

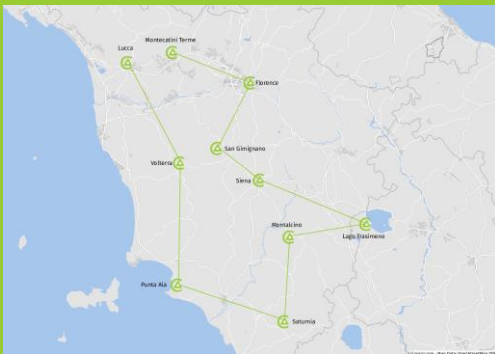


Timeless Tuscany

The Tour

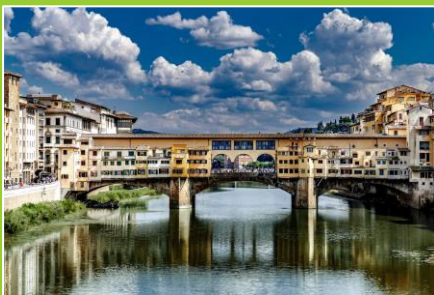
Tuscany in central Italy is famous for many things, but of all its qualities, the countryside is perhaps its most remarkable feature. Whether you are walking the country lanes or driving winding roads to one of the hilltop towns, its hills, valleys and cypress trees always seem to arrange themselves into an exquisite view, each one more impressive than the next. Tuscany is also home to two world-famous cities of art, Florence and Siena, both packed with world-famous masterpieces, churches, museums and frescoes. Pisa and its stunning Square of Miracles and Lucca with its exquisite churches also have a wealth of treasures and should not be missed. However there are many picturesque small and quiet towns with lots to see all around Tuscany, including San Gimignano and Monteriggioni (two beautifully restored walled Medieval towns), Volterra, Pienza and Arezzo that can be as rewarding as the major cities and will leave you just as speechless. Tuscany is also home to some of Italy's most popular wines, like the reds of Chianti and Montepulciano and the Brunello from Montalcino which are perfect accompaniments for the region's best loved dishes. It's a place where simple ingredients have pride of place, and Tuscany's delicious tomatoes, unsalted bread and local olive oil are central to its cuisine. Enjoy simple dishes including a wide variety of meat and sauces, cured meats and the mouthwatering pasta and cheeses.

For Tour updates, dates and prices visit our website



Highlights:

- Visit of a vineyard in the Montalcino wine region with a visit of the wine cellar, wine tasting, and a typical Italian meal
- Chianti and Montepulciano wine regions and a visit to the Terme di Saturnia
- Visits to the major cities of Florence, Siena, Pisa, Volterra, Lucca and San Gimignano



Tour information

Start: Montecatini
End: Lucca
Tour days: 21
Non-Driving days: 12
Max. daily mileage: 75 miles
Avg. daily mileage: 51 miles
Total mileage: 460 miles
Calais- Montecatini: 856 miles
Pets allowed

Travel services

- Welcome Dinner
- Visit of a vineyard in the Montalcino wine region with a visit of the wine cellar, wine tasting, and a typical Italian meal
- All campsites with electricity
- Assistance of multi-lingual motorhome guides during the whole tour
- Travel pack containing maps, a detailed road book with directions to the campsites, suggestions for sightseeing and general advice on motorhoming in Europe
- Secured Payment Certificate



Day 1 & 2: Montecatini Terme

We start our tour in a beautiful campsite overlooking Montecatini Terme and the rolling hills of Tuscany. In the evening we will have a dinner giving the group time to get to know each other. On day 2 you can relax at the pool or stroll through Montecatini with its many fountains.

Day 3: Montecatini Terme – Florence

Today we drive to Florence. On our route you can stop at the cities of Pistoia or Prato and admire the many fine buildings like the Cathedral or the Baptistery in Pistoia. Alternatively dip down to the town of Vinci, the birthplace of Leonardo da Vinci.

Day 4 & 5: Florence

We have two whole days to explore Florence. Some of its sights are among Italy's best-known icons and should not be missed: Ponte Vecchio, Michelangelo's David, Brunelleschi's Dome, and the entire city is a showcase of the Italian Renaissance.

Day 6: Florence – San Gimignano

Our drive today takes us through the Chianti wine region with hilltop villages, many with their medieval-era buildings and churches still standing. Enjoy the area's roads admiring the view of the vineyards on the hills and magnificent panoramas. But do not forget to stop and visit some of the wine cellars and taste great Italian food. Some of you might add a stop to the Laika plant.

Day 7: San Gimignano

We will have the day to explore the “Manhattan” of Tuscany. The name comes from the 13 towers that remain from the original 70 and give San Gimignano its distinctive skyline. Meander through the medieval centre, bristling with square towers that were both fortified homes and status symbols for rival families.

Day 8: San Gimignano – Siena

We only have a short drive to Siena, so stop and visit the small medieval town of Monteriggioni. It is located along the Via Francigena, a pilgrimage route from Canterbury to Rome and was used as filmset for “The Gladiator” and “The English Patient”.

Day 9 & 10: Siena

During our two days in Siena explore the many tourist attractions in Siena's historic old town. The cathedral and palaces of Siena are outstanding monuments of Gothic architecture. Watch the world go by while having a coffee (or something stronger) in the Piazza del Campo.

Day 11: Siena – Lago Trasimeno

Today, we suggest taking the scenic mountain route to Arezzo and having your lunch in the city. The Cathedral and the main square, the Piazza Grande, are on the hilltop, but fortunately there are escalators that take you all the way up from the car parks.

Day 12: Lago Trasimeno

Our campsite is directly on the lake and invites you to have a swim, take a boat trip, or go for a cycle ride along the banks of the lake. Alternatively walk into the historic town centre and visit the Palazzo or enjoy the beautiful views over the lake from Rocca del Leone.

Day 13: Lago Trasimeno – Montalcino

Before arriving at our next overnight stop, a vineyard, where we will have a wine tasting and an Italian meal, we will be driving through the Val d'Orcia (UNESCO World Heritage). This iconic place is a treasure chest of unforgettable landscapes that is home to some of the most fascinating historic town centers in the whole of Tuscany, like Montepulciano or Pienza.

Day 14: Montalcino – Saturnia

Today we drive to Saturnia famous for the Cascade del Mulino, a series of thunderously impressive waterfalls, where the thermal waters have worn away the rocks into a staircase of little pools. On route you can stop at the Abbazia di Sant'Antimo a Benedictine monastery situated in a picture-perfect setting.

Day 15: Saturnia – Punta Ala

Today we head towards the beach. On the way you could stop in Grosseto to take a walk along the city walls or to visit the town centre and the Cathedral of Lorenzo.

Day 16: Punta Ala

Relax, relax, relax on the beautiful sandy beach.

Day 17: Punta Ala – Volterra

On route you can visit Massa Marittima, nestled on a high and isolated hill. The historic center of Massa Marittima, with the extraordinary Piazza Garibaldi and the Cathedral of San Cerbone, stand enclosed within well-preserved city walls.

Day 18: Volterra

Walk through Volterra's historic center still marked by medieval tower houses. In the Piazza dei Priori the Palazzo is now the Town Hall. It is the oldest in Tuscany.

Day 19: Volterra – Lucca

On the way to Lucca visit the Piaggio Museum in Pontedera and add a photo stop in Pisa with the leaning tower and the Cathedral.

Day 20: Lucca

The final day can be used to relax or to go into Lucca the “city of one hundred churches”. Walk or cycle along the city walls, but do not miss the Piazza dell'Anfiteatro, a true jewel from Roman times, where today many local restaurants and shops surround the oval square.

Day 21: Departure and end of tour