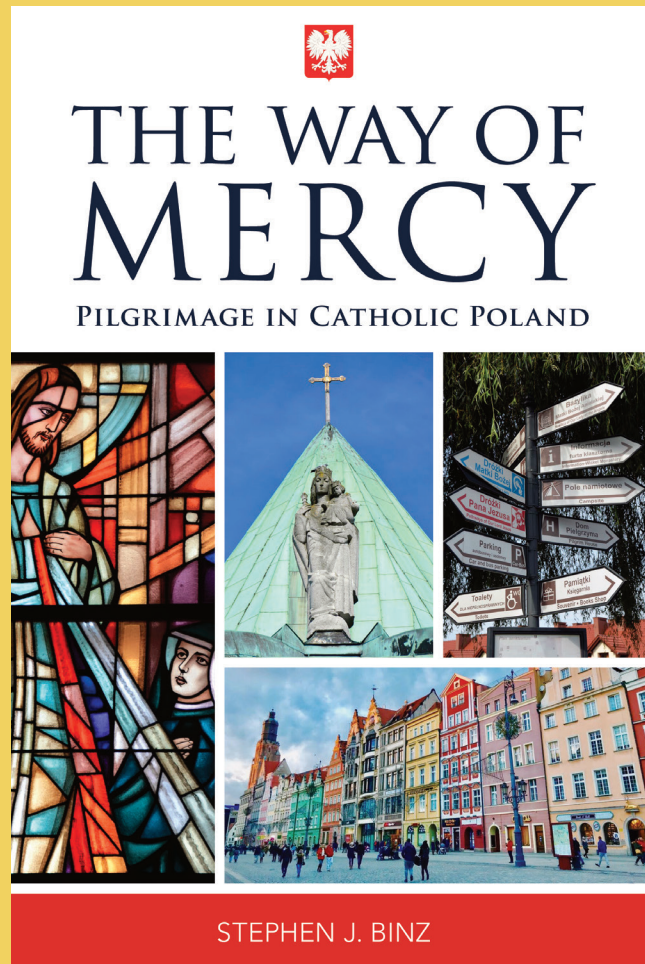


POLAND

WITH STEPHEN J. BINZ

FR. JUAN GUIDO, CHAPLAIN

12 DAYS JUNE 1-12, 2024



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Pilgrimage Leader: Stephen J. Binz

Stephen J. Binz is a Catholic biblical scholar, holding graduate degrees from the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome and Jerusalem, and award-winning author of dozens of books. As a popular speaker, he offers keynotes, missions, and retreats as well as education for pastoral ministers. He has developed Bible studies in the church for four decades and has offered numerous study trips and pilgrimages. His books have earned top publishing awards from the Association of Catholic Publishers and the Catholic Press Association. He lives with his wife Pamela in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. You may discover more about his work and contact him at Bridge-B.com.

Dear Friends,

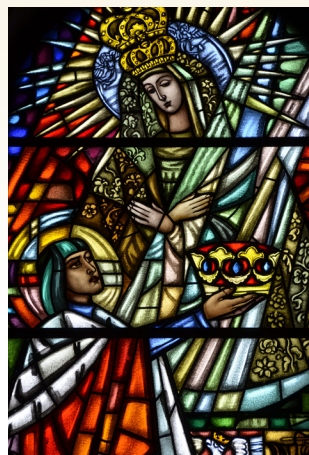
I invite you to travel with me on a pilgrimage to Catholic Poland. We will experience the places associated with the fascinating lives of Saint John Paul II, Saint Maximilian Kolbe, and Saint Faustina, the twentieth century “saints of divine mercy.” In addition, we will explore the sites linked to the recently beatified Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński and Fr. Jerzy Popiełuszko.

Poland is the ideal land for learning the art of pilgrimage. Its history and culture is deeply religious; it is filled with memories of some of the Church’s best-known saints; and famous churches and beautiful shrines cover the landscape. We will explore the beauty of Warsaw and Krakow, the holiness of the Divine Mercy Sanctuary, the City of the Immaculata founded by Saint Maximilian Kolbe, the cathedral and archbishop’s palace of Saint John Paul II, the Auschwitz concentration camp where Saint Maximilian Kolbe was martyred, the Underground Salt Cathedral of Poland, the magnificent Tatra Mountains where Saint John Paul II loved to hike, the famous Calvary paths imitating the topography of Jerusalem, the Madonna of Czestochowa, the queen and protectress of Poland, and so much more.

*Having explored and photographed the sacred sites throughout Poland, I have written the new book, *The Way of Mercy: Pilgrimage in Catholic Poland*, which is available from Marian Press. I encourage you to purchase a copy so that you can use it for reflection and prayer on our pilgrimage or for your own armchair pilgrimage at home. Imagine exploring all these places with a joyful group of pilgrims, eager to learn, pray, and enjoy the experience together. Come along with us to enrich your faith and create lifelong memories.*

Please help us spread the word about this pilgrimage by sending this link to your friends on email, Facebook, and other social media. Space is limited to one bus, so please send your registration and deposit soon. The beautiful country of Poland is like no other place on earth! I can’t wait to share it with all with you!

***In the Joy of the Gospel,
Stephen J. Binz***



WHAT'S THE COST?

Land Only
\$3595.00

Group Air
\$1395.00

Land and Air
\$4990.00

Solo Traveler
(Additional Cost)
\$995.00

Air will be available in July, 2023

Prices are per person

Prices are valid only if the deposit is received no later than February 12, 2024

Final payment due April 2, 2024

Tour Code: 24RS06POSB



This active program
requires walking twelve
to fifteen thousand steps
daily, often on uneven
surfaces, cobblestones,
and some stairs.

ITINERARY

✚ Saturday, June 1, DAY 1: DEPART U.S.A.

We depart this evening on an overnight flight to Warsaw. Dinner and breakfast are served on the flight. Add-on airfare is available from most major cities.

✚ Sunday, June 2, DAY 2: WARSAW

Welcome to Poland. Once we clear passport control and customs, we meet our English-speaking tour guide. We visit the Shrine of Divine Mercy on Zytnia Street, the birthplace and motherhouse of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy, where St. Faustina entered the community. There, we visit the chapel and small museum. We may even be able to join the sisters in praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Next we have a panoramic view of the city on our way to the city center, where we enjoy lunch on our own before checking into our hotel to relax and become acclimated to a new time zone. Gather for an orientation meeting at the hotel and to meet our fellow pilgrims before dinner. Overnight in Warsaw. (D)

✚ Monday, June 3, DAY 3: WARSAW

After breakfast, we celebrate Mass at St. Stanislaus Koska Church where martyred solidarity priest Blessed Jerzy Popieluszko worked and was buried. After Mass, we tour the city of Warsaw starting at the Old Town with a walking tour to include Barbican, Market Square, St. John's Cathedral, Royal Castle Square and Royal Castle (exterior view). Lunch is on our own today. In the afternoon, we drive along the scenic Royal Route through the glamorous Nowy Swiat shopping street, mostly rebuilt after WWII, ending at Lazienki Park with its gardens, palaces and Chopin Monument. We also visit the Warsaw Uprising Museum chronicling the events of the Warsaw Uprising that began on August 1, 1944. Through interactive displays featuring the weapons of the uprising, love letters, actual footage and many other artifacts, we learn about one of the most harrowing events in Polish history. Dinner and overnight in Warsaw. (B,D)

✚ Tuesday, June 4, DAY 4: WARSAW – NIEPOKALANOW – SWINICE WARCKIE – CZESTOCHOWA

Following breakfast and check-out, we depart for Niepokalanow Sanctuary and the Franciscan Monastery linked with St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe – a martyr from the death camp in Auschwitz. Mass will be celebrated. Lunch is on our own as we continue to Swinice Warckie to visit the Church of St. Casimir where St. Faustina was baptized, received her First Holy Communion, and where she attended Sunday Mass. Next we arrive in Czestochowa and check into our hotel. Dinner and overnight in Czestochowa. (B,D)

✚ Wednesday, June 5, DAY 5: CZESTOCHOWA – LUDZMIERZ – ZAKOPANE

After breakfast and check-out, we visit the Jasna Gora Monastery where we see the Treasury, the Knight's Hall, the Refectory, the Basilica of the Holy Cross, and the Nativity of the Virgin Mary. The highlight of our visit is the famous icon of the Black Madonna to which miraculous powers are attributed. We celebrate Mass at one of the chapels. Then enjoy free time for lunch. After lunch, we stop in a small village called Ludzmiierz to see the magnificent icon of the Virgin, the Queen of Podhale. Then continue to Zakopane and check into our hotel. Dinner and overnight in Zakopane. (B,D)

✚ Thursday, June 6, DAY 6: ZAKOPANE

Today we enjoy a full day at the beautiful mountain resort of Zakopane. We celebrate Mass at the Jaszczurowka Chapel (TBC) and have time to explore the town and the market. We continue our tour with a cable car ride to Kasprowy Wierch for a stunning view of the Tatra Mountains. Explore inside a traditional wooden house at Chocholow village and meet a local sculptor. Finally, enjoy a long, leisurely soak at the Bukowina Hot Springs (be sure to pack a bathing suit). Lunch today is at a local restaurant. Dinner and overnight in Zakopane. (B,L,D)

✚ Friday, June 7, DAY 7: ZAKOPANE – KRAKOW

Following breakfast and check-out, we make our way to the Sanctuary of the Holy Virgin of Fatima, a chapel constructed in 1999 in gratitude for Pope John Paul II's survival of an assassination attempt. Here we celebrate Mass. Then enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before departing for Krakow. Dinner and overnight in Krakow. (B,L,D)

✚ Saturday, June 8, DAY 8: KRAKOW – SALT MINES

After breakfast at the hotel, we headed to Wieliczka to visit Europe's oldest salt mine which has been listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. The mine is a unique place where many gen-

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erations of Polish miners have created a world of underground chambers and decorated chapels carved out of salt, including the famous Chapel of St. Kinga. We celebrate Mass at St. John Paul II Chapel before heading back to Krakow to enjoy free time for lunch. After lunch, we proceed to Wawel Hill to see Wawel Royal Castle (exterior view) and visit the Wawel Cathedral, which is one of the most beautiful Renaissance residences in central Europe. Then continue to Krakow's Old Town to see the main Market Square, St. Mary's Church, Cloth Hall, and City Hall Tower. Dinner is at leisure. Overnight in Krakow. (B)

✚ Sunday, June 9, DAY 9: KRAKÓW – KALWARIA ZEBRZYDOWSKA – WADOWICE

This morning, we visit Kalwaria Zebrzydowska, which was a popular pilgrimage place for Pope St. John Paul II when he was a young man and where, in the 17th century, the Palatine of Krakow founded a Franciscan Monastery. On the slope of the hill and the valley is an architectural "Way of the Cross" made up of 40 chapels set on the surrounding hills. In the afternoon we visit Wadowice, the hometown of Pope St. John Paul II, and his childhood home, which is now a museum. We visit the Church of the Presentation of the Virgin Mary, where he was baptized and where we celebrate Mass. Time permitting we also visit the nearby Carmelite Monastery which was an important place for St. John Paul II during his youth. Lunch is at leisure today. Dinner and overnight in Krakow. (B,D)

✚ Monday, June 10, DAY 10: KRAKOW – DIVINE MERCY – HAVE NO FEAR CENTER

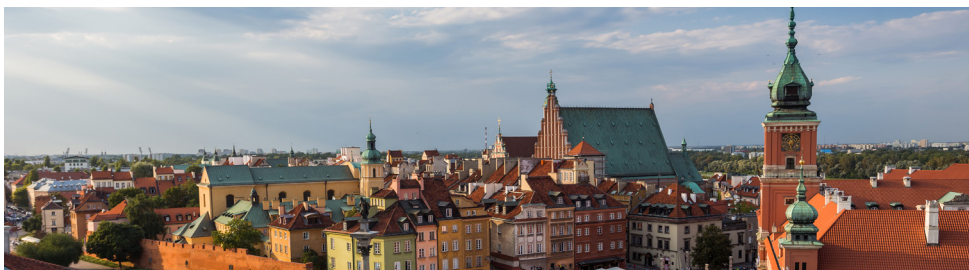
Following breakfast, we depart for Lagiewniki, the capital of the Divine Mercy, where we see St. Faustina's convent chapel and her tomb. Enjoy a tour led by one of the sisters. It was here that the message of the Divine Mercy originated, which Christ himself wished to pass on to our generation through the mediation of St. Faustina. The Sanctuary houses the grace-working image of the Merciful Jesus and the relics of St. Faustina. We visit the newly constructed Shrine of Divine Mercy dedicated by Pope St. John Paul II on his last visit to Poland in 2002. We celebrate Mass at the Shrine. Next, we visit the nearby St. John Paul II Center. Enjoy free time for lunch and shopping. In the afternoon, we return to Krakow. The afternoon and dinner are at leisure. Overnight in Krakow. (B)

✚ Tuesday, June 11, DAY 11: KRAKOW – AUSCHWITZ – BIRKENAU

Following breakfast, we visit Auschwitz – Birkenau, the infamous concentration camp where St. Teresa Benedicta (Edith Stein) faced martyrdom and St. Maximilian Kolbe died in the Death Block from starvation after volunteering his life for a fellow prisoner. Our final stop (time and weather permitting) before departing Birkenau is to see the Fountain of Tears and to celebrate Mass. Return to Krakow for an afternoon at leisure. Tonight we enjoy a farewell dinner with a folklore show at a local restaurant. Overnight in Krakow. (B, L, Special dinner)

✚ Wednesday, June 12, DAY 12: RETURN TO THE U.S.A.

After breakfast, we check out of the hotel and transfer to the airport for our flights back home. (B)



YOUR COMPREHENSIVE TOUR INCLUDES

- Airfare from EWR or JFK to Warsaw X Krakow to EWR or JFK
- Accommodations in first class hotels for 10 nights
- Open hot buffet breakfast daily
- 2 lunches
- 8 dinners as per itinerary
- Beverages are not included unless specified
- Farewell dinner with wine and a folklore show
- Private Air-conditioned motor coach
- English-speaking tour manager
- All admission charges as per the itinerary
- Baggage handling for one suitcase per person only included at the hotels
- Parking fees for motor coach
- Local hotel taxes
- Select International Tours Travel Portfolio
- Confirmation of Daily Mass
- We recommend you consider purchasing CFAR Travel Protection

RATES DO NOT INCLUDE

- Personal expenses
- Any items not specifically mention in the listed inclusions
- Beverages at meals unless otherwise noted
- Gratuities for the guide(s), driver and hotel staff (please refer to the suggestions we will make available to you). For restaurant meals, we recommend a tip of \$2.00 per person per day. For extra luggage, please tip \$1.00 per person per bag.
- Church donations

BAGGAGE CHARGES NOT INCLUDED IN TRIP COST:

- Any airline baggage charges.
- Baggage handling at train stations, airports, and hotels in excess of one suitcase per person.
- Any charges incurred due to excessive luggage including the cost of an additional baggage vehicle or portorage charges



DEPOSITS AND FINAL PAYMENT: A **deposit of \$500.00** per person by check should accompany the enrollment form along with your optional travel protection payment and a copy of your passport picture page by **February 12, 2024. Final payment is due by April 2, 2024. A late payment fee of \$100 will be charged per person for all payments received after the final payment date. Please mail your payment to: Select International Tours, 85 Park Ave., Flemington, NJ 08822 Attn: Rebecca Stoker, 800-842-4842, rebecca@select-intl.com.**

Your passport must be valid through December 12, 2024. Reservations will not be processed until we have passport copies. Prices quoted are based on payments by check. Prices: **\$3,595.00** for land only (air not included); **\$1,395.00** for group air; **\$4,990.00** for land and air; **\$995.00** for solo traveler, additional cost, (in room by yourself). For credit card prices add 4%

PILGRIMAGE PRICES: Prices are based on minimum 20 passengers. Prices may be adjusted in the event of fewer than 20 passengers, changes in currency conversion rates, or amendments in local government taxes and/or fuel surcharges. Prices are in US dollars. For European travel an exchange rate of US \$1.15 per Euro is assumed.

SOLO TRAVEL: A limited number of single rooms are available. Prices are based on two people per room. We do not guarantee roommates but will do our best to connect you with a someone willing to share.

LAND ONLY OPTION: Land only services start and end at the hotels and do not include any airfare. You are welcome to transfer from the airport with the group if you arrive at the same time, otherwise, transfers are not included.

TOUR CANCELLATION POLICY: Individual deposits are refundable except for a \$350.00 per person handling fee for cancellations made 90 days or more before departure. A \$500.00 non-refundable fee will be assessed if the reservation is canceled between 90 and 60 days prior to departure. Within 60 days of departure all payments are non-refundable regardless of reason for cancellations. All airline tickets are non-refundable once issued. All cancellations must be in writing. Unused portions of the trip are not refundable. If a roommate cancels, the cost of a solo supplement will be added to your invoice. You may be eligible for a refund through your travel protection. Refer to the U.S. Policy by State on our website.

TRIP CANCELLATION PROTECTION: We strongly encourage you to purchase a **Travel Protection Plan**, for the protection of your travel investment. Please consider purchasing this plan at the time of initial deposit in order to be covered for pre-existing conditions.

Visit www.travelinsured.com/agency?agency=47406&p=SEL21 or call **844-440-8133** for details and costs for the Select International Travel Protection Plan with optional Cancel for any reason (CFAR). Please note that CFAR is not available in NY State. The plans contain insurance benefits underwritten by the United States Fire Insurance Company. The plans also contain non-insurance Travel Assistance Services that are provided by an independent organization.

AIRLINE, SEATING AND SPECIAL REQUESTS: To best accommodate our pilgrims, we often utilize Group Air Reservations. These allow more predictable transfer and tour schedules. However, when booking Group Air, the airline (not

Select International Tours) controls seating assignments. If you require very specific seats, we suggest that you book your own airfare and take advantage of our "Land Only" options. You may communicate directly with the airline to request seating changes, provide mileage program information, or change passenger contact information once you receive ticket numbers—approximately three (3) weeks prior to departure. We work with instant purchase airline tickets and or group rates. If you switch from air and land to land only within 90 days from departure you will be charged a \$100 service fee in addition to any airline charges. All special needs and requests due to medical or dietary restrictions must be requested in writing at least 60 days prior to departure. Business class and Premium Coach seats are available upon written request; as are add-ons from your hometown airport. If you require very specific airlines or schedules, we suggest that you book your own airfare and take advantage of our "Land Only" options.

WALKING: Our trips require daily walking, sometimes up or down slopes, steps, and uneven terrain. We recommend preparing oneself, by walking before the trip. Anyone needing assistance is required to be accompanied by a qualified and physically-able travel companion. We are not responsible for any medical condition that occurs prior, during or after the trip.

SAFETY PROCEDURES: Select International Tours has undertaken a reasonable inquiry, with all the suppliers (including airlines, hotels, bus companies and other service providers) used on our trips to ensure they have instigated the best available procedures regarding the pandemic- protective policies advised by local government and health authorities. The client understands and agrees that the supplier(s) may not apply those policies as diligently as the policies suggest. In addition even if the supplier makes a good faith effort to enforce its good practices, some travelers may simply refuse to cooperate. Therefore the client agrees not to hold Select International Tours or group leaders responsible should they or anyone on the trip contract COVID-19 or any other illness during or after the trip

RESPONSIBILITY: By accepting this confirmation, you agree that the Group Leaders and Select International Tours, Inc. have no responsibility for any acts or omission of the travel suppliers in your itinerary and during your trip. We have no special knowledge regarding the financial conditions of the suppliers, unsafe travel conditions, health hazards, or weather hazards at locations traveled. We are not responsible for flight delays or cancellations or any charges incurred due to unforeseen circumstances. Unused portions of the trip are non-refundable. For information about destination climate, risks, and safety please consult the appropriate on-line resources. For health information consult the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. You are responsible for checking passport, visa, vaccination, or other entry requirements of your destinations. Itineraries are subject to change. We are not responsible for any damaged, lost, or stolen articles. We are not responsible for any sickness, injury, or death during or after the trip. Travel documents will be mailed out approximately three (3) weeks before departure. Please review them carefully for any errors.

SHIPPING & HANDLING: \$15.00—not included in package price—will be added to each invoice. Your invoice will confirm the trip registration.

Poland with Stephen Binz and Fr. Juan Guido
Trip Code: 24RS06POSB

June 1-12, 2023

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Over the last several years, our clients have requested more control over the trip booking process, payments, and, most importantly, communication about the trips. Our response to these comments and requests had taken two years to implement, but we are happy with the results. Select has committed to a major financial and time investment in building an online reservation system that is easy to navigate using your home computer, tablet, or smartphone. We have addressed most of the requests and suggestions provided by clients. The benefits of the new system to you are a simplified registration process, the ability to access your information at your convenience, review your payment history and get trip information while easily communicating with your Account Manager and group leader.

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To learn how easy it is to register online, please view THIS SHORT 6-minute VIDEO that explains the process at <https://selectinternationaltours.com/register-online/>.