



Itinerary

Shrines of Italy

Oct 20, 2021 - Oct 29, 2021

Pre Night: Cardinal Hotel St. Peter

The Cardinal Hotel St. Peter is a 4-star property located in the center of Rome. Situated in the tranquil district of Villa Pamphili, the hotel is nearby to Vatican City, the Vatican Museums and Pio XI Square.

Day 1: Rome, Italy - Tour Begins



Travel on an inspirational journey to some of the most fascinating religious sites and relics in the world. Your tour opens in Rome. This evening, join your fellow travelers for a special welcome dinner at a popular local restaurant featuring regional delicacies and Italian wine.

Hotel

Cardinal Hotel St. Peter
Rome

Culinary

Dinner

Weather

High 23°
Low 12°
Rain 1"

Day 2: Rome - Assisi



Travel north to Assisi, where St. Francis spent most of his life. Visit St. Mary of the Angels Basilica, built on the founding site of the Franciscan Order. Pause at the Chapel of the Porziuncola, the rose bush, and the cave where the saint prayed. Spend time at the Church of St. Clare before reflecting at the crucifix from which Jesus spoke to St. Francis. Join a local expert on a tour of Assisi, highlighting the 13th-century basilica where you can see many of St. Francis' possessions and a series of frescoes. Celebrate Mass in the Basilica of St. Francis this afternoon.

Hotel

Hotel Cenacolo
Assisi

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Weather

High 19°
Low 8°
Rain 3"

Day 3: Assisi - Optional Florence Excursion



Enjoy a full day at leisure to independently explore historic Assisi. Or, join a full-day optional excursion to Florence, the "Renaissance City," where a local expert provides a walking tour featuring the Piazza del Duomo, the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore, the Palazzo Vecchio, and the Ponte Vecchio.

Hotel

Hotel Cenacolo
Assisi

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 19°
Low 8°
Rain 3"

Day 4: Assisi - Loreto - San Giovanni Rotondo



Travel across the Apennine Mountains to the Marian shrine of Loreto. Discover the Holy House of Nazareth and the beautiful Madonna of Loreto where more than 50 popes have made a pilgrimage. Celebrate Mass before continuing your journey to San Giovanni Rotondo, home of Padre Pio.

Hotel

Hotel Parco Delle Rose
San Giovanni Rotondo

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Weather

High 22°
Low 11°
Rain 2"

Day 5: San Giovanni Rotondo - Monte Sant' Angelo - San Giovanni Rotondo



Visit Monte Sant' Angelo and take in stunning views of the Gargano Peninsula. Explore the Grotto of St. Michael the Archangel, where popes and saints have knelt and prayed for protection. Return to San Giovanni Rotondo and celebrate Mass in the sanctuary of Padre Pio. Tour Padre Pio's tomb and the sanctuary, including the old church and the crucifix from which he received the stigmata in 1918. Spend time in the new church dedicated to Saint Pio of Pietrelcina.

Hotel

Hotel Parco Delle Rose
San Giovanni Rotondo

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Weather

High 22°
Low 11°
Rain 2"

Day 6: San Giovanni Rotondo-Tomb of Matthew the Apostle in Salerno-Campania



Journey through the picturesque landscapes of Apulia on your way to Campania. Visit the Cathedral of Salerno, which guards the relics of Saint Matthew the Apostle and Evangelist. You will have the option of celebrating Mass here in Salerno. This afternoon opt to relax at your hotel or visit the Historic Ruins of Pompeii during an optional tour of this vast archeological site.

Hotel

Hotel Scapolatiello
Cava de Tirreni

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Weather

High 23°
Low 13°
Rain 2"

Day 7: Campania - Abbey of Montecassino - The Catacombs - Rome



Travel to Montecassino and discover the renowned abbey founded by St. Benedict in the 6th century A.D., housing the relics of the saint and his sister, Saint Scholastica. Montecassino also became famous during World War II, when the abbey was bombed and destroyed. You'll have the option of celebrating Mass here before continuing to Rome. Visit the Catacombs where early Christians hid and buried their dead.

Hotel

Cardinal Hotel St. Peter
Rome

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 23°
Low 12°
Rain 1"

Day 8: Rome - Papal Audience - Christian Rome City Tour



Attend the weekly Papal audience* at Vatican City to receive the blessing given by His Holiness Pope Francis. Visit the Marian Basilica of St. Mary Major and Rome's Cathedral: St. John in Lateran - the former residence of the popes. Conclude your day with a visit to the Scala Sancta, the Holy Stairs which tradition believes are the steps that Christ climbed when he appeared before Pontius Pilate.

Hotel

Cardinal Hotel St. Peter
Rome

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 23°
Low 12°
Rain 1"

Day 9: Rome - Vatican Museum - St. Peter's Basilica



Celebrate Mass before exploring the Vatican Museums**, including the Sistine Chapel and the famous Last Judgment mural. End your visit in St. Peter's Basilica, the world's largest church. Feel the grace around you as you meander along towering marble columns and stand in awe before Pietà, Michelangelo's renowned sculpture. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure. Perhaps you'll go on an optional tour of Rome with visits to the Roman Forum and Colosseum, where the Pope begins the Good Friday Procession. This evening, join your fellow travelers for a farewell dinner celebrating the end of a memorable pilgrimage to Italy.

Hotel

Cardinal Hotel St. Peter

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Weather

High 23°

Day 10: Rome - Tour Ends



Your tour comes to a close in Rome.