



# WORLD YOUTH DAY PANAMA 2019

Panama is world famous for its 48 mile canal, built in 1914 and expanded in 2016, that connects the Pacific with the Atlantic Ocean. Each year, over a million people visit the canal and witness this engineering marvel at work. Panama is proud to have this magnificent canal operating 365 days a year, enabling the world's cargo to be shipped efficiently and safely to 160 countries, 1700 ports and 1400 trade routes.

Three million years ago, the Isthmus of Panama, at the heart of the Americas, emerged from the sea and changed the world forever. It joined two continents together, triggering one of the most important natural evolution events in the history of the world. In 2019, this narrow land bridge in the Central American Isthmus is proud to host from January 22-27, 2019 the World Youth Day, an event for young people organized by the Catholic Church.

Pilgrims from all over the world will visit Panama and experience a modern, beautiful city with gorgeous landscapes, rich culture, superb cuisine and endless activities.





# WORLD YOUTH DAY EVENTS (WYD) PANAMA 2019

## Duration of the World Youth Day

WYD is a multi-day event with two main groups of events: the first one is related to the “Days in the Dioceses”, during which the participants visit the different dioceses in the host country, and on this particular occasion, other Central American countries. During the days before WYD, pilgrims interact with local families (who host them) and strengthen their faith through activities with the communities in their parishes. The second group is the “Main Events”, referring to the activities planned in the host city: the opening mass, the welcoming of Pope Francis, the way of the cross, the vigil with the Holy Father and the final mass. There are also other activities which young people can choose and live out the WYD experience: the Youth Festival, catechesis sessions, vocational center, concerts, and so on.

## Youth Festival

The Youth Festival is part of the program of activities that will take place during WYD Panama 2019. Its purpose is to bring young people from around the world together through the sharing of their artistic and religious talents, as well as through faith and life experiences. There will be many events, including music, theatre, dance, exhibits, gatherings, and much more.



## Where and When

The Youth Festival will begin on Monday January 22, 2019 before the Main WYD events, and will continue until Sunday, January 27, after the Final Mass. There will be events on different stages and at various locations throughout Panama City during the afternoons and evenings.



## Main Events

WYD 2019 will have 5 Main Events: The Opening Mass (on Tuesday, presided by the Archbishop of Panama, Mons. José Domingo Ulloa); the Papal Welcome Ceremony (Thursday); the Way of the Cross (Friday); the Vigil (Saturday) and the Final Mass (Sunday). All of these events will take place on the Main Stage at the Cinta Costera in Panama City. This tropical, waterfront “coastal beltway” is made up of 64 acres of park land that stretches approximately 3 km along the Bay of Panama.





# MAJOR PILGRIM & TOURIST SPOTS



## Panama Canal – Miraflores Locks

The Panama Canal is a 48 mile artificial waterway that connects the Pacific with the Atlantic Ocean by cutting across the Isthmus of Panama. The canal is a key waterway for international transportation and trade. The three Miraflores Locks form part of the canal, and are the location of the Visitor Center that features a museum and allows tourists to have a full view of the locks in operation. Admission to the Miraflores Locks will be in high demand, and will likely be controlled by tickets with assigned entry times.

## Panama Viejo

Panama Viejo is the location of the original Panama City, the capital of the country. It was founded in 1519 as the first Spanish settlement in the Pacific. Next year celebrates its 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It was destroyed in 1671. The ruins of the city's stone buildings are located in the suburbs of the modern city. Together with Casco Antiguo, Panama Viejo has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1997.



## Casco Antiguo

This historic district and cultural gem of Panama City was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1997. Casco Antiguo was established in 1673 after the old city was destroyed. While in Casco Antiguo, make a pilgrimage to the seven historic churches located in that district: La Catedral Metropolitana, La Merced, San Francisco de Asís, San José, San Felipe de Neri, Santo Domingo, and Santa Ana. Also visit the ruins of the Iglesia de la Compañía de Jesús (Church of Jesuits Order).



## BioMuseo

BioMuseo is a powerful mix of science and art. Located at Amador Causeway at the Pacific entrance of the Panama Canal, was designed by the world-renown architect Frank Gehry and highlights the creation of the Isthmus of Panama uniting two continents, separating two oceans, and impacting the biodiversity of the planet. It contains eight galleries plus ancillary spaces spread over 40,000 square feet.



## Rainforest Adventure

Visitors to Panama have a number of public parks available that feature the lush flora and unique fauna found in tropical rainforests. Within an hour's drive are the Parque Nacional Metropolitano and the Parque Nacional Soberanía. The rainforest forms part of the Panama Canal's watershed.



# REGISTRATION

<https://panama2019.pa/en/home/>

## Pilgrims

### ➤ Be between 15 and 30 years old

\*Every person who meets the requirements, should be between 15 and 30 years old. However, for the coordination of the groups, priests or religious leaders may be of older age

### ➤ Complete all the information of the registration form

\*It should be made known, that there must always exist someone who stands as a Leader of the group, he/she should be older than 18 years of age

### ➤ Make the correspondent payment according to the package chosen on the registration

## Requirements to Enroll in the Festival

- Once selected, you will need to register as a pilgrim
- Fill out the registration form in the Festival module
- Send samples of previous work and experience
- Send full technical requirements
- Send a description of your proposal, including length

## Requirements to Enroll in the Vocational Fair

- Your Vocational Fair proposal will not be considered until you are registered as a pilgrim
- Register your candidacy in the festival module by clicking the Vocational Fair option
- The proposal must be well explained and described with the main information. It must include audio-visual content (not just slides and images)
- Proposals should combine traditional, innovative, youth-oriented and modern elements
- Keep the guidelines of the pastoral framework for WYD Panama 2019 in mind

## Volunteers

- The volunteer candidate must enter his/her volunteer area with his/her email address. It is important for the candidate to remember the email address and password, otherwise he/she will not be able to re-enter the area
- The volunteer candidate must attach three documents:
  - \*\*Recommendation Letter, which must be signed and sealed by his/her bishop, parish, responsible party or leader, for the letter to be valid. It should also contain a passport-sized photo in the photo space
  - \*\*Scanned passport-sized photo
  - \*\*Legible copy of passport or national identification card
- Every authorized international volunteer must assume costs of his/her round trip plane ticket
- Every volunteer must carry out the assigned role with commitment and report themselves to offer the requested service
- Volunteers will receive a face-to-face training if they reside in the host country of WYD and virtual training if they do not reside in that country.

## The Catholic Pilgrim Office, Inc.

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**We are your Spiritual Pilgrimage Partner To The World!!**

<http://www.catholicpilgrimoffice.com/>

For additional information contact the Consulate of Panama in Houston 713-622-4451/59

