



Join Tom's Travel for a....

Gastronomical Tour of Tuscany and Umbria

October 14 – 25, 2012



D1 Oct 15 – Rome/ Norcia

Upon arrival your escort will welcome you to Italy and transfer to your hotel in Norcia, your base for the next 5 nights. Enjoy a free afternoon for rest, relaxation, or exploration. Your tour escort can suggest sights or walks for you to enjoy. In the evening enjoy a welcome dinner with wine pairings (D)

D2 Oct 16 – Norcia/Orvieto / Norcia

Depart for Orvieto for a visit to the medieval quarter, the area of San Giovenale, the first portion of the cliff where there was an urban development. In Orvieto we will have our first cooking class at Zeppelin restaurant with the chef, Lorenzo Polegri. We will go to the markets, learn to choose the best products for our Kitchen, and return to the restaurant to prepare the meal. In the afternoon, move to the center of town to admire the Piazza del Popolo, the beautiful Palazzo del Capitano del Popolo, Corso Cavour, Palazzo dei Sette. Continue to Norcia for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

D3 Oct 17 - Norcia / Trevi / Norcia

Enjoy a visit of Norcia with a winetasting. Norcia is a paradise for lovers of cold meats such as **salami and porchetta**, and an absolute must for **pecorino cheese** fans as well - irrespectively of whether they prefer their **ewes cheese with or without the famous Norcia truffle**. **Vineyards** occupy great part of **Umbria's rolling hillsides**, the grapes here are transformed into some of the **country's finest wines**. The countryside surrounding **Montefalco** is where the prestigious **Sagrantino** and **Rosso di Montefalco** are produced, a stop not only to taste wine but also to tour the town which boasts some of the most breathtaking views of the **Umbrian countryside**. Then to Trevi, for a visit at an oil factory to see the production of oil and a tasting. Then return to Norcia for dinner and overnight. (B,D)



D4 Oct 18 - Norcia – Assisi – Norcia

Today we depart for Assisi, for a guided tour of the area including the beautiful Basilica of St Francis, the Church of St Clare which houses her incorrupt body and the Basilica of St Mary of the Angels. Church of St Damian and San Rufino. Return to Norcia. Dinner and overnight. (B,D)

D5 Oct 19 – Norcia/ Spoleto / Norcia

After a morning tour of Spoleto, return to Norcia for a **cooking lesson** in the restaurant of our hotel with a professional chef. The menu will consist of one *primo* (entrée) (such as a pasta dish or gnocchi) and one main course (such as braised veal in *Rosso di Montefalco* wine sauce). Following an *aperitivo*, dinner will consist mainly of the food prepared at the cooking lesson. Dinner and overnight (B,D)



D6 Oct 20 - Norcia / Cortona/ Radda / Montecatini

Depart for Cortona its bucolic surround, spend the day on state road 222, which takes you through the big-name towns in Chianti, and all the way back to Florence. The three most worthy stops are **Greve, Radda, and Castellina in Chianti**, all important winemaking areas topped by medieval villages. Continue to Montecatini Terme for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

D7 Oct 21 Montecatini Terme/ S. Gimignano / Volterra / Montecatini Terme

Today we travel to the Alabaster City of Volterra, an excellent example of Etruscan culture and one of the lesser-known gems in Tuscany. There we will visit the **Guarnacci** museum. After lunch, head for San Gimignano; The best time to approach San Gimignano is in the late afternoon, when the hilltop city is bathed in the setting sun. Continue to Montecatini Terme for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

D8 Oct 22 - Montecatini / Siena/ Vineyards / Montecatini

Today , after breakfast, continue to Siena to visit the Cathedral of Siena, one of Italy's most interesting ones, especially with its recently discovered new room, the so-called "crypt" underneath, containing a cycle of 13th-century frescoes. This afternoon enjoy the vineyards and stop for a wine tasting. Dinner and overnight. **(B,D)**

D9 Oct 23 - Montecatini Terme / Florence / Montecatini

This morning discover the Renaissance city of Florence and visit the Academy Gallery which houses Michelangelo's popular figure of David, the exquisite bronze doors at the Baptistry, and Piazza del Duomo. Later view the crypts of Michelangelo and Galileo at the Church of Santa Croce. Return to hotel for dinner and overnight **(B,D)**



D10 Oct 24 - Montecatini / Montepulciano/ Montalcino / Montecatini



Make your way south along the ancient Via Cassia to Montalcino, and then to nearby Montepulciano. These two wine-producing giants are worthy stops in their own right, even for those uninterested in wine. Nearby is the model Renaissance city, **Pienza**, surrounded by the kind of captivating Tuscan landscape you see in promotional photos. Return in Montecatini area for our farewell dinner at Le Pietre Cavate in Pieve a Nevole. Overnight. **(B,D)**

D11 Oct 25 - Florence/ USA

After breakfast, transfer to Florence airport for our flight passenger to home, or take part an optional extension to Rome. **(B)**

Optional Extension in Rome

D12 Oct 25 – Florence - Rome

This morning we will take part an optional extension in Rome. Upon arrival in Rome, the group will make a panoramic tour of Rome, with its main highlights such as, Fontana Trevi, where we will stop for a visit. Memorial to the King, Vittorio Emanuele II, and the tomb of Unknown soldier. We will also touch the Capitol, the Imperial Forum, the Colosseum, the Palatine Hill, the Aventine Hill, and the Circus Maximus. Then to your hotel for dinner and overnight . **(B,D)**

D13 Oct 26 – Rome

Wake up in Eternal City, a great center of Western Civilization and the first truly cosmopolitan city. It is also spiritual capital for all Catholics around the world. This morning we go to Vatican City to visit the Vatican Museums, a group of most impressive edifices with hundreds of galleries filled with art treasures. See awe-inspiring relics and works of art donated throughout centuries as tributes of faith. We'll cover The Tapestry Gallery, The Raphael Rooms and the most overwhelming Sistine Chapel, Michelangelo's Masterpiece, and the restored mural of the Last Judgment. Later, enter the largest church in Christendom St Peter's Basilica, built on the site where St Peter was martyred. Unsurpassed in beauty, a monument to the long history of the Catholic Church, to which pilgrims come from around the world, St Peter's is the grandest of the world's churches. Take in the Pieta and Bernini's amazing bronze canopy. We will also visit the grave of Pope John Paul II located at the Vatican. Before dinner, we'll have some time at leisure, to explore your own paths, to shop, or just to sit in one of the outside cafes and watch the world go by. **(B, D)**

D14 Oct 27 Rome /USA

After breakfast , transfer to Rome airport for our flight passenger to USA. **(B)**

October 14—25, 2012

Land Program Price: \$1,900.00 per person sharing a dbl room* Single Supplement \$450.00

Airline Price: Air Fare, Fuel Surcharges, Taxes etc. from Detroit are currently at \$1,388.00.

****Fuel Surcharges, Taxes etc. are subject to change until final ticketing. Airfares from other cities are available.***

The Land Program includes:

- 5 nights hotel accommodations at the Hotel Grotta Azzura in Norcia, Umbria,
- 5 nights hotel accommodations at the Grand Hotel Plaza, Montecatini Terme, Tuscany
- Continental buffet breakfast daily; 9 dinners
- Professional bilingual tour escort for the whole tour
- English speaking local guides: Orvieto, Assisi, Siena, Florence, San Gimignano
- Entrance fees: Siena & San Gimignano Churches, Florence Duomo, Guarnacci Museum
- Porterage at hotels of 1 large suitcase per person
- Deluxe fully equipped motor-coach always available
- Wine tasting in Norcia, Cooking class in Orvieto , Oil factory tasting in Trevi, Wine tasting in Florence, Wine tasting in Montepulciano, Cooking class in Norcia

The quote doesn't include:

- Meals not mentioned in the itinerary
- Beverages
- Tips to driver/guides
- Incidental personal expenses

Rome - October 25—27, 2012

Optional Tour: \$550.00 per person sharing a double room* Single Supplement \$675.00

- 2 nights hotel accommodations at Hotel Diana, Rome
- Continental buffet breakfast daily; 2 dinners
- Professional bilingual tour escort for the whole tour
- English speaking local guides: 1 HD Rome, 1 FD Rome
- Entrance fees: Vatican Museums & Sistine Chapel
- Porterage at hotels of 1 large suitcase per person
- Deluxe fully equipped motor-coach always available
- City tax

For More Information Contact:

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* Prices are based on the current value of the dollar vs the euro as of Nov 21, 2011 and are subject to change until final payment is made. Should there be a shift in the value of the dollar by +/- 2%, there will be an adjustment in the final payment. Sky Vacations will keep you advised as any changes that may affect the price either way may occur.

