



TUSCANY
DAILY ITINERARY
OCTOBER 7-16, 2017

DAY 1 - BOSTON~ITALY: PLEASE REFER TO THE ENCLOSED DEPARTURE INFORMATION SHEET FOR YOUR FLIGHT DETAILS.

DAY 2 - FLORENCE~MONTECATINI: Upon arrival in Tuscany, we will be met by our Tour Host and transferred to our hotel in Montecatini where **we will check-in for the entire time**. We will enjoy an afternoon at leisure prior to our orientation meeting this evening, followed by **dinner**. Overnight.

PLEASE REFER TO THE ENCLOSED HOTEL SHEET FOR DETAILS ON THE HOTEL.
A PORTION OF WINE & MINERAL WATER WILL BE INCLUDED WITH ALL DINNERS

DAY 3 - FLORENCE: After **breakfast**, we depart by private motor coach with an English-speaking escort for Florence. On our tour, we will walk around the stirring sights of Florence including: Giotto's Bell Tower, Ghiberti's Gates of Paradise, and Brunelleschi's Dome. The tour ends in Signoria Square. We will enjoy **lunch at a local restaurant**. The afternoon is at leisure to explore. Florence has some of the greatest museums in the world, including the Academia (home to Michelangelo's David), and the Uffizi Gallery. Check out the famed Ponte Vecchio Bridge, or the Medici Palace. We will return to Montecatini for **dinner** at our hotel.

DAY 4 - LUCCA~ PISA: After **breakfast**, we will take the half-hour ride to Lucca, home of the great composer, Giacomo Puccini, and one of the wealthiest towns in Tuscany. We'll enjoy a nice tour and then have some leisure time in this graceful city. While being an enjoyable, tourist-friendly city, Lucca is remarkably relaxing and quiet, due to an usually high number of residents who ride bicycles instead of driving cars. This afternoon, we are off to Pisa. We will have **lunch and wine tasting at Fattoria "Il Poggio"**. In the afternoon upon arrival in Pisa, we will have time to explore the Square of Miracles with the famous Leaning Tower and view Pisa's Duomo, Baptistery and Camposanto Monumente. We will return to our hotel with time to freshen-up and relax prior to **dinner**. Overnight.

DAY 5 - VENICE: After **breakfast**, we depart our hotel for Venice. We will board a vaporetto to San Marco Square where a local guide will be waiting to show us around this unique city, "the Queen of the Adriatic". We will visit San Marco's Basilica, walk over small bridges to the Bridge of Sighs and past winding waterways to the Rialto. Following our sightseeing tour, we will enjoy a **boxed lunch**. The remainder of the afternoon is free for shopping, visiting the outlying islands, or taking a gondola ride. We will return to our hotel for **dinner** and overnight.

DAY 6 - SIENA~ SAN GIMIGNANO: After **breakfast**, we will drive southwest through the heart of Italian wine country, over the rolling hills of Chianti to Siena. Once in Siena, our escort will lead us to Piazza del Campo, through the narrow streets, past medieval towers and walls. One of the notable highlights of Siena is San Domenico, which holds relics of St. Catherine. We will enjoy **lunch and wine tasting at Castello Oliveto**. On the way back to Montecatini, we visit San Gimignano, often described as "the most famous small town in Italy." This charming medieval hilltop town is noted for its many towers and its breathtaking views of the

Tuscan landscape. Sample some "vernaccia," the town's famous wine. We will return to Montecatini for **dinner** and overnight at our hotel.

DAY 7 - CINQUE TERRE: After **breakfast**, we will travel by motorcoach to La Spezia, where we'll meet our expert local guide and board the train for a delightful ride to picturesque Cinque Terre. First, we will visit Manarola and enjoy **lunch there in a local restaurant**. We will board a boat to Riomaggiore, which some have called the most beautiful place on Earth. From there it's on, via train, to Monterosso, enjoying time there before boarding the boat back to La Spezia. We will return to our hotel for **dinner** and overnight.

DAY 8 - COOKING ACTIVITY: After **breakfast**, we will be transferred to "Tenuta I Tre Pini" for the cooking activity that will concentrate on the main specialty of Italian and Tuscan cuisine- homemade pasta. The chef will present the directions and the ingredients needed to create Tagliatelle and Tortelli, and then we will be preparing our own **lunch** today. At the end you will enjoy an amazing meal. We will return to our hotel for **dinner** and overnight

DAY 9 - MONTECATINI: After a relaxing **breakfast**, we'll enjoy a full day at leisure where we can explore Montecatini, do some individual sightseeing, or simply relax. We will, however, have admission to the Tettuccio Spa included today. Montecatini also has many cultural offerings, a golf course, parks, and its own train stop, with easy access to Florence and other locales. Perhaps take a tram ride to Montecatini Alto, located high above Montecatini itself. Or visit neighboring Pistoia, newly minted as one of the Top Ten Cities in the World to Visit according to Lonely Planet. **Dinner** at the hotel and overnight.

DAY 10 -After **breakfast**, please check out, paying any incidentals you may have incurred. We will be transferred to the **Florence Airport** for our return flight to Boston.

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PLEASE NOTE: ALL SCHEDULING IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE