



Assisi

Confessional and the Crypt containing the tombs of several Popes.

In the afternoon, we will visit the impressive **St Mary Major Basilica**, situated on the Esquiline Hill in Rome, which is one of the oldest churches dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Onwards to the **Basilica of St John in Lateran**, the cathedral church of the Diocese of Rome and is often referred to as the "Mother Church of Christendom, and the adjacent **Holy Stairs** which were brought from Jerusalem to Rome in 326 AD by St Helena (as a favourite of pilgrims, these steps may only be ascended on the knees). Finally, we enter the **Basilica San Clemente**, which was constructed in the 12th century, and was built on the ruins of the earlier structures. The lowest level of San Clemente contains a 1st-century Mithraic temple, dedicated to the god Mithras. Above it is a 4th-century early Christian Basilica, which was built on top of a Roman nobleman's house.

Rome overnight (B,D)

DAY 17: WEDNESDAY, 15 OCTOBER - ROME

We will proceed to visit **St. Peter's Square** where a general audience is held – (Subject to the Holy Father's presence in Rome) in celebration with pilgrims from around the world.

We will then enter the most visited attraction in Rome - the **Colosseum**, an iconic symbol of ancient Rome and one of the most famous landmarks in the world. Built between 70 and 80 AD under the emperors Vespasian and Titus, the Colosseum was primarily used for gladiatorial contests, animal hunts, and other public spectacles. In 1749, Pope Benedict XIV declared the Colosseum a sacred site, as it was a place where early Christians had been martyred. View also the Circus Maximus and the **Roman Forum** which served as the epicentre of Roman civilisation.

The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure.

Rome overnight (B,D)

DAY 18: THURSDAY, 16 OCTOBER - ROME

This morning, we will visit **Santa Maria della Concezione dei Cappuccini** (Our Lady of the Conception of the Capuchins). This church was the first to be dedicated to the Immaculate Conception, with its inaugural Mass celebrated in 1630. Notably, **Jean-Baptiste François Pompallier**, the first Roman Catholic bishop of New Zealand, was ordained here in 1836 and served actively until 1848.

In the afternoon, we will explore the vibrant **Trastevere** district, one of Rome's most picturesque and charming neighbourhoods, known for its narrow cobblestone streets, colourful buildings, and lively atmosphere.

Our first stop is the charming **Basilica of Santa Maria in Trastevere**, which is one of the oldest churches in Rome. According to tradition, the basilica was founded in the 3rd century AD by Pope Callixtus I and was finished by Saint Julius I in 340, making it one of Rome's earliest Christian churches. It is believed to have been built on the site where a spring miraculously appeared after the Virgin Mary's apparition, hence the dedication to Santa Maria (Saint Mary).

Afterwards, we wander on to enjoy an enchanting evening filled with food and traditional music at a typical Italian trattoria, marking our farewell to Rome and our pilgrimage.

Rome overnight (B,D)

DAY 19: FRIDAY, 17 OCTOBER - ROME

Today, our itinerary includes transferring to **Rome International Airport** as we prepare to board our flight to **New Zealand**. (B)

DAY 20: SATURDAY, 18 OCTOBER - TRANSIT

DAY 21: SUNDAY, 19 OCTOBER - ARRIVE AUCKLAND (DEPENDING ON AIRLINE SCHEDULE)

PILGRIMAGE DETAILS - INDICATIVE

TOUR CODE	PV2566
STARTS	Monday, 29 Sept 2025
FINISHES	Sunday, 19 Oct 2025
INDICATIVE AIR+LAND	NZD \$12,790 (twin share) *
SINGLE ROOM	NZD \$2720 Supplement
PREPAID TIPS	NZD \$320 Per Person

* Costs have been based on prices as at August 2024 and must remain subject to possible change in the event of significant exchange rate variations, tax increases or minimum group size factors beyond Harvest's control. Refer to Harvest Booking Terms & Conditions for more details.

INCLUDED

ACCOMMODATION & MEALS: Based on reputable local 3-4 star superior hotels or quality religious houses as applicable • Meals as specified in Itinerary

INTERNATIONAL AIRFARES: Auckland - Lyon / Rome - Auckland

TOURING & TRANSPORTATION: Deluxe Air Conditioned Coach touring • Professional Local Guides • Sightseeing and Entrance Fees.

OTHER: Fully Escorted by Bishop Steve Lowe • Portage at hotels where available • Harvest Backpack, Pilgrim Journal and Tour Wallet.

NOT INCLUDED

Other meals not listed, Passport and Visa Costs (if applicable), Items of a personal nature including phone calls, laundry, beverages, etc., Travel insurance, Prepaid Tipping and any official Jubilee program registration fees.

JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE 2025

Te Ara o te Tūmanako
The Way of Hope

21 DAYS



Accompanied by **Bishop Steve Lowe**

Every 25 years the Church proclaims a Holy Year, a special gift of grace and mercy for all God's people. The theme for Jubilee 2025 is "Pilgrims of Hope." Our Way of Hope together will begin in Lyon, the mother Church for the Catholic Church in Aotearoa New Zealand and journey to Rome. On the way we will meet pilgrims of the past who have influenced our local and the universal Church and who will inspire us in hope as we prepare to pass through the Holy Door in St Peter's Basilica in Rome and receive the Jubilee blessing.

DEPARTS MONDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2025 • 17 NIGHTS

Lyon (3 nights) • Cuet (1) • Turin (2) • Venice (3) • Siena (1) • Assisi (3) • Rome (4)



Bishop Pompallier, first Roman Catholic Bishop of NZ

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Lyon



Venice



Siena



Itinerary

DAY 1: MONDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER 2025 – DEPART AUCKLAND

DAY 2: TUESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER - ARRIVAL DAY

On arrival into **Lyon**, we will be transferred to our hotel for check in and dinner.

Lyon Overnight (D)

DAY 3: THURSDAY, 01 OCTOBER - LE ROSEY

As we start our pilgrimage journey today, we travel south to **Le Rosey**, the charming village of Marilhes nestled near St. Etienne in the picturesque Loire region.

We are excited to delve into the town and its significant sites, where Marcellin Champagnat was born, raised and cultivated his lifelong dedication to education. Our itinerary includes visiting his family home, stopping at the historic **Church of Saint-Saturnin**, and exploring the surrounding areas that shaped Champagnat's formative years.

Lyon Overnight (B, D)

DAY 4: WEDNESDAY, 02 OCTOBER - LYON

Today we visit **The Basilica of Notre-Dame de Fourvière**, situated atop Fourvière Hill, which stands as a meaningful symbol of faith, devotion, and gratitude for Catholics. The basilica is dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

We will visit the Cathedral of St John the Baptist where Bishop Pompallier was baptised. To conclude our day, we will celebrate Mass at the **Church of Saint-Nizier**, known as one of the oldest churches in Lyon. It is also where Suzanne Aubert was baptized on November 19, 1835. Aubert was deeply involved in the Catholic community, and her connection with the church was significant in her spiritual and formative years before she embarked on her influential missionary work in New Zealand.

Lyon Overnight (B,D)

DAY 5: FRIDAY, 03 OCTOBER - CUET (VIA DARDILLY AND ARS)

After breakfast, we will start our journey to Cuet. Our first destination is **Dardilly**, the birthplace of

John Vianney. Continuing our drive, we will arrive at **Ars**, where we will visit the **Basilique d'Ars**. This magnificent basilica stands as a tribute to St. John Vianney, who faithfully served as the parish priest of Ars-sur-Formans for over forty years. Pilgrims can explore the preserved home of the **Curé of Ars**, which offers insight into his life. We will celebrate Mass at the **Sanctuaire Saint-Pierre-Chanel** and a visit to the **museum**. Our tour will also include the villages of Cuet and Cras, as well as the surrounding areas, where **Saint Peter Chanel** spent a significant portion of his life during his missionary work in the Ain department of France.

Cuet Overnight (B,D)

DAY 6: SATURDAY, 04 OCTOBER - CUET TO TURIN

Today, our journey takes us from **Cuet** to **Turin**, Italy.

Upon arrival, we will be transferred to our place of accommodation and the remainder of the day is at leisure.

Turin Overnight (B,D)

DAY 7: SUNDAY, 05 OCTOBER - TURIN

Today, our pilgrimage begins with a visit to the **Basilica di Superga**. Perched on a hill overlooking Turin, this baroque basilica offers breathtaking panoramic views of the city and its surrounding countryside. It is also the final resting place of members of the House of Savoy. Next, we will continue our tour with a visit to the **Cathedral of Saint John the Baptist**. The revered Shroud of Turin has been preserved within the cathedral's royal chapel since 1578, serving as a profound symbol of faith and history. Our journey then leads us to **Pallazo Reale** (Royal Palace), where we will explore the opulent former residence of the **House of Savoy**, stroll through **Piazza Castello**, the city's central square.

Please note the shroud will NOT be on show.

Turin Overnight (B,D)

DAY 8: MONDAY, 06 OCTOBER - TURIN TO VENICE

This morning, we will visit **Basilica di Maria Ausuliatrice**, also known as the Basilica of

Our Lady Help of Christians. The basilica holds significant importance for the Salesian Order, founded by Saint John Bosco, as it serves as the principal church of the Salesian Congregation and originally was part of the home for poor boys and a religious congregation for women under the title of **"The Daughters of Mary, Help of Christians"**. St John had a vision of the Virgin Mary and revealed the site of the martyrdom of the Turinese saints, Solutor, Adventor and Octavius. The Basilica was built on the site of their death and the church also houses the relics of these saints.

We then travel to **Venice** in the afternoon.

Venice overnight (B,D)

DAY 9: TUESDAY, 07 OCTOBER - VENICE

Today, we will enjoy a guided visit and Mass in **St Mark's Basilica** (Basilica di San Marco) and visit the Campanile (bell tower) which offers panoramic views of the city. The Basilica is the cathedral church of the Patriarchate of Venice because it became the episcopal seat of the Patriarch of Venice in 1807, replacing the earlier cathedral of San Pietro di Castello.

We will continue our walking tour including **St Mark's Square** (Piazza San Marco), which is the principal public square of Venice, Italy, and one of the most famous squares in the world.

Visit the Doge's Palace and the **Clock Tower** (Torre dell'Orologio), adorned with a beautiful astronomical clock.

Venice overnight (B,D)

DAY 10: WEDNESDAY, 08 OCTOBER - PADUA

Today we will visit **Padua**. Saint Anthony, the patron saint of the city, was a Portuguese Franciscan who spent part of his life in the city and died there in 1231.

Upon arrival, we will visit the **Basilica of Saint Anthony**, also known as Saint Anthony of Lisbon, who was a Portuguese Catholic priest and friar of the Franciscan Order.

Next, head to the **Scrovegni Chapel** (Cappella Degli Scrovegni), a small church, renowned for its remarkable frescoes by the Italian master Giotto. The chapel was commissioned by Enrico Scrovegni, a wealthy Paduan banker, in the early

14th century as a private family chapel.

To conclude our day in Padua, we will visit **Padua Cathedral** (Duomo di Padova), also known as the Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta.

Venice overnight (B,D)

DAY 11: THURSDAY 09 OCTOBER - VENICE TO SIENA

Today we travel out from Venice to Italy's loveliest medieval city **Siena**, birthplace of Saints Catherine and Bernadine. Upon arrival, we will visit **St Dominic's Basilica** (Basilica di San Domenico).

From here we walk through the narrow lanes to the **Basilica of Saint Francis** (The Basilica of San Francesco) where we will view the Eucharistic miracle of the incorrupt hosts that occurred in 1730, defying all scientific testing. Continue and stroll the **Piazza del Campo**, one of Italy's finest Squares.

To conclude our day in Siena, we will visit the medieval **Cathedral of Siena** (1263), dedicated to the Holy Mary of the Assumption.

Siena overnight (B,D)

DAY 12: FRIDAY, 10 OCTOBER - SIENA TO ASSISI

Today, we will journey south to Assisi. On the way, we will stop and visit **The Basilica of St Mary of the Angels** (Santa Maria Degli Angeli) is a significant religious site where St Francis lived for most of his life. This basilica holds particular importance within the Franciscan tradition as it houses the Portiuncola, a small chapel where St. Francis of Assisi is believed to have founded the Franciscan order in the early 13th century. The **Portiuncola**, meaning "little portion," was restored by St. Francis himself and is considered one of the most sacred places in Assisi. It was the nucleus of the first Franciscan monastery and the place where St Clare received the Franciscan cowl from St Francis in 1211, the rose garden and the **'Capella del Transito'** where St Francis died in 1226.

Assisi overnight (B,D)

DAY 13: SATURDAY, 11 OCTOBER - ASSISI

We begin our pilgrimage this morning with a visit to the **Basilica of St. Francis** (Basilica di San Francesco), which is the mother church of the

Roman Catholic Order of Friars Minor Conventual in Assisi.

We will continue our journey with a visit to the **Basilica of St Clare** (Basilica di Santa Chiara) is dedicated to Saint Clare of Assisi, who also was the founder of the Order of Poor Ladies (Also known as the Poor Clares), where we will proceed to the side chapel to pray before the Holy Crucifix from which God spoke to Francis "Go and repair my Church which as you see is in ruins". Here, we can also take the stairway down to the crypt where the body of Clare, partially restored, is displayed.

Continue with our tour we will visit **The Chiesa di Santa Maria Maggiore**, also known as the **Santuario della Spogliazione**, translated as the **Church of St. Mary Major or the Sanctuary of the Renunciation**, this church holds historical and spiritual importance within the context of Saint Francis of Assisi's life.

Here we are also blessed with the opportunity to visit and pray at the tomb of **Blessed Carlo Acutis**, a young Catholic from Italy with a passionate devotion to the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and an aptitude for computer programming. From the ages of 12 to 14, he designed a website cataloguing Eucharistic miracles that have occurred around the world, which he launched in 2005. He died of leukemia a year later at the age of 15, offering his suffering for the Pope and the Church.

Evening optional: Attend Vespers in the Basilica of St Clare and listen to the angelic voices of the Poor Clare nuns.

Assisi overnight (B,D)

DAY 14: SUNDAY, 12 OCTOBER - ASSISI

Today, we will enjoy a guided tour of the serene **Covent and Church of St. Damiano**, a medieval church steeped in historical and spiritual significance within the Franciscan tradition, closely intertwined with the life of Saint Francis of Assisi. The **Church of St. Damiano** also holds significance in the life of Saint Clare, where she lived for 42 years and built her community in close friendship with Francis. She passed away within its hallowed halls. Today, we will come to pay homage to the legacy of these revered saints, seeking

inspiration and reflection amidst the tranquil surroundings.

Then, we will visit the **"Hermitage"** (Eremo delle Carceri), wherein the 13 C, Saint Francis often visited to pray and contemplate, seeking solitude and communion with nature, as did other friars before him. Legend has it that while praying in a small cave at the site, Francis experienced profound spiritual encounters and received divine inspiration. It is said that he composed parts of his Canticum of the Creatures, a hymn of praise to God's creation, during his time here.

Assisi overnight (B,D)

DAY 15: MONDAY, 13 OCTOBER - ASSISI TO ROME

Departing Assisi early this morning, we will enjoy our travel south to **Rome**.

Upon arrival, we will visit the majestic **Basilica of St Paul Outside the Walls**, one of the four major basilicas in Rome. One of the highlights of the basilica is the tomb of Saint Paul, located beneath the main altar. The basilica also houses the chains believed to have bound Saint Paul during his imprisonment in Rome.

Continue then to the ancient **Catacombs** for a memorable guided tour to marvel at these underground burial tunnels for Christians and Hebrews.

Rome overnight (B,D)

DAY 16: TUESDAY, 14 OCTOBER - ROME

Today, we start our pilgrimage this morning with a spectacular private Mass at **St Peter's Basilica**, one of the most iconic and revered churches in the world. Then, we will visit the **Vatican Museums**, which are one of the most renowned and extensive art collections in the world. Wander the spectacular chambers leading to the **Sistine Chapel**, built in the late 15th century under the patronage of Pope Sixtus IV. The chapel's interior is adorned with a series of magnificent frescoes, including the famous ceiling frescoes by Michelangelo. Our guided tour will feature among other highlights Michelangelo's stunning Pieta, the tomb of Pope St John Paul II, the great

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