

TOUR OF SAN GIMIGNANO

(HALF DAY - 4 hours)

This tour begins with a visit to Monteriggioni where you will be able to see the main square with its beautiful Piazza della Cisterna as well as walk along the top of the castle walls, enjoying the view over the surrounding countryside. After Monteriggioni we will visit San Gimignano, the so-called city of many towers, which is considered to be one of the best preserved Tuscan towns; besides the fact that there were originally 72 towers and today there are only 13 standing, San Gimignano is nearly exactly as you would have found it in Medieval times. What also makes San Gimignano so special is the production of its white wine, Vernaccia, which of course you will taste.

TOUR OF SAN GIMIGNANO AND VOLTERRA

(FULL DAY - 8 hours)

Our first stop, on the way to San Gimignano, will be Monteriggioni, a beautiful town located within the walls of a medieval castle. After about a 20-minute drive we will reach San Gimignano, a small walled medieval hill town in Tuscany. It is mainly famous for its medieval architecture, especially its towers, which can be seen from several miles away from the town. In the Middle Ages and Renaissance era, it was a stopping point for catholic pilgrims on their way to Rome and the Vatican, as it stands on the Medieval Via Francigena.

The town is also known for its white wine, Vernaccia di San Gimignano, which is considered to be the mother of all white grapes and is produced only in this area.

The next stop suggested will be Volterra, a jewel of Etruscan, Roman, Medieval and Renaissance art, famous for its history and for the production of alabaster.

Archaeological evidence confirms that Volterra has been a settlement ever since the Neolithic Age. We will guide you in the discovery of the town telling you about its history and traditions that have left their mark on this corner of Tuscany for centuries.

After a visit to an alabaster crafts shop, where you can also watch the alabaster being worked, we will return to Siena.

TOUR OF FLORENCE

(FULL DAY - 8 hours)

Welcome to Florence! Discover with us how in less than twenty years a small group of artists, in just one city, brought about one of the most important revolutions in cultural history, with a tour along the most important developments in cultural history, in the most representative city of the Italian Renaissance. You will appreciate the Duomo, Piazza della Signoria, the Ponte Vecchio (Old Bridge), the Uffizi Palace and Gallery, Palazzo Pitti, the Boboli Gardens, the Baptistery, the Church of Santa Maria Novella, etc.. all of which are in Florence's historical centre.

TOUR OF PISA

(FULL DAY - 8 hours)

A very old town founded on the right bank of the river Arno, it preserves intact the architectural "miracles" of the powerful Maritime Re-

public in its Piazza dei Miracoli: the Leaning Tower (from the top you can admire a splendid view of the town), the Cathedral, one of the most beautiful churches in Italy, the Baptistery with its very particular acoustics and the Monumental Cemetery. A trip to the river Arno can be included; the river was the centre of merchant exchanges during the Middle Ages, with its characteristic buildings and Medieval tower houses, which can be seen walking along the river. From the old bridges you can admire the ancient Church of Santa Maria della Spina and the old Republican Arsenal with its Guelph tower.

TOUR OF PERUGIA & ASSISI

(FULL DAY - 8 hours)

Medieval capital of Umbria, Perugia is said to have one of the most beautiful squares in Europe, with the Maggiore Fountain, the Gothic Basilica of San Lorenzo and the Palazzo dei Priori.

We will also visit the catacombs and admire superb medieval paintings at the art gallery. In less than a 30 minutes drive we will reach Assisi, the native town of Saint Francis, famous for its extraordinary Basilica frescoed by the incomparable Giotto and Cimabue. We will visit the Basilica after lunch, and explore the rest of this lovely medieval town.

OUTLETS

(4-6 hours)

If you like shopping this is the tour for you!

We will be visiting the best Italian brand outlets of Tuscany where "Italian made products" are a Must...

On this tour in fact you can visit "The Mall Outlet", where you will find popular designer labels such as Dolce & Gabbana, Roberto Cavalli, Gucci, Giorgio Armani, Calvin Klein and many more. Good luck and... shop until you drop!

TOUR OF CINQUE TERRE

The "Cinque Terre" is certainly one of the most beautiful stretches of the Ligurian Coast, alternating between cliffs overhanging the sea and villages with multicoloured houses clinging onto the rock face.

The best means to visit this area is by train, with the addition of excursions on foot and brief boat rides. The itinerary we propose sets out from La Spezia, with a first stretch that offers beautiful views over green rolling hills, and then alternates between tunnels and suggestive glimpses of scenery from viewpoints that fall straight into the sea.

The first ancient village of the "Cinque Terre" is Riomaggiore, linked to Manarola by a romantic path overhanging the sea known as the "Via dell'Amore" (originally a path linking the two villages, later renamed "The Road of Love" owing to the evocative and romantic aura that surrounds the place), followed by Corniglia, Vernazza and Monterosso.

You will be guided on this special itinerary by one of our tour leaders of unquestionable cultural and linguistic experience, who will take you from one village to the next, describing their beauty and wonders.

Lunch at a typical restaurant of the area will allow you to enjoy the local cuisine and wines.



Departure from Siena/San Gimignano

PRIVATE TOURS



PRIVATE TOURS



Personalized tours in Mercedes cars or people carriers (depending on the number of the participants), ensuring the highest level of comfort. Our vehicles are fully equipped with all the options required for long trips, including air conditioning and colour TV. An English-speaking driver will be at your disposal for the whole day and will arrange the most satisfactory tour with you. Round trip transportation from your accommodation.

MONTERIGGIONI, COLLE VAL D'ELSA & SAN GIMIGNANO (FULL DAY - 8 hours)

The Siena Chianti area is full of pretty landscapes, gentle hills where vines and olive trees grow, and there are centuries-old oak trees, woods and charming medieval villages. The village of Monteriggioni will be the first stop of your tour: only a few kilometres from Siena and built in around 1200 and almost perfectly intact today. You will have lunch in Colle Val d'Elsa at a traditional restaurant. Then you will be taken to San Gimignano, one of the most famous medieval towns in Tuscany. It is a medieval version of New York City with its 17 towers. Here you will find time to explore the little alleyways and shops. After the visit you will return to your hotel for dinner.

EXPLORING CASTLES (FULL DAY - 8 hours)

It is impossible to go through this area without being aware of Medieval Tuscany. Still visible are the small walled towns, which are the heritage of the Middle Ages just as much as the large cities.

Castles, fortresses, watch towers, and town walls can be seen everywhere. Our tours offer firstly a visit to the Meleto Castle, which dates back to 1300 and which was originally a Florentine fortification during the Guelph and Ghibelline wars.

The tour then continues towards the village of Radda in Chianti, where you are going to eat at a typical local restaurant.

The village's present appearance was formed during the dark ages. Continuing our tour, we reach the Brolio Castle.

The Castle stands at the centre of boundless vineyards, from which the Ricasoli family has been distilling their famous wines since 1141 and invented Chianti as we know it today. After a day experiencing the castles you will return to Siena for dinner in the historical centre.

GREVE IN CHIANTI, VERRAZZANO CASTLE & CHIANTI AREA (FULL DAY - 8 hours)

Between two large cities of art, Florence and Siena, lies the territory of Chianti Classico. In the very heart of it is Greve in Chianti, the "wine city", with its vineyards, olive trees, castles, parishes and medieval hilltop villages. You will then lunch at the unique Verrazzano castle. Since you are in the Chianti region, you will obviously be enjoying the finest Chianti. From Verrazzano you will be charmed by the scenery and enraptured by the fascination of the Tuscan hillside.

SAN GIMIGNANO, BADIA PASSIGNANO & RADDA IN CHIANTI (FULL DAY - 8 hours)

San Gimignano is one of the most famous medieval towns in Tuscany. Its early walls date back to the year 998, when San Gimignano became a trading centre along the Via Francigena. From San Gimignano we will then continue towards Badia a Passignano, a small town with a differ-

ent history that you will be able to note in its art and architecture. You will lunch at the only restaurant of the village that serves the finest local cuisine.

The final destination will be Radda in Chianti, in the heart of the Chianti area where you can admire the typical small side streets and the alleys, and enjoy seeing the world-famous Rampini ceramic shop.

The tour will then end returning to Siena.

TOUR OF CHIANTI (HALF DAY - 4 hours)

During this tour you will firstly visit the town of Monteriggioni that is located inside the walls of a remarkably well-preserved medieval castle. Then we will take you into the heart of the wine country where the famous Chianti Classico is produced. You will be able to taste the wine at an old farmhouse on the top of a hill, surrounded by vineyards, where you will be able to sample the locally produced wines as well as the delicious olive oil, and an expert guide will explain the secrets behind the production of this world-famous wine.

TOUR OF CHIANTI (FULL DAY - 8 hours)

Chianti does not only mean red wine. A combination of faces, words, ancient churches, castles, small villages and towns where the rhythm of life has remained unchanged over the course of time. We will bring you into this world, let you taste its flavour, meet its people, experience its paces, thanks to the experience of our tour leaders. In its vineyards and in some of its world famous wine cellars you will have the possibility to explore the Chianti dimension and understand the depth of its towns, history and flavour. Before returning to Siena we will visit the town of Radda in Chianti, walk through its narrow streets, explore the surroundings and visit the world-famous Rampini Ceramic shop.

TOUR OF BRUNELLO (HALF DAY - 4 hours)

You will visit the beautiful and famous Monte Oliveto Maggiore abbey: wonderful peace, and oasis of prayer of the Olivetan Benedictine Monks with their majestic monastery where you will be able to enjoy a tour around the cloisters, church, library and the Medieval pharmacy of this still very much alive religious outpost. Leaving the abbey you will be taken to sample Brunello di Montalcino, and a certified guide will explain the secrets behind the making of this world-famous wine.

TOUR OF BRUNELLO & PIENZA (FULL DAY - 8 hours)

The Brunello tour begins with a visit to the 12th century abbey of Monte Oliveto Maggiore, which is located in the Crete Senesi, famous for its clay-like soil and its endless stretch of rolling hills dotted with natural lakes and cypress trees. Our itinerary continues towards Montalcino where you will visit the remarkable fortress and taste the local wine: Brunello di Montalcino. We will then take a 15-minute drive to Pienza, where you can have lunch and taste the local Pecorino cheese (goat's milk cheese). You will have time to explore the village, visit its tiny crafts workshops, square and churches; if we have time we can then go to Montepulciano. Montepulciano is built along a narrow limestone ridge. Inside the walls the streets are packed with Renaissance-style buildings and churches, but the town is chiefly known for its good local "Vino Nobile" wines. Our cultural - wine tour will end returning to Siena.



PRIVATE TOURS

For booking, please ask at the reception desk or call our call-centre at

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