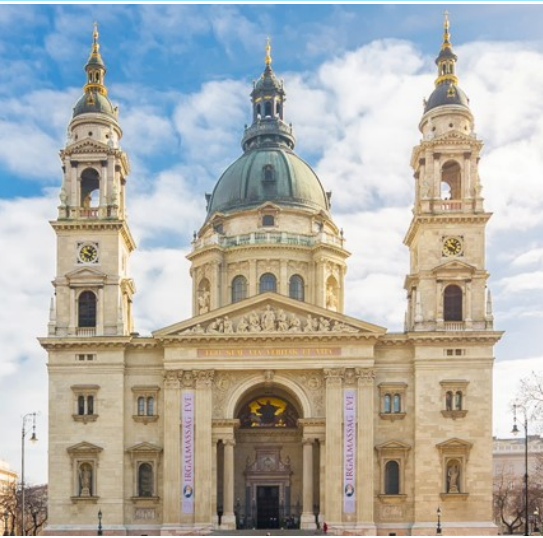


# Pilgrimage to Prague, Salzburg, Vienna, Budapest, Medjugorje and Dubrovnik



## September 9-22, 2024



*Group Leaders:*

Carmelita Torres (707) 208-7187 | Chiqui Ramos (707) 334-1393  
**SCS Prayers and Devotions Ministry**

**Early Bird Discount of \$150 applicable up to December 31, 2023**  
**Promo Code: Prayers**

### Trip Includes

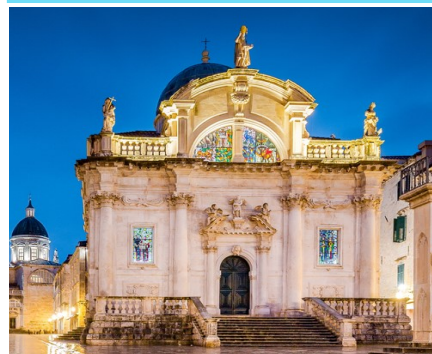
- † Round Trip Airfare from San Francisco (SFO)
- † Airport Taxes and Fuel Surcharges
- † 13 nights at centrally located Hotels as follows (or similar):
  - ~ 2 nights: Sep 10 – 12: Barcelo V, NH and Andels, Prague
  - ~ 2 nights: Sep 12 – 14: NH Hotel or Wyndham Grand, Salzburg
  - ~ 2 nights: Sep 14 – 16: Hotel Marriott, Vienna
  - ~ 2 nights: Sep 16 – 18: Hotel Korona, Budapest
  - ~ 4 nights: Sep 18 – 22: Hotel Grace, Medjugorje
- † Breakfast and dinner daily
- † Wine and mineral water with dinners
- † Transfer by Private Motor coach
- † Assistance of local Catholic guide throughout
- † Sightseeing and entrance fees as per itinerary
- † Mass daily and Spiritual Activities
- † Whisper Headsets
- † Luggage Handling (one piece per person)
- † Flight bag & PDF confirmation of all travel documents

**Airfare** from San Francisco (SFO)

**\$5,950** Per Person

*Price based on double occupancy*

**Depart from most US Cities** [www.206tours.com/airports/](http://www.206tours.com/airports/)



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# Day by Day Itinerary



## Day 1, Mon, Sep 09: Embarking from your Home to Prague

Our spiritual journey commences today as we depart on a pilgrimage to deepen our faith and understanding of Catholic heritage. As we settle in for our overnight flight to Prague, we have an opportunity to reflect on the cultural and holy cities that await us. Our flight provides time for prayer and meditation, preparing our hearts for the experiences to come. On-board dinner and breakfast.

## Day 2, Tue, Sep 10: Welcome to Prague

As we touch down in the ancient city of Prague, we embrace the opportunity to walk in the footsteps of saints and gather the fruits of our faith. Upon collecting our luggage, we are greeted by our local guide who offers a welcome to this beautiful city. As we are transferred to our hotel, we immerse ourselves in the city's rich history and striking architecture, a testament to the enduring Catholic faith that has permeated this region for centuries. Free time to explore the charming cobblestone streets of Prague, acquainting ourselves with its unique character. In the evening, we assemble for a welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

## Day 3, Wed, Sep 11: Sacred Sites of Prague

Our pilgrimage begins in earnest after breakfast as we visit the Church of Our Lady Victorious, the sanctuary of the esteemed Infant Jesus of Prague. This 16th-century image of the Infant Jesus, holding the symbols of Christ's dominion over the earth, becomes the focal point of our morning prayer and reflection. After a reverent Mass, we embark on a walking tour through Old Town Prague. As we traverse the Royal Route towards the Old Town Square, we witness a rich tapestry of architectural and spiritual history. In the Castle District, we take time to visit and pray at St. Nicholas Church, St. Vitus Cathedral, St. George Basilica, Loreto Church, and Strahov Monastery – all living testimonies of the robust Catholic heritage of the region. The Charles Bridge, adorned with baroque statues of saints, offers us a serene moment to appreciate the beauty of the Vltava River and Prague Castle. Our day culminates with the viewing of the Astronomical Clock and a walk through Wenceslas Square, named after the patron saint of Bohemia, St. Wenceslas. As we retire to our hotel for dinner and rest, we reflect on our shared experiences and the grace we've received through this day of pilgrimage.

## Day 4, Thu, Sep 12: From Prague to Altötting and Salzburg

Today, after breakfast, we journey from Prague to Altötting, a city that serves as a beacon of faith and pilgrimage in Germany. Here, we celebrate Mass in the Chapel of Mercy, housing a revered 13th-century statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We take time to reflect on the miraculous cures attributed to her intercession, reinforcing our faith in the power of prayer. Our visit also includes time at the Basilica, the Panorama of the Crucifixion, and St. Konrad's Monastery, further immersing us in the rich tapestry of Catholic devotion present in Altötting. As we continue our journey to Salzburg, the birthplace of the renowned composer Mozart, we marvel at the majestic views of the Eastern Alps and anticipate exploring the city's Baroque splendor. We conclude the day with some free time to unwind before gathering for dinner and resting in anticipation of the experiences that await us in Salzburg.

## Day 5, Fri, Sep 13: Exploring the Divine in Salzburg

Our day in Salzburg starts with a nourishing breakfast, after which we attend Mass at the ancient St. Peter's Abbey, a spiritual center that has served the faithful for over a millennium. Following Mass, we immerse ourselves in the city's history with a walking tour of the heart of Salzburg. Narrow streets and secluded passageways whisper tales of its medieval roots, while the grandeur of the Archbishop's Residence at Domplatz speaks to the Catholic Church's enduring influence. The gardens of Mirabell Palace, a setting made famous by "The Sound of Music," offer a tranquil space for prayer and reflection. The grandeur of the Romanesque Cathedral and the serenity of the Nonnberg Convent of Benedictine nuns further inspire our faith. Mozart's birthplace beckons us with its cultural significance, and the gardens and hidden trick fountains of Hellbrunn Palace provide a delightfully unexpected close to our day. As we gather for dinner, we share our experiences, impressions, and how our journey is touching our hearts.

## Day 6, Sat, Sep 14: Journey to Mariazell, Melk, and Vienna

As we depart from Salzburg after breakfast, we traverse the Austrian mountains towards Mariazell, a revered pilgrimage site. We visit the Mariazell Basilica, also known as the Basilica of the Birth of the Virgin Mary, housing the miraculous statue associated with the foundation of a monastic cell in 1157. We continue to Melk, known for the imposing baroque Melk Abbey. Overlooking the Danube River, the Abbey is the final resting place of Saint Coloman of Stockerau and members of the House of Babenberg, Austria's first ruling dynasty. After time to explore and reflect in Melk, we journey on to Vienna, the capital of Austria, where we share a meal and prepare for the next leg of our journey.

## Day 7, Sun, Sep 15: Experiencing Vienna's Cultural and Catholic Heritage

Our day begins with breakfast and a tour of Vienna, home to great composers like Johann Strauss and Mozart. Our visit to St. Stephen's Cathedral, a symbol of Vienna and a significant Gothic structure, allows us to witness the miraculous image of Our Lady of Mariapoch. We tour the cathedral, with (time permitting) the brave among us climbing the 343 steps to the top of the spire. Our journey continues to the Schonbrunn Royal Palace, a summer residence with a Hall of Mirrors where a young Mozart performed. The palace's inclusion in UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Sites further testifies to its significance. Our day concludes with a visit to the Belvedere Palace, Karlsplatz and its Church of St. Charles Borromeo, and Otto Wagner's Stadtbahn pavilions. Amidst our explorations, we pause for a coffee break to savor famous Viennese pastries like the Sacher cake. As we return to our hotel, we share dinner and reflections on the day's experiences.

## Day 8, Mon, Sep 16: Vienna to Budapest via Pannonhalma Abbey

After breakfast, we depart Vienna and make our way to Budapest, stopping en route at the Pannonhalma Abbey. Located atop St. Martin Hill, the Abbey is steeped in religious and historical importance, having welcomed Pope John Paul II for its 1000th anniversary. We visit the Marian sanctuary of Our Lady of Remete, the site of a miraculous image of the Virgin Mary, and recall how in 1991, Pope John Paul II knelt and prayed here. After these spiritual encounters, we continue to Budapest, a city of breathtaking architecture and mesmerizing views, and spend the evening exploring the Matthias Church and Fisherman's Bastion in the heart of Buda's Castle District. The day concludes with a shared meal and a restful overnight, providing us time to contemplate the divine experiences of the day.

## Day 9, Tue, Sep 17: Discovering Budapest's Sacred Heart

Our final full day of pilgrimage begins with a morning Mass at the 13th-century Cathedral of St. Matthew. Subsequently, we venture into the historic heart of Budapest, taking in panoramic vistas from the Citadel on Mount Gellert, the Royal Castle, the Parliament, and Heroes' Square. As we visit the Church of St. Stephen and the Fisherman's Bastion, we are reminded of the seven Magyar tribes who first settled here in 895. The city of Budapest is blessed with numerous natural hot springs, and we have the opportunity to visit an array of thermal baths, allowing for a moment of relaxation and rejuvenation. As the day draws to a close, we gather for a farewell dinner, cherishing the shared experiences, spiritual insights, and fellowship of our journey.

## Day 10, Wed, Sep 18: Budapest - Medjugorje

An early morning departure from Budapest for your flights to Medjugorje. Upon arrival, you'll be greeted by a tour guide and/or driver who will then take you on the 2.5-hour drive by private coach to the village of Medjugorje. Once there, you'll be introduced to your host family, in whose modern and comfortable house you will be staying for the next few nights.

## Days 11 - 13, Thu - Sat, Sep 19 - 21: In Medjugorje

The most beautiful features of Medjugorje are its simplicity and peace. While in Medjugorje, you may experience your faith grow, and share in the faith journey of pilgrims from all over the world. A local guide will accompany your group throughout your stay in the village.

Some activities that will accompany you in your spiritual journey:

**Attend Daily Mass:** Each morning, at 10:00 a.m., your group will assemble at St. James Church for Mass (English-Speaking). At the end of each Mass, regardless of language, there is a blessing of the religious articles that you have with you.

On Feast Days, and Sundays: English Mass is at 12 noon.

**Climb Apparition Hill:** This mountainous hill is where the visionaries first encountered Our Lady. At the base of this hill is a Blue Cross, where it is said Our Lady appeared to the children while they hid from the communist police in the early days of the alleged apparitions. While climbing, your group is invited to recite the Rosary, pausing five times for each decade of the Rosary. At the top of the hill, you will witness the exact location of the first alleged apparition of Our Lady to the visionaries, and enjoy private time for prayer.

**Climb Mt. Krizevac (Cross Mountain):** In 1933, the villagers built a 30-high cross atop a mountain to commemorate Jesus' passion and death on the cross. Your group will have the opportunity to climb this mountain and venerate that very cross. While climbing, your group is invited to pray the Stations of the Cross (to meditate on Jesus' suffering Road to Calvary), pausing fifteen times for each Station.

**Apparitions:** Each evening at 6 PM your group will join the villagers and fellow pilgrims of Medjugorje in saying the Rosary, as all anxiously await the alleged arrival of Our Lady to the visionaries. Following the apparition, at 6:40 PM feel free to stay at St. James Church and attend the Croatian Mass. Following the Croatian Mass, there is a Blessing of the Sick.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** Our Lady has always called us to be close to her Son. For this, you will have the opportunity to adore the Blessed Sacrament at the altar outside of St. James Church. Adoration is held on Tuesdays and Saturdays; Veneration of the Cross is held on Fridays inside the church. Additionally, there is an Adoration Chapel on the grounds of St. James Church, where Adoration is held in the afternoon hours.

**Meetings with the Visionaries:** Pending their availability, your guide will arrange meetings with the Visionaries at their homes.

**Visit to the Community of Cenacolo:** You will have the opportunity to visit the community of Cenacolo, founded by the Sisters of Charity, for young men and women who have taken a wrong path and are on the road to recovery. You will be able to listen to their inspirational words about their journeys back to Jesus Christ.

**Prayer at the Statue of the Risen Christ:** The bronze statue of the Risen Christ is located on the grounds of St. James Church. Many pilgrims sit and pray on the benches surrounding this peaceful statue. This statue miraculously seeps droplets of water at all times of the day, out of Christ's right knee.

**Day trip to Dubrovnik:** After breakfast, you will transfer to Dubrovnik also known as the Pearl of the Adriatic. Meet our local guide who will take us on a walking tour of the Old City. It will begin at St. Blaise Church, the Patron Saint of Dubrovnik. Continue to the Gothic and Renaissance-styled Rector's Palace. Next, you will stroll by the iconic Bell Tower Clock and Orlando's Column. To the left of this column, you will see the Sponza Palace. In the sixteenth century, members of the Academia dei Concordi met to discuss literature and to this day, the palace is the most important cultural institution of Dubrovnik. Lastly, you will visit the Dominican and Franciscan Monasteries. The location of the Dominican Monastery is strategically placed at the most sensitive point of Dubrovnik's defense barriers. While at the Franciscan Monastery, you will have the opportunity to visit one of the first Pharmacies still in existence. After Mass enjoy exploring timeless streets in Dubrovnik. No cars are allowed inside the walled city (deliveries are made during the night), stop at the market, or one of many small family-owned shops and restaurants. You can buy a ticket to walk on top of the wall, and from there you can watch one of the best preserved 600-year-old cities in the world, still occupied by 5,000 inhabitants. Return to Medjugorje for dinner and overnight.

**Day 14, Sun, Sep 22: Medjugorje to Split/Sarajevo or Dubrovnik Airport - USA**  
Following breakfast, transfer to Dubrovnik, Split, or Sarajevo airport for your return flights home

