



14 DAYS

SOGGIORNO IN TUSCANY

Tour Commencement Dates for 2020

28th March | 11th April | 25th April | 9th May | 23rd May | 6th June | 20th June | 4th July | 18th July

1st August | 15th August | 29th August | 12th September | 26th September | 10th October | 24th October

ACCOMMODATION

Our 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. 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. Arrival to Camucia-Cortona is easily accessible via train from either Rome or Florence 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.

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

CHECK IN / CHECK OUT

Check In is from 3:30pm

There will be transfers from Camucia-Cortona train station at 3:30pm & 5:30pm.

Transfers outside of these hours will be at an additional cost of €30.

Check Out is at 10am.

There will be transfers to Camucia-Cortona train station at 9am & 10am.

Transfers outside of these hours will be at an additional cost of €30.

As we are unable to store luggage, it is essential this be taken into consideration when making travel arrangements for arrival and departure days.

EXCLUSIONS

*Airlines *Travel insurance (we'd advise taking out cover ahead of time) * Entry fees to visit any museums, galleries, or public premises, not listed on the itineraries. *Any meals outside of those listed within the itinerary.



INCLUSIONS

- Enjoy your very own Soggiorno (14 night) stay in our Tuscan Villa
- Our bilingual hosts will be on hand throughout the tour to assist you
- Your apartment will be stocked with all necessary provisions for breakfasts
- 7 lunches are provided throughout your tour
- Wine is included with each of the 10 dinners
- Take part in our exciting guided walks across the stunning towns of Cortona, Siena & Arezzo
- Take part in an exciting, first-hand cooking session with fresh, locally sourced ingredients
- A choice between cheese-making and a wellness day
- We'll cover the cost of your train tickets into Florence, where you can explore to your hearts content
- All wine tasting events held at local establishments
- We'll assist with all travel as detailed on your itinerary
- Transport to the station/Cortona on tour-free day/s
- We'll ensure that you are collected from the station on arrival/departure

CA \$5,700 per person, twin share.

Single Occupancy \$450

If the idea of a prolonged stay in Tuscany for no less than 2 weeks appeals to you, then this is the tour that you've been looking for. Referred to as a Soggiorno in Italian, our 14 day tour is as exciting as it is authentic. You'll have the option to visit local landmarks, explore stunning surroundings, immerse yourself in the Tuscan lifestyle – and that's just after a few days of being here.

SAT / ARRIVAL

Whether you're here for 3:30 or 5:30pm pick up, we'll arrive at the station to collect you and your possessions ready to be taken to your accommodation. You'll undoubtedly want to explore the villa and its surroundings – and once you arrive, you'll be able to do exactly this whilst settling in and unpacking. With your appetite likely stimulated, we'll take you into the stunning town of Cortona for dinner.

SUN / CORTONA

To get the first full day of your tour off to an exciting start, we'll head into the nearby town of Cortona; where we have plenty of things for you to see and do! Our enthusiastic tour guide will take you on an enjoyable walk of the town, with coffee included. To integrate you with the Tuscan lifestyle, you'll experience lunch at a local trattoria. With your stomach full, you'll have the opportunity to sit and relax to your heart's content or explore the town in greater detail.

Mid-afternoon If you feel ready to return to your apartment, we'll give you the option to be collected and transported at this time. If you chose to stay in Cortona or travel back home to the villa – we'll meet back up and take you into town in preparation for your evening meal. What better way to savour the flavours of Cortona than with a traditional aperitivo in the Piazza, followed by dinner!

MON / SAN GIMIGNANO & SIENA

San Gimignano is a town so iconic that you have to see it to truly believe it – and this is where we'll be headed at 9am. Upon arrival we'll have a brief coffee break and you will be given an overview of the town and its rich history. Shortly after your introduction, you'll have free time to explore, ingratiate yourself with the locals and partake in activities at your own leisure.

We'll then travel to Siena, where you'll meet your tour guide who will fill you with knowledge, expose you to the traditional lifestyle and allow you to get to grips with the town first-hand. To allow you to take in as much as possible, you'll have a little more free time before your evening meal.

For dinner, you'll be taken to one of the local restaurants in Siena, where you'll get to taste the mesmerising flavours of the Sienese cuisine.

TUE / TOUR FREE DAY

With so much to see and do, you'll undoubtedly appreciate the option to spend the day exploring the area, taking up one of our additional activities, sitting by the pool or relaxing in your own way! Dinner will be around 7pm and you'll be ingratiated further into the idyllic lifestyle of the Tuscan people, with a dining experience guaranteed to satisfy your taste buds, as well as wine to savour.

WED / FLORENCE

At 7:45am, we'll take you to the local station where we'll cover the cost of your train tickets and you will begin your exciting journey to the fabled City of Florence. You'll get to explore at your leisure, shop to your heart's content and choose from any number of the local establishments until you travel back to your villa. Don't forget to pick something up on your travels for dinner as you'll have the evening to relax at the villa.

THU / CHIANTI

This morning we have an exciting tour of Chianti on the cards. We'll be stopping in Castellina for a coffee and the exhilarating opportunity to explore the town and all it has to offer. We then have an extended lunch and tasting session planned at an exquisite organic winery, where there will be the opportunity to meet the winemakers.

FRI / WELLNESS DAY OR CHEESE MAKING

To truly ingratiate you with the Tuscan lifestyle, this day will be dedicated to one of two options: The first is cheese-making. You'll have the opportunity to learn how it's done, as well as trying your hand at making some of your own. The second is a wellness day – where you can enjoy a host of holistic activities. With your appetite undoubtedly whetted, we'll take you into Cortona for dinner and the opportunity to relax in the traditional surroundings.

“From the time of our first meeting with Ines in Melbourne prior to our trip, we felt comfortable with our decision to book our Tours of Tuscany fourteen-day ‘Soggiorno in Tuscany Tour’. As it turned out, it exceeded our expectations on many levels.”

KERRY & NOELA – AUSTRALIA





SAT / AREZZO

To get this day off to a flying start, we'll take you to the local station ready for your next adventure independently. The town of Arezzo is on the agenda today, complete with an introduction to the area and information on what can be found here. You'll then have free time to shop, have a snack, enjoy a walk, or engage with the locals. We'll be returning to the villa in the mid-afternoon, allowing you the option to take a dip in the pool, interact with others on the tour, or partake in anything that might come to mind. Around 7pm we will make our way into Cortona for another delightful meal.

SUN / PIENZA & MONTEPULCIANO

With a full day ahead, we'll depart to the town of Pienza, the birth place of Pope Pius II; a small township famous for Pecorino cheese and beautiful boutiques, first, allowing you to savour the stunning sights on the journey. In between Pienza and Montepulciano, we'll make a stop for lunch at an organic farm and to allow you time to really get to grips with the iconic architecture and sights in this captivating area. After lunch we visit 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. We'll then transport you comfortably back to your accommodation in the late afternoon, where the rest of your evening will be yours to enjoy as you wish.

MON / TOUR FREE DAY

To celebrate the start of the week, you'll have the option to take part in an additional activity, or alternatively you might choose to explore the local area at your own pace. We'll be taking you to dinner around 7pm in one of the local trattorias - where you can enjoy fine dining and a taste of locally produced wines.

TUE / COOKING CLASS

If the idea of preparing your own Tuscan meal appeals to you, then this is the day that you've been waiting for. You'll have the option to create a 4 course meal with an expert chef, whom you'll then get to enjoy the company of as you sit down to eat each course.

WED / ORVIETO

This morning we drive through Umbria to Orvieto. On arrival we enjoy a Caffè after which there is ample opportunity to visit Il Duomo, Saint Patricks Well - 1537 which is 62 metres deep with double spiral staircase or tour the underground city/caves. Orvieto has a great selection of stores, ranging from leatherware to ceramics and boutiques. Regroup for lunch at a local trattoria. Return to villa late afternoon before stepping out to dinner in Cortona.

THU / LUCIGNANO

We'll head out to the idyllic town of Lucignano in the morning to allow you plenty of time to see the authentic sights and sounds of this ancient town. You'll be provided with a traditional lunch and given plenty of time to traverse the scenery, walk the paved streets and photograph the breathtaking architecture. For dinner, we'll be travelling into Cortona for authentically made pizzas to satisfy your appetite!

FRI / TOUR FREE DAY

If you'd like to take part in a memorable activity, relax by the pool, or spend the day adventuring; you'll have hours to do so. We'll be taking you out for dinner to a local restaurant, with more complementary wine and opportunities to submerge yourself even further into Tuscan life before you head home.

SAT / DEPARTURE

We'll take you directly to the station, so that you can begin your journey home; hopefully with a huge collection of photos, memories and even new friends.

"We chose the two week tour and glad we did as we found it to be the perfect amount of time to enjoy the region. Everything appeared to work like clockwork and we never felt rushed. Having Cortona as our local town was an added bonus as it has to be one of the most beautiful towns in Tuscany."

TERESA & ALAN - NZ

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.