

# THE FAITH & FLAVOURS OF ITALY

## ITALIAN PILGRIMAGE: Aug. 27 to Sep. 8, 2023

13-DAYS VISITING ROME, ASSISI, VENICE, FLORENCE,  
CINQUE TERRE, PISA, PADUA & MORE!



**Led by Father Rico Passero**  
**Pastor of St. Joseph's Parish in Grimsby**  
**Vocations Director – Diocese of St. Catharines**

COME AND PRAY IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE MIGHTY SAINTS –  
LIKE ST. PETER, ST. FRANCIS & ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

### ITINERARY

**DAY 1 SUNDAY AUGUST 27** **FLIGHT(S) TO VENICE**  
We fly from Toronto to Venice. Sit back, relax and enjoy your flight. Group seating for our flight will be pre-assigned by the airline. **Overnight and meals on board**

**DAY 2 MONDAY AUGUST 28** **VENICE-PADUA**  
*Ciao Italia!* After clearing customs and immigration, we meet our tour manager Antonella and board our bus to Padua. We check-in at our hotel and enjoy time to rest. Our pilgrimage officially begins with prayers at the Basilica of Saint Anthony and devotion by the tomb of the Saint, followed a Welcome Dinner with all the members of our group.  
**Overnight: Padua** **Dinner**

**DAY 3 TUESDAY AUGUST 29** **EXCURSION TO VENICE**  
Today, we take the *vaporetto* through the Grand Canal to Venice. We'll see Piazza San Marco, the Doge Palace, famous bridges of Venice, pray at St. Mark's Basilica and enjoy a Gondola ride. Enjoy free time for lunch and explore on your own before returning to Padua. Tonight's dinner will include pizza and Bigoli pasta, typical delicacies of this region.  
**Overnight: Padua** **Breakfast, Dinner**

**DAY 4 WEDNESDAY AUGUST 30** **PADUA-FLORENCE**  
You may wish to join other pilgrims for early prayers at the Basilica before breakfast. We leave Padua for Florence, the "Cradle of the Renaissance". Arrive and get settled in your hotel. You'll have the afternoon free to stroll and explore on your own. Later tonight, join us to taste the famous "Bistecca alla Fiorentina" (steak Florentine style), one of the glories of Tuscan cuisine.  
**Overnight: Florence** **Breakfast, Dinner**

**DAY 5 THURSDAY, AUGUST 31** **FLORENCE**  
This morning, pray at the Cathedral Santa Maria del Fiore. Visit the Accademia Gallery to admire Michelangelo's David and enjoy a walking tour to see the Baptistery, Piazza della Repubblica, the sculpture-studded Piazza della Signoria and the Ponte Vecchio. Free afternoon and dinner on your own.  
**Overnight: Florence** **Breakfast**

**DAY 6 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1** **FLORENCE-PISA-LA SPEZIA**  
We continue our tour and travel to Pisa to see its Piazza dei Miracoli and the world-famous leaning tower. Continue to La Spezia, gateway of the Cinque Terre, which literally translates to "five earths," a cluster of towns perched on the dramatic cliffs of the Mediterranean coast. We arrive and check-in at our hotel.  
**Overnight: La Spezia** **Breakfast, Dinner**

**DAY 7 SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2** **CINQUE TERRE**  
Travel by train and boat and discover the villages and beautiful coastline with its rugged cliffs, turquoise water, and colorful fishing villages. From Monterosso's lively markets to Vernazza's medieval forts and Manarola's pastel-colored buildings, there is something for everyone to discover and enjoy in Cinque Terre.  
**Overnight: La Spezia** **Breakfast, Dinner**

**DAY 8 SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3** **TUSCAN COUNTRYSIDE-SAN GIMIGNANO-ASSISI**  
We depart La Spezia and drive towards the heart of Tuscany and the Chianti region to San Gimignano, one of the most charming and picturesque hill towns in Tuscany. There will be free time to wander through the narrow streets, climb the "Torre Grossa" and take pictures of the gorgeous landscape. We visit a local winery and enjoy a wine tasting and lunch. Continue to Assisi, the town of St. Francis and St. Clare. Assisi is a spiritual treasure and one of the most peaceful spots in Italy. We arrive at our hotel, get settled and enjoy the rest of the day at leisure. Dinner is on your own.  
**Overnight: Assisi** **Breakfast, Lunch**

**DAY 9 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4** **ASSISI**  
Morning prayers at the Basilica of St. Francis, which contains many of the possessions of St. Francis and a series of frescoes depicting his life. You will

have a chance to see where St. Francis knelt before the crucifix and heard Jesus ask him to rebuild His church. We will also visit the Basilica of St. Clare and pray before the Holy Crucifix from which God spoke to Francis. We'll enjoy the panoramic views of the Italian countryside at a local family-run farm and taste a delicious lunch. Free afternoon and dinner on your own.

**Overnight: Assisi**

**Breakfast, Lunch**

**DAY 10 TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 5** **ASSISI-ROME**  
Morning prayers at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels, where we see the "Porziuncola", and continue towards Rome for the last leg of our pilgrimage. We arrive and get settled in our hotel. In the afternoon, we'll enjoy a panoramic sightseeing of Rome. Stop at the Colosseum (outside view) for a picture opportunity, and take a leisurely walk through the historic center of Rome to see the Trevi Fountain, the Spanish Steps ending at Piazza Navona with dinner at one of its trendy restaurants.

**Overnight: Rome**

**Breakfast, Dinner**

**DAY 11 WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 6** **PAPAL AUDIENCE & VATICAN CITY**  
Today is a very emotional day. We arrive at St. Peter's Square to participate in the Papal Audience and to be blessed by the Holy Father (providing His Holiness is in residence). There will be some free time to shop for religious souvenirs and lunch on your own. Next, we visit the Vatican Museum and the incomparable Sistine Chapel, ending our visit at St. Peter's Basilica. Built on the site where St. Peter was martyred, is the largest church in Christendom. A visit to St. Peter's Basilica is awe-inspiring, breathtaking, and will leave you speechless. Dinner on your own.  
**Overnight: Rome** **Breakfast**

**DAY 12 THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 7** **ROME**  
This morning, we get to learn the stories and legends of early Christianity, visiting three of the major basilicas: St. John Lateran, the oldest Basilica in Rome, and the official seat of the Pope. Across from it, we visit the Holy Stairs, regarded as the stairs climbed by Jesus on his way to face Pontius Pilate. Next, the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls, believed to be the burial ground of St. Paul and finally the Basilica of St. Mary Major, one of the oldest shrines dedicated to the Blessed Virgin. The afternoon is at leisure. Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant in one of the most iconic neighborhoods in Rome, Trastevere.  
**Overnight: Rome** **Breakfast, Dinner**

**DAY 13 FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 8** **FLIGHT TO TORONTO**  
Our pilgrimage has come to an end. We depart for the airport for our return flight home.  
**Breakfast**

### WANT TO ADD A VISIT TO THE SPECTACULAR AMALFI COAST?

**DAY 13 FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 8** **ROME-AMALFI COAST**  
Travel by high-speed train to Naples and start our tour of the beautiful Amalfi coast as we take in on one of the most beautiful scenic drives past beautiful villages to the town of Amalfi. We pray at the Cathedral dedicated to the Apostle St. Andrew whose relics are kept here and enjoy walking through the magical streets, filled with lemon trees and artisanal shops...truly a dream come true. We return to Naples by boat and enjoy the rest of the day and evening at leisure.  
**Overnight: Naples** **Breakfast**

**DAY 14 SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 9** **ISLAND OF CAPRI-ROME**  
Set off by high-speed boat to one of the most picturesque islands in the world, Capri, with an optional visit to the remarkable "Blue Grotto" (weather permitting). If time allows, take the funicular up Mt. Solaro and explore Anacapri on your own. In the afternoon, depart to Naples by boat and on to Rome by high-speed train.  
**Overnight: Rome** **Breakfast, Dinner**

**DAY 15 SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 10** **FLIGHT TO TORONTO**  
We depart for the airport for our return flight home.  
**Breakfast**



### PRICE PER PERSON IN DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

**\$ 5,490 CAD**

Price includes Fuel Surcharge & Airport Taxes (\$ 767.91 CAD), subject to change without notice until time of ticketing. Individual rooms add \$ 900 CAD.

Extension to the Amalfi Coast add \$ 1,260 CAD --- more details in the next page.

\*\*\*See next page for complete list of inclusions\*\*\*

To register and for more information, please contact:



30 Wertheim Court # 20, Richmond Hill, ON L4B 1B9  
(905) 889-1681 Toll-Free 1-800-268-0900 Ext. 233  
[edgar@gateways-international.com](mailto:edgar@gateways-international.com)  
TICO Reg. #2171876

**THE TOUR INCLUDES**

- ✓ Round trip airfare from Toronto
- ✓ 11-nights accommodation in 3\* & 4\* hotels, Standard rooms, double occup. Individual rooms subject to availability upon request.
- ✓ Breakfast daily, 2 lunches and 7 dinners, showcasing regional Italian cuisine at local restaurants
- ✓ Mineral water & Italian wine with all meals
- ✓ Wine & Olive Oil Tasting in San Gimignano
- ✓ Private coach transportation throughout
- ✓ Entrance fees, tours and visit to holy sites as per the itinerary with English speaking escort and local guides where applicable
- ✓ Gondola ride in Venice
- ✓ Daily Mass and/or Spiritual activities
- ✓ Hotel taxes and service charges
- ✓ Fuel surcharge & Airport taxes (at time of printing \$ 767.91 CAD, subject to change at any time without notice until time of ticketing)
- ✓ Gratuities to hotels and restaurants

**OPTIONAL EXTENSION TO THE AMALFI COAST INCLUDING:** High speed train ticket, 2<sup>nd</sup> class, Rome-Naples-Rome ★ 2-nights accommodation in 3\* hotels (1 in Naples and 1 in Rome), Standard rooms, double occupancy. Individual rooms subject to availability upon request ★ Breakfast daily + 1 Dinner ★ Mineral water & Italian wine with Dinner ★ Private coach transportation throughout ★ Entrance fees, tours & visit to holy sites as per the itinerary with English speaking guide ★ Full-day excursion to the Island of Capri ★ Mass and/or Spiritual activities ★ Hotel taxes, service charges

**NOT INCLUDED IN THE PRICE**

- ✓ Meals and drinks not mentioned above
- ✓ Passports: Canadian citizens require a valid passport for more than 6 months after the return date
- ✓ Gratuities to guides, drivers and other local staff: **€ 160.00** per participant collected in cash ahead for your convenience. With Amalfi Coast add **€ 40.00**
- ✓ Costs of personal nature, optional excursions, excess baggage charges
- ✓ Insurance for medical, Cancellation and Interruption, baggage

**BOOKING**

A deposit of \$500.00 CAD per person is required at time of booking. If you opt to purchase Cancellation/Interruption or All-Inclusive insurance, it must be purchased at time of first deposit. See payment schedule below. Bookings after May 12, 2023 are subject to availability and full payment is due at time of booking.

**PLEASE NOTE ALL PAYMENTS ARE 100% NON- REFUNDABLE.**

**CANCELLATIONS AND CHANGES**

If you must cancel, Gateways International must be informed in writing immediately. **All payments are 100% Non-Refundable.** A \$75 CAD fee will be applied for any changes you wish to make to the group's itinerary. Changes after full payment is received will be treated as cancellations.

**OPTIONAL TRAVEL HEALTH & CANCELLATION INSURANCE**

CAD \$Premium per person	All-Inclusive	Non-Medical	With Amalfi Coast add	Staying in a single room, add
<b>up to 59 years</b>	357.00	317.00	58.00	50.00
<b>60-64 years</b>	431.00	361.00	70.00	59.00
<b>65-69 years</b>	519.00	401.00	80.00	68.00
<b>70-74 years</b>	682.00	458.00	90.00	77.00
<b>75-79 years</b>	1,031.00	647.00	141.00	118.00

- ✓ **All-Inclusive Worldwide Plan** provides coverage for *cancellation and interruption* up to sum insured, trip delay, \$ 10 million emergency medical, baggage & personal effects, baggage delay, personal money loss, passport loss, airlift accident and travel accident.
  - ✓ See the [Policy Brochure](#) for the full description and eligibility.
  - ✓ **Non-Medical Plan** provides coverage for *cancellation and interruption* up to sum insured, trip delay, baggage & personal effects, baggage delay, personal money loss, passport loss, airlift accident and travel accident. There is no coverage for Emergency Medical.
  - ✓ For people living outside the province of Ontario, insurance will be processed by Old Republic Insurance Company of Canada.
  - ✓ Premium per person is subject to change without prior notice
- Travel insurance is designed to cover losses arising from sudden and unforeseeable circumstances. Please contact us to get a copy of the policy. It is important that you read and understand the policy before you purchase as the coverage is subject to certain limitations, conditions or exclusions.

**All participants must hold Trip Cancellation/Interruption + Emergency Medical Insurance to travel with us. Proof of coverage if purchased elsewhere must be provided at time of booking.**

COVID-19 is known event and is excluded from cancellation coverage. However, if you contract COVID-19 prior to departure, you may be covered for trip cancellation.

**All participants must comply with the travel regulations and guidelines of Public Health and the Ministry of Health of each country we visit. Proof of vaccination and further testing may be required at time of travelling.**

**PHYSICAL HEALTH**

Participants on this tour take full responsibility for being fully able to participate in the daily scheduled activities of the group, noting that tours organized by Gateways International require physical fitness. There is daily walking, sometimes up or down slopes, and at times sidewalks and uneven terrain. One may choose not to participate in parts of the sightseeing; however, there is no refund for missed sightseeing.

**Please contact us if you live outside the Province of Ontario and for other types of coverage.**

## FATHER RICO PASSERO, FAITH & FLAVOURS OF ITALY, AUG. 27 TO SEP. 8, 2023

Deposit Registration Form – copy of passport required

Name (as per passport): First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have any Dietary restrictions? \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have any known medical problems? \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I am departing from Toronto ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_ (fare supplement and flight details to be informed accordingly)

Passport #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Enclosed is a photocopy of my passport (page showing name and photo)

☐ I have a Roommate ☐ I need a Roommate (subject to availability) ☐ I would like a Single room and pay **\$ 900 CAD** Supplement

**Add extension to the Amalfi Coast (return Sep. 10)** ☐ Pay **\$1,260 CAD** p/p in double room ☐ Pay **\$1,480 CAD** in individual room

☐ Enclosed is my **full payment** and/or **deposit of \$500 CAD – by Cheque payable to Gateways International or e-transfer, for credit card complete below**

☐ I authorize Gateways International to charge a deposit of **\$500 CAD** now, and/or balance of **\$4,990 CAD** (plus or minus any changes on Fuel surcharges & Airport taxes, optional tour to the Amalfi coast and Single Supplement if applicable) by **May 12, 2023** on my credit card listed below

Credit Card Type: VISA \_\_\_\_\_ MASTERCARD \_\_\_\_\_ AMEX \_\_\_\_\_ Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

CVV \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Name as it appears on credit card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**INSURANCE:** Please add the following Travel Insurance to my package (Payment will be collected separately)

☐ **All-Inclusive Worldwide Policy** ☐ **Non-Medical Policy** ☐ **I decline insurance. Proof of my own policy attached.**

My signature below indicates that I have read and agreed to the Terms and Conditions outlined by Gateways International in this brochure. I also understand that Gateways International strongly recommends the purchase of trip cancellation and interruption insurance, which is not included in the trip price, and that Gateways International's cancellation policy cannot be waived for any reason. If I do not purchase trip cancellation and interruption insurance, I will hold Gateways International not liable in any matter that would have been covered or not by this added insurance.

**Signature of Participant:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE COMPLETE AND MAIL WITH PAYMENT TO: GATEWAYS INTERNATIONAL, 30 WERTHEIM COURT # 20, RICHMOND HILL, ONT L4B 1B9**