

TUSCANY 2010 WITH *Eola Hills Wine Cellars*

Day One: Arrival date in Florence: Today we arrive at our hotel located in the heart of historic Florence. The hotel is on the Arno River and overlooks the famous *Ponte Vecchio*. After check in and a time to relax, our tour begins with an evening wine reception and an opportunity to meet your fellow travelers.



Our first night wine reception

Day Two: Florence Up Close: After a good night sleep, and to help us shake off a little “jet lag”, we have a morning walking tour planned to help us take in this remarkable city. We will get an overview of some of the more famous landmarks such as the Duomo, Uffizi, San Lorenzo, and more. After getting the lay of the land, the afternoon is free to explore in more detail or just relax with a glass of wine and let the world pass in front of you.



Walking tour (a replica of The David)

Day Three: Museums, Palaces, and More: Today we have several possibilities available to us. World class art museums, including the Uffizi that houses some of the best Renaissance art in Europe, the Academe, home of Michelangelo's "David", The Medici Palace and numerous cathedrals all at your disposal.



The Duomo

Day Four: Wine Country. Today we board our tour bus and head into wine country! We stop for lunch in San Gimignano with its famous eleven towers standing guard over this well preserved city. After a relaxed lunch, we visit our first winery to sample some the area's Chianti. Then it's on to Siena for the next two days.



Wine tasting in Chianti

Day Five: Siena: After a walking orientation and historical overview of this celebrated city, you can use the rest of the day to just relax, explore all the nooks and

side streets or..... want to hone up on your Tuscan cooking skills? We have just the ticket: A gourmet cooking school that will take you through the basics of the local cuisine.... And you get to see how well you've done with a dinner at the end. For the rest of us, there is plenty to do. The Duomo is spectacular. The Campo or town center is home of the famous Palio horse race and an ideal place to grab a gelato and catch up on your people watching skills. We cap the day off with a wine reception on our hotel patio.



Il Campo in the Center of Siena

Day Six: Siena to Orvieto: Today we board our tour bus once again for more of the Tuscan country side and ... our second winery. On tap is a visit to one of the largest producers in Italy, Castello Banfi. Our wine tasting experience will be served with a five course gourmet luncheon with five coordinating wines. After lunch, we continue winding our way south to the tiny hilltop town of Orvieto. We have the afternoon to explore this hilltop jewel.



Luncheon at Castillo Banfi

Day Seven: Orvieto:

After a brief orientation, we are off to continue our discover of Orvieto. It is a great place for Italian pottery and.... My favorite gelato shop! The cathedral houses some original frescos that Michelangelo studied prior to painting the Sistine chapel. In the afternoon we head south again and a stop at our last winery. This lovely winery is home of some terrific hand crafted wines only available in Orvieto. Our wine tasting includes a fantastic view of the valley below. After our wine tasting, we drive on into Rome, our final destination. We will stay on the bus for a short orientation tour of the major Sights before arriving at our hotel.



Wine tasting in Orvieto

Day Eight: *Rome*

The Eternal City! Today is all about options. The Vatican, Coliseum, Trevi Fountain, The Parthenon and so much more await. Tons of small neighborhood restaurants are tucked in along the route too, but be sure and save some room for tonight's farewell dinner. This will be a final opportunity to share the highlights of your trip with your new found friends before we all burst into a chorus of "Kumbya".



Day Nine: *Bon Voyage!*

Rise and shine campers. We say arrivederci Roma today as our tour draws to a close. Some of you will have extended for a day or two and can sleep in, but for the rest of us its back to the US of A with a bag full of memories and a few extra pounds to shed.



Tossing a coin into Trevi Fountain...hoping to return again

As always, feel free to call us here at the winery for any specific questions.

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