



SHRINES OF ITALY

14 DAY TOUR FROM MILAN TO ROME

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1 ARRIVE IN MILAN, ITALY

Check into your hotel and spend free time exploring this busy city on your own before meeting your tour companions and Tour Director for an included welcome dinner at your hotel. Dinner

Day 2 MILAN

Dedicate the morning to Milan's most important Catholic churches: St. Ambrose Basilica and the Gothic Duomo. St. Ambrose is the patron saint of beekeepers, beggars, learners, and Milan. Celebrate Mass and discover the treasures of the Basilica and the Duomo with a Local Guide. Breakfast

Day 3 MILAN-TURIN

Turin is known in the Catholic community worldwide as the home of the Holy Shroud, only available to the public on very special occasions. The city was also home to St. John Bosco, the priest who founded the Salesian religious institute to help poor children with their education during the industrial revolution. Your visit includes the Holy Shroud Museum, the Basilica of St. Mary Ausiliatrice and St. John's rooms. You'll have time to appreciate the elegance of this city and former capital of Italy before attending Mass. Breakfast

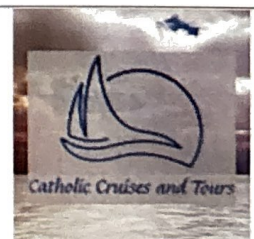
Day 4 TURIN-PAVIA-PADUA

Pavia boasts a beautiful Carthusian Monastery, built in the 1400s by Gian Galeazzo Visconti, Duke of Milan. The monastery is one of Italy's "hidden treasures" with lavish decorations and it is inhabited and looked after by monks who still live a traditional life of seclusion and prayer. Breakfast/Dinner

Day 5 PADUA-POMPOSA-RAVENNA

Attend morning Mass and visit St. Anthony Basilica in Padua with a Local Guide, then enjoy a short city sightseeing tour and time on your own. In the afternoon, on the way to Ravenna, we'll stop to see the Abbey of Pomposa, where the Benedictine monk Guido d'Arezzo invented modern musical notation in the 11th century. Breakfast

Day 6 RAVENNA-ROME



Ravenna was the seat of the Roman Empire in the 5th century and of Byzantine Italy until the 8th century. It has a unique collection of early Christian mosaics and places of worship. All buildings—the Neonian Baptistry, the Basilica of St. Apollinare Nuovo, St. Vitale Church and the Archbishop's Chapel of St. Andrew were constructed in the 5th and 6th centuries. The morning is dedicated to discovering these masterpieces and focusing on the Byzantine-style mosaics with a Local Guide. In the afternoon, travel to Rome. Breakfast/Dinner

Day 7 ROME

Today you have the unique chance to attend the Papal Audience in the Vatican (subject to availability). Afterwards, enjoy an included city tour with a Local Guide to see the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls, where St. Paul was buried after his martyrdom, St. John Lateran Basilica, the Cathedral of Rome, and seat of its Bishop (the Pope) and the Holy Stairs. Said to have led Jesus to the praetorium of Pontius Pilate, the stairs were transferred to Rome by Empress St. Helena. Finally, visit St. Mary Major Basilica, where a reliquary contains wood from the Holy Crib. Attend Mass here before returning to your hotel. Breakfast

Day 8 ROME

Visit the Papal Summer Residence in Castel Gandolfo. Wander through its manicured gardens, an opportunity to reflect and meditate in quiet and relaxing surroundings. Walk through the rooms where many Popes have spent the summer months in the cooler countryside on the hills outside Rome. Later, you can join the optional excursion that will take you back to St. Peter's to discover the treasures of the Vatican Museum, or you can spend time at leisure enjoying the many monuments of Roman heritage. Breakfast

Day 9 ROME-PIETRELCINA-SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO

On your way south, stop in quaint Pietrelcina to visit the house where the beloved St. Pio was born. Then, head towards San Giovanni Rotondo on the east coast, the Saint's home from 1916 until his death in 1968. Breakfast/Dinner

Day 10 SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO. EXCURSION TO MONTE SANT'ANGELO

Attend Mass this morning at Santa Maria delle Grazie, then visit St. Pio's friary, including his tomb, cell, confessional, and St. Pio Pilgrimage Church. Afterwards, take a short drive to the nearby Shrine of Monte Sant'Angelo, one of Christendom's most celebrated, where St. Michael the Archangel appeared in 490, 492, and 1656. Tonight, attend the candlelight procession in San Giovanni Rotondo. Breakfast/Dinner

Day 11 SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO-LANCIANO-LORETO-ASSISI AREA

Visit St. Francis Church in Lanciano, home of the Sanctuary of the Eucharistic Miracle, and attend morning Mass. Continue to the famous Marian Sanctuary of Loreto for a guided visit including the Holy House, where, according to tradition, angels transported the house of the blessed Virgin Mary. Arrive at the hilltop village of Assisi, birthplace of St. Francis and St. Clare. Breakfast/Dinner

Day 12 ASSISI

Today, learn more about St. Francis, patron saint of animals and the environment. Attend early morning Mass at St. Francis Basilica, famous for its 14th-century Giotto frescoes depicting the life of St. Francis. Meet your Local Guide and visit the Upper and Lower Basilicas of St. Francis and the Basilica of St. Clare, founder of the Order of Poor Clares. Next, visit the Basilica of Santa Maria degli Angeli, situated at the foot of Assisi's hills and protecting the Porziuncola, where St. Francis is said to have founded the Order of Friars Minor in 1209, and the Cappella del Transito, where the saint died in 1226.

Breakfast

Day 13 ASSISI AREA-CASCIA-ROME

Travel to Cascia, a scenic town located in Umbria and home of St. Rita, the "Patron Saint of Impossible Causes." Visit the Sanctuary and see the Major Basilica, housing the chapel with St. Rita's tomb. Stop in prayer at the Minor Basilica, site of the Eucharistic Miracle, commemorated each year with the Feast of Corpus Christi. Return to Rome for a final overnight stay.

Breakfast

Day 14 ROME

Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning. Breakfast

FOR INFORMATION OR RESERVATIONS CONTACT:

Catholic Cruises and Tours
Phone: 860-399-1785 or
Email: Brian@CatholicCruisesandTours.com

Tour Start Date	Tour End Date	Land Price
September 14, 2024	September 27, 2024	\$3029
October 3, 2024	October 16, 2024	\$2949
May 1, 2025	May 14, 2025	\$3724
June 11, 2025	June 24, 2025	\$3519
August 28, 2025	September 10, 2025	\$3499
September 14, 2025	September 27, 2025	\$3499