

Pilgrimage to Italy— MARCH 1–9, 2019

Highlights: Pietralcina / San Giovanni Rotondo St. Padre Pio Shrine / Monte Sant'Angelo / Lanciano / Loreto / Rome : Vatican City / Sistine Chapel / and more

Day 1 – Trans-Atlantic Flight— Friday, March 1

This evening's trans-Atlantic flight to Rome, Italy will depart from **Newark** International Airport. Meals and entertainment are aloft and an early afternoon arrival in Rome. Time schedule TBA.

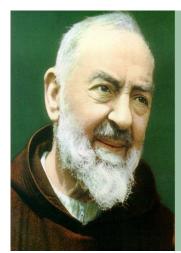
Day 2—Pietrelcina/SGR—Saturday, March 2

We meet our driver and transfer to Pietrelcina, in the Province of Benevento, birthplace of St. Pio. Pietrelcina is a small picturesque town made of winding streets, characteristic homes, and beautiful gardens. There are ancient signs of its remote origins and of places that recollect the birth and life of the Holy Monk. Padre Pio was born Francesco Forgione on May 25, 1887 in Pietrelcina, Italy. Raised in a pious Catholic family, Francesco entered the friary in 1903 and one year later received the Capuchin habit, taking the name Pio. He was ordained a priest and transferred to several sites until 1916, when he arrived in San Giovanni Rotondo, where he remained for the last 52 years of his life. We will visit the home where the Saint lived with his family and the many interesting sites and places that influenced his life. Overnight in Pietrelcina, supper (included) with wine, water and coffee. Mass today in Pietrelcina.



Day 3 - Shrine of St Pio / San Giovanni Rotondo-Sunday, March 3

After breakfast, we will depart for San Giovanni Rotondo. Upon arrival we will begin with a guided visit of the Shrine of Saint Pio, the Gallery of St. Pio, Casa Sollievo Soffrenza (Hospital) and the historic center of San Giovanni Rotondo. The Shrine of Padre Pio, which centers on his tomb inside the Church of Our Lady of Grace (Santa Maria delle Grazie). Here you can also see his cell, his confessional, the crucifix from which he received the stigmata, and nearly everything



Padre Pio: "Every holy Mass, heard with devotion, produces in our souls marvelous effects, abundant spiritual and material graces which we, ourselves, do not know. It is easier for the earth to exist without the sun than without the holy Sacrifice of the Mass." he owned or touched, carefully preserved and labeled. Santa Maria delle Grazie (Our Lady of Grace) is a new church built during Padre Pio's lifetime (1956-59) to accommodate the many pilgrims and worshippers attracted to San Giovanni Rotondo. The east wall bears a splendid mosaic. Behind Santa Maria delle Grazie is the Padre Pio Pilgrimage Church, completed in 2004 and considered a notable example of modern architecture. In 1940, Padre Pio began plans to

open a hospital in San Giovanni Rotondo, to be named the Casa Sollievo della Sofferenza or Home for the Relief of Suffering. The hospital opened in 1956, and is considered one of the most efficient hospitals in Europe. Tonight supper (included) and overnight will be in San Giovanni. *Mass in San Giovanni Rotondo*.

Day 4 - Monte Sant'Angelo / Cavern of St. Michael - Monday, March 4



the east. We will visit the Grotto of Saint Michael the Archangel, a pilgrim site since the 5th Century. The sanctuary has been a popular place of **pilgrimage** for many centuries: St. Francis of Assisi, St. Bernard of Clairvaux, St. Bridget of Sweden, St. Gerard Majella, St. William of Vercelli and six popes have made the pilgrimage here to ask for St. Michael's protection. *Mass will be celebrated in the grotto*. Lunch (on your own) and some free time in Monte Sant'Angelo. Supper (included), with wine , water and coffee, overnight in San Giovanni

Today we will have a full day's excursion to Monte Sant'Angelo. This quaint village made holy and famous to Christians by Saint Michael the Archangel who appeared here in the 5th Century for the

conversion of pagans. It was also the site where the Crusaders came to pay homage before their departures to



Day 5-San Giovanni Rotondo / Lanciano-Tuesday, March 5



This morning after breakfast we will head north to the city of Lanciano to visit the site of the Eucharistic Miracle of Lanciano. A Basilian monk, wise in the ways of the world, but not in the ways of faith, was having a trying time with his belief in the real presence of Our Lord Jesus in the Eucharist. He prayed constantly for relief from his doubts,

and from the fear that he was losing his vocation. He suffered through the routine of his priesthood day after day, with these doubts gnawing at him. One morning in the church dedicated to Saints Legontian and Domitian in Lanciano, while the Basilian monk was doubting the real and substantial presence of the Flesh and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the consecrated Holy Species, he begun celebrating Mass in the Latin rite with a host of unleavened bread. During the two-fold consecration, as he held the Holy Host and Wine, his hand and body began to shake. He stood for a long time with his back to the people, and then slowly turned around to them. He said:

"O fortunate witnesses to whom the Blessed God, to confound my disbelief, has wished to reveal Himself in this Most Blessed Sacrament and to render Himself visible to our eyes. Come, brethren, and marvel at our God so close to us. Behold the Flesh and Blood of our most beloved Christ."



Longinus, the centurion who thrust the lance into the side of Jesus, tearing in halves the Heart from which blood and water gushed forth, was from this town. After seeing the events which followed the piercing of Jesus' Heart, the darkening of the sun, and the earthquake, he believed that Christ was the Savior. A more physical sign, however, was that Longinus had poor eyesight, and after having touched his eyes with the water and blood from the side of Jesus, his eyesight was restored. Converted, he gave up the Army and went to Cappadocia where he was martyred for the faith. He is now known as Saint Longinus. His feast is celebrated every March 15.

Mass will be held in the shrine. Afterwards we will have a break for lunch (on your own) before continuing our journey to Loreto. Supper (included) with wine, water and coffee and overnight in Loreto.

Day 6-Loreto / Rome, Wednesday, March 6

This morning after breakfast we will visit the little town of Loreto lies on a hill near the Adriatic Sea, some 13 miles south of Ancona. Since the 14th century it has been Italy's second most important place of pilgrimage after Rome. After a short orientation tour with our guide, explanation of Loreto, the Basilica and the story of the Little House. We will schedule mass in Loreto before departing for Rome. Some free time will be available upon our arrival in Rome. Supper included (with wine, water and coffee) and overnight in Rome.



Day 7 — Rome—Vatican—Basilica / Sistine Chapel - Thursday, March 7

The day will begin with mass and then a guided visit of St. Peter's Basilica and the Sistine Chapel. At 22,067 square meters, St. Peter's is the world's largest church; regarded as one of the holiest Catholic shrines, it is a popular place of pilgrimage, even though it is neither the Mother Church nor a cathedral (San Giovanni in Laterano is both). It is hard to grasp its proportions until you have seen it. Particularly impressive is its height, 136 meters from the ground to the top of the magnificent dome, the tallest in the world. According to Catholic tradition, the Basilica is the burial site of the apos-



tle St. Peter.

the first Pope and Bishop of Rome. St. Peter's tomb is below the high altar. Many popes have been buried here since the Early Christian period. A church has been on this site since Roman Emperor Constantine the Great. Construction of the present basilica, which replaced the basilica of the 4th century, began on 18 April 1506 and was completed in 1626. St. Peter's Basilica is also famous as a magnificent work of art, to which major Renaissance artists, including Michelangelo, Bramante, Raffaello, Sangallo and Giacomo della Porta contributed. Gian Lorenzo Bernini designed the ample stairand elliptical square surrounded by columns, which case

"introduces" the basilica, with the facade by Carlo Maderno.

Saint Mary Major (Santa Maria Maggiore) The largest church in Rome dedicated to the Virgin Mary, hence the name, and one of the first to be built in her honor, Santa Maria Maggiore is located on Piazza Esquilino, not far from the Termini train station. It is the only basilica among these four to have preserved the Paleochristian structure of the 5th century, even though it underwent several makeovers and additions externally. It closely resembles a 2nd-century imperial basilica, imposing in its aspect, perhaps to signify Rome's Christian future. Under the high altar is the Crypt of the Nativity, with a crystal reliquary said to contain wood from Jesus' crib.

Farewell Supper included (with wine, water and coffee) and overnight in Rome.

Day 8—Rome — Friday, March 8 Free Day

Entirely free day in Rome. Anyone wanting to visit other sites on your own or take a day excursion outside of Rome, please contact our office for assistance. We are happy to help you! Overnight in Rome.



Day 8- Saturday, March 9 - Departure to USA

We bid a fond farewell to Rome as we depart for Fiumecino International Airport for our voyage back to the USA following a wonderful pilgrimage and cultural visit to Italy. We arrive home in the evening, meals aloft.



INCLUDES:

All transfers abroad Airport/Hotels Buffet Breakfast Daily All other meals as per itinerary Beverages at meals as per itinerary English Speaking local guides throughout English Speaking Tour Manager day of arrival to day of departure First Class Hotel throughout Entrance Fees to Sites VAT (Value Added Tax) 19% Service fees for Hotels and Restaurants

EXCLUDES:

Passports and/or Visa Fees Gratuities to Drivers, Guides, Tour escort/Manager Luggage handling Items of personal nature Beverages at meals unless listed in itinerary

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Sincerely, Mr. Louis Falconeri – President

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Passenger Name:______ Telephone #_____

1) Name & Telephone number(s) of First Emergency Contact Person to be called:

2) Name & Telephone number(s) of Second Emergency Contact Person to be called:

3) Third Contact OPTIONAL

Optional Any serious medical information we should be made aware of? FOOD ALLERGY?

FOR FURTHER INFO CALL Fratelli & Company Group Travel E-mail — <u>louis@fratelliandcompany.com</u> – tel. or fax (908)766 -8994 Or Fr. John Trigilio - <u>trigilio@msmary.edu</u> TOTAL PACKAGE— \$ 2,499. per person (double occupancy) (price includes Airport Taxes and Fuel Surcharges they are subject to change)		
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Cell or Res. Tel: Work Tel: Email:		
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If you DO NOT have a passport at this time, please indicate, then provide to the tour operator/tour organizer with the passport info ASAP.		
I wish to room with: (room mate name)		
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\$250. – Due Now with Tour Application. Balance in Full Due 60 days prior to departure date. January 1, 2019		

TERMS & CONDITIONS

<u>Reservations/Deposits/Payments</u>: Deposit of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) is required at the time of booking. No reservation is confirmed until the deposit is received by the tour operator. Balance of the tour price is due and payable sixty (60) days prior to departure.

Minors And Infirm: Children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian or a responsible adult deemed worthy by the parent/guardian. If a minor is traveling with any person other than parent/guardian then the responsible adult will provide the travel agent/tour operator and have in his/her possession a notarized letter from the parent/guardian giving that adult full permission to make decisions on their behalf and permission to room with the minor. No minor will be allowed to room alone without the parent/guardian or named responsible adult. Due to the physical demands of the tour and the inaccessibility of handicap facilities abroad, no physically handicapped person may be a tour passenger.

Tour Price: The tour price in this brochure is based upon the U. S. currency vs. the European Euro at the time of printing, October1, 2018. If changes in these rates occur, it may change the price accordingly. The tour price is based on booking a minimum of 25 paying passengers. A lesser amount could increase the price of the tour. Should the price of the tour change for any of the reasons mentioned above, the passenger will then have the right to cancel the reservation and receive a full refund of payment made to date, provided that written notice be received by Fratelli & Co. within 7 (seven) days of the notification of the price change. Otherwise, the cancellation policy written below prevails. Airport Taxes which are included in the tour price are subject to change. No refund will be made if the passenger is dissatisfied with any of the accommodations; fails to use any of the accommodations included in the tour price, or must return home prior to completion of the tour.

<u>Cancellations</u>: Land and Air arrangements may be canceled and passenger may receive a full refund less one hundred (\$100.) dollars cancellation fee if the cancellation is made no less than ninety (90) days prior to the scheduled departure date. If cancellation is made less than sixty (60) days prior to scheduled departure, there is no refund unless a suitable replacement passenger books the tour in his/her place. For these reasons we recommend you take Travel Insurance.

Travel Insurance: Health, accident, Trip Interruption/Cancellation and baggage insurance are <u>NOT</u> included; brochures can be made available through your travel agent.

<u>Sightseeing & Itinerary</u>: Sightseeing is included as specified in the itinerary with English-speaking guides and customary entrance fees. The tour operator reserves the right to vary the sequence of the itinerary and/or reroute the order of cities, should circumstances arise.

<u>Passports</u>: A valid passport is required, and <u>MUST</u> be shown upon request to the travel agent/tour operator, tour leaders and any airline personal and customs officials.

Responsibility: Fratelli & Co., your tour operator has arranged a vacation package which may include one or more of the following: air, land transportation, hotel accommodations and food service. Neither the tour operator nor the organizer own, operate, manage, or control any hotel, bus company, railroad, cruise line, service provider, restaurant, airline transportation company, person or persons rendering any of the services, and/or accommodations offered in connection with this tour. The tour operator and/or tour organizer do not guaranty any passenger's safety who participates in the tour. Accordingly, the passenger understands that he or she has no claim against the tour operator or organizer for any delay, or other irregularity caused by a third party service provider, damage to or loss of property, injury to or death of the person due to any action or failure to act by the air carrier, bus carriers, private cars, livery carriers, railroad, ships, hotels, restaurants and any service providers in connection with this tour, strikes, war, or any acts of God. Under these circumstances, no portion of the tour price will be refunded. It is advisable that you cover any potential risks with insurance coverage.

<u>Cancellation of Passenger's Rights:</u> In an effort to make the tour pleasant for all, the tour operator reserves the right to: 1.cancel any reservation and refund the tour price, pursuant to the cancellation clause, of any passenger who acts irrational by words, actions and demeanor prior to the tour departure; 2. refuse further participation in the tour once the tour begins, with no refund given, to passengers who: act unruly, irrational, unduly argumentative, incite trouble among passengers, endanger the health and/or safety of the other passengers, tour operator, tour organizer, and/or tour escort, or if they become physically or emotionally disabled and create a burden that the remaining passengers are unwilling to accept. No tour passenger, tour operator, tour organizer, tour escort, will be obligated to assist any infirm, handicapped or injured passenger.

Inclusions: All hotel taxes, service charges, First Class Three Star Hotel, Comprehensive sightseeing as per itinerary, English-speaking guides, Breakfasts, lunches and dinners (including in flight meals) as per itinerary.

Exclusions: Passport and visa fees, tips for tour escorts, drivers, guides, food service personal, hotel maids, phone calls, laundry services, and other items of a personal nature. Rates do NOT include beverages at meals unless specified in the itinerary. Rates do not include transportation to and from US airports or baggage handling in the United States.

Physical and Emotional Limitations: The tour operator cannot be held responsible for any part of the tour missed due to physical or emotional limitations. Anyone who cannot participate in an event will not receive a refund for any unused portion. Further, if anyone must stop or return to a hotel or motor-coach during a tour, and uses public transportation or taxis, it will be their responsibility to pay for the transportation.

<u>Miscellaneous</u>: Any Litigation concerning this tour shall be brought in the State of New Jersey. This agreement shall be construed according to New Jersey and Federal law. The tour operator shall not be responsible for any typographical errors or misprints. The tour operator reserves the right to substitute in its discretion any air, land and sea carrier, hotels, and service providers and itinerary.

I have read terms and conditions of the tour and accept them. I represent I am not physically or emotionally challenged and I am able to meet the physical demands required by this tour.