



Expedia CruiseShipCenters

World Youth Day Panama (January 22-27, 2019)

We invite you to join the many dioceses, parishes, movements and schools from around Canada that have chosen us to lead and inspire their groups for over 27 years. We share the Church's mission to evangelize, catechize, and change young lives! Below are World Youth Day Pilgrimage options for group leaders and groups to choose from.

1. **Arrival:** A guide will meet and greet each group on arrival, take them to the bus and ride with them to the hotel, hostel or simple lodging.
2. **Guide:** Each guide is trained on site just prior to WYD and is prepared to assist the group by getting them to the events that they choose, collaborate with the group's leaders and solve any problems that arise, give brief talks on how to enter into the WYD experience, be with the group from arrival to departure.
3. **Transfers:** Will be arranged for private transport for airport transfers, day trips, and pre or post WYD options
4. **Hotels:** We have rooms at the Riu Plaza and the Holiday Inn Financial District. The prices are based on a mix of 2 and 3 pilgrims per room, separated by gender unless they are family.
5. **Simple Lodging:** This option involves sleeping on the floor, separated by gender. There are no special requests that can be accommodated with this option (separate room for someone). We are in talks with a couple locations also near the hotels. We like this location because pilgrims can walk to every event without relying on public transportation, which will be overwhelmed during WYD.
6. **Local Guides:** All day trips and pre/post WYD options (except Days in the Diocese) will have a local guide in addition to a WYD guide.
7. **Days in the Diocese:** Days in the Diocese is an experience with the local community. Groups are hosted and fed by local families. The local church organizes activities on the parish and diocesan level. Each diocese plans its own events and we have no say or knowledge of what may happen, which groups will stay with or any other details. However, we will interview and recommend several dioceses. These experiences in the past have been among the most memorable and we trust the local churches with our pilgrims.
8. **WYD Registration:** We must communicate with each group in order to register them for the events. We complete and pay for the registration. We also pick up all registration materials and deliver them to our groups upon arrival. This saves many hours of headaches for each group. If a group insists on registering



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directly, we will not be able to assist them other than to stand in line with them for many hours and keep them company.

9. **Food:** Breakfast each day is provided by the hotel or at simple lodging. The only exception will be on Sunday (Jan 27th) morning when the group will be sleeping outside under the stars. On that morning, WYD will provide breakfast. All other lunches and dinners will be provided by the WYD committee, likely by vouchers that can be given to food vendors for each meal. The vouchers likely begin with dinner on Tuesday (Jan 22nd) and end with lunch on Sunday (Jan 27th). Each group will be responsible for lunch on Tuesday and dinner on Sunday. On any paid pre/post WYD days, there will be provided breakfast and either lunch or dinner, depending on the schedule.

10. WYD Package Cost:	Price in CAD Dollars
a. From your Canadian Departure City with Hotels	\$3,625.00
b. From your Canadian Departure City with Simple Lodging	\$2,795.00

11. **The WYD package includes:**

- Round trip airfare from your Canadian Departure City
- Private coach airport transfers
- Seven nights in four star hotel lodging (2-3 per room) or simple lodging (sleeping on floors in Churches or Schools)
- One free package for every 20 paid pilgrims** (not including WYD Registration)
- WYD Registration up to \$250.00 CAD
- WYD Guide from arrival to departure in Panama City
- WYD Meals provided by the registration
- Breakfast daily at the place of lodging
- One Panamanian SIM card for an unlocked GSM phone per group
- Public transit pass during WYD

12. **Flights:** Flights are included in the package and are subject to availability. Because of the huge number of pilgrims, groups must be flexible by one day on the departure and return dates.

13. **Optional Day Trips:**

- Rainforest Escape:** Break away from the urban landscape for a day in Soberanía National Park. Choose your adventure: an Aerial Tram tour into the treetops, or a Boating Expedition on Gatun Lake. Includes a Guide support, round-trip transportation on a coach bus, and entrance fees. If scheduled during the week of WYD, the group will miss the day's WYD events. If scheduled



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before or after the week of WYD, an extra night of lodging will be required.

Cost: \$140.00 CAD

- b. **Panama Canal Bonus:** Dig deep into the sites of Panama City. Take in the Panama Canal's Miraflores Locks, discover the Biodiversity Museum, and explore the ruins of Panamá Viejo. Includes a Guide support, transportation, and entrance fees. If scheduled during the week of WYD, the group will miss the day's WYD events. If scheduled before or after the week of WYD, an extra night of lodging will be required. **Cost: \$95.00 (Full Bus) CAD**
 - c. **Panama Canal Ferry Cruise:** Take a partial transit through the world-famous Panama Canal on the Panama Ferry. Experience the marvels of the locks which have aided transit between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans for over 100 years. View the natural wonders of the lush rainforest as you cruise through Panamá's best known attraction. Includes a Guide support, round-trip transportation on a coach bus, and entrance fees. If scheduled during the week of WYD, the group will miss the day's WYD events. If scheduled before or after the week of WYD, an extra night of lodging will be required. **Cost: \$270.00 CAD**
14. **Optional Panama Rainforest Retreat:** Escape the crowds of the city, and take time to prepare for or reflect upon your WYD experience while enjoying the beauty of God's creation. Full facilities are available to groups for your retreat needs. Retreat is fully custom. Example price based on a 3-day retreat for 25+ pilgrims. Meeting space, other facilities, and tours are available for an additional charge. Includes round-trip transportation on a coach bus, lodging in a 4-star rainforest resort, access to resort facilities (including hiking trails, pool, and fitness center), and breakfast and dinner daily. **Cost: \$675.00 CAD**
15. **Optional Mexico Extension:** Calling all missionary pilgrims! Journey to Guadalupe, complete with a visit to El Cerrito. Explore the ancient pyramids in Teotihuacan, and visit important cultural and spiritual sites in Mexico City. Spend a day serving with the Missionaries of Charity. Make a pilgrimage to Puebla, to the Shrine of San Miguel del Milagro, the Basilica of Our Lady of Ocotlán, and to venerate incorrupt Bl. Sebastian de Aparicio. Price based on a group of 25+ pilgrims. Minimum 15 pilgrims required. Includes transportation and entrance fees per itinerary, breakfast and dinner daily, and support from a professional Guide from arrival to departure. **Cost: \$1,350.00 CAD**
16. **Optional Costa Rica Extension:** Details to come. **Cost likely \$1,350.00 CAD**



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17. **Optional Days in the Diocese in Costa Rica:** Spend the days before WYD with a local host parish. Pilgrims participate in spiritual, cultural, and service activities together with local parishioners. (Available only before WYD) We will provide transportation from your arrival airport to your Days in the Diocese host parish, and from your host parish to your WYD lodging. This price based on participating within a Costa Rican diocese designated by the Tour Operator. An additional Days in the Diocese Registration Fee may apply. **Cost: \$675.00 CAD for Transportation Costs**
18. **Optional Days in the Diocese in Panama:** Spend the days before WYD with a local host parish. Pilgrims participate in spiritual, cultural, and service activities together with local parishioners. (Available only before WYD) We will provide transportation from your arrival airport to your Days in the Diocese host parish, and from your host parish to your WYD lodging. This price based on participating at a parish within a 4-hour drive of Panama City. An additional Days in the Diocese Registration Fee may apply. **Cost: \$270.00 CAD for Transportation Costs**
19. **Premium Travel Protection Insurance and Cancellation Plan:** These policies provide coverage for complications that arise during travel. Trip Cancellation and Interruption coverage reimburses the money you lose if your trip is cancelled or cut short for a sudden, unforeseen covered reason, including personal tragedy, inclement weather, injury or sickness, organizational failure, or natural disaster. **Cost: \$330.00 CAD**
20. **Payment Schedule in Canadian Dollars:**
- | Amount Due: | Cancellation Fee: |
|---|-------------------------------|
| a. \$400.00 deposit as soon as possible | \$400.00 |
| b. 30% of balance due January 5, 2018 | \$1000.00 |
| c. 30% due May 1, 2018 | \$1200.00 plus 50% of airfare |
| d. Full payment due August 31, 2018 | No refunds possible |

For any questions or to book your World Youth Day Group, please contact us below.

God Bless,

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