

# A Proposal for a 13-Day Grand Italy Pilgrimage

**FR. VICTOR MARISTELA**

**November 3rd, 2025 - November 15th, 2025**

## FLIGHTS :

	CITY	DATE	FLIGHT	TIME	PAX
ARRIVAL	ROME	NOV 04	BA 560	07.35 PM	57 PAX
DEPARTURE	MILAN	NOV 15	BA 567	11.35 AM	57 PAX

## HOTELS :

DATE	CITY	HOTEL	ADDRESS
04 - 08 Nov	ROMA - Crown Plaza <b>LATE DINNER</b>	<b>PORTERAGE: YES</b> <b>CITY TAX: YES</b> <b>BEVERAGE: INCLUDED</b> (water + 2 glasses of wine)	Via Aurelia Antica, 415, 00165 Roma RM <b>Telefono: 06 66420</b>
08 - 10 Nov	ASSISI HOTEL CENACOLO	<b>PORTERAGE: YES</b> <b>CITY TAX: YES</b> <b>BEVERAGE: INCLUDED</b> (water + 2 glasses of wine)	Viale Patrono d'Italia, 70, 06081 Santa Maria degli Angeli PG <b>Telefono: 075 804 1083</b>
10 - 12 Nov	FIRENZE HOTEL NIL	<b>PORTERAGE: YES</b> <b>CITY TAX: YES</b> <b>BEVERAGE: INCLUDED</b> (water + 2 glasses of wine)	Via Eugenio Barsanti, 27 b, 50127 Firenze FI <b>Telefono: 055 795540</b>
12 - 14 Nov	MESTRE HOTEL BELSTAY	<b>PORTERAGE: YES</b> <b>CITY TAX: YES</b> <b>BEVERAGE: INCLUDED</b> (water + 2 glasses of wine)	Rotonda Romea, 1, 30175 Venezia VE <b>Telefono: 041 509 2311</b>
14 - 15 Nov	MILANO STARTOURIST HOTEL	<b>PORTERAGE: YES</b> <b>CITY TAX: YES</b> <b>BEVERAGE: INCLUDED</b> (water + 2 glasses of wine)	Viale Fulvio Testi, 300, 20126 Milano MI <b>Telefono: 02 643 7777</b>

## CONTACTS

<b>TOUR ESCORT:</b>	<b>ALEX :        + 39 338 3436005</b>
<b>EMERGENCY:</b>	<b>RENATA:    +39 348 0127516</b>

## MASSES:

05 Nov	05.00 PM	<b>ROMA</b>	<b>Basilica of Santa Maria Sopra Minerva</b>	<b>Requested</b>
06 Nov	11.45 AM	<b>ROMA</b>	<b>St. Mary Major – Cappella Cesi</b>	<b>CONFIRMED</b>
07 Nov	05.00 PM	<b>ROMA</b>	<b>Divina Misericordia</b>	<b>Requested</b>
08 Nov	03.00 PM	<b>ORVIETO</b>	<b>Duomo</b>	<b>CONFIRMED</b>
09 Nov	12.00 AM	<b>ASSISI</b>	<b>Basilica St. Francesco</b>	<b>Requested</b>
10 Nov	02.00 PM	<b>SIENA</b>	<b>Basilica San Domenico</b>	<b>CONFIRMED</b>
11 Nov	12.00 AM	<b>FIRENZE</b>	<b>Duomo</b>	<b>CONFIRMED</b>
12 Nov	05.00 PM	<b>PADOVA</b>	<b>St Anthony</b>	<b>CONFIRMED</b>
13 Nov	12.00 AM	<b>VENEZIA</b>	<b>S. Marco</b>	<b>CONFIRMED</b>
14 Nov	04.00 PM	<b>MILANO</b>	<b>Duomo</b>	<b>Requested</b>

### **Nov 3:                FLIGHT TO ROME**

Today we board our overnight flights to Rome with snacks and beverages served aloft.

### **Nov 4:                ARRIVE ROME**

Upon arrival, we are greeted by our Holy Land Travel Center Representative who will accompany us throughout our tour. Check-in at our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Overnight: Rome (Dinner)

**08:30 pm** Landing in Rome Fiumicino Airport, we are greeted by our tour manager

**09:30 pm** Check-in, Dinner and overnight (D)

**LATE DINNER !!!**

## Nov 5: ROME : Wednesday Papal Audience: Fountains & Squares

Transfer to the Vatican City to join pilgrims from around the world for an audience with His Holiness the Pope (subject to the Holy Father's schedule and health). After lunch at a local restaurant (included) we will enjoy a walking tour through the imposing baroque squares, fountains, and churches of Rome. We will start from Castel Sant'Angelo, then we cross the river Tiber and reach Navona Square with the famous Bernini fountain of the Four Rivers. Continue to the Pantheon and the Basilica of Santa Maria Sopra Minerva, where we can celebrate Mass. Balance of the afternoon at our leisure. Dinner is on our own tonight. Overnight: Rome (Breakfast,Dinner)

### BOX Breakfast

**06:30 am** Transfer to the Vatican

**09:00 am** Papal audience

Break for lunch at a Local Restaurant

**02:00 am** Meet local Guide

**05:00 pm** Celebrate Mass Santa Maria Sopra Minerva

**07:30 pm** Dinner and overnight

## Nov 6: ROME : St. John Lateran - St. Mary Major & Walking Tour

In the morning, we visited the Basilica of St. John Lateran, the oldest basilica in the Western World. We then visit the Holy Stairs, believed to be those that led to the praetorium of Pontius Pilate in Jerusalem, and the Basilica of St. Mary Major, one of the oldest and most important shrines in the world dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. We will also be celebrating mass at the Basilica of St. Mary Major. In the afternoon we go on a walking tour passing by the famous Colosseum, the largest ancient amphitheater in the world and the site of countless gladiator games. Continue to the Roman Forum, the administrative capital of the Empire and the site of some of the most famous speeches in history by the likes of Julius Caesar, Mark Anthony, and Cicero. We continue walking to marvel at the sight of the illuminated Trevi Fountain before returning to our hotel for dinner and overnight. Overnight: Rome (Breakfast, Dinner)

**07.00 am** Breakfast

**08:00 am** Depart the hotel to the city center

**09:00 am** Holy Door of St. John

**09:30 am** Meet local Guide - Basilica of St John + Holy Stairs

**11:00 am** Holy Door of St. Mary Major

**11:30 am** Visit St. Mary Major

**11:45 pm** Celebrate Mass

Break for lunch

**02:00 pm** Continue our walking tour at Colosseum area

**05:00 pm** Return to the hotel

**08:00 pm** Dinner and overnight

## Nov 7: ROME : Sistine Chapel & St. Peter's Basilica

This morning we visit St. Peter's Basilica, the largest Catholic Basilica ever built, and celebrate mass there. Its soaring dome was engineered by Michelangelo and the art of its famous Pieta sculpture and countless other artistic wonders making St. Peter's church one of the most awe-inspiring buildings in the world. We visit the Vatican Museums. (Scavi Tour if possible) Overnight: Rome (Breakfast, Dinner)

**08:30 am** Breakfast

**10:30 am** Meet local **Guide**

**Visit Vatican Museums**

Break for lunch

**02:00 pm** *Holy Door of St. Peter*

**05:00 pm** Celebrate **Mass**

**06:00 pm** Return to the hotel

**07:30 pm** Dinner and overnight in Rome

**Nov 8: ROME / ORVIETO /ASSISI**

When we depart Rome, we will stop at San Paul Outside the Walls, one of the four major basilicas in Rome and visit the tombs of St. Paul. Afterwards, we will retire and drive to Assisi via Orvieto, where we visit the Gothic Cathedral built to house the holy relics of the Eucharistic Miracle of Orvieto. It was this miracle that occasioned the proclamation of the Feast of Corpus Christi and inspired St.Thomas Aquinas to write the famous hymn "TantumErgo." Here we celebrate Mass if possible. We enjoyed lunch in a local restaurant with a tasting of the Orvieto and Orvieto

Classico wine that this region is famous for.We proceed to Assisi and settle in to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Overnight: Assisi (Breakfast, Dinner)

**07:00 am** Breakfast and check-out

**09:00 am** *Holy Door of St. Paul outside walls*

**10:00 am** Drive to Orvieto (1,5 hrs drive)

**12:00 pm** Local Wine tasting Lunch

**01:30 pm** Meet local **Guide + Visit Duomo**

**03:00 pm** Celebrate **Mass**

**04:00 pm** Continue to Assisi (2 hrs drive)

**06:00 pm** Check-in, Dinner at Hotel and overnight

**Nov 9: ASSISI**

In Assisi, we will visit the Basilica of St.Francis, the upper Basilica with Giotto's frescoes representing the life of St.Francis, then the lower Basilica and the Tomb of St.Francis. We will be **celebrating mass in the Lower Basilica and the Tomb of St.Francis**. We then proceed to the Basilica of St. Clare for a tour. After lunch,we will transfer to the Convent of San Damiano, where St.Francis received his call to rebuild the Church and where St.Clare lived and died. Overnight Assisi (Breakfast, Dinner)

**07:30 am** Breakfast

**09:00 am** Meet local **Guide - Visit St. Francis (10.30)**

**12.00 am** Celebrate **Mass** at St. Francis

Break for lunch

**02:00 pm** By private taxi we will reach the Convent of st Damiano

**02:30 pm** **Visit with a priest**

After the visit, we will have some time at leisure for spiritual reflections

**03:00 pm** Return to Assisi to enjoy free time

**07:30 pm** Dinner and overnight

## Nov 10: ASSISI / SIENA / FLORENCE

This morning we checked out, followed by a scenic drive to the Tuscan city of Siena. (2 hrs. drive)  
This medieval city is the birthplace of St. Catherine "Doctor of the Church", and the Apostle of Italy, St. Bernardine. Visit the Basilica of St. Catherine (which is also known as the Basilica of St. Domenico). St. Catherine spent a large part of her life inside the walls of this Basilica which today houses relics of the Saint. After, visit the Shrine of St. Catherine, which occupies the site of her family home. **Afterward, we visited the Basilica of San Francesco for the Eucharistic Miracle of hosts.** Enjoy your walking tour through Siena including a visit of its Cathedral (Duomo di Siena). Conclude at one of Italy's finest squares, the Piazza Del Campo, where we will be given free time to spend at leisure. There are several restaurants surrounding the square to have lunch, as well as shops for gifts and souvenirs. We then transfer to our home in Florence for the night. Overnight: Florence (Breakfast, Dinner)

**07.00 am** Breakfast and check-out

**08.00 am** Drive to Siena (2,5 min drive)

**11.00 am** Meet local **Guide + Visit Duomo**

Break for lunch

**02.00 pm** Celebrate **Mass** at Basilica San Domenico

**03.00 pm** Continue to Florence (2 hrs drive)

**05.00 pm** Check-in, Dinner and overnight

## Nov 11: FLORENCE

Today we have a full-day tour of the Renaissance city of Florence. Free time during lunch to explore the famous San Lorenzo market. In the afternoon, we will explore the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore, with its great representation of Tuscan Gothic Architecture, like the giant dome of the church, designed by Brunelleschi. We will see Giotto's Bell Tower, a 14th-century masterpiece that rises to a height of 292 feet, and the Baptistry of San Giovanni, with the East Door which is called the Gates of Paradise. The doors took artist Ghiberti 27 years to complete. Then we will visit Michelangelo's parish church, Santa Croce, where Dante is buried. We then visit the Piazza della Signoria and potentially take a bus to Piazza Michelangelo if possible. We celebrate mass potentially at the Duomo before returning to our hotel for dinner and overnight. Overnight: Florence (Breakfast, Dinner)

**08:30 am** Breakfast

**10:00 am** Meet local **Guide**

**12:00 am** Celebrate **Mass**

Break for lunch

Time at leisure

**07:30 pm** Dinner and overnight

## Nov 12: FIRENZE / PISA / PADOVA / MESTRE

Today we departed for Padova, stopping first in Pisa. Pisa is a city in Italy's Tuscany region best known for its iconic Leaning Tower. Already tilted when it was completed in 1372, the 56m white marble cylinder is the bell tower of the Romanesque, striped marble Cathedral that rises next to it in the Piazza dei Miracoli. Also in the piazza is the Baptistry, whose renowned acoustics are redemonstrated by amateur singers daily, and the Caposanto Monastery. We then continue to Padova to visit the Basilica of St Anthony. We will see his uncorrupt tongue over 760 years ago, more than 30 years after his death. This scientifically explicable phenomenon is what faith calls a miracle, seeing that the relic of the tongue, the instrument used by St Anthony for preaching, is still visible and uncorrupt after many centuries. The relic may be venerated in the Chapel of the Treasury in the Basilica, which is visited each year by millions of pilgrims. We celebrate Mass and continue to the

hotel for dinner and overnight. Overnight Padova (Breakfast, Dinner)

**07.00 am** Breakfast and check-out

**08.00 am** Drive to Pisa (2 hrs drive)

**10:00 am** Meet local **Guide**

**Visit Duomo**

Break for lunch

**01.00 pm** Continue to Padova (4 hrs drive)

**05:00 pm** Celebrate **Mass at** St Anthony

**Visit St Anthony**

**06.30 pm** Continue to Mestre (1 hr drive)

**07.30 pm** Check-in, Dinner and overnight

## **Nov 13: VENICE**

After breakfast, we will depart our hotel by bus to reach the dock. From here, by private motorboat, we reach Venice in 30 minutes by sea. Upon arrival, we celebrate Mass, then we will enjoy a guided tour of this fascinating town to see the Doge's Palace (outside) and the Basilica of St. Mark the Evangelist (inside).

Enjoy free time for an optional Gondola ride or shopping. In the afternoon, we will board the private boat back to our bus and drive the Hotel. Overnight Padova (Breakfast, Dinner)

**07:00 am** Breakfast

**08:15 am** Reach Venice in 30 minutes by **Private motorboat**

**09:00 am** Meet local **Guide** + **Visit Basilica of St. Marco (11.30)**

**12:00 am** Celebrate **Mass**

Break for lunch

Free time at leisure

**05:00 pm** Boat back to bus

**07:30 pm** Dinner and overnight

## **Nov 14: MESTRE / MILAN**

After breakfast we check out and drive approx 3 hours to Milan. It is a vibrant city, rich in cultural events, artistic masterpieces, design and fashion shopping, and great food. With our expert guide, you will enjoy a walking tour starting from Castello Sforzesco, the imposing castle built by the Duke of Milan, Gian Galeazzo Visconti, in 1358. Next, we will visit the Duomo, the third-largest Gothic cathedral in the world, to admire the intricate architecture of statues, spires, and gargoyles. Proceed to the majestic glass-roofed Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II (one of the world's most glamorous and oldest shopping malls, it was built in 1867) and get to Piazza della Scala, where we can see the world's most famous opera house. Break for lunch. After lunch, we will have time at leisure, before celebrating Mass, Continue to the hotel for check-in, dinner, and overnight (BD)

**07:00 am** Breakfast and check out

**08:00 am** Depart Mestre to Milan (4 hrs drive)

Break for lunch

**01:30 pm** Meet local **Guide**

**04:00 pm** Celebrate **Mass** at Duomo

**05:00 pm** Check in, dinner and overnight

**Nov 15:        DEPARTURE**

Prepare to drive back to the airport for a safe flight back home to share the memories you've carried from your pilgrimage with your loved ones.

**07:00 am** Breakfast and check-out

**07:30 am** Transfer Airport to catch the Flight at 11.30 am