

Grand tour of Italy

14 day Catholic Escorted Tour

20th September - 3rd October 2018

Highlights

Saints, Martyrs
& Popes, Rome,
St Francis of Assisi,
monasteries off the
beaten track,
Local experiences,
cuisine & wine
& more

**LIVE IT LIKE A LOCAL
AUTHENTIC JOURNEYS**

2018
14 days

ITALY

ROME | ASSISI | SIENA | TUSCANY
VENICE | PADUA | MILAN

**TOUR CREATED IN CONJUNCTION WITH
THE AMAZING TEAM AT WEKA TRAVEL**

AIR NEW ZEALAND 
Holidays

TRAVEL
BROKER



WEKA TRAVEL
authentic journeys

CATHOLIC JOURNEY OF ITALY



Travelling with fellow NZ parishioners, this is an amazing journey following the footsteps of Saints, martyrs as well as breathtaking sightseeing, Italian cuisine and wine and off the beaten track experiences led by our local fellow Catholics - a journey of faith through Italy's wonders.

Itinerary

B Breakfast | **L** Lunch | **D** Dinner | **T** Tastings

Thurs 20th
September 2018
(**D**, wine)

MEET IN ROME

Arriving in your own time to Rome, you will have plenty of time to check-in to our hotel, before we meet in the evening for our welcome banquet in a favourite local restaurant where you get to enjoy a real Roman dinner

Accommodation: Hotel San Francesco , Rome - 5 nights

in the heart of the Trastevere district with its own rooftop terrace and bar

Fri 21st
September 2018
(**B**, **D**)

ROME - explore the heart of Rome & Vatican

Your local guide for the morning will take us on a journey not only of the main sights like Pantheon, Spanish steps, but away from the crowds to some amazing churches holding secrets of Christ's followers: St Mary Major Basilica, St Philip Neri, St Agostino, S. Maria Sopra Minerva, S. Philip & St James the Lesser & more. Lunch and free time, before our experience of the Vatican is one most people miss, a private tour of the Vatican museum & Sistine Chapel by night with buffet food in the Pinecone courtyard. VIP entrance

Sat 22nd
September 2018
(**B**, **D**, wine)

ROME - Ancient Rome, Colosseum & Pope's summer residence

Our private guide takes us through a journey of ancient Rome, the Colosseum VIP, church of St Peter's in chains, underground St Clement's, the Mamertine prison where St Paul was imprisoned. After a lunch break, we explore the best kept secrets of Rome.. beyond the city walls to Castel Gandolfo the Pope's summer villa and gardens, the lakes and dinner in the piazza of Frascati looking out over St Peter's Dome as the sun sets.

Sun 23rd
September 2018
(**B**)

ROME - St Peter's Basilica

Mass at St Peter's Basilica, before we head out with our local Catholic guide to St Paul's outside the walls, the Catacombs on Appian Way where St Paul walked into Rome, Headquarters of the Knights of Malta, Basilica St John's Lateran and the Holy Stairs.

Mon 24th
September 2018
(**B**)

ROME - Monasteries, Villas out of Rome

Today we take a look at some of Rome's lesser visited sights, including the Monastery of St Benedict's and his cave in Subiaco, Villa d'Este in Tivoli famous for its Renaissance water fountains.

Tues 25th
September 2018
(**B**)

ASSISI

Departing Rome, we head north into Umbria to visit the lovely hilltop town of Orvieto, the Duomo and ancient caves, before arriving to Assisi and settling into your hotel before we explore the Basilica of St Francis.

Accommodation: Hotel Windsor Savoia , Assisi - 2 nights

in the heart of Assisi, you are just a short walk from the Basilica so you can enjoy your own time here and the lovely village evenings.

Wed 26th
September 2018
(**B**)

ASSISI

Following St Francis, we explore the Basilica of St Francis and St Clare, the Carceri Hermitage and the Monastery of St Damiano.

Thurs 27th
September 2018
(**B**)

SIENA - Tuscany & St Catherine

Our journey through Tuscany takes us through Montepulciano, Bagno di Vignoni (a Medici thermal courtyard), to Buonconvento (a stop along the old Pilgrim road Via Francigena). In Siena after check-in, our guide takes us through the sights of Siena including the Sanctuary of St Catherine, Basilica St Dominic, il Campo and the Duomo. Along the way, we learn the stories and culture of these faithful servants and the Palio of Siena.

Accommodation: Hotel Italia , Siena - 1 nights

this lovely little Hotel is on the old pilgrim road entering Siena and just a short walk leads you into the heart of the old town.



Fri 28th
September 2018
(B, D)

FLORENCE

Arriving into Florence, our local guide will take you through Florence to visit Duomo, Santa Croce, VIP entrance to Michelangelo's David in Academia, Ponte Vecchio & more. Dinner as a group is at a lovely local restaurant

Accommodation: Hotel Loggiato dei Serviti, Florence - 1 nights

Nestled in the heart of old Florence, with a lovely piazza in front and just a few steps for the Academia & David or the Duomo.

Sat 29th Sept
September 2018
(B, D)

VENICE

The morning is yours to enjoy from the markets, maybe the Uffizi or shopping, before we take the fast train to Venice where our local hosts will meet us and take us in style by private watertaxi to our hotel before our guide takes us on an orientation of Venice and dinner at a lovely typical local Venetian restaurant.

Accommodation: Hotel Abadessa Venice - 3 nights

Our central location couldn't be better for exploring this amazing city that seems to float on a lost lagoon.

Sun 30th
September 2018
(B)

VENICE

Today we take a guided tour through the sights of Venice, beginning with Mass in Basilica St Marks, and then exploring the churches, piazza's markets, canals and tastes of Venice. San Gregorio & Salute to Maria degli Miracles all hold stories of faith and hope from times of darkness that inspire. Afternoon Free.

Mon 1st
October 2018
(B)

VENICE

This morning you will take the waterboats with our guide and explore the islands of Murano, a local nontouristy glassblowing experience, the island of Burano and its lovely brightly coloured houses and famous for the lacework. Along the way we take you on a journey of the Jesuits in Venice, the churches, people and Saints. The afternoon is yours to explore, shop and immerse yourself, or maybe take a gondola ride.

Tues 2nd
October 2018
(B, D)

MILAN - visiting Padua and Verona

The Private watertaxi takes us down the grand canal to our bus and as we leave one majestic place to get to another, we will visit the Giotto frescoes of Padua, Verona before arriving to Milan. The Final Banquet in Milan is a time to reflect on this journey, growth and experiences as individuals and also a group.

Accommodation: Hotel Art Navigli, Milan - 1 nights

Our central location by the Canals of Milan is the perfect as you get to immerse yourself once more in the local life.

Wed 3rd
October 2018
(B)

HOME or onwards

After Breakfast and Goodbyes, it is time to take your journey onwards to other destinations or home as you have planned.





13 nights
Escorted Tour
NZ\$6700*
Per person twin share
Single supplement on application



Upgrades available
Available T&C apply

MEET YOUR LOCALS IN ITALY

The unique part of this tour, is that along the way you will be joined by local priests, laymembers and other catholic tour guides who are passionate about the sights they will take you to as part of the trip. They have been all inspired by the faith to live, teach, study or work in Italy and just love to share not only the sights but the faith of Christ through his many works fo wonder that Italy has to share with you.

What's not included

- Travel Insurance, - compulsory please ask us for a quote
- Passport & Visa Fees
- Personal meals, beverages (unless incl in Itinerary)
- Laundry and items of personal nature.
- Flights – rather than booking set airfares with one airline we give you the opportunity to have a stopover in one or both directions, add pre or post tour arrangements or visit family or friends along the way which of course we can help you with!

What's included

- 5 nights BB Rome Hotel
- 2 nights BB Assisi hotel
- 1 nights BB Siena Hotel
- 1 nights BB Florence Hotel
- 3 nights BB Venice Hotel
- 1 nights BB Milan Hotel
- Total 13 nights accommodation incl all local hotel taxes in central, boutique or 4 star hotels.
- 14 days of excursions visiting major sights and many local off the beaten track sights away from the crowds.
- All transfers between cities in luxury private vehicles and waterboats.
- Private guided sightseeing tours and entrance skip the lines fees as per itinerary with quality Weka Local Guides.
- All breakfasts included.
- Special lunches or evening meals & Banquet dinner at local restaurants as per itinerary.
- Local experiences & immersion with local guides. Wine & local food tastings as per itinerary.
- Local knowledge from Weka Travel staff and guides to help you for the best how to and where information so you can enjoy your free time stressfree.
- Fun and Smiles.

*Terms and Conditions. Confirmation on booking must be secured by a NZ\$2500pp non-refundable deposit, which is required within 3 business days of the reservation. All payments are to be made by Cash, Cheque, EFTPOS or Direct Internet Banking or credit card. Credit Card payment will incur a 2.9% surcharge for Visa or Mastercard and 5% for Amex. A FULL & COMPREHENSIVE Travel Insurance policy must be purchased at the time of paying your deposit. All pricing is in NZ Dollars. It is our policy to try to present true costs of our holiday inclusive of all airlines and cruise line taxes, levies and surcharges. Please accept however that these taxes and levies are not within our control, therefore if a new tax/levy or surcharge is to be introduced or increased, we reserve the right to pass on any increase in cost. Events beyond our control, such as currency fluctuations, changes in the price of aviation or changes to the cost of services and facilities may result in prices charged to you being different. If unforeseen circumstances beyond our control require us to make necessary changes to your holiday, we reserve the right to cancel or reschedule departures and itineraries. When it is necessary to change a hotel, the company reserves the right to substitute accommodation of at least a similar standard.



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Elaine Casey: 03 347 4697 | 021 757 486 | elaine.casey@airnzbrokers.co.nz

www.airnewzealand.co.nz/elaine-casey

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