

Vacations by Kimberly presents...

Shrines of Italy

with Optional 2-Night Venice & St. Anthony of Padua Pre Tour Extension

with Optional 3-Night St. Pio & Montecassino Abbey Post Tour Extension

October 11–21, 2027



Book Now
& Save
350\$
Per Person

Upgrade to Elite Airfare! See inside for details.

For more information contact

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11 Days ● 14 Meals: 9 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 4 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Rome, Catacombs, Holy Stairs, Basilica of Saint Mary Major, Vatican Museum & Sistine Chapel, St. Peter's Basilica, Papal Audience, Assisi & Basilica of St. Francis, *Porziuncola* Chapel & Basilica of Saint Mary of the Angels, Holy House of Nazareth in Loreto, St. Rita's Sanctuary in Cascia

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2, 3 NH Hotel Villa Carpegna, Rome

Days 4 – 7 Hotel Cenacolo, Assisi

Days 8 – 10 NH Hotel Villa Carpegna, Rome

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Day 1: Monday, October 11, 2027 Overnight Flight Travel on an inspirational journey to some of the most fascinating religious sites and relics in the world.

Day 2: Tuesday, October 12, 2027 Rome, Italy Your tour opens in Rome, the spiritual center of the Catholic faith. As arrival times will vary, there is no scheduled sightseeing today. Spend the day as you wish, exploring the city independently. This evening, savor regional flavors as you join your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner. (D)

Day 3: Wednesday, October 13, 2027 Rome Begin your exploration of Rome's most revered Christian sites with a visit to the Cathedral of Saint John Lateran and its ancient Baptistery. Continue to the *Scala Sancta*, the Holy Stairs, believed to be the very steps that Christ climbed when he appeared before Pontius Pilate. Then, visit the Marian Basilica of St. Mary Major, before concluding your day at Saint Praxedes, one of Rome's oldest churches, where you have the possibility of celebrating Mass.* (B)

Day 4: Thursday, October 14, 2027 Rome - Santa Maria degli Angeli, Assisi Travel north to the region of Umbria, known as "the green heart of Italy" and where St. Francis spent most of his life. Pause for lunch at a family-owned winery nestled in the countryside. This afternoon, visit the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels, where you explore the *Porziuncola* – the small chapel that is the founding site of the Franciscan Order. Stroll through the rose garden, where tradition holds that the miracle of the thorny bush took place. Then pause for a moment of reflection at the Chapel of the Transitus, where St. Francis of Assisi passed away. You'll have the opportunity to celebrate Mass* at the basilica before checking into your hotel in the early evening. Settle in for a four-night stay before spending an evening at leisure. (B, L)

Day 5: Friday, October 15, 2027 Assisi - Loreto - Assisi This morning, journey across the Apennine Mountains to the Marian shrine of Loreto, a site so sacred that more than fifty Popes have made a pilgrimage here. Pause for a moment of devotion at the statue of the Madonna di Loreto, especially venerated as the universal patroness of air travelers. Then, visit the shrine of the Holy House of Nazareth, which is believed to have been miraculously transported by angels from the Holy Land in 1294. The Holy House is revered as the place where the Virgin Mary was born, lived, and received the Annunciation. You have the opportunity of celebrating Mass* at the basilica before returning to Assisi in time for dinner at your hotel. (B, D)

Day 6: Saturday, October 16, 2027 Assisi Guided by a local expert, set out on a morning-long walking tour of the medieval hilltop town of Assisi, birthplace of St. Francis. Spend time at the church of St. Clare, pausing for a moment of reflection at the crucifix from which Jesus spoke to Francis. Visit the Sanctuary of the Spoliation that now enshrines the tomb of St. Carlo Acutis, the first millennial saint who used his skills in website design to document and share Eucharistic miracles. Then, explore the 13th-century basilica of St. Francis, where you can see many of his possessions and a series of famous frescoes depicting his life. You can celebrate Mass* at the basilica before an afternoon at leisure to spend in prayer and meditation or exploring more of this charming hilltop town on your own. (B)

Day 7: Sunday, October 17, 2027 Assisi - Roccaporena - Cascia - Assisi This morning, travel along the winding roads of the Nera Valley to the hamlet of Roccaporena, the birthplace of St. Rita. Visit the humble home where the patron saint of impossible causes was born, and see the small church of San Montano where she was married. You will have the opportunity to celebrate Mass* in Roccaporena before continuing on to Cascia for a visit to the basilica that houses St. Rita's earthly remains. Return to Assisi in the early evening, in time for dinner at your hotel. (B, D)



Land Only Rates*:

Double \$4,499; Single \$5,499; Triple \$4,449

Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$599 per person, Hotel Transfers of \$150 per person and Round Trip Air

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change, Book now savings NOT valid on land only bookings

Book Now & Save \$350 Per Person:

Air Inclusive Rates:

Double \$6,349; **Double \$5,999***
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 Triple \$6,299 **Triple \$5,949**

For bookings made after Apr 12, 2027 call for rates.

Included in Price: Round Trip Air from Tallahassee Municipal, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers

Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$599 per person

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change, based on air inclusive package

Upgrade your in-flight experience with Elite Airfare

Additional rate of: Premium Economy \$1,690; Business Class \$4,190

□ * Elite Air pricing (Premium Economy, Business Class or First Class) is valid until 18 months prior to departure, after which rates are subject to change and will be quoted based upon availability. † Refer to the reservation form to choose your upgrade option

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS: Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received and booking confirmed by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received and booking confirmed, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees.

Day 8: Monday, October 18, 2027 Assisi - Rome This morning, say *ciao* to Assisi and travel back to Rome where you visit the Catacombs. Upon arrival, follow the steps down to the underground tunnels where early Christians, martyrs and saints gathered to worship and bury their dead. You have the possibility of celebrating Mass* in one of the garden chapels before continuing to your hotel. Then, settle in for a three-night stay and an evening at leisure. (B)

Day 9: Tuesday, October 19, 2027 Rome - Vatican Museum - St. Peter's Basilica Today, explore the Vatican Museum,** including the Sistine Chapel where the Pope is elected and where Michelangelo's famous *Last Judgment* mural is located. End your visit in St. Peter's Basilica, the world's largest church. Feel the

grace around you as you meander along towering marble columns and stand in awe before the *Pietà*, Michelangelo's renowned sculpture of the Christ and the Virgin Mary. The afternoon is yours to explore more of the Eternal City. You may celebrate Mass* at a local church before an evening at leisure. (B)

Day 10: Wednesday, October 20, 2027 Rome - Papal Audience Early this morning, attend the weekly Papal Audience*** in the Vatican City to receive the blessing given by the Holy Father. The afternoon is yours to do as you wish. This evening, gather for a farewell dinner at a local restaurant, celebrating the end of a memorable pilgrimage to Italy. (B, D)

Day 11: Thursday, October 21, 2027 Rome - Tour Ends Your tour comes to a close in Rome. (B)

EXTEND YOUR VACATION WITH

Optional 4 Days 2-Night Venice & St. Anthony of Padua Pre Tour Extension

Per Person Rates: \$1,299.00 USD double, \$1,499.00 USD single, land & air inclusive

Optional 4 Days 3-Night St. Pio & Montecassino Abbey Post Tour Extension

Per Person Rates: \$1,699.00 USD double, \$1,999.00 USD single, land only

For more information on extensions and options for this tour visit

<https://vacationsbykimberly.com>

Important Tour Information:

Book Now rates valid until Apr 12, 2027, valid on air inclusive packages only.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour, covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. Expect some longer days with early mornings or late nights balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. This level is not a fit for travelers who require mobility assistance devices.

Travel with an average of 37 people (maximum of 44).

To complete the visit of the Vatican Museum and St. Peter's Basilica, you must be able to walk and stand on your feet for a total of 5 hours with only 1 break (approximately 20 minutes). There is no seating available during the tour and no air conditioning in the museum, which is often overcrowded. The amount of walking varies according to the crowds on the day of your visit, but you must expect to be walking a minimum distance of 2.6 miles (4.2 kilometers) in addition to climbing down about 120 steps to exit the Vatican Museum and up another 30 steps to reach St. Peter's Basilica.

Italy imposes strict limits on tour bus circulation, and mandatory drop off and pick up points, especially in historic areas such as Rome, the Vatican City, Assisi, Loreto and Cascia. The same applies for the optional tour sightseeing outlined in the itinerary. All these areas require navigating large crowds, extensive walking over cobblestones, uneven and often narrow sidewalks, and occasionally unpaved terrain with loose gravel.

The catacombs are located underground. They are only accessible via a staircase with handrail, but it requires climbing 50 steps down and 50 steps back up. The steps are uneven and of different heights. Once inside you must follow the catacomb guide at all times. Due to safety rules, it is not possible to interrupt the visit and go back up on your own. For these reasons, the visit may not be suitable for individuals suffering from claustrophobia. It is possible to wait for the group outside the Catacombs.

The Holy Stairs (*Scala Sancta*) is made of 28 steps and can only be climbed on your knees, but there is a side-staircase that you can walk up. There is no elevator at the site.

In Assisi, you must be prepared to walk a minimum of 1.6 miles (2.5 kilometers), mostly uphill. Once you reach the Basilica of St. Francis, you will tour both the "lower" and "upper" churches which are connected via an internal staircase. The pavement of the "lower" church is very irregular due to its age. To access the "upper" church you will need to climb a total of 52 steps. The tomb of St. Francis can only be reached via three flights of stairs (27 steps) equipped with handrails. There are no elevators or escalators inside the Basilica.

The included activities are not suitable for travelers using motorized scooters, wheelchairs, walkers, or Zimmer-frames.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at the time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

Most shops and businesses in Italy are closed on Sundays and on national/religious holidays.

*If you are traveling in a group without a priest, we cannot guarantee daily Mass. However, you'll be able to attend Mass on most days, but the Masses will be in public churches and presented in Italian.

***The Papal Audience is, at times, unavailable due to the Pope's travel schedule or health. You will depart the hotel around 6:00 a.m. to get in line

to attend the Papal Audience. This requires standing in line for approximately 1 hour without any seating or restrooms available. The Audience takes place in Italian, at times with brief salutations in English and other languages.

**Due to the unpredictable nature of the events schedule at the Vatican, on certain dates it may be necessary to visit the Vatican Museums at a different time or even on a different day. For example, when the Vatican option falls on a Wednesday, the order of included and optional tour days may be reversed. The Vatican Museum is closed on most Sundays and on all Catholic holidays. There is no air conditioning in the museum.

Modest dress (covering your knees and shoulders for women and long trousers for men) is required when visiting religious sites, sanctuaries, basilicas, etc.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

To complete your tour, we include round-trip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

Please be advised, many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Prepaid tipping is not available on our tours therefore payment of customary end-of-trip gratuities for your Tour Manager, driver, hotel housekeepers, and cruise ship waitstaff should be handled individually when applicable during the course of your tour.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

Travel Requirements:

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require that your passport be valid at least 6 months beyond the dates of your travel. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that travelers take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

Collette will provide all necessary information, updates, and supporting documents for your travel requirements, including visa and Electronic Travel Authorizations (ETAs), if required, approximately 60-90 days prior to your departure.

ETIAS visa waiver requirements are anticipated to begin during the last quarter of 2026, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit https://travel-europe.europa.eu/etias_en

A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the seat reduction date of April 05, 2027 are based upon availability. Final payment due by July 13, 2027. Deposits are refundable up until April 12, 2027.

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