

World Pilgrimage[©]

Oakland, Calistoga, and San Francisco

The first-ever Women's Journey
July 5-11, 2017



World Pilgrims offers its first journey for women of diverse faiths to meet and share their beliefs, roles in their community and opportunities to grow in their awareness of what it means to be a person of faith.

On this unique journey to San Francisco participants will meet and nurture relationships with women of different faith traditions, cultures, and races. We will share openly and honestly the particular challenges and triumphs we experience as women within our own religious traditions as we explore ideas and practices of self-care and rejuvenation.

The Bay area offers an appropriate backdrop for the exploration of these ideas because of its diversity and the beauty and richness of nature that envelops this part of our world. Join us for what promises to be a soul nurturing adventure, an opportunity for self-exploration, intimate community building, laughter and probably tears.

The Women's Journey follows the traditional model of World Pilgrimages. Travel to the Bay area includes visits to spiritual communities, conversations and meetings with persons of diverse faiths and traditions and includes opportunities for women on the journey to share and get a better understanding who they are as women of faith.



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San Francisco, in Northern California, is a hilly city surrounded by the Pacific Ocean and San Francisco Bay. It is a popular destination, known for its cool summers, steep rolling hills, eclectic mix of architecture, and landmarks, including the Golden Gate Bridge, cable cars, the former Alcatraz Federal Penitentiary, Fisherman's Wharf, and its Chinatown district. It's also known for its history of 60's hippie culture, with psychedelic experiences, the intersection of Asbury-Haight and the gay rights movement: however, San Francisco is so much more. As of 2016, San Francisco is ranked high on world's livability rankings, as one of America's most diverse cities, open to all cultures and traditions. While it is home to one of the least church going populations in the US, it's beautiful scenery frames temples, mosques, and churches among other sacred spaces. Come join us for this wonderful journey of faith, inspiration, and self-care.

All World Pilgrims[®] journeys have the same goals:

- To deepen the participants' personal faith by visiting some of the world's most sacred sites
- To gain an appreciation of the shared elements of the three religious traditions, as well as an understanding and respect for the differences
- To establish real friendships with pilgrims from many faith traditions, even with the complexities of today's world

All World Pilgrims[®] journeys operate from the same Guiding Principles:

1. A pilgrimage is a sacred journey—not a travel seminar or a tourist venture. We take time for personal and group reflection, meditation and sharing. Participants are asked to see these times as essential elements of the pilgrimage.
2. The journey will have a formal and very intentional structure. The purpose of this design is ensure that all participants achieve the goals of the pilgrimage. Each participant will be asked to make a commitment to follow the structure so that the shared goals can be met. This means exercising discipline and a willingness to place the interest of the group above the interest of the individual.
3. The focus is on understanding and accepting the other pilgrims and their traditions. During a pilgrimage, we discuss rather than debate, respect rather than judge, empathize rather than criticize. **We seek to understand each other not to change each other.**
4. As pilgrims on a common sacred journey, participants are expected to share personal thoughts, beliefs and experiences with each other, trusting the others to respect and appreciate their life stories.
5. Pilgrims are expected to make a commitment to continue their common experience after returning home.



Program Design

1. Pre-departure: All participants are expected to attend an orientation session that includes the following elements:
 - a) Consideration of what it means to travel on an interfaith pilgrimage
 - b) Travel logistics and administration
2. Daily itinerary: The group will be together in Northern California for six days. Group programs scheduled for each day have been designed by the Group Leaders.
 - a) Daily meditation: Time will be set aside each day for group and personal meditation. The leadership for these sessions will rotate among the faith traditions.
 - b) Worship Services: Each of the three religious leaders will identify a time and place for the entire group to participate in a worship service. Special consideration is taken for worship connected to Muslim Jumah, Jewish Shabbat and the Christian Sabbath.



c) Making Friends: Building friendships across faith traditions is central to the pilgrimage and is not left to chance. Therefore there is a formal structure to develop relationships, including roommate assignments, meal partners and seat mates during bus trips. It may seem to be an artificial way to get people together, but it works!

3. The return home: Pilgrims join the ranks of alumni from the 17 previous pilgrimages, who gather for reunions, times of personal joy and sorrow and to address important issues in our greater community.

DAILY ITINERARY *(tentative, specific plans and activities may change)*

DAY 1 Wednesday, July 5: Atlanta to Oakland

Depart on Southwest flight # 241 at 3:30pm from Atlanta Hartfield Jackson Airport on a non-stop to Oakland California, arriving at 5:30pm PDT and will be met by the hotel shuttle. Dinner and discussion to prepare for the Pilgrimage adventure

Overnight: Holiday Inn, Oakland

DAY 2 Thursday, July 6: Oakland, Calistoga, Oakland

Breakfast at the hotel before leaving at 8 a.m. for a day trip to Calistoga, and an opportunity to enjoy the hot springs, mud baths, spas, and/or boutique shopping. On the way to our destination, we share our personal stories. After three to four hours of free time in Calistoga with our partners we will continue to share our stories on the drive back to Oakland. In the evening will explore an Oakland's historic China Town and enjoy dinner in one of its restaurants.

Overnight: Holiday Inn, Oakland

DAY 3 Friday, July 7: Oakland, Berkley, San Francisco

After breakfast and hotel check-out, board bus at 10:30 am for a full day of connecting with Muslim and Jewish communities in the Bay Area. We begin the day with a visit to Zaytuna College, the first Muslim liberal arts college in the U.S. Our next stop is at the Masjid Warithen community. We will share lunch and conversations with Muslim women in the Masjid's cafeteria before attending the Jumah Prayer Service. We will then cross the Bay Bridge to San Francisco and arrive at the beautiful historic Hotel Whitcomb. Check in and relax before Shabbat dinner and Service at The Kitchen, which is described as "one part Indie Shabbat Community, one part San Francisco experiment, and one part tool kit for DIY Jewish practice."

Overnight: Hotel Whitcomb, San Francisco.

DAY 4 Saturday, July 8: San Francisco, Marin County, San Francisco

Breakfast in the hotel, 8am departure to Muir Woods to see the tallest trees in the world, followed by a delicious lunch in the waterfront town of Sausalito, considered one of Northern California's most beautiful communities. After lunch we will cross the Golden Gate Bridge to explore the vibrant city of San Francisco via its historic cable cars and trolleys. With your partner, visit sites such as Lombard Street, Ghirardelli Square, the Marina, Fisherman's Wharf and The Ferry Building. We end our day with a lovely dinner all together in San Francisco before returning to the hotel.

Overnight: Hotel Whitcomb, San Francisco

DAY 5 Sunday, July 9: San Francisco, Muir Beach, Green Gulch

BREAKFAST and check out of Hotel Whitcomb. First stop is the Church for the Fellowship of All Peoples, the first interfaith church in the U.S., founded in 1944 by Dr. Howard Thurman, a Morehouse grad and spiritual advisor to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Our second visit is to enjoy a jazz service at the St. John Coltrane Church whose mission is "To paint the globe with the message of A Love Supreme, and in doing so, promote global unity, peace on earth, & knowledge of the one true living God." We stop for lunch on our drive to Green Gulch for a two day retreat and our inward journey. Green Gulch Farm Zen Center is a Buddhist center in the Japanese Soto Zen tradition. Dinner in the Zen Buddhist vegetarian tradition

Overnight: Green Gulch Farm Zen Center

DAY 6 Monday, July 10: Green Gulch, Muir Beach

Breakfast then tour of Green Gulch Farm Zen Center where we will learn about the center's commitment to organic gardening, sustainable living, conservation, and good will towards self and others. Enjoy day of quietness, relaxation and rejuvenation as we center ourselves with a mindfulness hike to Muir Beach and share what we have gained in communion with each other at our final World Pilgrims Roundtable and Dinner.

Overnight: Green Gulch Farm Zen Center

DAY 7 Tuesday, July 11: Muir Beach, Oakland, Atlanta

Breakfast and check-out. Depart from Green Gulch to arrive at Oakland Airport by 10:00am for Southwest flight #413 12:15pm non-stop flight to Atlanta, scheduled arrival at 7:50pm EDT.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

COST: \$1875 per person, double occupancy

Application with a deposit of \$675 is due with application, to make the list of travelers on first reply basis. Full payment due by May 20, 2017. Please make all checks payable to ICI/World Pilgrims or pay online at www.interfaithci.org

AIR FARE: Round trip economy class out of Atlanta via any IATA/ARC carrier is included based on applicable fares. Current airfares used and subject to change as well as increases for fuel surcharges. Once airline tickets are issued they are non-refundable.

MEALS: Breakfast and dinner are included daily.

SIGHTSEEING: As per attached program. The schedule may have to vary the sequence of the tour or to make substitutions, if necessary. All transfers and sightseeing by private motor coach.

BAGGAGE: The bus is equipped with space for one suitcase and one carry one per person. Please limit your luggage. ICI/World Pilgrims is released from any liability whatsoever, resulting in loss, damage, theft, weather, delay in transit to any baggage, luggage, hand piece, etc, of the participant during any and all portions of this tour.

TIPS/TAXES: All service charges for meals, tips for the driver and other gratuities are included in the cost of the Pilgrimage.

CANCELLATION: No cancellation fee if cancelled up to 60 days prior to departure, except a \$100 administrative fee; cancellation fee of \$400 per person if cancelled 59-31 days prior to departure; cancellation 30 days or less prior to departure has a cancellation fee of 100%.

NOT INCLUDED: Items of a personal nature such as in-room service, laundry, telephone, special food or drink, lunches and checked baggage costs

TRAVEL INSURANCE IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.

ACCIDENT WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY: I HEREBY ASSUME ALL OF THE RISKS OF PARTICIPATING IN ANY/ALL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PILGRIMAGE/IMMERSION including by way of example and not limitation, any risks that may arise from negligence or carelessness on the part of the persons or entities being released, from dangerous or defective equipment or property owned, maintained, or controlled by them, or because of their possible liability without fault. I certify that I am physically fit, have sufficiently prepared or trained for participation in this activity, and have not been advised to not participate by a qualified medical professional. I certify that there are no health-related reasons or problems which preclude my participation in this activity. I acknowledge that this Accident Waiver and Release of Liability Form will be used Interfaith Community Initiatives, organizers of the activity in which I may participate, and that it will govern my actions and responsibilities at said activity.

In consideration of my application and permitting me to participate in this activity, I hereby take action for myself, my executors, administrators, heirs, next of kin, successors, and assigns as follows:

(A) I WAIVE, RELEASE, AND DISCHARGE from any and all liability, including but not limited to, liability arising from the negligence or fault of the entities or persons released, for my death, disability, personal injury, property damage, property theft, or actions of any kind which may hereafter occur to me including my traveling to and from this activity, INTERFAITH COMMUNITY INITIATIVES, INC. (ICI) and/or their directors, officers, employees, volunteers, representatives, and agents, and the activity holders, sponsors, and volunteers; (B) INDEMNIFY, HOLD HARMLESS, AND PROMISE NOT TO SUE the entities or persons mentioned in this paragraph from any and all liabilities or claims made as a result of participation in this activity, whether caused by the negligence of release or otherwise.

I acknowledge that ICI and its directors, officers, volunteers, representatives, and agents are NOT responsible for the errors, omissions, acts, or failures to act of any party or entity conducting a specific activity on their behalf.

I acknowledge that this activity may involve a test of a person's physical and mental limits and carries with it the potential for death, serious injury, and property loss. The risks include, but are not limited to, those caused by terrain, facilities, temperature, weather, condition of participants, equipment, vehicular traffic, lack of hydration, and actions of other people including, but not limited to, participants, volunteers, monitors, and/or producers of the activity. These risks are not only inherent to participants, but are also present for volunteers.

I hereby consent to receive medical treatment which may be deemed advisable in the event of injury, accident, and/or illness during this activity.

I understand while participating in this activity, I may be photographed. I agree to allow my photo, video, or film likeness to be used for any legitimate purpose by ICI.

The Accident Waiver and Release of Liability Form shall be construed broadly to provide a release and waiver to the maximum extent permissible under applicable law.

I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ THIS DOCUMENT AND I FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENT. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT AND I SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

ICI/World Pilgrims
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Atlanta, GA 30316

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL JAN SWANSON AT 404-906-7109

About Interfaith Community Initiatives

Interfaith Community Initiatives, Inc has the mission to transform the Atlanta metropolitan area into a model community for interfaith understanding and collaboration. We do this by developing and leading innovating, inviting programs that inspire deep engagement and interfaith appreciation. We are committed to developing long-term interfaith relations and collaborations through programs like World Pilgrims®, Interfaith Immersions, Interfaith Contemplative Groups, and the Atlanta Interfaith Leaders Fellowship.

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#WorldPilgrims

