

12
DAYS

Encountering the *Mystics in Europe*

During this contemplative pilgrimage, we will immerse ourselves in the sacred places of Hildegard of Bingen, Teresa of Avila, John of the Cross and St Ignatius. We will begin our mystical journey in Germany enjoying the beauty of the Rhineland and surrounds with Hildegard of Bingen. Travel across to Spain to encounter St Ignatius, Teresa of Avila and John of the Cross. For those selecting the optional extension, we conclude the pilgrimage in the silence of Julian's cell in Norwich.



with

Sr Margaret Walsh PBVM

9 Nights / 12 Days

Rudesheim am Rhein (4) • Disibodenberg • Rudesheim-Eibingen • Bingen •
Montserrat (2) • Manresa • Segovia (1) • Avila (2) • *Optional Norwich Extension (3)*

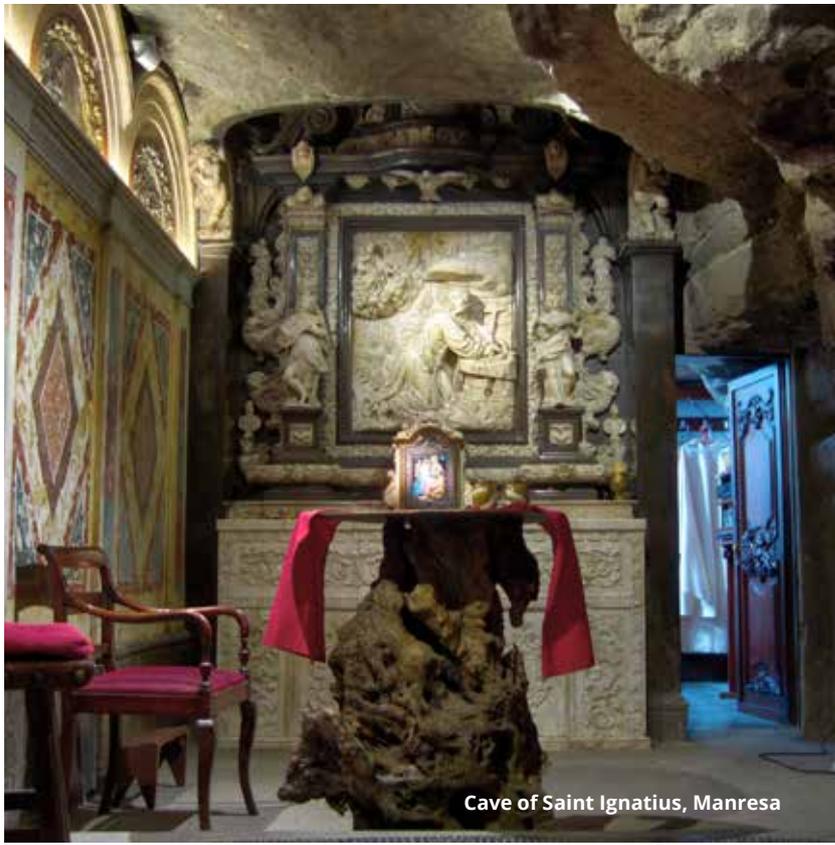
DEPARTS WEDNESDAY 6TH MAY 2020



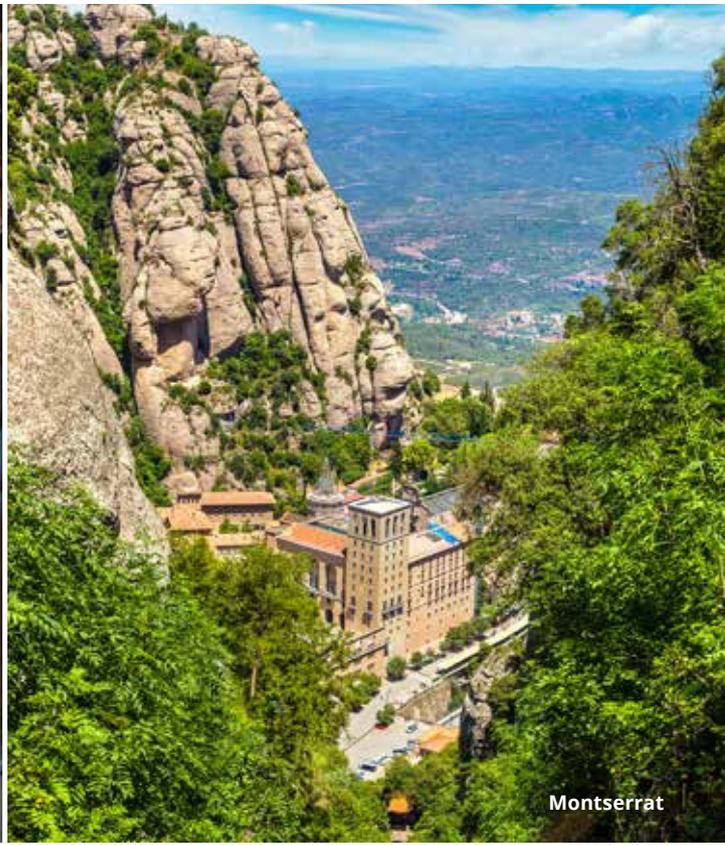
Abbey of St Hildegard

the genuine pilgrim experience

harvest
journeys



Cave of Saint Ignatius, Manresa



Montserrat

Meal Code

(B) Breakfast (L) Lunch (D) Dinner

DAY 1: WEDNESDAY 6 MAY – DEPART FOR GERMANY

DAY 2: THURSDAY 7 MAY – VIA FRANKFURT TO RUDESHEIM AM RHEIN (D)

On arrival at Frankfurt airport we will be met and travel west by coach to our accommodation in **Rudesheim am Rhein**. Hildegard of Bingen (1098 –1179) Benedictine abbess, writer, composer, philosopher, Christian mystic and visionary founded two monasteries in this area at Rupertsberg and Eibingen.

Rudesheim am Rhein overnight

DAY 3: FRIDAY 8 MAY – DISIBODENBERG (BLD)

Today we travel out to the ruins of the Benedictine Monastery at **Disibodenberg** where a young Hildegard came to follow the Rule of St Benedict. She was professed with her teacher, Jutta on November 1st – All Saints Day 1112. Hildegard and about twenty nuns later moved to St. Rupertsberg Monastery in 1150 where Hildegard was the prioress.

We will then be taken on a guided tour of the monastery and then enjoy free time exploring the ruins of the monastery as well as time for shared reflection and private prayer. We conclude with a visit to the museum.

Rudesheim am Rhein overnight

DAY 4: SATURDAY 9 MAY – RUDESHEIM-EIBINGEN (BD)

In the morning we visit the **Parish Church of St Hildegard** in Eibingen to pray before the relics of St Hildegard and ponder on her famous painting of the Trinity known as the 'Blue Man'.

In the afternoon we will visit the **Benedictine Abbey of St Hildegard** in Eibingen for a guided tour with an opportunity to attend Vespers at 5:30pm.

Rudesheim am Rhein overnight

DAY 5: SUNDAY 10 MAY – BINGEN (BD)

In the morning we have the opportunity to attend Mass at the **Benedictine Abbey of St Hildegard**.

Later we will travel across the Rhine River to Bingen for a guided tour at the **Museum am Strom-Hildegard von Bingen**. The highlight in the Museum is the section on 'Hildegard of Bingen'; then we will visit the **Hildegard Forum** and the **herb garden**.

After lunch we return to our accommodation.

Rudesheim am Rhein overnight

DAY 6: MONDAY 11 MAY – FLY TO BARCELONA (BD)

We embark on our travel day as we are transferred to the airport for our flight to Spain. On arrival into Barcelona, we are met and transferred to the stunning **Montserrat**. The renowned 11th century sanctuary of Our Lady of Montserrat lies at the top of a 4,000 foot high mountain and is one of Spain's most popular pilgrimage destinations. The shrine is home to a 12th century miraculous statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary, lovingly known as the "**Black Madonna**", discovered in the **Santa Cova** or Holy Cave. Here at Montserrat, St Ignatius kept vigil with a coarse sackcloth and a pilgrim staff.

This afternoon we enjoy a guided visit of the **Basilica**, the construction of which began in the 16th century, and a viewing of the beautiful Holy Image of Our Lady of Montserrat, known affectionately as the "**Black Madonna**." We continue to the museum.

Montserrat overnight

DAY 7: TUESDAY 12 MAY – MANRESA (BD)

Following breakfast, we travel out this morning to the town of **Manresa**, where St Ignatius went after his life changing pilgrimage at Montserrat. He shut himself in a cave to pray and do penance during his sojourn in the city from March 1522 to February 1523. Each day he spent seven hours in prayer in a cave and then helped the sick in the village with the time he had left over. Here too, Ignatius began to develop the method for seeking God's will and where he wrote his renowned **Spiritual Exercises**. We come as pilgrims to this amazing place with St Ignatius and pray in the actual cave where his life and spirituality developed. There will be time to visit the cave in the Church of St Ignatius where Ignatius lived.

We then continue to Cardener River and the Pont Vell Bridge, where St. Ignatius had an important vision.

Following some free time in the town we visit the Conservatory Theatre in St Dominic Square, where we watch a presentation about St Ignatius.

We also visit the new **Medieval Interpretation Centre** of Manresa. The Centre shows what the city was like in the fourteenth century, when it hosted St. Ignatius of Loyola in 1522. Using several pieces from the collection of the County Museum of Manresa, it recreates the city of Manresa that knew the saint and that has now disappeared, like the Convent of the Preachers, located in the area of the current interpretation centre, and El Carme church.

We return then return to Montserrat, where we can attend Vespers (6:45pm) at the Basilica followed by Mass sung by the Monks and the 'L'Escolania' Choir (7:30pm).

Montserrat overnight

**DAY 8: WEDNESDAY 13 MAY - TO SEGOVIA** (BD)

This morning we depart for Segovia. St John of the Cross (1542–1591) a Carmelite priest who is well known for his mystical writings and poetry is closely associated with Saint Teresa of Avila in her work of founding the reformed Carmel. In 1574, John accompanied Teresa in the foundation of a new monastery in Segovia.

Segovia overnight

DAY 9: THURSDAY 14 MAY - TO AVILA (BD)

Following breakfast, we visit the **Monastery of San Juan de la Cruz** where **Saint John of the Cross** is buried. We have time for shared reflection and private prayer.

We will then visit the site of Teresa of Avila's first convent in Segovia. We then enjoy some free time to further explore the centre of the city including the stunning **Segovia Cathedral**, the last Gothic cathedral to be built in Spain.

We then continue to the historic walled town of **Avila**. The atmosphere has changed little since the days of St Teresa to whom the city is dedicated. It was here that she entered the Carmelite convent and encountered many mystical experiences during her time.

Upon arrival we will visit the **Monastery of the Incarnation** where we spend time at St Teresa's cell, and the museum which contains relics of her life. We will have time for shared reflection and private prayer.

We then continue for a special visit to the **Monastery of St Joseph**, the first monastery founded by St Teresa in 1562. Here we will have some time for shared reflection and private prayer.

We continue to check into our hotel located within the city walls.

Avila overnight

DAY 10: FRIDAY 15 MAY - AVILA (BD)

This morning we enjoy a walking tour of Avila. Visit the **Convent of Saint Teresa** built over the saint's birthplace and located just inside the South Gate of the old town. Most of the convent remains in cloister but you can see the very spot where she was born, now a chapel in the Baroque church. We then visit **Avila's Cathedral** which was started in the 12th century and the **Church of San Juan Bautista**, where St Teresa was baptised in 1515, and the school she attended at the **Nuestra Senora de la Gracia Monastery**.

Avila overnight

DAY 11: SATURDAY 16 MAY – DEPART FOR AUSTRALIA (B)

This morning we travel to Madrid airport for our homebound flight connections or optional pilgrimage extension.

DAY 12: SUNDAY 17 MAY – ARRIVE AUSTRALIA

OPTIONAL NORWICH EXTENSION 4 DAY / 3 NIGHT

DAY 11: SATURDAY 16 MAY – ARRIVE NORWICH (BD)

This morning we travel to Madrid airport for our flight to London. Upon arrival we will be met and board our coach, travelling north to **Norwich**, the home of Julian of Norwich. On arrival we will proceed to our hotel for check-in before dinner.

Norwich overnight

DAY 12: SUNDAY 17 MAY – NORWICH (BLD)

To commence our pilgrimage, we enjoy a **Reflective Prayer Day**. Our programme will include a walk to **St Julian's Church** and the

Hermitage of Julian, a small cell attached to the Church and the **Julian Centre**. Julian of Norwich (1342–1413?) is a 14th century English anchoress and an important Christian mystic and theologian. Her book, *Revelations of Divine Love*, was written around 1395. We take some time in this peaceful setting for shared reflection and private prayer.

The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure. You may choose to attend (3:30pm) the Choral Evenson (visiting Choirs or Evening Prayers) at the Cathedral.

Norwich overnight

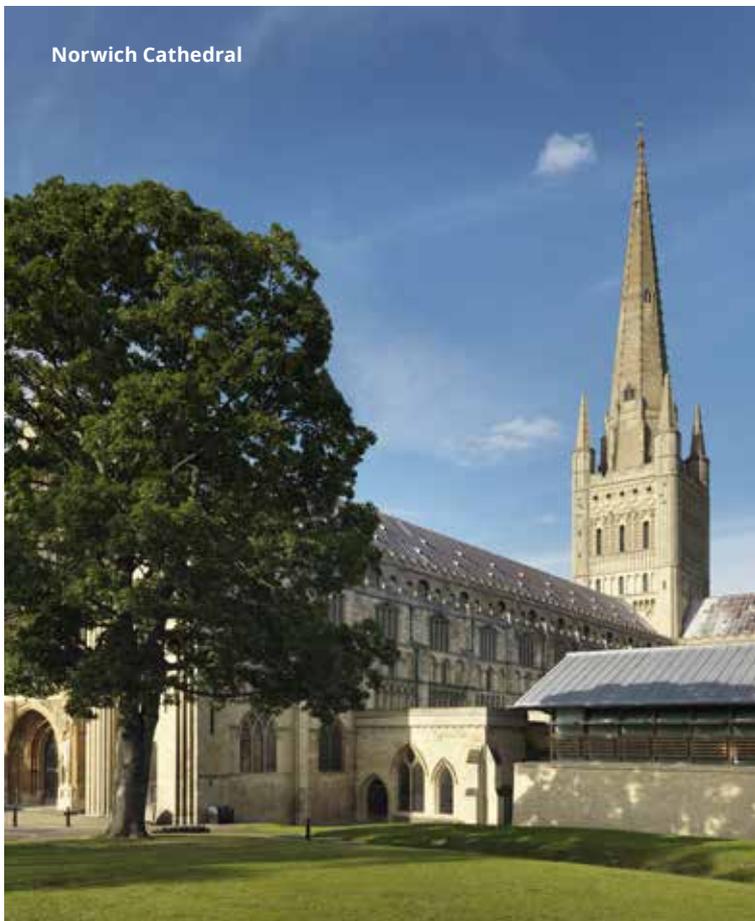
DAY 13: MONDAY 18 MAY – NORWICH (BD)

Today we enjoy a guided visit to the **Norwich Cathedral**, dedicated to the Holy and Undivided Trinity. The cathedral was begun in 1096 and completed in 1145. Julian is remembered at Norwich Cathedral with a statue on the west front and a pair of stained-glass windows. In the afternoon we will visit places connected with the **Beguines**. The **Beguines** were Christian lay women who lived in community in the 13-16th century of Northern Europe and England. Beguines were part of a larger spiritual revival movement of the thirteenth century that stressed imitation of Christ's life through voluntary poverty, care of the poor and sick, and prayer. The **Briton's Arms at Elm Hill in Norwich** is the site of a Beguinage. Mechthild of Magdeburg was a Beguine.

After some time here for prayer and reflection the remainder of the afternoon is at leisure.

DAY 14: TUESDAY 19 MAY – DEPART FOR AUSTRALIA**DAY 15: WEDNESDAY 20 MAY – IN TRANSIT****DAY 16: THURSDAY 21 MAY – ARRIVE AUSTRALIA**

Norwich Cathedral



PRICING		
TOUR CODE	DEPARTS	RETURNS
PV8220	Wed 6 May	Sun 17 May
AIR & TOUR	\$7,490 (Twin Share)	
SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT \$990 per person	PREPAID TIPPING \$100 per person	

**Prices are based on a minimum group size of 15 paying pilgrims, calculated as at July, 2019. Prices remain subject to possible changes in the unlikely event of significant exchange rate variations, airfare increases or minimum group size contingencies. Single Rooms are limited and a supplement will apply if we exceed the rooms required.*

OPTIONAL NORWICH EXTENSION	
Twin Share	\$2,350
SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT \$550 per person	PREPAID TIPPING \$40 per person

**Prices are based on a minimum group size of 10 paying pilgrims, calculated as at July, 2019. Prices remain subject to possible changes in the unlikely event of significant exchange rate variations, airfare increases or minimum group size contingencies. Single Rooms are limited and a supplement will apply if we exceed the rooms required.*



Benedictine Abbey of St Hildegard

INCLUSIONS
<p>AIRFARES Economy class airfare from Sydney to Frankfurt and Barcelona return (N.B. Airlines taxes are included on standard itinerary and subject to fluctuations).</p>
<p>ACCOMMODATION & MEALS Based on moderate standard hotel accommodation throughout with breakfast and dinner daily & 1 lunch</p>
<p>TOURING & TRANSPORTATION Deluxe Air-Conditioned Motor coach with driver • Professional English Tour Director • Local Guides • Sightseeing and entrance fees throughout itinerary • portorage of 1 piece of luggage per person at hotels</p>
<p>NOT INCLUDED Passport • Other Visas (if applicable) • Prepaid Tipping • Australian domestic flights (if applicable) • Other meals not stated • Items of a personal nature including phone calls, laundry, beverages, etc. • Travel insurance (Harvest will recommend a special group policy rate).</p>

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