

# AT THE SOURCES OF FAITH

PILGRIMAGES



Aid to the  
Church in Need

ACN CANADA

## FRANCE, SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

*Bilingual Marian pilgrimage to Lourdes, Saint-James of Compostela, Fatima and Lisbon*

**From October 25 to November 6, 2023**

(13 days / 11 nights)

**spiritours**  
SOULFUL  
JOURNEYS



## Bilingual Marian pilgrimage to Lourdes, Saint-James of Compostela, Fatima and Lisbon

### In collaboration with Aid to the Church in Need Canada (ACN)

ACN Canada is delighted to offer this bilingual pilgrimage to its benefactors and friends. The pilgrimage will be led by Deacon Brian Cordeiro, who works at ACN and will be accompanied by Fr. Réal Ouellette from the diocese of Pembroke. This pilgrimage has as its goal, to enrich the faith of its pilgrims and help in building community.

Many daily masses including at Lourdes, Compostella, Fatima and Lisbon interwoven with social time and visits to cultural points to provide a nice prayer- social life balance.

### Significant moments

- Candlelight processions both in Lourdes and Fatima
- Visit in Lourdes to the famous Massabielle Grotto of the apparitions, the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary
- Mass at the Cathedral of Saint-James of Compostella, destination point of the camino routes, famous from the Middle Ages
- Wine-tasting in Porto
- Visit of the Porto train station with its famous frescoes, a UNESCO heritage site
- Visit in Lisbon to the Jérónimus Monastery and tasting of the famous Pastéis de Nata (Portuguese pastries)
- This pilgrimage is supported by the prayers of ACN staff, its friends and benefactors and parishioners from many English and French parishes of the Archdiocese of Montreal and the diocese of Pembroke.



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## Accompaniment



### Deacon Brian Cordeiro

Is leading the pilgrimage. He is a professional accountant who served as Associate The Finance Director of the Archdiocese of Montreal for 14 years until 2022. Since then, he has been employed as Outreach and Office Manager for Aid to the Church in Need Canada (ACN), which is sponsoring this Marian pilgrimage. Deacon Brian holds a Master's degree in Theology and is one of the permanent deacons at St. Luke's Parish in Dollard-des-Ormeaux. He has already led three very successful pilgrimages:

in 2015 to the Holy Land, in 2016 to Italy, and in 2018 to Portugal, Spain and France. His pilgrimages have created small communities in which pilgrims continue to meet and enjoy each other's friendship to this day. FAITH leading to FRIENDSHIP which in turn leads to DEEPER FAITH is how Deacon Brian sees God's work played out in the lives of his pilgrims. He expects this Marian pilgrimage to France, Spain and Portugal to be an excellent opportunity for a group of pilgrims at different stages of their faith journey to truly experience God.



### Father Réal Ouellette

Ordained in 2002, Father Réal Ouellette is a priest of the Diocese of Pembroke. He has served several French and English parishes in the Quebec and Ontario parts of his diocese, while being involved in various ministries at the diocesan level, from youth ministry to marriage preparation, faith formation and the well-being of the priestly life. Currently, as pastor of three rural parishes, he is particularly involved in his diocese's evangelization project, the Unbound Ministry, and as co-director of the New Media Office. Father Réal has a Marian devotion that has taken him to Fatima, Medjugorje and 4 times to Lourdes. From the beginning of his ministry, he broadcast his homilies on the Internet. The pandemic led him to migrate to live streaming his masses and many other prayers on numerous social media platforms.

## Profile of your trip



### Christian pilgrimage

The origin of these packages is based on the Christian tradition; they are often accompanied by a priest or a travel guide with theological training. The program includes the possibility of attending a mass every day (free of charge).



### Cultural trip

These trips will allow you to discover sites of cultural and historical interest (museums, archaeological sites, historical monuments, religious heritage), to participate in important cultural events or to meet the local population in order to better understand their culture.



# Itinerary

## DAY 1 | WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2023

### DEPARTURE FROM MONTREAL

Meet in the afternoon at P.E. Trudeau airport (Montreal) to board a direct international flight to Toulouse on Air Transat.

## DAY 2 | THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023

### ARRIVAL IN TOULOUSE - LOURDES

Arrive in Toulouse at 9:30 am and meet our pilgrimage guide. Free time for lunch followed by a free visit of the St-Sernin cathedral and the Carmelite chapel nicknamed the "little Sistine of Toulouse". Departure at 2pm to Lourdes, arrival in Lourdes at 4pm. Dinner at the latest at 7pm and night at the HOTEL SOLITUDE \*\*\*\* in Lourdes.

## DAY 3 | FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2023

### LOURDES

After breakfast, meet your local guide for Lourdes and guided tour of the shrine city: from the famous Grotto of Massabielle of the apparitions and a bath in the healing waters (if permitted) to the church of St. Bernadette via the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary. Mass in the morning followed by lunch. In the afternoon, walk in the footsteps of Bernadette Soubirous, the little girl from Lourdes who, for more than a century and a half, "made the world go by". Visit of her dungeon, her father's house, the mill of Boly and the hospice Sainte-Bernadette. Rest of the day free. Dinner, followed by the Marian candlelight procession at 9pm (lasting up to 1 ½ hours) and overnight at the HOTEL SOLITUDE \*\*\*\* in Lourdes.

## DAY 4 | SATURDAY, 28 OCTOBER, 2023

### LOURDES - PIC DU JER - LOURDES

Today, we go to the Pic du Jer which overlooks the city; for this, we take the city bus and then the funicular which takes us to 1000 meters of altitude. At the top, a botanical path leads us to the observatory. A beautiful panorama of the Pyrenees with a 360° view of the highest peaks. Possibility of celebrating mass in the open air after 4:00 pm (it will be a Sunday mass). Dinner at the hotel. Marian candlelight procession at 9pm. Night at the HOTEL SOLITUDE \*\*\*\* in Lourdes.

## DAY 5 | SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2023

### LOURDES - SAN SEBASTIEN - SANTANDER

After breakfast, we cross the French-Spanish border through the Pyrenees to arrive in the city of San Sebastian (2 ½ hours drive). Stop at the bay of La Concha, which offers a breathtaking panorama and is the starting point for pilgrims who wish to do the Camino del Norte to Santiago de Compostela. Lunch in San Sebastian/Bay of La Concha, famous for its Basque cuisine. In the afternoon, we will continue our journey to Santander (2 ½ hour drive). Dinner and overnight in Santander at the HOTEL SANTEMAR.

## DAY 6 | MONDAY, 30 OCTOBER, 2023

### SANTANDER - RIBADEO - SAINT-JAMES OF COMPOSTELA

After breakfast, departure at 9am for Ribadeo (2 hours) along the Atlantic coast. Health break in Ribadeo where we will be able to observe the cathedral-like rocks of the Playa de las Catedrales. Lunch at noon. At 2 p.m., we continue to Santiago de Compostela (2 hours drive from Ribadeo). We will attend the pilgrims' mass in the cathedral of Santiago de Compostela at 5 pm. Dinner at 7 p.m. and overnight stay in Compostela at the EXE PEREGRINO.

## DAY 7 | TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2023

### SANT-JAMES OF COMPOSTELA

One of the most remarkable cities in Spain and one of the most important places of pilgrimage since the Middle Ages. After breakfast, guided tour of the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, an architectural jewel with its magnificent portal, the Portico de la Gloria, which gathers around Christ the four evangelists, the apostles and the 24 elders of the apocalypse. Mass in Santiago de Compostela. Lunch and free afternoon for personal discovery. Dinner and overnight stay in Santiago de Compostela at the EXE PEREGRINO hotel.

## DAY 8 | WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2023

### SANT-JAMES OF COMPOSTELA - BRAGA - PORTO

Departure from Compostela at 9am in the direction of Porto. Stop en route in Braga (2 ½ hours from Compostela), known for its heritage and religious events. Lunch in Braga at noon and departure at 1pm for Porto (45 minutes drive). Starting at 2pm, guided tour of the city of Porto, a Unesco World Heritage Site. Discovery of its spectacular S. Bento train station with its frescoes painted on the walls, the clergy tower, the Sé de Porto cathedral, etc., followed by an unforgettable stop in Vila Nova de Gaia to visit a port wine cellar and taste this wonderful Portuguese wine. Free evening. Night in Porto. Stay at the HOTEL BLACK TULIP.



# Itinerary



## DAY 9 | THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2023 PORTO - COIMBRA - FATIMA

This morning, departure from Porto at 9:00 am in the direction of Fatima. Stop en route in Coimbra (1 ½ hour from Porto), a well-preserved medieval city with a historic university. Mass at the Sé Velha cathedral at 11am. Lunch at 12:00 followed by a visit to the cathedral. Departure at 3pm from Coimbra to Fatima (1 hour drive). Participation in the night candlelight procession at 9:30 pm. Night in Fatima at the HOTEL STEYLER \*\*\*\*.

## DAY 10 | FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2023 FATIMA

In the morning, Mass followed by a guided walking tour of Fatima including the famous Shrine of Our Lady, the Basilica and the Capelinha where Our Lady appeared to the three children. The afternoon and evening are free to meditate and enjoy the place. Possibility of participating in the candlelight procession at 9 pm. Night in Fatima at the HOTEL STEYLER \*\*\*\*.



## DAY 11 | SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2023 FATIMA - TOMAR - LISBON

Morning mass at the shrine, free time in Fatima for the rest of the morning, then departure after lunch for Lisbon, with a stop to visit Tomar on the way. Arrival at the hotel in Lisbon. Meeting at the hotel at 6:00 pm before dinner for a debriefing of the pilgrimage, reliving the pilgrimage experience and sharing stories. Night in Lisbon at the HOTEL VIP ENTRECAMPOS \*\*\*\*.

## DAY 12 | SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2023 LISBON

Departure at 9 am. This morning, you will discover the Hieronymites or Jeronimus monastery, an absolute masterpiece that testifies to the opulence of the era of the great discoveries. Lunch at 12:30 pm. In the afternoon, during a guided walking tour of Lisbon, you will discover the Avenue of Freedom, Baixa - that part of the city that was completely rebuilt after the earthquake of 1755. Finally, a stop to taste the famous Pastéis de Nata, these small Portuguese pastries! Free evening. Dinner and overnight in Lisbon at the HOTEL VIP ENTRECAMPOS \*\*\*\*.

## DAY 13 | MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2023 LISBON - RETURN FLIGHT TO MONTREAL

After an early breakfast, transfer to Lisbon airport for your return flight to Montreal.



\*\*\*Itinerary subject to change \*\*\*.



## Informations

### Price

**Early Bird price: 4 799 \$ / pers. (in double occupancy)**

Early bird discount of \$100 if registered before June 25, 2023.

**Regular price : 4 899 \$ / pers. (in double occupancy)**

**Single room supplement : + 850 \$ / pers.**

\*Spiritours offers the possibility of twinning, but exceptionally, Spiritours cannot assume the additional costs for single occupancy if we are unable to match you.

\* All prices are based on the exchange rate in effect on April 15, 2023.

### PACKAGE INCLUDES

- Round-trip air transportation Montreal-Toulouse / Lisbon-Montreal with Air Transat
- Transportation in an air-conditioned coach
- French/English speaking guide for the entire tour;
- Lodging in the following hotels, or similar:
- Lourdes 26/29 Oct Hotel Solitude 4\*
- Santander 29/30 Oct Santemar Hotel 4\*, Santander
- St. James Compostela Oct 30 / Nov 01 Hotel Exe Peregrino 4\*
- Porto 01/02 Nov Black Tulip Hotel 4\*
- Fatima 02/04 Nov Hotel Steyler 4\* - modern rooms
- Lisbon 04/06 Nov Hotel Vip Entrecampos 4\* - modern rooms
- 2 meals per day (breakfast and dinner)
- All visits mentioned in the itinerary and entrance fees:
- Listening device ;
- All taxes

### PACKAGE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Travel insurance
- Tips (approximately \$12 to \$15 per day)
- Additional meals (lunches)
- The contribution to the OPC Travel Agents' Client Compensation Fund of \$3.50 per \$1000 spent

### Registration

**Registration deadline:  
August 25, 2023**

(60 days before departure or when the maximum number of passengers is reached). Possibility to register after this date, an additional fee may apply.

#### To register

You can register on our website (see top of the trip webpage, right) or download and fill out the PDF form and send it to us with your \$750 deposit. Please register as soon as possible as space is limited. Please include a photocopy of your passport with your registration (international travel only).

#### Travel insurance

For travel insurance, contact us to find out your rate.

#### Nb of participants

Minimum 30 - Maximum 50

#### Required documentation

All Canadian travellers to Europe must be in possession of a **passport that is valid for at least three months beyond the expected date of return.**

#### For more information please contact

##### Deacon Brian Cordeiro

(514) 467-2552

brian.cordeiro89@gmail.com

##### For registration, please contact Anne Godbout

(514) 374-7965, ext. 201

anne@spiritours.com

# General terms and conditions

## Deposit and payment

A deposit of \$750 is required at the time of booking as well as the cancellation insurance premium, if desired. The balance must be paid in full at least 60 days before departure for air travel and 45 days before departure for bus travel. In case of delay in the final payment, please note that the reservation will be automatically cancelled, resulting in the cancellation fees mentioned below.

Important note: some trips and special events may be subject to special booking, deposit and final payment date requirements.

## Cancellation fees

Up to 60 days before departure: \$750 penalty.

Less than 60 days before departure: no refund.

Name change: \$100 to \$500 penalty, depending on the carrier's conditions. Less than 60 days before departure, any change will be considered as a cancellation.

### For bus travel

Up to 45 days before departure: 25% of the total amount.

From 45 to 21 days before departure: 50% of the total amount.

Less than 21 days before departure: no refund.

Name change: \$100 penalty.

Important note: Some trips and special events may be subject to special cancellation conditions.

Spiritours reserves the right to cancel a trip if the number of participants is not reached by the deadline, a full refund will represent the final settlement to the passenger. Spiritours also reserves the right to extend the deadline to 45 days before departure, to change the dates of the trip or the airline if necessary. If for reasons of force majeure the trip must be suspended by Spiritours, the latter reserves the right to postpone to later dates or to cancel, but will not be responsible for non-refundable sums already paid to suppliers. Spiritours shall not be obliged to intervene in the event of difficulties between the authorities of a country and a member of the group who does not comply with the laws, customs, regulations and traditions of the host country.

## Insurance

Travelers are encouraged to purchase cancellation insurance in the event that, for major reasons (illness, injury or death of themselves or a family member), they must cancel their trip before departure or change the itinerary en route. In addition, we strongly recommend that you take out medical insurance. The cost of insurance is not refundable under any circumstances.

Travelers should be aware in their insurance contract of the nature of the coverage, the risks insured, the exclusions, limitations and reductions of coverage, as well as the cancellation procedures contained in the insurance product.

## Claims

You must notify the Spiritours representative as soon as possible of any claim. When abroad, you must immediately contact your companion or the hotel management so that the situation can be corrected.

## Prices indicated

Unless otherwise indicated, all prices are in Canadian dollars. Prices are subject to change up to 30 days prior to departure in the event of a fuel price increase imposed by the carrier or an exchange rate increase of more than 5% since the date of publication of the trip price. If the change in the price of your trip is equal to or greater than 7% of the original price, you may request a refund or exchange your trip for a similar one.

## Spiritours' responsibility

Spiritours cannot be held responsible for any acts, omissions, errors or occurrences, losses, damages or accidents during the trip, as well as delays or cancellations due to a transportation company. Spiritours cannot be held responsible for any damage suffered by the traveler for illness, injury, loss, inconvenience or anxiety. Spiritours also disclaims all liability for any damages resulting from governmental action, political unrest, strikes, acts of God. Spiritours will not make any refunds under any circumstances for early return or uncompleted portions of a tour, nor for services not used by travelers. The liability of Spiritours arising from the failure to provide any service or benefit described herein is limited to the cost of such service or benefit.

## Traveler's responsibility

It is the traveler's responsibility to find out the entry and exit requirements of the country he/she plans to visit. In the event that the traveler does not have the required documentation, he/she may be refused passage by the authorities.

The traveler agrees to accept any reasonable instructions relating to the package issued while the passenger is abroad. In the event that a passenger engages in conduct detrimental to other travelers or service providers, and persists in such conduct despite a formal warning from the service provider or its representative, the passenger will be expelled from the group and will be responsible for all costs incurred as a result of such conduct, including any additional costs the passenger may incur for lodging, food and transportation.