



Footsteps of St. Romuald ~ Oblates Pilgrimage

✠ October 26-November 9, 2018 ✠

Spiritual Director: *Fr. Thomas Matus, OSB*

Florence ~ Camaldoli ~ Ravenna ~ Pomposa ~ Venice ~ Bologna ~ Rome



Package price: \$4595.00 plus taxes ~ Including airfare from San Francisco

Friday, Oct 26th ~ Depart SFO for Florence

Depart San Francisco, overnight flight to Florence. Complimentary meals aloft.

Sat, 10/27- Arrive, Amerigo Vespucci Airport, Florence. English speaking guide will accompany us to our four-star hotel.

Welcome dinner at hotel.

Sunday, Oct 28th ~ Florence

Enjoy complimentary breakfast buffet every morning

AM: Public High Mass at the Duomo (Fr. Thomas to concelebrate). Tour the Duomo (Santa Maria del Fiore). Proceed to the Accademia Gallery. Immerse yourself in Michelangelo's genius and enjoy his most famous work, the statue of David. David's intense expression of force and courage, which stemmed from his absolute faith in God, was taken as a symbol of the power and invincibility of the Republic of Florence at the height of its splendour.

PM: Own lunch at the Accademia. Visit Uffizi Gallery to appreciate and understand why Florence is the birthplace of the Renaissance. Own dinner and evening FREE.

Monday, Oct 29th ~ Florence ~ Camaldoli

AM: Early breakfast. Private Mass. Visit Piazza Santa Croce, one of the liveliest in Florence, including the Franciscan Church of Santa Croce. Our tour in Florence concludes with a visit to the Christian Leather School.

PM: Group lunch. Depart for Camaldoli. **Welcome dinner at the Guest House.**

Tuesday, Oct 30th ~ Camaldoli

Full day of contemplative prayer, Mass and conferences with Fr. Thomas on the life of St. Romuald.

Group lunch and dinner.

Wednesday, Oct 31st ~ Camaldoli ~ Ravenna

After breakfast, celebrate Private Mass. Then depart Camaldoli for Ravenna. Lunch en route.

Welcome dinner at the hotel.

Thursday, Nov 1st ~ Ravenna ~ Classe

AM: Walking tour of Ravenna, including the mausoleum of Galla Placidia, the church of St Vitale, St Apollinare Nuovo, and the

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Orthodox Baptistery. All these buildings feature spectacular mosaics dating back to the Early Christian and Byzantine periods. PM: Group lunch in Ravenna. In the afternoon, visit to Sant'Apollinare beside the ancient port of Classe, an important monument of Byzantine art near Ravenna. UNESCO cited this basilica as an outstanding example of the early Christian basilica. Private Mass. Own dinner, evening FREE.

Friday, Nov 2nd ~ Ravenna ~ Pomposa ~ Mestre

AM: Private Mass after breakfast. Then, depart for Pomposa, to visit the Pomposa Abbey, a masterpiece of Romanesque art. It can be seen from a distance with its towering campanile, dominating the surrounding countryside, like a "lighthouse" in the sea of green that surrounds it.

PM: Lunch in Pomposa. Continue on to Mestre. **Welcome dinner at the hotel.**

Saturday, Nov 3rd ~ Isola di San Michele ~ Murano

AM: After breakfast, depart for Isola di San Michele. Private Mass. Tour and visit the "hanging" choir. The first Renaissance Church in Venice was Camaldolese.

PM: Group lunch. Visit Murano, known worldwide for its handmade glasses for at least 1300 years. Today, "Venetian glass" is a synonym for "Murano glass," and the island's glass industry is enjoying a resurgence under a new generation of master artists and craftsmen. Return to the hotel in Mestre. Group dinner at the hotel.

Sunday, Nov 4th ~ Venice ~ St. Mark's Square

AM: Early breakfast. Then depart to the magical city of Venice. After Mass at St Mark's, enjoy a walking tour of the Basilica and of the "City paved with Water".

PM: After a Group lunch, visit Doges' Palace (Duke's Palace), which served as the seat of the Government for the Republic of Venice for centuries. Own dinner and evening FREE.

Monday, Nov 5th ~ Fonte Avallana ~ Rome

AM: Depart for Rome after early breakfast.

PM: Mass & Lunch at the only Camaldolese Abbey, Fonte Avallana (right-most picture on the front of the brochure) where we will ponder a fragment of True Cross of Jesus.

Early evening arrival into the city Rome! **Welcome dinner at the hotel.**

Tuesday, Nov 6th ~ Rome ~ St. Peter's Basilica ~ Scavi Tour

AM: Early breakfast. Depart for Private Mass in the Crypt of St Peter's Basilica. After Mass, enjoy the famous Scavi Tour, the necropolis underneath the Basilica, where the tomb of St. Peter is located.

PM: Group lunch. Stroll to the treasures of the Vatican Museum, highlighted by the Sistine Chapel. At the end of the visit, we are free to explore on our own, perhaps to do some shopping for religious articles to be blessed tomorrow by Pope Francis. Some may be tempted to ascend to the top of the dome of St. Peter's! ☺ Own dinner.

Wednesday, Nov 7th ~ Rome ~ Papal Audience

AM : Early breakfast at hotel. This morning we will experience the highlight of our Roman stay, the PAPAL AUDIENCE at St. Peter's Square.

PM: Group lunch in a local, family-owned restaurant. In the afternoon, visit the Priscilla Catacombs. Because of the great number of martyrs buried within, it was called "regina catacubarum," the queen of the catacombs.

Return to hotel for Group dinner.

This evening enjoy a tour of Rome by night, visiting Piazza Navona, Trevi Fountain and Spanish Steps.

Thursday, Nov 8th ~ Ancient Rome ~ San Gregorio ~ Santa Maria Maggiore

AM: Early breakfast. Private Mass at San Gregorio. After Mass, visit of Ancient Rome, with an inside tour of the Colosseum, the Arch of Constantine, Roman Forum, Palatine Hill and Circus Maximus.

PM: Group lunch. Proceed to the most illustrious church dedicated to Our Lady, the Basilica of St. Mary Major. Guided tour of the interior of the Basilica. In the *Confessio* beneath the high altar, we can venerate the Relics of the Crib that held the Infant Jesus in Bethlehem. Return to hotel and prepare to go out and celebrate our Farewell Dinner together with wine and music.

Friday, Nov 9th ~ Return to San Francisco

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ENROLLMENT FORM

I would like to join the

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∞ October 26 - November 9, 2018 ∞

Enclosed is my Initial Deposit check of \$1,000.00
(We accept credit cards for a 4% convenience fee. Please call to make a credit card deposit.)



Space is LIMITED ~ Reserve your seat TODAY

\$1,000 Initial Payment Deadline: 5/1/18 (\$500 refundable by 6/1/18)

\$2,000 Interim Payment Deadline: 6/1/18 (\$1500 (of \$3000) refundable by 7/15/18)

Final Payment Deadline: 7/15/18 (No refunds after 7/15/18)

Please consider travel insurance (details & quote available)



Please return this completed form with deposit check payable to:

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Name _____ Date of birth _____
(First & Last names as they appear on your passport)

Passport # _____ Exp. date _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (C) _____

Email _____ ***Roommate*** _____

Emergency contact _____ Phone _____

Single Room Y N (\$895 supplement)

Travel Insurance Y N (Approx. 7-10% of tour price; quote will accompany first statement)

Land only Y N (\$3695 per person)

Signature:

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Package price: \$4595.00 plus taxes

Package price includes:

- Roundtrip tourist-class airfare from San Francisco
- English-speaking tour guide from touch-down to take-off
- 4-star hotel accommodations based on double occupancy (single supplement, \$895)
 - Camaldoli Guest House accommodations comparable to 3-star
- Meals as indicated in itinerary
- Private deluxe motor coaches, movements as per itinerary
- Farewell Dinner at a surprise location
- All entrance fees and headsets
- Luggage portorage, one piece per person, at hotels
- Group donation for all private Masses

Package price does not include:

- Travel Insurance (7-10% of total trip cost, based on coverage and age. Details & quotes available upon request.)
- All drinks, except during Farewell Dinner
- Luggage portorage at airports
- Embarkation taxes, *possible* fuel surcharges
- Gratuities (tour guide, driver, local guides, service staff) - Advance gratuities will appear on first statement
- Any items of a personal nature or not specifically mentioned above



~ Michelangelo's "Pieta" ~



~ St. Peter's Square ~