



Italian Destinations



Undiscovered Tuscany 2019

Small Group, Food & Wine Tour to the Heart of Tuscany

Sample the culinary treasures of Tuscany including winery visits in Chianti, Montepulciano and Montalcino, a cheesemaking demo on an organic farm in Pienza, a hands-on cooking class and more!

8 Nights

September 12 - 19, 2019

€3,450 per person

Based on Double Occupancy

Min. 12, Max. 14 Guests

Single Supplement €450

(Limited Quantity Available)

Cities of art, overflowing with culture, breathtaking vistas across unspoiled countryside, medieval villages oozing with charm— the region of Tuscany epitomizes the romantic notion of Italy. And best of all there are world famous wines and a delightful meal around every corner of ancient stone. Wine expert, Susan Guerra, who left the USA to pursue a lifelong dream of living La Dolce Vita and Phyllis Ignozza, owner of The Language Institute will accompany you on this food, wine and cultural journey to discover the region with all of your senses. This weeklong itinerary has been carefully crafted to include a selection of our favorite Tuscan food & wine producers and to mingle with locals. Along the way we'll visit Siena, Monteriggioni, San Gimignano, Volterra, Montepulciano, Pienza, Monticchiello, Bagno Vignoni and Montalcino as well as lesser-known historical sights in Pitigliano and Sovana in the Maremma region of Tuscany. To soak in the magic that Tuscany has to offer we've selected accommodations in charming villa properties with beautiful gardens, swimming pools and full service amenities.

HIGHLIGHTS

Visit charming medieval villages and the rolling countryside of the Val D'Orcia.

Taste Chianti Classico, Vino Nobile di Montepulciano and Brunello di Montalcino.

Take a private hands-on cooking class just steps from the ancient Roman baths of Bagno Vignoni.

Visit lesser-known towns in the Maremma and see the mysterious, Etruscan roads at Sovana.

After a day of tasting and touring, relax at a beautiful villa property with vineyard and countryside views.

For additional information, questions or to book this tour, please contact Susan Guerra: susan@viadelvino.com (866) 812-1223 Cell: (973) 650-6555



DAY 1: Our tour begins at **Dievole Resort**, located in the heart of the Chianti wine region about a half hour from the historic center of Siena. Meet your fellow travelers over a light lunch at this meticulously restored wine property nestled amidst acres of rolling hills before a late afternoon of sightseeing in Siena, a UNESCO world heritage city filled with images of pre-Renaissance Italy. A guided walking tour of the city includes the Piazza del Campo, site of the famed Palio race, and a visit to the Duomo with free time before dinner at Osteria Da Divo. Consistently rated one of Siena's top restaurants, Da Divo's unique setting includes Etruscan rooms cut from the volcanic rock upon which Siena is built.

DAY 2: After breakfast we'll stop in the ancient walled village of Monteriggioni. Our morning can begin with an optional, easy hike along the Via Francigena starting from Abbazia Isola, a Romanesque abbey built in the 12th century. We'll lunch today at a family run winery in the Chianti Classico region before a lazy afternoon meander in Chianti, perhaps with a stop in one of the famed Chianti towns with free time to shop or sip a spritz in the piazza. Later in the day, we'll return to Dievole to relax before a traditional Tuscan dinner paired with wine.

DAY 3: We'll spend the morning today in San Gimignano, a Tuscan gem whose 12th century towers are visible from afar. Stroll along the quaint streets with free time to shop the many artisan boutiques or sip a creamy cappuccino in Piazza della Cisterna as you watch the lineup of elderly locals exchanging gossip under the protection of a shady loggia. Our midday stop takes us to Torraccia di Chiusi, a restored aristocratic residence along the Via Francigena for a buffet lunch and wine tasting under the vine-trellised pergola. After lunch we'll head to Volterra, a town that still bears traces of its 4th century BC Etruscan history as well as a Roman Theater just outside the city walls. The working of alabaster is an ancient tradition in Volterra, with numerous shops and museums dedicated to the artform where you can learn about and purchase hand-crafted pieces made from Volterra alabaster, which is considered the most precious in the world. This evening we'll return to Dievole to relax before a light dinner or apericena.



DAY 4: After breakfast we depart Dievole Resort for Montepulciano. The home of Vino Nobile and a former Etruscan settlement, this medieval town of rare beauty boasts panoramic views over the wonderful Val d'Orcia and Val di Chiana valleys. We'll visit the Tempio di San Biagio, then have free time to meander before a tour of the cellars at Fattoria della Talosa followed by a light lunch with wine. Later on we'll check in and have dinner at **Villa Cicolina**, our charming accommodations just a short drive outside of Montepulciano.

DAY 5: After breakfast, we'll spend our morning at an organic farm near Pienza, where we'll meet the colorful Ulisse for a tour and a cheesemaking demo followed by lunch. Afterwards, we'll head to Pienza, the beautiful UNESCO world heritage town widely known as the "ideal city of the Renaissance." There will be free time to stroll and shop, eat a gelato or sip a glass of wine while enjoying gorgeous views of the Orcia valley with Monte Amiato in the distance. Afterwards, we'll have time to relax at Villa Cicolina before supper.

DAY 6: Today we'll visit Monticchiello, a tiny, walled medieval village perched high on a hill overlooking the valley below. This tiny gem was the subject of the 2012 documentary film, "Spettacolo," which tells the story of the Teatro Povero, a yearly play where the town becomes a stage and all its citizens, the actors. We'll have free time to explore before lunch at the Slow Food restaurant Osteria La Porta. Later we head to Bagno Vignoni for a walk around town and a look at the ancient Roman baths before our aperitivo, "Pici" making and cooking class followed by dinner made with the fruits of our labor.

DAY 7: This morning we'll depart Villa Cicolina with stops in Montalcino before heading to the town of Sovana, in the lesser-known Tuscan Maremma. Our first stop will be a visit to the Brunello wine producing estate Il Paradiso di Frassina for a tour and tasting of wines that have become the subject of a very unusual scientific research project started by visionary vintner, Giancarlo Cignozzi who uses music therapy rather than chemicals to treat his vines. A stroll around this property is not just an opportunity to take in breathtaking views and taste top-rated wines, but to be surrounded by the music of Mozart, pumped into the vineyard through a series of specially designed speakers. After our visit we'll make a stop in Montalcino for free time to explore its many boutiques and wine shops and have lunch on your own. Our last stop before leaving the Val D'Orcia will be a short visit to Sant'Antimo Abbey. According to legend, Charlemagne founded this abbey in 781 after he fell ill nearby and prayed for deliverance. Nestled amidst the vines and olive groves, the abbey is still used by monks chanting their daily prayers. In the late afternoon we'll check in to the **Sovana Hotel & Resort** with free time to relax before dinner.





DAY 8: After breakfast we head to Sovana for a visit to the 2500-year old Etruscan archeological site outside the town. The area features monumental tombs and the Vie Cave, a network of ancient, canyon-like roads carved by hand into the tufa rock, whose purpose remains a mystery to this day. We then head to Pitigliano, a town that is decidedly off the beaten tourist path and that is also known as Piccola Gerusalemme (Little Jerusalem) due to the long-standing presence of a thriving Jewish Community here.

We'll have time to stroll the Jewish Quarter and visit its artisan shops or take an optional tour of the town's synagogue, followed by lunch. Later in the day we'll head towards Rome, stopping along the way (time permitting) for a visit to the ancient seaport of Civitavecchia. Our tour ends in the evening with a farewell dinner at our hotel near Rome's Leonardo da Vinci Airport (airport code FCO) where guests can take a shuttle to catch an early morning flight home. Allow 3 hours for check in and security.



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Although every effort is made to adhere to the stated tour, itineraries are subject to change at any time due to unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of Via del Vino, LLC and its travel providers. A 25% deposit is due at the time of booking. The deposit is non-refundable. Please see full Terms and Conditions provided at the end of this flyer or by visiting www.viadelvino.com. A day-by-day tour schedule with contacts, transfer information and additional details is provided before your departure.

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INCLUSIONS:

- Roundtrip group transfers
- 8 nights accommodation
- Daily driver and minicoach
- Daily continental breakfast
- 7 Lunches with wine
- 7 Dinners with wine
- 1 Apericena
- 2 Winery tours and tastings
- 1 Cheesemaking demo
- 1 Cooking class
- Entrance fees for historical sites
- Local guides

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Individual transfers available upon request. Extra charges apply. Airfare not included. Dietary restrictions can be accommodated with advance notice.



Eat. Drink. Be Italian.
 WWW.VIADELVINO.COM

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Our private tours, group culinary excursions, and other customized tour itineraries are subject to the following booking and cancellation terms. Please read this information carefully, as payment of a 25% deposit per person represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

Per Person Deposit:

A per person deposit of 25% of the total tour amount is due at the time of booking. The deposit is non-refundable.

Final Payment:

The balance is due no less than 60 days prior to the commencement of the tour and is not refundable for cancellations made less than 60 days prior to departure. If the services are being booked less than 60 days prior to the commencement of services, payment in full is required and is non-refundable.

Please note that when one or more travelers (but less than the whole group) cancels, it will, more than likely, affect the package price for the remaining members of the group. Via Del Vino, LLC will notify the remaining travelers in the event of any price increase. The Company reserves the right to adjust any price due to currency fluctuations or additional taxes. No refunds or credits will be allowed for any unused tour services. If the tour is canceled, all deposits and other payments will be reimbursed in full.

TRAVEL INSURANCE:

Via Del Vino, LLC recommends that you purchase a travel protection plan to help protect you and your travel investment against the unexpected. For your convenience, we offer travel protection through Travelex Insurance Services. For more information on the available plans or to enroll, click on the link below or contact **Travelex Insurance Services at 800-228-9792 and reference location number 30-0294.**



Travel Insurance is underwritten by, Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company, NAIC #22276. 55Y

Hotel Accommodations:

The hotels provided are as specified on the itinerary that Via Del Vino, LLC provides. Should it become necessary, Via Del Vino, LLC reserves the right to make substitutions within the same standard or best available. There will be no price adjustments for any necessary substitutions. Unless requesting and paying for a room upgrade, special requests such as smoking, type of bed, etc. will be at the discretion of the hotel management. Assignment of rooms will be done on run-of-the-house basis within the room category paid for. There will be no partial refunds for unused accommodations. Due to early morning flight arrivals, please note that hotels may not be available until early afternoon. All hotel taxes and service charges are included in our pricing.

Not Included in Hotel Pricing:

Not included are tips to room maids, in-room consumption, telephone charges, internet connection if not offered free of charge by the hotel, any other charges of a personal nature, and miscellaneous items not listed on the itinerary.

Meals and Beverages:

All meals and wine, when included, are as specified. The choices are previously arranged by Via Del Vino, LLC. Any additional items ordered a-la-carte or outside the previously arranged menus and drinks selections, are at the expense of the tour participant. Our tours are intended to provide a typical cultural, enogastronomic experience. Therefore it is sometimes difficult to accommodate special meal requests. However if there are any dietary restrictions please advise at the time of booking so that Via Del Vino, LLC may make the appropriate substitutions to menus wherever possible. No other substitutions will be allowed for any other reason at the time of the meals. Via Del Vino, LLC will not be responsible if specified choices are not available at the time the services are rendered and there will be no refund for unused meals.

Transfers:

All transfers to hotels, sightseeing sites, festivals, meals etc. are as specified on the itinerary by means of minibus or the most appropriate transportation vehicle for the area and the number of participants. Any other transportation required that is not specified in the itinerary as being included, will be the responsibility of the passenger. Via Del Vino, LLC will make reasonable efforts to assist but cannot guarantee successful arrangements for any other transportation needs for which passengers will be charged and payment for such transportation is to be made prior to services being rendered.

Any delay incurred by participants or if for any reason participants are unable to take part in any featured activity of the tour, there will not be any refund of services and Via Del Vino, LLC will assume no responsibility in providing transportation to or from the designated site of such activity.

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Children:

Unless requesting a custom-designed program specifically created to include children-appropriate activities, Via Del Vino, LLC group culinary excursions and core wine programs are not appropriate for children; there are no children's discounts available whether the children occupy the parents' room or a separate room. Via Del Vino, LLC offers Food and Wine Half Day Walking Tours adapted to include children. Children's discounts are reflected in the ticket pricing listed on www.viadelvino.com.

Travel Documents and Destination Conditions:

Traveler assumes complete and full responsibility for, and hereby releases Via Del Vino, LLC and its members, employees, officers, agents, and designees from any duty of, checking and verifying any and all passport, visa, vaccination, or other entry requirements of each destination, and all safety or security conditions, at such destinations, during the length of the proposed travel.

Responsibility:

The liability of Via Del Vino, LLC, as tour operator, is strictly limited. Via Del Vino, LLC purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. Via Del Vino, LLC is not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. Via Del Vino, LLC will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary due to unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of Via Del Vino, LLC and its independent travel and service suppliers.

Health and Medical Issues:

We request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There may be a significant amount of walking and you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches, boats and other transportation vehicles on your own. We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our tour itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, Via Del Vino, LLC assumes no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

Waiver and Release of Claims:

By virtue of purchasing tickets for and/or participating in the food and wine tasting and cultural tours offered by Via Del Vino, LLC, and in consideration of being allowed to purchase said tickets and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is acknowledged, you understand, acknowledge, represent, warrant and agree as follows, with the knowledge that the Via Del Vino, LLC will rely on same:

- A. You desire to participate in the food and wine tasting and cultural tours offered by the Via Del Vino, LLC (the "Tours");
- B. You are in good health and suffer from no minor or serious physical or mental injury, illness or disability that would make you especially susceptible to injury or disability while performing any activity contemplated by this Agreement (including, without limitation, this Section 15);
- C. You fully comprehend and accept all of the risks associated with your participation in the Tours including, without limitation, exposure to unfavorable weather conditions, food sickness, injuries (e.g., without limitation, those arising out of self-inflicted accidents or mishaps, other participants, automobiles, pedestrians and the like) and death;
- E. Your participation in the tours is at your own sole risk. You, on behalf of yourself and/or any person or entity claiming through or on your behalf, hereby forever and unconditionally release and discharge Via Del Vino, LLC and, its related and affiliated entities, the present and former employees, owners, officers, members, managers, partners, contractors, insurers, representatives, designees, and agents of the foregoing (including, without limitation, Susan M. Guerra, EZ Tix, Viator) (collectively, "released parties") from any and all claims, actions, damages, liabilities, losses, costs and expenses in any way arising out of, or resulting from, your participation in the tours, including, without limitation, any and all claims, actions, and liabilities for death, injury, loss or damage to you, to any one else, or to any property, regardless of whether or not such injury, loss or damage was caused by the negligence or willful conduct of Via Del Vino, LLC or any of the released parties. You, on behalf of yourself and/or any person or entity acting through or on your behalf, further agree to defend and indemnify the released parties, and to hold the released parties harmless, from any and all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, expenses (including, without limitation, attorney's fees) and losses of any kind or nature whatsoever in any way arising out of, or resulting from, your participation in the tours; and
- F. This Section 15 is in addition to, and not a limitation of, the other terms and conditions of this Agreement.

Contact Us:

Via Del Vino, LLC can be reached by contacting: Via Del Vino, LLC, 176 Thomas Street, Bloomfield, NJ 07003, email: info@VIADELVINO.com, Telephone: (866) 812-1223