

Pilgrimage to Lourdes - Fatima and Santiago de Compostela



Day 01 Departure for Spain

Depart home city for a magnificent Pilgrimage Journey through Spain, France and Portugal.

Day 02 Barcelona

D

Arrival in **Barcelona**, Spain, a vital and exciting country. A land of sun-drenched beaches, beautiful women, terraced vineyards, sleepy villages and medieval Moorish architectural jewels. Meet your Tour Manager and driver, transfer with your private deluxe motor coach to your hotel. Remainder of day at leisure to become acquainted with the city.

Day 03 Barcelona

BD

Morning city tour of **Barcelona** which boasts the most diversified and prosperous economy of any region in Spain. It is ready to show its rich Catalan culture with works by natives and longtime residents - architect of the famed **Sagrada Familia**, Antonio Gaudi; artists Pablo Picasso and Salvador Dali. Your tour includes visits to the **Sagrada Familia** (Holy Family Church), masterpiece of Antonio Gaudi, the Gothic Quarter and **Las Ramblas** - the most famous pedestrian boulevard lined with bird cages, decorative pavements and flowers stalls. Afternoon tour to **Montserrat Monastery**, high above the city, to view the venerated 12th century statue of **La Moreneta** (the Black Madonna). Legend says the statue was found in a cave in 889. In 1881, she was crowned and declared the "Patron Saint of Catalonia." As you make your way down the mountain, visit **Manresa** where St. Ignatius Loyola prayed in 1522 on his return from Montserrat.

Day 04 Barcelona

B

Full day for individual exploring and discoveries in this wonderful portside city of Barcelona. With several museums, Gaudi's works and shopping galore, be ready for a fun filled day.

Day 05 Barcelona - Verdu - Lourdes

BD

About 1 hour outside Barcelona leads us to **Verdu**, birthplace and Church dedicated to **St. Peter Claver** where we will **celebrate morning Mass**. Continue through the Pyrenees Mountains, arriving late afternoon in **Lourdes, France** the most famous pilgrimage destination in the Christian world dating back to February 11th 1858. Time permitting individuals or as a group you may wish to take part in the inspirational **evening candlelight procession**.

Day 06 Lourdes

BD

Morning Mass in **Lourdes**. Full day to meditate, reflect at **Our Lady's Shrine**, private devotions, take part in the **miraculous baths**, marvel at the life-size bronze statues of the stations of the cross, visit the beautiful **Basilica** and places associated with the life of **St. Bernadette** including Boly Hill, her birthplace, residence of her parents, the "**Cachot**" formerly used as a jail where she lived at the time of the Apparition, the Chapel, her first communion and the Parish Church.

Day 07 Lourdes - Loyola - Burgos

BD

Morning transfer through the French part of "**St. Jacob's Pilgrimage Road**" Enjoy the spectacular drive through the **Pyrenees Mountains**, crossing the border in Sallent de Gallego into **Spain**. Continue along the Atlantic Ocean to **Loyola, city of St. Ignatius**. Mass in the chapel of the Jesuits College. Mid-afternoon arrival in **Burgos**, the city of "El Cid" and **Pearl of Northern Spain**. Enjoy a city tour with a visit to the magnificent **Basilica of Burgos**, one of the largest and most beautiful basilicas in all of Europe.

Day 08 Burgos - Leon - Santiago de Compostela

BD

Morning departure for **Leon** including the Gothic majesty of the Leon Cathedral, along the "**Street of Churches**" featuring three Gothic style centers - to Fromista - Villacazar de Sirga and Carrion de los Condes. We will have the unbelievable opportunity to walk the hundreds of years old Pilgrimage path, see the shrines along the path and meet other pilgrims along the way to **Santiago de Compostela**, one of the great shrines of medieval Christendom dedicated to St. James the Apostle and visited by popes and saints alike.

Day 09 Santiago de Compostela

BD

Full day in **Santiago de Compostela** - one of the great Shrines of medieval Christendom. The remains of **St. James** lie beneath the high altar in a silver coffer. His bejeweled bust sits above his grave. Begin the day with a city tour including the Barrio Antiguo, Plaza da Quintana, the arcaded Casa de la Cononica. Afternoon highlighted by private devotion at the **Shrine of St. James**, the **Patron Saint of Spain**. Mass in this Basilica is a fitting culmination of the pilgrims journey. Since the 12th century, thousands of Pilgrims have completed the "**Camino de Santiago**." Among those who have walked this path are **St. Francis of Assisi** and **Pope John Paul II**.

Day 10 Santiago - Coimbra - Fatima

BD

This morning heading south, we depart for **Portugal** traveling along the Atlantic Coast to **Coimbra**, situated on a hill overlooking the Mondego River. It is here in a convent in Coimbra that **Sr. Lucia** lived and died, the eldest of the three children of Fatima. We continue a little further south to arrive mid-afternoon in Fatima. Tonight, those who wish may take part in the inspirational candlelight procession.

Day 11 Fatima - Santarem - Lisbon

BD

Our day includes **Mass at the Apparition Chapel**, with private time to meditate at the **Shrine of Our Lady**. Guided tour of the most interesting sights including the **Basilica** with the tombs of the Jacinta and Francesco and the **Chapel of the Apparitions** known as the **Capelinha**, the **home of Jacinta and Francisco** and also the **home of Lucia**. Early this afternoon we will depart for Lisbon. Enroute we will stop in **Santarem** for a visit to the Cathedral housing the **Miracle of the Bleeding Host**. We arrive late afternoon in Lisbon, legendary city of over 20 centuries of history. Dinner and overnight in Lisbon.

Day 12 Lisbon

BD

We begin our day with Mass at the **Basilica of St. Anthony**. Immediately following the Mass we will have an extended guided tour of legendary **Lisbon**, including the **Belem Tower**, the **Monument to the Discoveries** and the “**Vasco da Gama**” **Bridge**, one of the longest bridges in the world, and the longest in all of Europe. We will take a short drive to **Sao Jorge Castelo**, which offers sweeping views of the city and the **Praca de Comercio**, the city’s impressive main square.

Day 13 Lisbon

BD

Entire day on your own in **Lisbon** for individual sightseeing, photos or last minute shopping, where you will find bargains galore. Tonight enjoy a **Festive Farewell Dinner** with wine in a local restaurant.

Day 14 Depart for home

B

Morning transfer to **Lisbon airport** for your journey home, with fond memories of the beautiful and historic country-side of **Spain, France and Portugal**; the calm serenity of the magnificent Shrines and Basilicas and wonderful friendships made along the way.