

## SACRED EUROPE 05 COUNTRIES – 16 DAYS

### ITALY VATICAN FRANCE SPAIN PORTUGAL

#### DAY 01: CANADA ROME ROTONDO

Depart Canada by flight for Italy, on arrival at Rome Airport we clear all formalities and proceed to board our coach to our Hotel in Rotondo. This evening enjoy a delicious Dinner. Overnight at the hotel in Rotondo.

#### DAY 02: SAN GIOVANNI & LANCIANO – ROME

This morning after breakfast, we visit the shrine of Padre Pio, the first stigmatized priest in the history of the Church. After our Lunch at a Continental Restaurant, we visit the site of Eucharistic Miracle of Lanciano. Later we drive to Rome, on arrival into this magnificent city we enjoy a sumptuous Continental Dinner, and stay overnight at our hotel in Rome.



#### DAY 03: ROME VATICAN CHURCH GUIDED PANORAMIC CITY TOUR OF ROME.

'Rome was not built in a day' the truth of this oft-quoted adage hits you with full force, as we proceed for sightseeing tour of a lifetime! We travel to Vatican City, the smallest nation in the World. The most famous square of Vatican City is St. Peter's Square with St. Peter's Basilica, The largest church in the World, unsurpassed in beauty, to which millions of tourists and pilgrims come from around the

World. Gaze in awe at Michelangelo's Pieta and Bernini's amazing bronze canopy. Get into a world like no other in the Vatican Museum; see awe-inspiring relics and works of art. The Tapestry Gallery, Raphael Rooms and the most overwhelming Sistine Chapel, Michelangelo's masterpiece on the ceiling and his famous last Judgment. After a delicious lunch at a Continental restaurant, see the Piazza Navona, Pantheon. The Basilica of St. John in Lateran, the Victor Emmanuel Monument, and Tribute is paid to the brave Gladiators of Rome, as you pass the mighty Colosseum. Pass the ruins of the Roman Forum and end at the famous Trevi fountain. Legend has it, that if you make a wish and toss a coin over your left shoulder into the fountain, you are sure to return to Rome! We at Purple Orchid wish you do. After a delicious dinner, overnight in your Hotel in Rome.

#### DAY 04: ASSISI - PISA

Today after breakfast, we board our coach and drive towards Pisa, enroute we will visit the quaint town of **Assisi**. On arrival at Assisi we will explore this hilltop town and walk the narrow winding streets with its story book stores and shops. Towering above the town is the Basilica that still retains something of the atmosphere of the early 1200s. Take in the view of the countryside from the top of the huge 13<sup>th</sup> century Basilica which also has many of **St. Francis'** possessions and a series of frescoes depicting his life. We board our coach and proceed towards Pisa. Enroute we stop for lunch. On arrival into Pisa, we proceed to a continental Restaurant. Here we will enjoy a sumptuous Dinner. Later check into our Hotel for an overnight stay.



**DAY 05: PISA – PADUA**

Today after breakfast check out and drive to Pisa, the hometown of Galileo, and a city which makes the most of its claim to fame its Leaning Tower! (One of the Seven Wonders of the World). It has leaned almost since construction first started, due to the swampy soil beneath it. At a photo stop here; note its striking beauty along with its characteristic tilt. The Duomo's Bell Tower (Cathedral) together with the Baptistery are all a part of the Field of Miracles. After lunch (packed), we drive through stretches of olive groves and vineyards to the beautiful city of Padua and the magnificent **Basilica of St. Anthony**. Walk through the beautiful Padua Square with its lovely gardens and fountains. Later after a delicious dinner check into your hotel. Overnight in Padua /Mestre.



**DAY 06: VENICE – ST. MARKS SQUARE MURANO GLASS FACTORY – TURIN**

After breakfast, we embark on a full day trip to magnificent **Venice**. We proceed to take a Vaperatto (water taxi) or our own private boat to this charming city built atop 118 tiny islands without streets, crisscrossed by 160 canals and linked by 400 footbridges. Explore all the sights and sounds of **St. Mark's Square**, The Basilica built to house the saints remains, **the Bell Tower and the Palace of**



**the Doges**. Stop for a photograph at the Bridge of Sighs, feed the pigeons or visit the World famous Murano Glass Factory and learn the art of glass blowing.

Next, it's on to Turin, en route we enjoy a packed lunch. We arrive into Turin and visit the Holy Shroud, kept in the Royal Chapel of the Cathedral of Saint John the Baptist. We also visit the Basilica of Mary Help of Christians, it was originally part of the home for poor boys founded by St. Don Bosco. It contains the remains of Saint John Bosco and 6000 relics of other

saints. According to legend a vision of the Virgin Mary appeared in a dream to Saint John Bosco in 1844 and revealed the site of the martyrdom of the Turinese saints. The Basilica was built on the site of their death. After a delicious dinner, overnight at your Hotel in Turin

**DAY 07: TO PARIS**

After breakfast, we drive to the glittering French Capital Paris, sit back and enjoy the drive through the beautiful and scenic country side. We will stop for lunch en-route, after lunch continue towards Paris the city of love, inspiration, art and fashion. The night scene, the Eiffel tower and the warm atmosphere will make you feel directly at home. Dinner at a Restaurant and overnight at your hotel in Paris.

**DAY 08: IN PARIS \*CITY TOUR OF PARIS\* VISIT THE EIFFEL TOWER**



After breakfast, enjoy a guided panoramic city tour of famous monuments like the Louvre, Garnier's Opera the largest opera theatre in the world, the Place de la Concorde, the site of the infamous guillotine, the Champs Elysees one of the most fashionable streets in the world. The Napoleonic Arc de Triomphe, and the Palace des Invalids, which is the final resting place of the Emperor Napoléon Bonaparte. Later this afternoon, after lunch end the day taking in the dazzling overview of the glittering city as you ascend by an elevator to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Level of the Eiffel Tower! Elevators take you up on this spectacular ascent providing glimpses of the extraordinary bold architecture of the

monument. The 180-meter climb ends with a breathtaking view of Paris. In the evening, enjoy a delicious dinner at a Restaurant. After dinner we proceed to our hotel. Overnight in Paris.

**DAY 09: ONWARDS TO LOURDES – Mother Dearest, We come to thee....**

Early next morning, we board our coach to Lourdes, Packed lunch will be provided. Sit back in the comfort of your coach and watch the countryside fly by as we zoom towards Lourdes. We arrive in the picturesque Lourdes, the birthplace of St. Bernadette to whom Our Lady appeared in 1859 near the Grotto of Massabielle. After dinner, proceed for the evening rosary at the Grotto, a spiritually uplifting moment. Overnight at your hotel in Lourdes.

**DAY 10/11: LOURDES – A Day with Our Mother**

After breakfast, the day is free for personal activities. Connect with the Lord during mass at the awe inspiring underground Basilica of St. Pius X, learn and be inspired by the story of Lourdes and walk in the footsteps of St. Bernadette at the movie presentation. Walk the station of the Cross on the mountain overlooking Lourdes, visit the relic room and drink from the water of the miraculous spring. Continue with your visits to the shrine till late evening. Dinner and overnight at your hotel in Lourdes.



**Day 12: ONWARDS TO SPAIN & PORTUGAL - FATIMA VIA SALAMANCA**

After breakfast, board your coach to begin your journey to Fatima via the bustling university town of Salamanca in Spain. Sit back and enjoy the drive through the beautiful and scenic countryside. We will stop for a packed lunch en route. After lunch continue towards Salamanca, known as the Golden City owing to the colour of its historic sandstone buildings. We arrive into the city late evening and proceed for dinner. Overnight in Salamanca.



**DAY 13: FATIMA**

After breakfast, as we drive to Fatima, the excitement mounts as we draw closer to Our Mother. The atmosphere of intense spirituality and the importance of Fatima have been attested to by the visits of two Popes: Paul VI and John Paul II. Proceed on a tour of the Square (the largest square in Christendom) including the sites of the Apparitions, Rosary Basilica with the tombs of the visionaries and the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and other main sites. Later follow along the beautiful Way of the Cross along the Via Sacra (The Sacred Way) culminating in the chapel of Calvary, which overlooks all of Fatima, rest of the day is free for you to visit the holy places on your own. Dinner and overnight in Hotel.



**DAY 14: FATIMA**

This morning after breakfast, we visit the village and home of the three children Jacinta, Lucia and Francisco. This afternoon after lunch you have your own personal time to devotion and prayer to our dear Mother. Dinner and overnight at Fatima

**DAY 15: LISBON/ MADRID**

Today after breakfast we board our coach for Lisbon, the bustling capital City of Portugal, where we will proceed on a panoramic city tour visiting all the famous sights of Lisbon. After a packed lunch, we drive out of the city and turn east for our journey to the famous Spanish City of Madrid. Arrive into Madrid late evening and proceed for dinner before we check into our hotel for the night. Overnight at your hotel.

**DAY 16: GOODBYE EUROPE**

Today after an early breakfast, it is time to say goodbye to Europe as you board your coach to the airport for your flight back home.

Good times need never end, after your check in formalities are completed, sit back, relax, and enjoy the in-flight services and meals as you relive the high points of your tour.

Arrive back home with wonderful memories of the tour and all the new friends and families that you met, we are sure you will relive the memories over and over again. We thank you for choosing to tour with Purple Orchid Holidays and welcome you into our growing family of 8,000 happy and satisfied passengers.

**WHAT YOUR TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:**

**AIRFARE:** Return economy class group airfare as per the itinerary

**ACCOMMODATION:** in First Class Hotels (Twin Bedded Room)

**MEALS:** Continental buffet breakfast, Packed / buffet Continental lunch and dinners as requested.

Services of Purple Orchid Tour Manager or / and Local Guides in select cities.

**SIGHTSEEING & ENTRANCE** fees, transfers, surface transportation as mentioned by a deluxe AC/ Air cool coach.

**WHAT YOUR TOUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE**

Any increase in airfare, Visa Fees, Airport Tax & Govt. Tax and the rate of exchange leading to an increase in surface transportation and land arrangements, which may come into effect prior to departure. The tour price is subject to increase, without notice. The Tour Price is currently calculated at 1 EURO = CAN \$1.6/-

Any expense such as Local Tourist Tax, and of personal nature such as portorage, laundry expenses, wines, mineral water, food and drink not in the regular menus provided by us, mini bar, telephone calls, tips to the drivers, hotel waiters, local guides etc. are to be borne by the passengers. Meals are pre-set and a choice of menu is not available.

Anything not mentioned in "WHAT YOUR TOUR PRICE INCLUDES BOX"

Tips: Sacred Europe: EURO 75 PER PERSON

Any change in date of travel / deviation from original group travel dates, which will result in an increase in airfare and applicable taxes.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**The above cost is based on a minimum group of 30 passengers traveling together.**

**Tour itinerary/Hotel / Airline/ Flights/Route is subject to change without prior information.**

**TOUR DEPARTURE DATES: 08<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 19<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 20<sup>TH</sup> SEPT, 20<sup>TH</sup> OCT**

For Inquiry, please contact: Ernie Miranda at (587) 777-1733 or Jaime Jimenez at (403) 285-9499

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