

# EXPLORE TUSCANY



**WITH COTTAGE GROVE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**09 DAYS /08 NIGHTS**

**PORTLAND | FLORENCE | MONTECATINI TERME | LUCCA | BORGIO A MOZZANO |  
GOTNIC LINE | FLORENCE | PISA | CHEESE FARM VISIT | SAN GIMIGNANO |  
FLORENCE | PORTLAND**

**Departure Date**  
**26 Apr - 2023**

**Portland**

**US\$ 3299**

**Single Supp.**

**US\$ 599**

**For more information and bookings contact**

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**TOUR LODGING INFO:** 07 Nights' Accommodation  
+ 01 Night Onboard Flight  
Accommodation will be provided on a twin sharing basis

CITIES	NIGHTS	SUPERIOR HOTELS
Montecatini Terme	07 Nights	Hotel Tuscany Inn

### TOUR PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- 07 nights of accommodation on a twin sharing basis
- Daily international breakfast buffet
- Travel Assistant throughout the tour
- Private coach transfer from Florence airport to your hotel in Montecatini
- Welcome 3-course dinner at the hotel, ½ water and ¼ wine included (Day 2)
- FD private coach hire for Lucca and Borgo a Mozzano
- 2-hours private walking tour in Lucca with local licensed guide
- Visit to a winery with wine tasting
- Return train ride to Florence
- 3-hours private walking tour in Florence and Accademia with local licensed guide
- Admission to the Accademia Gallery
- GUIDED TOUR in Montecatini
- FD private coach hire for Pisa
- 2-hours private walking tour in Pisa with local licensed guide
- Admission to the Dome and Baptistery in Pisa
- Visit to a farmhouse and cooking lesson with typical Tuscan recipes following with dinner including wine
- FD private coach hire for San Gimignano
- 2-hours private walking tour in San Gimignano with local licensed guide
- Visit to a cheese producer with Pecorino and local products tasting
- Typical dinner at a farmhouse with Tuscan products and wine
- Private coach transfer to Florence airport
- Headsets throughout your trip
- International round trip flights from Portland
- All Air taxes and fuel surcharges

### TOUR PACKAGE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Items of a personal nature, tips, and gratuities
- Baggage fees may apply and vary by the carrier
- Visa fees if applicable
- Travel insurance
- Items not mentioned as included

### TOUR ITINERARY:

#### DAY 01: PORTLAND - FLORENCE

Make your own way to Portland airport for your international flight. Enjoy inflight meals and extra services.  
Overnight onboard

#### DAY 02: FLORENCE ARRIVAL - MONTECATINI TERME (-/-/D)

Your tour opens in the famous spa resort town of Montecatini Terme, nestled in the heart of the rolling hills of Tuscany. This evening, get to know your fellow travelers during a welcome dinner where regional foods and Italian wines kick off your adventure.  
Overnight in Montecatini Terme

#### DAY 03: LUCCA - BORGO A MOZZANO - GOTNIC LINE (B/-/-)

Enjoy a guided tour of Lucca, Tuscany's best-kept secret. Discover Renaissance walls, Romanesque churches, and medieval streets flanked by towers. Explore on your own before setting off for Borgo a Mozzano. See the Ponte del Diavolo (Devil's Bridge) and the nearby remains of the Gothic Line – the Germans' last defense during WWII. Visit the Museum of Liberation and see authentic fortifications and bunkers. Make your way to a Tuscan winery and learn about the art of winemaking as you taste local varieties.  
Overnight in Montecatini Terme

#### DAY 04: FLORENCE (BY TRAIN) (B/-/-)

A cultural tour in Florence showcases the beautiful "Cradle of the Renaissance." Start with a visit to the Academy Gallery\* to see Michelangelo's sculpture of David. Join a local Florentine guide on foot and make your way through the city. At the Piazza del Duomo, see the impressive Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore and the gilded bronze doors of the Baptistery dedicated to St. John. Take the remainder of your time in Florence to explore this unparalleled city as you choose.  
Overnight in Montecatini Terme

#### DAY 05: MONTECATINI TERME (B/-/-)

Today, after breakfast, learn more about Montecatini's curative waters during a guided walking tour and visit to the historic Tettuccio Spa, known for the health benefits in its mineral waters. Afternoon at leisure or journey to Siena and embark on a walking tour through its narrow Gothic streets (optional), getting to know the local lifestyle in a contrada (neighborhood) whose community is centered around the colorful Palio horse race.  
Overnight in Montecatini Terme

#### Optional tour: EXCURSION TO SIENA (min 15 guests): 69 USD per person

FD private coach hire for Siena  
3-hours private walking tour in Siena with local licensed guide

#### DAY 06: PISA (B/-/D)

Explore historic sites in the ancient maritime Republic of Pisa, including the Piazza dei Miracoli, or "Field of Miracles" (UNESCO). Keep your camera handy at the famous Leaning Tower of Pisa. Visit the Baptistery, the largest in Italy. This evening, travel to the quiet countryside to learn the secrets of traditional Tuscan cuisine. Partake in a cooking class, using local ingredients and culinary techniques that have been passed down for generations. Enjoy your freshly-prepared meal for dinner.  
Overnight in Montecatini Terme

**DAY 07: MONTECATINI TERME (B/-/-)**

The day is yours to relax and experience the local flavor. Take this opportunity to shop at the local boutiques and dine at one of the many fine local restaurants. Or, perhaps you will choose an optional excursion to Cinque Terre with its rugged coastline dotted with terraced vineyards; explore this string of fishing villages nestled between the mountains and the Mediterranean.

Overnight in Montecatini Terme

**Optional tour: Excursion to the Cinque Terre (min 15 guests): 59 USD per person**

FD private coach hire for 5 Terre excursion

FD local English speaking guide for the 5 Terre excursion

Boat ride from La Spezia to Portovenere

Boat ride from Portovenere to Vernazza

Boat ride from Vernazza to Monterosso

Train ride from Monterosso to La Spezia

**DAY 08: CHEESE FARM VISIT - SAN GIMIGNANO**

**(B/-/D)**

At a nearby cheese farm, learn how the famous pecorino cheese is made before sampling it for yourself. Soak in breathtaking views as you travel to the hilltop village of San Gimignano, one of Tuscany's most picturesque places. Explore this enchanting medieval town, from its famous 14 towers to its magnificent vistas overlooking vineyards. Enjoy free time and perhaps indulge in some gelato. Later, attend a Tuscan feast of traditional cuisine and wines set in the countryside.

Overnight in Montecatini Terme

**DAY 09: FLORENCE - PORTLAND (B/-/-)**

Your journey comes to a close today. Depart with many fond memories of Tuscany. After breakfast, you will be transferred to Florence International Airport to prepare for your flight back home.

**END OF OUR SERVICES**

**TWO NIGHT OPTIONAL ROME EXTENSION: US\$ 680/Person (Min. 10)**

**Day 9 - Montecatini/Rome: (B/-/-)**

After breakfast, meet your guide and driver and set off for Rome. Upon your arrival in Rome, transfer to your hotel for check-in where the rest of the afternoon is at leisure and yours to enjoy. Romans say that "Rome wasn't built in a day", nor can Rome be seen in a day. One could live in the Eternal City for years and still not see everything. It's hard to say what you'll find most breathtaking: Etruscan tombs, the Republican meeting rooms, imperial temples, early Christian churches, medieval bell towers, baroque basilicas or renaissance palaces. Tonight you are on your own for dinner. You will have no trouble finding local restaurants in this residential area of Rome. Just outside the hotel and around the corner are some lovely places where the locals meet to eat, have a glass of local wine and enjoy a dish of pasta. Ask your guide or the concierge at the hotel to make a recommendation, they are eager and pleased to help. Overnight at Roma Milton. (Breakfast)

**Day 10 - Rome: (B/-/-)**

After breakfast we will start exploring the magnificence of the eternal city. In the morning enjoy a guided tour of Imperial Rome, the Rome of the Caesars. Visit the Roman Forum, the most important archaeological area

in the city and once the center of the public life; visit the Colosseum, the most famous monument of ancient Rome and an impressive testament to her past greatness. We enjoy lunch in a local family run trattoria to taste the flavors of the "Cucina Romana". After lunch continue the tour of the Vatican Museums and the Sistine Chapel. The Vatican Museums and their immense wealth of art, resulting from centuries of papal collections, offer an extraordinary experience. Amongst others, see the great masterpieces of Michelangelo, "The Last Judgement" in the Sistine Chapel. End the tour visiting St. Peter's Basilica to admire the art treasures of the largest Roman Catholic Church in the world, including Michelangelo's Pietà (appropriate attire required no shorts or sleeveless tops). Your tour include entrance to the Roman Forum, Colosseum and Vatican Museum, we avoid lines with pre-assigned reservations. Enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure, where you can do some shopping or take a stroll on the Via Veneto. Tonight dinner is on your own; enjoy your last night in Rome. (Breakfast, Lunch)

**Day 11 – Rome – CANADA/USA: (B/-/-)**

After breakfast, say ciao to Rome, transfer to the airport for your return flight home. (Breakfast)