

Walk from Assisi to Rome

Along the Way of Francis through Umbria and Lazio

September 10-23, 2017

\$2,500 per person (Ground only) *

Walking Level: 8-16 miles per day **

Maximum of 8 participants



*Join a walking pilgrimage from Assisi to Rome.
Along the Way of Francis (Via di Francesco.
Accompanied by Fr. Fred Wendel*

*Included in Price:

- Overnight accommodations (*pilgrim hostel to 3-star hotels at double occupancy*)
- Half Board (*breakfast and dinner daily*)
- Daily baggage transport service - you carry only your own day pack
- Taxi services (where indicated)
- "The Way of Francis" guide book by Sandy Brown
- Pilgrim's kit with info on the Cammino, packing instructions, training tips
- Pilgrim's credential to obtain the official Testimonium certificate from Vatican
- [*Airfare, lunch, and optional travel insurance not included*]

****Please note that this is a hiking pilgrimage; walks vary between 10-16 miles per day on hilly and mountainous terrain, including some steep uphill and downhill trails. Fitness and advance training is necessary.**



The Via Francigena was the medieval pilgrimage route that connected Canterbury, England to Rome through France. In the middle ages, Christians from all over Europe set out on foot on walking pilgrimages to reach the tombs of the apostles in Compostela, France, Rome, and beyond. The loosely connected route became known as the Via Francigena.

St. Francis himself was often a pilgrim on the road. He walked the roads of Italy and Europe going as far as the Holy land in the East to Santiago de Compostela in the west. He never could have known that one day his own beloved city of Assisi would become a great pilgrimage destination. Yet, by the 13th century, because of the plenary indulgence granted to the Portiuncula (and the fame of his own tomb), Umbria was forever enshrined on the pilgrimage map. But the majority of pilgrims had as their destination the caput mundi: the head of the world - Rome. Their goal was to visit the basilica built over the tomb of St. Peter, in the necropolis of the Vatican hill.

Now the "Way of Francis" has been "re-paved" for those who wish to re-trace the footsteps of Francis as he walked from Assisi to Rieti and then to Rome.

Immerse yourself in this experience of a lifetime walking the Way of Francis -- a Cammino rich in faith, nature, and culture.



Itinerary, registration form, terms and conditions inside.

For more information, contact Bret Thoman at:
404-418-6683 ♦ bret@stfrancispilgrimages.com

www.stfrancispilgrimages.com

ITINERARY:

Sep 10: Arrive in Assisi. Meet fellow pilgrims and rest for your journey. Vigil Mass and tour at the Basilica di San Francesco. (Overnight in Assisi)

Sep 11: Assisi. Today enjoy a guided tour of the Basilica of St. Francis and the medieval city of Assisi. (Overnight in Assisi)

Sep 12: Assisi - Spello (11 mi) Spectacular views of the Spoleto Valley greet you throughout the day. Begin from Francis' beloved Carceri Hermitage as you walk along Mount Subasio to Spello. (Overnight Spello)

Sep 13: Spello - Trevi (12 mi) Start with an easy walk downhill through the suburbs through Foligno. Then enjoy some more views of the Spoleto valley as you walk to the medieval hill town of Trevi. (Overnight in Trevi)

Sep 14: Trevi - Spoleto (12 mi) Start downhill taking a timeout to visit the lovely Clitumnus springs. Then walk along a bike path on the valley floor all the way to the historic town of Spoleto. (overnight in Spoleto)

Sep 15: Macenano - Piediluco (15.5 mi) Transfer around the mountain by taxi to Macenano and begin today's walk along the Nera River. Climb the Marmore Falls and walk to the shores of Lake Piediluco for overnight. (Overnight in Piediluco)

Sep 16: Poggio Bustone - Rieti (11 mi) Transfer by taxi up and over the mountain to the hermitage of Poggio Bustone. Then enjoy a pleasant walk with views of the Rieti Valley through the medieval town of Cantalice and then on to another hermitage of La Foresta. The day ends in Rieti, an historic Roman town (Overnight in Rieti)

Sep 17: Rieti - Poggio San Lorenzo (13.5 mi) Walk along the Roman Salt Road through quiet farms of the Sabine Region to the tiny, Roman village of Poggio San Lorenzo (Overnight in Poggio San Lorenzo)

Sep 18: Poggio San Lorenzo - Ponticelli -14.4 miles. A day of forested ridges, olive groves and sheep pastures with views of more castles and sleepy villages (Overnight in Ponticelli)

Sep 19: Ponticelli - Montelibretti (8.2 mi) Forests and olive groves punctuate today's walk, with scenic views of towering Castello Orsini on one of the nearby forested mountaintops (Overnight in Montelibretti)

Sep 20: Montelibretti - Monterotondo (10.3 mi) With Rome nearing, the territory changes to olive groves and vast fields of grain as you walk through the Gattaceca Nature Reserve. In clear weather the first glimpse of St. Peter's is visible in the far distance. Enjoy an evening stroll or a gelato the delightful promenade. (Overnight Monterotondo)

Sep 21: Monterotondo - Monte Sacro (12 mi) After half a day's walk through the peaceful Marcigliana Nature Reserve you will enter the outskirts of Rome as you follow sidewalks into urban Rome (Overnight Monte Sacro)

Sep 22: Monte Sacro - Vatican City (9.5 mi) Though Rome is bustling around, you will share quiet paths with bicyclists and strollers along the Ariane and Tiber riverfronts until rounding a bend in the Tiber at Castel Sant'Angelo for our final entry into Vatican City. Receive pilgrimage Testimonium in St. Peter's. (Overnight Rome near St. Peter's)

Sep 23: end of pilgrimage and services (departure)



WALKING PILGRIMAGE REGISTRATION FORM

With Fr. Fred Wendel
September 10-23, 2017
\$2,500 per person (*ground only*)

Please return with a deposit of \$500 per person to reserve your place (\$300 is non-refundable but transferable). Make checks payable to **St. Francis Pilgrimages**. Include a copy of passport photo/signature page. Return completed form to:

St. Francis Pilgrimages
PO Box 143
Senoia, Georgia 30276

Name as it appears on passport (first/middle/last): _____

Passport expiration date: _____

*N.B.: Your passport must be valid for six months after the return date;
if you are not a US or Canadian citizen, you may need a travel visa in order to enter Italy.*

Name as you wish to appear on name badge: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____

E-mail address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home tel: () _____ 2nd number: () _____

Emergency contact (name, telephone number): _____

My roommate will be: _____

(Single-occupancy rooms are limited, but may be available for \$400 addl. per person; if you do not have a roommate, one will be assigned)

Your flight itinerary: _____

What do you expect from the walking tour? _____

Will you celebrate a special event (i.e. birthday or anniversary) during the tour? _____

Do you have special needs or concerns? _____

Do you have any health conditions or do you take any medications? If so, please list: _____

Please note that this is a walking tour requiring advanced training and physical fitness and the ability to walk 10-15 miles per day at a moderate pace. If you have any health conditions, please see the Terms and Conditions on the next page of this form.

How did you hear about this pilgrimage? _____

Upon receipt of this registration, you will be mailed a welcome letter explaining what to do and expect next.

I have read and understand terms and conditions on reverse and on website.

Signature(s) _____ Date: _____

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Nature of Pilgrimage and Accommodations: St. Francis Pilgrimages, LLC organizes religious travel itineraries in the pilgrimage tradition, rather than typical tours. Accommodations are based on double occupancy and this tour will utilize 2-3 star hotels or agritourisms of good quality. Most hotel rooms have private bath; however, there may be one or two exceptions that utilize hall bath based on limited hotels in the area.

Price: The published price per person includes ground transportation as published on the itinerary; luggage transfer service; lodging (at double-occupancy); breakfast and dinner each day; and the presence of a guide. The price does not include airfare, one meal per day (estimate \$15 day), tips for driver and guide (if applicable), recommended travel insurance, personal expenses, or anything not expressly stated on the itinerary.

Payment Information: A deposit of \$500 is required to secure a reservation (\$300 is non-refundable but transferrable). The final payment is due 60 days prior to departure. Payment can be made by personal check, money order, or through Paypal for an additional \$100 fee. Trip prices and costs are listed in US dollars (usd). Cancellations: If you cancel more than 60 days before departure, all payments will be refunded except \$300 of your deposit (which is transferrable to another trip with St. Francis Pilgrimages). If the cancellation is made within 60 days of departure, we will attempt to recover what has been paid to suppliers, but cannot guarantee reimbursements. Once issued, airline tickets are usually non-refundable, and refunds would be determined by the specific airline. Note that this pilgrimage requires a minimum of four paying participants. St. Francis Pilgrimages may cancel a pilgrimage if there are insufficient registrations or if other circumstances warrant it. If a pilgrimage is cancelled by St. Francis Pilgrimages, all payments will be refunded. However, if a participant cancels individually before St. Francis Pilgrimages officially cancels, refunds for that person will be based on the above criteria. We strongly recommend trip insurance. Note that the published price is based on a minimum of four paying participants; with less than four paying, the price could be adjusted accordingly.

Health: *Please note that this is a hiking trip; walking levels will be between 10-15 miles per day on hilly and mountainous terrain.* If a participant has any adverse health conditions, we require full disclosure to St. Francis Pilgrimages, LLC. St. Francis Pilgrimages, LLC cannot accept liability for food ingested by participants with life-threatening food allergies or sensitivities. Any participant who has adverse health conditions (including psychological/mental), must inform his/her doctor of their intention to participate in this hiking tour and submit a letter from his/her medical doctor stating that he/she is capable of fully participating in the pilgrimage. St. Francis Pilgrimages, LLC and suppliers contracted for services reserve the right to refuse to accept or retain any person whose behavior or health conditions are deemed likely to affect the smooth operations of the tour, or adversely affect the enjoyment or safety of other passengers. St. Francis Pilgrimages, LLC, its agents, and suppliers shall be under no liability to any such person for refund, compensation, repatriation or any other matters arising thereof.

Disclosure Notice: St. Francis Pilgrimages, LLC cannot accept responsibility for actions and/or service of independent contractors involved, i.e. air carrier, bus company, taxi, hotel, guides, etc. St. Francis Pilgrimages, LLC reserves the right to cancel a pilgrimage if there are insufficient participants registered, in which case a refund of monies paid St. Francis Pilgrimages, LLC will be granted to all participants. St. Francis Pilgrimages, LLC may change the itinerary if circumstances warrant it. St. Francis Pilgrimages, LLC cannot be held liable or financially responsible for illness, injury, or death incurred at any point during the trip. If travel is interrupted or the trip is forced to cancel due to labor strike, inclement weather, riot, national disaster, terrorism, or any other incident outside of the control of St. Francis Pilgrimages, St. Francis Pilgrimages cannot be held liable or financially responsible.

Release and Assumption of Risk: I understand and agree that during the tour in which I will participate, under the arrangements of St. Francis Pilgrimages, certain risks and dangers may arise, including, but not limited to, acts of God, the hazards of the forces of nature, (including but not limited to animal or insect bites or attacks), dangers and risks inherent in trekking activities (including but not limited to falls or injuries), and accident or illness in remote places without access to medical facilities, transportation, or means of rapid evacuation and assistance. St. Francis Pilgrimages shall not be responsible for any animal attacks, injuries, damages, or losses caused to any traveler in connection with any of the above, mechanical or construction failures or difficulties, diseases, local laws, climatic conditions, earthquakes, abnormal conditions or developments, or any other actions, omissions, or conditions outside the travel company's control. Traveler assumes complete and full responsibility for, and hereby releases the agent from any duty of, and all safety or security conditions at such destinations.

In consideration of, and as a part of the payment for, the right to participate in such treks, tours, expeditions, or other activities and as a part of the payment for, the services arranged for me by St. Francis Pilgrimages and its agents, employees, associates, affiliated companies, or subcontractors, I DO HEREBY EXPRESSLY ASSUME ALL OF THE ABOVE RISKS.