



TOUR LEISURE TUSCANY & ROME

Day 1 - ARRIVAL

Morning arrival at the airport and meeting with our tour manager and with motorcoach. Departure to Montecatini, a beautiful spa town on the outskirts of Florence. The balance of the day is at leisure to stroll through the inviting streets of this charming town. Dinner and overnight at your hotel.

Day 2 - FLORENCE

After breakfast we drive to Florence where we visit the Academia Gallery, to view Michelangelo's famous "David" and many other tremendous works of art. We continue to the Duomo to admire the cupola by Brunelleschi, completed in 1240, and its campanile by Giotto. Once outside we view the Baptistery's with its incomparable bronze doors by Ghiberti. Afterwards, we set out to the Piazza della Signoria, dominated by the Palazzo Vecchio and its embattlement crowned tower. Across from the Palace, we visit the Loggia dei Lanzi with the statues of the Perseus by Cellini; Giambologna's the "Rape of the Sabines" and "Hercules." Following free time for lunch on our own, shopping on the Ponte Vecchio and personal adventure- we visit the Basilica of Santa Croce. Among the most famous interred here, lie Galileo, Rossini, Michelangelo and Machiavelli. We conclude our day in Florence with a drive to the "Piazzale Michelangelo" for a panoramic view of this spectacular city. Return to hotel in Montecatini for dinner and overnight.

Day 3 – MONTECATINI - SIENA

Breakfast at the hotel. This morning, we journey through the Italian countryside arriving in the magnificent city of Siena, which invites us to stroll through its Gothic streets. We walk down to the famous Piazza del Campo. This shell shaped square is the dramatic setting for the annual Palio bareback horserace. The piazza's focal point is the Palazzo Pubblico, the public palace, which dates back to 1250. Free time for lunch and personal adventure. Rest of the day is at leisure. Free time for lunch. In the afternoon special visit to one of the "Sienese Contrada". Our visit will reveal some of the secrets of the most fascinating medieval horserace in the world: the Palio. Proceed to our hotel for check-in, dinner and overnight.



Day 4 FLORENCE

After breakfast we depart to Florence for our full day guided tour including the Academia Gallery, to view Michelangelo's famous "David" and many other tremendous works of art. We continue to the Duomo, we admire the cupola by Brunelleschi, completed in 1240, and its campanile by Giotto. Once outside we view the Baptistery's with its incomparable bronze doors by Ghiberti. Afterwards, we set out to the Piazza della Signoria, dominated by the Palazzo Vecchio and its embattlement crowned tower. Across from the Palace, we visit the Loggia dei Lanzi with the statues of the Perseus by Cellini; Giambologna's the "Rape of the Sabines" and "Hercules." Following free time for lunch on our own, shopping on the Ponte Vecchio and personal adventure, we visit the Basilica of Santa Croce. Among the most famous interred here, lie Galileo, Rossini, Michelangelo and Machiavelli. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 5: ROME

Breakfast at the hotel and departure for Rome. En route stop lunch. Upon arrival in Rome, check in at the hotel. The rest of the day is at our leisure. Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

DAY 6 VATICAN CITY/ROME

Breakfast at the hotel. Today we make our way to St. Peter's for an audience with Pope Francis if he is in residence. Then we enter St. Peter's to view the beautiful "Pieta." We visit the treasures of the Vatican Museum and marvel at Michelangelo's restored frescoes in the Sistine Chapel. Lunch is on our own. This afternoon we see two of Rome's major Basilicas - St. John Lateran and St. Mary Major; our tour continues to St. Peter in Chains to view Michelangelo's possibly most celebrated sculpture, the "Moses". Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

DAY 7 - ROME

This morning we enjoy a panoramic bus tour around the glorious city of Rome including the Roman Fora, the Arch of Constantine, the Coliseum and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. After lunch on our own, we will enjoy a 3 hrs Rome walking tour including Largo Argentina, Campo de' Fiori, Piazza Farnese, Piazza Navona, Pantheon, Trevi Fountain, Spanish steps. Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

DAY 8 - FREE DAY

Free day in Rome for personal adventure. If interested, optional day trip to Pompeii or other our excursions. Farewell dinner at a local restaurant in Rome. Overnight at the hotel.

DAY 9 - DEPARTURE DAY

Arrivederci Italia. Departure to Rome airport. End of the tour.
