

A Spring Pilgrimage to Spain & France

Join Rev. Bart Stevens and the Secular Carmelites

This pilgrimage will immerse you in the vast cultural and Catholic heritage of Spain and France, with a specific emphasis on our Carmelite saints. The itinerary features six nights in Spain and eight nights in France. Featured visits to Avila, Salamanca, Burgos, San Sabastian, Mont Saint-Michel, the Normandy Beaches are all included, along with longer stays in Lourdes, Lisieux and Paris. Daily Mass- the cornerstone of each day- will be complemented by a rich Catholic touring program that will bring the pilqrims face to face with the many shrines and sacred sites and relics found throughout the course of the itinerary. We will enter into the holy lives of St. Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross, St. Therese of Lisieux, and St. Bernadette Soubirous, among others.

Roundtrip airfare and centrally-located three and four star hotels (TBD) will be arranged. A ProRome tour manager will accompany the group throughout the course of the pilgrimage, with private bus transportation, Catholic tour guides, all tours and tickets. Daily breakfasts and daily dinners are included in the price, with one daily meal (either lunch or dinner) on your own.

May 5-20, 2025

\$4590 per person, land-only

For more information or to register, please visit www.prorometours.com/thesecularcarmelites/ or contact ProRome Tours directly at (434) 953 1112 or by email at office@prorome.com



Monday, May5 - Departure

Departure information will be provided once airfare is confirmed.

Tuesday, May 6 Arrival In Spain | Segovia

Today we arrive in Spain! Welcome to Madrid! Upon our arrival the groups will be met by our tour director and private bus and depart immediately for the beautiful city of Segovia. Along the way we will stop at the Carmelite Monastery at La Aldehuela where St. Mother Maravilla of Jesus is buried. Here there will be time for a brief visit and an opportunity to pray morning prayer before continuing on our journey. There will be an independent lunch along the way. On our first day of pilgrimage we will be entering into the life of a remarkable Spanish Carmelite, St. John of the Cross. Upon arrival in Segovia, there will be a walking tour which will include the Old Quarter, the Pradera San Marcos, and the Carmelite Monastery which houses the tomb of St. John. It is in this sacred place that there will be the celebration of Holy Mass together. Afterwards, all will board our motorcoach and continue on our journey to Avila. Upon our arrival, there will be a delicious dinner provided for all before retiring for the evening.

Holy Mass: Carmelite Monastery in Segovia Meals Included: Dinner

Wednesday, May 7 - Avila

Our first full day of pilgrimage begins with breakfast and then a guided tour of Avila, entering into the life of the mystic, St. Teresa. Our tour will include the Convent of St. Teresa, the Church of San Juan Bautista, the Convent of Nuestra Senora de Gracia and the Old Quarter. Our morning will conclude with free time to pray, shop or rest and then enjoy lunch on your own. In the late afternoon our tour resumes of Avila at the convent of St. Joseph and the Monastery of the Incarnation with Holy Mass. There will be dinner together at the hotel before turning in for the night.

Holy Mass: Transverberation Chapel at the Monastery of the Incarnation Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Thursday, May 8 Fontiveros | Alba De Tormes

After breakfast, the group will depart for Fontiveros, where we will enjoy a walking tour of the village and spend some time in personal prayer at the Church of St. John of the Cross. Our pilgrimage continues on to Alba de Tormes, the burial place of St. Teresa of Avila. Following lunch, there will be a guided tour of the Carmelite Convent here and the Carmus-Museum. entering more deeply into the life of this holv saint. We will then celebrate Holy Mass at the Carmelite Monastery which houses the tomb of St. Teresa of Avila. After relishing in these graces, the group continues on to Salamanca. Upon arrival, all will check in at our hotel and enjoy a leisurely dinner before getting some much deserved rest.

Holy Mass: Carmelite Monastery in Alba de Tormes

Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Friday, May 9 - Salamanca

Today our group will soak in the history and beauty of Salamanca. After breakfast, there will be a guided tour of the nearby Cathedrals, the Old Quarter, which includes the Plaza Mayor and a special medallion dedicated to St. Teresa, and finally the Casa de Santa Teresa. After our thorough tour, we will celebrate Holy Mass together before breaking for an independent lunch. There will then be a free afternoon for everyone to explore, pray and rest. The day will conclude with dinner back at our hotel before retiring for the night.

Holy Mass: TBD (possibly the Casa de Santa Teresa)

Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Saturday, May 10 - Medina Del Campo | Valladolid

Departing Salamanca, the group will travel to Medina del Campo where we will receive a guided tour, beginning at the Convent of St. Joseph, which was the second foundation of St. Teresa and where she met St. John of the Cross. The tour then continues then continues on to the Chapel of San Juan de la Cruz, which is where

the saint first celebrated Holy Mass, and where we as a group will also celebrate Holy Mass. The group will then continue traveling to Valladolid, stopping for an independent lunch along the way. Once we arrive in Valladolid, there will be the opportunity to visit the Convent La Concepción del Carmen, which houses the cell of St. Teresa and the original handwritten version of The Way of Perfection, as well as the largest collection of her handwritten letters. Our motorcoach then departs Valladolid for Burgos, where the group will have dinner and overnight there.

Holy Mass: Chapel of San Juan de la Cruz Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Sunday, May 11 - Burgos

Today we will be soaking in the charming city of Burgos! Following breakfast, there will be a guided tour which will entail the Old Quarter, the Arco de Santa Maria, the Burgos Cathedral and the exterior view of the Carmelite Convent of San Jose and Santa Ana. Holy Mass will then be celebrated in the Burgos Cathedral before the group breaks for an independent lunch. After lunch, our motorcoach departs for the picturesque city of San Sebastian. Upon our arrival, all will check into our hotel and share a group dinner before retiring for the evening.

Holy Mass: The Cathedral in Burgos Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Monday, May 12 San Sebastian | Lourdes

Following breakfast, there will be the celebration of Holy Mass in San Sebastian followed by a guided walking tour. We will have the opportunity to walk on the famous Playa de la Concha, a picturesque crescent-shaped beach nestled into the city of San Sebastian. The group will then enjoy lunch on their own and a free afternoon to wander and take in the sites. We will then continue on our journey to Lourdes, France. After checking into the hotel, there will be a delicious dinner together and the opportunity to participate in the beautiful outdoor candlelight rosary procession through the Sanctuary with thousands of other pilgrims, before returning to our hotel for the night.

Holy Mass: TBD in San Sebastian Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Tuesday, May 13 - Lourdes

TOur day in Lourdes begins with Mass at the Grotto, followed by a guided tour of Lourdes, specifically diving into the life of St. Bernadette and her family. We will see where she lived, was baptized, received first holy communion, and more. Our morning will conclude with a tour of the Sanctuary, before breaking for lunch on our own. All will then enjoy a free afternoon to explore, pray, shop or rest. During this time there will also be the opportunity to wash in the miraculous water of Lourdes. The group will then rendezvous at the hotel for dinner and rest. There will again be the opportunity to participate in the candlelight rosary procession for those interested.



Holy Mass: Either the Grotto of Lourdes or the Basilica of Lourdes Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Wednesday, May 14 - Tours

Following an early breakfast we will board our motorcoach and depart Lourdes for the historical town of Tours. Along the way, the group will stop and enjoy a beautiful winery in the famous wine-making city of Bordeaux. Following lunch, our journey continues to Tours. Upon our arrival there will be the celebration of Holy Mass at the Basilica of St. Martin, which houses the tomb of this great saint. Afterwards we will then check into our beautiful hotel and take a minute to freshen up and get settled. All will then share a hotel dinner together before retiring for the evening.

Holy Mass: Basilica of St. Martin Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Thursday, May 15 - Mont Saint-michel

Departing Tours, the group will journey northwest to Mont Saint-Michel, stopping for an independent lunch along the way. Upon our arrival, we will celebrate Holy Mass together followed by a guided tour of the jaw-dropping Mont Saint-Michel. After concluding our tour, we will enjoy a free afternoon to explore and pray. Concluding our time at Mont Saint-Michel, the group will check into our hotel and share a dinner together and then overnight.

Holy Mass: Mont Saint-Michel Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Friday, May 16 - Bayeux | Normandy Beaches

Following breakfast our motorcoach will depart for Lisieux. However, along the way we will make stops at Bayeux and Normandy Beach. Bayeux was the first town to be liberated by the Allies in 1944. Bayeux Cathedral was consecrated in 1077 in the presence of William the Conqueror. It is here in the Bayeux Cathedral that we will

celebrate Holy Mass. We then continue to the Normandy coast where there will be the opportunity to visit the American Cemetery and Omaha Beach, one of the sites where the Allies came ashore on D-Day. We will then continue to Lisieux, where upon our arrival the group will check into our hotel and enjoy our dinner and overnight.

Holy Mass: Bayeux Cathedral Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Saturday, May 17 - Lisieux

Today will be solely focused on the holy life of St. Therese of Lisieux. Here in her hometown, Therese reached the heights of sanctity within the cloister of the Lisieux Carmel. As a group, we will visit the final resting place of St. Therese in the Carmel chapel as well as the Cathedral of St. Pierre, where Therese attended daily Mass for ten years of her life. There will also be the opportunity to visit the Basilica of St. Therese, which was constructed in honor of her canonization, and is where our group will celebrate Holy Mass together. After a full day of prayer and touring, we will return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.*

*This itinerary is subject to change depending on the Centennial Celebration schedule this day

Holy Mass: Basilica of St. Therese Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Sunday, May 18 - Paris

Following breakfast, our group will depart for Paris. On our way, we will stop in Rouen and celebrate Holy Mass together inside the Rouen Cathedral, before continuing on our way to Paris. In Paris all will check into our hotel followed by free time for lunch. After free time for lunch, there will be the opportunity to visit the Shrine of the Miraculous Medal in Rue du Bac (the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity) where Our Lady appeared to St. Catherine Laboure, followed by a visit to The Conciergerie, the prison which held the 16 Carmelite nuns before their

beheading during the French Revolution. There will also be the opportunity to visit the nearby Shrine of St. Vincent de Paul, where the saint's relics are housed. After a full day we will return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Holy Mass: Rouen Cathedral Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Monday, May 19 - Paris

Our day in Paris begins with a visit to the Basilica of Our Lady of Victories which houses the relics of the parents of St. Therese, Louis and Zelie Martin, who had a great devotion to Our Lady of Victories. We proceed to the hill of Montmartres to visit the Basilica of Sacre Coeur where we will have Mass. The Montmartre section of Paris retains vestiges of the village feel that would have once existed in other parts of the city as well. Many of Montmartre's residences retain charming private gardens, and a vineyard still adorns the hill. But the crowning glory of Montmartre is the Basilica of Sacré Coeur, built atop the highest point of thecity. The gleaming white basilica (1885-1912) was begun during the Pontificate of Blessed Pius IX, when the Pope was a "prisoner of the Vatican." We will then eniov lunch on our own and an afternoon at leisure. There may be an opportunity to visit Notre Dame Cathedral, if the cathedral is open to the public then. One might choose to use the free afternoon to visit the Louvre, the Musee d'Orsay or the Eiffel Tower. In the evening, we return to the hotel to freshen up before departing for a dinner cruise on the Seine aboard a Bateaux Mouche.

Holy Mass: Basilica of Sacre Coeur Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner Cruise

Tuesday, May 20 - Departure

Following breakfast we will depart for the airport. Departure information forthcoming once airfare has been confirmed.

Holy Mass: TBD Meals Included: Breakfast



Price Includes

Final Cost \$4590 LAND ONLY

- 14 nights lodging in double occupancy room
 - Two nights lodging at a four-star hotel in Avila, Spain
 - Two nights lodging at a four-star hotel in Salamanca, Spain
 - One night lodging at a four-star hotel in Burgos, Spain
 - One night lodging at a four-star hotel in San Sebastian, Spain
 - Two nights lodging at a four-star hotel in Lourdes, France
 - One night lodging at a four-star hotel in Tours, France
 - One night lodging at a four-star hotel in Mont Saint-Michel, France
 - Two nights lodging at a three-star hotel in Lisieux, France
 - Two nights lodging at a three-star hotel in Paris, France
- ProRome Tour Manager throughout the course of the trip
- Professional English-speaking guides for all visits according to the above itinerary
- Tours and all entry-tickets
- Daily buffet breakfast and daily three-course dinner (without choice of menus)
- Water and house wine at meals
- Deluxe A/C coach when required (note that we will still walk 3-5 miles per day)
- Audio guiding system throughout the course of the trip

Price Exclusions

- Any personal expenses
- Daily lunch
- Beverages other than water and house wine at included meals
- Trip Insurance (available for purchase through ProRome)
- · Gratuities for the Tour Manager and Driver
 - Suggested \$20-\$30 per person for both the tour manager and the driver



