



PILGRIMAGE TO THE MARIAN & FRANCISCAN HOLY PLACES OF EUROPE

7 – 25 SEPTEMBER 2027

France and Italy

Paramount Travel is organising another pilgrimage tour to new holy sites of Europe in France and Italy for 2027.

This 20-day tour starts out in Paris, the city of Lights. We enjoy visiting this beautiful city including Notre Dame Cathedral and Sacre Coeur in Montmartre. Our journey takes us to Lisieux (dedicated to St Therese); Nevers (dedicated to St Bernadette); Saint-Maximin-La-Sainte-Baume (dedicated to Mary Magdalene) and Avignon.

We make our way through southern France to Genoa to visit the San Lorenzo Cathedral and Arenzano to visit the Shrine of Baby Jesus of Prague.

We visit Padua (dedicated to St Anthony), Florence (dedicated to St Domenic), Siena and Assisi (dedicated to St Francis and St Clare). We also travel to Alberobello to admire the 'trulli' houses and Matera where Mel Gibson's 'The Passion of the Christ' and the sequel 'The Resurrection' were filmed.

This tour is fully escorted from Sydney by a local parish priest.

To take advantage of this excellent offer - book by 15 November 2026.

T/A Lic: A15810



20 day tour includes
airfares, accommodation,
coach transport and all fees
& taxes

3 star accommodation
including breakfast and
dinner daily as per itinerary.

Travel in a deluxe coach
through Europe with local
tour guides. Fully escorted
from Sydney.

Price: \$8,950*
per person twin share
(\$1,700 single room
supplement)

**Initial deposit of \$2,500 by
15 November 2026.
Final payment
15 May 2027**

PARAMOUNT TRAVEL

1300 969 704

0414 295 367 (Laura)

Email:
info@paramounttravel.com.au

TOUR INCLUSIONS

HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit Notre Dame cathedral and see the Crown of Thorns
- Visit Sacre Coeur Cathedral in Montmatre
- Enjoy a full day city tour of Paris including a scenic boat ride along the Seine
- Visit Lisieux and sites dedicated to Saint Therese
- Visit Nevers and the St Gildard convent where St Bernadette is buried.
- Enjoy a 2 hour tour of Avignon, the city of Popes
- Visit the final resting place of Mary Magdalene in Saint-Maximin-La-Saine-Baume
- Stop in Genoa to visit San Lorenzo cathedral
- Stop in Arenzano and visit the Shrine of Baby Jesus of Prague
- Visit the Basilica of St Anthony in Padua
- Visit Florence – Church of Santa Croce, Ponte Vecchio, il Duomo and the Baptistry
- Visit Siena and St Domenic’s Basilica where we can view the incorrupt head of St Catherine
- Visit Assisi and the basilica of St Francis & the church of St Clare
- Visit the ‘trulli’ houses in Alberobello
- Visit the ‘sassi’ houses in Matera and see the site where Mel Gibson’s The Passion of the Christ and The Resurrection were filmed

INCLUSIONS:

- Return international flights (economy class) from Sydney to Paris and return from Rome.
- 3* hotel accommodation dedicated for pilgrims with breakfast and dinner daily.
- Touring in deluxe coach.
- Local tour guides as per itinerary.
- Airline taxes and surcharges.
- Entrance fees as per itinerary.
- Tips and city taxes.

EXCLUSIONS:

- Lunches throughout and drinks at dinner.
- Items of a personal nature.
- Travel Insurance.
- Porterage.
- Anything not stated in the inclusions.

TOUR COST: \$8,950* per person twin share. An additional \$1,700 for a single room supplement

- No refund for any unused portions of the itinerary.
- Prices are based per person in twin share.

*** Package price is based on minimum 35 paying adults. If numbers fall below this, tour cost may increase or the tour maybe cancelled.**

TERMS & CONDITIONS

A deposit of \$2,500 per person is required by 15 November 2026. A further progress payment of \$2,000 to be paid by 15 March 2027.

You will also need to:

- **Provide a photocopy of your passport** (for each passenger) at the time of booking.
- **Book** and pay the deposit by 15 November 2026.
- Progress payments can be made. **Final payment due 15 May 2027.**
- **Current passport** with 6 month validity from date of return is required. No responsibility is taken for refusal of entry into Europe due to non-disclosure of any conviction or breach of law. Visa and passport validity are the full responsibility of the traveller. See below regarding **ETIAS** requirements.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

City Tax - This is a tax introduced by regional and local councils in Europe and is charged to tourists visiting the area. **THIS TAX IS INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE PRICE.**

Tips (Gratuities) - Tips ARE INCLUDED in the tour price for services of the driver throughout the tour.

Luggage - You will be responsible for all your personal belongings whilst on the tour. With regards to luggage, you will need to carry your own luggage from the coach to the hotel room and back to the coach. The driver will assist with the loading and unloading of luggage from the coach.

Health & Medical considerations - You will be responsible for identifying and securing any medical related documents for your travel from your doctor/health practitioner. It is highly recommended that you be medically and physically healthy and capable of walking. If you require special assistance, please discuss this with Paramount Travel before booking the tour.

TOUR ITINERARY

Day 1: Tues 7 Sept 2027

Depart Sydney

Check in at Sydney International airport for your flight to Paris.

Day 2: Wed 8 Sept 2027

Arrive Paris

Arrival at Paris airport and transfer to the hotel for dinner and overnight in Paris. **BD**

Day 3: Thurs 9 Sept 2027

Paris

Buffet breakfast in the hotel. Today we will have a day full of visits. We will start visiting (with local guide) Paris' main touristic sights, such as the Chapel of the Miraculous medal, Place de la Concorde, l'Arc de Triomphe, the Opera and the Eiffel Tower (external visits). We will then have a wonderful cruise on the river Seine (ticket included). Dinner and overnight in Paris.

BD

Day 4: Fri 10 Sept 2027

Paris

Buffet breakfast in the hotel. Today we will have a tour (with local guide) of Notre Dame Cathedral (Crown of Thorns on display for veneration every Friday at 3pm) and Sacre Coeur Cathedral in Montmartre. The rest of the day is free at leisure. Dinner and overnight in Paris.

BD

Day 5: Sat 11 Sept 2027

Paris – Lisieux

Buffet breakfast in the hotel. After breakfast, we travel to Lisieux, one of the world's premier pilgrimage sites and home to St. Therese, the "Little Flower", whom Pope Pius X called "the greatest saint of modern times". On arrival, we enjoy a pilgrimage tour of Lisieux, visiting freely the family home of Les Buissonnets, the Carmelite Convent Chapel with its reliquary of the saint and St. Therese's Basilica. Dinner and overnight in Lisieux. **BD**

Day 6: Sun 12 Sept 2027

Lisieux – Nevers

Buffet breakfast in the hotel, then transfer to Nevers. Free time to visit the convent of St. Gildard in Nevers, where St. Bernadette is buried. Dinner and overnight in Nevers. **BD**

Day 7: Mon 13 Sept 2027

Nevers - Avignon

Buffet breakfast in the hotel. Today is a travel day.

Dinner and overnight in Avignon. **BD**

Day 8: Tues 14 Sept 2027

Avignon - Saint-Maximin-La-Sainte-Baume - Avignon

Buffet breakfast in the hotel. Enjoy a 2-hour visit of Avignon (with local guide) – the city of Popes. Then we make our way to Saint-Maximin-La-Sainte-Baume. It is here (in a cave above the town) that Mary Magdalene spent 30 years of her life and it is her final resting place. The basilica is built over her tomb and the crypt holds the relics of the saint. Dinner and overnight in Avignon. **BD**

Day 9: Wed 15 Sept 2027

Avignon - Genoa

Buffet breakfast in the hotel and then transfer to Genoa. Free time in the afternoon to explore Genoa at leisure. Dinner and overnight in Genoa. **BD**

Day 10: Thurs 16 Sept 2027

Genoa - Padua

Buffet breakfast in the hotel. Visit the Cathedral of San Lorenzo and stop in Arenzano to see the Shrine of Baby Jesus of Prague. Transfer to Padua. Dinner and overnight in Padua. **BD**

Day 11: Fri 17 Sept 2027

Padua

Buffet breakfast in the hotel. 2 hour visit (with Local guide) the Basilica of St Anthony in Padua. Then visit the Basilica of Santa Giustina where we will find the relics of St Luke the Evangelist. Dinner and overnight in Padua. **BD**

Day 12: Sat 18 Sept 2027

Padua – Florence

Buffet breakfast in the hotel. A morning visit to the Scrovegni Chapel to see Giotto's fresco depicting the life of Christ and the Virgin Mary before transferring to Florence. Dinner and overnight in Florence. **BD**

Day 13: Sun 19 Sept 2027

Florence

After breakfast at the hotel, we spend the day visiting Florence. We visit the Church of Santa Croce, the Ponte Vecchio and il Duomo and the Baptistery. Dinner and overnight in Florence. **BD**.

Day 14: Mon 20 Sept 2027

Florence - Siena

Visit St Dominic's Basilica in Siena and view the incorrupt head of St Catherine; the Basilica of St Francis where we will view the Eucharistic miracle; and stroll the Piazza del Campo, one of Italy's finest squares. We then make our way to Assisi. Dinner and overnight in Assisi. **BD**.

Day 15: Tues 21 Sept 2027

Assisi

Buffet breakfast in the hotel. Today we visit Assisi (with local guide) - the home of the Saint that inspired our late Holy Father. We visit the tomb of St Francis and the church of St Clare, the foundress of the Order of Poor Clares who followed the teachings of St Francis by living a life of poverty and humility.

Explore the hilltop birthplace of St Francis and contained within the huge 13th-century Basilica are many of the saint's possessions and a series of frescoes depicting his life. Kneel before the crucifix from which Jesus spoke to St Francis, asking him to rebuild His church.

You will have some free time to stop for lunch. Dinner and overnight in Assisi. **BD**

Day 16: Wed 22 Sept 2027

Assisi – Matera

Today is a travel day. Dinner and overnight in Matera. **BD**

Day 17: Thurs 23 Sept 2027

Alberobello – Matera

Buffet breakfast at the hotel then free visit (2 hours) of Alberobello. Transfer to Matera and have a 2 hour guided visit of the 'Sassi of Matera' (with local guide) and see where Mel Gibson's Passion of the Christ was filmed. The sequel 'The Resurrection' is also being filmed in Matera. Dinner and overnight in Matera. **BD**

Day 18: Fri 24 Sept 2027

Alberobello – Rome

Buffet breakfast at the hotel then transfer to Rome. Stop in Montecassino to visit the Benedictine Abbey. Dinner and overnight in Rome. **BD**

Day 19: Sat 25 Sept 2027

Departure

Buffet breakfast at the hotel then transfer to Rome International airport for return flight to Sydney. **B**

Arrive Sydney + 1 day.

The itinerary presented above is the program planned and intended for the trip. However, the itinerary may be subject to changes and modifications depending on timings, weather, local conditions and unforeseen circumstances. Although no changes are anticipated, Paramount Travel reserves the right to change or vary the itinerary as deemed necessary.

****END OF TOUR****

ETIAS Information

The European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) is a new digital entry requirement launching in late 2026 for visa-exempt travellers, including Australians, visiting 30 European countries. It costs €20, is valid for three years, and allows multiple stays of up to 90 days within any 180-day period.

Key Aspects of ETIAS:

- **Launch Date:** Expected to be operational in the last quarter of 2026, following the Entry/Exit System (EES) launch.
- **Purpose:** Strengthens border security by pre-screening travellers against EU safety databases.
- **Validity:** Valid for three years or until the passport expires, whichever comes first.
- **Application Process:** Completed online (no consulate visit), with most applications approved within minutes, though some may take longer.
- **Scope:** Required for short-term stays (tourism, business, transit) in Schengen Area countries and some others.
- **Requirements:** A valid passport, a credit/debit card for the fee, and an email address.

Important Reminders:

- **It's Not a Visa:** It is a travel authorization, similar to the ESTA for the USA, for travellers who are currently visa-exempt.
- **Mandatory:** While a six-month transition period is expected, an approved ETIAS will eventually be mandatory to enter.
- **Exceptions:** Dual nationals holding a passport from a European country covered by ETIAS do not need this authorization.
- **Wait to Apply:** The system is not active until late 2026; do not use unofficial, early-application websites.