

Pilgrimage to Lithuania – Poland – Czech Republic – Hungary – Austria

Sunday, September 1 – Tuesday, September 17, 2024

Chaplain:

Reverend Fr. Jesus Soriano

\$4,499

LAND ONLY

pp/dbl occupancy

Airfare Cost Coming Soon

SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT: \$999

Optional Insurance:

Contact ABM Tours For Rates

Tour Operator:

ABM Tours

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Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275
(310) 514-3323

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www.abm-tours.com

California Seller of Travel: #2140950-70

Day 1 – Sunday, Sept 1, 2024

Depart USA

Today, we depart San Francisco/SFO for Vilnius.

Day 2 – Monday, Sept 2, 2024

Vilnius

Upon arrival in Vilnius, meet our tour escort and spiritual director, celebrate Mass at a local church, then transfer to our hotel for welcome dinner and overnight.

Day 3 – Tuesday, Sept 3, 2024

Vilnius

After breakfast, we visit the Church of the Divine Mercy Sanctuary, (the Holy Trinity Church) dedicated to the Divine Mercy devotion, originated by Saint Faustina Kowalska. Here we celebrate Mass, then have a chance to see the Image of Divine Mercy on which Eugeniusz Kazimirowski depicted Jesus in the way Sister Faustina saw Him in her visions. We enjoy a half-day sightseeing tour with a local guide walking through the city center on Pilies Street, reaching the Gate of Dawn. Here we see an icon of The Blessed Virgin Mary

Mother of Mercy, Subacius Gate, University and Church of St. Johns, and Vilnius Cathedral Square (exterior views only). We visit the house of the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy where in 1933-1936, sister Faustyna stayed working in the garden. After independent lunch, we drive to the wooded House of St. Faustina on the outskirts of Vilnius and return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 4 – Wednesday, Sept 4, 2024

Vilnius – Siauliai - Vilnius

After breakfast we drive to Siauliai, followed by free time for lunch upon arrival. Here we visit the Hill of Crosses. The origin of the Hill of Crosses is believed to be that the first crosses were placed on the former hill fort after the 1831 uprising. Over the centuries, not only crosses, but giant crucifixes, carvings of Lithuanian patriots, statues of the Virgin Mary and thousands of tiny effigies and rosaries have been brought there by pilgrims. We Celebrate Mass, then transfer back to Vilnius for dinner and overnight at our hotel.



Divine Mercy Sanctuary



Gate of Dawn



Pilies Street



Hill Of Crosses



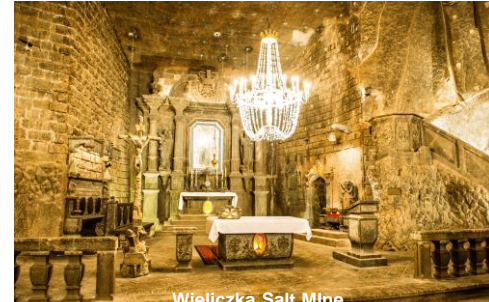
Old Town Warsaw



Auschwitz



Wawel Hill



Wieliczka Salt Mine

Day 5 – Thursday, Sept 5, 2024

Vilnius - Warsaw

After breakfast and check-out, we Celebrate Mass at a local church, then board our coach for our journey to Warsaw, stopping for an independent lunch en route. If time permits, we Stop in Bialystok to visit the Divine Mercy Sanctuary, hosting the relics of St. Sisters Faustina, St. John Paul II and the mortal remains of bl. Fr. Michael Sopocko. He lived in Bialystok nearly the last thirty years of his life, spreading the message of God's Mercy all over the world. From here we continue to Warsaw, check into our hotel, then have dinner and a relaxing overnight.

Day 6 – Friday, Sept 6, 2024

Warsaw – Niepokalanów – Plock – Warsaw

After breakfast, we drive to Niepokalanow (the City of the Immaculate Mother of God). Here we visit the Franciscan Monastery linked with St. Maximilian Kolbe - a martyr from the death camp in Auschwitz who died giving his life for that of another prisoner. We Celebrate Mass at the Shrine, then Depart for Plock. After independent lunch, we visit the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. We then return to Warsaw for dinner and overnight at our hotel.

Day 7 – Saturday, Sept 7, 2024

Warsaw - Czestochowa

Following breakfast and checkout, we begin a guided orientation tour of Warsaw. Here we explore the Old Town, comprised of beautiful maze-like cobblestone streets and picturesque architecture that are the symbols of Poland's successful rebuild following its destruction during World War II. Sites we see include the Market Square (the center of the city filled with restaurants, cafes and shops), the Royal Castle (the official residence of the Polish monarchs) and the Barbican – defense-like structures that have been rebuilt following World War II. After noon, we have free time for independent lunch, before we drive to Czestochowa to visit the Jasna Gora Monastery. This hill-top monastery is home to the beloved icon of the Black Madonna. Additionally, Saint John Paul II is said to have made frequent visits to this monastery throughout his life. Tradition tells us that this icon was painted by Luke the Evangelist, discovered by St. Helen, and later enshrined. While here, we have the opportunity to venerate not only the Holy Icon, but also many other priceless treasures that are contained within.

We Celebrate Mass at one of the chapels, then check into our hotel for dinner and overnight. After dinner we have the possibility of joining a Night Vigil at Jasna Gora.

Day 8 – Sunday, Sept 8, 2024

Czestochowa – Auschwitz - Wadowice – Krakow

After breakfast and checkout, we travel to Krakow, stopping in Auschwitz, notoriously known as a Nazi concentration camp during World War II. Upon arriving at the former camp, we feel the darkness and sorrow that overtakes the atmosphere from the numerous unspeakable atrocities that occurred at this site. While on this visit, we view the cell that imprisoned the Christ-like St. Maximilian Kolbe and visit the Martyrdom Museum. After independent lunch, we continue to Wadowice. En route, we visit the local parish church and the birthplace of Pope St. John Paul II and Celebrate Mass. We continue on to Krakow for check in, dinner and overnight in our hotel.

Day 9 – Monday, Sept 9, 2024

Krakow Tour – Lagiewniki – Wieliczka - Krakow

After breakfast, we head to Wawel Hill with Wawel Castle (exterior view) and Wawel Cathedral. From here, we walk along Kanonicza Street, pausing at building #21 “Deanery” where Pope St. John Paul II resided while living in Krakow. We continue to St. Mary’s Church and the Market Square. After independent lunch, we transfer to Lagiewniki, the capital of Divine Mercy. Through the mediation of St. Faustina, Christ passed on the message of Divine Mercy. Here we visit the “Divine Mercy Shrine” grounds and Basilica, have a talk with one of the sisters and Celebrate Mass at one of the chapels. After that, we drive to Wieliczka to visit the Wieliczka Salt Mines, a unique place where many generations of Polish miners created a world of underground salt lakes with a rich interior of decorated chapels including the famous Blessed Kings Chapel. We then head back to Krakow for dinner and overnight.

Day 10 – Tuesday, Sept 10, 2024

Krakow - Budapest

After breakfast and check out, we Celebrate mass and head to Budapest where we check in, have dinner and overnight.

Day 11 – Wednesday, Sept 11, 2024

Budapest

Following breakfast, we Celebrate Mass, then enjoy a half-day guided sightseeing tour of Budapest. Here we see the Fisherman's Bastion which takes its name from the guild of fishermen that were responsible for defending this stretch of city walls in the Middle Ages. This is followed by Matyas Church, which is a gorgeous Romanesque style church whose Ecclesiastical Art museum houses numerous sacred relics and medieval stone carvings, including replicas of the Hungarian royal crown and coronation jewels. After independent lunch, we have the rest of the day on our own to experience this great city. We then head back to our hotel for dinner and over night.

Day 12 – Thursday, Sept 12, 2024

Budapest - Vienna

After breakfast and checkout, we Celebrate Mass at a local church then head to Vienna. In the afternoon, we have a guided tour of Vienna, including a panoramic tour of the famous Ring. From here, we take a walk of the Old Town between the University and Opera House passing major monuments including: Donner Fountain, Belvedere Palace and gardens, Hofburg Palace, Spanish Horses training place, and St. Stephen Basilica. Upon completion, we check into the hotel, then Assist the Waltz concert with pieces of Strauss and Mozart. We end our day with dinner and overnight at our hotel.

Day 13 – Friday, Sept 13, 2024

Vienna – Dürnstein – Melk – Vienna

After breakfast and checkout, we enjoy a scenic Danube river cruise in the Wachau Valley. In the afternoon, we. Visit Melk Abbey with its' imposing Baroque style structure crowing the Danube and surrounded by a gorgeous town with Renaissance homes and winding streets reminiscent of the Middle Ages. The abbey is the setting for Umberto Eco's "The Name of the Rose". Among the treasures housed here are paintings, sculptures and decorative art from the 9th to 15th centuries. The magnificent library contains over 2,000 volumes from that era. We Celebrate Mass there, then return to Vienna for dinner and overnight at our hotel.

Day 14 – Saturday, Sept 14, 2024

Vienna – Svata Hora – Prague

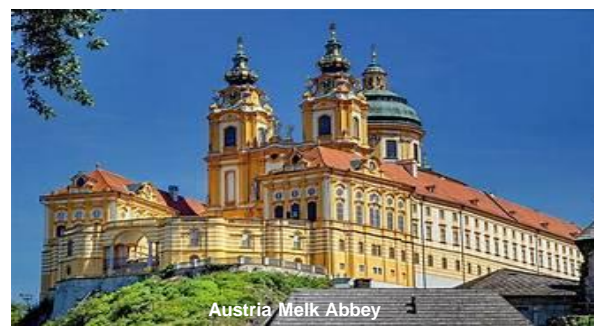
After breakfast and checkout, we depart for Prague, with a stop en route in Pribram to visit Svata Hora, one of the most important places of pilgrimage in Central Europe. There are thousands of pilgrims coming here every year to venerate the Mother of God carved from pear wood. We then Celebrate Mass at the Shrine, followed by independent lunch then continue to Prague. Check in to our hotel for dinner and overnight.



Budapest Fisherman's Bastion



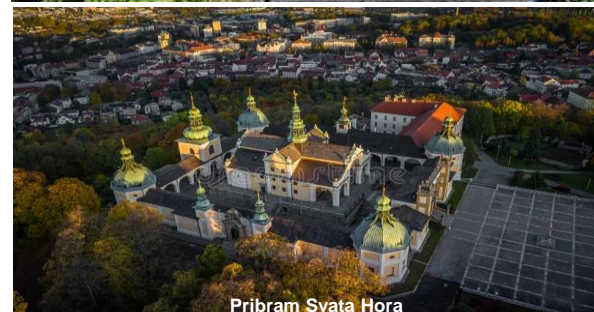
Budapest Matyas Church



Austria Melk Abbey



Vienna Belvedere Palace



Pribram Svata Hora

