

SAMPLE ITINERARY: ITALY



Day 1 – First Foot Forward

We have arrived in Rome. Our first leg of the journey will take us to the stunning city of Florence. After orientation, we head into Florence starting with her greatest visual icons, the Duomo and the old market. Tonight we will talk about how you begin a life of pilgrimage.

Day 2 – A Day of Masterpieces

We start our day taking in some of the most famous pieces of art in the world at the Accademia. What is a masterpiece and what does it mean that we are called God's masterpiece? We then head south of the Arno to, what some have called, the most beautiful church in the world, Santo Spirito.

Day 3 – In the Steps

After a good breakfast and morning prayer will start on the road to our second location, Assisi. A casual trip through the countryside will have surprises in store. A day of relaxation, rest and reflection and a nice Umbrian meal out will help us to begin our journey into history that awaits our group of pilgrims.

Day 4 – A Monk's Life in a Day

Time to trace the steps of St. Francis. Today we learn the story of this unique and famous saint. We start at the church where St. Clare lived and where Francis received his vision to "rebuild the church." Then it is on to the caves on the slope of this mountain Francis and his followers established their first home. We then move on to the baroque church containing the simple cell where St. Francis died.

Day 5 – Walk the Talk

Today we head to the country for a few hours of hiking and partaking of the beautiful Italian countryside and some fresh air. Our leisurely pace will allow us to reflect on what it must have been like to walk from city to city and for Francis to share with his followers on the road.

Day 6 – Stroll Through Time

This morning we will take a stroll to the legendary site where St. Francis preached to the birds. The church where we will see the Cappella del Crocifisso, the cross that spoke to him and led him into a life after Christ. We will end our walk at the Basilica di San Francesco containing 28 scenes from the life of St. Francis and the crypt.

Day 7 – The Romans' Road

Today we head to Rome, once the center of humanity. After checking in at our final place of rest, we will do a bit of exploration to places such as the Trevi Fountain and the Coliseum where we will hear the inspirational story of Telemachus. The afternoon will give the team free time to wander and ponder the streets of Rome.

Day 8 – From Catacombs to Cathedrals

On our last day in Rome we aim at two major objectives. In the morning we travel to the earliest roots of Christianity in the Roman Empire: the massive Catacombs where Christianity came alive in the dark shadows. In the afternoon we head to the crown of Christendom, The Vatican.

Day 9 – The Pilgrimage Continues

We have walked in the footsteps of St Francis, traveled through history, heard stories of inspiration while learning our own stories from each other. Our group from Pennsylvania now heads home with renewed faith, a sense of their past and starting a brand new pilgrimage home.