

## - 7 days -CYCLING IN TUSCANY

# 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  $\in$  30.

#### Check Out is at 9am.

There will be transfers to Camucia-Cortona train station at 8am & 9am. Transfers outside of these hours will be at an additional cost of  $\in$  30.

### EXCLUSIONS

\*Airfares \*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

- A full 7 night villa stay in the heart of Tuscany
- Our bilingual hosts & tours leaders will be on hand throughout the tour to assist you
- Scheduled tours as mentioned in the itinerary
- Full breakfasts supplied along with apartment provisions
- 3 enjoyable lunches at local eateries or during tours
- 6 restaurant or trattoria dinners including traditional Italian wine
- Full bike tours with a guide and helmets and options for eBike bookings
- Walking tours across Cortona and Siena to immerse you in the Tuscan lifestyle
- An enjoyable cooking lesson where you'll get to eat your 4 course meal with the chef
- A world-class wine tasting experience at a local establishment
- Your travel will be catered for, both to and from itinerary locations
- All tour free days include transport to local stations if needed
- Free transportation to and from stations when you arrive and depart from your tour
- Optional transport into the town of Cortona on a tour free day

AU \$4,650 per person, twin share Single Occupancy \$550 If the idea of traversing the stunning terrain in and around Tuscany appeals to you – then our Cycling in Tuscany tour could be the perfect adventure. There won't be any racing here; in fact, our leisurely tours have become a firm favourite amongst those looking for a unique way to see the sights and sounds of Lake Trasimeno, Cortona and all surrounding areas.

## SAT | ARRIVAL

Your Tuscan cycling adventure is about to begin. To ensure that you arrive at your villa safely, we'll collect and transport you from the local station to our world-class villa. You'll be given a full afternoon to explore your local environment; with options to tour our traditional farmhouse villa, the pool area and our immediate surroundings. Once you're settled in and are ready to start your trip, we'll take you into the local town of Cortona for dinner, where you'll enjoy a Tuscan-style dinner.

### SUN | CYCLE CORTONA & COUNTRYSIDE

We'll collect you from your accommodation and then embark on the next stage of your journey - travelling into Cortona and the surrounding countryside. The first part of your cycling tour will commence, with an adventurous exploration of the local scenery, across cycle paths and in a way that will allow you to take in all of the views. We're sure that you'll have worked up an appetite and at 1pm, we'll head back into town to enjoy a spot of lunch. You'll then have the opportunity to enjoy a little free time, which you can use to shop, cycle around the area, or relax by one of the captivating landmarks in the region. With your bike and safety gear still available, you will enjoy a leisurely bike ride back to the villa. After a few hours of relaxation time in the pool, interacting with your fellow tour-quests, or taking a pleasant walk or bike ride locally; we'll take you into Cortona for a lovely 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 region.

### TUE | CYCLE TO LAKE TRASIMENO & COOKING EXPERIENCE

Your tour of Lake Trasimeno will begin with you being picked up and transported ready for the adventure ahead. You're more than welcome to purchase and prepare your own lunches and can eat at your leisure. The lake makes for a fantastic backdrop for cyclists as well. At 3pm, we'll transport you to the next destination; a fully equipped kitchen where you'll learn to prepare your own 4 course Italian meal. Guided by a world-class Italian chef, your Traditional Tuscan Cooking Lesson will take place and you'll get to enjoy the fruits of your labour with the chef once you're finished cooking.

## WED | CYCLE Montepulciano

A full day of exciting cycling activities are on the agenda today. We'll begin by picking you up and transporting you to your destination. First of all, you'll be able to take to two wheels with a full cycling tour of the stunning region of Montepulciano. This tour will be followed by lunch and you'll get to partake of the locally sourced ingredients that go into the meal. After, you'll have free time to explore the area. As there is simply so much iconic scenery and so many stunning views in Montepulciano, we're sure that you'll feel spoilt for choice. You will then have the option of cycling back to the villa for 3pm. If you'd prefer a ride, we can transport you instead. With a few hours to spend on leisure time, you'll be able to look forward to a fine dining experience at a local restaurant in Cortona; which we will take you to and from.

## 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 planed at an exquisite organic winery, where there will be the opportunity to meet the winemakers.

## FRI | TOUR FREE DAY

As your trip slowly comes to an end, we allocate this time for you to choose the types of activities that you'd like to partake in - from exploring the nearby area, to relaxing by the pool. Whatever you choose to do, we'll ensure that you're back in time for a traditional Italian Aperitivo, followed by a farewell dinner to mark your visit.

## SAT | DEPARTURE

In the morning, we'll take you back to the local station where you can commence your return journey with plenty of Tuscan memories to savour for a lifetime.

"From beginning to end.... Perfection! Every aspect of our trip was met with the finest attention to detail." VICKIE - USA

## 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.

#### 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 accustom.

# 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 Caffe 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.



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