

A “Feast-ive’ Fall in Tuscany and Rome

A 10 day trip to Italy’s most historic region and city!

September 2 to September 13, 2022



If you’ve not experienced Italy, Tuscany and Rome are where you should begin your love affair with this beautiful country. Tuscany is everything people envision when they think of Italy...picturesque countryside, fields of sunflowers and poppies, lush vineyards...and bowls and bowls of steaming pasta and glorious pizza!

Our Italy adventures are like no other, intimate, exclusive and familial.

You know you’re sitting at your desk dreaming of Italy. Plan now on joining us for this special adventure.

The Journey Begins

Friday September 2, 2022

Depart USA for Rome Italy

Saturday, September 3, 2022

Arrive in Rome and Transfer to our villa in Cortona



Upon arrival in Rome, we’ll transfer via bus to our villa in the town of Cortona; we’ll get settled in at Villa Le Caselle and relax and get to know each other with beverages and snacks, followed by some needed relaxation before dinner.

Sunday, September 4, 2022

Visit Cortona



Following a breakfast and lunch at the villa, we'll head to Anghiari, a small medieval hamlet, and one of Tuscany's most beautiful cities, set on a hill made of stone built up over the centuries with the Tiber River at its feet. From Anghiari, it's off to Cortona, most known by Americans as the city where the movie 'Under the Tuscan Sun' was filmed. We'll spend the afternoon in Cortona, and have dinner in Cortona as well before heading back to the villa.

Monday, September 5, 2022

The Medieval Village of Montefalco and Ancient City of Spello



Following breakfast, we'll depart for an adventurous day to two of Umbria's most famous mediaeval hillside towns, Montefalco and Spello, both look as though they were laid out by an artist's brush. You'll feel as though you stumbled upon a hidden treasure at every turn, especially when you enter the church of San Francesco. Montefalco also has a tradition of woven linen and linen-cotton, kept alive today by the Pardi family. You'll no doubt be mesmerized by the spectacular views from these hillside towns over the fertile plain below.

Tuesday, September 6, 2022

A Day in Florence...The Capital of Tuscany



We'll have breakfast at the villa after which we'll catch the train to Florence, the capital of Italy's Tuscany region, and the home to many masterpieces of Renaissance art and architecture. We'll begin our visit with a tour of its most iconic sights like the Duomo, a cathedral with a terracotta-tiled dome engineered by Brunelleschi and a bell tower by Giotto, and the Galleria dell'Accademia display of Michelangelo's "David" sculpture. After lunch, we'll enjoy a free afternoon to explore and shop before dinner in Florence and a train ride back to the villa.

Wednesday, September 7, 2022

A Pilgrimage to Assisi



Following breakfast at the villa, we'll make a pilgrimage to the hill town of Assisi, the birthplace, hometown and resting place of one of Italy's patron saints, St Francis. The Basilica of St. Francis is a massive, 2-level church, consecrated in 1253. Its 13th-century frescoes portraying the life of St. Francis have been attributed to Giotto and Cimabue, among others. The crypt houses the saint's stone sarcophagus. This is without a doubt one of the most spiritual cities in all of Italy. We'll have lunch in Assisi, enjoy free time after lunch before heading back to the villa for dinner.

Thursday, September 8, 2022

A Wine and Olive Oil Tasting in San Gimignano



We'll visit our favorite vineyard, Tamburini, overlooking the town of San Gimignano. The farming history of the Tamburini family dates back to the late 19th century, and since then, for no less than 5 generations. Here, the lovely Emanuela will take us on a tour of the vineyard, followed by a wine and olive oil tasting and light lunch. After lunch, we'll visit the walled city of San Gimignano, a triangular square lined with medieval houses. It has a skyline of medieval towers. The Duomo di San Gimignano is a 12th-century church with frescoes by Ghirlandaio in its Santa Fina Chapel.

Friday, September 9, 2022

It's off to Siena



We'll have breakfast at the villa, on this, our last day in Tuscany, before departing for Siena. The historic center of Siena has been declared by UNESCO a World Heritage Site, and is one of the most visited tourist attractions in Tuscany. Siena is famous for its cuisine, art, museums, medieval cityscape and the Palio, a horse race held twice a year. Upon arrival in Siena, we'll meet up with our guide Serena, a guide we've been using for as long as we've been visiting Tuscany. After a short tour, we'll have lunch at one of our favorite restaurants, followed by free time to explore the city and all it has to offer before heading back to the villa to back for our journey to Rome.

Saturday, September 10, 2022

Depart Cortona for Rome



We'll depart Cortona for Rome, arriving at our hotel, Albergo Santa Chiara, directly behind the Pantheon, at around 1:00, just in time to settle in and head out for lunch and a walking tour with Robert and Christina. We'll take in some pretty famous sites: The Pantheon; The Trevi Fountain, Piazza di Spagna, and Piazza Navona. Finishing the day with dinner at one of our many favorite restaurants in Rome.

Sunday, September 11, 2022

A Tour of Vatican City and St Peters Basilica



Following breakfast at the hotel, we'll depart for a tour of Vatican City, where we'll visit the Sistine Chapel and St Peter's Basilica. The tour will end around 1:00, and we'll head off to lunch. After lunch we'll walk through the Jewish Ghetto and on to the colorful Trastevere neighborhood of Rome. This famous neighborhood is a funky, bohemian area that clings to its centuries-old, working-class roots. It's known for traditional and innovative trattorias, craft beer pubs and artisan shops.

Monday, September 12, 2022

A Tour of the Coliseum, Roman Forum and Palatine Hill



No trip to Roman is complete without a visit to these ancient sites. Again, following breakfast at the hotel, we'll enjoy a morning tour, this time, back to AD 72. This is a great time of year for this visit as the crowds are smaller and the weather is beautiful. We'll regroup after our tour for lunch near by the Coliseum. The afternoon, we'll enjoy more of what Rome has to offer.

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Depart for USA