site – includes the former Synagogue of Santa Maria la Blanca, the oldest-standing European synagogue (later a Catholic church, and now a historical monument), the Monastery of San Juan de los Reyes, and the former Mosque of Cristo de la Luz, the oldest monument in Toledo – built in 999. Before returning to Madrid, we view the Alcazar and learn about its importance for the defense of the city, along with the walls and gates.



Day 8 – Tuesday, April 29: Madrid / Zaragoza

Today begins in the spiritual heart of Madrid. The Cathedral de Santa Maria la Real de la Almudena was only completed and consecrated in 1993, though construction began in the late 1800s. Across the way is the Royal Palace of Madrid, the largest in Western Europe. The current palace was constructed in the 18th century but was built on top of the remains of a medieval fortress. This afternoon, we depart for Zaragoza, the capital of Spain’s Aragon region, where we will check into our hotel for dinner and overnight.



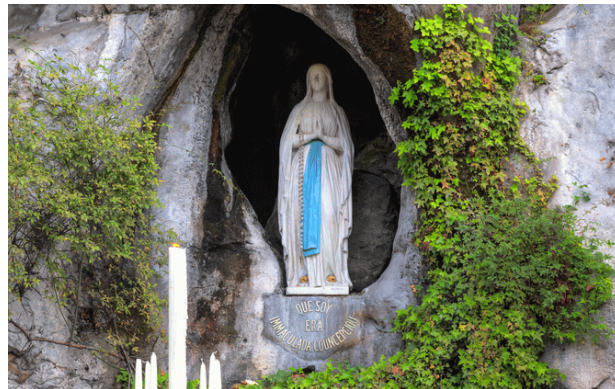
Day 9 – Wednesday, April 30: Zaragoza / Lourdes

This morning, we visit the Basilica of Our Lady of the Pillar. It was here the Blessed Mother appeared to St. James the Greater in 40 A.D. This is the only known instance of the Virgin Mary appearing to someone while she was still alive—bilocating from Jerusalem—to encourage St. James in his preaching of the Gospel in Spain. We then cross the border into France on our way to Lourdes, known for its healing waters after the Virgin Mary appeared to St. Bernadette in 1858. It is also where the Blessed Mother announced she was the Immaculate Conception. Join hundreds of other pilgrims in the Blessed Sacrament Procession and Candlelight Procession that has endured since 1863. Lourdes will be our home for the next two nights.



Day 10 – Thursday, May 1: Lourdes

Bask in the grace of Lourdes all day as we have Mass at the Grotto of Massabielle, where Our Lady first appeared to St. Bernadette and had her dig for the spring that is now known across the world for its many miracles of healing. We also visit the humble home where St. Bernadette lived during the apparitions. Tonight, we join the candlelight procession with thousands of other pilgrims in prayer and song.



Day 11 – Friday, May 2: Lourdes / Pau / USA

Today marks the end of a marvelous experience as we transfer to the airport in the nearby city of Pau for the return flight home, filled with memories and graces of this pilgrimage that will last a lifetime.

PILGRIMAGE COST

\$4,730.00

per person based upon double occupancy

For single occupancy please add \$740.00.

This price includes:

- ✘ Roundtrip airfare from New York JFK
- ✘ Airline taxes/fuel surcharges as currently levied
- ✘ Accommodation in 4-star hotels
- ✘ All hotel taxes and service charges
- ✘ Breakfast and dinner daily
- ✘ Arrival and departure transfers
- ✘ Baggage handling at hotels
- ✘ Land travel by deluxe motorcoach
- ✘ Comprehensive sightseeing with professional guides
- ✘ Professional tour manager
- ✘ All entrance fees as per itinerary
- ✘ Daily Mass

Airfares from other departure cities throughout the United States are available upon request.

For those who prefer to arrange their own flights the Land-Only cost is \$3,610.00 per person.

Please visit www.holylandpilgrimages.org for information on additional pilgrimages being organized by the Franciscan Monastery.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

Reservations and Payment: Please complete the attached Reservation Application and return it with your deposit of \$300.00 per person at the time of booking. Final payment is due 65 days prior to departure.

Cancellations: All cancellations must be in writing. Cancellations received after 5PM Pacific Time or on weekends/holidays will be processed the next business day. The following per person cancellation charges will apply: If canceled 121 days or more prior to departure, a \$50.00 administrative fee will be charged. If canceled 120 - 61 days prior to departure, \$250.00 will be charged. If canceled 60 - 31 days prior to departure, \$450.00 will be charged. If canceled 30 - 7 days prior to departure \$700.00 will be charged. No refunds will be made within 6 days of departure. In addition, once the airline tickets have been issued, 100% of the airfare is non-refundable unless you have been advised otherwise at the time of your booking. Additional cancellation charges may apply depending upon the cancellation terms of our suppliers.

Refunds: Subject to the foregoing Cancellation Terms, upon cancellation of travel related services, all sums paid to George's International Tours for such services will be promptly returned to the passenger, provided the passenger is not in violation of any of the terms and conditions previously, clearly and conspicuously disclosed and agreed to by the passenger. This refund provision does not apply where George's International Tours has remitted the payment to another registered seller of travel or a carrier and they default in providing the agreed-upon transportation or service without providing a refund. In such a situation, George's International Tours agrees to provide passenger with a written statement accompanied by a copy of the bank records establishing the disbursement of the payment, and if disbursed to a seller of travel, proof of their current registration.

Trust Account Disclosure: California law requires certain sellers of travel to have a trust account or bond. George's International Tours has such a trust account.

Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation ("TCRC"): George's International Tours is a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation ("TCRC"). You, the passenger, may request reimbursement from TCRC if the Seller of Travel was registered and participating in the TCRC at the time of sale and the passenger is located in California at the time of payment. Please be advised that passengers purchasing from outside of California are not covered by the TCRC. Eligible passengers may file a claim with TCRC if the passenger is owed a refund of more than \$50 for transportation or travel services which the Seller of Travel failed to forward to a proper provider or if such money was not refunded to you when required. The maximum amount which may be paid by the TCRC to any one passenger is the total amount paid on behalf of the passenger to the Seller of Travel, not to exceed \$15,000. A claim must be submitted to the TCRC within six months after the scheduled completion date of the travel. A claim must include sufficient information and documentation to prove your claim and a \$35 processing fee. You must agree to waive your right to other civil remedies against a registered participating Seller of Travel for matters arising out of a sale for which you file a claim with the TCRC, if you were located in California at the time of the sale. You may request a claim form by writing to: Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation, P.O. Box 6001, Larkspur, CA 94977-6001; or by faxing a request to 415-927-7698.

Travel Documents: A passport which is valid for a minimum of 6 months past the date of your return flight home is required of all U.S. citizens. Visas are not required for U.S. citizens. If you are not a U.S. citizen, please call to determine your visa requirement status. George's International Tours is not responsible for individual visas or passports.

Tour Cost: All quoted prices are based upon airfares, tariffs and currency exchange rates at the time of printing and are subject to change at any time. Should the minimum number of 20 tour members not be reached, the right is reserved to increase the tour cost accordingly.

Tour Documents and Tickets: Final tour documents are mailed, provided we have received full payment, within 3 weeks of departure.

Baggage: Each passenger is allowed one checked bag and one carry-on. You will be responsible for paying to the airline any additional charges for additional checked baggage or overweight baggage (if excess weight is permitted). George's International Tours is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen baggage.

Air Transportation: Airfare is in economy class on Delta/Air France (or any other IATA carrier). Fares are based upon levels in effect at the time of printing and fares/flight schedules are subject to change without notice.

Hotels: Accommodations are based on double occupancy rooms. A limited number of single rooms are available at the supplement quoted, and should be requested at the time of booking.

Travel Insurance: We strongly recommend that you have comprehensive travel insurance. Insurance may be purchased directly through George's International Tours and registration forms will be provided upon receipt of your deposit or you may purchase online at www.georgesintl.com. George's International Tours acts only as an intermediary between you and the insurance provider and in no event shall George's International Tours be liable to any person or entity whatsoever for any direct, indirect, incidental, special, exemplary, compensatory, consequential, or punitive damages related to insurance coverage purchased.

Not Included: Gratuities (\$250.00 recommended per person), COVID-19 testing (if required), passport and/or individual visa fees, personal travel insurance, laundry, beverages and items not on the regular menu of the included meals, additional baggage in excess of airport allowance, optional sightseeing tours, and all expenses of a purely personal nature.

Responsibility Clause: The passenger contract issued by the transportation company shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation company and the passenger. Additional expenses incurred as a result of delay, change of schedules, illness, weather, strikes, hostilities, quarantine, government requisition of hotel space or any other reasons beyond the control of the tour operator or travel agent shall be borne by the passenger. George's International Tours reserves the right to substitute hotels of similar category if necessary and to alter itineraries.

Limitation of liability: The airlines, hotels, and other suppliers (jointly: "travel suppliers") providing travel or other services sold by George's International Tours are independent contractors and not agents or employees of George's International Tours. George's International Tours and/or their cooperating selling agents and/or their travel suppliers offer these tours for sale only on the express understanding that they themselves do not perform or in any way assume liability for the performance of the individual components, transfers, hotels, flights, car, motorcoaches, etc. of these tours and act only to combine these components into a single unit of sale for the convenience of the general public. To the extent permitted by law, George's International Tours does not assume liability for any injury, damage, death, loss, accident or delay due to an act or omission of a travel supplier, including, without limitation, an act of negligence or the default of a travel supplier. To the extent permitted by law, no responsibilities are accepted for any damage and/or delay due to force majeure, sickness, pilferage, labor disputes, bankruptcy, machinery breakdown, quarantine, government restraints, weather, terrorism or any causes beyond George's International Tours' control. Further, no responsibility is accepted for any additional expense, omissions, delays, failure to make connections, non-performance or poor performance, loss of revenue, loss of anticipated profits, any additional expenses or lost business, attributable to you yourself, acts or omissions of any third parties, or acts of any governmental authority, even if George's International Tours has been advised that such damages were possible or probable.

Please refer to www.georgesintl.com for further disclosures concerning travel risks, travels with special needs or disabilities, and arbitration.

Your deposit certifies that you agree with the above terms and conditions.

George's International Tours - CST# 2035995-40

For further information on this pilgrimage please contact:

Holy Land Franciscan Pilgrimages

Phone: 443-832-0350

Email: info@holylandpilgrimages.org

or

Fr. David Wathen, O.F.M.

Director, Holy Land Franciscan Pilgrimages

Email: dwfm1400@hotmail.com