

Dimore Fiorentine, in collaboration with Hire in Italy provides top quality, tailor-made transfers and tours through Tuscany and the rest of Italy.

Hire in Italy is a dynamic, family-run, Florence-based car hire with driver and local travel agency, with a fleet of officially licensed Mercedes-Benz and highly professional fully qualified drivers. We specialize in customizing memorable day trips and authentic experiences, arranging seamless airport/station transfers, to more complex, dedicated long distance transfer services with sight-seeing en route, all whilst ensuring utmost safety, quality and satisfaction. Our destination expertise goes beyond well-known sites and popular tourist spots. Passion and firsthand knowledge set our team apart, and with over 20 years of combined experience in the travel and car hire with driver industry, we have developed a strong network of connections all over Italy. We are always available via Emergency phone 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.



Book with full confidence

- Fully licensed & sanitized vehicles
- Courteous and friendly drivers at your full disposal
- Pick up / Drop off direct at your property/accommodation
- Unlimited access within restricted traffic zones
- Fully tailor made customized tours and activities
- No "set" itinerary, enjoy each day at your own pace
- Benefit from expert local knowledge as your driver shares insight
- Optimize your time and see the best the area has to offer
- Take the stress out of driving and parking abroad













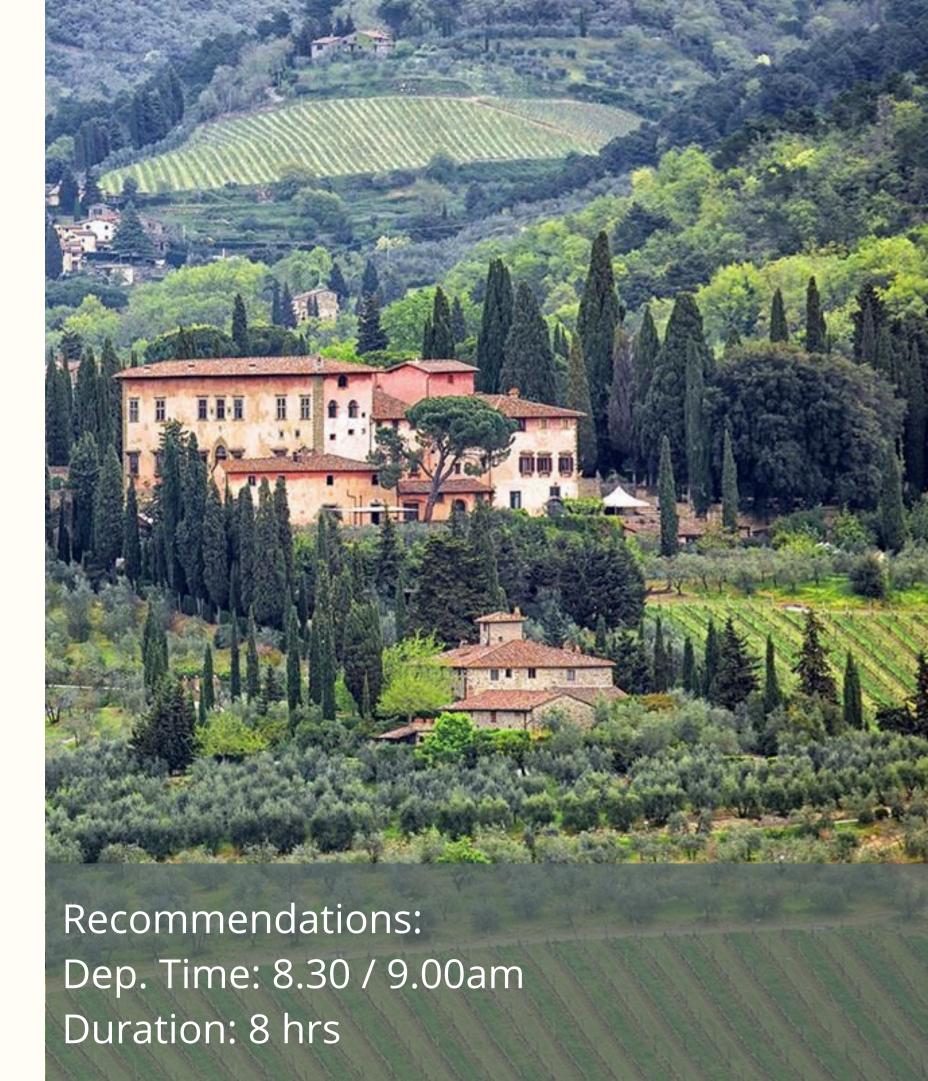
CLASSIC SEDAN CLASSIC MINIVAN DELUXE MINIVAN

CLASSIC SPRINTER

DELUXE SPRINTER

CHIANTI SPECIAL

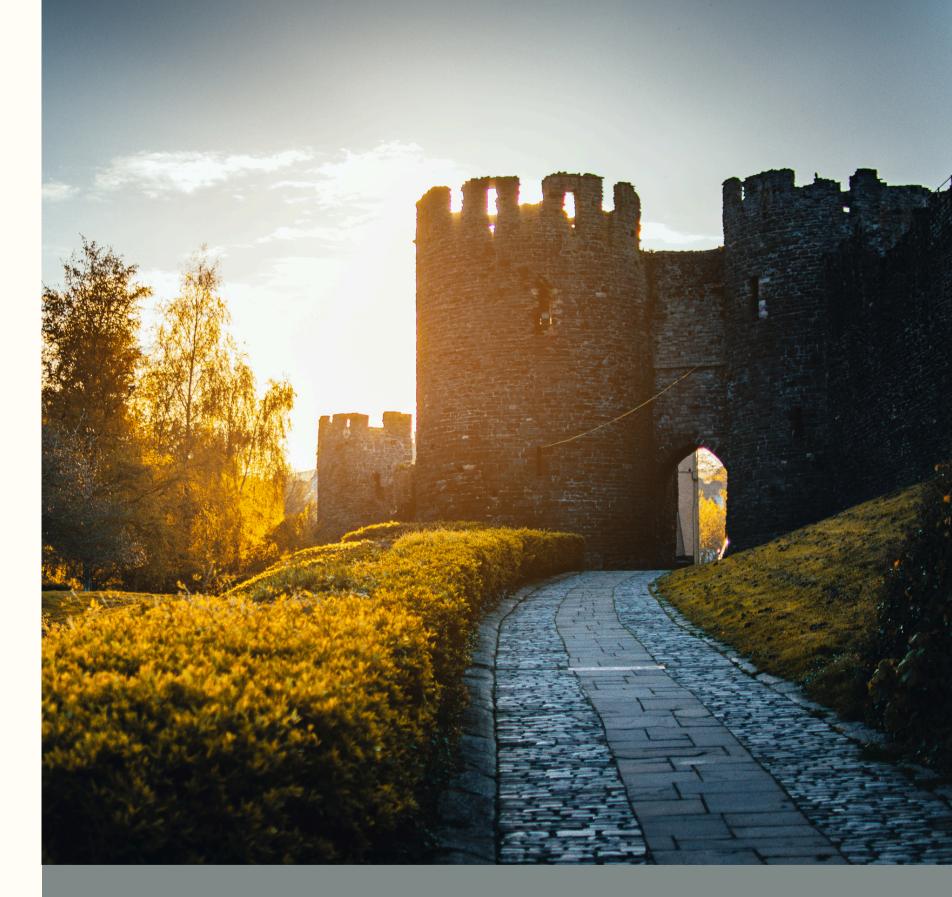
Experience authentic food and wine as you admire the spectacular beauty of the world famous Chianti. Head towards the rolling hills lined with centuries old cypress trees, vineyards and olive groves, where unspoilt nature and quaint medieval villages form the backdrop to this perfect day tour focusing on food and wine. This region is famous for its award-winning vineyards and delicious local produce. Enjoy the opportunity to enjoy one or more tastings at some of the region's most renowned estates or choose to visit familyrun smaller wineries where a tempting selection of local home-cooked delicacies await you, before you head off to explore Chianti's picturesque villages.



THE WINE CASTLES OF TUSCANY

Immerse yourself in one of those Tuscan postcards, with rolling hills and endless vineyards, where you can taste awardwinning wines in true fairy-tale atmospheres, surrounded by towers and centuries-old walls. Tuscany offers some remarkable historical castles that are now wine estates, each offering truly memorable experiences to last a lifetime.

Surrounding by stunning scenery and ancient vineyards, experience exquisite food and wine from a select choice of some of the some of the finest "castle-wineries" located in the picturesque Chianti and Val d'Orcia districts of Tuscany.



Recommendations:

Dep. Time: 8.30 / 9.00am

Duration: 10 hrs

VAL D'ORCIA & SOUTHERN TUSCANY

Have you seen those eye-catching picture-perfect postcards of Tuscany and wondered where they were photographed? Enjoy an unforgettable adventure to the stunning Val d'Orcia and capture those magnificent views yourself! Montalcino, Pienza and Montepulciano are three wonderful towns, each one unique and full of character. Savour the region's famous Pecorino sheep's cheese, the velvet DOCG Brunello di Montalcino and the ruby red Nobile di Montepulciano red wines, with dedicated tasting sessions at award-winning wine estates.



"SUPER" TUSCANY

Tuscany is known for Chianti and Brunello DOCGs, but what about Super Tuscans? Bolgheri is this unofficial denomination's star player. Whilst Chianti is arguably the region's most famous export but also very standardized due to the government rules on blend control, winemakers who wish to experiment and create their own independent recipes have that chance here in Bolgheri. Head towards this sun-kissed region which offers stunningly beautiful countryside, medieval hamlets, pristine vineyards benefiting from exposure to the nearby sparkling Tirreno Sea. Travel on roads lined with ancient cypress trees and visit awardwinning wineries that pride themselves in exquisite "Super Tuscan" wines paired with mouth-watering local dishes.

Recommendations:

Dep. Time: 8.30 / 9.00am

Duration: 10 hrs



F.A.Q: WINERY TOURS

We can suggest which wineries to visit according to your specific needs, but if you have your own preferences please let us know so we can check availability and logistics.

The wineries we suggest are never included in the price as these extras are paid on-site directly to the winery on the day of the tour. The price for wine tasting is approx. 30 Euro per person per winery, wine tasting plus winery and cellar tour, 40 Euro per person, and the full option that includes tour, tasting and typical Tuscan lunch, approx. 60 Euro per person. Prices may differ according to the winery chosen and also the location. Prices tend to be higher in the Brunello/Montalcino wine district.

There are many varying types of wineries. We enjoy working with smaller family run wineries equally as well as the larger ones such as the prestigious internationally known names of Antinori and Frescobaldi. There are also wineries located within castles and wineries offering a number of wide ranging experiences from "be a wine-maker for the day", cookery lessons and hands-on activities involving animals about farming!

Each tour is 100% bespoke and we select the activities and wineries based on your particular interests and any preferences or enjoyment you have for certain wines.



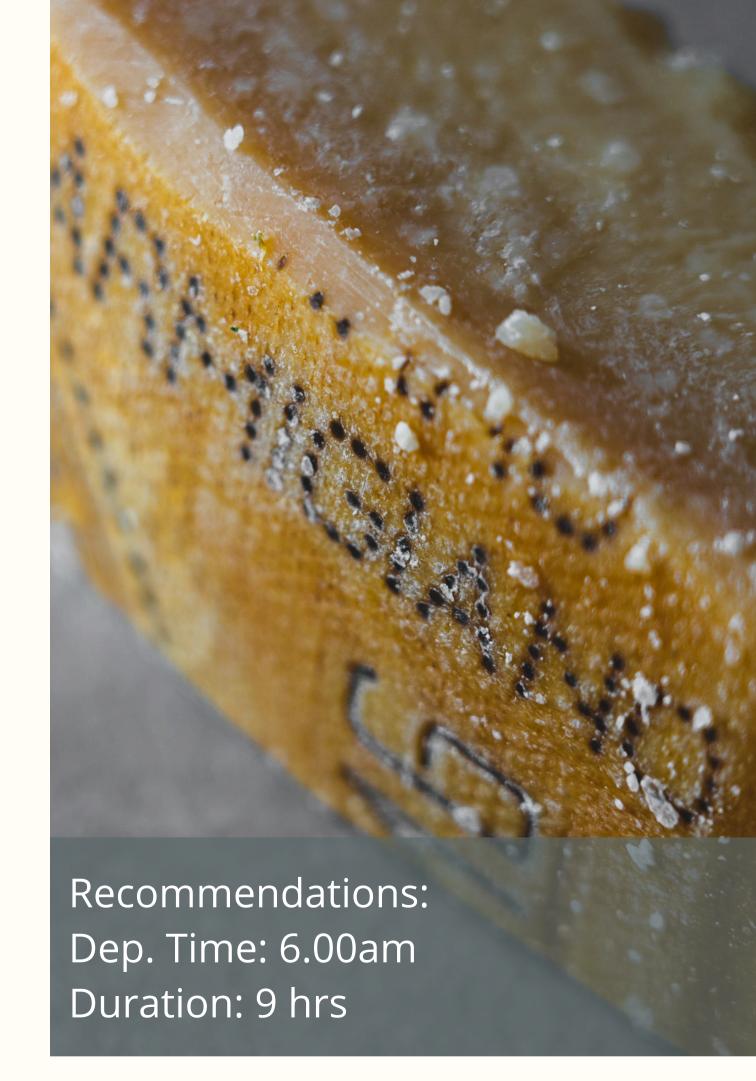


SIENA & SAN GIMIGNANO

Famous for their wealth of art, culture and remarkable landscapes, discover two Tuscan jewels: Siena and San Gimignano. The enchanting medieval town of Siena with its unique scallop-shaped Piazza del Campo square is world famous for the historic horse race, the Palio whilst San Gimignano, a true fairytale town and UNESCO World Heritage site, is one of the most evocative of all medieval hilltop towns in Italy. Stroll beneath the remaining 15 of its original 72 towers constructed in the Middle Ages, and wander its charming cobblestone streets lined with inviting local handicraft shops, boutiques and award winning gelaterias.

FOOD HEAVEN: PARMESAN & BALSAMIC VINEGAR

Early morning meet your driver and privately transfer to Parma, the location for the production of Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese. You will learn about the traditional phases of production that have remained unchanged for centuries and have been passed down through generations of cheese makers, before tasting produce directly at the factory. Our second stop is Modena, home to Italy's most exquisite liquid gold - Balsamic Vinegar. You are in for a special treat as you visit a traditional acetaia and discover the secrets behind the creation of balsamic vinegar. Tastings follow the tour. Alternatively, visit the Museo Aceto Balsamico and its Acetaia, where you may even see barrels of Chef Bottura's own personal vinegar (subject to availability). During the day enjoy lunch (payable locally) in a typical restaurant and sample other local delicacies such as Parma ham and culatello cured meats.



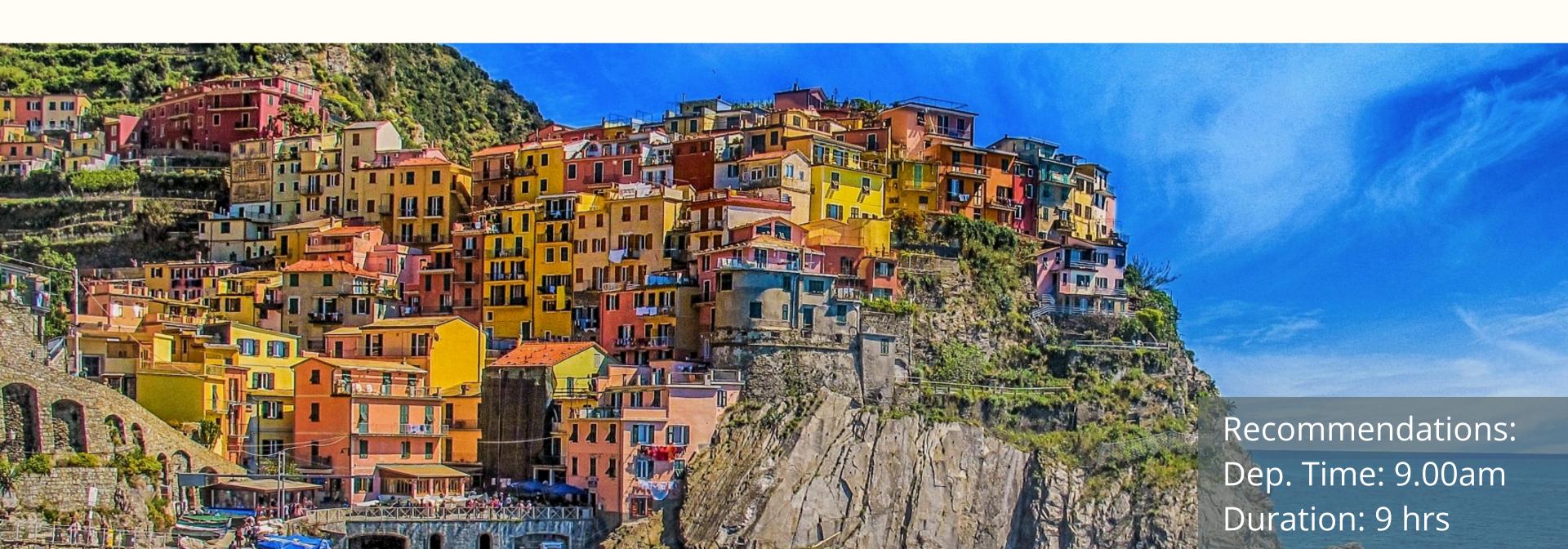
Recommendations: Dep. Time: 9.00 / 9.30 am Duration: 8 hrs

PISA & LUCCA – BIKE THE WALLS

Head west for a full day excursion to explore Pisa and Lucca. Your first stop is Pisa. Meet a local Englishspeaking guide for a two-hour walking tour, which will include the Piazza dei Miracoli and the famous Leaning Tower. After lunch at leisure transfer to enchanting Lucca, a small and graceful Renaissance town beautifully set within its perfectly preserved 16th Century stone walls. Today, enjoy Lucca from a different perspective with a bike ride around the city walls. Still absolutely intact with impressive ramparts, the walls took from around 1500 to 1650 to complete, and now accommodate leafy parks and promenades lined with Chestnuts and Umbrella Pines. Meet your local guide, collect your bicycles and from here you will ride up onto the giant walls to enjoy the enchanting views down over the palazzo gardens and historic centre and beyond to the Apuane Alps. Enjoy time out for refreshments before returning back to Florence.

CINQUE TERRE

Spend an unforgettable day out in paradise exploring the colourful coastal towns of the Cinque Terre, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Set amidst some of the most dramatic scenery Italy has to offer, the five picturesque cliff-hugging fishing villages offer wonderful footpaths with breath-taking views, quaint medieval streets, ancient castles, churches and brightly painted houses. A true marvel to the eye! Include a local guide for a more in-depth discovery of this wonderful coastal region.



Recommendations: Dep. Time: 9.00am Duration: 9 hrs

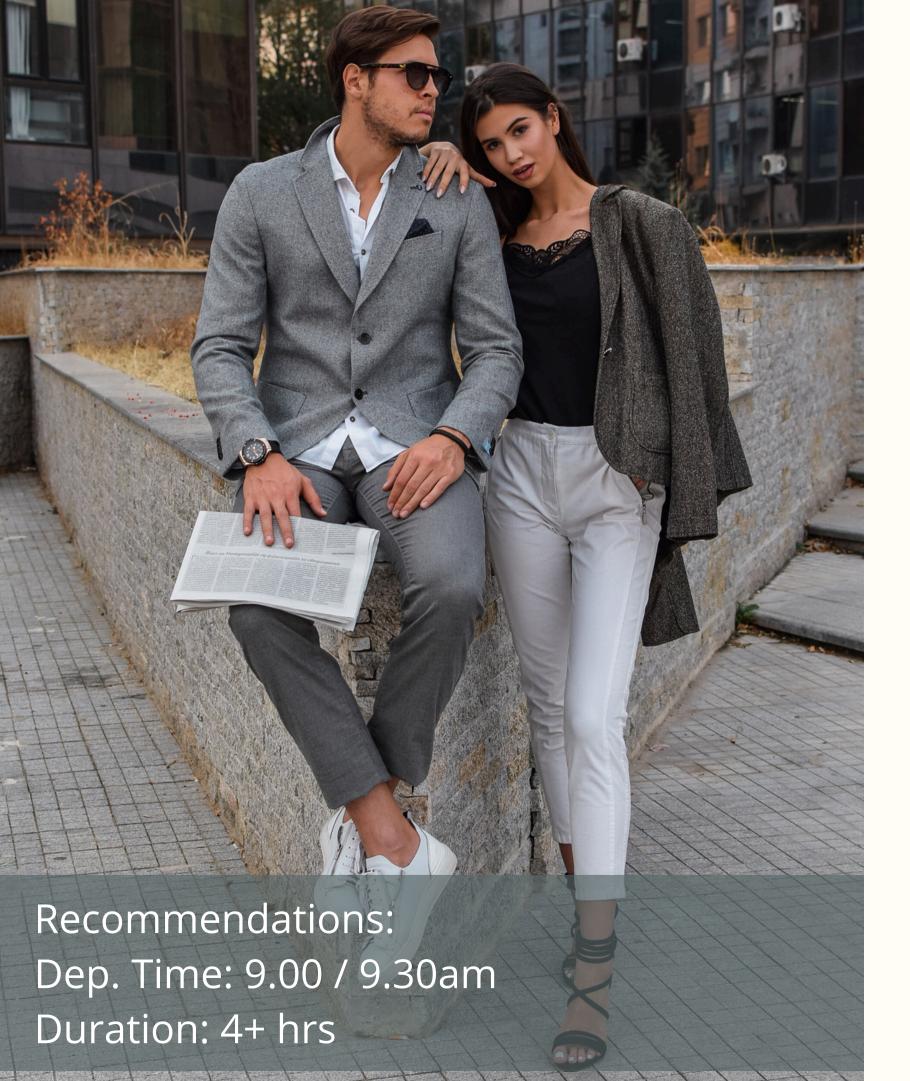
ASSISI & PERUGIA

Travel through the rolling hills of Tuscany and Umbria and discover the artistic jewels of Perugia and Assisi. Perugia, famous as the city where Renaissance artist Raphael dedicated years of work, also has an acclaim to fame for its wonderful gastronomic delights. Be sure to try its famous cured meats and mouth-watering chocolate. Much too delicious to be left behind! Later on, follow in the footsteps of St Francis as you explore the magnificent hill top town of Assisi. A real "jewel in the crown", Assisi has been welcoming pilgrims for over 700 years. Marvel at the highly decorative Basilica of San Francesco and stroll the quaint medieval streets, discovering a town where time stands still.

CORTONA & AREZZO

Visit Cortona and Arezzo, two splendid towns that have also featured in famous movies. Cortona, the spectacular hilltop town and setting for Francis May's "Under the Tuscan Sun", is considered a miniature version of Tuscany rolled into one, with its captivating medieval atmosphere, quaint, manicured alleyways, first class art and sweeping panoramic views. You cannot help but fall in love with this charming town! Arezzo is equally quaint with its origins dating back to 500B.C it is even said to be older than Alexandria. It was also the setting for Roberto Benigni's Oscar award winning film "La vita è bella" (Life is beautiful) and is well deserving of a visit.





THE MALL SHOPPING

Indulge in designer shopping at discounted prices at one of Italy's finest fashion outlets, The Mall. Located in the heart of the Tuscan countryside, enjoy a carefree shopping experience featuring some of the most famous Italian brands as Gucci – Prada - Armani -Fendi – Salvatore Ferragamo and Valentino. Offering superb collections in shoes, bags, clothing and accessories for men, women and children, seize the chance to "shop till you drop" and enjoy savings of up to 50%. Further nearby outlets opportunities may be added on the day (on request). Combine your shopping spree with a panoramic aperitif enjoyed in a panoramic setting overlooking majestic vineyards or enjoy a wine tour and tasting at a medieval castle turned wine estate.



THE MOTOR VALLEY - FERRARI

Live life in the fast lane and visit the world of Ferrari at Maranello. The Museum offers an exciting experience for all. Alongside the trophies and background to Ferrari's creator, discover the most famous and legendary models tracing the extraordinary history of Ferrari from its original creation to its modern day success story. Time permitting, visit the delightful town of Modena. Enjoy a coffee in the thriving historical centre, lined with inviting boutiques and quaint delicatessens, offering top quality Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese, prosciutto di Parma ham and much more.

COOKING IN CHIANTI

Travel into the heart of the wonderful Chianti wine region for a special cooking class at a local organic winery. The best opportunity to learn, savour and be in touch with the true Tuscan cuisine is to participate in a cooking class in a farmhouse itself! Aprons on and with a glass of excellent Chianti Classico close to hand, learn more about some of the highly typical dishes of the Tuscan cuisine around a cosy wood-oven in a warm, family atmosphere. Follow recipes passed down by "grandmothers" over the generations as you prepare fresh bread, pasta and main courses such as pork carré with grapes, not to mention desserts such as the Torta della Nonna. Savour your lunchtime creation in the lush gardens or the wonderful historic family cellar accompanied by a glass or two of the winery's unique Chianti labels. "Con calma", take a leisurely stroll in the quaint town of Greve in Chianti before returning back to Florence.



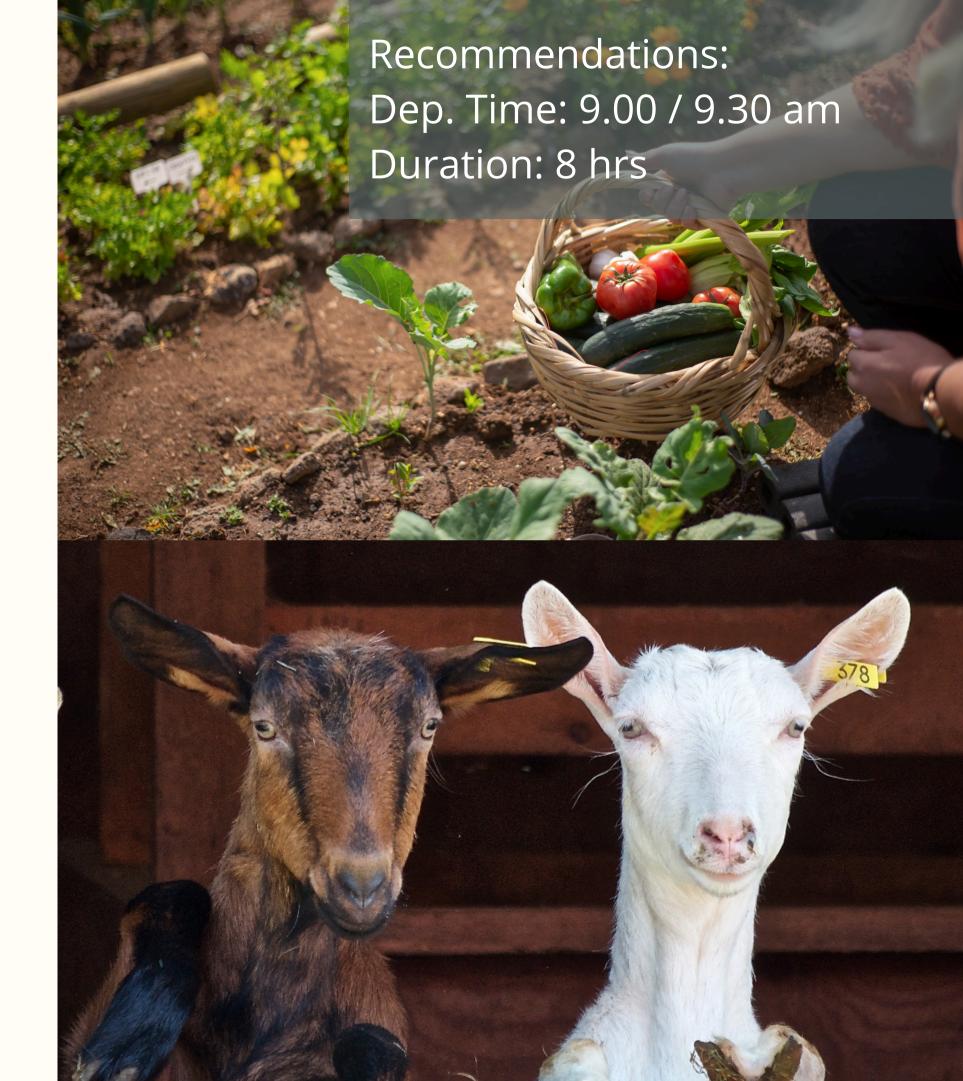
Recommendations:

Dep. Time: 10.00am

Duration: 6 hrs

FARMER FOR A DAY

Enjoy a scenic drive through some of the most dramatic scenery Tuscany has to offer and prepare to take part in an authentic Tuscan Garden Experience. Attired in authentic - custom made hats, t-shirts, boots and gloves, become a real farmer for a day as you embark on a truly unique and exclusive interactive "hands-on" journey in an incredible vegetable garden located within an award-winning farm. Immerse yourself in nature as you walk through the biodynamic vegetable garden, meet the farm animals, engage in gathering eggs, feeding donkeys and picking vegetables. Conclude the experience with wine tasting and a delicious home-cooked farm-to-table lunch. This memorable day out is highly attractive to families with younger children! Combine this activity with a visit of Montalcino and Pienza, located in the stunning Val d'Orcia.





SCENTS & SCENERY: SAN GIMIGNANO & MONTERIGGIONI

Enjoy a full day excursion through the Tuscan countryside a feast for the five senses! Stroll the tiny preserved walled town of Monteriggioni, a typical example of a fortified medieval village and explore the picturesque medieval town of San Gimignano, a UNESCO world heritage site, known for its surviving towers, with quaint cobbled streets and local handicraft shops. However, today the focus is on scents, not scenery alone. The area surrounding San Gimignano is famous not only for the white Vernaccia wine but also saffron, one of the most precious of spices. It is harvested from the flower of the Crocus Sativus bulb and its value today approaches the equivalent weight in gold. Visit a local family-run ICEA certified organic farm that produces wine, oil and saffron, not to mention honey and propolis. Enjoy a guided visit of the farm before relaxing and enjoying a wonderful tasting session in the beautiful surroundings of the Tuscan countryside.



For more information email info@hireinitaly.com

