

Highlights of Tuscany

Florence, Siena, Chianti, val d'Orcia & Lucca...

Plus, must-see hamlets and villages, gastronomic activities including a truffle hunt, a local cooking class, winery lunch and a cheese farm visit and tasting.

DAY: 1 FLORENCE

Welcome to Florence, the heart of Tuscany and a beautiful legacy to the Renaissance. On arrival, transfer to your hotel to freshen up and enjoy the rest of the day to explore the cobbled streets of this amazing city.

DAY: 2 FLORENCE

B, D

Enjoy a guided walking tour of the historic centre.

Discover the Ponte Vecchio, Piazza della Signoria, Palazzo Vecchio, the Duomo, Giotto's Campanile bell tower and the Baptistery.

The tour includes access to Brunelleschi's dome for a breath-taking view and guided entrance to Accademia Gallery, to witness Michelangelo's David and his 'Unfinished Prisoners'.

The afternoon is free to enjoy more art at the Uffizi or take advantage of Florence's amazing shopping.

In the evening, visit a local Florentine home to learn about local food and traditions. Your host will treat you to a three-course dining experience, showcasing their favourite traditional family recipes.



DAY: 3 SIENA – MONTERIGGIONI – CHIANTI

B

Heading south to Siena, enjoy a privately guided walking tour of the historic centre, declared a World Heritage Site for its preserved gothic appearance dating from the 12th to 15th century, including a visit to the Cathedral and Piazza del Campo. After lunch (at your leisure) depart for the medieval walled town of Monteriggioni.



This evening relax and enjoy your Tuscan retreat in Chianti.

DAY: 3 CHIANTI

B, L

Enjoy the entire day exploring the Chianti region, commencing with a hands-on cooking class in the home of a local, followed by lunch with local wine. In the afternoon, visit a Chianti winery for a tour and tasting.

DAY: 5 VAL D'ORCIA – PIENZA

B, L

Today venture into the amazing Val d'Orcia, a region of Tuscany characterised by gentle cultivated hills, gullies and picturesque villages that is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its cultural landscape. Participate in the thrill of a truffle hunt on a farm, followed by truffle and cheese tasting and delicious lunch. Afterward, discover the beautiful hilltop town of Pienza.

DAY: 6 SAN GIMIGNANO – VOLTERRA – LUCCA

B

Visit the multi-towered town of San Gimignano featuring a 12th century Romanesque church with famous frescoes and Piazza del Duomo that houses the Museo Civico and Palazzo del Popolo. Enjoy time with your tour escort to explore the village at your leisure including perhaps, climbing the stairs of one of the towers for a fantastic view.





DAY: 6 Cont....

Then onto the ancient village of Volterra, an important Etruscan city, featuring beautiful winding cobbled streets and artisan craftsmanship. The visit includes a brief alabaster stone workshop to learn the secrets of carving the local stone.

The evening is yours to explore enchanting Lucca, famous for its historic centre, medieval towers and best-preserved ramparts in Italy.

DAY: 7 LUCCA

B

Enjoy a half day walking tour with a local guide. Afterward, you have leisure time to continue to explore the town's maze of streets, people watch in its famous Piazzas or wander along its ancient walls.

DAY: 8 LUCCA

B

Your tour ends on hotel check-out, after breakfast.

2024 Departure dates: 19th May, 16th June, 21st July, 15th September and 13th October

Tour Cost: From NZ\$8100 per person, share twin
Single Supplement available

Tour Inclusions:

- 7 nights in 4-star hotels.
- 7 breakfasts (B), 2 lunches (L), and 1 dinner.
- Guided walking tour and admission to Accademia Gallery, the Duomo and Brunelleschi's Dome.
- Cooking demonstration and 3-course dinner at a local's home.
- Guided sightseeing in Siena and Lucca.
- Tuscan cooking class at a local's home.
- Wine tasting in Tuscany's renowned Chianti region.
- Truffle hunting experience.
- Cheese farm visit, tasting and lunch.
- Alabaster stone crafting workshop in Volterra.
- Entrance to Siena Cathedral and Piccolomini Library.
- Private driver and tour escort, and deluxe VIP transport.
- Arrival transfers on the first day.
- *Note: hotel city taxes, if applicable, are not included.*