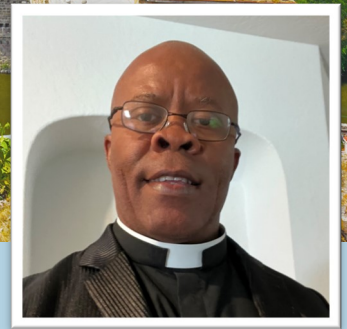


Barcelona | Madrid | South Spain | Lisbon | Fatima

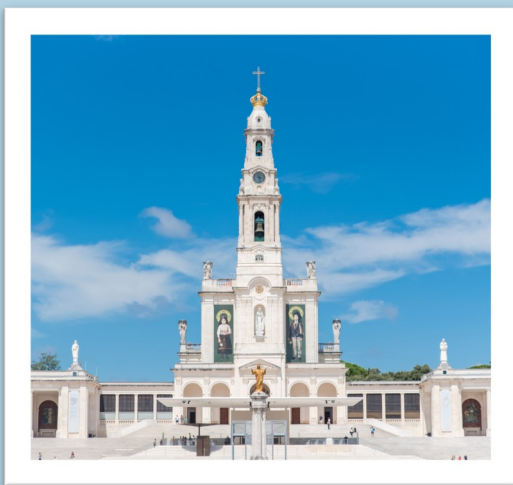


Pilgrimage To Spain & Portugal



With Spiritual Director Fr. Charles Ugo

October 14 - 26, 2024



\$6,883 Per Person from San Antonio (SAT)

(Price based on double occupancy)

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Inclusions:

- † Round-trip airfare from San Antonio (SAT)
- † Airport Taxes and Fuel Surcharges
- † 11 nights accommodation at centrally located first class Hotels as follows: (or similar)
 - ~ 1 night: Oct 15 – 16: Sercotel Caspe, Barcelona
 - ~ 2 nights: Oct 16 – 18: Abat Cisneros Montserrat, Montserrat
 - ~ 1 night: Oct 18 – 19: Catalonia Atocha, Madrid
 - ~ 1 night: Oct 19 – 20: Parador de Ubeda, Ubeda
 - ~ 2 nights: Oct 20 – 22: NH Collection Granada Victoria, Granada
 - ~ 2 nights: Oct 22 – 24: Abba Sevilla, Sevilla
 - ~ 2 nights: Oct 24 – 26: Santa Maria, Fatima
- † Breakfast and dinner daily
- † Wine and mineral water with dinners
- † Transfers as per itinerary

Day 1, Mon, Oct 14: Depart for Barcelona

Make your way to your airport where you will board your overnight flight. Your meals are served on board.

Day 2, Tue, Oct 15: Arrive Barcelona

Upon arrival in Barcelona, collect your luggage and continue to the arrival hall where you will be greeted by your tour guide and/or driver. Make your way to your transfer to your hotel. Upon arrival, check-in, and have free time to rest and refresh or explore. This evening, enjoy a welcoming dinner, followed by an overnight in Barcelona.

Day 3, Wed, Oct 16: Barcelona – Manresa - Montserrat

This morning, a sightseeing tour of Barcelona! Enjoy the stunning panoramic views of the Port of Barcelona, Montjuïc, Plaza de España, and Plaza de Catalunya. Plaza de España is formerly known for its old bull-fighting ring. Presently, the Plaza is renowned for containing the Museum of Catalan Art, situated on the side of Montjuïc. Plaza de Catalunya is known for its fountains and statues. Enjoy a guided walk through the Gothic Quarter containing remains from an ancient Roman village, including the Cathedral of Barcelona. Visit Antoni Gaudí's stunning, unfinished Roman Catholic Basilica, La Sagrada Família. In the afternoon, we will travel to Manresa to visit the Sanctuary of Saint Ignatius of Loyola and the Holy Cave where St. Ignatius lived. Continue to Montserrat, home to the miraculous Black Madonna.

Day 4, Thu, Oct 17: Montserrat

Visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Montserrat, located on a rugged mountainside. According to Catholic tradition St. Luke carved the statue of the Black Madonna and brought it to Spain. While in Spain, it was kept hidden from the Moors and later was discovered by shepherds. In 880 A.D., shepherds and the Bishop of Manresa were drawn to a grotto by a bright light and heavenly music. The Virgin remained in Montserrat and continued to be venerated there for centuries. As the years progressed, several chapels were built on the site. In the eleventh century, the abbot-bishop Oliba founded the Monastery on Montserrat next to one of these chapels.

Day 5, Fri, Oct 18: Montserrat - Zaragoza - Madrid

This morning, depart for Zaragoza. Visit the magnificent Basilica del Pilar, built upon the site where Our Lady appeared to St. James. In 44 A.D., St. James, the Greater was spreading the Gospel in Spain, making very little progress and questioning his mission. According to Catholic Tradition, the Virgin Mary, who was still living in Jerusalem, bi-located and appeared to St. James the Greater to boost his morale. While inside the Basilica, you will view the pillar carried by angels, and from atop Our Lady appeared. After the visit to the Basilica del Pilar, continue to La Seo Cathedral (Cathedral of Zaragoza) formally known as the church of San Vicente. Learn of Zaragoza's folklore and local gastronomy during a walking tour of the city. This evening, continue to Madrid.

Day 6, Sat, Oct 19: Madrid – Toledo - Ubeda

Enjoy a tour of Madrid which includes the Royal Palace and Plaza Mayor. Next, visit Toledo, located on a rocky mound isolated on three sides right by a looping gorge of the Río Tajo. Every available inch of this outcrop has churches, synagogues, mosques, and houses heaped upon one another in a haphazard spiral. Toledo is known as the city of the Three Religions or Cultures. For many centuries the Christians, the Moors, and the Jews lived together in relative equality and peace. The city surrounded by walls hides great treasure: its beautiful Church of Santo Tomás, the Tránsito Synagogue, Santa María la Blanca Synagogue, the Church of San Juan de Los Reyes, Puerta de Bisagra, Puerta del Cambrón, Puerta del Sol, etc. We will continue to Ubeda for overnight.

Day 7, Sun, Oct 20: Ubeda and Baeza – Granada

In the morning explore Ubeda and Baeza, two sister cities in Andalusia. Baeza has a splendid monumental complex, where art and history have left the most beautiful examples. Ubeda is a city of beautiful Renaissance buildings in perfect harmony with other architectural styles. In Baeza, St John of the Cross opened a house of studies for the friars. There he resided from 1579-82. In Baeza John wrote part of "En una noche oscura" (the Dark Night poem), and some of the ascent of Mt. Carmel. When John of the Cross became ill towards the end of his life, he was sent to Ubeda, for treatment. Following a visit to the Museum dedicated to St John of the Cross, we will visit an Olive Oil factory. Although olive oil is produced in all the provinces in Andalusia, it is the oil from Jaén province that eclipses all others. Known as the "cradle of olive oil" in Spain, Jaén province supplies 50% of the olive oil consumed in Spain and over 20% of the total production of the best olive oil in the world. Continue to Granada.

Day 8, Mon, Oct 21: Granada

Visit one of the most beautiful palaces in the World: The Alhambra Palace. The Alhambra was a palace, a citadel, a fortress, and the home of the Nasrid sultans, high government officials, servants of the court, and elite soldiers (from the 13th to the 14th century). The monument is divided into four main areas: the Palaces, the military zone or Alcazaba, the city or Medina, and the agricultural estate of the Generalife. Woods, gardens, and orchards surround all of these areas. Other notable buildings include

- † Transportation by air-conditioned motor coach
- † Headsets where needed
- † Assistance of Catholic Guide throughout
- † Sightseeing and admissions fees as per itinerary
- † Mass daily & Spiritual activities
- † Luggage handling (1 piece per person)
- † Flight bag & Digital confirmation of all travel documents

Not Included:

Lunches and beverages not mentioned, Tips to your guide & driver.

Available at optional:

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the Renaissance-style Palace of Charles V, which houses the Alhambra Museum. Visit the Royal Chapel where the Catholic Monarchs, Isabella and Ferdinand, are buried. In the afternoon we will depart towards Guadix Sierra (mountain range) where we will visit an almazara (oil press factory) and experience an olive oil tasting. Return to Granada for overnight.

Day 9, Tue, Oct 22: Granada – Malaga – Seville

Begin with a visit to Malaga. Its elegant central zone has several interesting churches and museums, not to mention the birthplace of Picasso and the new Picasso Museum. Malaga Cathedral is an imposing architectural masterpiece at the heart of the city. Famously, the cathedral's second tower was never built due to funding restraints, earning it the legendary moniker: "the one-armed lady". Overlooking the town and port are the formidable Moorish citadels of the Alcazaba and Gibralfaro. Another important sight is the Roman theater, accidentally unearthed in 1951 and now a venue for various outdoor entertainments. Following the visit to Malaga, we will continue our journey towards Seville for accommodation in the hotel. In the evening we will have dinner in a local restaurant. If we are not too tired, we will enjoy an evening walk through the city.

Day 10, Wed, Oct 23: Seville

Sevilla has three important monuments and an illustrious history, but it's essentially famous for its living self- the greatest city of the Spanish South, of Carmen, Don Juan, and Figaro, and the archetype of Andalusian promise. Sevilla is also Spain's second most important center for bullfighting after Madrid and its magnificent bullring La Maestranza is proof of it. We will enjoy a panoramic tour of the city including a visit to Parque Maria Luisa. The park represents the former gardens of the long-vanished Palacio de San Telmo and the site of Seville's Ibero-American Exhibition in 1929. Inside the park is the most eye-catching remnant of the exhibition and one of Seville's greatest monuments, the Plaza de España.

Day 11, Thu, Oct 24: Seville – Lisbon – Fatima

This morning transfer to the Seville airport for your short flight to Lisbon. Enjoy a panoramic tour of Lisbon, which will include St. Jerome's Monastery, built to give thanks to the Virgin Mary. We will drive by the Belem Tower and many landmarks, like; the 25th of April Bridge, the Basilica of the Star, and the Marquee of Pombal Square. Our last stop in Lisbon will be St. Anthony's Church. The patron saint of lost things is best known as St. Anthony of Padua (Italy), but he was born and baptized here in Lisbon, Portugal. The Church where we will celebrate Mass was built upon the site of St. Anthony's birth. Continue to Fatima. We will stop at St. Stephens Church in the town of Santarem to celebrate Mass and venerate the 13th-century Eucharistic Miracle.

Day 12, Fri, Oct 25: Fatima

Today will be a memorable experience as meditate at one of Our Blessed Mother's apparition sites. Our Lady appeared to three shepherd children; Lucia (age 10), Jacinta (age 7), and Francisco (age 9). The most prominent message from Our Lady of Fatima was to pray for world peace. Our day begins with a visit to the Little Chapel of the Apparitions where the Virgin Mary first appeared on May 13th, 1917. Visit the neoclassical Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary. This Sacred space contains the tombs of St. Francisco, St. Jacinta, and Sister Lucia. View the monument that commemorates the Sacred Heart of Jesus in the square. Our Lady's messages included consistent reminders to pray the Rosary - the Basilica honors this, by featuring fifteen altars dedicated to the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary. You will feel, through the love of Our Lord and Lady, the many graces received here. Continue with a visit to the Holy Trinity Basilica. After free time for lunch, we will experience Christ's unconditional love by participating in the Stations of the Cross along the Via Sacra. "The Sacred Way" marks the path the shepherd children took to the first apparition of Our Lady of Fatima. The path is composed of fifteen small chapels in commemoration of the Passion of Our Lord. The fifteenth station, the Resurrection, can be found close to the Chapel of Calvary, dedicated to St. Stephen, King of Hungary. The day ends with a visit to Valinhos, the site of Our Lady's August 19th, 1917 Apparition, the first and third apparition of the Angel. Conclude with private devotions and a candlelight procession, as requested by Our Lady (1917).

Day 13, Sat, Oct 26: Fatima – Lisbon Airport – Return to USA

After an early breakfast and heartfelt farewells, leave by motorcoach and transfer to the Lisbon Airport for your return flights home.

Questions?

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