

# **2025 DEPARTURES**





















## ITINERARY

#### Day 1 - Depart the USA

Depart on your international overnight flight to Lisbon, Portugal.

### Day 2 - Arrive in Lisbon / Santarém / Fatima

Our representative will greet you at the airport and escort you to your bus for the journey to Santarém. Here, the Church of St. Stephen was the site of a Holy Miracle in the 12th century. The crystal pyx can be seen at the renamed Church of the Holy Miracle. Continue to Fatima, where you will check into our hotel and then celebrate Mass in one of the chapels at the Sanctuary of Fatima complex. There is an opportunity to participate in the candlelight processional while in Fatima.

#### Day 3 - Fatima

Today, you will celebrate Mass and then visit the Basilica where the three children (Lucia lived to adulthood) are interred. You will then journey to the countryside, where Mary appeared to Francisco and Jacinta Marto and their cousin Lucia dos Santos once a month from May 13 to October 13, 1917, when she appeared at Valinhos. You will see their homes nearby, where Francisco died in 1919. Jacinta died in a Lisbon hospital in 1920. Return to Fatima for a time to pray and contemplate the meaning of the Holy Site.

#### Day 4 - Salamanca

Today, you will depart for Spain and Salamanca. This afternoon, enjoy a walking tour of this university city. Chartered in 1218 by Alfonso IX of Leon, this school has been home to Cervantes, Cortes, and St. John of the Cross. The façade of the entrance to the university is an ornate wonder. The Old and New Cathedrals (12th and 16th century) join at the edge of the university. The Plaza Mayor here is one of the most picturesque in all of Europe.

#### Day 5 - Valladolid and Burgos

This morning, you will travel to Valladolid and visit the unfinished Cathedral. Walk the path past the Church of Saint Mary the Ancient, whose foundations and tower date back to the 12th century. Continue to Burgos, where we will pass through the Arco de Santa Maria, an ornate gateway through the old city walls built to honor Charles V. Visit the Gothic cathedral, which began in 1221. This is a pilgrimage church on the Camino de Santiago. Check into your hotel for dinner and overnight stay.

#### Day 6 - To Lourdes

This morning, you will journey through the Pyrenees to Lourdes. Here, Mary appeared to Bernadette Soubirous 18 times in 1858. It has become a place of pilgrimage for millions of the faithful each year, and the spring water from the grotto is believed to have healing properties. While in Lourdes, you will have the opportunity to participate in the afternoon processional and the evening candlelight processional. Check into your hotel for dinner and overnight stay.

#### Day 7 - Lourdes

Today, you will celebrate Mass in one of the chapels here at the sanctuary. Then, enjoy a walking tour of the sanctuary grounds and then proceed to the homes of Bernadette and her family. This afternoon, you will have free time to partake in the healing waters baths or to explore more of the town on your own, from the various apparition sites to the castle fort that affords panoramic views of the sanctuary and the Pyrenees. Return to the hotel for dinner and your overnight stay.

#### Day 8 - To Montserrat

Today, you will journey from Lourdes to the mountain-top Monastery of Montserrat. The statue of the Black Virgin was uncovered in the Santa Cova in 880 AD. Celebrate Mass here in one of the chapels. Stay overnight in accommodations at the monastery.

#### Day 9 - Montserrat and Barcelona

This morning, you will enjoy free time to explore the grounds of the monastery or take the funicular to the top of the mountain. Then, descend the mountain and journey into Barcelona. This afternoon, you will visit the Barri Gotic (gothic quarter) in the center of the city. Many of the buildings here are listed as World Heritage sites, including the Sagrada Familia Church, which has been under continuous construction since 1882. Designed by renowned architect Gaudi, it is now slated for completion in 2026! While strolling La Rambla, see the font de Canaletes. Check into your hotel for overnight. Dinner is on your own

#### Day 10 - Return to the USA or Enjoy an Extension to Rome









#### Day 10 - Barcelona to Rome

Transfer to Barcelona airport to fly to Rome. Your guide in Rome will greet you at the airport and escort you into the city for a driving tour to help you acclimate to where things are. Check into your hotel for dinner and overnight stay. (B, D)

#### Day 11 - Vatican

Enjoy a guided tour of the Vatican's Museums and the Sistine Chapel. Built by connecting portions of the old papal residence with newer structures, the museum houses a world-renowned collection of art and antiquities. Michelangelo painted the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel between 1508 and 1512 and later painted The Last Judgment between 1535 and 1541 for Popes Clement VII and Paul III. The primary function of the chapel is the Papal Conclave, providing the place where the College of Cardinals of the church gathers to elect a new pope. Then, walk through St. Peter's Basilica and celebrate Mass here. The present structure, completed in 1590, was built over the Byzantine and Middle Ages structures that marked the tomb of Saint Peter. There are more than 100 tombs within the basilica, including, most recently, Saint John Paul II. Finish the day at the Pantheon, built by Marcus Agrippa during the reign of Augustus (27 BC to 14 AD). Emperor Hadrian rebuilt it around 126 AD. The building was given to Pope Boniface IV who converted it into a church - Saint Mary and the Martyrs (Santa Maria Rotunda). Mass continues to be celebrated here. Dinner is on your own tonight. (B)

## Day 12 - Rome

Begin your afternoon with a visit to the Archbasilica of Saint John Lateran. Six popes are entombed here. Next door is the Holy Staircase (Scala Santa), brought from Pilate's Palace in Jerusalem by Saint Helena in the 4th century. Climbing the stairs on your knees is a devotion many pilgrims perform, and a plenary indulgence is granted for completing this feat. Next is the Basilica of Saint Lawrence Outside the Walls (San Lorenzo). Saint Lawrence was one of the first seven deacons of Rome, martyred in 258. The church is built next to catacombs that lead down to his grave. The relics of Saints Justin Martyr and Stephen are also enshrined here. Continue your pilgrim journey to the Basilica of Saint Mary Major (Maria Maggiore). This is the largest Marian church in Rome. Its construction began after the Council of Ephesus in 431 proclaimed that Mary was the Mother of God. Saint Jerome, translator of the Bible into the Latin Vulgate, is buried here. Celebrate Mass in one of the churches here. Dinner is on your own tonight. (B)

### Day 13 - Pilgrimage in Rome

This morning, you will begin your day at the Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls. The present structure stands over the place where Constantine built the first church over Saint Paul's grave. The church features a portrait of every pope who has served the church, with the face of Pope Francis I illuminated as the present pontiff. Step beneath the surface into the Catacombs of Callixtus, built along the Appian Way. Here, sixteen popes from the 2nd through 4th centuries were interred, though they have been removed to various churches over the centuries. San Sebastian Outside the Walls is another of the seven Pilgrimage churches built over the Catacombs of Saint Sebastian. The remains of Peter and Paul were temporarily protected here during the Valerian Persecution of 258. Our seventh and final pilgrimage stop is the Basilica of the Holy Cross in Jerusalem. Saint Helena brought Passion relics here, and the floor was covered with soil from Jerusalem. Relics here include the index finger of Thomas that touched the wounds of Christ after His resurrection and a piece of the Good Thiel's Cross. Those who want to complete the seven-church pilgrimage as declared by Saint John Paul II in 2000 can continue to one more stop at the Shrine of Our Lady of Divine Love. Here, a pilgrim pursued by dogs appealed to Our Lady, and she intervened for his safety. Pilgrims began to frequent the site, and a chapel was built here in 1745. Celebrate Mass in one of the churches. Dinner is on your own tonight. (B)

## Day 14 - Return to the USA

#### TRAVEL REGISTRATION FORM

#### Please mail completed form with payment and passport copy to:

Departure City: _		Departure D	ate:(F)_	
First, Middle & La	st Name must be subm	itted as it appears o	n your passport:	
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#### Conditions and Limitations

The Travel Protection Plan is only available for citizens or residents of the United States of America. "The plan cost includes the plan premium and a fee for non-insurance assistance services. You may obtain information on the plan fees by emailing assistance-dese@tripmate.com. This advertisement contains highlights of the plans developed by trip Mate Inc., which include travel insurance coverages underwritten by United States Fire International Company. Principal Office located in the plans developed by trip Mate Inc. and the International Contains and International Company. Principal Office located in an order than the International Contains and International Company. Principal Office located in an order than the International Contains and International Contains a

#### PROGRAM CONDITIONS

#### INCLUDED IN PRICE:

Round-trip international airfare • Deluxe motorcoaches • 1st class hotels • Guided sightseeing • Entrance fees to sites visited (as listed in itinerary) • Meals as listed in Itinerary • Hotel gratuities • Program fees • Administrative Fee • Fuel surcharges • Government Taxes \$98 (Increases in government tax and fees are subject to change)

#### NOT INCLUDED IN PRICE:

Optional sightseeing as listed in the brochure • Miscellaneous fees i.e. individual transfers; passports, laundry, lunches, beverages & baggage fees • Visas for non-US citizens • Visas and Transfers for all ground only passengers • Optional Travel Protection Program (see premium schedule) • Tips for guide (\$6/day) & driver (\$3/day)

Price is per person based on double occupancy. When available, single rooms are often smaller than doubles. While we will try to match roommates, we cannot guarantee a roommate will be available. Roommates may be assigned as late as 30 days prior to departure and, if one is not available or you request a single room, the following charges apply: \$699 during the basic tour; \$349 for Rome Extension.

#### PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

Deposit	Payment Amount	Due Date
Registration Deposit	\$300	At time of registration
Final Payment	Full payment	Due 105 days prior to departure   If paid after the due date, a late payment fee of \$100 will be assessed.
Travel Protection Premium Amount	The Travel Protection Plan premium will be due no later than 105 days prior to departure to be in full effect. Travel protection premiums must be paid in addition to our deposits and in advance of the final payment for coverage to be in effect.	

RREGISTRATIONS RECEIVED less than 105 days prior to departure:

We welcome registrations after 105 days prior to departure. Registrations received between 104-90 days prior will incur a \$100 per person fee. Registrations received between 89-75 days prior will incur a \$200 per person fee. Registrations received after 74 days prior or less will incur an additional fee based on air availability. Additional fees will be advised upon registration. CANCELLATION FEES:

100% of Cancellation Fees are covered by the optional Travel Protection Program, provided premium has been paid and reason for cancellation is coverable. Those who do not take travel protection should be aware of the following and reason for carcellation is overlaide. Those who do not after lavely protections should be aware of the following per-person cancellation penalties: From day of registration to 105 days prior to departure, you will be charged the \$100 non-refundable cancellation fee plus any airline fees. Additionally, thereafter, you will be charged any airline penalties and a single room supplement if your cancellation forces your roommate into a single plus the following per-person charges: 104-60 days = \$400, 59-45 days = \$600; 44-31 days = 40% of total cost; 30 days to day of departure = 100% of total cost. Submit cancellation in writing. On or after day of departure, there will be no refund for any services not used.

#### STATEMENTS OF RESPONSIBILITY

We do not accept responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air schedules, hotel overbookings, other hotel related problems or causes, and/or travel supplier cancellations or postponements Travel suppliers include all tour operators, cruise lines, airlines, hotels, bus companies, entertainment venues, and any other travel supplier used to operate the tour. All such losses or expenses will be the responsibility of the passenger. We reserve the right to make adjustments to the itinerary as deemed desirable by us, and we reserve the right to cancel any tour prior to departure. If a tour is canceled beyond the control of us, we will provide a refund or a future travel credit to be used two years from the date of issuance for the value of all funds paid by the passenger less nonrefundable travel supplier prepaid deposits, travel supplier change fees, nonrefundable travel protection premiums, and a \$150 administration fee

Passengers registering for the tour accept the responsibility for being in good health and able to walk and travel Passengers registering for the tour accept the responsibility for being in good neath and able to waik and travel on the tour. Because many of the sites are not accessible to the physically challenged and space limitations on tour buses, wheelchairs and scooters cannot be accommodated. Those needing oxygen or other ambulatory assistance will find the tour extremely limiting in their experiences. Persons using C-pap machines requiring distilled water will need to inform us ahead of time, so we can work with local operators to prepare as it is not always available. We reserve the right to refuse or revoke travel to anyone who is, in our sole judgment, incapable of group travel without causing undue demands upon the staff or other tour participants. Accessible rooms/cabins are limited and subject to confirmation after receiving the passenger's written request. If you have questions, please contact us for more details.

#### PASSPORT INFORMATION:

Passport information must be submitted to our office no later than 105 days prior to departure. Failure to provide your passport information to our office by this date may result in change fees or denial of travel. Discrepancies in information may result in change fees, delays in receiving travel documents for your trip, or denial of travel. Any fees incurred due to discrepancies are the responsibility of the passenger. Passports must be valid for at least 6 months after the return date.

All prices quoted in this brochure are subject to change prior to payment in full due to currency fluctuations, fuel surcharge increases, government taxes and fees increases or unforeseen circumstances. In addition, you may be subject to a price increase after payment in full has been received due to potential government imposed taxes and fees.

#### **AIRLINE ROUTES and TICKETS:**

In order to keep prices low, we do not guarantee the most direct routing to your final destination. Once issued, airline tickets cannot be changed or refunded thereafter. Air transportation to/from your destination will be economy class on LATA and ARC carriers utilizing APEX or SUPER APEX non-refundable, non-amendable tickets or groups of 10 or more flying together on entire itinerary. If you choose to depart from a different city than your group or traveling companion, or deviate your flight and/or trip plans, and/or you are taking a pre or post tour, you may fly on a different scheduled flight(s) than the rest of your group. If you make your own air arrangements, you are responsible for booking all needed flights for your travel unless specified otherwise. Contact your travel advisor for further details.

#### FLIGHT TIMES AND SEATING:

All flights are subject to change by the airlines without advance notice. We are not responsible for such changes or delays and do not reimburse expenses resulting from such delays. If you are making your own flight arrangements to the departure city, we recommend you purchase a ticket that can be exchanged without large penalties. There is no advance seat selection for groups on most airlines. Early check-in is necessary to secure seats with travel companions and those with special needs. Due to security measures taken at airports, it is advisable to arrive at the airport three hours prior to departure time. Seating is solely under the control of the airlines. You will receive your flight information 60-30 days prior to departure. Final documents are sent approximately 2-3 weeks prior to departure.

#### ADDITIONAL AIRLINE FEES:

You will likely incur additional airline checked baggage fees that are not included in the price of the tour. These fees vary by airline and are at the airline's discretion on each segment of the flight itinerary. You may also incur optional fees i.e. food, excess baggage, overweight baggage, items of personal nature, etc.

DEVIATIONS AND AIR UPGRADE REQUESTS:

Deviation and Air Upgrade requests must be submitted in writing and are subject to additional airline fees. Deviations and Air Upgrades are not always possible given the group schedule and time of ticketing. Passengers who are ticketed with air deviations and/or upgrades will likely not fly with the group and will therefore need to provide their own transfers.

ITINERARY CHANGES:

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this brochure. While we will make every effort to ensure you will Every enior has been made to exclude we accuracy or man solution. We will make every sinor to eniste you will be a see all sittles listed in this brochure, the availability of sites, order of sites and/or days and number of days may be altered to accommodate changes in airline, hotel schedules, and local conditions. No changes to the timerary are effective unless approved in writing and signed by an authorized officer of the tour operator. Except as stated herein, no other person is authorized to cancel, modify or vary the tour arrangements or to make any representation of warranty concerning the tour. Due to airline schedules, some participants may receive one or two extra leisure days at a nominal per day charge and some extensions may not be available on all departure dates. If itinerary changes necessitate extra overnights, you will be charged \$125 per night; single rooms \$175 per night. Meals for extra nights are not included.

#### VALIDITY DATE:

This brochure is valid until 01/11/25. Registrations will still be accepted after the validity date

#### RELEASE INFORMATION:

Payment of deposit indicates permission for us or our agents to record the registrant's participation and appearance on video tape, audio tape, film, photograph, or any other medium and to use the registrant's name, likeness, voice, comments, submitted documentation, written papers, and/or biographical material without restrictions or limitation for any advertising, marketing, publicity, educational or promotional purpose which we or our agents deem appropriate, unless the registrant or guardian otherwise notifies us in writing prior to departure.

Enrollment in, payment of deposit and/or acceptance of final documents, vouchers, or tickets shall be deemed to be consent to the Passenger Agreement and Program Conditions of the brochure. Prices are based on tariffs in effect as of January 1 of the previous year and are subject to adjustment without notice in the event of any change or currency fluctuation.

Except where otherwise stated, we act only as agent for the relevant supplier in securing hotels, transportation and other travel services and in no event shall we be liable for failure by any such supplier to render any transportation, lodging or other travel service to be provided on the tour. The passenger agrees that we assume no liability for injury, death, damage, loss, theft, accident, delay, any lost or damaged luggage, or irregularity which may occur by reason of any negligent or willful act or omission of any suppliers of service.

We do not own or operate any of the suppliers of services to your tour. Similarly without limiting the foregoing, passenger agrees to hold us harmless for any defect in any vehicle, plane, boat, bus, car, van or other vehicle, act of war or insurrection, terrorist activity, revolt or other civil uprising, military action, strikes or labor unrest or any Act of God or for any other act of any third party.