

# Spotlight on Tuscany

with optional Pre Tour Extension

**Highlights...** Montecatini Terme • Lucca • Gothic Line • Winery Tour • Florence • Choice on Tour • Pisa • Cooking Class • Cheese Farm • San Gimignano



9 Days • 10 Meals: 7 Breakfasts • 3 Dinners

## Stefan's "Join the Fun" Group Package Includes: Collette Tours **June 21-29, 2023- Spotlight on Tuscany**

### • Airfare

- Overnight Car Parking from Viera & Ormond
- Transportation to Orlando International Airport r/t with Gratuity to Driver Included
- Gratuity to your Tour Guide & Driver on your Tour
- Group Meet N Greet for Q & A
- Tour Package
- 10 Meals

### Collette experiences

- Step to the front of the line to see Michelangelo's famous statue of *David*.
- See the Gothic Line, one of the Germans' last lines of defense during WWII.
- Retrace the steps of ancient pilgrims as they crossed the Devil's Bridge in the Serchio Valley.

### Must-see inclusions

- Stay in the famous spa resort town of Montecatini Terme for 7 nights.
- Journey to Florence for a tour of the "Cradle of the Renaissance."
- Stop in the medieval city of Lucca, encircled by 16th-century walls.

### Culinary inclusions

- Sample delectable wines during a wine tasting at a local farm.
- Spend time at a cheese farm to taste flavorful pecorino cheese.
- Learn about Tuscan cuisine during a cooking class.

 **collette**  
**SPOTLIGHTS**  
SINGLE HOTEL STAYS & QUICK GETAWAYS

*In the waning days of World War II (and after the fall of Rome), German forces made preparations to defend northern Italy. Along the Apennine Mountains, they created a formidable line of defense in an effort to hold back Allied forces. The site of some of the hardest fighting of the Italian campaign, the battles along the Gothic Line helped tie down two German armies. See the array of bunkers and fortifications along the line and visit the Museum of Liberation. Learn of the heroic deed of Allied forces and Italian partisans. Come away with a new appreciation for those who gave so much in the name of freedom.*

**Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Rolling landscapes, savory wines, delicious food and stunning architecture – find all of this and more in Tuscany. Unpack once on this journey among Italy's most charming towns.

**Day 2: Montecatini Terme, Italy - Tour Begins**

Your tour opens in the famous spa resort town of Montecatini Terme, nestled in the heart of the rolling hills of Tuscany. This evening, get to know your fellow travelers during a welcome dinner where regional foods and Italian wines kick off your adventure. *Today dinner will be included.*

**Day 3: Lucca - Borgo a Mozzano - Gothic Line**

Enjoy a guided tour of Lucca, Tuscany's best-kept secret. Discover Renaissance walls, Romanesque churches, and medieval streets flanked by towers. Explore on your own before setting off for Borgo a Mozzano. See the *Ponte del Diavolo* (Devil's Bridge) and the nearby remains of the Gothic Line – the Germans' last defense during WWII. Visit the Museum of Liberation and see authentic fortifications and bunkers. Make your way to a Tuscan winery and learn about the art of winemaking as you taste local varieties. *Today breakfast will be included.*

**Day 4: Florence**

A cultural tour in Florence showcases the beautiful "Cradle of the Renaissance." Start with a visit to the Academy Gallery\* to see Michelangelo's sculpture of *David*. Join a local Florentine guide on foot and make your way through the city. At the Piazza del Duomo, see the impressive Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore and the gilded bronze doors of the Baptistery dedicated to St. John. Take the remainder of your time in Florence to explore this unparalleled city as you choose. *Today breakfast will be included.*

**Day 5: Montecatini Terme**

Today, **it's your choice!** Learn more about Montecatini's history during a guided walking tour and visit to the historic Tettuccio Spa,\*\* known for the health benefits in its mineral waters **-OR-** journey to Siena and embark on a walking tour through its narrow Gothic streets, getting to know the local lifestyle in a *contrada* (neighborhood) whose community is centered around the colorful *Palio* horse race. *Today breakfast will be included.*

**Day 6: Pisa**

Explore historic sites in the ancient maritime Republic of Pisa, including the *Piazza dei Miracoli*, or "Field of Miracles" (UNESCO). Keep your camera handy at the famous Leaning Tower of Pisa. Visit the Baptistery, the largest in Italy. This evening, travel to the quiet countryside to learn the secrets of traditional Tuscan cuisine. Partake in a cooking class, using local ingredients and culinary techniques that have been passed down for generations. Enjoy your freshly-prepared meal for dinner. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

**Day 7: Montecatini Terme**

The day is yours to relax and experience the local flavor. Take this opportunity to shop at the local boutiques and dine at one of the many fine local restaurants. Or, perhaps you will choose an optional excursion to Cinque Terre with its rugged coastline dotted with terraced vineyards; explore this string of fishing villages nestled between the mountains and the Mediterranean. *Today breakfast will be included.*

**Day 8: Cheese Farm Visit - San Gimignano**

At a nearby cheese farm, learn how the famous *pecorino* cheese is made before sampling it for yourself. Soak in breathtaking views as you travel to the hilltop village of San Gimignano, one of Tuscany's most picturesque places. Explore this enchanting medieval town, from its famous 14 towers to its magnificent vistas overlooking vineyards. Enjoy free time and perhaps indulge in some gelato. Later, attend a Tuscan feast of traditional cuisine and wines set in the countryside. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

**Day 9: Montecatini Terme - Tour Ends**

Your journey comes to a close today. Depart with many fond memories of Tuscany. *Today breakfast will be included.*

## Your itinerary at a glance

Day 1

Overnight Flight

Days 2 – 8

Hotel Ercolini and Savi, Montecatini Terme or Grand Hotel Francia and Quirinale, Montecatini Terme or Grand Hotel Vittoria, Montecatini Terme

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

- **Single-hotel Stays:** Unpack just once and explore the world's most iconic cities during Spotlights' single-hotel stays. The leisurely pace offers you the chance to get to know these destinations like a local. Must-see cultural highlights are always included, plus there's plenty of time to explore independently, creating your own unique adventure.



**Package Cost: Double \$4,516 or SOLO \$4,916**

\*Are you a Solo Lady, call stefan if you're looking for a Travel Mate, Limited Solo Rooms available, to Book Call Stefan at 386-235-3443, to be part of the Group with Perks

