



Essence of Tuscany

Join us on this total immersion into Tuscany. Our back roads head into rolling hills and through the fortified medieval villages of an untouched Toscana.

Goal of the bike trip is also enjoy the genuine tuscan *cucina*: fruity olive oil, pecorino sheep-milk cheese and classic best Tuscany wine: Brunello -that has made Tuscany so famous- Chianti and Nobile.

You will taste a selection of our favorite producers during our special events. Traveling with a small group of fellow adventurers and Tuscany's leading biking guide, you'll enjoy a wonderful combination of nature, culture, cuisine and fun.

Tour Highlights

- ✓ Full immersion in Val **d'Orcia**
- ✓ Discover historic **Pienza**, a place of architectural heritage named for the Pope who made it his mission to transform the town into an ideal Renaissance city
- ✓ Riding through scenic landscapes where "English Patient" & "Gladiator" were filmed
- ✓ A private tour of the cantina of Brunello in **Montalcino**
- ✓ Enjoy Chianti resort with wine and food focus

Arrival Details

Airport City: Rome or Florence
Pick-Up Location: Chiusi Train Station
Pick-Up Time: 11 am

Departure Details

Airport City Rome or Florence
Drop-Off Location: Florence Piazzale Michelangelo
Drop-Off Time: 1:30 pm

Your Itinerary - Tour By Day



Day One: Montefollonico

Your guides will meet you at the Chiusi train station, and we're off to La Chiusa, our first hotel in the village of Montefollonico.

At the hotel, we'll toast your arrival with a light lunch. At 3.00pm Meet your guides during a bike-fitting session and get to know the rest of the group. OPTIONAL (depends weather and on time taken in the bike fitting) short ride to Bagno Vignoni: The ancient village is located in the heart of Tuscany, in the Val d'Orcia Natural Park. Thanks to the Via Francigena -which was the main route followed by pilgrims in antiquity who went to Rome- these thermal waters were found and have been used since Roman times. The heart of the village is the "Square of sources", namely a rectangular tank of 16th-century origin, which contains the original source of water that comes from the underground aquifer of volcanic origins. Enjoy a prosecco "aperitivo" on the patio, surrounded by breathtaking views. Tonight chef will delight you with gourmet specialties with ingredients grown onsite in the kitchen garden & taste the special homemade pasta "pici"



Destinations: Bagno vignoni hot spring - Distance: 27,5 miles / 44 km

Meals: Lunch / Dinner - Lodging: La Chiusa



Day Two: Loop ride to Pienza

Embark on a loop ride to the town of Pienza. Stop at the gorgeous Renaissance church of San Biagio on the outskirts of Montepulciano famous for the production of Vino Nobile, before literally pedaling into a postcard. The cypress-lined curves of our route into Montichiello grace countless local postcards and you'll see why as we ride by. In fact, this area, known as the Val d'Orcia is so beautiful that UNESCO has designated it a World Heritage Site. We'll take in the views from lunch on a private terrace in Pienza. Wander the carefully-planned Renaissance streets and sample some local pecorino cheese before looping home to our hotel. Back in Montefollonico, we'll be treated to a private tour in the cellar. You will taste Vino Nobile & Vin Santo in a garden overlooking the Chiana Valley before heading next door for a true feast at our favourite local restaurant.



Destinations: Montepulciano, Montichiello, Orcia Valley, Pienza - Distance 34 miles / 55 km

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner - Lodging: La Chiusa



Day Three - Montalcino brunello town Today we'll start out on a long descent into the rolling green pastures of the Val d'Orcia. Along the way face the hearty uphill to Castiglione d'Orcia, with the imposing Rocca A Tentennano. After a rest, enjoy a long downhill to Sant'Antimo Abbey, your next stop: if you have luck, you will hear the monks chanting. Our destination is a cycling-themed Brunello winery where we will have a tasting and lunch: Ciacci Piccolomini, one km from the abbey. Now the last 9 km to the Etruscan village and wine town of Montalcino: you'll pedal through magnificent vineyards. The hilltop village is a fortified town which was used as a shelter by Siena nobles during the 16th Century. Today it is definitely famous thanks to the production of one of Italy's premier fine red wines, Brunello di Montalcino. Now you are ready to settle into our next hotel, part of the famed Casanova di Neri winery. You will have a private wine-paired dinner here tonight.

Destinations: Castiglione d'Orcia, Sant'Antimo, Montalcino Distance: 38 miles / 61 km

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner - Lodging: Casanova di Neri Relais



Day four Gravel bike ride or rest day Departure from Casanova di Neri and you will reach Montalcino village, and you will ride into Eroica path: a long strada Bianca that pass through many wineries, the biggest is the famous Castiglione del bosco. After about 27 km you will get in Buonconvento and will be possible rest and have a light lunch- ready to face another amazing gravel road of the Eroica: Pieve a Salti. Back to hotel via Torrenieri and the last off road through

Brunello vineyards.

Destinations: Castiglione del Bosco, Buonconvento, Pieve a Salti, Cosona Distance: 36 miles / 58 km

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner - Lodging: Casanova di Neri Relais



Day five Le crete Senesi Afterwards, you'll travel through the fascinating area called Le Crete, Tuscany's answer to the Badlands, with strange rock formations and lone farmhouses flanked by twin cypress trees. Here the verdant hills give way to little domes of clay and Tuscany reveals another face of its identity, an unusual, almost lunar landscape of chalk cliffs and gullies soaked in a primeval atmosphere. We stop for a visit of the Renaissance frescoes at the Abbey of Monte

Oliveto Maggiore, followed by lunch in Asciano. Destination is the heart of the Chianti Classico region.

Tonight, head into the medieval city of Siena to explore and dine there, or delight in dinner at the hotel.

Destinations: Buonconvento, Monte Oliveto Abbey, Asciano, San Felice Distance: 41 miles / 66 km

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch - Lodging: Borgo San Felice



Day six: Chianti Wine & Abbeys Olive and cypress trees surround us as we ride deep into the hills of Chianti. You will see plenty of fortified hamlets and castles, relics of Florence and Siena's 300-year struggle for regional dominance and ownership over the birthplace of Chianti Classico wines found in ancient cellars around the area. Not-to-be-missed is Castello di Brolio, a castle and winery, home of Barone Ricasoli considered the "inventor". Soon after your will reach Gaiole, a

lively town located along the river Massellone and home to the annual l'Eroica vintage - pre-1987 steel frame-bicycle race. Again pedal past countless estates as we weave our way through forests & vineyards and after passing Radda you will arrive at castello di Ama borgo where the lunch is planned the name of place is Ristoro, literally refreshment. Back to hotel by bike or by van. We'll meet in the evening for a tasting of San Felice's famous wines and a festive final dinner.

Destinations: Castelnuovo Berardenga, Castello di Brolio, Gaiole, Radda Distance: 35 miles / 56 km

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner - Accommodations: Borgo San Felice



Day seven ride to Firenze On our last day, choose between a late morning at the hotel or ride all the way across Chianti for a triumphant finish in Florence's Piazzale Michelangelo. Whether you rode here or took a transfer, we say our goodbyes with the stunning Florentine skyline as our backdrop as guides see you off to your next adventure. **Meals: Breakfast**
Destinations: Panzano, Greve, Florence, distance 40 miles/ 64 km

Prices & inclusions

Inclusions:

Accommodations: six (6) nights in selected hotel listed (3)

Luggage transfers

Meals:

- Daily breakfast, all lunches (6) Five gourmet dinners (5) with selected local wine;
- two wine tastings as per itinerary & welcome aperitif;
- Snacks and drinks along the way

Gratuities for baggage, porters, and hotel service

Top-of-the-line bicycle selection and bike helmet – available race bike, hybrid, e-bike and gravel – see box

All maps, trip notes and detailed route directions, Gpx tracks.

complimentary Cicloposse water bottle

Support:

- Support Van 2 vehicles that follows the day's route, distributes refreshments, and offers lifts & shuttle
- Services of experienced guide - bilingual, bike mechanic, with local knowledge
- Pick-up and drop-off before and after your tour as per itinerary
- Daily bike maintenance for optimal performance & technical assistance

Not included:

- Airfare to Italy & train to Chiusi
- 1 dinner on day four
- alcoholic/non-alcoholic extra beverages
- travel protection
- laundry expenses and items of a personal nature

Check all details about [Bikes & Equipment](#)

Our [terms & conditions](#)



Race bike



Hybrid



E-bike



Gravel

Absolutely Amazing Travel
Amazing Cycling Tours
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