



Special Tour to Lourdes, France

October 14th, 2023 until October 24th, 2023



for the 75th Anniversary of St. Bernadette Catholic Church
Los Angeles



Highlights of your tour

- **Paris** - Castle Malmaison – Rouen, city of Joan of Arc – – Loire Valley Castles – Da Vincis last home - Unknown Perigord Area -- Monastery where St. Bernadette reposes - Holy village of the Black Madonna of Rocamadour - Lourdes, town of St. Bernadette - attend a mass with your own pastor at Lourdes - Participation in the torchlight procession

Day 1 Paris 14 OCT 23

Arrival at Paris CDG Airport. 1 hotel transfer. Part of City Tour Paris on hotel transfer. Overnight in Paris. (B,D)

Day 2 Paris 15 OCT 23



Sightseeing Tour of Paris featuring the cathedrals Notre Dame (outside) & Sacre Coeur. Then join a cruise on the River Seine – a very comfortable way so see the main sights of Paris. Participate in the Sunday service at The American Church of Paris, the first American Church outside the U.S. Afternoon free – maybe visit the *Phantom of the Opera* at the Paris Opera Garnier, or visit Mona Lisa at the Louvre and browse in the stores on the Avenue de Champs Elysees. Overnight in

Paris. (B,D)

Day 3 Rouen 136 km/84 miles 16 OCT 23

Leave Paris for a visit of the romantic Chateau of Malmaison, the private retreat of Emperor Napoleon and his wife Josephine.



In the afternoon onward to **Rouen** on behalf of **Jeanne d'Arc**. Walk with a local guide. In the evening join the Cathedral Light show. Overnight in Rouen. (B,D)

Day 4 Rouen & Amboise 335 km/208 miles 17 OCT 23



Leave Rouen and enjoy a leisurely drive through the green Province of Normandy to the famous wine area Loire River Valley.

We will arrive in Amboise at noon and you will have free time for lunch or shopping.



After lunchtime let us guide you through the Castle of Amboise , one of the most important castles of the Loire Valley. It was the „medieval cradle“ of several French Princes and the last home of the famous artist Leonardo da Vinci, who planned parts of the castle and lived and died here. We will also visit his private chateau.

Before dinner enjoy a french wine tasting

program by the River Loire near Amboise. (B,D)

Overnight in Tours

Day 5 Amboise & Nevers & Vichy 317km/197 miles 18 OCT 23

Today is one of the highlights at this tour. We will show you **Nevers, the monastery Espace of Bernadette Soubirous**



- a former convent and the motherhouse of the Sisters of Charity of Nevers where the body of Saint Bernadette reposes. In 1970, it was converted into a sanctuary run by volunteers and a few sisters who administer to pilgrims and manage the building.

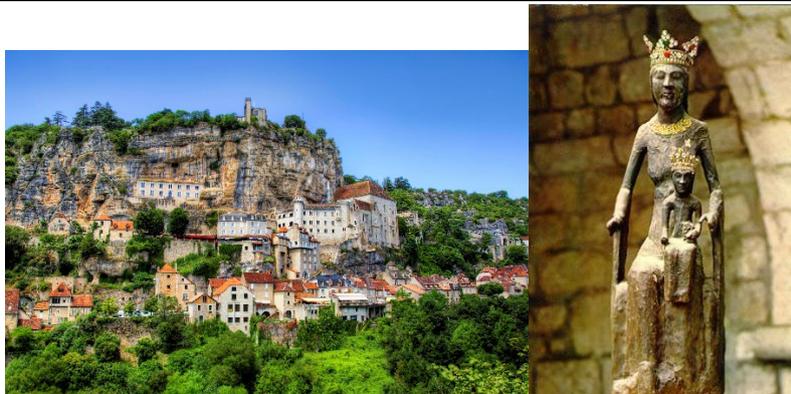
Since 3 August 1925, following her beatification, Bernadette's body lies in a glass shrine in the chapel of this convent. We will have a special visit with a sanctuary guide to see her body.



In the afternoon onward to Vichy and orientation drive through Vichy, which was the French capital during WW2. (B,D)

Overnight in Vichy

Day 6 Vichy – Rocamadour - Rodez 385 km/239 miles 19 OCT 23



Today we will show you another highlight of pilgrim's places in France – **Rocamadour**.

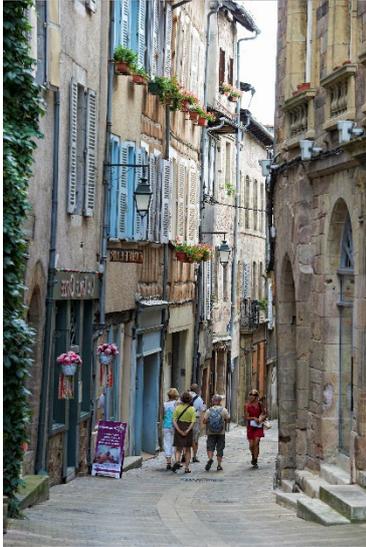
The medieval village clings to the side of a cliff 150m above the Vallée de l'Alzou in a beautiful, rugged, unspoilt environment.

The holy village is a dizzy cascade of houses and chapels set against the rock with a château at the top. It attracts a huge number of visitors and pilgrims every year, and is a pilgrimage centre for the Black Madonna, venerated throughout the world. Rocamadour remains an essential stopover on the Pilgrim Route to Santiago de Compostela.

The Chapel of Notre-Dame or Chapel of Miracles houses the famous Black Madonna, a 12th century wooden statue whose colour remains a mystery. Another curiosity in this chapel is the sword Durandal, planted in the rock above the door by Roland after the defeat of Roncevaux in the year 778. The most intrepid visitors can continue along the „Way of the Cross“ up to the château and admire the amazing view from the top.

Note that elevators run up and down the valley to the top of Rocamadour. There is also a little train every 15 minutes from the car parks in the valley with commentaries in several languages.

Onward to Rodez, charming little town in the region Occitania.



RODEZ- perched on a rocky peak at an altitude of 2057 feet, this typical little southern french town has a lot to offer.

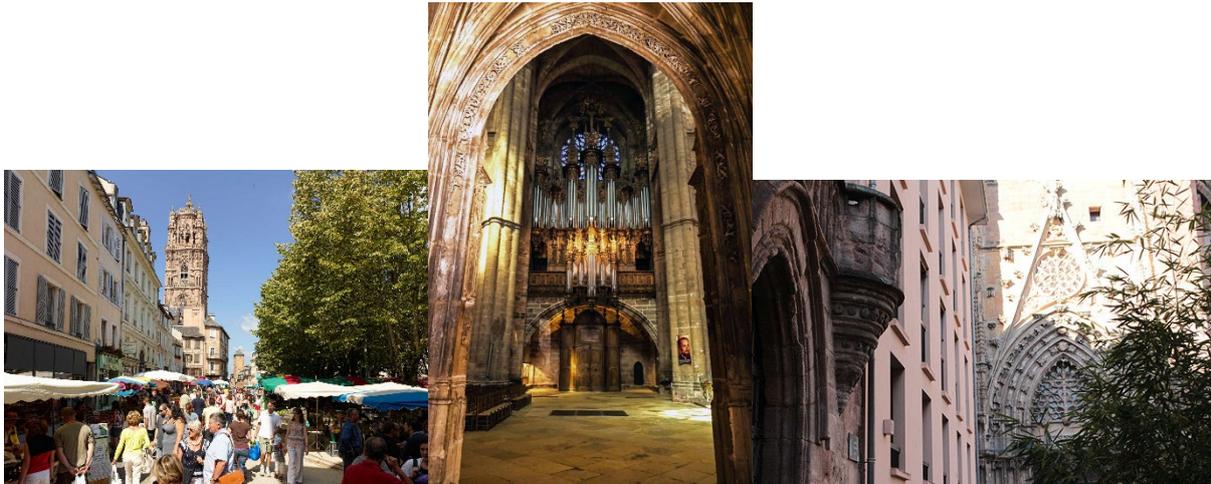
The emblem of Rodez, the splendid Cathedral of Our Lady, built between the 13th and 16th centuries out of pink sandstone, is a masterpiece of Gothic art. Topped by a magnificent wrought bell-tower in the Flamboyant Gothic style, this fortress-style historic monument, with two massive towers on either side of the western façade, contains a stone jube and carved oak stalls from the 15th century, as well as a 17th-century organ case.

Near the cathedral, discover the many attractions of the old town: the bishop's palace and its horseshoe staircase, the 15th-century Corbières and Raynalde Towers, the pedestrianised shopping streets and the superb medieval and Renaissance houses. There's so much

to see in Rodez's historic centre. (B,D)

Overnight in Rodez

Day 7 Rodez 20 OCT 23



After having travelled quite a distance, you have deserved a break. Picture yourself in the pedestrian area of Rodez, browsing little french stores, enjoying a „cafe au lait“ – simply enjoy a day of leisure and own activities in a historic surrounding.

We will arrange your participation in a prayer or service. Tonight you go out for dinner on your own. (B)

Overnight in Rodez

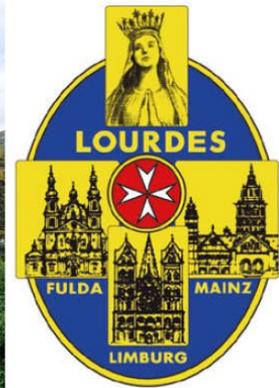
Day 8 Rodez – Lourdes 327km/199 miles 21OCT 23



From Rodez to Lourdes, on the way stop at a monastery near the city of Toulouse for a visit. Today – after having crossed almost the whole of France from North to South, you will reach the final destination of your pilgrimage - Lourdes. (B,D)

Overnight Lourdes

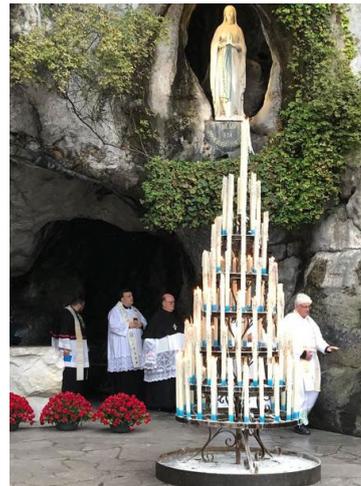
Day 9 & Day 10 Lourdes 22. + 23 OCT 23



All day Lourdes— Visit the famous Grotto of Massabielle, Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Crypt, Basilica of the Rosary, Chapel of St Bernadette, Underground Basilica of St Pius X, the Baths, Stations of the Cross – all in the vicinity of the Domain. Join a walking tour to places associated with St Bernadette including: Boly Mill, Cachot, Hospice, Parish Church and Cemetery. Get some Holy

Water from the Spring and join a private mass held by your own pastor.

Take part in the evening Rosary and Torchlight Processions. Overnights at Lourdes. (B,D)



Day 11 Lourdes – Airport Toulouse 175 km/108 miles 24 OCT 23



Transfer to the airport of Toulouse, check in for your flight home, which will arrive in the U.S. the very same day. (B)

****** *End of Tour* ******

See next page



Included features:

- 11 days coach in air conditioned tour from Paris to Lourdes/Toulouse
- Services of a private tour director throughout the tour
- Meet & greet at Paris Airport upon arrival
- Airport transfer to hotel
- Guided tour of Paris incl. participation in a Sunday Service
- 10 nights at 4**** hotels in France
- All rooms with bath/and or shower en suite
- 10 buffet breakfasts
- 9 dinners with one glass of beer/wine/softdrink with each dinner
- Luggage services in/out at all hotels
- wine tasting at the Loire Valley
- Local guide in Paris
- Local guide at Malmaison Castle
- Local guide in Rouen
- Special monastery guide in the Sanctuary of Nevers
- Local castle guide in Amboise
- Visit of Castle Amboise and da Vincis home
- Local guide in Rocamadour
- Special guide in Lourdes for 2 days
- Special program Lourdes for 2 days, incl. Mass in the Grotto
- Participation in the torchlight procession
- Special candles for the torchlight procession
- Airport transfer from Lourdes to Toulouse for flight home

Tour price	USD 4.441.00
Single room surcharge	USD 822.00