

Tasting Italy Explore Tuscany

Florence, Siena, San Gimignano, Panzano & Greve in Chianti,
Montepulciano, Pienza, Montalcino

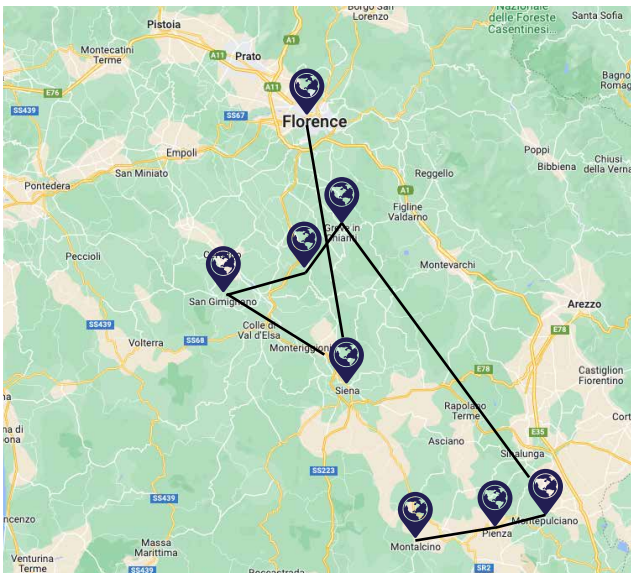
7 days / 6 nights

From

\$1,649

Per person/Double Occupancy/Land package
For travel October 1 - December 27, 2024/4*

Explore a region of sprawling vineyards, rolling hills, charming old cities, and masterpieces of art. Magnificent Florence - the "Cradle of the Renaissance"; Siena, famous for the Palio horse race; the Chianti area, Montepulciano and Montalcino, known for their prestigious wines; and San Gimignano - a UNESCO World Heritage site with its tall towers. Explore wineries and cellars, sample excellent wines, rare cold cuts, Pecorino cheese and olive oil, and shop for delicacies in the many food shops.



Slow Food Presidia and Other Recommended Products

Sample several Slow Food Presidia products - high-quality traditional foods, and beverages at risk of "extinction" - as well as other local delicacies from Slow Food quality producers, such as: the Certaldo onion, the Pienza Pecorino cheese, Wines of Nobile di Montepulciano, Brunello and Bolgheri vineyards, and Florence's oldest ice cream parlors, "Perché no!"

Tasting Italy, Explore Tuscany - 7 days / 6 nights



Day 1: Tuscany arrival

Arrive and check-in to your hotel near Florence. Time to settle in, welcome dinner and overnight stay. (D)

Accommodation: Hotel Villa Il Palagio 4*, Rignano Sull'Arno (Florence) – or similar, for 6 nights

Day 2: Florence

Morning departure to Florence for a private guided tour. Walk through the center 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 view) and the houses of power in the old city (the Piazza della Signoria). Lunch at a typical restaurant. Free time in the afternoon to stroll along the elegant streets. Try one of Florence’s oldest ice cream parlors, “Perché no!” that offers more than 33 different flavors! (BB, L)



Day 3: Siena, San Gimignano

This morning we suggest you visit Siena, one of the most important and beautiful architecture in the city, including the Museum delle Contrade. Try sampling some traditional desserts like the Panforte in one of the famous pastry shops in town. Free time for shopping. In the afternoon we suggest a visit to 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 and overnight stay. (BB)

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Day 4: Radda & Greve in Chianti

Entire day dedicated to discovering 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 the cellars. At the end enjoy a wine tasting. Proceed to Greve in Chianti where we suggest visiting the little historical town centre. Stop at the historical butchers "Falorni" where they produce the specialties of the local [norcineria], the Prosciutto Saporito (Cured Ham) di Greve and all the cured products. In the afternoon visit the winery in Greve in Chianti for a wine and oil tasting. Return to the hotel and overnight. (BB, T, T)

Day 5: Montepulciano, Pienza

Morning departure for Montepulciano, one of the most characteristic and intact medieval cities in Italy. Explore the wonderful town centre of Montepulciano. Then, 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. Enjoy your light lunch with pecorino cheese and wine tasting. In the afternoon, we suggest to stop in Montalcino famous for its Brunello, one of the best red wines in the world. However Montalcino, is also a beautiful art city, which dominates 3,000 hectares of vineyards (1,500 for Brunello alone). Return to the hotel and overnight stay. (BB, T, LL)

Day 6: Cooking class

Today in the morning or in the afternoon (according to venue availability) join a cooking class dedicated to the Tuscany tradition, followed by lunch or dinner. (BB, C, L or D)

Day 7: Departure

Your experience comes to an end! (BB)

Meal legend:

BB=Continental buffet Breakfast, L=Lunch, LL= light lunch, D=Dinner, T=Tasting, C=Cooking class



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The Package Includes:

- 6 nights accommodation in a 4* charming hotel and/or historical residence
- 6 Buffet Continental breakfasts
- 4 regional traditional meals:
 - 1 welcome dinner at the hotel
 - 1 lunch at "Osterie d'Italia" typical Slow Food restaurant
 - 1 light lunch in Pienza
 - 1 dinner after the cooking lesson
- 3 guided tastings of foods and/or wines from the Tuscany region
- 1 cooking lesson
- 1 half-day private guided tour of Florence

The package does not include:

- Any flights
- Car Rental (rates available)
- Transfers airport-hotel-airport
- Hotel tax payable at hotel, 4euro per person per night
- Gratuities
- Entrance fees to monuments, museums, etc
- Meals not included, and beverages

Optional:

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

Hotel or similar:

Hotel Villa Il Palagio 4*, Rignano Sull'Arno (Florence) – or similar

Villa il Palagio is both a historical palace and a modern-style apart-hotel. The structure includes over 30 rooms which combine all the comforts and amenities of a luxury home with the discreet professional services and facilities of a world-class hotel. Villa Il Palagio is comprised of several buildings of different periods such as the Villa, the Oratory, and the barn, nowadays converted into stylish apartments. Villa Il Palagio offers a wide choice of luxurious two, three, and four room independent suites, with contemporary furnishings. A wide green park with an amazing outdoor swimming pool & bar enhances the enjoyment of Villa Il Palagio's guests.

Land package 7 days / 6 nights, price per person

2024	October 1 - December 27, 2024	May 1 – June 24, 2024 September 1 - 30, 2024	June 25 – Aug. 31 2024
Double Occupancy	\$ 1,649	\$ 1,849	\$ 2,049
Single room supplement		on request	
Private car with driver		on request	
Car rental		on request	

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