



Missionaries of the Sacred Heart Lourdes 5 Nights Pilgrimage 25th – 30th May 2025

25th May 2025 Cork – Lourdes

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Exact flight timings to be confirmed.

€895 per person sharing (Fullboard – Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner)

Your Lourdes package includes:

Transport & Accommodation

- ✓ **Return direct flights Cork – Lourdes**
- ✓ **20kg Baggage Allowance to be checked in**
- ✓ **Transfer to & from airport to hotel with guided assistance**
- ✓ **5 nights in the 4* Hotel Eliseo**
- ✓ **Free Wi-Fi in the hotel**
- ✓ **Meals served each day at hotel – as per meal plan above**
- ✓ **Services of Marian Pilgrimages representatives throughout the pilgrimage**
- ✓ **All airport, local City & hotel taxes**

Not Included:

Single Room Supplement €210

Travel Insurance (*Blue Insurance* Pilgrim Policy available from Marian Pilgrimages from €35)

Optional Excursions

Notes:

The exact timings of flights will be confirmed as soon as possible.

Hotel Taxes, charges & government levies of **€15 are all included** in the price

Price per person sharing twin/double/triple rooms with private facilities.

Day 1 – Arrive Lourdes

Check in at Cork Airport for our flights to Lourdes. On arrival in Lourdes we will make our way to the baggage claim area & collect our luggage. Our guide will be waiting to bring you to your coach for your transfer to Lourdes. On arrival in Lourdes, we will have our lunch in the hotel, after we will check-in to the Hotel Eliseo & relax before dinner, which is usually served around 7.00pm, After dinner, we can take a short walk down to the Sanctuary to observe the candlelight procession & to pray the Rosary.

Candlelight Procession: The candlelight procession begins at 9.00pm each evening & is a very special part of our pilgrimage where all nations from around the world come together to unite in prayer. On the 18th of February 1858, the day of the third Apparition, one of the two people accompanying Bernadette came carrying a candle. After this, Bernadette herself always came with a lit candle. It marks the beginning of this long historical event in Lourdes. During the procession, and depending on the day, pilgrims recite one of the Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful or Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary. At the beginning of each decade, a few words in several languages are given to direct prayer so that it does not become a monotonous repetition. The Ave Maria & other hymns can be heard in many languages. In the serenity of the evening, each pilgrim carries his or her own personal intentions as the prayer gathers the assembly “of all nations, people and languages” with the Virgin Mary. At the end of an evening procession on the 14th August 1983, Pope John Paul II said, “In this peaceful night we keep watch, we pray, no longer in the secret of our hearts, but as a great crowd on the move, following the risen Jesus Christ, each one lighting the way for the other”.

Day 2 - Walking Tour

This morning after breakfast we will depart as a group for Mass. We will return to the hotel for Lunch which is served at 12 noon. After lunch we generally meet with our guide at our hotel to embark on the walking tour which follows in the footsteps of St Bernadette. We begin at the cemetery where her parents are buried and walk back in time to visit the Boly Mill, the birthplace of St Bernadette and the “Cachot” an abandoned prison where she and her impoverished family lived. During the walking tour we will hopefully get a sense of how the apparitions had such an impact on the family and this small village of Lourdes. After our walk we can take some free time to go back to the sanctuary area for some personal prayer before attending the blessing of the Sick. After dinner we will take part in the evening programme as per the Sanctuary schedule, which is optional for those who wish to attend the Rosary and the candlelight procession, beginning at 9.00pm.

Blessed Sacraments Procession: Each day at 5.00pm we will have an opportunity as pilgrims to walk with the Blessed Sacrament. The Blessed Sacrament reminds us all that Jesus is truly walking among us and that Our Lady is always drawing us back to her Son. The Procession starts in the Prairie of the Sanctuary and finishes in the Basilica of

Saint Pius X in time for Adoration and Blessing of all Pilgrims. This is an optional part of the programme and will generally not be accompanied by the guide.

Day 3 – Grotto & Stations of the Cross

Will begin today at the most sacred site at the sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes, the grotto where our Lady first appeared to Bernadette in 1858. Here we can see the original spring which is still visible. There is also an intention box situated within the Grotto area where we can leave our intentions. After Mass we will participate in the High or Low stations of the cross. The high stations are life size figures which re-enact the passion of Christ. They are located at the top of the Rosary Basilica hill and will take approximately 1.5hrs to complete. The low stations are located across from the baths area and have been designed to facilitate anybody who may have any walking difficulties. Both the high and low stations are an opportunity to experience Christ's unconditional love for us all as we pray together on the passion through Our Lady's eyes. Return to the hotel for lunch at 12 noon. Afternoon free. After dinner we again have an opportunity to take part in the evening programme as per the Sanctuary schedule.

Lourdes Grotto – It was here while gathering wood that Our Lady first appeared to Bernadette in 1858. During the first two apparitions, little Bernadette prayed the Rosary with Our Lady and left without any exchange of words. During one of Our Lady's visits to Bernadette, She announced herself saying "I am the Immaculate Conception". Throughout the following apparitions, Our Lady emphasised God's love for us, penance and the necessity of performing acts of penance for sinners.

Day 4 – Baths & Bartres

Morning free to visit the baths. After lunch there is an optional trip to Bartres (approximately €15 per person return for the coach trip). Bernadette held a special place for Bartres in her heart as it was where she stayed and studied the Catechism to prepare to receive her first Holy Communion. As a group we will celebrate Holy Mass in the chapel where Bernadette prayed. We shall return to our hotel at 7pm. After dinner this evening we again have an opportunity to take part in the evening programme as per the Sanctuary schedule.

Baths – The baths are a major highlight in Lourdes. Don't worry about feeling nervous. This is a very relaxing and stress-free time. It's a time to bring our intentions and needs to Our Lady and her Son. The baths are, for many, a place of physical and spiritual healing and a conversion of heart. (The baths may be very busy depending on the day or time and we may need to return on an alternative day. Our guide will advise the group of this.)

Day 5 – Group Candle Lighting

Our day begins with a delicious breakfast in our hotel. After breakfast we will proceed to the candle area where we will light our group candle and pray for everyone's intentions on the pilgrimage. Return to our hotel for lunch. This afternoon we will be free in

Lourdes. After dinner we again have an opportunity to take part in the evening ceremonies.

Day 6 – Depart Lourdes

After our Farewell Mass as a group, there will be a chance for some last-minute shopping or personal prayer before transferring by our luxury coach to Tarbes airport for your return flight home.

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