

Journey through holy shrines and mountainous villages touched by a profound grace of Mary and some of the Church's greatest saints. From Paray-le-Monial, Ars and Lourdes to Caleruega and Avila, we weave a pilgrim trail through the glorious countryside and most sacred regions of France and Spain. Then journey into the heart and soul of Portugal, to join Pope Francis for the 16th International World Youth Day in Lisbon, where young pilgrims from across the globe come together for a week of prayer, worship and celebration.



#### **FULLY ESCORTED**

With Chaplain:

DA

And Tour Director:

ГВА

Plus Professional Guide

22 DAYS

**Departs Australia** Friday 21 July 2023

**Returns Australia** Friday 11 August 2023

#### INDICATIVE TOUR COST

22 Days from

\$7790 Pe

Tour Code: WYD2301





ITINERARY: Paris (2 Nights) • Nevers • Paray le Monial (1 Night)
• Rocamadour (1 night) • Toulouse • Lourdes (2 Nights) • Loyola • Burgos
(1 Night) • Santo Domingo de Silos • Caleruega • Segovia • Avila (2 Nights)
• Salamanca • WYD Week Lisbon (7 Nights) • Post-WYD Retreat - Fatima

• Salamanca • WYD Week Lisbon (7 Nights) • Post-WYD Retreat - Fatima area (3 Nights)



**FEATURED SAINTS:** St Catherine Laboure • St Vincent De Paul

- St Bernadette St Margaret Mary Alacoque Our Lady of Rocamadour
- St Thomas Aquinas Our Lady of Lourdes St Ignatius of Loyola
- St Dominic St John of the Cross St Teresa of Avila Our Lady of Fatima.





# Tour Summary

#### **DAY 1: FRIDAY - DEPART FOR FRANCE**

#### **DAY 2: SATURDAY - ARRIVE PARIS**

Paris overnight (D)

#### **DAY 3: SUNDAY - PARIS**

- Sacre Coeur
- · Cathedral of Notre Dame.
- Rue du Bac
- · Catherine Laboure
- Miraculous Medal
- St Vincent de Paul
- Vincentian Fathers
- Bones of St Vincent de Paul.
- · Eiffel Tower
- Arc de Triomphe
- Champs Elysees

Paris overnight (BD)

# DAY 4: MONDAY - PARIS VIA NEVERS TO PARAY LE MONIAL

- Nevers
- · Convent of St Gildard
- Chapel of Apparitions
- Relics of St Margaret Mary
- Chapel of St Claude
- · Basilica of Sacre Coeur.

Paray-le-Monial overnight (BD)

# DAY 5: TUESDAY - PARAY LE MONIAL TO ROCAMADOUR

- Rocamadour
- Shrine of Rocamadour
- · Chapel of the Black Virgin
- Black Madonna statue
- St Michael's Chapel
- St Amadour's crypt.

Rocamadour overnight (BD)

# DAY 6: WEDNESDAY - ROCAMADOUR VIA TOULOUSE TO LOURDES

- Toulouse
- St Thomas Aguinas
- St Sernin Basilica
- Lourdes

Lourdes overnight (BD)

#### **DAY 7: THURSDAY - LOURDES**

- · Mass at the Grotto
- Walking tour of Lourdes
- Sanctuary
- Upper & Lower Basilicas
- The Baths
- · Boly Mill
- · Original parish church
- Cachot (prison
- Bartres
- Sheepfold
- Parish Church
- Baths
- Blessed Sacrament Procession
- Candlelight procession

Lourdes overnight (BD)

# DAY 8: FRIDAY - LOURDES VIA LOYOLA TO BURGOS

- Loyola
- Sanctuary of St Ignatius
- Casa Santa
- 13th century tower house
- Burgos

Burgos overnight (BD)

#### DAY 9: SATURDAY - BURGOS VIA SANTO DOMINGO DE SILOS, CALERUEGA & SEGOVIA TO AVILA

- · Santo Domingo de Silos
- Gregorian chant
- Caleruega
- Dominican Nuns Convent
- the Crypt
- Church of San Sebastian
- Segovia
- Segovia Cathedral
- aqueduct
- Saint John of the Cross
- Avila

Avila overnight (BD)

#### **DAY 10: SUNDAY - AVILA**

- Convent of Saint Teresa
- Avila's Cathedral
- Church of San Juan Bautista

- · Nuestra Senora de la Gracia Monastery
- Monastery of the Incarnation
- Monastery of St Joseph

Avila overnight (BD)

#### DAY 11: MONDAY - AVILA VIA SALAMANCA TO LISBON

• Salamanca

Lisbon overnight (BD)

#### **DAYS 12-17: WORLD YOUTH DAY WEEK**

- Opening Mass
- Catechesis & Youth Festival
- Papal Welcome
- Stations of the Cross
- Pilgrimage Walk and WYD Vigil
- WYD Mass with the Holy Father Lisbon overnight (WYD BLD)

# DAY 18: MONDAY - DEPART LISBON FOR POST-WYD RETREAT

- · Statue of Christ the King
- Holy Miracle Church of St Stephen
- Santarem

Fatima area overnight (BD)

#### **DAY 19: TUESDAY - FATIMA & RETREAT DAY**

- Fatima
- Tour of the Square
- Site of the Apparitions
- Rosary Basilica
- The Museum, Blessed Sacrament Chapel Fatima area overnight (BLD)

# DAY 20: WEDNESDAY - FATIMA & RETREAT DAY

- Way of the Cross Chapel of Calvary
- Valinhos
- Aljustrel
- Parish church

Fatima area overnight (BLD)

#### **DAY 21: THURSDAY - DEPART PORTUGAL**

Homebound flights to Australia. (B)

**DAY 22: FRIDAY - ARRIVE AUSTRALIA** 













MEAL CODES: (B) Breakfast, (L) Lunch, (D) Dinner

#### **DAY 1: FRIDAY - DEPART FOR FRANCE**

#### **DAY 2: SATURDAY - ARRIVE PARIS**

On arrival at Paris airport we will be met and transferred to our accommodation. While Paris is renowned for housing some of the world's greatest treasures, we will come to discover too the spiritual riches on offer to pilgrims in this amazing city of contrasts. Before dinner, we shall celebrate our first group Mass together.

Paris overnight (D)

#### **DAY 3: SUNDAY - PARIS**

This morning we will visit and celebrate Mass in the awesome Sacre Coeur, built from 1875 to 1914, and one of the most imposing Basilicas in the Christian tradition. We continue on our pilgrimage through Paris with a special stop to view the outside of the Cathedral of Notre Dame.

We come then to the Daughters of Charity in the **Rue du Bac**. This is the site where Our Lady appeared to **Catherine Laboure** in 1830, with the first Miraculous Medal being struck in 1832. Her incorrupt body lies under the altar of Our Lady, here in the chapel and adjacent to the altar of **St Vincent de Paul** displaying his incorrupt heart. Finally, we stroll to the nearby **Vincentian Fathers** to pray in the chapel housing the **bones of St Vincent de Paul**.

This afternoon we commence our sightseeing tour of Paris including a visit to the **Eiffel Tower**, viewing the **Arc de Triomphe** and the Champs Elysees. Enjoy some time at leisure to take in the atmosphere of this beautiful city or for shopping. Paris overnight (BD)

#### DAY 4: MONDAY - PARIS VIA NEVERS TO PARAY LE MONIAL

This morning we farewell the 'City of Lights' and journey to the town of **Nevers** nestled within the picturesque Loire Valley. Here we will celebrate Mass and visit the Convent of St Gildard where St Bernadette's incorrupt body reposes and may be viewed. After she was blessed with the 18 apparitions of the Virgin Mary at Lourdes, St Bernadette retired to Nevers where she died at the age of only 35.

From here we continue to Paray-le-Monial, the place where St Margaret Mary Alacoque experienced visions of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in the 17th century. In revealing His Heart to her, Jesus said: "Behold the Heart which has so loved men that it has spared nothing but has been poured out totally and consumed as proof of its love".

We commence our guided visit featuring the Chapel of Apparitions for Mass, and the relics of St Margaret Mary. Other highlights include the Chapel of St Claude in honour of St Margaret Mary's Spiritual Director and the Basilica of Sacre Coeur. Paray-le-Monial overnight (BD)

#### **DAY 5: TUESDAY - PARAY LE MONIAL TO ROCAMADOUR**

Departing Paray-le-Monial we travel south to Rocamadour, the sacred city built stunningly against the side of a cliff.

According to legend, Rocamadour was the home of an early Christian hermit named Zaccheus of Jericho. It is believed that he died in about 70 AD and had conversed with Jesus himself. After the hermit's death and burial in Rocamadour, and even more so after the statue of the Black Madonna was brought here several centuries later, the site became a place of pilgrimage. The shrine is accessible from the town via an elevator or the Grand Escalier, a stairway of 216 weathered steps. From the Middle Ages many pilgrims have made the climb on their knees in penance. Along the way are 14 Stations of the Cross culminating in the Cross of Jerusalem at the top.

Upon arrival we will visit the **Shrine of Rocamadour**. Our group Mass will be celebrated at the **Chapel of the Black Virgin** where we have the opportunity also to pray before the miraculous Black Madonna statue. Other sites we will see include St Michael's **Chapel** with its 12<sup>th</sup> century frescoes and **St Amadour's crypt**.

Rocamadour overnight (BD)





#### **DAY 6: WEDNESDAY - ROCAMADOUR VIA TOULOUSE TO LOURDES**

Departing Rocamadour we continue our French immersion travelling on to Lourdes. Enroute, we take a break in the southern French city of **Toulouse**, once a Roman colony and home to numerous religious and historical treasures. While here, we will have the opportunity to view many of these rare artifacts such as twenty historical pipe organs, and the burial place of the great theologian and philosopher, **St Thomas Aquinas**, at the **St Sernin Basilica**. As one of the finest Romanesque churches in France, its exterior is constructed of red brick with decorative accents of white stone.

Later we travel through the scenic foothills of the Pyrenees, crossing into Southern France before continuing on to **Lourdes**. It was in this small town that Our Lady first appeared to St Bernadette in 1858.

Optional Blessed Sacrament Procession and evening candlelight procession.

Lourdes overnight (BD)

#### **DAY 7: THURSDAY - LOURDES**

This morning we will celebrate a group **Mass at the Grotto** – the site where young Bernadette experienced visions of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We then meet our guide for a **walking tour of Lourdes** including the **Sanctuary** area: **Upper & Lower Basilicas**, and **the Baths** where hundreds of miraculous cures have taken place. See the **Boly Mill** where she was born in 1844, the **original parish church** and the **Cachot (prison)** where the family lived due to misfortune during the time of the apparitions.

We then visit the little village of **Bartres**, and the farm where St Bernadette was nursed and later returned in adolescence to help her foster mother. We will visit the **Sheepfold** and the **Parish Church** where she spent so many hours in prayer.

Free time this afternoon for a visit and prayers for the sick at the miraculous **Baths** where the water has continued to flow since 1858. Pilgrims may choose to submerge themselves in the healing waters, or collect the Lourdes water at the taps. During her ninth apparition to Bernadette, Our Lady said "Go drink and wash yourself at the spring". Optional afternoon **Blessed Sacrament Procession** and Blessing of the Sick before a final evening **candlelight procession** after dinner.

<u>Note:</u> Washing at the baths is a personally rewarding experience and is carried out in a dignified manner and with sensitivity to the privacy of each pilgrim.

Lourdes overnight (BD)

#### **DAY 8: FRIDAY - LOURDES VIA LOYOLA TO BURGOS**

We set out for our travel day, passing through the foothills of the Pyrenees and crossing the border back into northern Spain. Enroute, we visit **Loyola** where St Ignatius was born and where he later found his conversion. In Loyola pilgrims will have the opportunity to visit the impressive **Sanctuary of St Ignatius**, including the **Casa Santa** (Holy House) - **13**<sup>th</sup> **century tower house** – where he was born and spent many of his early years. Visit also the ornate monastery complete with shrine and relics of the saint and a 65m dome, which can be seen from a great distance. See the sparse room where he lived and recovered from his injuries and developed his spiritual life.

Continue by coach west to **Burgos**, famous for its beautiful Cathedral established in 1221 – one of the jewels of Gothic architecture. *Burgos overnight (BD)* 

#### DAY 9: SATURDAY - BURGOS VIA SANTO DOMINGO DE SILOS, CALERUEGA & SEGOVIA TO AVILA

This morning we depart Burgos and journey to the quaint village of **Santo Domingo de Silos**, home to the great Benedictine Abbey famous for its beautiful Romanesque cloister and for spreading the finest tradition of **Gregorian chant** throughout the world. We will attend the chanted High Mass this morning, before visiting the adjacent Monastery and Museum.

From here we journey north to **Caleruega**, the home of BI Jane of Aza and Felix Guzman and birthplace of their sons, St Dominic, BI Mannes and Anthony. On arrival we commence our tour of Caleruega. A highlight includes the **Dominican Nuns Convent**, formerly the home of the Guzman family. A highlight here is **the Crypt** where a well marks the spot where Dominic was born around 1170. It is now the centrepiece of a chapel which is adorned with exquisite mosaics depicting scenes from Dominic's life.



Enter the Church of San Sebastian where Dominic was baptised. The original twelfth century apse is still preserved, even though the church has undergone numerous reconstructions.

Continue south by coach to Segovia, between the Eresma and Clamores Rivers. We will visit the stunning Segovia Cathedral, the last Gothic cathedral to be built in Spain. Marvel too at the best conserved aqueduct of the Imperial Roman Empire. Outside the walls, we will visit and celebrate Mass at a convent adjacent to the Vera Cruz church, where the mortal remains of Saint John of the **Cross** are buried. View here the famous Alcazar.

We continue on to the historic walled town of Avila, where the atmosphere has changed little since the days of St Teresa to whom the city is dedicated. It was here that she entered the Carmelite convent and encountered many mystical experiences during her time.

Avila overnight (BD)

#### **DAY 10: SUNDAY - AVILA**

We begin our day with a walking tour of Avila inside the walls. Enter the Convent of Saint Teresa (La Santa) for Mass, built over the saint's birthplace and located just inside the South Gate of the old town. Most of the convent remains in cloister but you can see the very spot where she was born, now a chapel in the Baroque church. Another highlight is a visit to Avila's Cathedral which was started in the 12th century. We then visit the **Church of San Juan Bautista**, where St Teresa was baptised in 1515, and the school she attended at the **Nuestra Senora de la Gracia Monastery**.

This afternoon we venture outside the walls for a visit to the **Monastery of the Incarnation**, where St Teresa's cell can be seen as well as other relics of her life. Continue on for a special visit to the **Monastery of St Joseph**, the first monastery founded by St Teresa in 1562

Remainder of the day at leisure in this beautiful walled city.

Avila overnight (BD)

#### **DAY 11: MONDAY - AVILA VIA SALAMANCA TO LISBON**

After breakfast we farewell Avila and travel by coach to Salamanca, known as the 'Golden City' owing to the colour of its historic sandstone buildings.

We then journey inland through the beautiful Spanish countryside before crossing the border into Portugal, joining the streams of young pilgrims converging today on Lisbon, the World Youth Day host city and our long-awaited meeting with the youth of the world and our Holy Father.

Upon our arrival, we will be welcomed and ushered to our designated place of accommodation. At this point we will receive our WYD pilgrim's bag containing the WYD handbook, tourist guide, pilgrim pass, transport card and all the information you need to get around Lisbon and participate in the WYD events.

Lisbon overnight (BD)

#### DAY 12: TUESDAY - WORLD YOUTH DAY WEEK LISBON (WYD BLD)

Theme: "Mary arose and went with haste." (Lk 1:39)

AM: MORNING WALKING TOUR OF LISBON

This morning we meet our guide and enjoy a walking tour of Lisbon city. From the scenic Garden of San Pedro de Alcantara – taking in sweeping views of the city, to its narrow streets of the picturesque Alfama district, bustling plazas, and along the riverfront stopping in Lisbon's most beautiful and historic churches all along the way.

PM: WYD OPENING CEREMONIES

#### DAY 13: WEDNESDAY - WORLD YOUTH DAY WEEK LISBON (WYD BLD)

AM: MORNING CATECHESIS





There will be opportunities for Catechesis, Daily Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

PM: YOUTH FESTIVAL EVENTS

Featuring music, dance and dramatic performances from around the world in small and large stadiums and venues across the city.

#### DAY 14: THURSDAY - WORLD YOUTH DAY WEEK LISBON (WYD BLD)

AM: MORNING CATECHESIS

There will be opportunities for Catechesis, Daily Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

PM: YOUTH FESTIVAL EVENTS

Featuring music, dance and dramatic performances from around the world in small and large stadiums and venues across the city. PM: WELCOMING CEREMONIES FOR THE HOLY FATHER

#### DAY 15: FRIDAY - WORLD YOUTH DAY WEEK LISBON (WYD BLD)

AM: MORNING CATECHESIS

There will be opportunities for Catechesis, Daily Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

PM: YOUTH FESTIVAL EVENTS

Featuring music, dance and dramatic performances from around the world in small and large stadiums and venues across the city.

PM: STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The focus tonight is on the moving Way of the Cross when we as young pilgrims will contemplate the reality of Christ's passion and the call to true freedom.

#### DAY 16: SATURDAY - PILGRIMAGE WALK TO WYD VIGIL SITE (WYD BLD)

Today will begin the mass mobilisation of pilgrims along set walking paths through the city as we converge on the site chosen for the historic WYD gathering here in Lisbon.

An afternoon of concerts, performances, and song will unfold as we await the arrival of the Holy Father. This begins the main event! Multitudes of young people together with the Pope – a summer evening of unforgettable atmosphere. The celebrations continue all night as we share in a global sleep-out under the stars.

WYD Vigil Site Sleepout (WYD BLD)

#### DAY 17: SUNDAY - 16TH INTERNATIONAL WORLD YOUTH DAY (WYD BLD)

As the sun rises, we'll share in Morning Prayer, breakfast and the climactic WYD Papal Mass with the youth of the world.

AM: MORNING MASS WITH THE HOLY FATHER

The Pope will concelebrate Mass with thousands of bishops and priests, addressing us and sending us out to the world to witness to our faith, as the Lord did with his Apostles. At the end of the Mass, the Holy Father will announce the place where the next international World Youth Day will be held.

PM: PILGRIMAGE WALK BACK TO LODGINGS

#### **DAY 18: MONDAY - DEPART LISBON FOR POST-WYD RETREAT**

Today we farewell Lisbon for the tranquillity and relaxation of our Post WYD Retreat in the Fatima area. As we depart out of the city, see Europe's longest suspension bridge and view the inspiring **Statue of Christ the King** pointing the way north to Fatima.

Enroute, we will visit the **Holy Miracle Church of St Stephen** at **Santarem** containing the oldest recorded Eucharistic miracle.

Arriving at our post-WYD retreat lodgings, we will spend the following days entering into a time of rest, recreation and retreat, as we unwind and process the amazing past days on pilgrimage and WYD experiences.

Fatima area overnight (BD)





#### **DAY 19: TUESDAY - FATIMA & RETREAT DAY**

This morning we travel to **Fatima**, where in 1917 the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to three children as 'a lady in white'. We will enjoy a **tour of the Square** (the largest square in Christendom) including the **site of the Apparitions, Rosary Basilica** with the Tombs of the visionaries, **the Museum**, **Blessed Sacrament Chapel** and other main sites.

Back at our lodgings this afternoon, we enter a time of retreat, prayer and recreation.

Fatima area overnight (BLD)

#### **DAY 20: WEDNESDAY - FATIMA & RETREAT DAY**

We travel back to Fatima this morning where we will walk and pray the Stations along the beautiful Way of the Cross (the Sacred Way) culminating in the Chapel of Calvary which overlooks all of Fatima. Continue to Valinhos, the site of Our Lady's appearance to three peasant children Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta. Proceed on to the little village of Aljustrel to visit the homes where the children lived. Finally, we enter the original Parish church and see the Baptismal font where the children were baptised.

Back at our lodgings this afternoon, we enter a time of retreat, prayer and recreation.

Fatima area overnight (BLD)

#### **DAY 21: THURSDAY - DEPART PORTUGAL**

Today we will be transferred to the airport for our homebound flight connections to Australia. (B)

#### **DAY 22: FRIDAY - ARRIVE AUSTRALIA**

#### **INCLUSIONS**

- Return International Economy class airfare from Australia
- Internal European flights as applicable
- All prepaid airport taxes, charges and fuel levies (subject to variation)
- Mass daily (as indicated in the pilgrimage itinerary)
- University residence lodgings (all rooms with private facilities) with breakfast daily in Lisbon during WYD week (Additional costs applicable for Hotel standard accommodation)
- Accommodation throughout mostly in multi-share lodgings, hotels, pilgrim/religious houses or retreat centres on pilgrimage programme and retreat days outside Lisbon
- Meals as included in the WYD registration during WYD week in Lisbon
- Breakfasts and dinners daily on Pre-WYD touring programme. Other meals included as indicated in the itinerary.
- All transfers and touring as indicated in deluxe air-conditioned coaches
- All Sightseeing with entrance fees and local guides whilst on pilgrimage as listed
- Services of a local multi-lingual Tour Director for touring programme / coach transfers (not included during WYD week or during Retreat stays)
- Tips and gratuities for drivers and guides on tour

- Full services of the Harvest Support Team during WYD week in Lisbon
- WYD Lisbon Registration Package including:
- ° Harvest's management of group registration with WYD Lisbon
- ° Public transportation pass during WYD week (Tuesday to Sunday)
- ° Entrance to all WYD cultural activities
- $^{\circ}$  Access to all areas reserved for WYD participants
- $^{\circ}$  WYD Lisbon pilgrim's backpack with WYD Lisbon inclusions
- Harvest WYD 2023 pilgrims travel pack including travel wallet, baggage tags, pilgrims journal

#### NOT INCLUDED

- Any meals not specified as part of the itinerary
- All beverages
- Any additional sightseeing costs or entrance fees not listed in the itinerary
- Items of a personal nature, phone calls, laundry, etc
- · Any passport or visa fees required
- Any associated health or vaccination costs
- Porterage
- Travel insurance





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