

CHARTRES - PARIS 2018

Information Booklet for Pilgrims

*'For the honour of Christ
Jesus'*

Dear Pilgrim,

Congratulations on taking your first of many steps on the Chartres Pilgrimage in obtaining this booklet. This guide provides additional detail on the pilgrimage and is intended to cater for all levels of knowledge and experience.

BACKGROUND / INTRODUCTION

Chartres – Paris is an annual pilgrimage which takes place on Pentecost weekend starting with mass at 0745 in the town of Chartres on the Saturday 19th May and concluding with mass at Place Vauban, Les Invalides, Paris at approximately 1600 on Monday 21st May. There are usually approximately 6000 - 8000 participants. The official website is pelerinagesdetradition.com.

The route stretches more than 100km from the quaint town of Chartres to the centre of Paris. There is daily mass as well as plenty of opportunity for confession, spiritual guidance and the opportunity to socialise with traditional Catholics from around the world.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Luggage is transported along the pilgrimage route free of charge. This means that your rucksack can be deposited prior to walking in the morning and collected at the campsite after the day's walk in the evening. Pilgrims walking in foreign (non-French) groups should attach white ribbons to their rucksacks to aid logistics. Only a daysack containing wet weather gear and lunch / snacks, hat etc. is needed for walking.

Most pilgrims take their own tents however foreign pilgrims are able to use communal tents on a 'first come, first served' basis.

The days are long and the pace is quick therefore a good level of fitness is required. Buses are available to pick up those who suffer an injury but this

option should be considered as a last resort. There are first aid stations (providing a high quality blister-popping service) along the route and these are staffed by medical professionals and the Red Cross. Water is provided to pilgrims at regular intervals.

Food is provided in the evenings at the two campsites and again in the mornings but it is basic and should be supplemented by personal supplies. Wine, beer, German Sausages etc. can also be purchased at the campsites in the evenings. Pilgrims must provide their own lunches and snacks and there are few, if any, opportunities to purchase food along the route. Therefore, be sure to stock up on energy-rich grub beforehand.



KIT

A suggested kit list is available from the head of chapter. This is neither exhaustive, nor obligatory. It is there simply to serve as a guide, particularly for first-timers.

CHAPTERS

Pilgrims walk in groups called chapters which each have a chaplain and a head of chapter. The UK chaplain this year is **Fr. Robert Brucciani** and the head of chapter is **Chris Sudlow** chrissud.cs@gmail.com. Your chaplain is there to provide for the chapter's spiritual needs while the head of chapter is the main point of contact for pilgrims and between the chapter and the pilgrimage organisers. The UK Chapter will meet near Chartres cathedral close to the registration area on the first morning of the pilgrimage. Look out for the Union Jack and/or any national flags of the Commonwealth. Should you be running late, please head in to the opening mass and join the chapter afterwards.

N.B. Pilgrims who choose to stay in Paris on Friday night must ensure they rise early on Saturday and take the train from Paris Montparnasse to Chartres (roughly €16). Train times can be found at sncf.fr

REGISTRATION

All pilgrims must register for the pilgrimage. The cost of registering on the day of the pilgrimage is €65 but is cheaper if purchased in advance on the [official website](#). Online registration opens at the end of February/March and discounts are available for members of the same family who register together. The registration fee covers the running costs of the pilgrimage and entitles pilgrims to access to the two campsites, morning and evening meals in addition to free bottled water along the route.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

All pilgrims are responsible for their own travel arrangements. If your schedule allows, it is recommended to spend the final Monday night in Paris rather than travelling home immediately after the pilgrimage finishes. If this is done, it is further recommended that you choose somewhere to stay that is not too far from Les Invalides.



FINAL REMARKS

For some, this will be your first time walking Chartres. Please ensure that you do as much training as possible prior to the pilgrimage. Train using the shoes you intend to walk the pilgrimage in. Should you want any advice on training, kit or clarification on any of the above information please contact Chris who will be happy to assist.

12 BITS OF USEFUL PILGRIMAGE VOCABULARY

Un pèlerinage	A pilgrimage
Un / Une pèlerin(e)	A pilgrim
Le bivouac	The campsite
La messe	Mass
Les chapitres anglophones	The English-speaking chapters
L'aumônier	The chaplain
Le chef de chapitre	Head of Chapter
L'eau	Water
Un ampoule	A blister
Mes pieds	My feet
Premiers secours	First Aid
Où est le président de la République?	Where is the President of France?



Chartres Kit List

<i>Rucksack</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Walking Shoes	1 pair	
Sleeping bag	1	
Roll mat	1	
Underwear	3-5	
Socks	3-5	
T-shirts / sports vests	4	
Walking Shirts	3	
Walking trousers / skirts	2	
Warm jacket	1	For evenings
Wash kit	1	Baby wipes suggested
Towel	1	Quick-dry, antibacterial
Torch	1	
Cup, plate, cutlery	1 of each	Paper ones may be provided
Penknife / corkscrew	1	
Casualwear	1	For last night
Flip flops	1 pair	
PJs	1	

<i>Daysack</i>		
Lunch / snacks	Enough for 3 days	
First Aid Kit	1	Foot repair kit
Raincoat	1	
Overtrousers	1	
Toilet roll	1	
Sunhat	1	

<i>Ancillary Items</i>		
Rosary	1	
National / religious flag & pole	1	