

# Cultural Cities & Tuscan Towns

ITALY ■ ROME - FLORENCE - SIENA - VENICE



**Type:** Classic

## Tour Overview

### Day 1 Rome

#### Cultural Cities & Tuscan Towns, day 1 of 12

Welcome to Italy! And welcome to Rome! On arrival at the airport, your private English-speaking driver will transfer you to your centrally located hotel. After checking in there is free time to relax or start exploring the city. Rome is a fascinating city where you can feel the atmosphere of the gladiators and discover history and works of art on every street corner. Why not venture out on foot to the Spanish Steps and the Trevi Fountain? Check out the many piazzas stopping for a glass of wine or a gelato while watching the local whizz past on their retro Vespas.



### Day 2 Rome (Breakfast: Hotel )

#### Cultural Cities & Tuscan Towns, day 2 of 12

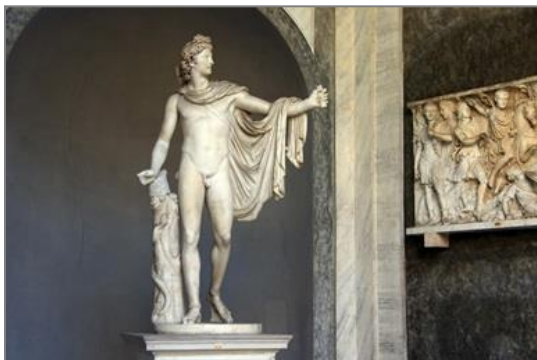
Rome: Colosseum and Foodie Tour. On foot, travel back in time about 2,000 years to the glories of the Roman Empire. Along with the English-speaking guide visit the Roman Forums and the Palatine. Relive the glory days and gory history of the Ancient Romans in the well-preserved Colosseum. Discover how Italians 'live to eat' by exploring the culinary side of the city. Sample snacks from busy food stalls, stroll through the bustling markets and discover lesser-known bars and restaurants off the usual tourist trail.



### Day 3 Rome (Breakfast: Hotel )

#### Cultural Cities & Tuscan Towns, day 3 of 12

Rome: Vatican Skip-the-Line Tour. Skip the queues on our special tour of the Vatican - the smallest state in the world. In the Vatican Museums, be amazed by the extensive and impressive collections of art and antiquities. There's so much to see, so check out the artworks that you prefer. At the same time soak in the atmosphere of such a powerful and magical place. After the tour there is time at leisure. The voucher we give you will help decide where to visit and the best places to eat.





#### **Day 4 Rome (Breakfast: Hotel )**

##### **Cultural Cities & Tuscan Towns, day 4 of 12**

Rome: Day at Leisure with Roman Dinner Experience. The day is yours to explore as you wish. Maybe take a walk down the elegant Via Vittorio Veneto passing stylish hotels, chic bars and authentic Italian boutiques. Or head to the Gardens of Villa Borghese, home to a lake, temples, fountains, statues and several museums, the most famous of which is the Borghese Gallery boasting works by Bernini and Caravaggio. In the evening experience a typical Roman dinner at an elegant location in the heart of the Trastevere (Piazza Trilussa). Soak up the atmosphere of the old town with its vibrant streets full of bars, restaurants and shops. In a beautiful building dine on traditional cuisine accompanied by fine Italian wines.



#### **Day 5 Rome - Florence (Breakfast: Hotel )**

##### **Cultural Cities & Tuscan Towns, day 5 of 12**

Florence: Transfer by Train. All aboard the first class, high-speed Freccia Train to Florence. At the station your private driver will be waiting to transfer you to your centrally located hotel. After checking in there is free time to wander around this historic city or shop in the fashionable boutiques. There are so many historical buildings, churches, museums and art galleries to visit. The voucher will help you choose your favourites, and give tips on where to eat and drink.



#### **Day 6 Florence (Breakfast: Hotel )**

##### **Cultural Cities & Tuscan Towns, day 6 of 12**

Florence: Learn the Secrets of the Artisans. Florence has a rich culture of artisans based on centuries of traditions and skills. On this walking tour, discover hidden workshops where artisans still use techniques that have been passed down through the generations. See goldsmiths and wood-carvers at work. Watch artisans creating exquisite Florentine mosaics. Others crafting beautiful gold jewellery, producing fine leatherworks and carving Italian marble. You will also visit an old art school and learn the secrets of gilding and restoring works of art. In the afternoon visit the Palazzo Vecchio with its fascinating history and artworks.



### **Day 7 Florence - Siena (Breakfast: Hotel )**

#### **Cultural Cities & Tuscan Towns, day 7 of 12**

Siena: Transfer to Siena in the Tuscan Countryside. The journey to Siena passes through the beautiful scenery of the Tuscan hills and lush vineyards. After checking in to the hotel there is free time to relax or explore the medieval city. The city sits on three hills but the heart is the central piazza known as Il Campo. Twice each summer, the famous Palio, an exciting horse race, takes place here. James Bond fans will also recognize the Pallio from the film, Quantum of Solace. Il Campo is dominated by the red Palazzo Pubblico and its tower, Torre del Mangia. Feeling energetic? A climb up the over 500 steps is worth it for the wonderful views of Siena and its surroundings.



### **Day 8 Siena (Breakfast: Hotel )**

#### **Cultural Cities & Tuscan Towns, day 8 of 12**

Siena: Tuscan Towns with Wine and Food Tasting. Take a tour into the Tuscan countryside to understand why Tuscany is not simply a place, it is an experience. In the medieval town of Monteriggioni marvel over the 13th century medieval castle which Dante called the "ring-shaped citadel". After drinking in the landscapes, visit a rustic winery to sip quality wines, along with a cheese factory and local village to sample oils and local products. San Gimignano is the home of the renowned Vernaccia wine. This ancient town is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site thanks to its soaring medieval towers that rise above the city. It also boasts some of the best ice-cream! Feel free to stroll around and take it all in.



### **Day 9 Siena - Venice (Breakfast: Hotel )**

#### **Cultural Cities & Tuscan Towns, day 9 of 12**

Venice: Fast Train to Venice. Board the high speed Freccia Train for the fast journey to Venice - the most romantic city in Italy. After checking in, there is free time to relax or explore. Venice is easy to get around, either by foot or by boat. Stroll from the Piazza San Marco to the Rialto Bridge. Don't worry about getting lost as that's part of the Venetian adventure!



### **Day 10 Venice (Breakfast: Hotel )**

#### **Cultural Cities & Tuscan Towns, day 10 of 12**

Venice: Day at Leisure or Visit the Islands of Murano and Burano. The whole day is at leisure for you to explore where and how you want. Highly recommended is a half day tour to the islands of Murano and Burano in the Venetian Lagoon. Murano Island is world-famous for its glass production, a tradition that dates back to 1291. Explore the island on foot to see Venetian-Byzantine-style palaces and churches and be amazed by mosaics and ornamental motifs designed in the 12th century. Pop into a glass factory to watch an expert glassblower creating works of art. Burano is one of the most beautiful and peaceful islands in the lagoon. Stroll past the colourful houses and enjoy the tranquil atmosphere before the boat returns to Venice.



### **Day 11 Venice (Breakfast: Hotel )**

#### **Cultural Cities & Tuscan Towns, day 11 of 12**

Venice: Wine, Cicchetti and Gondola Experience. Wake up and enjoy a cup of coffee in St. Mark Square. Wander the labyrinth of streets and visit Doge Palace. Venture away from the usual touristy routes to hidden places to taste small snacks and side dishes called cicchetti, and to sip regional wines. What better way to toast your Italian vacation in Venice than with a glass of sparkling Prosecco! End your Italian trip in style with an amazing gondola experience. Sit back and relax as you glide through the canals and hundreds of years of world-renowned heritage, while being serenaded. Savour this special moment.



### **Day 12 Venice (Breakfast: Hotel )**

#### **Cultural Cities & Tuscan Towns, day 12 of 12**

Sadly it's the last day and time to say 'Arrivederci' to Italy! Your English-speaking driver will accompany you to Venice Airport for your flight back home.

## Highlights

- Skip the queues on a special tour of the Vatican.
- Discover the art, artisans and architecture of Tuscany.
- Glide through the canals of Venice in a gondola.

## Duration

- 12Days

## Notes or FAQ's

- Additional airfare, airport taxes and fuel surcharges may apply.
- Additional charges may apply if changes or cancellations are made to flight tickets.
- We will notify you if ticket issuance deadlines are outside our standard terms and conditions.
- Breakfast box in case of very early morning departures.
- For solo traveller the single supplement is already included in the tour price.
- If you have decided to travel on a local holiday or festival, certain rates may be higher.
- We will let you know right away if this condition applies to you.
- Accommodation is subject to availability until you have confirmed your booking and paid any relevant deposits.
- In the event your chosen hotel is not available alternatives will be offered.