An Ignatian Journey to Spain
In the Footsteps of Ignatius Loyola & Francis Xavier

Designed Exclusively for the Midwest Jesuits

10-Days: November 3 to 12, 2018

Under the Spiritual Direction of Rev. Eric Sundrup, SJ

Group Coordinator: Mr. Jeff Smart,
Regional Director – Midwest Jesuits

Full Package: Air & Land
$4,699 Cash Discount Price (payment by cash, check, money order)
or $4,988 Standard Price (payment by any method)
From Chicago (ORD) plus $175 in tips.

Land Only Package
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For More Information Contact: Mr. Jeff Smart
Tel: (773) 975-6920 • Email: JSMART@jesuits.org

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Dear Friends,

We invite you to join us on a spiritual journey that will immerse you in the world of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Our trip will be a pilgrimage that recounts the adventure, the challenges, and the profound experiences that were so crucial in Ignatius’ life and conversion. We will visit the places important to him and his early Jesuit companion. Through talks and materials on the local history, as well as on the life and spirituality of Ignatius, we will better understand this pilgrim who would eventually become a saint. There will be time for personal reflection, meditation, and prayer on this deeply spiritual journey. Our path follows the path of Ignatius’ life:

- Ignatius was a proud Basque born in the late 15th century. We begin our journey in Bilbao in northern Spain, where the Loyola Castle is located. Here Iñigo (his name at birth) was born.
- A cannonball struck Iñigo during a fierce battle at Pamplona and forever changed his life. We will spend several nights at a retreat house built near Ignatius’s home, where he had been brought to convalesce.
- As Iñigo recovered, he experienced a religious conversion. Afterwards, he left his castle, searching for deeper meaning in his life. We traverse the path Ignatius took, traveling through Pamplona to Javier (Xavier), the castle that was home to Francis Xavier, the great Jesuit missionary who was perhaps Ignatius’ closest companion. We visit Javier and recall the bravery and determination of Francis Xavier.
- We continue across northern Spain to the lofty Benedictine monastery of Montserrat, where Ignatius dedicated his life to God before the image of the Black Madonna. We spend the night here and contemplate the depth of Ignatius commitment.
- We journey on to nearby Manresa, situated on the River Cardoner. Here Ignatius had his greatest religious epiphany, and here he spent about a year writing the Spiritual Exercises.
- We complete our pilgrimage in Barcelona, where Iñigo spent time begging for travel money before embarking as a pilgrim to the Holy Land. He later returned here to study. Finding God in all things is one of the maxims of Ignatian spirituality.

In this spirit, in addition to the holy places and the times for spiritual reflection, we will have the opportunity to enjoy the beauty of Ignatius’ home country: the gorgeous countryside, the architectural wonders of the great city of Barcelona, to say nothing of the delicious Spanish culinary and vintage treats we will savour each day in an unhurried, relaxed way.

We hope you are able to join us for what truly promises to be the trip of a lifetime!

Rev. Eric Sundrup, SJ

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**Our Daily Itinerary**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, DAY 1, DEPART USA:** We depart Chicago en route to Bilbao via Madrid.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, DAY 2: ARRIVE BILBAO / TRANSFER TO HOTEL:** We arrive in Bilbao, where we are met by our Catholic Travel Centre tour manager, who will accompany us throughout our journey. We transfer on our own to our hotel. We will have an orientation group meeting in a private hotel room before dinner. Dinner this evening is at our hotel. (D)

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, DAY 3: BILBAO: EXCURSION TO LOYOLA FOR A DAY OF RETREAT:** After breakfast this morning, we travel to Loyola, known locally as the town of Azpeitia. Here, in 1491 Iñigo Lopez de Loyola Oñaz was born in the Castle of Loyola. We visit the Loyola Castle, originally the stone manor where the Loyola family lived. In 1521 in nearby Pamplona, Iñigo was wounded in a battle defending Navarre against France. He was carried from Pamplona to his family home in Loyola to recuperate. It was here that St. Ignatius had profound religious experiences which began his process of conversion.

After a group meeting at the retreat center for a lecture, we visit Loyola Castle with our local guide. We will celebrate Mass at the Conversion Chapel. We enjoy an included lunch at a local restaurant, followed by some time at leisure for our own personal reflections. Later we visit Hermitage of Mary Magdalen and the nearby hospital museum, where Ignatius was housed after his return from Paris in 1535. We continue on to St. Sebastian Church for faith sharing in the chapel. It was Henry III who granted patronage of this church to lords of the House of Loyola. Today, the building houses the baptismal font of Ignatius. We return to Bilbao for dinner and the evening. (B, L, D)

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, DAY 4: BILBAO: EXCURSION TO ARANTZAZU:** Today, we travel to Arantzazu, located about 25 miles south of Loyola, where Iñigo came as a young pilgrim at the end of February 1522. He spent a night in a prayer vigil before the statue of St. Mary of Arantzazu, and some scholars believe it is here that he made his vow of chastity for the rest of his life. Today, the Virgin of Arantzazu and Ignatius are both patrons of the province.

We begin with a group meeting at the retreat center for a lecture. Later, we visit the shrine with a sacristan guide followed by Mass. After an included lunch at the Hotel Santuario, we have some time for reflection. We will have faith sharing at the retreat center before returning to our hotel in Bilbao. Dinner tonight is on our own to explore the local restaurant scene. (B, L)

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, DAY 5: BILBAO / XAVIER / SOS DEL REY CATÓLICO:** This morning, we check-out of our hotel and travel to Xavier in the province of Navarre. Here we call to mind the life of St. Francis Xavier. We begin our visit with a group meeting at either the retreat house or the
due to changes in airline schedules or for other reasons.

Note: While no changes are anticipated, there may be unforeseen occasions when certain alterations become necessary to this itinerary, either Rapture one of the many significant Ignatian sites in Manresa.

EXCURSION TO MANRESA:

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, DAY 7: MONTSERRAT:

This morning, after breakfast, we transfer to the airport. We will celebrate Mass at the Basilica where we see the baptismal font of St. Francis.

We enjoy a self-guided tour of Xavier Castle, homestead of the family. Lunch awaits us at a nearby restaurant of the Hotel Javier, followed by some time to walk the ample grounds and reflect on the life and sacrifice of this young missionary. A short drive takes us to Sos del Rey Católico, one of the most well-preserved medieval villages in Aragon. Sos, birthplace of King Ferdinand II, added del Rey Católico (of the Catholic King) to its name in his honor. We will faith share at a hotel meeting room and overnight at the Parador, immersed in the ancient feel of this remote hilltop town. Dinner is included at our hotel. (B, L, D)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, DAY 6: SOS DEL REY CATÓLICO / VERDU / MONTSERRAT: After breakfast and check-out at our hotel, we travel to Verdu for a visit to St. Peter Claver Church and the small museum. Today’s lecture will be on the bus. We enjoy a simple lunch at a local restaurant. After lunch we continue on to Montserrat, the spiritual heart of Catalonia and home to the dramatically set Benedictine monastery. This Marian shrine has attracted pilgrims for over 700 years, much as it did Ignatius in March of 1522. We have an orientation tour of the Monastery, followed by Mass. After check-in to our hotel, faith sharing will be in a hotel meeting room. Dinner tonight is at our hotel. (B, L, D)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, DAY 7: MONTSERRAT:

This morning, after breakfast, we have a group meeting at our hotel for a lecture. Later, we depart for Manresa, a place of profound conversion for Ignatius. From the initial insights he received here, Ignatius went on to compose the “Spiritual Exercises.” Ignatius remained in Manresa for about a year and a half before continuing his journey to Barcelona.

We visit the Plaza de San Ignacio and the Chapel of Rapture one of the many significant Ignatian sites in Manresa.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, DAY 9: BARCELONA:

TOUR: After breakfast at our hotel and check-out, we meet for a lecture before departing for Barcelona, the capital of Catalonia, just as a young Ignatius did almost five hundred years before us! Barcelona has always been a city of builders and planners. It is renowned for its beauty, in both its religious and secular buildings. We meet a local guide to enjoy a walking tour of the Gothic Quarter, “In the Footsteps of Ignatius,” including the Church of Santa Maria del Mar, where Ignatius begged for alms for his journey to the Holy Land. Here we celebrate Mass. After check-in to our hotel the balance of the day is at leisure. Dinner this evening is on our own. (B, L)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, DAY 10: RETURN USA:

Early this morning we transfer to the airport.

It was here in this chapel, then a place for the poor and the homeless to sleep, that Ignatius is reported to have been in raptures for 8 days. We view an audiovisual presentation and enjoy a tour of the museum. We visit the Cave where Ignatius lived for 11 months and celebrate Mass in the nearby Chapel. Later, we enjoy wine tasting and lunch at a local vineyard in the Catalan countryside before returning to our hotel in Montserrat, where we faith share in a meeting room. Dinner tonight is at our hotel. (B, L, D)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, DAY 8: MONTSERRAT / BARCELONA:

After breakfast at our hotel and check-out, we meet for a lecture before departing for Barcelona, the capital of Catalonia, just as a young Ignatius did almost five hundred years before us! Barcelona has always been a city of builders and planners. It is renowned for its beauty, in both its religious and secular buildings. We meet a local guide to enjoy a walking tour of the Gothic Quarter, “In the Footsteps of Ignatius,” including the Church of Santa Maria del Mar, where Ignatius begged for alms for his journey to the Holy Land. Here we celebrate Mass. After check-in to our hotel the balance of the day is at leisure. Dinner tonight is at a local restaurant. (B, L)

Note: While no changes are anticipated, there may be unforeseen occasions when certain alterations become necessary to this itinerary, either due to changes in airline schedules or for other reasons.
Making any payments (cash, credit card or otherwise) towards any tour constitutes your understanding and acceptance of all of the contents of this brochure. Catholic Travel Centre shall be referred to as CTC within this document.

DOCUMENTS: US citizens require a valid passport. Other nationalities please inquire with the appropriate embassies. Passports must be valid for six months beyond the date of your return. CTC will not be responsible for delays due to lack of a valid passport.

REGISTRATION AND DEPOSITS: A deposit of $40 per person is required upon registration along with a signed copy of the registration form. Registrations cannot be accepted without payment. A full refund will be issued in the order received by CTC. Balance of payment is due 90 days prior to departure. Late payment is subject to a non-refundable $150 late fee. Late registrations (fewer than 90 days) must be accompanied by the full deposit and will be processed on a space available basis. All tour travel protection program payment, if applicable, plus a non-refundable $150 late fee are subject to availability. CTC reserves the right to cancel reservations that are not paid in full 75 days prior to departure and to charge cancellation fees/penalties indicated. A minimum non-refundable deposit of $150 per person is due at the time of registration. A $25 fee will be charged on all checks and online payments returned by our bank.

CHANGES IN PACKAGE: After initial invoicing, any change in package from air inclusive to land only, or visa to pass, is subject to a $50 fee per booking and will be processed on a space available basis. A $25 service charge fee will be applied. Such changes must be finalized by the passenger in writing to CTC at least 100 days prior to departure.

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1. $500 (less of any non-refundable airfare or travel protection program payment, if applicable), plus a non-refundable $150 late fee and are subject to availability. CTC reserves the right to cancel reservations that are not paid in full 75 days prior to departure and to charge cancellation fees/penalties indicated. A minimum non-refundable deposit of $150 per person is due at the time of registration. A $25 fee will be charged on all checks and online payments returned by our bank.

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Please return this form with $400 deposit payable to Catholic Travel Centre, and we will mail your invoice within two weeks.

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☐ LAND ONLY PACKAGE: $3,999 Land Only, plus tips of $175, and optional Travel Protection Plan fee of $319. I agree to meet the group at the first night’s hotel, or at the airport in Bilbao.

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