

Shrines of Eastern Europe

Prague - Medjugorje and Rome (many options available)



Day 01 Departure to Warsaw

Depart home city for Warsaw, Poland. Prepare for a journey that will touch you in so many ways.

Day 02 Warsaw

D

Arrival in **Warsaw**, Poland's Capitol and largest city. Upon arrival meet your Tour Manager and your private deluxe motor coach. Enjoy a relaxing panoramic tour of this great city before check-in at your hotel. Remainder of day at leisure to get acquainted with your surroundings. Welcome dinner and overnight at Warsaw hotel.

Day 03 Warsaw

B/D

Your morning includes a visit of **Old Town**. Marvel at the Gothic Churches, Renaissance and Baroque style houses that surround the Old Town Market Square. Visit the house of the **Congregation of the Divine Mother of Mercy**, the convent where **Blessed Faustina** first joined the religious order, stop and visit the Jewish Ghetto Memorial, drive along the Royal Route for a visit to the Holy Cross church (where Chopin's heart is preserved in one of the pillars). Visit Lazienki Park and the Royal Castle – today's symbol of Polish statehood. Remainder of day at leisure to explore and shop the winding streets of the Old Town. Dinner at local restaurant.

Day 04 Warsaw - Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa

B/D

This morning depart for **Czestochowa** and enjoy a visit to the Monastery at Jasna Gora, one of the most famous Marian Shrines in Europe – the Black Madonna and Child known as "**Our Lady of Czestochowa**". The Painting, also affectionately known as "The Heart of the Polish Nation" shows a rather dark featured and sorrowful Mother and Child. Visit the library and the treasury where many valuable items were hidden during the war. Dinner at your hotel or local restaurant.

Day 05 Wadowice – birthplace of Pope John II

B/D

Morning departure via **Wadowice, birthplace of Pope John Paul II**. Here you will visit his childhood home, now a museum which chronicles the life of Pope John Paul II. It also houses various artifacts from his early childhood until his death. Continue to **Krakow** for dinner /overnight.

Day 06 Krakow

B/D

Get acquainted today with this medieval jewel as you explore the Market Square, listen to the silver trumpet of the bugler from St. Mary's Tower and go inside to admire the awesome **Wit Stwosz Altar**. Visit the famous **Wawel Castle** which houses the cathedral where the Polish Monarchs are buried. Continue to the **Convent of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy**, where **Blessed Faustina** lived and is buried. Participate and celebrate Mass (if desired) with the Nuns as they pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet precisely at 3pm, the hour of Mercy (it is the time Sister Faustina died on Oct.05, 1938). Dinner in local restaurant.

Day 07 Krakow - Prague

B/D

Early morning departure to **Prague**, the economic and cultural center of **Bohemia** which enjoys charmed musicians, poets, Princes and commoners since the 9th century. Enjoy a panoramic city tour before check-in at your hotel. Evening Moldavia Dinner Cruise with music.

Day 08 Prague

B/D

Morning guided tour of Prague including views of **Wenceslas Square, the Old Town Hall, Charles Bridge, Lesser Town, Hradcany Castle** including about a 1hr guided walking tour. Continue to **St. Vitus Cathedral, the Royal Palace** and the Golden Lane. This afternoon, visit the Old City and the famous "**Infant of Prague Shrine**" at "Our Lady of Victory Church." Dinner in local restaurant.

Day 09 Prague - Budapest

B/D

Morning transfer to **Budapest**, a city rich in traditions on the banks of the **Danube River**. Budapest can be traced back to a Roman military camp, settlements by Slaves and Magyars, conquered and ruled by the Turks for more than a century. Budapest is also considered the largest Spa in the world with 123 hot springs supplying more than 70 million liters of water per day to the 12 thermal bath in which the citizen have taken pleasure since Turkish times. Late afternoon arrival with a panoramic city tour. Dinner and overnight at your hotel.

Day 10 Budapest

B/L

Morning guided city tour of Budapest's proud past and ambitious present blend on this morning sightseeing tour. Your city tour includes the Buda and Pest section of the city – divided by the **Danube River; Hero's Square**, the 879 ft. long **Parliament building**, the **Fishermans Bastion**, Buda Castle and a magnificent panoramic view from **Mt. Gellert**. Afterward enjoy a delicious lunch at "Gerbeaud" restaurant in the downtown area.

Day 11 Budapest - Vienna

B/D

Morning transfer to **Vienna** - city on the blue Danube that has shaped the cultural life in Europe with its music, literature, theater, art and architecture. Its history dates back to the Romans. **Traditional Folklore Dinner in Grinzing** at "Altes Burgermeisterhaus" Restaurant or similar.

Day 12 Vienna

B/D

Morning guided city tour of Vienna to gain an overall impression of the most significant historical sights such as the **Ringstrasse**, Museum of Applied Arts, the State Opera House, the **Hofburg**, Parliament, City Hall, the Burgtheater, **St. Stephen's Cathedral** and the magnificent Imperial summer residence – **Schonbrunn Palace**. Remainder of the day at leisure to shop, great photo opportunities or enjoy the famous Viennese Sacher Torte.

Day 13 Vienna - Graz - Karlovak

B/D

Early morning departure as we enjoy the scenery via Graz, Maribor, passing Zagreb to your overnight destination **Karlovak**- Croatia.

Day 14 Karlovak - Medjugorje

B/D

Early morning departure to Medjugorje, peaceful village in Bosnia where **Our Lady continues to appear daily** to the visionaries since June 24, 1981. The visionaries in Medjugorje tell us that no one goes to **Medjugorje** by accident. We are called individually by Our Lady. What an awesome thought! **If you feel called to go to Medjugorje, answer Our Lady's invitation!!** Traveling to Medjugorje is a life changing experience.

Day 15 Medjugorje

B/D

Opportunity to climb **Apparition Hill** (where Our Lady first appeared to the 6 village children), or climb the much higher **Krizevac Mountain**.

Day 16 Medjugorje - Split - Rome

B/D

After breakfast we depart for Split airport for a short flight to **Rome**, considered the "Cradle of Western Civilization" and the heart of Catholicism.

Day 17 Rome

B/D

Morning guided tour of the **Vatican Museum, Sistine Chapel** - seat of the Conclave for the election of the Popes featuring the marvelous Renaissance ceiling masterpieces painting by Michelangelo, and the interior of **St. Peter's Basilica** completed in 1614 and admire the 1666 pulpit by Bernini as well as **Michelangelo's Pieta**. Afternoon panoramic sightseeing tour of **Ancient Rome** including the **Coliseum (outside visit), Roman Forum, Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain**, Monument to Victor Emmanuel, **Piazza Venezia** and the **Pantheon**. Dinner at your hotel.

Day 18 Rome

B/D

This morning attend weekly **Sunday morning Papal Blessing** in St. Peter's Square. Afternoon at leisure to explore Rome "as you please." Remember to toss a coin in the **Trevi Fountain** to assure your return to Rome. **Festive Farewell Dinner with wine and music.**

Day 19 Depart for home

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Morning transfer to Rome airport for your flight home with peace in your hearts and a yearning to return again soon.