

Taize and Le-Puy-en-Velay Camino



INVIA RETREAT & PILGRIMAGES

20 JUNE - 02 JULY 2020

Prices (Euro 1 = R17)

Per Person Sharing: R 16 780

Flights

Flights Budget: R 10 000

Summary

7 Nights Taizé Community

3 Nights Camino Le-Puy-en-Velay to Sauges

Proposed Flights (Ethiopian Airlines)

Depart from Cape Town International:

20/06 14:30 ET846 CPT - ADD

20/06 23:55 ET726 ADD - GVA (Arrive 08:15, 21/06)

Return from Geneva:

01/07 20:20 ET727 GVA - ADD

02/07 08:15 ET847 ADD - CPT (Arrive 13:45)

Extra Info

Le Puy en Velay:

<https://about-france.com/cities/puy-en-velay.htm>

Saint Privat:

<https://www.france-voyage.com/cities-towns/saint-privat-12079.htm>

About the Le-puy route:

<https://ilovewalkinginfrance.com/le-puy-en-velay-to-aumont-aubrac/>

Tour Prices Includes

- All accommodation
- Meals: Taizé: 3 meals per day
- Add-on tour: All breakfasts & 2 dinners
- Luggage transfers during walking days (1 bag per person max 15 kg)
- Pilgrims Passport, walking notes and guidebook. Hotel vouchers and maps
- All transfers

Tour Prices Excludes

- Schengen Visa to France
- Flights calculated at R10 000 per person from Cape Town International Airport
- Travel Insurance
- Drinks and meals not mentioned above
- Personal expenses e.g. washing etc.



Day	Itinerary Summary
Sunday 21/06	<p>Arrive in Geneva at 08:15 with Ethiopian Airlines flight ET 726</p> <p>Take a train to Lyon, Switzerland and from there a bus to Taizé where we will be joining the retreat centre for 7 nights (21/06 - 27/06).</p> <p>Join Taizé retreat</p>
Sunday 28/06	<p>Transfer from Taizé to Le-Puy-en-Velay</p> <p>The old Le Puy Camino or Via Podiensis is one of the four main pilgrimage routes through France and is one of the most popular among pilgrims walking the Camino in France.</p> <p>The Le Puy Route is stunning and boasts spectacular views of volcanic landscapes and stunning countryside. In terms of scenery, it is known for being one of the most interesting, particularly to nature lovers.</p> <p>Starting in Le-Puy-en-Velay with its famous Cathédrale Notre-Dame du Puy, where pilgrims can be blessed each morning before starting their pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela.</p> <p>The route goes from the high plateau of the Massif Central, dropping suddenly to follow the valley of the river Lot, where there is a series of fairy-tale villages.</p> <p>Overnight Le Puy</p>
Monday 29/06	<p>Walk Le Puy to St Privat</p> <p>Starting at Notre-Dame du Puy Cathedral, modern pilgrims feel a certain emotion when walking down the stairs that have been the starting point of thousands of pilgrims en route to Santiago for the last millennium. The day is spent through the rounded green mountains of the Velay massif, offering beautiful scenery all day long, before reaching Saint-Privat d'Allier. Climb out of the Puy basin to the Velay Plateau and its volcanic cones and follow the trail - route GR 65 - above the Dolaizon river to St Christophe. Cross the Devès, France's largest basalt Plateau, via a series of charming villages and arrive at St Privat, with its Roman-style church and castle vestiges.</p> <p>Walking: 17km Overnight: St Privat Dallier</p>
Tuesday 30/06	<p>You climb to a majestic belvedere before gaining Rochegude with its fine hillside chapel and castle ruins on the Velay-Gevaudan border. Then descend into the Allier Gorge with its own 'Pao de Açucar' outcrop before crossing the Eiffel bridge and climbing up past the semi-troglodyte St Madeleine chapel and into the granite mountains of Margeride. The descent to Saugues is a delight.</p> <p>This is a short enough walk but the consequent ascents and descents make it the most demanding stage of this first section. The rewarding side of it is that it offers wonderful views over the Velay massif and the Gévaudan plateau, and we also pass through picturesque villages and hamlets before arriving in Saugues.</p> <p>Walking: 28 km Overnight: Sauges</p>
Wednesday 01/07	<p>After breakfast we check out of our hotel and start our return journey home via Lyon. Flight from Geneva at 20:20</p> <p>Overnight: Onboard Flight</p>
Thursday 02/07	<p>Arrive in Cape Town at 13:45.</p>