

"TO TRAVEL IS TO LIVE."
HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN



Tuscan Villages

8 DAYS

Welcome to Tuscan Villages, a journey boasting Tuscany's most amazing towns, villages, iconic landscapes and traditions that have profoundly influenced world culture, art, gastronomy and history through a lifestyle that blends passion with simplicity. Across 8 days, be treated to Tuscan gastronomic experiences, enjoy the thrill of a truffle hunt, marvel at its beautiful winding roads and fortified hilltop towns; meander the cobbled streets of secluded villages; visit castles; and discover unforgettable tastings in Italy's most renowned wine regions.



Ormina Highlights & Inclusions

- > The complete Tuscan regional experience: Siena, Lucca and must-see villages, rural retreats and Tuscan gastronomic activities including truffle hunting, cooking class at a local's home, winery lunches in Chianti and Montalcino and cheese farm visit and tasting.
- > 7 nights in exquisite 4 and 5-star hotels.
- > 7 breakfasts (B), 3 lunches (L), 1 dinner (D).
- > Guided sightseeing in Lucca, Siena and Volterra.
- > Lunch and tasting at a San Gimignano family winery.
- > Truffle hunting experience.
- > Tuscan cooking class at a local's home.
- > Lunch and wine tastings in Tuscany's renowned Chianti and Montalcino regions.
- > Cheese farm visit and tasting.
- > Alabaster stone crafting workshop.
- > Visit villages that rank amongst the best in Italy including Volterra, Pienza and Monteriggioni.
- > Entrance to Pisa's Leaning Tower, Siena Cathedral and Piccolo Library and Abbey of Sant'Antimo.
- > Deluxe VIP transport.
- > Airport transfers on first and last day.
- > Note: hotel city taxes, if applicable, are not included.

TOUR FOCUS



Food & Wine



Towns & Villages



Natural Beauty



Florence, Italy

DAY 1 Florence (D)

Welcome to Florence, the heart of Tuscany and the perfect starting point for your Tuscan experience. If not partaking in our pre-tour Florence city break, we suggest a visit to Florence Cathedral, Accademia or Uffizi Galleries or simply stroll the streets and take advantage of Florence's famous leather markets. In the evening, meet in the lobby for a tour welcome and dinner.

STAY **2** NIGHTS: Hotel L'Orologio Florence 4-star or similar

DAY 2 Florence – Lucca – Pisa – Florence (B)

Visit Lucca, famous for its historic centre, medieval towers and best-preserved ramparts in Italy. Enjoy a walking tour with a local guide with leisure time afterward to continue exploring the town's maze of streets, people watch in its famous Piazzas (Piazza dell'Anfiteatro, Verdi, Napoleone and San Michele) or wander along its ancient walls. In the afternoon, visit Pisa to enter the Leaning Tower and the Piazza del Duomo before returning to Florence for an evening of leisure.



Lucca, Italy



Piazza della Cisterna, San Gimignano



Volterra, Italy

DAY 3 Florence – San Gimignano – Chianti retreat (B, L)

Depart for the Tuscan countryside to visit the multi-towered town of San Gimignano; a 12th century Romanesque church with famous frescoes; and the Piazza del Duomo that houses the Museo Civico and Palazzo del Popolo. Enjoy time to explore the town at your leisure including perhaps, climbing the stairs of one of the towers for a fantastic view. Afterward, enjoy a Tuscan lunch paired with local wine at a family winery, before checking into a wonderful Chianti retreat with an evening to relax in the property.

STAY **3** NIGHTS: Castel di Spaltenna 4-star or similar

DAY 4 Chianti retreat – Volterra – Monteriggioni – Chianti retreat (B)

Visit the ancient village of Volterra, an important Etruscan city, featuring beautiful winding cobble streets and artisan craftsmanship, particularly alabaster carvings. The walled mountaintop town's history dates to before the 7th century BC and contains structures from the Etruscan, Roman and Medieval periods. Your local guide will provide a guided walking tour which includes a brief alabaster stone workshop to learn the secrets of carving the local stone. Afterward, enjoy free time before continuing to the unique medieval walled town of Monteriggioni.

DAY 5 Chianti region (B, L)

Enjoy the entire day exploring the Chianti region, commencing with a hands-on cooking class in the home of a local, followed by lunch with local wine. In the afternoon, visit a Chianti winery for a tour and tasting before returning to your Chianti retreat.



ORMINA TOURS VIP INCLUSION *****

Experience a hands-on Tuscan cooking class and learn the region's authentic culinary secrets and traditions in the home of a Tuscan family.

DAY 6 Chianti retreat – Siena – Montalcino retreat (B)

This morning, enjoy a privately guided walking tour of Siena's historic centre, declared a World Heritage Site for its preserved gothic appearance dating from the 12th to 15th century. The tour includes an explanation of Siena's Contrade or family districts that have existed since the Middle Ages, as well as visits to Siena Cathedral and Piazza del Campo, that hosts the twice yearly Palio horse race. Afterward, enjoy time to explore Siena yourself before departing for the amazing Val d'Orcia, a region of Tuscany characterised by gentle cultivated hills, gullies and picturesque villages that is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its cultural landscape. Check-in to your magnificent retreat near Montalcino and relax and enjoy this rural paradise.

STAY **2** NIGHTS: Castel Porrone Relais 5-star or similar

DAY 7 Montalcino region (B, L)

Visit the ancient Abbey of Sant'Antimo, with the monastery dating to the 9th century before continuing to an acclaimed Montalcino winery for a tour, tasting and lunch. Afterward, visit Montalcino village with free time to visit its quaint stores before returning to your hotel.



ORMINA TOURS VIP INCLUSION *****

Enjoy a closing lunch and tasting at an acclaimed Montalcino winery. The region is known for the world-class Brunello di Montalcino wine.

DAY 8 Montalcino retreat – Pienza – Florence (B)

Participate in the thrill of a truffle hunt on a farm in the beautiful UNESCO World Heritage listed region surrounding Pienza. Afterward, enjoy a truffle and cheese tasting and a quick visit to the town of Pienza, before returning to the Florence airport or train station for your ongoing journey.



ORMINA TOURS VIP INCLUSION *****

Experience the thrill of the truffle hunt, followed by truffle and cheese tasting at a local farm in the UNESCO World Heritage listed region surrounding Pienza.

Departures and Pricing

2022			2023		
STARTS	ENDS	PRICE*	STARTS	ENDS	PRICE*
Florence	Florence	Twin Share per person	Florence	Florence	Twin Share per person
28-May-22	04-Jun-22	\$7,090	27-May-23	03-Jun-23	\$7,390
02-Jul-22	09-Jul-22	\$7,090	01-Jul-23	08-Jul-23	\$7,390
30-Jul-22	06-Aug-22	\$7,090	29-Jul-23	05-Aug-23	\$7,390
17-Sep-22	24-Sep-22	\$7,090	16-Sep-23	23-Sep-23	\$7,390
08-Oct-22	15-Oct-22	\$7,090	07-Oct-23	14-Oct-23	\$7,390
Single Supplement \$3,600			Single Supplement \$3,700		

* All prices are listed in AUD unless otherwise stated.
Prices in other currencies are available on our website.



Want to discover more?

OUR MOST POPULAR TOUR EXTENSIONS

PRE-TOUR RECOMMENDATIONS

Florence City Break (4 Days)

- > Guided walking tour of the historic centre, cooking demonstration in a local's home and full day excursion to Chianti winery for wine tasting and lunch.

Explore more on page 68, tailored to exclude the San Gimignano excursion.

A **Piedmont: Food, Wine & Truffles** (7 Days)

Small Group Journey

- > Extend pre-tour into the unexplored Piedmont region, famed for its award-winning Barolo and Barbaresco wines and the world's best truffles. A foodie's paradise.
- > Activities include truffle hunting with dogs, wine tasting with a master sommelier, degustation dinner with wine pairing and guided tours of Turin and Alba.

Explore more on page 37.

POST-TOUR RECOMMENDATIONS

Emilia-Romagna Regional Discovery (6 Days)

- > Continue your gastronomy adventure into Emilia-Romagna to visit producers of Italy's most important foods such as prosciutto, Modena balsamic vinegar and Parmesan cheese. Also visit Antica Corte Pallavicina for a Michelin star lunch.
- > The region also boasts the medieval towns of Bologna and Ravenna that played significant roles in Italy's history.

Explore more on page 69.

Cinque Terre Regional Discovery (5 Days)

- > Continue to Italy's coastal Riviera paradise including Cinque Terre.
- > Discover the Cinque Terre by land and sea and the charming Riviera towns of Santa Margherita, Portofino and Genoa.

Explore more on page 67.



CASTEL PORRONA RELAIS & SPA PORRONA

STAY 2 NIGHTS

- > Located in the charming medieval village of Porrona built in the 12th century and belonging to two Noble families for five centuries.
- > Boutique property with just 25 rooms in an intimate setting with panoramic views over the Tuscan countryside.