



## Pilgrimage to Southern France

EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT

### Exploring the Heritage of Black Madonnas and Mary Magdalene in Southern France May 22-30, 2018

Join Father Daniel Simons and members of Trinity Wall Street and their traveling companions, friends and interested pilgrims, for a unique pilgrimage to the south of France and northeast Spain. As part of the Trinity Wall Street Pilgrimage Series, this program will explore sites long associated with Mary and with Mary Magdalene, often expressed in the popular “Black Madonna” shrines of southern France. We will interact with the living stewards of these shrines, the Roma (“Gypsy”) culture. This pilgrimage will intentionally focus on the “soul’s journey” as well as our outer travel, and will nourish the more feminine and earthy aspects of our spirituality, which have traditionally been excluded from official/authorized religious expression. The pilgrimage begins in Marseille and nearby Saint-Maximine-Sainte-Baume where we begin our exploration of examples of “Black Madonnas” and sites associated with Mary Magdalene. We then travel to Saintes-Marie-de-la-Mer on the date of their annual festival of Sarah – a black saint who accompanied the three Mary’s from the Holy Land. We continue our journey to historic Cathar country near Carcassonne to see the Black Madonna in Limoux and sites connected with the Knights Templar and Mary Magdalene. We conclude our pilgrimage in northeast Spain at the famous abbey of Montserrat with its Black Madonna and then Barcelona where we will have a chance to visit one of the great contemporary religious sites – the Sagrada Familia. The program is both a religious pilgrimage and a chance to interact with local sites – off the beaten trail. Come join us for this fascinating journey into history, into religious imagery, and into the journey of the soul as we walk in the footsteps of visionary women and men of faith. There may be an opportunity for a select group to go in advance and visit Vezelay.

#### Program Highlights

**Tue. May 22:** Participants make their own flight arrangements to arrive in Marseille to meet the rest of the group and the tour manager. There will be a designated meeting time and point. Visit the Black Madonna in Marseille. Travel to Sainte-Baume Roc and check into the hotel here. Take a walking orientation of the town, perhaps visiting the cathedral (with welcome prayer service). Dinner and overnight Sainte-Baume Roc.

**Wed. May 23:** Breakfast. Spend the day at the shrine (Sainte-Baume) outside of town—perhaps with some hiking and time for prayer and retreat. A sack lunch will be provided today. Have liturgy before returning to town for the late afternoon and evening at leisure with dinner at the hotel. Overnight Saint-Maximine-Sainte-Baume.

**Thu. May 24:** Breakfast. Travel to Aix-en-Provence, where there is a Black Madonna. Visit the site and enjoy some time in the historical center of Aix. Continue to Saintes-Marie-de-la-Mer, a place associated with the “three Marys” who arrived there. It is a place where the gypsies celebrate their patron “Sarah.” Today and tomorrow are the feast days here. Participate in their festivities. Dinner and overnight near Aigues-Mortes.

**Fri. May 25:** Breakfast. Spend some time in Saintes-Marie-de-la-Mer or Aigues-Mortes then travel to Limoux, a small town south of Carcassonne where there is a Black Madonna. Visit the basilica and Madonna. Dinner and overnight Carcassonne.

**Sat. May 26:** Breakfast. Morning visits in Carcassonne, including the castle, cathedral, and free time to explore the shops and

quaint town. Visit some Cathar sites nearby, including Rennes-

Le-Chateau—made famous in Dan Brown’s *The Da Vinci Code*. Dinner and overnight Carcassonne.

**Sun. May 27:** Breakfast. Travel to Montserrat. Check into the hotel here and visit the Black Madonna with some free time. Have liturgy sometime today. Dinner and overnight Montserrat.

**Mon. May 28:** Breakfast. Spend the day in Montserrat – to include liturgy and hiking the trails to small hermitages. Overnight Montserrat (dinner not included this evening).

**Tue. May 29:** Breakfast. Travel to Barcelona. Visit the Sagrada Familia, Santa Maria del Mar, and other sites in the Gothic Quarter. Free time. Enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant this evening. Overnight Barcelona.

**Wed. May 30:** Breakfast. The program concludes today.

**Inclusive Features:** 7 nights’ accommodations in 3 and 4 star hotels, breakfast daily, one welcome dinner, one farewell dinner, 5 dinners at hotel, one lunch, local transportation via deluxe private motorcoach, guided sightseeing and entrances per itinerary.

**Travel Resource Center:** Visit [www.travelillum.com/trc/czh](http://www.travelillum.com/trc/czh) for details and registration information. Please contact Rev. Daniel Simons with any questions:

[dsimons@trinitywallstreet.org](mailto:dsimons@trinitywallstreet.org)  
(347) 601-9612

[www.travelillum.com/trc/czh](http://www.travelillum.com/trc/czh)

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### Land Only Program Prices:

(excludes all air transportation and airport transfers)  
\$2825 per person based on double occupancy  
+  
\$550 supplement for single room occupancy

Please note: Single rooms for single use are limited to 10% of the total number of rooms reserved. Should additional single rooms be requested, hotels may impose a higher supplement for all single rooms of \$700. Alternatively, if you have selected double occupancy but no roommate is available due to uneven numbers or if your roommate should cancel you will be in a single room and responsible for the single room supplement.

All prices listed are discounted for payment by check. When paying with a credit card you will be charged the standard base price which is 5% higher.

All program prices are based on availability of services at the time registration material is received; currency exchange rates in effect March 6, 2017—and on 2017 land and air tariffs—and are subject to change. All services are provided subject to Illume's Conditions and Clauses.

The program prices will be reviewed before the invoices for the final payment are mailed, and will reflect the current prices.

### Travel Insurance

Illume suggests that you purchase travel insurance to help protect your trip and your investment from unexpected circumstances. Please read the Illume Conditions and Clauses attached to the Program Registration Application to review the charges that will apply in the event that you cancel your program participation. Illume offers you the option of purchasing a Group Deluxe Travel Insurance Plan for your program. If you wish to purchase the plan, the premium should be paid with your initial deposit on the same check.

### Travel Protection Rates:

#### Group Deluxe

\$172 per person - double occupancy  
\$194 per person - single occupancy

#### Group Deluxe – Cancel For Any Reason (CFAR)\*

\$258 per person - double  
\$291 per person – single

\*CFAR coverage is 75% of the nonrefundable trip cost. Trip cancellation must be 48 hours or more prior to scheduled departure. CFAR must be purchased at the time of plan purchase

and within 14 days of your initial trip deposit. This benefit is not available to residents of New York State.

Please note that the rates above are for the cost of the Land Only program. It does not include the cost of your airfare. Rates are based on overall trip cost and may increase if airfare is added.

This Travel Protection Plan is provided by Travel Insured International. All questions concerning covered reasons for cancellation, coverage while traveling, benefits and filing claims can be best answered by calling Travel Insured. Travel Insured International's customer care phone number is 1-(800)-243-3174.

To download the Plan Document, please visit the "Group Deluxe Travel Protection Plan" link on your program's Travel Resource Center. A copy of the Plan Document will be provided.

### Program Registration:

Complete the application and forward with your \$800.00 deposit per person (and travel protection payment, if purchasing) by May 1, 2017 to:

Rev. Daniel Simons  
Trinity Retreat Center  
79 Lower River Rd., West Cornwall, CT 06796  
[dsimons@trinitywallstreet.org](mailto:dsimons@trinitywallstreet.org)  
(347) 601-9612

Checks can be made payable to illume.

**Registrations accepted after May 1<sup>st</sup> on space-available basis.**

A second non-refundable deposit of \$1800 due not later than:  
**September 21, 2017**

Balance of payment due not later than:  
**February 21, 2018**

Note: Any changes to the program will be outlined in the final documents which you will receive one month prior to departure. If changes are made that affect the program price, you will receive an invoice or a credit accordingly.

**Program No. 18.10425**

102 Union Wharf, Boston, Massachusetts 02109 [www.travelillume.com](http://www.travelillume.com)

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