

TUSCANY A LA CARTE

7 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS



A tour to explore a region of sprawling vineyards, rolling hills, charming old cities, masterpieces of art and gourmandise: visit the magnificent Florence, the “Cradle of the Renaissance”, Siena, famous for the Palio horse race, the Chianti area, Montepulciano and Montalcino, known all over the world for their prestigious wines, San Gimignano with its tall towers; visit wineries and cellars, sample excellent wines, rare cold cuts, Pecorino cheese and olive oil, shop for delicacies in the many food shops.

Note - We suggest to add a car rental to this itinerary

ITINERARY

DAY 1 FLORENCE AREA

Arrival to the hotel near Florence. Time to settle in, welcome dinner and overnight. (D)

Accommodation: Rignano sull' Arno for 6 nights

DAY 2 FLORENCE

Morning departure for Florence for a private guided tour. Walk through the historical centre of this amazing city and visit the Santa Croce church (outside), known as the "Pantheon of Italian Glories" where many illustrious Italians such as Michelangelo, Galileo, Rossini and Machiavelli are buried. The visit also takes in the other religious buildings (the Baptistery, the Duomo and Giotto's bell tower - outside) and the houses of power in the old city (the Piazza della Signoria). Lunch at a typical restaurant. Free afternoon to stroll along Florence's elegant streets. We suggest a break at one of Florence's oldest ice cream parlours, "Perché no!" that offers more than 33 different flavours and a precise selection of raw materials (including pistachios from Bronte, a Slow Food Presidium product, saffron and cardamom). Return to the hotel for the overnight stay. (B/L)



DAY 3 SIENA – SAN GIMIGNANO

Morning: we suggest to visit Siena, one of the most important and most beautiful architecture in the city, including the Museum delle Contrade (each horse in the famous "Palio", runs for a different Contrada or district). We suggest to sample some of delicious traditional desserts like the Panforte in one of the most famous pastry shops in town. Free time for shopping. On the way to San Gimignano along the ancient Via Francigena, lunch with some of the traditional local produce such as the Certaldo onion (Slow Food Presidium), and the organic extra virgin olive oil from San Gimignano in a little family-run farmhouse. Visit and have a talk on the techniques used in producing organic olive oil. We suggest, in the afternoon, to visit the famous towers and the San Gimignano 1300 Museum: storyboards, multi-media exhibits, street scenes and a ceramic recreation of the city as it was back in 1300. Return to the hotel for your overnight stay. (B/L)

DAY 4 RADDA IN CHIANTI - GREVE

Entire day dedicated to the discovery of the Chianti hills along the Via Chiantigena (an ancient road connecting Siena with Florence crossing over the Chianti hills). Visit a winery in Radda in Chianti where you will meet the wine producer and visit to the cellars. At the end enjoy a wine tasting (included). Proceed to Greve in Chianti where we suggest visiting the little historical town centre. Stopping at the historical butchers "Falorni" where since the 1729 they produce the specialties of the local [norcineria], the Prosciutto Saporito (Cured Ham) di Greve and all the cured products also in the various versions of pork from the surrounding Senese hills as well as the wild boar, from the well-known Finocchiona to the Noble Salamis in Chianti, prepared with the noble parts of the pork, to the Salami to the Classical Chianti. Specialty: 'Bistecca alla Fiorentina' T-bone Florentine Steak, Italian veal. We suggest you to have a little tasting of salami. We also suggest lunch at Trattoria Mangiando Mangiando. In the afternoon visit winery in Greve in Chianti for a wine and oil tasting (included). Return to the hotel for your overnight. (B)

DAY 5 MONTEPULCIANO – PIENZA

Morning departure for Montepulciano, one of the most characteristic and intact medieval cities in Italy which from a height of 605 metres above sea level offers amazing views over the surrounding hillsides. Visit a typical winery for a free tasting, and then explore the wonderful town centre of Montepulciano. For lunch, we suggest the old Osteria dell'Acquacheta, with its rustic and familial atmosphere. Here, you may sample some of Tuscany's best recipes (such as the Pici all'Aglione). In the afternoon, proceed to Pienza, the perfect example of a renaissance city, famous for its Pecorino cheese. Visit a Pecorino cheese producer, learn something about the cheese-making process, and sample the fare (included). Return to the hotel for your overnight stay. (B)

DAY 6 MONTALCINO – FLORENCE

Morning departure for Montalcino, famous for its Brunello, one of the best red wines in the world. Montalcino, however, is also a beautiful art city, which dominates 3,000 hectares of vineyards (1,500 for Brunello alone). We suggest a visit to the Mastio della Rocca which is home to the Enoteca La Fortezza where it will be possible to buy some local products and the exceptional honey, a local specialty. Free time. Return to Florence area and join a cooking class dedicated to the Tuscany tradition, followed by dinner (included). (B/D)



DAY 7 FLORENCE

Breakfast. End of our services. (B)

INCLUSIONS

- 6 night accommodation at a 4* hotel
- 10 meals: 6 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners
- 3 guided tastings of foods and/or wines from the Tuscany region
- 1 cooking lesson
- 1 half-day private guided tour of Florence

Not included · Flights · **Car rental** · cities tax · beverages · gratuities · monuments and museum entrances · travel insurance

Possible to book the following options (on request - \$)

- Additional lunches/dinners
- Car rental
- Private car with driver
- Pre/post tour

Hotel Option or similar	
City	4*
Rignano Sull'Arno (Florence)	Hotel Villa Il Palagio

Price in CAD\$, per person starting from, double occupancy	Land only
Rates for 2021	
Jan 4 to May 28	\$ 1355
May 29 to June 24	\$ 1495
June 25 to August 13	\$1565
August 14 to September 10	\$ 1495
September 11 to December 27	\$ 1355
Single room supplement	From \$ 365 to \$ 505

**Prices in this document are for information only; they were issued at press time for the current year. Please note that due to exchange rates and temporary promotions, they can increase or decrease anytime. Contact your travel agent for the price and promotion of the moment.