



FOOTSTEPS OF FAITH: Celebrating a tapestry of kinship

SPAIN: October 11 – 21, 2010



Santiago de Compostela Cathedral

Dear Friends:

Please join Msgr. Jerome Martinez y Alire on our second pilgrimage of the 400th Celebrations, *Spain: Footsteps of Faith* sponsored by the Cuarto Centenario Committee of the Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi.

We invite you to walk in the footsteps of our brave ancestors who left their homes and cultural traditions, willingly or unwillingly to begin life anew in Santa Fe. 400 years later, their gift of faith lingers, enriched by all those who followed in their footsteps.

In this special year of celebration it is fitting that we honor those who brought the Holy Faith to New Spain. We will journey as pilgrims along the paths of exodus, celebrating the rich tapestry of places that nourished them and the faith that encouraged them on their arduous journey to their new homeland. Their legacy lives on in the cultural diversity of our faith community that welcomes all.

Carol Heppenstall
Tour Director

FACTS:

- 11 days
- Start and finish in Albuquerque

SIGNATURE MOMENTS:

- Exploring Santiago de Compostela — a UNESCO World Heritage city
- Marvelling at the stained glass windows of the Gothic Cathedral in León
- Discovering the Monastery of Our Lady of Guadalupe — a World Heritage Site
- Visiting the Cathedral of Seville, the largest cathedral in Spain
- Enjoying marvellous flamenco performance and tapas
- Learning about the legendary Santa Teresa of Ávila
- Touring the Royal Palace complex in Madrid

ITINERARY IN BRIEF:

- Day 1:** Depart Albuquerque
- Day 2:** Arrive in Santiago de Compostela, Spain
- Day 3:** Santiago de Compostela
- Day 4:** León, Salamanca
- Day 5:** Guadalupe
- Day 6:** Seville
- Day 7:** Seville
- Day 8:** Train to Madrid
- Day 9:** Excursion to Ávila
- Day 10:** Madrid
- Day 11:** Depart Madrid

COST INFORMATION

START & FINISH: **Albuquerque**

TOUR COST* (PER PERSON): **\$4,595 USD**

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: **\$875 USD**

Your deposit to guarantee your space is required by April 15, 2010.

If you are a single traveller who is willing to share, we can try to match you with an appropriate roommate. However, if we are unsuccessful, please note that the single supplement will apply.

* Price based on a minimum of 26 participants.

TOUR COST INCLUDES:

- Round trip flights from Albuquerque
- Departure taxes (subject to change)
- Accommodation on twin share basis in hotels listed or similar
- Airport transfers for passengers arriving and departing as per the group itinerary
- All transportation by deluxe coach
- Train travel from Madrid to Seville
- Meals as specified in the detailed itinerary
- Full time Spanish tour director
- Sightseeing with qualified English-speaking guides
- All entrance fees
- Gratuities

TOUR COST DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Airport transfers if arriving / departing separately from group itinerary
- Travel insurance
- Medical insurance
- Items of a personal nature
- Additional transport required due to emergency situation



For additional information about Worldwide Quest's terms and conditions, please refer to the current Cultural Explorations brochure.

All participants on tours operated by Worldwide Quest are covered by the terms of the Ontario Travel Industry Compensation Act (Worldwide Quest International, Ontario – License # 2667946).



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO BOOK THIS TOUR, PLEASE CONTACT:

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ITINERARY IN DETAIL:

October 11: Depart Albuquerque

We depart Albuquerque on the overnight flight to Spain, via Dallas.

October 12: Arrive in Santiago de Compostela

We begin our trip where the route of departure began in the Holy City of Santiago de Compostela. This is one of the main centres of Christian pilgrimage, rivalled only by Rome itself and the Holy Land. It was declared a World Heritage city by UNESCO not only for its urban beauty and monumental integrity but also for being the final destination of a thousand-year-old pilgrim route: the Way of St James. Our hotel is a former convent established by St. Francis of Assisi in 1214. After settling in, we'll join our local guide for walking tour of the historic city centre.

Overnight – Hotel Monumento San Francisco, Santiago de Compostela
Meals – Dinner

October 13: Santiago de Compostela

We'll spend the day exploring the city. We'll start at the Cathedral which borders the main square of this old and well-preserved city. Across the square is the Raxoi's Palace (the town hall and seat of the Galician Government), and to the right of the cathedral steps is the Parador Hostal dos Reis Católicos, founded in 1492 as a pilgrim's hospice. With a surface area of 20,000 square meters, the monastery of San Martín Pinario is the second largest religious monument in Santiago after the Cathedral. We'll celebrate a special mass here this afternoon and enjoy a farewell dinner this evening.

Overnight – Hotel Monumento San Francisco, Santiago de Compostela
Meals – Breakfast & Dinner

October 14: León, Salamanca

León possesses many impressive monuments, from outstanding mediaeval to avant-garde modern buildings. This morning we'll drive south to León and visit the town to see its Gothic Cathedral (with its excellent stained glass windows) and the Real Colegiata de San Isidoro which holds the Royal Pantheon, a mausoleum in which the medieval Kingdom of León's royal family were buried. Our route continues south to Salamanca where we spend the night.

Overnight – Hotel Silken Rona Dalba, Salamanca
Meals – Breakfast & Dinner

October 15: Drive to Guadalupe

This morning we'll explore Salamanca. We'll visit the Old Cathedral dating from the 12th century and its San Martín or Oil Chapel. The Old Cathedral attracts the eye of the visitor due to the beautiful tombs of the bishops and nobles to be found inside and the main reredos dating from the 15th century. The New Cathedral, built in the 16th century and completed in the 18th century by Churriguera, houses the image of the Virgin of the Assumption, carved in 1626 by the sculptor Esteban Rueda. The temple's Baroque retro choir is very beautiful and





contains Renaissance images such as that of The Virgin of Loreto and those of Saint John the Baptist. This afternoon a leisurely drive through Extremaduro, the region from which many departed for the New World, brings us to Guadalupe.

Overnight – *Parador de Guadalupe, Guadalupe*

Meals – *Breakfast & Dinner*



October 16: Guadalupe, Seville

Set on the foothill of Sierra de Altamira, La Puebla de Guadalupe is an illustrious town, because of its history and the remarkable monumental patrimony that it preserves. This typical mountain village grew under the wing of the Sanctuary-Monastery of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The Monastery, which was declared World Heritage in 1993, was commissioned by King Alfonso XI of Castile in the 14th century as a sign of gratitude to the Virgin, after winning the Battle of Salado (1340). Since its foundation, the Monastery became one of the main pilgrimage centres in the Peninsula. After passing the astonishing façade, with a remarkable bronze gate, you enter the building. Inside there are two outstanding cloisters, one Gothic and one Mudejar and a pavilion that exhibits the transition between the two styles. In the sacristy, are eleven paintings by Francisco de Zurbarán. Schedule permitting, we'll celebrate a special mass here this morning and explore the town together. This afternoon we continue through the countryside to Seville, the city of departure for the New World.

Overnight – *Hotel Don Paco, Seville*

Meals – *Breakfast & Dinner*



October 17: Seville

This morning, we'll have a special tour of the Archivo de Indias, a Renaissance building which serves as an archive of all the documents related to the discovery of America. We'll continue on to visit the Cathedral of Seville, the largest cathedral in Spain and the third largest in the entire world. The central nave rises to 42 meters and even the side chapels seem large enough to contain an ordinary church. Begun in 1401 on the site of a mosque, the cathedral took just a little over 100 years to complete, retaining from the former mosque only the Patio Naranjos and the Giralda Tower (originally a minaret, converted into a bell tower). Along with the Alcazar and Archivo de las Indias, Seville Cathedral was designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1987.

The afternoon is free for you to enjoy the Barrio Santa Cruz, formerly the district of Moors and Jews, located in the historical center of Seville. This is a lovely part of the city with narrow shady lanes, in between beautiful buildings with courtyards full of flowers. We'll meet this evening for tapas before enjoying one of Seville's marvellous flamenco performances.

Overnight – *Hotel Don Paco, Seville*

Meals – *Breakfast & Tapas Dinner*



October 18: Train to Madrid

We'll take the morning AVE fast train north to Madrid. After settling into our hotel, we'll join our guide for a walk in the historic old town, also known as "Madrid de las Austrias" (referring to the Hapsburg Empire), a living example of the city's 16th and 17th century heyday. We'll see the Plaza Mayor, and the surrounding "aristocratic centre" of Madrid, including the Oriente Square, the Opera House and the modern Almudena Cathedral, consecrated in 1993 by Pope John Paul II. This ensemble of monuments is completed by the Puerta del Sol, a square flanked by select shops, and the "Paseo del Arte", so called for its unique museums, palaces and gardens, including the unmistakable Bank of Spain building, the Telecommunication Palace and the Cibeles and Neptuno fountains.

Overnight – Hotel Principe Pio, Madrid

Meals – Breakfast & Lunch

October 19: Excursion to Ávila

Few such perfectly walled cities as Avila remain in the world. Ávila has been dubbed the "city of stones and saints", because of its particular architecture and because the legendary Santa Teresa, Doctor of the church and one of the church's great mystic writers, was born here. The cathedral sanctuary is integrated into the city wall which formed part of the city's defensive fortifications. We'll spend the morning visiting the city with the afternoon at leisure.

Overnight – Hotel Principe Pio, Madrid

Meals – Breakfast & Lunch

October 20: Madrid

This morning we'll visit the Royal Palace complex. The official residence of the King of Spain, the origins of the Palace date back to the 9th century. Its decoration has evolved over time in accordance with the prevailing styles. From the reign of King Charles II are the Throne Room, the King's Chamber and the Porcelain Room. The Palace also contains a select Painting Gallery including major works by Caravaggio, Velasquez and Goya. We'll continue on to the Prado, one of the world's first public art museums when opened in 1819 to house the Royal art collection. It is renowned as being the largest picture gallery in the world housing more than 8,600 paintings. While it's hard to pick out the best from such an outstanding collection, El Prado boasts most of the major works of Velázquez, some superb works by the great El Greco and an excellent selection of Goya's splendid portraits. In addition to the great Spanish masters, you'll also find some of the best of Flemish and Italian schools.

Overnight – Hotel Principe Pio, Madrid

Meals – Breakfast & Dinner

October 21: Depart Madrid

Early this morning, we transfer to the airport for our departure flight.

Meals – Breakfast

Itinerary subject to change.



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