

Two Tour Options:

A seven-day itinerary includes
Assisi, Rome, and the canonization
or

An eleven-day itinerary includes all of the
above...
plus two nights in Tuscany
and two in Venice

Day 1 – Thursday – USA...ITALY

Depart from USA. Dinner and overnight aloft.

Day 2 – Friday - ROME

Arrive in **ROME** where your Renaissance Group representative will meet you after you've passed customs. Since the hotel rooms will not be ready this early in the day, you will go straight to the Basilica of Santa Maria degli Angeli, by private motorcoach, to attend Mass. Check-in at the hotel where you will have some time to rest and freshen up before a walking tour of Renaissance Rome which will include the Trevi Fountain, the Spanish Steps, the Pantheon, and Piazza Navona. A "Welcome Dinner" will be served in a local restaurant. Overnight in your hotel.



Fountain of Trevi, Rome

Day 3 – Saturday – ROME

You awake in the Eternal City and enjoy a breakfast in your hotel. Your day starts with a visit of the Vatican Museums where we'll cover the Tapestry Gallery, the Raphael Rooms and, in the Sistine Chapel, the most overwhelming of all, Michelangelo's masterpiece of the Last Judgment. There will be a tour of St. Peter's Basilica, unsurpassed in beauty and a monument to the rich history of the Catholic Church. Among its priceless treasures: the Pieta and Bernini's amazing bronze canopy. Overnight in your hotel.

Day 4 – Sunday – ROME...FRASCATI...ROME

After breakfast in your hotel, you will return to St. Peter's for the canonization activities (subject to Vatican schedules). At the conclusion of the ceremonies, you will go on a short ride outside the city, passing Castel Gandolfo, the private summer residence of the Holy Father, before stopping for a festive lunch served in **FRESCATI**. This picturesque town sits along the Roman hills, high above the Eternal City and is recognized worldwide for its production of fine wines. One can see splendid Roman villas nestled amidst the surrounding forests, large olive groves, and superb vineyards. The rest of your evening is at leisure. Overnight in your hotel in **ROME**.



St. Peter's Basilica, Rome

Day 5 – Monday

Today we will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving. After Mass, the day is open to partake in any events that may be scheduled in connection with the canonization. The balance of the day will be at leisure.

Day 6 – Tuesday – ROME...ASSISI...ROME

After breakfast in your hotel, you will travel to **ASSISI** and view the basilica of the beloved St. Francis. This building was nearly destroyed, in 1997, when its roof collapsed during the horrendous earthquake. You will be shown the magnificent frescos which have now been almost completely restored, visit the Church of St. Mary of the Angels, and wander around the quaint town full of small artisan shops. In the evening, we will return to **ROME** for a "Farewell Dinner." Overnight in your hotel.



Basilica of St Francis, Assisi

Day 7 – Wednesday – ROME...USA

Transfer to Fiumicino Airport for your return flight to the USA, arriving on the same day.

OPTIONAL POST-CANONIZATION EXCURSION

\$799.00

Day 7 – Wednesday – ROME...SIENA... MONTECATINI

After breakfast in your hotel, you will check out and proceed to **SIENA**. This city has conserved its pure medieval character that prevailed during the 13th and 14th centuries. Walking along Siena's narrow Gothic alleys and streets, you will discover magnificent palaces, patrician mansions, stores, and boutiques. The famous Piazza del Campo is where all roads converge and where the city competes in the yearly "Palio," a highly-contested horse race. On the way to **MONTECATINI**, you will stop for a wine tasting. Lunch is on your own. Dinner and overnight in your hotel

Day 8 – Thursday – MONTECATINI... FLORENCE...MONTECATINI

After breakfast in your hotel, you will leave for a full-day tour of **FLORENCE** the birthplace of the Renaissance. Highlights will include the Duomo; the Baptistery, with its golden doors by Ghiberti; Giotto's Bell Tower; the Academy of Fine Arts which houses the original "David" by Michelangelo; and Piazza della Signoria. After lunch, you will have some free time to explore more of the city's marvels on your own, but dinner will be with your group after which you will overnight in your hotel in **MONTECATINI**.



Montecatini

Day 9 – Friday – MONTECATINI...PADUA

After breakfast in your hotel, you will leave for **PADUA**. Recognized as a scientific, artistic, and cultural center, Padua is the second largest university city in all of Europe. Known as a pilgrimage city, millions come every year to visit this home of St. Anthony, patron saint of lost items. Inside his basilica, you will visit the richly decorated tomb of the beloved miracle-worker. While in Padua, you will also find the most complete



Florence

and best-preserved collection of Giotto's works. Dinner in a local restaurant. Overnight in your hotel.

Day 10 – Saturday – PADUA...VENICE...PADUA

After a buffet breakfast at the hotel, you will leave for **VENICE**. Filled with gondolas, motorboats, and peppermint-stick boat moorings, this is a city built on 117 small islands with some 150 canals and 409 bridges. Highlights of the tour will feature Piazza San Marco (St. Mark's Square), which Napoleon thought of as the finest drawing room in Europe; and St. Marco's Basilica housing the body of the saint, and which embodies a magnificent blend of architectural and decorative styles. A private Mass will be celebrated in the basilica. You will see the Ca' D'Oro (Golden House), acclaimed as the most beautiful Gothic building in Venice; the 16th century Ponte di Rialto; and the Doges' Palace. You will sample a typical Venetian repast and enjoy the rest of your afternoon at leisure before returning to **PADUA** to overnight in your hotel.



Grand Canal, Venice

Day 11 – Sunday – PADUA...USA

After a buffet breakfast at the hotel, you will leave **PADUA** for a short ride to the airport to board your transatlantic flight for the USA where you will arrive on the same day.

For more information:
Phone: (800) 304-8259
Email: info@rengp.com



Tour operated by
Renaissance Group
Official Provider of Tour Services
For the Canonization of
Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha