

NAWAS INTERNATIONAL

ITALY: PILGRIMAGE AND TOUR

Celebrating 125 years of Dominican Heritage

Sponsored by

Aquinas College, Grand Rapids, Michigan
Office of Alumni Relations

Hosted by

Sr. Nancy Brousseau, OP ('73) and Sr. Lucianne Siers, OP ('72)

12 Days: November 7 - 18, 2011

\$2899 from Chicago



QUALITY PILGRIMAGES SINCE 1949



Dear Friends,

Are you ready to journey to the land of our spiritual ancestry? To the world of our early beginnings? To walk in the footsteps of Dominic and Catherine? Are you ready to journey to the edge of the familiar to the rich culture of Ancient Rome?

Join us on our journey to the places where the remnants of the foundations of the 12th Century

Religious Order of St. Dominic and Dominican life can still be experienced by those who know where and how to look. We arrive in Rome visiting Santa Sabina, the headquarters of the Dominican family. We will visit the Vatican Museum, the Sistine Chapel and St. Peter's Basilica. There will be walking tours of Trevi Fountain, the Spanish Steps, the Pantheon and Piazza Navona. We will visit the tombs of St. Catherine of Siena and Fra Angelico.

We will head South stopping at the birthplace of St. Thomas Aquinas and stay in the magnificent Italian air of Sorrento. The scenery will be breathtaking and the journey unforgettable. There will be time to examine the ruins of Pompeii and reflect on life of a glorious ancient civilization.

We then travel to Assisi and walk in the spirit of Francis and Clare. Contemporaries of Dominic, the spirituality of Francis permeates much of Italy. We probe deeper into the Dominican tradition as we arrive in Siena, the home of Catherine. We follow in the footsteps of this great saint and touch the culture in which Catherine emerged.

Examples of the finest art of the Western World will transfix the group as we encounter the works of Fra Angelico and Michelangelo in Florence. We will then travel to the tomb of Dominic in Bologna and on to Venice to roam the streets of this beautiful Italian city and enjoy a gondola ride in high style.

Please look over the brochure and you will see that this 12 day pilgrimage will be a lifelong dream come true. Act quickly! Simply complete the reservation form and forward your deposit to secure your place on this tour.

Your leaders for this pilgrimage are two experienced Dominican Sisters of Grand Rapids and graduates of Aquinas College. Both have traveled and studied extensively. Nancy has years of background working in adult spirituality and retreats and has led ten pilgrimages to Europe and the mid-East, while Lucianne has background in theology and has extensive experience in teaching and justice ministry. Both sisters are successful teachers and storytellers and musicians. The pilgrimage will speak to your heart. We will pray and reflect together both on the bus and at particular sites. You need not be an Aquinas alum to join – just a lover of beauty and history.

Together we will open ourselves to this world of wisdom and wonder and be changed in the process. We say, "one hundred thousand welcomes"; come join us for this journey of a lifetime.

A piu tardi, Arrivederci! Ciao!

Nancy and Lucianne

TOUR FEATURES

- Round trip airfare from Chicago.
- Accommodations at First Class/Select hotels.
- Most meals.
- Services of a professional tour escort.
- Comprehensive sightseeing throughout.
- All service charges and local hotel taxes.
- \$100,000 Automatic Flight insurance.*

*Subject to policy terms and limitations.

YOUR DAY-TO-DAY ITINERARY

MON, NOV 7 – CHICAGO/ACROSS THE ATLANTIC

Depart Chicago today on board your overnight transatlantic jet flight to Rome. En route enjoy dinner followed by a full length movie.

TUE, NOV 8 – ARRIVE ROME

Your exciting Pilgrimage to Italy begins as you arrive Rome today where you will be met and escorted to your waiting motorcoach for the transfer to your hotel. Located in the center of the Region of Lazio, Rome is a reflection of every era. The wonders of Rome surround you...a world of art, history and culture that has been attracting visitors since the beginning of Western civilization. Time permitting upon arrival, pass the Circus Maximus and the Colosseum where Christians were once thrown to the lions. (D)

WED, NOV 9 – ROME

This morning, attend an Audience with Our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI. On to see the remnants of "Ancient" Rome. Highlights include the Piazza Navona where the Fountain of Four Rivers stands, Santa Maria Sopra Minerva housing the tombs of St. Catherine of Siena and Fra Angelico, and altars dedicated to many other Dominicans, the Pantheon, the Trevi Fountain and Piazza di Spagna with the famous Spanish Steps. (B)

THU, NOV 10 – ROME

Your morning tour takes you to Vatican City. See the wonderful art treasures in the Vatican Museum and Gallery and Raphael's Rooms. View Michelangelo's magnificent frescoes in the Sistine Chapel including the famous *Last Judgment* and *The Creation of Man*. End your morning tour at the Basilica of St. Peter. This afternoon visit the Dominican Church of Santa Sabina, the Catacombs known to be an early Christian burial place and St. Paul's outside the walls. End your tour with a visit to the Church of San Clemente, one of Rome's most intriguing subterranean sights with a 4th century church situated below the upper church. (B)

FRI, NOV 11 – ROME/FOSSANOVA/ROCCASECCA/ NAPLES/SORRENTO AREA

Depart Rome this morning and drive south across the Roman countryside to the town of Fossanova to see the abbey complex and Cistercian Gothic Church. It was here where St. Thomas Aquinas died in 1274. Next stop is Roccasecca, birthplace of St. Thomas Aquinas. Continue your journey south along the Autostrada del Sole highway to Naples, Italy's 3rd largest city before arriving in the cliff-top town of Sorrento. Overnight in the Sorrento area. (B,D)

SAT, NOV 12 – SORRENTO AREA/POMPEII/ SORRENTO AREA

This morning drive to Pompeii, a city destroyed by the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in the year 79 A.D. Visit the excavations where the life of 20 centuries ago comes alive with its incredibly preserved temples, baths, theaters and many dwellings. Stop at the Sanctuario which dominates the central square in modern Pompeii. It is over

the main altar in the Sanctuary that the painting *The Virgin of the Rosary with Child* is claimed to have healing powers. Afterwards, enjoy the breathtaking scenery along the Mediterranean coastline as you drive to spectacular Positano. Free time to stroll about before continuing to Sorrento to visit the Convent of Our Lady of Grace. Overnight in the Sorrento area. (B,D)

SUN, NOV 13 – SORRENTO AREA/ASSISI

Today's travel takes you north to the mystic province of Umbria. Stop at the Rivatorito Church where the first brothers stayed with Francis before arriving in the capital city of Assisi, birthplace of St. Francis. Visit the Basilica of St. Francis, still surrounded today by ancient walls and the Church of St. Clare. Time permitting, we will also see the Church of San Damiano and Santa Maria degli Angeli with its 'thornless rose bush'. This Church marks the spot where Francis lived, worked and died. Overnight in Assisi. (B,D)

MON, NOV 14 – ASSISI/SIENA AREA

This morning drive to Siena, the charming hilltop city of St. Catherine, renowned for its collections of medieval art. Visit the Church of San Domenico, St. Catherine's parish where she went to Mass, prayed and according to legend, worked miracles. See the Fonte Branda, the oldest fountain in Siena and linked to the birthplace of St. Catherine. Also visit the sanctuary of Santa Caterina located in an old house dedicated to the saint. Here you will see the miraculous 12th century crucifix from which she received her stigmata. Continue your walking tour to Siena's Cathedral, the magnificent striped Duomo. Inside you will find a stunning Gothic pulpit. Across from the Duomo is the complex of Santa Maria della Scala. Visit the chapel and lower level. End your tour at the red-brick Piazza del Campo where the famous horse race, the Palio of Siena, takes place each year. Overnight in the Siena area. (B,D)

TUE, NOV 15 – SIENA AREA/FLORENCE

This morning drive through the well tilled fields and orchards of the Neapolitan countryside to Florence, the cradle of Renaissance Art and former stronghold of the infamous Medici family. From Botticelli to Da Vinci, the city is unsurpassed in art treasures and the glory of its history. On your sightseeing tour this morning, visit the Convent of San Marco for a viewing of the frescoes of the 14th century Dominican friar and artist, Fra Angelico. Then continue to the Piazza della Signoria where the Neptune Fountain stands and the Santa Croce Church. At the Piazza del Duomo you will find Santa Maria del Fiore and the Baptistery of St. John with its renowned "Gates of Paradise" doors. To top it all, see Michelangelo's original statue of David at the Accademia. The balance of the day is free in Florence to perhaps shop along the famous Ponte Vecchio, venture to the Church of Santa Maria Novella and explore other Florentine delights. (B,D)

WED, NOV 16 – FLORENCE/BOLOGNA/PADUA/VENICE

Your morning drive takes you through the serene Tuscan countryside to Bologna and the Church of San Domenico. It is here where St. Dominic, founder of the Dominicans, died in 1221 and is buried. Continue on to Padua to visit the Basilica of St. Anthony before arriving Venice. Built on 118 small islands lying some four kilometers from the mainland, Venetian highways are made of water and the islands are linked by numerous and picturesque bridges. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel for overnight. (B,D)

THU, NOV 17 – VENICE

Begin your day with a sightseeing tour of Venice Island beginning at Piazza San Marco. Highlights include the incredibly rich Byzantine Basilica San Marco, the Palace of the Doges, the Bridge of Sighs and the Rialto. Your afternoon is free for exploring on your own. (B,D)

FRI, NOV 18 – VENICE/CHICAGO

All too soon your pilgrimage is over today as you board your return flight back to Chicago, arriving the same day. (B)

B=Continental Breakfast D=Table d'hote dinner

CT/11/3086

11-7-11

RESERVATION FORM

Please read the all-inclusive tour features and conditions. Then complete this handy form. Book early!

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:

NAWAS INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

MAIL TO: Brigid M. Avery
Director of Alumni Relations
Aquinas College
1607 Robinson Road S.E.
Grand Rapids, MI 49506

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Sr. Nancy Brousseau, OP
Tel: (616) 560-4580 (Cell)
Email: nbrousseau@aol.com
or brigid.avery@aquinas.edu
Tel: (616) 632-2494 (Office)
(616) 558-2202 (Cell)

Accommodation Desired:

- double room sharing with.....
- single room (\$750 extra per person)

Enclosed is my check for \$.....as deposit (\$300 per person) for.....person(s)

Passenger #1:

Clearly print your full name(last/first/middle) as it appears on your passport

Name: Last.....

First.....

Middle.....

Gender: Please check Male Female

Address.....

City.....State.....Zip.....

Email.....

Home Phone.....Work Phone.....

Passport #.....

Date of Issue.....Date Expires.....
(dd/mm/yyyy) (dd/mm/yyyy)

Date of Birth.....Country of
(dd/mm/yyyy) Citizenship.....

Place of Birth.....
(city/state)

Passenger #2:

Clearly print your full name(last/first/middle) as it appears on your passport

Name: Last.....

First.....

Middle.....

Gender: Please check Male Female

Address.....

City.....State.....Zip.....

Email.....

Home Phone.....Work Phone.....

Passport #.....

Date of Issue.....Date Expires.....
(dd/mm/yyyy) (dd/mm/yyyy)

Date of Birth.....Country of
(dd/mm/yyyy) Citizenship.....

Place of Birth.....
(city/state)

****Please include a clear photocopy of your passport****

A word about NAWAS . . .

NAWAS INTERNATIONAL has pioneered Christian Tours to the far corners of the world for over 61 years. We offer you the essential ingredients for a successful tour.

EXPERIENCE: There is no substitute for 61 years of planning tours. Our contacts, guides, knowledge of the area, and background guarantee you the highest quality service at affordable prices.

RELIABILITY: For more than 61 years, we have won an international reputation for reliability. We deliver what we promise. And that is essential for a successful trip.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS AND FINAL PAYMENT:

Reservations may be secured upon payment of a deposit of \$300 per person. No reservation is considered firm until deposit has been received. Your initial deposit payment shall be deemed to be an acceptance of all the terms of our General Conditions. Space is limited and offered on a first-come basis. Final payment is due at Nawas Travel 100 days prior to departure date.

Nawas accepts Visa, Mastercard and American Express for balance/final payments only. Credit cards are not accepted for deposits. The price of the tour already includes a built-in discount of 3% for payments made by cash or check. There is no discount on credit card sales. Credit cards will only be accepted prior to the final payment due date. Credit card charges cannot be accepted over the telephone. Tour members who want to use a credit card for final payment should contact Nawas at the time final payment is due for further information.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS: A U.S.A. passport valid for at least 6 months after the return date of the trip is required to travel. It is the sole responsibility of the traveler to check their passport's expiration date. Non-U.S.A. citizens may require visas in addition to a valid passport. It is the sole responsibility of non-U.S.A. citizens (including green card holders) to ensure they have the required visas/travel documents for each country to be visited on their tour and for re-entry into the U.S.A. Visa fees (if any) are not included in the tour price.

THE TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

AIR TRANSPORTATION: By any IATA/ARC air carrier or other scheduled jet carrier, in economy class, with flights and air routings at the discretion of the air carriers and Nawas and based on non-refundable bulk group fares. Cancellations made after air tickets have been issued are subject to full cancellation penalties as imposed by the airlines. We strongly recommend all tour members retain both their ticket receipts and boarding passes as copies of same cannot be provided. Airline tickets must bear your first, middle and last name as it appears on your passport. Nawas makes every effort to provide the lowest possible price on our group tours and therefore does not guarantee the most direct routing to/from your final destination. Nawas is not responsible if an airline cancels, reschedules or delays a flight for any reason. Nawas is not responsible for and will not provide any refund for portions of trips missed due to canceled, rescheduled or delayed flights by any carrier.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION: By deluxe motorcoach.

FLIGHT INSURANCE: Automatic one hundred thousand dollars flight insurance policy for each Nawas-ticketed passenger, subject to policy terms and limitations.

DEVIATIONS: All deviation requests from the group itinerary must be received at Nawas in writing no later than 120 days prior to departure. A \$100 non refundable fee per person will be charged on all deviations in addition to any extra airfare that may be incurred. Air deviations are subject to availability and restrictions as imposed by the airlines.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS: Accommodations are at first class/select hotel based on two persons sharing a twin or double bedded room with private bath. Nawas cannot guarantee roommates. A person taking a single room (subject to availability) must pay a supplement of \$750.

MEALS: Continental breakfast and 8 dinners are included.

SIGHTSEEING: As specified in the itinerary using motorcoach transportation or other conveyances as required. Entrance fees and the services of local English-speaking guides or tour managers are included.

TRANSFERS: Assistance and transfers from airports to hotels and vice versa in private motorcoach.

SERVICE CHARGES, TAXES AND PORTERAGE: Service charges and taxes normally included in bills, government taxes on hotel bills in effect on September 13, 2010, taxes on sightseeing and excursion trips and portage at hotels of one normal size suitcase (maximum weight 50 lbs.) are included in the tour price.

BAGGAGE: Airlines may now charge baggage fees for checked luggage on international/domestic flights based on the policy of each carrier. The maximum number of pieces of luggage, the weight allowance and baggage dimensions may also vary by airline from the USA to overseas destinations and beyond. Many carriers require that checked luggage in economy class not exceed 50 lbs with a combined length, width and height of 62 inches. Regulations vary for business/first class passengers. Airline policies regarding baggage are subject to change at any time without prior notice. It is the responsibility of each passenger to check with their airline prior to departure for baggage information, regulations and compliance. Nawas is not responsible for additional fees imposed by air carriers regarding baggage. Due to space limitations on Nawas motorcoaches, Nawas can only allow one piece of luggage per person plus a carry-on bag with total dimensions of 45 inches which fits in the overhead bin or underneath the seat in front of you. Wheeled carry-on

bags are not permitted due to limited motorcoach capacity. Nawas Travel accepts no responsibility for loss or damage to the tour members' baggage or personal belongings at any time. Baggage insurance is recommended and is available upon written request.

TRAVELERS REQUIRING SPECIAL ASSISTANCE: Disabled travelers requiring special attention or care must advise NAWAS in writing at the time of reservation. A physically able companion must accompany any person who needs special assistance. Tour directors, guides, drivers or other tour, hotel or ship personnel are not able to provide such assistance. NAWAS is not responsible for any denial of services to the disabled participant by air carriers, cruise ships, hotels, restaurants or other independent suppliers. Certain countries/destinations involve extensive walking. Be aware that outside the U.S. the Americans with Disabilities Act is not applicable and facilities for disabled individuals are limited. NAWAS is not responsible for any passenger requiring special medical equipment.

THE TOUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

U.S. departure taxes, overseas airport taxes, overseas local government taxes, airline security fees/surcharges and fuel surcharges (taxes/surcharges currently estimated at \$400 to \$475 per person), passport fees, visa fees (if any), phone calls, valet/laundry service, wines, liquors, mineral water, after dinner coffee or tea, tips to escort, guides, drivers and waiters, sightseeing and other services not specifically mentioned, excess baggage and all other items of a purely personal nature.

CANCELLATIONS: Written cancellations received by Nawas Travel up to 100 days prior to departure, refunds will be made less a \$100 per person cancellation fee. From 99 to 70 days prior to departure, written cancellations received by Nawas Travel are subject to a \$300 per person cancellation fee. From 69 to 31 days prior to departure, written cancellations received by Nawas Travel are subject to a cancellation fee of 50% of the total tour price per person. From 30 days prior to departure, written cancellations received by Nawas Travel are subject to a 100% cancellation fee of the total tour price per person. Failure to receive final payment by the due date may result in the cancellation of your tour reservation and the forfeiture of your deposit. Airline tickets are not refundable once issued. No refunds will be given for any unused services while on tour.

We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance to allow for unexpected medical emergencies. Trip cancellation insurance is available upon written request.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: The airfare used is based on non-refundable bulk group fares in effect on September 13, 2010. Airlines reserve the right to increase fares without prior notice. Tour members will be required to pay any airfare increases and fuel surcharges as imposed by the airlines prior to departure. Airlines require a minimum of 10 persons departing from the same gateway city.

Land costs are based on estimated 2011 tariffs, overseas government taxes and rates of exchange in effect on September 13, 2010 and a minimum of 32 or more participants. While we have made the best possible estimates of what we expect costs to be in 2011, we cannot guarantee actual prices, exchange rates and airfares. Any increases in land costs or airfare that may occur will be collected from each passenger prior to departure. We reserve the right to increase the cost of the tour consistent with normal increases should the group fall below 32 persons, or in the event of fluctuations in exchange rates.

Please note that healthcare/medical costs outside the U.S.A. are not covered by Medicare and many private medical insurance plans. Please consult with your health insurance supplier to obtain the necessary health/medical coverage for overseas travel.

RESPONSIBILITY: NAWAS INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL SERVICE, INC. (NAWAS), and their agents act only in the capacity of agents in all matters pertaining to hotel accommodations, sightseeing tours and transportation, whether by railroad, motor bus, motor car, cruise vessel, boat, air or any other means. Except for the willful negligence of its direct employees, NAWAS is not liable for any damage, loss (including but not limited to personal injury, loss of enjoyment, distress, death and property loss), expense or inconvenience caused by any act, omission or default of any supplier providing tour services or by any other person or reason whatsoever or by any delays or changes in the itinerary, or the acts and omissions of the tour leader/host or travel agent. NAWAS assumes no liability or responsibility for any injuries, inconveniences, illness, irregularity or incidental damages occasioned by circumstances beyond the control of the tour operator, or by any person or reason whatsoever, including but not limited to events such as strikes, revolts, wars, natural disasters, closures of airports or hotels, default or omission of any common or private carrier. NAWAS reserves the right to cancel the tour at any time, to operate the tour with a substitute tour leader at any time, to decline or not retain any person as a member of the tour for any cause at any time. Nawas reserves the right to make changes in the published itinerary if needed including deleting and adding cities and changing the sequence of the itinerary, or whenever in Nawas' sole judgment as conditions warrant, or if Nawas deems it necessary for the comfort, convenience or safety of the tour. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board their plane or conveyance. The passage contract in use by the airlines concerned, when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchasers of this tour and/or passengers. The services of any IATA/ARC air carrier may be used in connection with this tour.

***California Residents:** Please read the enclosed disclosure required by the Sellers of Travel Act before booking.

Payment of deposits by tour participants indicates acceptance of the above terms and general conditions. The venue for any dispute is Fairfield County, Connecticut. The laws of the state of Connecticut will apply.

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Travel Arrangements by
NAWAS INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL, INC.

777 Post Road • Darien, CT 06820-4721

Tel (203) 656-3033 • Fax (203) 655-1577

email: info@nawas.com