

✠ Pilgrimage to the Shrines of France ✠

Fr. Craig Scott

September 13-28, 2018 (16 days)



Day 01

Sep 13, Thu:

VANCOUVER – PARIS

Departure for France.

Day 02

Sep 14, Fri:

ARRIVE PARIS

After arrival – check into hotel and depending on flight arrival, brief orientation. (D)

Day 03

Sep 15, Sat:

PARIS

Half day city tour with the main sites- Champs Elysees, Eiffel Tower and Notre Dame; then after lunch time a to visit Rue de Bac, the Chapel of the Miraculous Medal, which was built in 1815 and was dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. In 1830 it was privileged with the extraordinary events of the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin to Sister Catherine Labouré that marked it forever. (B,D)

Day 04

Sep 16, Sun:

PARIS

Half day visit to the Louvre; in the afternoon a visit to Sacre Coeur on top of Montmartre (B,D)

Day 05

Sep 17, Mon:

PARIS – NEVERS – PARAY LE MONIAL

Morning departure and stop in Nevers, where Bernadette Soubirous spent time from 1866 to 1879, after she moved there from Lourdes; learn about her story and see her incorrupt body, preserved since her death in 1879. Then after lunch travel on to Paray le Monial; visit the Shrine which is home to the devotion to the Sacred Heart. It was here that Jesus appeared to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque (1647-1690), revealing to her his Heart burning with love for man. From the apparitions grew a spirituality and great devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. After the visit, check in at your hotel and dinner (B,D)

Day 06

Sep 18, Tue:

PARAY LE MONIAL– LA SALETTE

We climb the mountains to La Salette and settle into our accommodation there (B,D)

Day 07

Sep 19, Wed:

LA SALETTE

Feast Day of Our Lady of La Salette, we go to the Shrine of Our Lady of La Salette, visit the Basilica, join the procession etc – Our Lady appeared here to 2 shepherds in 1846 to share a message of conversion. (B,D)

Day 08

Sep 20, Thu:

LA SALETTE – APT – LE LAUS – AVIGNON

We leave the Alps and travel to Avignon, seat of the Papacy in the 14th C; 7 consecutive popes resided here – and we visit the Papal Palace and time to enjoy the town. En route, \ we visit the St. Anne's Cathedral in Apt; then on to the village of Le Laus, a remarkable place of natural beauty and grace in the Southern Alps, to the Sanctuary of Our Lady of the Le Laus - here the Virgin appeared to young shepherdess Benôte Rencurel in 1664, and she became a messenger of reconciliation. There were 54 years of apparitions of Mary, the angels and Jesus Crucified – visit the shrine church, the home of Benôte and several outdoor sites where Mary appeared to her. The visions were approved in 2008. (B,D)

Day 09

Sep 21, Fri:

AVIGNON – CARCASSONNE – LOURDES

Morning departure and stop in the medieval city of Carcassonne, a hilltop town famous for its Citadel, watch-towers and double wall fortifications. Then we travel on to Lourdes. (B,D)

Day 10

Sep 22, Sat:

LOURDES

Today, spend time at the Sanctuary and visit the birthplace of St. Bernadette (family home during the time of the apparitions). Attend Mass at the Grotto where the Virgin Mary appeared to St. Bernadette in 1858 – bathe in the healing waters - in the afternoon do the Way of the Cross and attend the blessing of the sick – at night you may join the evening's rosary and candlelight procession (B,D)

Day 11**Sep 23, Sun:****LOURDES – TOULOUSE – CAHORS - ROCAMADOUR**

Visit Toulouse to see Convent of the Augustines (Couvent des Jacobins) ; a Romanesque architectural masterpiece that houses the Tomb of St.Thomas Aquinas. Then travel on and visit to Cahors, where the chapel at the Cathedral holds the Holy Coif which is said to have covered Christ's head in the tomb. The 11c. cathedral is known for its combined Romanesque and Gothic architecture. We drive on to end the day in Rocamadour (B,D)

Day 12**Sep 24, Mon:****ROCAMADOUR – NANTES AREA**

Rocamadour is a small cliff-top village in south-central France, known for the Cité Religieuse complex of religious buildings, accessed via the Grand Escalier staircase. It includes the Chapelle Notre-Dame, with its Black Madonna statue, and the Romanesque-Gothic Basilica of St-Sauveur. We spend the morning here before driving on to Nantes. (B,D)

Day 13**Sep 25, Tue:****NANTES – MONT-ST.MICHEL – LISIEUX**

We travel to Le Mont-Saint-Michel , “The Wonder of the West”, an island commune in Normandy declared a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1979 - visit the The Abbey and explore the town. Then continue on to Lisieux, home of St. Thérèse whom Pope Pius X called “the greatest saint of modern times” because of her extraordinary love for God and service to humanity. (B,D)

Day 14**Sep 26, Wed:****LISIEUX – CAEN/NORMANDY LANDING BEACHES – LISIEUX**

Time in Lisieux to visit the Basilica of St. Thérèse, stop at Les Buissonnets, her family home, visit the ancient Cathedral of St. Peter and the Carmelite Convent. And then travel on to Caen and visit the former Benedictine Abbey of Saint-Étienne/Abbaye aux Hommes; an architectural masterpiece where William the Conqueror is buried. Afterward, visit the Landing Beaches, Juno Beach and the Canadian memorial. (B,D)

Day 15**Sep 27, Thu:****LISIEUX – ROUEN – CHARTRES – PARIS**

Travel to Rouen, the port city on the River Seine, home of the Cathédrale Notre-Dame de l'Assomption de Rouen, one of the largest and most impressive Gothic cathedrals in France and subject of Monet's Cathedral Series. Also here, Jean of Arc was burnt at the stakes for heresy in 143; a church was built near the spot to commemorate her martyrdom. Then on to Chartres to see the massive Cathédrale Notre-Dame, designated a UNESCO World Heritage site. We end the day in Paris. (B,D)

Day 16**Sep 28, Fri:****PARIS – VANCOUVER**

Transfer to airport for your flight home. (B)



Tour Package	: \$4,590 (Note: a minimum of 25 passengers is required for this tour to proceed.)
Single supplement	: \$1,148
Deposit	: \$ 500 non-refundable, payable upon registration; to be applied toward final payment.
Additional payment	: \$2,000 due on March 10, 2018
Final payment	: July 13, 2018

Included:

- Private bus and English speaking guide throughout
- Accommodation in good Tourist Class Hotels ***
- Breakfast and dinner as indicated (B,D)
- Sightseeing and entrance fees to all sights visited according to the itinerary
- City Tours with local experts

Not included:

- Air fare
- Departure taxes
- Insurance
- Lunches
- Tips for driver and guide
- Drinks and items of personal nature

Insurance:

Purchase of Comprehensive Insurance, which covers among other things, Trip Cancellation, Trip Interruption, Excess Hospital & Medical Insurance and Baggage Insurance, is **strongly recommended**. *Be aware that pre-existing medical conditions exclusion may apply.*

Cancellation penalties:

If cancellation is made:

- Over 90 days prior to departure - \$500
- 61 – 90 days prior to departure - 50% of tour package price
- 60 days or less prior to departure - 100% of tour package price

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