

BROKEN BAY YOUTH
PREPARE FOR WYD23
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Follow the World Youth Day 2023 Pilgrimage

Follow along with the pilgrims from the Diocese of Broken Bay, as they journey to World Youth Day 2023 in Lisbon.

DAY 1: FRIDAY 21 JULY 2023 – DEPART FOR ITALY

The pilgrims will depart from Sydney and fly to Europe, beginning their pilgrimage in Italy.

DAY 2: SATURDAY 22 JULY – ARRIVE PADUA

The pilgrims will arrive at Venice airport before being transferred to **Padua**, home to **St Anthony**, the renowned saint of lost articles. In **Padua**, the pilgrims will have a guided tour and attend Mass in the **Basilica of St Anthony**.

DAY 3: SUNDAY 23 JULY – VENICE & PADUA

The pilgrims will travel to **Venice**, attending Mass in **St Mark's Basilica**, before commencing a guided walking tour of the city, visiting **St Mark's Square**, Doge's Palace and the Bridge of Sighs.

They will return to **Padua** where they will view the impressive park of '**Prato della Valle**' which includes the **Basilica of Santa Giustina** with its claimed

relics of St Luke the Evangelist. They will also visit the **Scrovegni Chapel**, known for its frescoes and 14th century paintings.

DAY 4: MONDAY 24 JULY – PADUA VIA RAVENNA & BOLOGNA TO FLORENCE

The pilgrims will leave **Padua** and journey to **Ravenna**, visiting the **Basilica of San Vitale**. On their walking tour of the city, they'll visit the **Piazza del Popolo**, the **Basilica of Sant' Apollinare Nuovo** including **Arian Baptistery** and the **tomb of Dante**.

They will then depart **Ravenna** and travel to **Bologna**, visiting the **Basilica of St Dominic**, where the Order of the Preachers came to Bologna in 1218. After Mass, they will visit the shrine to **St Dominic**, which to this day holds the saint's sarcophagus.

The group will then stop in **Florence** overnight.

DAY 5: TUESDAY 25 JULY – FLORENCE

The pilgrims will take a tour of Florence, beginning with Mass at the **Church of Santa Croce** before continuing to the **Academy of Fine**

Arts containing many treasures, including **Michelangelo's statue of David**.

They will also visit the **Ponte Vecchio** and the **Duomo**. In the afternoon, they will enjoy free time to browse the bazaars, explore or rest.

DAY 6: WEDNESDAY 26 JULY – FLORENCE VIA SIENA TO ASSISI

Before departing Florence, the pilgrims will ascend the hill of **Piazzale Michelangelo** to admire the most beautiful view over the whole city.

They will then travel south-east to **Siena**, birthplace of **Saints Catherine and Bernadine**. The group will visit **St Dominic's Basilica** where they will celebrate Mass.

The group will then walk through the narrow lanes to the **Basilica of St Francis** to view the **Eucharistic miracle of the incorrupt hosts** that occurred in 1730. They will also stroll the **Piazza del Campo**.

The group will also visit the medieval **Cathedral of Siena**, before departing to Assisi.

In Assisi, they will visit the **Basilica of St Mary of the Angels** on the plain where



St Francis spent most of his life. Here the pilgrims will see the **Portiuncola**, the thornless rose bush, the cave where the saint returned for prayer and the Chapel where he died in 1226.

They will also visit and pray at the tomb of **Blessed Carlo Acutis**.

DAY 7: THURSDAY 27 JULY – ASSISI

The pilgrims will enjoy a guided tour of Assisi following breakfast, including the **Church of San Damiano** and the actual chapel where the voice of Christ spoke to Francis in the year 1205.

This will culminate with Mass at the **Hermitage** (Eremo delle Carceri), an oasis of peace and tranquillity in the woods built on the site of a simple cave where St Francis often withdrew to spend many hours in prayer.

The tour will end at the **Basilica of St Clare** where the pilgrims will proceed to the side chapel to pray before the **Holy Crucifix** from which God spoke to Francis, saying *‘Go and repair my Church which as you see is in ruins’*.

The pilgrims can also attend Vespers in the Basilica of St Clare and listen to the angelic voices of the Poor Clare nuns.

DAY 8: FRIDAY 28 JULY – ASSISI VIA CASCIA TO ROME

The pilgrims will conclude their time in Assisi with Mass and a guided tour of the **Basilica of St Francis**

They will then board a coach and travel to the village of Cascia, home to the shrine of St Rita, patron saint of impossible causes. They will visit the **Basilica of St Rita** where the group can view her incorrupt body.

The group will walk through the ancient **Monastery of St Rita** and also be able to view the exposed **Eucharistic Miracle** (1330) in the lower chapel and hear the incredible story of how it came to be.

The group will then depart **Cascia** and travel to **Rome** where they will stay for the evening.

DAY 9: SATURDAY 29 JULY – ROME

The pilgrims will begin their day visiting the **Vatican Museum** and wander the spectacular chambers leading to the **Sistine Chapel** to view Michelangelo’s masterpieces, including the magnificent fresco of the Last Judgment.

They will then go to **St Peter’s Basilica**, the largest church in the world for an informative exploration. The pilgrims will visit the **Santa Maria Sopra Minerva Basilica**, one of the major Churches in the Diocese of Rome located near the **Pantheon**. **Michelangelo’s Christ the Redeemer** is housed near the altar.

They will then visit the impressive **St Mary Major Basilica**, the **Basilica of St John in Lateran** (First Papal residence) and the adjacent **Holy Stairs**. They will also visit the **Basilica of Santa Croce in Gerusalemme** with its extraordinary collection of relics from the Holy Land.

After dinner, the group will set out to discover more sights of Rome and get the chance to explore other parts of the city.

DAY 10: SUNDAY 30 JULY – ROME

The pilgrims will visit the **Colosseum** in the morning. They will also see the **Circus Maximus** and the **Roman Forum** en route.

The group will travel along the ancient **Appian Way**, the oldest road from Roman times to the **ancient Catacombs** for a memorable guided tour to marvel at these underground burial tunnels for Christians and Hebrews.

The Rome pilgrimage culminates with Mass in the afternoon at the **Basilica of St Paul Outside the Walls**.

DAY 11 – DAY 15: MONDAY 31 JULY – FRIDAY 04 AUGUST: WORLD YOUTH DAY WEEK LISBON

The pilgrims depart Italy and fly to

Lisbon where they will join streams of young pilgrims descending upon the city. They will engage in a variety of activities through the week, with morning catechesis, daily Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation available during the mornings.

In the afternoon, the pilgrims will attend music, dance and dramatic performances by young people from around the world at multiple sites across the city.

On the Thursday, the Holy Father will be welcomed to the city and on the Friday, the pilgrims will participate in Stations of the Cross.

DAY 16: SATURDAY 05 AUGUST – PILGRIMAGE WALK TO WYD VIGIL SITE

The pilgrims will walk to the site of the final Mass. There will be an afternoon of concerts, performances and song before they sleep out over night under the stars.

DAY 17: SUNDAY 06 AUGUST – 16TH INTERNATIONAL WORLD YOUTH DAY

As the sun rises, the pilgrims will share in Morning Prayer, breakfast and the World Youth Day Papal Mass with the Holy Father, along with thousands of bishops and priests. The Pope will also announce the place where the next World Youth Day will be held.

During the afternoon, the pilgrims return to their accommodation.

DAY 18 – DAY 22: MONDAY 8 AUGUST – FRIDAY 11 AUGUST: POST WORLD YOUTH DAY RETREAT IN FATIMA

The pilgrims will travel to Fatima for three days of rest, recreation and retreat. During the week, there will be a chance to tour Fatima, and see the site of the Apparitions.

On Thursday the Pilgrims will leave Fatima and begin their journey home.