



7 DAYS FLAVOURS OF TUSCANY

Available for commencement every Saturday from 30th March through to 26th October 2019.

Minimum 2 participants required for departure.

Chat to us if you are looking for a tour outside of these dates.

ACCOMMODATION

Our various accommodations are nearby the historical centre of Cortona and set on wonderful grounds which include a swimming pool. The apartments within the villa comprise one/two/three bedrooms, living area, kitchen, bathroom and laundry facilities, comprising air-conditioning and WI-FI.

Our accommodation options provide everything the traveller requires for a truly memorable Tuscan escape. Located in the valley approximately 10km from the historical centre of Cortona, the accommodations, which are restored Tuscan farmhouses with old world rustic charm, become home base for the duration of the tour, allowing the traveller to settle into their own private apartment and commence their Tuscan experience.

GETTING THERE

The tour begins near the historical centre of Cortona. (100km south of Florence – 200 km north of Rome)

Arrival to Camucia-Cortona is easily accessible via train from either Rome (Roma Termini) or Florence (Firenze Santa Maria Novella) stations. Either of these two major cities are a good option for your arrival into Italy and then travel to our location.

Upon arrival we will meet you at our local train station Camucia-Cortona and will transfer you, via vehicle to the villa, which is a short drive into the countryside.

Private vehicle transfers can be arranged from the Airports/Hotels and transfer you directly to the accommodation. Quote upon request.

CHECK IN / CHECK OUT

Check In is from 3:30pm Check Out is at 10am. As we are unable to store luggage, it is essential this be taken into consideration when making travel arrangements for arrival and departure days.

TOUR PRICE EXCLUDES airfares, travel insurance, entry fees to museums/galleries, lunches and meals not specifically listed, and all personal expenditure.

INCLUSIONS

- Accommodation for 7 nights* in a Tuscan villa
- Bi-Lingual Hosts for the duration of the tour.
- Day tours to itinerary locations
- All breakfasts, 5 lunches & all dinners (a-la-carte) at a local trattoria or restaurant. Wine included
- Cooking experiences
- Complimentary bottle of wine and beer
- Wine tasting at selected vineyards/establishments
- All travel to and from tour locations as detailed on itinerary
- Train tickets and maps for independent travel to Florence
- Transfers to local train station or Cortona on tour free days
- Transfers to and from the local train station on your arrival and departure days

\$3,950AU p/p twin share
Single Occupancy \$300AU

\$3,495US p/p twin share
Single Occupancy \$300US

\$4,100CA p/p twin share
Single Occupancy \$300CA

A memorable week visiting iconic sights and immersing yourself in the Tuscan cuisine and gourmet cooking classes. This is a balance between the ultimate culinary experience and the best of our Taste of Tuscany tour.

SAT / ARRIVAL

We transfer you from our local train station to your accommodation and allow you to settle in and familiarise yourself with your new surroundings which will be 'home' for the next 7 days. Dinner in Cortona.

SUN / CORTONA

This morning we drive past 'Bramasole' from 'Under the Tuscan Sun' and visit Chiesa di Santa Margherita. We then make our way to the historical centre for a Caffè and brioche after which you have free time to enjoy the many boutiques, art galleries and all Cortona offers. We will regroup and enjoy lunch at a typical trattoria. Later in the afternoon there will be the option to return to the villa for some relaxation prior to stepping out to dinner. Dinner in Cortona.

MON / SIENA & COOKING EXPERIENCE

We spend the morning in Siena; a visit to the spectacular Piazza del Campo, where the famous bareback horse race is held. Visit Il Duomo and The Mangia Tower or simply stroll the streets and enjoy the ambiance and the various delights Siena offers, from the little food stores which offer lots of tempting treats to the beautiful stores offering hand painted ceramics and leatherware.

After a light lunch, we return to the villa for a short rest prior to travelling to a nearby property dating back to the 1500's for a hands-on cooking experience with a local chef, Donatella, who has over 20 years' experience researching and rediscovering ancient recipes and Tuscan cooking traditions. Savour the dishes you have prepared with the chef including local wine.



"What a wonderful week I have experienced!

Great work Ines, together with Monique you have created "Heaven" in Tuscany! I loved everything you people have done to make my time so enjoyable!

I will certainly find occasions to use the skills and observations from this weeks 'Flavours in Tuscany' tour! I felt that I saw so much more of Tuscany with your planning and expertise - Thank You!!."

JANE - AUSTRALIA

TUE / A DAY IN THE VAL D'ORCIA - COOKING EXPERIENCE & MONTEPULCIANO

This morning we travel to a special property in the Val d'Orcia where you will enjoy a cooking experience on an organic farm. You will savour the meal you have prepared with local wine in lovely surroundings. Early afternoon we visit nearby Montepulciano, also located in the Val d'Orcia. This township is a true gem, great shopping, wonderful trattorias, cantinas and sulumerie for wine and cheese tastings. Return to villa late afternoon. Dinner in Cortona.

WED / COOKING EXPERIENCE

Spend the morning with Chef Donatella for a hands-on cooking experience with new and exciting recipes. Savour the meals you have prepared with the Chef, including local wine. Return to villa mid-afternoon. Dinner in Cortona.

THU / CHIANTI

A leisurely day of taking in the most amazing views, whilst driving through this most famous wine growing area of Tuscany. During the morning, we will visit the village of Castellina; we will enjoy a Caffè together after which you will enjoy free time to explore this village which offers a wonderful selection of varied stores. We will then visit a vineyard a short distance away, interact with the winemakers and savour lunch and a wine tasting whilst enjoying spectacular views of the vineyards and olive groves. Return to villa late afternoon. Dinner in Cortona.

FRI / TOUR FREE DAY

You may choose to 'stay in' enjoy the pool and relax, visit Cortona or another local township, alternatively, you may choose from one of our additional activities that we have on offer, these vary from and are not limited to; Vespa tours, cycling tours, cooking classes, gelato making classes, painting classes, hot air ballooning. Dinner in Cortona.

SAT / DEPARTURE

After a leisurely breakfast, we transfer you to the local train station for your departure.

Frequently Asked Questions

When is the best time to travel?

July, August, September is peak season, both from the number of travellers and the Summer heat. May, June and September/early October are good options for milder weather conditions.

Will I get to see sunflower fields?

The sunflowers bloom very late June/early July through to the end of July. This however can vary depending on the weather.

What is the average age of those in your groups?

Our guests vary in age from 30 through to 75 years of age.

What time do our day trips start?

Our touring day generally commences at 9am

Do I need travel insurance?

We highly recommend travel insurance and all who book with Tours of Tuscany require proof of travel insurance. You are required to purchase your own travel insurance to cover cancellation coverage, airline tickets, trip delay, lost luggage or any potential medical expenses.

Is there any free time?

We have scheduled tour free days within our respective itineraries and there is also the opportunity of spending time on your own on any of the scheduled day tours.

Is there air-conditioning in the apartments?

Yes, all apartments are air conditioned.

Is there a lot of walking?

Walking is part of the tour itinerary and although there may be stairs to climb and walking over cobble stoned streets is common, the walking is quite leisurely and you are able to stop and take a break if required.

What can I do on a Tour Free Day?

You can choose from a variety of additional activities that we have on offer, these range from cheese making, cooking classes, horse riding, Vespa/cycling tours and many more. Booking prior to the tour is recommended. Alternatively you can visit another township via train or spend the day in Cortona.

Is there access to Wi-Fi?

There is Wi-Fi at all of the accommodations. However please remember that some of these places are in the countryside and although the Internet generally works quite well, it may not be the speed to which you are accustomed.

Can I make changes to my itinerary before or during the trip?

Itineraries are provided in order to ensure all our guests have the utmost travelling experience and we therefore do not amend itineraries once your tour has commenced.

How are the meals provided?

Within your apartment you will find all necessary items to make either a continental or cooked breakfast at your leisure prior to leaving for the day. Lunches are generally at a Caffè or restaurant where you choose one course from the menu, this is generally a light lunch.

All dinners are at a local restaurant or Trattoria. Dinner is 2 courses chosen from an a-la-carte menu. Local wine is included with dinner.

What will the food be like?

The food is typically Italian; all the meals provided are from a-la-carte menus which have ample varied selection.

What if I'm vegetarian or require a particular diet?

You are able to choose from an a-la-carte menu for all meals and the selection is varied and caters well for vegetarians.

What is the dress code?

Comfortable clothing and walking shoes for daily tours and smart casual for dinners.

What happens if I need to cancel?

Please see our terms and conditions.

Is the accommodation in walking distance to the town centre?

The accommodation is approximately 10 km from Camucia-Cortona.

Are there laundry facilities?

Yes

Is Tours of Tuscany insured?

Tours of Tuscany is an Australian company registered with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission and carries Public Liability insurance & Professional Indemnity insurance.