



PROROME



SCAN TO REGISTER

JOIN SOUTH DAKOTA CATHOLICS

A Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi

Eleven Days Walking in the Footsteps of the Great Saints of Western Catholicism

Embark on a nine-night pilgrimage throughout Italy to experience the fullness of our Catholic heritage. Daily Mass celebrated at historic sites — the tomb of St. Peter, the tomb of St. Paul, the cliffside cave of St. Benedict, and the tomb of St. Francis in Assisi — is the cornerstone of each day of the pilgrimage.

Six nights in Rome open the pilgrimage. The time in Rome includes the Papal Wednesday General Audience in St. Peter's Square, visits to the Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel, the Colosseum and the Roman Forum, the Catacombs of San Sebastiano, the relics of the True Cross at Santa Croce in Gerusalemme, and the great Papal Basilicas: St. Peter's, St. John Lateran, St. Paul Outside the Walls, and Santa Maria Maggiore. Two days reach out of the city into Benedictine country: an optional afternoon south to Monte Cassino, the motherhouse founded in 529 where Benedict wrote the Rule and died, and a full day east into the Aniene Valley to the Sacro Speco of Subiaco, where he began.

The group then moves north into Umbria for three nights in Assisi, where we will visit the tomb of St. Francis beneath Giotto's fresco cycle, the San Damiano Crucifix, the Portiuncula, and the forest hermitage of the Eremo delle Carceri. The visit to Assisi includes a day trip to Norcia, the birthplace of Benedict and Scholastica. Professional Catholic guides, a ProRome Tour Manager throughout, private motorcoach, audio headsets, all entrance fees, gratuities, and a daily group meal.

\$5,276

PER PERSON, ALL INCLUSIVE
\$2,980 LAND · \$2,296 GROUP AIR FROM MSP

June 7–17, 2027

To register or learn more, visit prorometours.com/italy-2027-southdakota
or contact us at (434) 953-1112 · office@prorome.com

The Itinerary

Mass locations, meal arrangements, and the daily sequencing of events are illustrative and subject to change based on availability at the time of booking. ProRome will confirm all final details — including specific Mass times and meals — once the booking is secured and in the months leading up to departure.



THE ETERNAL CITY

Monday, June 7 Departure from Minneapolis

Pilgrims gather at Minneapolis–St. Paul International Airport (MSP) for the overnight transatlantic flight to Rome. The group departs on Delta 298 at 8:20 PM, arriving at Rome Fiumicino the following afternoon. Buon viaggio!

Tuesday, June 8 Arrival in Rome & the Centro Storico

The group arrives at Rome Fiumicino (FCO) at 12:40 PM, where the ProRome Tour Manager meets the pilgrims and transfers them by private motorcoach to the accommodation near the Vatican. The afternoon opens with a walking pilgrimage through the Centro Storico: the Pantheon, the best-preserved monument of ancient Rome and a church since 609, when Boniface IV consecrated it to Our Lady and all the Martyrs; Piazza Navona, with Bernini's Fountain of the Four Rivers and the church of Sant'Agnese in Agone, raised over the site of the young martyr's death; and the smaller churches and relics of the old city that most visitors walk straight past. Welcome dinner together as a group.

HOLY MASS: CENTRO STORICO — CHURCH TBD

Wednesday, June 9 Papal Audience & Castel Sant'Angelo

After an early breakfast, the group makes its way to St. Peter's Square for the Papal Wednesday General Audience with the Holy Father, joining pilgrims from every nation in the heart of the

Universal Church. ProRome arranges the ticket reservation in advance; the Holy Father typically processes through the crowd, delivers his catechesis, and imparts the Apostolic Blessing. The morning continues to Castel Sant'Angelo, raised as the mausoleum of the Emperor Hadrian and later the fortress of the popes, connected to the Vatican by the Passetto — the covered wall-walk along which Clement VII escaped during the Sack of Rome in 1527. The ramparts give the finest single view of St. Peter's dome in the city. Free afternoon for personal exploration, rest, or confession, followed by a group dinner.

Papal Audience tickets are confirmed approximately 4–6 weeks prior to departure. Papal events are subject to change at the discretion of the Holy See.

HOLY MASS: ST. PETER'S BASILICA OR A NEARBY CHURCH, FOLLOWING THE AUDIENCE

Thursday, June 10 Ancient Rome & the Lateran

The morning is given to Ancient Rome, where the empire that once persecuted the Church was eventually transformed by it: the Colosseum, the Roman Forum, and the Palatine Hill, with the Arch of Constantine commemorating the emperor whose Edict of Milan ended the persecutions. In the afternoon the group crosses the city to the Lateran. The Basilica of San Giovanni in Laterano is the Cathedral of Rome and "Mother and Head of All Churches in the City and the World," with the relics of Saints Peter and Paul in its Gothic tabernacle, the apse mosaic, and bronze doors carried here from the ancient Roman Senate. Across the street, for those who wish, is the Scala Santa — the marble stairs from Pontius Pilate's praetorium, traditionally climbed on the knees with one Our Father on each of the twenty-eight steps. The day finishes at Santa Croce in Gerusalemme, built by St. Helena to house the relics she brought back from the Holy Land: fragments of the True Cross, the Titulus Crucis, two thorns from the Crown of Thorns, a nail from the Crucifixion, and the finger of Doubting Thomas. Group dinner.

HOLY MASS: SAN GIOVANNI IN LATERANO OR SANTA CROCE IN GERUSALEMME

Friday, June 11 Vatican Museums, Sistine Chapel, & St. Peter's

A guided morning in the Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel: the Raphael Rooms (*The School of Athens*, *The Disputation of the Holy Sacrament*), the Gallery of Maps, the Gallery of Tapestries, and finally Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel — the ceil-

ing of 1508–1512 and *The Last Judgment* of 1536–1541. Free time for lunch on your own. The afternoon is a guided tour of St. Peter's Basilica: Michelangelo's Pietà, Bernini's Baldachin over the Confession, the tomb of St. Peter, and the Papal Tombs in the Vatican Grottoes. For those interested, an optional ascent of the Cupola gives a panorama across Rome and the Vatican Gardens. Group dinner.

HOLY MASS: ST. PETER'S BASILICA OR A NEARBY CHURCH

Saturday, June 12 St. Paul Outside the Walls, the Catacombs, & Optional Monte Cassino

The day begins at the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls, the second-largest church in Rome, raised over the tomb of the Apostle to the Gentiles: the golden mosaic apse, the papal portrait medallions encircling the nave, the chains of St. Paul, and the Cosmati cloister. The group then descends into the Catacombs of San Sebastiano on the Via Appia Antica, walking the same passages where the early Christians buried their martyrs and where the bodies of Saints Peter and Paul were once transferred for safe-keeping during the persecutions. Group lunch together.

The afternoon offers an optional excursion to Monte Cassino, roughly two hours south of Rome — the motherhouse of the Benedictine Order, founded by St. Benedict himself in 529 and the place where he wrote the Rule and died. Destroyed and rebuilt four times across fifteen centuries, most recently after the devastating battle of 1944, it stands today rebuilt where it was, as it was. The visit includes the abbey church, the cloisters, and the museum. Pilgrims not joining the excursion have a free afternoon in Rome. Group dinner.

HOLY MASS: ST. PAUL OUTSIDE THE WALLS, OR THE ABBEY OF MONTE CASSINO FOR THOSE ON THE EXCURSION



ST. PAUL OUTSIDE THE WALLS, ROME

Itinerary Continued

Sunday, June 13

Day Trip to Subiaco & Santa Maria Maggiore

The group departs Rome by private motorcoach for Subiaco, approximately 1.5 hours east in the Aniene Valley. The destination is the Monastery of San Benedetto (Sacro Speco), built directly into the cliff face above the cave where the young St. Benedict lived as a hermit for three years. Sunday Mass at the Sacro Speco is followed by a tour of the chapels and oratories ascending into the rock, with their thirteenth-century frescoes of extraordinary beauty, the Holy Grotto itself, and the earliest known portrait of St. Francis of Assisi. The group then visits the nearby Monastery of Santa Scolastica, the last survivor of the twelve monasteries Benedict founded in this valley, and the oldest continuously occupied Benedictine house in the world.

Returning to Rome by approximately 3:00 PM, the group visits the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore, the fourth of the great Papal Basilicas and the oldest church in the West dedicated to Our Lady: the Salus Populi Romani, the relic of the Holy Crib, the fifth-century triumphal arch mosaics, and the tombs of Pope St. Pius V and Gian Lorenzo Bernini. Group dinner.

HOLY MASS: MONASTERY OF SAN BENEDETTO (SACRO SPECO), SUBIACO

Monday, June 14

Rome to Assisi

Breakfast and check-out from the Rome accommodation. The group boards the private motorcoach and heads north into Umbria, to Assisi. The afternoon is a guided tour of the two great basilicas. At the Basilica of San Francesco the group descends to the crypt to venerate the tomb of St. Francis, then visits the Lower Church with its Cimabue and early Giotto frescoes and side chapels by Simone Martini and Pietro Lorenzetti, and finally the Upper Church, home to Giotto's monumental 28-panel fresco cycle of the life of St. Francis. The group walks on through the medieval streets to the Basilica of

Santa Chiara, to venerate the tomb of St. Clare and the San Damiano Crucifix — the very cross that spoke to Francis and said: "Francis, go and rebuild my church, which as you can see is falling into ruin." Group dinner.

HOLY MASS: BASILICA OF SAN FRANCESCO, ASSISI

Tuesday, June 15

The Portiuncula & a Day Trip to Norcia

The morning begins below the town at the Basilica of Santa Maria degli Angeli, the vast church built to shelter three small Franciscan places: the Portiuncula, the tiny chapel Francis rebuilt with his own hands and where he founded the Order; the Cappella del Transito, the cell where he died on the evening of October 3, 1226; and the Rose Garden Chapel, where he threw himself into a briar patch to resist temptation and the brambles are said to have bloomed into thornless roses.

The group then crosses the Valle Umbra and climbs into the Sibillini foothills to Norcia, roughly an hour and a half from Assisi — the birthplace of St. Benedict and St. Scholastica, and a fitting bookend to the Subiaco and Monte Cassino days earlier in the pilgrimage. The visit includes the Monks of Norcia, whose Benedictine community continues its life of *ora et labora* in the hills above the town, and the famed market of the Valnerina: cured meats, mountain cheeses, black truffles, and the small lentils of Castelluccio. Dinner on your own back in Assisi.

HOLY MASS: BASILICA OF SANTA MARIA DEGLI ANGELI, OR IN NORCIA

Wednesday, June 16

Eremo delle Carceri, San Damiano, & Farewell Dinner

Breakfast, then morning Mass. The group ascends the slopes of Mount Subasio to the Eremo delle Carceri, the forest hermitage where St. Francis withdrew for extended prayer in solitude. A series of caves and grottos marks the places where Francis and his earliest companions prayed, set within an ancient holm oak forest

still much as it was in his day — one of the most evocative and spiritually charged sites in all of Franciscan Assisi, and one that few pilgrims ever reach. Those who prefer may instead visit San Damiano, the small church below the walls that Francis rebuilt stone by stone, where St. Clare and her sisters lived for forty years and where Francis composed the Cantic of the Creatures.

Free afternoon for personal prayer, the medieval centro storico, the Rocca Maggiore above the town, or final shopping. Group farewell dinner in Assisi.

HOLY MASS: ASSISI — CHURCH TBD

Thursday, June 17

Departure

A very early breakfast and check-out from the Assisi accommodation, with the coach departing at approximately 5:00 AM for the transfer to Rome Fiumicino, roughly 2.5 hours south. The group departs Rome on Air France 1205 at 10:00 AM, connects at Paris Charles de Gaulle to Air France 088, and arrives back at Minneapolis–St. Paul at 7:50 PM the same day.



THE BASILICA OF SAINT FRANCIS, ASSISI

Pricing & Details

\$5,276

PER PERSON, ALL INCLUSIVE

\$2,980 LAND · \$2,296 GROUP AIR FROM MSP

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

\$300	Deposit	Due at Registration
\$1,340	First Installment	180 Days Prior
\$1,340	Second Installment	150 Days Prior
\$2,296	Airfare	120 Days Prior
\$700	Single Occupancy Surcharge	90 Days Prior

INCLUSIONS

- Six nights in Rome in accommodation near the Vatican
- Three nights in Assisi
- Daily breakfast and one other meal (lunch or dinner, per the itinerary)
- Private motorcoach transfers
- All in-city transfers and excursions per the itinerary
- Licensed Catholic guides throughout the entirety of the pilgrimage
- All entrance fees per the itinerary, including the Vatican Museums & Sistine Chapel
- Coordination of Papal General Audience tickets
- Whisper headsets throughout
- ProRome Catholic Tour Manager from arrival to departure
- Comprehensive pre-departure materials (luggage tags, ProRome prayer book, lanyards)

EXCLUSIONS

- Nine lunches or dinners not listed in the itinerary
- Beverages at included lunches and dinners
- Travel insurance (strongly recommended; ProRome sends a complimentary Allianz quote to all pilgrims)
- Items of a personal nature
- Anything not specifically listed under Inclusions

GRATUITIES

- Driver: suggested €2-3 per person, per day
- Tour Manager: suggested €3-5 per person, per day



SCAN TO REGISTER



ProRome Tours

Contact us at (434) 953-1112 | office@prorome.com