

# PILGRIMAGE TO SPAIN AND FRANCE

From June 8 – June 24, 2026

Linh hướng: Đức Ông Phêrô Nguyễn Quang



## Day 1: Depart USA fly to Santiago de Compostela

Make our way to airport, where we will board your overnight flight(s). Our meals will be served on board. From USA to Madrid. Then, we will flight from Madrid to Santiago de Compostela.

## Day 2: Arrive in Santiago de Compostela

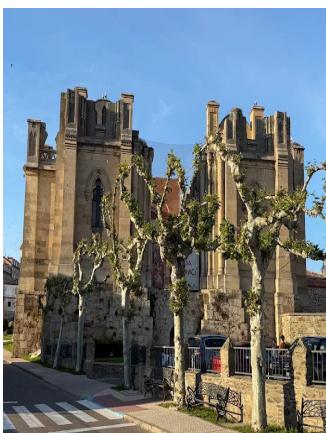
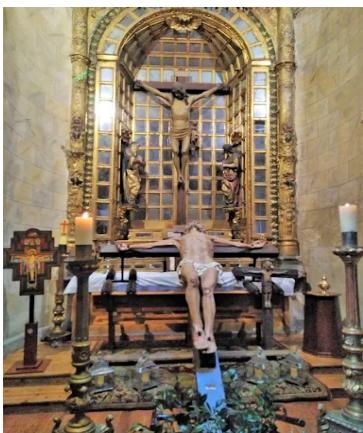
Upon arrival in Barcelona, collect our luggage in the baggage claim area and follow Msgr. Quang to the arrival hall, where we will be greeted by tour guide and / or driver. Make our way to the vehicle for our transfer to your hotel. Upon arrival, check-in and have free time to rest, refresh, or explore. We will have mass at the Cathedral of St. James before dinner. This evening, enjoy a welcoming dinner, followed by an overnight in Santiago de Compostela.

## Day 3: Santiago de Compostela

This morning, you will walk a few miles of El Camino, immerse yourselves in the fragrant eucalyptus groves, and experience the breathtaking scenery. Later this morning, join in celebrating the International Pilgrim Mass at the Cathedral of St. James. After Mass, there will be free time for lunch, followed by a visit to the Cathedral of Santiago. The Cathedral is made of Galician granite, one of the finest examples of architectural design in Europe, as it encompasses Romanesque, Gothic, and Baroque styles. Additionally, it contains numerous valuable pieces of art that truly captivate the eye. Pilgrims traditionally hug the statue of St. James as they enter the Cathedral. Descend into the crypt where the Patron Saint of Pilgrims relics is displayed. Following your visit, enjoy a sightseeing tour of the city. Some stops on your tour include the Obradoiro Square, Fonseca Palace, Gelmirez Palace, Franco Street, and much more. Dinner and an overnight stay at Santiago de Compostela.

## Day 4: Santiago de Compostela - O' Cebreiro - Astorga - Salamanca

After breakfast, we visit Galicia by way of the city of Lugo. Our next stop will be O'Cebreiro, the first village in the region of Lugo, nestled in the mountains at an altitude of 1,300 meters. In O Cebreiro, view the iconic palooza-style houses and celebrate mass at the site of a Eucharistic Miracle, which occurred in the year 1300. After lunch, we head to Astorga to visit the Bishop's Palace built by Antonio Gaudi, which holds the Museum of El Camino. Later this afternoon, we head to Salamanca for dinner and an overnight stay.



## Day 5: Salamanca - Alba de Tormes

After breakfast, visit the city of Salamanca, the birth place of St. Teresa (UNESCO world heritage site). Walk across the Roman Bridge, which extends along the River Tormes and is a national monument. See La Iglesia de San Marcos Salamanca is a city in the Castile and Leon region known for its large university. It is the oldest university in Spain that is still active.

See La Clerecia, a church and college of the Jesuit Order that was constructed in the 17th century. Visit the inside of the two joint Salamanca Cathedrals (old and new). The first is a Romanesque style, and the other is a Gothic style. We will mass here.

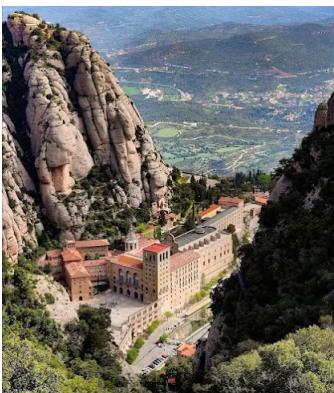
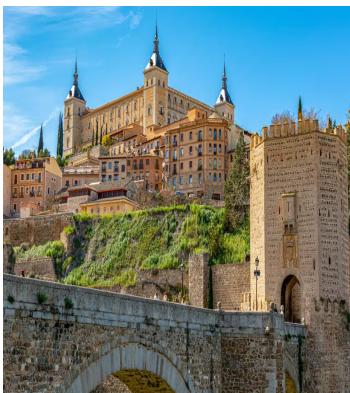
Next, visit La Casa de las Conchas, which is currently a public library and a monument decorated with shells, which symbolizes the ever-famous pilgrimage to Santiago (El Camino). We will have dinner and an overnight stay at hotel in Salamanca.

We visit the University of Salamanca, the oldest University in Spain and the third oldest in Europe. which is constructed in the Romanesque style and contains breathtaking paintings that portray many scenes of Our Lady's life. We will also see La Iglesia de San Martin, a Church devoted to St. Martin of Tours, the patron saint of beggars and those most in need. We continue to the village of Alba de Tormes. This town is home to the Carmelite Monastery that Saint Teresa founded in 1571. Upon arrival in Alba de Tormes, we celebrate Mass at this Monastery where the Saint died and is buried. Following Mass, you can visit the museum dedicated to St. Teresa of Avila, which also holds her incorrupt heart and left arm. We will have dinner and an overnight stay in Salamanca.

## Day 6: Salamanca - Avila - Madrid

Today, you will depart Salamanca and head towards the medieval city of Avila. We will celebrate mass at Cathedral of Avila. It was built in the late Romanesque and Gothic architectural traditions. Visit convent of Nuestra Senora de Gracia (built in 1510). Saint Teresa of Avila entered the convent as a student in 1531.

She spent 18 months at the convent, a period that deeply influenced her understanding of prayer and spiritual life before she became a Carmelite nun at the Convent of the Incarnation, the beautiful walled city of Avila, is built on a rocky area near the Adaja river, a tributary of the Duero river, a very important waterway for this region. after lunch we stop by the wall city, which dates back to the 11th century. Late afternoon, we continue to Madrid for dinner and overnight stay.



### **Day 7: Madrid & Toledo**

After breakfast, we will embark on a tour of Madrid, which includes visits to the Royal Palace and Plaza Mayor. A visit to Toledo will be next. Toledo is situated on a rocky mound, isolated on three sides, adjacent to a looping gorge of the Río Tajo. Every available inch of this outcrop has churches, synagogues, mosques, and houses heaped upon one another in a haphazard spiral, which the cobbled lanes infiltrate as best they can. Toledo is known as the city of the Three Religions or Cultures. For many centuries, Christians, Moors, and Jews lived together in relative equality and peace. The city, surrounded by walls, hides many treasures, including the Church of Santo Tomé, the Tránsito Synagogue, Santa María la Blanca Synagogue, the Church of San Juan de los Reyes, the Puerta de Bisagras, the Puerta del Cambrón, and the Puerta del Sol, among others. We return to Madrid for dinner and an overnight stay.

### **Day 8: Madrid - Montserrat - Barcelona**

After breakfast, we head to the Shrine of Our Lady of Montserrat, located on a rugged mountainside. According to Catholic tradition, circa 50 A.D., St. Luke is said to have carved the statue of the Black Madonna and brought it to Spain. While in Spain, it was kept hidden from the Moors and later was discovered by shepherds. In 880 A.D., shepherds and the Bishop of Manresa were drawn to a grotto by a bright light and heavenly music. Upon discovering the Black Madonna statue, the Bishop of Manresa suggested moving it to Manresa. However, the statue was too heavy and could not be lifted. As a result, the Virgin remained in Montserrat and continued to be venerated there for centuries. As the years progressed, several chapels were built on the site. In the eleventh century, the abbot-bishop Oliba founded the Monastery on Montserrat next to one of these chapels. We will have mass here. After lunch, we continue to Barcelona for dinner and overnight.

### **Day 9: Barcelona - Manresa - Zaragoza**

After breakfast and a sightseeing tour of Barcelona! Enjoy the stunning panoramic views of the Port of Barcelona, Montjuic, Plaza de España, and Plaza de Catalunya. This port was established over 2,000 years ago to protect and provide access for ships carrying goods. Currently, it is home to numerous walking regions, businesses, cultural and sporting events. Plaza de España is right outside the center of town, formerly known for its old bull-fighting ring. Presently, the Plaza is renowned for containing the Museum of Catalan Art, situated on the side of Montjuic. Plaza de Catalunya is located in the heart of Barcelona and is famous for its fountains and statues. Your day of touring will continue with a guided walk through the Gothic Quarter, containing remains from an ancient Roman village, including the Cathedral of Barcelona. We will continue to visit Antoni Gaudí's stunning, unfinished Roman Catholic Basilica, La Sagrada Familia. In the afternoon, we will travel to Manresa to have mass at the Sanctuary of Saint Ignatius of Loyola and the Holy Cave where St. Ignatius lived. Continue to Zaragoza for dinner and overnight.



## Day 10: Zaragoza - Lourdes

After breakfast, we will visit and celebrate mass at the magnificent Basilica del Pilar, built upon the site where Our Lady appeared to St. James. In 44 A.D., St. James the Greater was spreading the Gospel in Spain. He was discouraged due to the fact that he was making very little progress and began questioning his mission. According to Catholic Tradition, the Virgin Mary, who was still living in Jerusalem, bi-located and appeared to St. James the Greater to boost his morale. While inside the Basilica, you will view the pillar carried by angels, and from atop Our Lady appeared. After visiting the Basilica del Pilar, continue to La Seo Cathedral (Cathedral of Zaragoza), formerly known as the Church of San Vicente. The Visigoth period contains architectural elements of Gothic, Mudéjar, Renaissance, and Baroque styles. In addition to the famous cathedral, Zaragoza is also known for its folklore and local gastronomy, both of which will be explored on walking tour of the city. Late afternoon, we will continue to Lourdes (in the Pyrenees Mountains) for dinner and restful overnight.



## Day 11: Lourdes

After breakfast, we will celebrate mass and meditate at the site of Our Lady's apparitions. Our Lady first appeared to Bernadette in 1858 and announced herself as "The Immaculate Conception" near the Grotto of Massabielle. During the first two apparitions, little Bernadette prayed the Rosary with Our Lady and left without exchanging words. During the following apparitions, Our Lady emphasized God's love for us and the necessity of performing acts of penance for sinners. Throughout our time in Lourdes, we will have the opportunity to attend Mass at the Grotto, where Our Lady appeared to Bernadette. Watch a video presentation that explains the story of Lourdes. Wash our hands and faces, and drink the water of the miraculous spring. Finish with a short prayer: "Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us. St. Bernadette, pray for us. O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee." Experience Christ's unconditional love as we meditate upon the "life-size" Stations of the Cross that overlook the Grotto of Massabielle. In Lourdes, we will walk in and meditate upon the footsteps of St. Bernadette. We will visit Boly Mill, the birthplace of St. Bernadette, and the "Cachot," an

abandoned prison where Bernadette's impoverished family lived. Each evening, following dinner, we can attend the candlelight procession and pray the Rosary before a restful overnight.

### **Day 12 : Lourdes - Toulouse - Rocamadour**

Following breakfast, transfer to Toulouse. This southern French city was once a Roman colony home to numerous religious and historical treasures. While here, we will have the opportunity to view many of these rare artifacts, such as twenty historical pipe organs and the original burial place of St. Thomas Aquinas at the St. Sernin Basilica. One of the finest Romanesque churches in France, its exterior is constructed of red brick with white stone as a decorative accent. Following your visit to this magnificent church, continue north to Rocamadour, a town atop a rocky mountain. Upon arrival in Rocamadour, we will enjoy a delicious meal and a restful overnight.

### **Day 13: Day 6: Rocamadour - Paray Le Monial**

This morning you will awaken in the town overlooking the Alzou Valley which was the home to the early Christian hermit, Zaccheus of Jericho. Zaccheus conversed with Jesus himself and was the husband of St. Veronica, the woman who wiped the face of Jesus as He climbed to Calvary.

During your time at this sacred destination, you will visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Rocamadour, a place of miraculous conversion. The Shrine consists of numerous religious structures and chapels centered around a statue of the Virgin Mary and the tomb of Zaccheus. After you visit this place of miraculous healing, your journey will continue to Paray Le Monial for dinner and overnight.

### **Day 14: Paray Le Monial - Nevers**

You will begin your day with breakfast. Following Mass, you will have some free time for prayer and reflection. You will then visit the Chapel of the Visitation. It is here that Jesus exposed His Sacred Heart to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque in the seventeenth century. The apparitions allowed St. Margaret to rest her head upon Jesus' Sacred Heart, during which she experienced Our Lord's unconditional love for humanity. During your visit to this holy place, we will have the opportunity to view relics of the beloved Saint, located beneath a wax figure of her image. After free time for lunch in Paray Le Monial, we will drive to Nevers through the picturesque Loire Valley. Nevers is where St. Bernadette lived for twelve years as a member of the Congregation of the Sisters of Nevers. The Saint suffered from several illnesses such as asthma, tuberculosis of the lungs, and a tubercular tumor in her right knee. For this, St. Bernadette received "the Last Sacraments" three times and eventually passed away in 1879, at the age of thirty-five. End the day with a visit to the Convent of Saint Gildard. Enjoy a delicious meal before retiring for the evening.





### Day 15: Nevers - Paris - Miraculous Medal – Notre Dame Cathedral

After breakfast, we will board the bus to transfer to Paris. We begin our favorite spot Our Lady of Miraculous Medal. After celebrating Holy Mass, we will have the opportunity to view the incorrupt body of St. Catherine Laboure. The Saint's guardian angel led her to the chapel where the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to her. During the apparitions, Our Lady repeatedly instructed the making and purpose of the Miraculous Medal. According to the Blessed Virgin Mary, those who wear the Miraculous Medal will receive special protection and abundant graces. Following this prayerful and reflective experience, we will walk to nearby Saint Vincent de Paul Church. We continue our tour of Paris with stop at one of the most incredible churches in the world: Notre Dame Cathedral, Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The panoramic bus tour will take us to other most recognizable symbols of the city of Paris including the Eiffel Tower, the Invalides, the L'Arch de Triomphe, and the Champ-Elysees, the world's most famous boulevard. We will stop at La Madeleine, with the statue of Mary Magdalene carried to heaven by angels. Your busy day ends with a lovely meal and a comfortable overnight.





## Day 16: Return Flights Home

After an early breakfast and heartfelt farewells, leave by motorcoach and transfer to the airport to fly home

**NOTE:** *Add-on is optional with you spend more time in Paris for shopping or more site seeing with Louvre museum, deep seeing with Eiffel Tower and River Seines cruise tours are optional and not included in this pilgrimage. Please stay another extra day for this and let us know if you want this option.*

### \*Tours Disclaimer:

*Occasionally local religious and national holidays, weather, traffic conditions and other events may necessitate changes in the sequence of events or the missing of certain events / places. Though every effort will be made to follow the itinerary, it should be considered as an indication, rather than a contract of events and places to be visited.*

