

Marian Shrines of Spain, France and Portugal

Montserrat - Zaragoza – Lourdes – Covadonga - Fatima



September 14 – 24, 2026
Fr. Jonathan Howell
Spiritual Leader



Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours, Inc.
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256-347-1475

Marian Shrines of Spain, France, and Portugal

Day 1: September 14 ~ Birmingham - Atlanta

This evening we depart Birmingham, via Atlanta, for our transatlantic flight to Barcelona. During the flight enjoy dinner, movies, and breakfast before our afternoon arrival in Spain.

Day 2: September 15 ~ Barcelona

Welcome to Barcelona! Upon our afternoon arrival we will continue through passport control and pick-up our luggage. We then meet our tour escort and begin our pilgrimage with Mass in Barcelona before we check into our hotel. Dinner and overnight in Barcelona.

Day 3: September 16 ~ Barcelona

After breakfast we begin our day exploring Barcelona, a city over 2,000 years old. Our first visit includes the famous Sagrada Familia, the renowned, unfinished Basilica designed by Antoni Gaudi. During our morning visit we'll celebrate Mass before we depart to see the Temple of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on Mt. Tibidabo. We then enjoy a guided walking tour through the Gothic Quarter to visit the Cathedral, Las Ramblas with its colorful markets, and Plaza de Catalunya, Barcelona's central square. Enjoy a stop for lunch along the way. Dinner and overnight in Barcelona.

Day 4: September 17 ~ Barcelona – Montserrat - Zaragoza

This morning, we depart for Montserrat and visit the impressive Benedictine Monastery built on a rugged mountainside. We'll celebrate Mass and visit the famous Shrine of Our Lady of Montserrat. Since the 12th century, pilgrims have visited the Black Madonna that was carved by St. Luke around 50 A.D. and brought to Spain. The statue was hidden from the Moors in a cave and rediscovered in 880 A.D. by shepherds who saw a bright light and heard heavenly music which led them to the cave and the statue. The small statue was so heavy that it could not be lifted, thus indicating that our Lady wanted her statue to stay on Montserrat. In the 11th century the Benedictine Monastery was built and the monks oversee the famous statue. After our visit we continue to Zaragoza with a stop along the way for lunch. In Zaragoza we'll visit the beautiful Basilica of Our Lady of the Pilar built in the place where Our Lady appeared to St. James in 44 A.D. He saw Our Lady atop a pillar which was being carried by angels. This pillar is believed to be the same one venerated inside the Basilica. We continue to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 5: September 18 ~ Zaragoza - Lourdes

Enjoy breakfast before we depart for Mass in the Basilica of Our Lady of the Pilar. We then travel to Lourdes and enjoy the beautiful scenery of the Pyrenees mountains with a stop along the way for lunch. Once we arrive in Lourdes and check into our hotel, there is time to explore the town and participate in the Candlelight Procession. Dinner and overnight in Lourdes.

Day 6: September 19 ~ Lourdes

This morning, we begin our day with Mass at the famous Grotto where Our Lady appeared to St. Bernadette in 1858. We then follow in the footsteps of St. Bernadette with a tour of Boly Mill, where St. Bernadette was born, and the "Cachot," an abandoned prison where Bernadette's family lived. Also visit the church and see the baptismal font where St. Bernadette was baptized. The afternoon is free to submerge yourself in the healing baths, drink from the miraculous spring, walk along the life-sized Stations of the Cross overlooking the Grotto, or spend quiet time in the Adoration Chapel. This evening there is the optional Blessed Sacrament Procession and Candlelight Procession. Dinner and overnight in Lourdes.

Day 7: September 20 ~ Lourdes – Loyola – Cangas De Onis

After breakfast, we have an early departure as we say au revoir to Lourdes and travel to Loyola, the birthplace of St. Ignatius, founder of the Jesuits. We'll visit the Basilica built in the 17th century dedicated to St. Ignatius. Celebrate Mass in Casa Santa, in the Chapel of Conversion, which is the room where St. Ignatius stayed after being wounded in battle and experienced his conversion. Free time for lunch before we continue to Cangas De Onis for dinner and overnight.

Day 8: September 21 ~ Cangas de Onis – Covadonga – Toro - Salamanca

After breakfast we drive to Covadonga and visit the Basilica of Santa Maria la Real and celebrate Mass. We then visit the Holy Cave of Our Lady of Covadonga. Tradition says that in 772 A.D. Our Lady helped the Christian Army defeat the Moors. During the battle, Pelayo and his men took refuge in the cave where there was a hidden statue of the Virgin Mary. After praying to the Virgin, the Moors were defeated. This afternoon we have free time for lunch and in Toro enjoy a wine tasting at a local winery. We continue to Salamanca for dinner and overnight.

Day 9: September 22 ~ Salamanca - Fatima

This morning, visit the majestic city of Salamanca. We have a guided visit of the Old Quarter and Cathedral of Salamanca where we will celebrate Mass. We then travel to Fatima with a stop along the way for lunch. After we check into our hotel in Fatima, we can join the Candlelight Procession and pray the rosary. Dinner and overnight in Fatima.

Day 10: September 23 ~ Fatima

After breakfast we'll visit the Chapel of Apparitions, built in 1919 in Cova da Iria, which marks the exact location where Our Lady appeared to the three shepherd children in 1917. Visit the Basilica and the Fatima museum with the crown that contains the bullet from St. John Paul II's assassination attempt. We then visit the hamlet of Aljustrel and the homes of the three shepherd children. We

continue to Valinhos, the site where Our Lady appeared after the children's return from prison. Then have the option to walk the beautiful Stations of the Cross and see the Chapel of Calvary overlooking Fatima. Celebrate Mass at the Chapel of Apparitions. Free time in the afternoon for lunch and your own personal devotions. This evening participate in the candlelight procession and pray the rosary. Dinner and overnight in Fatima.

Day 11: September 24 ~ Fatima – Lisbon - Birmingham

We have an early departure from Fatima to the airport in Lisbon. As we say goodbye to our pilgrim family we will take home friendships, memories, and blessings that will last a lifetime.

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Montserrat – Zaragoza – Lourdes – Covadonga - Fatima

\$5,175

Per person/double occupancy ~ price based on minimum of 25 passengers

Land only: \$3,865

Price Includes:

R/T Economy Air from Birmingham, AL

4* Hotels

Breakfast & Dinner Daily, Wine with Dinners

Airport Transfers in Spain & Portugal, Private Deluxe Motor Coach

Sightseeing/Entrance Fees per Itinerary

Licensed English-Speaking Guides

Tips to Guides and Drivers

Whisper Headsets During Pilgrimage

Daily Mass

Wine Tasting in Spain

Travel Bag, Name & Luggage Tags, Document Portfolio



Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours, Inc. 256-347-1475

visitationpilgrimages.com

Tour Conditions

Reservations and Payments

Reservation deposit is due by May 8, 2026, and final payment is due June 5, 2026. An invoice will be sent for final payment. If booking is made after June 5, 2026, full payment is required. Payment must be made by check or money order. Credit cards are not accepted. Returned checks will incur a \$35 service fee. Name must appear on reservation form exactly as it appears on the passport. Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours is not responsible for airline tickets penalties or other costs that may result from the incorrect name supplied on the registration form. Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours is not obliged to give a breakdown of costs and services.

Passport/Visa/Travel Advisories

A passport is required and must be valid for 6 months after the date of return. A copy of your passport is required along with the registration form. The European Visa Waiver requirement is scheduled to go into effect in the fourth quarter of 2026 and each traveler must apply online. To apply visit: <https://www.etiasvia.com>. The fee is approximately \$9, and approval will be sent via email. If a visa or visa waiver is required for a person with a non USA passport, it is the passenger's responsibility to obtain one at their own expense. It is the responsibility of each passenger to be informed about current travel advisories. Information can be obtained on the U.S. State Department's travel website at www.travel.state.gov. The passenger assumes all risks if they still choose to travel when the State Department has advised against travel.

Final Documents and Tickets

Final documents are issued approximately 3-4 weeks prior to departure and only upon receipt of final payment. It is the responsibility of each passenger to check their e-ticket for correct flights and spelling of name. In case of an error, notify Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours immediately.

Price

Each passenger is responsible for any increase in hotel, city, and/or airline taxes, government fees, fuel surcharge, costs due to USD exchange rates, or fewer than 25 paying passengers. Any increase will be reflected on the final invoice. If you request to join the group and purchase your own international airline ticket, the Land Only cost is \$3,865 per person/double occupancy. However, if your international flight arrives or departs later than the group flight, you will be responsible, at your own cost, to provide transportation to the hotel and/or airport. The group will not wait for your flight to arrive and will not depart for the airport earlier for your return flight. If the pilgrimage is cancelled for any reason, the domestic and/or international airfare purchased outside of Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours is your sole responsibility.

Cancellations and Refunds

All cancellations must be in writing. Cancellations will incur the non-refundable \$500 deposit per person in addition to any airline and hotel expenses, penalties, and/or non-refundable deposits incurred by Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours. No refunds 70 days prior to departure or no show. Airline tickets are non-refundable after ticketing. To guard against unforeseen health issues or other circumstances, we strongly recommend passengers purchase travel insurance. Some policies include pre-existing medical conditions but must be purchased 10-14 days after the reservation deposit. Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours does not offer travel insurance.

Tour Cancellation and Force Majeure Event

In the event a pilgrimage is delayed, postponed, cancelled, or rescheduled due to force majeure, such as act of God, natural disaster, war, terrorism, strike, pandemic, etc., or any other condition beyond control, the purchase will be honored and transferred to a future scheduled pilgrimage. The traveler is expected to attend the future pilgrimage. No cash refund will be issued. If a pilgrimage is canceled due to lack of participation, Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours will contact you with options.

Participation

Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours reserves the right to refuse to accept or retain any traveler whose behavior is deemed likely to affect the smooth operations of a tour or adversely affect the enjoyment or safety of passengers. Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours is under no liability to any such person for refund, compensations, repatriation or any other matters arising. Travelers under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Medical Conditions

A passenger must report any disability requiring special attention at the time of registration. Visitation Pilgrimages and Tours cannot provide special facilities or individual assistance for disabled passengers. Disabled passengers must provide their own physically able companion for assistance. Motor coaches are not equipped with wheelchair ramps or lifters and the Americans with Disabilities Act does not apply outside of the U.S. Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours is not responsible for any medical conditions that may occur prior, during, or after the pilgrimage. Most pilgrimages involve a lot of walking. It is suggested to prepare physically by walking more prior to the pilgrimage.

Covid 19/Epidemics/Pandemics

Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours follows all local government rules and requirements and has no control over local government policies nor is liable for issues, delays or problems encountered. Each traveler assumes all risks and related expenses that they or any member of their traveling party may incur. Any travel interruptions or delays and related expenses due, but not limited to, testing, quarantine, hospitalization, infection with Covid-19 or any other disease, is at their own expense. The passenger agrees to follow local regulatory requirements.

Air Transportation

All air transportation is in economy class on IATA approved carriers. Fares and schedules are subject to change without notice. If you would like to secure a specific airline set, we will make every effort to accommodate you however, we cannot guarantee seating assignments since they are at the sole discretion of the airline. Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours is not responsible for any cancellations, loss, delays, injury, illness, pandemics, or expenses incurred due to actions made by the airlines. Travelers are strongly advised to purchase travel insurance. If you need connecting air into Philadelphia International Airport, you will need to purchase your own domestic airline ticket. Flight schedule must be emailed to Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours 30 day prior to departure. Please make sure that you arrive 3 hours prior to departure of the international flight. If you miss the international flight, you will need to work with the airline directly to rebook your flight which may result in an additional charge which is your own responsibility. If you arrive after the group, you will need to arrange your own transportation to the hotel. Any domestic and/or international airline ticket purchased on your own is your sole responsibility even if the group cancels for any reason or the departure date is changed.

Hotel Accommodations

Hotel accommodations are based on double occupancy. Triple accommodations may be available but not necessarily at a reduced rate. A limited number of single rooms are available at the supplemental price quoted in the brochure. In some hotels single rooms are smaller than a standard room. Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours reserves the right to change hotels for any unforeseen reason. If you require a roommate, Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours will make every effort to find another pilgrim in need of a roommate. If no roommate is available, you will be required to pay the single supplement. If your roommate cancels or leaves the pilgrimage, an additional supplement will apply.

Meals Breakfast and dinner daily as per itinerary. No refund for unused meals. We try to accommodate special dietary meal requests by forwarding those to the hotels and restaurants. However, we cannot guarantee dietary requests.

Spiritual Group Leader or Tour Guide

For unforeseen reasons, it may be necessary to substitute the spiritual group leader or tour guide. Your reservation will remain unchanged, and you agree to travel.

Photography

You agree, through your reservation, that you allow yourself to be photographed or videoed during the pilgrimage.

Baggage

When traveling internationally to or from U.S. there is no charge for 1 piece of checked luggage up to 50 lbs. with maximum dimensions of 62 inches. Carry-on items include 1 personal item and 1 piece of luggage with maximum dimensions of 45 inches. Passengers are responsible for any additional fees airlines may impose on baggage including excess weight. Please check with the airline for updated rules and regulations since they do periodically change. Luggage handling at hotels is limited to 1 bag per person. Porterage is not guaranteed at every hotel.

Disclaimer

Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours reserves the right to make changes in the itinerary, hotels, Mass schedule, etc. whenever the company deems it necessary for the comfort, convenience and safety of the pilgrim participants or to accommodate unforeseen events.

Errors and Omissions

Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours is not responsible for typographical errors including, but not limited to, errors in trip cost. If a mistake is made in billing, we reserve the right to correct the invoice and proper payment is required.

Responsibility and Liability

Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours acts only as a tour operator. The airlines, hotels, land operators, and other suppliers providing services are independent contractors and not agents, employees or associates of Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours. The passenger agrees that Visitation Pilgrims & Tours its employees and officers will not be liable for any changes in flight schedules and delays, unforeseen airline charges, weather conditions, damages, theft, epidemics, pandemics, quarantine, medical or customs regulations, inconveniences, breakdown in equipment, losses (including personal injuries, death, and property loss) or expenses caused by acts or omissions of any person, including suppliers providing services, or for any acts of war, terrorism, insurrection, revolts and other civil uprisings, military actions, strikes or acts of God occurring in either the country of origin, through passage, or destination. Passengers are responsible for losses or expenses due to late arrival or departure at airports or hotels due to inclement weather or other reasons and no refund will be issued for unused hotels, meals, or transfer services. Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours or its suppliers will not be held responsible for circumstance beyond their control. In circumstances where trip cancellation resulting from the inability for the trip to depart or operate as scheduled, such as unrest, disease, epidemic, pandemic, criminal or terrorist acts/war of any kind, or natural disasters, Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours and its employees and officers, are not liable for any restitution, and in addition, without limitation are not responsible for injury, financial or physical loss, death, traumas, or inconvenience



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REGISTRATION FORM

Marian Shrine of Spain, France, and Portugal

Including

Montserrat – Zaragoza – Lourdes – Covadonga - Fatima

September 14 - 24, 2026

\$5,175

(Per person/double occupancy, Birmingham, AL departure)

Land only package: \$3,865

REGISTRATION DEPOSIT DUE BEFORE May 8, 2026

(Early registration suggested to guarantee availability)

Name as appears on passport _____

Please enclose a copy of your passport

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

Roommate Name: _____ Need a Roommate? ___ Yes ___ No

Airline Seat: ___ Window ___ Aisle (all seats subject to airline availability) Delta FF # _____

The Delta flight from BHM departs at 5:30 p.m. with the connecting flight from Atlanta at 10:10 p.m. on Sept. 14. On Sept. 24 return into BHM at 10:54 p.m. (flight times subject to change).

Need land only package? ___ Yes

Single supplement: \$750 (limited number of single rooms available) ___ Yes

List any special dietary requirements: _____

Emergency contact person not traveling with you (name and phone number): _____

Enclosed is my non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person. I understand that the price is based on a group departure of a minimum of 25 paying passengers and that the price may change due to USD/Euro exchange rate, increase in taxes and/or fuel surcharges from hotels, cities, airlines or fewer number of passengers. Any price change will be reflected on the final invoice. Complete details available in the Tour Conditions. Travel Insurance is highly recommended and can be purchased from several companies including Travel Guard. I understand that the due date for the final payment is June 5, 2026. I confirm that I have read, understood, and agree to the Tour Conditions provided with the pilgrimage itinerary and registration form. Signature of each person traveling is required.

Signature: _____

Please make check or money order payable to: Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours, Inc.

Mail deposit, registration form, and copy of passport to:

Visitation Pilgrimages & Tours, Inc.

PO Box 1046 Hanceville, AL 35077

