



WorldStrides®

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## Religious Travel Experience Designed Especially for St. Jude the Apostle Parish



# Italy's Catholic & Cultural Heritage 52439-0-1

May 18 - May 27, 2020









### ITINERARY OVERVIEW

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- DAY 1 DEPARTURE FROM TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA OR CLEVELAND
- DAY 2 ARRIVE ROME - ORVIETO - SIENA (3 NIGHTS)
- DAY 3 DAY TRIP TO SAN GIMIGNANO & VOLTERRE
- DAY 4 DAY TRIP TO PIENZA & MONTALCINO
- DAY 5 SIENA - LAKE TRASIMENO - PERUGIA AREA (2 NIGHTS)
- DAY 6 DAY TRIP TO ASSISI
- DAY 7 PERUGIA - SPELLO - ROME (3 NIGHTS)
- DAY 8 ROME (CITY OF THE POPES)
- DAY 9 ROME (CITY OF THE CEASARS)
- DAY 10 DEPARTURE FROM ROME


## ITINERARY

Italy calls to people in a unique way. The rich and colorful culture melts into a warm atmosphere filled with light and life. Ancient traditions combine with a spiritual pride expressed in the art and food that epitomize what we have come to know as La Bella Vita. Something about Italy stirs the soul as much as it educates the mind. From Roman ruins to the richness of the Renaissance, from the ruins of war to the peace of country life, experience the world in a new way in beautiful Italy.










- |  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
|  Educational Tour/Visit |  Cultural Experience |  Festival/Performance/Workshop | Tour Services   |
|  Recreational Activity  |  LEAP Enrichment     |  Match/Training Session        |      |



### DAY 1 Monday, 18 May 2020









-  Relax and enjoy our scheduled flight from Toronto OR Cleveland to Rome, Italy.

### DAY 2 Tuesday, 19 May 2020





-  Our 24-hour Tour Director will meet us at the airport and remain with us until our final airport departure.
-  We will have use of a private coach and driver while touring for the next nine days.
-  Set atop a high volcanic plateau, Orvieto is hidden from the rolling farmlands of southern Umbria. Believed to have originally been a large Etruscan city of many temples, Orvieto is more famous today for its impressive Duomo and for its white wine.
-  Visit the Duomo, Orvieto's most striking sight. With the sun glinting off the gold mosaics, pointed arches, and intricate Gothic stone detailing, the cathedral has led some to call it a precious gem, and others to dub it the world's largest triptych. Our visit will include the Cappella Nuova, also known locally as the Capella San Brizio, featuring frescoes by Fra Angelico that influenced the works of Michelangelo. The Cappella del Corporale houses a cloth on which the blood of Christ is said to have miraculously appeared.
-  We will continue to the Siena (area), which will be our base for the next three nights. While here, we will enjoy breakfast at the hotel.
-  Siena is located in Tuscany, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The town's tranquil, laid-back lifestyle allows students to leisurely stroll the winding cobblestone streets, explore the Renaissance cathedral, and relax in the beautiful town square, Piazza del Campo. Siena retains a ward-centric culture from medieval times. Each ward (contrada) is represented by an animal or mascot. Ward rivalries are most rampant during the traditional medieval horse race (Palio) held on July 2 and August 16 in Piazza del Campo each year.
-  Stroll through the narrow and winding streets of Siena to the Piazza del Campo, a vast and lively square in the heart of the city.
-  This evening, dinner will be provided in a local restaurant.
-  Arrival day sightseeing subject to final air confirmation.



**DAY 3      Wednesday, 20 May 2020**

-  During the course of our tour we will gain from the knowledge and insight of four half-day local guides while we are here in Italy.
-  Today we will enjoy a day trip to San Gimignano and Volterra.
-  The striking skyline of San Gimignano is one of the most familiar views of Tuscany. The town is noted for its thirteen towers, built by various noble families in the 12th and 13th centuries, which dominate the scene and impart a unique character to this idyllic location.
-  Take a Walking Tour and view the Piazza della Cisterna, the Piazza del Duomo, and the People's Palace. Both spaces are guarded by the tall medieval towers that have made San Gimignano, "city of the beautiful towers," the poster child for Italian hill towns everywhere.
-  Fattoria San Donato is a farmhouse and a tiny medieval village set amidst the classic green hills of San Gimignano. Its position also offers a marvellous charming view on this unique town and its surrounding countryside. Here, you can decide to enjoy full-time relaxation: wandering around the green park, lying by the swimming pool and its charming panoramic view or exploring the surrounding area (walking, riding and cycling). We will enjoy lunch and a wine tasting while we are here.
-  Take a Walking Tour and view the Piazza della Cisterna, the Piazza del Duomo, and the People's Palace. Both spaces are guarded by the tall medieval towers that have made San Gimignano, "city of the beautiful towers," the poster child for Italian hill towns everywhere. Like many other Etruscan cities, Volterra is located on a high plateau offering sweeping views of the surrounding hills. In addition to its importance as an Etruscan center, the town is also known for the alabaster that has been mined and carved here for 2,500 years.
-  Enjoy a walking tour of Volterra. We will be sure to see many sights including the Duomo and Amphitheater.
-  This evening dinner will be at the group's own expense.



**DAY 4      Thursday, 21 May 2020**

-  Today we will enjoy a day trip to Pienza and Montalcino.
-  Surveying the rolling farmland of Tuscany's Val d'Orcia, from a little natural balcony, the village of Pienza sits as a testament to one man's ambition and ego. At the height of the 15th century Renaissance, humanist Siennese Pope Pius II, with the help of Florentine architect Bernardo Rossellino, converted the tiny village in which he had been born into a vision of the ideal Renaissance city. The village of Pienza, however, retains its remarkable city-size piazza, one of the grandest achievements of Renaissance architecture and the only intact example of a city-planning scheme from the era. But for all Pius' dreams, Pienza never became more than a village. Take time to admire the palaces, Siennese art collection, and Duomo at the town's perfect core; nibble on the famous sheep's milk cheeses and honey; and take a short walk to the odd, isolated medieval churches in the countryside outside the walls.
-  Discover the Pienza Duomo. The light-drenched domus vitrea (literally 'a house of glass') fulfilled Pius' notion that the structure should symbolize enlightenment. The exterior represents Renaissance ideals of unity with a facade of three blind arches, atop which the pope rather immodestly placed his coat of arms. The interior was in part inspired by the Pope's travels in Germany, where he admired hall-churches lit by tall windows. For all of its perfection, the structure showed signs of a serious flaw almost as soon as it was completed; the hillside on which it is built is unstable, and the foundations are slowly shifting (as you walk toward the rear, you'll notice the floor slightly slopes).
-  Visit one of the famous Pecorino Cheese farms where we will enjoy a tour, we will have the opportunity to taste some cheese. Montalcino presents a mighty image on the approach from the valley - a walled town set high on a hill punctuated with the spires of medieval buildings and a glowering fortress at one end. Up close, it becomes a smaller, meeker place, but the precipitous medieval alleyways and stone buildings make it a day-trip delight, and the views of the valleys from which you ascend are magnificent from this height. Paleolithic tribes and the Etruscans set up camp here, but it wasn't until the Roman era that a permanent settlement formed. By the Middle Ages, Montalcino was a bustling town and a defensive center for the surrounding farming community. Although it divided itself into four miniscule neighborhood contrade (neighborhoods) after the Siennese model, Montalcino was initially allied to Florence and at odds with its northerly neighbor Siena. After several skirmishes, though, the Siennese took over Montalcino in the 13th century. By 1462, the town had grown large enough to be declared a city.








**DAY 4 Thursday, 21 May 2020**


-  Enjoy a Wine Tasting Tour and taste the delights of the wines from the Montaclino area.
-  This evening dinner will be at the group's own expense.

**DAY 5 Friday, 22 May 2020**


 We continue on our journey from Siena to the Perugia area. En route we will travel to Lago Trasimeno.


 The beautiful Lago Trasimeno is an iconic lake nestled in the Province of Perugia. Here we will find limitless beauty and serenity as we take a moment to get lose ourselves in this slice of paradise.


 We will have a few moments of free time while at Lake Trasimeno. Be sure to take a few photos during our time here.

 Our base for the next two nights will be Perugia (area), where breakfast will be provided at the hotel.


Perugia, the capital city of the Umbria region of Italy, is noted primarily as an artistic center because of Perugino, a great artist who taught Raphael. Here we will see beautiful medieval architecture and a charming pedestrian old quarter. Perugia is also home to one of Italy's most famous chocolatiers.

 Enjoy a Walking Tour of the Historical Centre. Dating back to the 3rd century BC, Perugia has a long history. This ancient city contains old arches, medieval gates, historic buildings and other valuable constructions, many of which can be found in the centre of the city. Enjoy a walking tour which includes Piazza Cavallotti, built upon an archaeological site you can see scraps of fabric from the Roman period. Via Maestra delle Volte, an old picturesque street, this contains the ruins of the medieval Palazzo del Podesta. Piazza IV Novembre, Perugia's main square, which some may say is one of Italy's most beautiful. We will continue to the town hall, Palazzo dei Priori, built between the 13th and 15th Century. Piazza Italia, a small square that is home to several attractions, including the Monument to Vittorio Emanuele II, the last king of Sardinia and the first king of Italy, and Palazzo della Provincia, a government building erected in 1870. Continue to the Porta Marzia, one of Perugia's seven gates in its Etruscan walls, dating back to the 3rd century BC, it has a rounded arch and is decorated with five figures.


 This afternoon we will have the opportunity to taste and make our own Chocolate along side some of the world's most talented Chocolatiers.


 This evening, dinner will be provided in a local restaurant.


**DAY 6 Saturday, 23 May 2020**


 Buses are not allowed within the town and we will use taxi shuttles to bring us up and down the hills.


 Today we will enjoy a day trip to Assisi.


 The medieval town of Assisi is heir to the legacy of its most prominent citizen, St. Francis. Although the town was damaged in the earthquake of 1997, it has been restored to its former glory with geranium-hung streets, lovely views, and fountain-splashed piazzas.

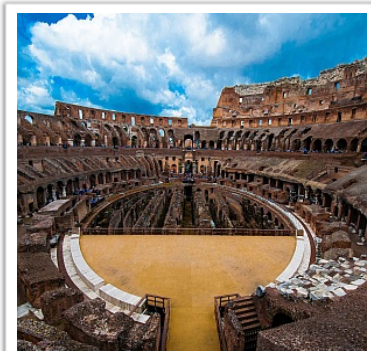
 Visit the Basilica di San Francesco, an incongruous memorial to a man who preached and lived an utterly simple life of poverty, abstinence, and the enunciation of worldly goods in search of greater spirituality. We will explore the bi-level basilica, including the Lower Church, the Crypt, and the Upper Church, with Giotto's famous frescoes of 28 scenes of the Life of St. Francis.

 Explore the Church of Santa Chiara, resting place for St. Clare's bones, and home of St. Francis's miraculous crucifix. Our visit will include the Neo-Gothic Crypt and the Oratorio del Crocifisso, which preserves the venerated 12th century crucifix that spoke to St. Francis at San Damiano and set him on his holy path.








 You may have some free time in Assisi. If you wish, our Tour Director can lead us to the Chiesa di San Damiano.

 Enjoy a Wine Tasting Tour at the Tili Vini Societa Agricola. Exact location subject to final confirmation.




 This evening, dinner will be provided in a local restaurant.






**DAY 7 Sunday, 24 May 2020**

-  We continue on our journey from Perugia to Rome. En route we will have Mass and enjoy a Olive Oil Tasting Tour.  
Today we will attend a Privately Arranged Mass Service.
-  Spello is an ancient town and comune of Italy, in the province of Perugia in east central Umbria, on the lower southern flank of Mt. Subasio.
-  Enjoy a Tasting Tour of a local Olive Oil Factory.  
Today we will experience the process used in creating this special oil and deepen our appreciation of its value and importance. Olive oil is the foundation for all the important oils used by the Church. The Oil of the Catechumen, The Oil for the Anointing of the Sick and the Charism.
-  For the next three evenings we will enjoy the convenience of our centrally-located Rome hotel, where daily breakfast will be included.
-  Known to many as the "Eternal City", Rome is the capital of Italy, with an uninterrupted history spanning two and a half thousand years. As one of the founding cities of western civilisation, Rome is filled with incredible historical sites. It is a city with many faces, encompassing medieval, renaissance, and modern. To define Rome is an impossible task, but to enjoy Rome is a wondrous experience.
-  Visit the Pantheon, Rome's best-preserved monument. The Pantheon is a masterpiece of architecture with its huge hemispherical dome. It also contains the tombs of the kings of Italy and that of the artist, Raphael.
-  This evening we will dine in the Piazza Navona area. Built on the foundations of Domitian's Circus, this magnificent square was designed by Borromini in 17th century. It is full of life and is highlighted by one of Rome's most spectacular fountains, the Four Rivers designed by Bernini. The square is often filled with local artists. The surrounding neighborhood is also one of the best places in Rome to get a tasty tartufo or gelato ice cream.

**DAY 8 Monday, 25 May 2020**

- Today we will attend a Privately Arranged Mass Service in St. Peter's Basilica. Our preferred locations are at the Altar of St Pope John Paul II or The Chapel in the Necropolis, Tomb of the Popes where St. Pope Paul VI rests. Subject to final confirmation.
-  Experience a specialist-guided tour of the Vatican City, including the Museums, home to one of the world's most impressive collections of art. Our tour includes the map tapestry rooms, the magnificent Raphael Rooms, and the spectacular Sistine Chapel, highlighted by Michelangelo's ceiling and his Last Judgment. We will continue into St. Peter's Square to visit St. Peter's Basilica, the largest church in the western world and the centre of Catholicism. Highlights of our visit include Michelangelo's Pieta and Bernini's magnificent Baldacchino over the high altar.
-  Join a panoramic open bus tour of the Vatican Gardens with audio guides. This is where Pope Benedict XVI spends private time praying in the afternoons.
-  Tonight we will both enjoy preparing and eating a traditional, local dish in a Cooking Class.

**DAY 9 Tuesday, 26 May 2020**

-  Enjoy a guided tour, through the spectacular remains of the Roman Empire. The Colosseum, considered to be the greatest symbol of Ancient Rome's power and glory, was completed under Titus in 80 A.D. The Colosseum could hold 55,000 spectators, on a par with many of today's modern sports stadiums. Among the sights included is the Arch of Constantine, a triumphal arch finished in 315 A.D., commemorating the victory of Constantine I over Maxentius in the year 312 A.D. We will also tour the ruins and excavations of the Roman Forum, which features the remains of magnificent temples, basilicas, and triumphal arches that once formed the heart of the Empire.
-  View the Trevi Fountain, where it is traditional to toss a coin into the fountain to ensure a safe return to the Eternal City. Spend time at Rome's meeting place, the Piazza di Spagna, home of the famous Spanish Steps. The piazza and steps are both named in reference to a 16th century Spanish ambassador who lived here. English poet John Keats lived and died in the house to the right of the steps, which is now a memorial.
-  Enjoy free time today to explore Rome at your leisure.





**DAY 9 Tuesday, 26 May 2020**



On our final night we will enjoy a farewell dinner together.

**DAY 10 Wednesday, 27 May 2020**



Our rewarding and enjoyable tour comes to an end as our Tour Director accompanies us to the airport on our final day.



Please note that the sightseeing content may be amended or eliminated in order to facilitate the best possible concert arrangements for your group.





**TOTAL PER PERSON TOUR COST BASED ON NUMBER OF FULL-PAYING PARTICIPANTS**

St. Jude the Apostle Parish (Subject to final airfare confirmation)	Full Paying Participants	Free Place Entitlement	Price In USD	*With Early Discount
This proposal is valid until Friday, 03 May 2019 and this tour cannot be operated in its present format with fewer than 10 participants.	30	2	4,149	3,899
	<b>20</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4,349</b>	<b>4,099</b>
	20	1	4,249	3,999
* Early Enrollment Discount of \$250 if enrolled by 06/15/2019.				
<b>EZ Pay Option</b>				
Enroll by <i>06/15/2019</i> and make <i>11</i> payments of <i>\$345.36</i> every <i>30</i> days by automatic deduction from your bank account. The final payment of the series will be deducted no later than 45 days before travel.				
**Based on the bolded pricing ratio from above.				
<b>Tour Prices Guaranteed at Time of Enrollment!</b>				
Our Price Guarantee: Once you have accepted this proposal, the dates have been confirmed and WorldStrides online registration portal (or equivalent paperwork) has been made available for your group's tour, the prices shown for the relevant group size level(s) will not change, regardless of any subsequent rate fluctuations (for example, on visits to attractions, airline fuel/taxes or currency movements on overseas programs).				

**What is Included:**

- Round trip airfare with a major carrier on scheduled flights and guaranteed dates
- All airport taxes and fuel surcharges (which will not change after time of enrollment for any participant)
- Accommodation in three and four star hotels in twin rooms with private facilities guaranteed throughout
- Hotel portorage of 1 bag per person in and out of each hotel.
- A continental breakfast everyday to get the day started well throughout your touring program, with one lunch
- A three-course dinner reflecting local cuisine on most evenings (usually in local restaurants in capital cities)
- A full-time WorldStrides OnStage Tour Director to accompany your group 24 hours a day from arrival to departure
- The expertise and perspective of local guides during your tour
- All excursions, cultural activities and (several pre-booked) admissions as per your itinerary
- Once overseas, all transportation by private coach while on tour, with the addition of taxis in Assisi where necessary
- Private Mass venue arrangements as per your itinerary
- A free place in a single room for the main Program Leader on your tour
- Additional free places in twin rooms (as determined by the number of full paying participants stated)
- Basic health insurance while on tour (including medical treatment on tour up to \$7,500) and \$50,000 of coverage for emergency evacuation and repatriation

**This Does Not Include:**

- Lunches except on Day 3, Dinner on Days 3 & 4, or personal beverages with meals
- Visas (if required)
- Tips and gratuities for the Tour Director and driver
- Any fees that might be imposed by the airlines at the airport for checked baggage
- Travel insurance - We offer and recommend our TripMate travel insurance policy to all. This comprehensive policy includes health, property and cancellation coverage at a cost of \$149. A Cancel For Any Reason policy is also available for \$249.



## Traveling with WorldStrides:

### Layers of Assurance



A WorldStrides trip is more than just a once-in-a-lifetime cultural and learning experience; each and every traveler is backed by the strength of the United States' largest and most trusted educational travel organization. Below is just a sampling of the support services WorldStrides provides to individuals and groups.

#### Accreditation and Educational Strength

- WorldStrides is accredited as an educational institution through *AdvancED*. WorldStrides is the first travel provider to attain this accreditation, which validates the quality, stability, and educational value of our programs.
- WorldStrides provides educational travel programs for more than 5,000 middle and high schools, 400 universities and 400,000 students annually.

#### Safe and Secure: A Core WorldStrides Value

- **TravelSmart, Travel Safe™** – WorldStrides has its own copyrighted instructional tool with safety guidelines, recommendations and information for all travelers.
- **Tour Director Training** – Best practices outlined in this document are reinforced by our Tour Directors who are trained to provide a student safety overview at the beginning of each trip including general security procedures.
- **Emergency Procedures** – WorldStrides has an extensive on the ground support network in all travel destinations to assist in the event safety issues arise. Our Tour Directors have experience working in the countries our students visit and are available to the group 24/7. We are in regular contact with our Tour Directors and others on the ground to provide up to date information to travelers and those at home.

#### Risk Management

- **Emergency Contact Services** – WorldStrides' on tour support office is open 24 hours a day and staffed with trained professionals ready to assist with any problems or questions during travel.
- **Crisis Management Team** – Led by a dedicated Director of Risk Management, our team actively monitors world events, International SOS and State Department notices 24/7.
- **Emergency Monitoring and Evacuation Services** – WorldStrides partners with iJet, a fully integrated risk management company providing world-class threat intelligence, innovative technology and response services.
- **Embedded Insurance** – All program participants are covered by \$7,500 primary medical and dental insurance and \$50,000 emergency medical evacuation insurance.
- **Doctors on Call Program** – A George Washington University Hospital doctor serves on staff as the WorldStrides Medical Director, overseeing medical response planning for the organization. Through an exclusive agreement with the GWU Department of Emergency Medicine, participants have worldwide, 24/7 phone access to medical support (including phone consultations and translation services).

#### Insurance: Liability and Financial Security

- **Liability Insurance** – WorldStrides' insurance is the largest in the industry at \$50 million. This coverage extends to certain individuals acting on behalf of WorldStrides as tour directors, program leaders, and chaperons. Your school can be named as additionally insured.
- **Extensive Consumer Protection** – \$1,000,000 in coverage for advance deposits through our USTOA membership.
- **U.S. Based Company** – WorldStrides is owned by the Silver Hawk Wealth Management, a leading global asset management firm.
- **Affordable, Optional Medical and Cancellation Insurance** – Access to coverage available for all trip participants.

#### State Department Registration and Legal Compliance

- **Federal and State Regulations** – WorldStrides is in compliance with all Federal and State regulations, including all U.S. Seller of Travel Laws - [www.worldstrides.com/legal-policy](http://www.worldstrides.com/legal-policy).
- **Legal compliance with all U.S. Seller of Travel Laws** – ours are posted at [www.worldstrides.com/legal-policy](http://www.worldstrides.com/legal-policy).