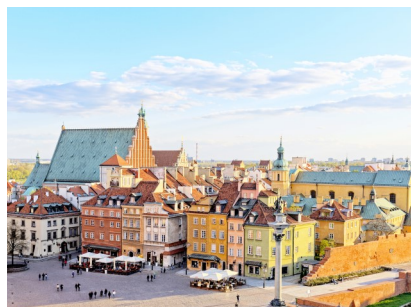


Pilgrimage To Poland, Medjugorje, & Dubrovnik



May 15 – May 29, 2024



Group Leader:
Evelyn Irizari
Spiritual Director:
Fr. Butch Malana



Trip Includes:

- † Round Trip Airfare
- † Airport Taxes and Fuel Surcharges
- † 13 nights at centrally located Hotels as follows (or similar):
 - ~ 2 nights: May 16 – 18: Hotel Polonia Palace, Warsaw, Poland
 - ~ 1 night: May 18 – 19: Hotel Arche, Czestochowa, Poland
 - ~ 4 nights: May 19 – 23: Holiday Inn Krakow City Centre, Krakow, Poland
 - ~ 4 nights: May 23 – 27: Hotel Grace, Medjugorje
 - ~ 2 nights: May 27 – 29: Grand Hotel Park Dubrovnik
- † 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 New York (JFK)

\$6,297 Per Person

Price based on double occupancy

Depart from most US Cities www.206tours.com/airports/



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Day by Day Itinerary



Day 1, Wed, May 15: Depart for Warsaw

Make your way to your local airport where you will board your overnight flight(s) to Warsaw. Your meals will be served on board.

Day 2, Thu, May 16: Arrive Warsaw

Welcome to Warsaw, Poland! Upon arrival, make your way to the baggage claim area and collect your luggage. Proceed to the Arrival's Hall, where you will be greeted by your tour guide and/or driver. Transfer to your hotel. Following check-in at your hotel, your pilgrimage will officially begin with Mass. Following Mass, enjoy a delicious dinner and have the opportunity to explore the city of Warsaw before retiring for a restful overnight.

Day 3, Fri, May 17: Warsaw

Your day will begin with breakfast followed by Mass at St. James Church, iconic for its tower and square base. This church is where Helena Kowalska prayed extensively upon entering Warsaw. Also, it is here she confessed all that burdened her soul and asked for the advice of Rev. James Dabrowski, which eventually resulted in the Saint entering the convent. Following this prayerful morning, your day of sightseeing begins. Your group will explore the Old Town, comprised of beautiful maze-like cobblestone streets and picturesque architecture that are symbols of Poland's successful rebuild following its destruction during World War II. Some of the sites will include the Market Square (the center of the city filled with restaurants, cafes and shops), the Barbican, defense-like structures that have been rebuilt following World War II, and the Warsaw Ghetto monument that commemorates the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising of 1943 during World War II. You will also take in the Lazienki Park, a beautifully landscaped park, the Chopin Statue (a large bronze statue of musician, Frederic Chopin), and the Royal Castle (the official residence of the Polish monarchs). In the afternoon, visit the Stanislaw Kostka Church and view a special exhibit dedicated to Fr. Jerzy Popieluszko. This priest was a great personality of the Catholic Church and was killed by communists in 1984. In 1987, Saint John Paul II visited here to pray in front of Fr. Popieluszko's tomb. Your tour of Warsaw will conclude by returning to the hotel for a delicious meal, followed by an overnight at your hotel.

Day 4, Sat, May 18: Warsaw - Niepokalanow - Swinice Warckie - Czestochowa

This morning, you will enjoy breakfast followed by a transfer to Niepokalanow. This Franciscan Monastery is in the community of Teresin and was founded by martyr, St. Maximilian Kolbe. This remarkable saint was arrested by the Nazis and died in Auschwitz, giving his life for the life of another prisoner. Following your visit to this Holy Monastery, transfer to the village of Swinice Warckie. In Swinice Warckie, visit the church of St. Casimir. This historically rich parish is the site of baptism for St. Faustina (formally known as, Helena Kowalska). Little Helena received her first confession, and First Holy Communion, at this parish. Additionally, she and her family attended Sunday Mass and other services at this church. After visiting this simple, yet elegant church, we will continue to Czestochowa. Upon arrival in Czestochowa, you will check in to your hotel, and enjoy a magnificent dinner, and a restful overnight.

Day 5, Sun, May 19: Czestochowa - Wadowice - Krakow

Today, you will awake in the home of the grandest pilgrimage shrine in Poland since the 14th century! You will begin your day with breakfast and Mass at Jasna Gora Monastery. This hill-top monastery is home to the beloved icon of the Black Madonna. Additionally, Saint John Paul II is said to have made frequent visits to this monastery throughout his life. Tradition tells us that this icon was painted by Luke the Evangelist, discovered by St. Helen, and later enshrined. While here, you will have the opportunity to venerate not only the Holy Icon but also many other priceless treasures that are contained within. Following your prayerful visit to the Chapel of the Black Madonna, you will continue to Wadowice, the birthplace of Karol Wojtyla (Saint John Paul II). While in the small city of Wadowice, you will have the opportunity to visit the church where this beloved Saint was baptized and attended Mass as a child. Following this historically captivating experience, continue to Krakow. Enjoy dinner at the local restaurant before resting up for the next day of activities.

Day 6, Mon, May 20: Krakow - Zakopane - Krakow

After breakfast, you will drive through the mountains to the breathtaking, yet small and remote village of Zakopane. Take a cable car ride to the nearby mountaintop. At the top, you will truly experience God's magnificent Glory when you look out at the magnificent panoramic view. Following the many photos captured atop the mountain, head to the Jaszczorowka Chapel. This architecturally distinct chapel was visited many times by the young, Karol Wojtyla (Saint John Paul II). As a young boy, Karol Wojtyla often used the walking paths surrounding the Jaszczorowka Chapel for prayer and reflection. After you experience this beautiful site that assisted in Saint John Paul II's Holy journey, you will continue your tour to the colorful, Krupowki Street. While on this street, you will have the opportunity to do some shopping at the local bazaar before returning to Krakow. Enjoy a beautiful dinner and an optional stroll through the old city before retiring for the evening.

Day 7, Tue, May 21: Krakow - Auschwitz - Krakow

After breakfast, you will explore Krakow's Market Square as the sound of the silver trumpet from St. Mary's Tower fills the air. The captivating beauty of this square is largely due to the fact that it has remained unchanged for almost 700 years. It contains a number of buildings that hold important historic value such as the Town Hall Tower, the Cloth Hall, and the Burgher's houses. Following your time in this longstanding square, you will make your way to Wawel Hill, where you will visit the beautiful Cathedral and Coronation Chapel. These are among the most important sites in Poland as the Cathedral has been the coronation site of the Polish monarchs and has held numerous pieces of Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque, Classicist, and Modern art. Also at this site, you will have the opportunity to pray at the tomb of the patron saint of Poland, St. Stanislaus. Next, a short drive to Auschwitz, notoriously known as a Nazi concentration camp during the Second World War. Upon arriving at the former camp, you can feel the darkness and sorrow that overtakes the atmosphere as there were numerous unspeakable atrocities that occurred at this site. Additionally, while on this visit, you will have the opportunity to view the cell that imprisoned the Christ-like, St. Maximilian

Kolbe, and visit the Martyrdom Museum. After this reflective day, return to your hotel in Krakow for dinner and a restful overnight.

Day 8, Wed, May 22: Krakow - Lagiewniki (Shrine of Divine Mercy) - Wieliczka - Krakow

On your last day of touring, after breakfast depart for your excursion to Lagiewniki, the capital of the Divine Mercy. Through the mediation of St. Faustina, Christ passed on the message of Divine Mercy at Lagiewniki. While here, you will have the opportunity to visit the Shrine of Divine Mercy that contains images of the Merciful Jesus, relics of St. Faustina, as well as, the Saint's convent chapel and her Tomb. Visit and celebrate Mass at the Shrine of Divinity, which was visited by Saint John Paul II in 2002. Following Mass, have the opportunity to pray by a relic of Saint John Paul II. Continue to Wieliczka and visit Europe's oldest salt mine, which has been listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. Return to Krakow for your farewell dinner and last overnight.

Day 9, Thu, May 23: Krakow - Medjugorje

Early morning departure from Krakow 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 meet your fellow pilgrims and be introduced to your host family who's modern and comfortable house you will be staying in for the next several nights.

Days 10 - 12, Fri - Sun, May 24 - 26: 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 AM, 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 PM.

Climb Apparition Hill: This mountainous hill is where the visionaries first encountered Our Lady.

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 5:00 PM your group can join the villagers and fellow pilgrims of Medjugorje at either St James Church or Apparition Hill to commemorate the time Our Lady appears to the Visionaries. There you can pray the Rosary, as you all await that time 5:40. *Afterward, Croatian Mass is held at St. James Church and is free for all to attend. It is broadcasted by the radio, simultaneously in order to translate the services from Croatian into many languages. Following the Croatian Mass, there is a Blessing of the Sick. **For details about the Visionaries, please visit: www.206tours.com/visionaries

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.

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 sleeps droplets of water at all times of the day, out of Christ's right knee.

Day 13, Mon, May 27: Medjugorje - 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. Dinner and overnight in Dubrovnik.

Day 14, Tue, May 28: Dubrovnik Day at Leisure

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 at 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. Farewell dinner and overnight in Dubrovnik.

Day 15, Wed, May 29: Return Home

Transfer to the Dubrovnik airport for your return flights home.

