

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

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.

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.*

Experience It! Gothic Line

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.

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.

Please Note:

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

*The Academy Gallery is closed Mondays, as are other state museums. Additionally, the day and time of the visit to the Academy is subject to change based on availability of reservations. In either case, the itinerary will be rearranged to accommodate it.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

**The interior of Tettuccio Spa is closed to visits during the months of November and December.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

Days of features are interchangeable.

Most shops and businesses in Italy are closed on Sundays and on national/religious holidays.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Air passengers will arrive and depart from Florence or Pisa airports.

IDENTIFICATION

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require a minimum of 6 months passport validity from date of return home. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that our clients traveling abroad take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

Effective for travel after January 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorization, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (1-2 hours) isn't a big deal. You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, Zodiac, etc.), and could possibly anticipate changes in elevation. You can expect some longer days balanced with free-time to recharge or set out on your own adventure.

Some of the most unique sightseeing can mean accessing locations that restrict motor coaches, especially in historic areas such as Lucca, Siena, San Gimignano and Florence, which requires minimum 2.5 miles of walking over flat but cobblestoned streets with narrow sidewalks. For your comfort, we recommend bringing walking shoes. If you require a walker or wheelchair, or have difficulty walking, you may not be able to access some of these areas and may want to consider an alternate program with us. Our travel counselors can provide additional information or assistance to help you determine the perfect trip for you.

Extend your vacation with...

Optional 5 Days 3-Night Rome Pre Tour Extension
Rate: \$999.00 per person, double, land only

4 Meals: 3 breakfasts, 1 Dinner

Day 1: Overnight Flight

You are on your way to the eternal city of Rome.

Day 2: Rome, Italy - Tour Begins

Get settled into Rome for your 3-night stay. Take time to get acquainted with the area on your own. This evening, join your fellow travelers for a special welcome dinner featuring regional delicacies. (D)

Day 3: Rome - Optional Excursion

Start your morning with a ride on *La Metro* – Rome's underground system. First stop – a locally guided tour of Classical Rome. During an in-depth visit to the Colosseum, your guide recounts its rich history. Then wander along the Roman Forum and the Via Sacra, traversed by the likes of Julius Caesar and Marc Anthony. The remainder of the day is yours. Perhaps you will join an optional dinner in a popular restaurant, where you'll indulge in a hearty meal accompanied by wine and local entertainment. (B)

Day 4: Rome - Optional Excursion

Make the most of a free day in Italy's capital city. Perhaps you will join an optional tour* in the morning to the Vatican Museums and St. Peter's Basilica, taking in world-renowned wonders such as the Sistine Chapel and Michelangelo's mural of the Last Judgment. In the afternoon, consider strolling through the Borghese Gardens for views of the city's skyline or meander through Rome's bohemian *Trastevere* district. (B)

Day 5: Rome - Montecatini Terme

Your Roman sojourn comes to a close today. Say *Arrivederci Roma* as you transfer to Montecatini Terme to begin your tour of Tuscany. (B)

Please Note:

*The optional tour to the Vatican Museums may operate on a different day on select departures due to availability of reservations and closure on Sundays and holidays. The space on this extension is limited and will be available on a first come, first served basis. Applicable charges may apply at time of request.

During this extension, you can expect to have a **hosted** experience or two, with a local representative revealing more of what this destination has to offer. Enjoy a mix of independent exploration and guided sightseeing and experiences.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

We reserve the right to cancel this extension if a minimum of 4 passengers is not met to operate.

The overall activity level of this extension is a level 3. This means walking and standing for longer periods of time (1-2 hours) isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate

hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, Zodiac, etc.), and could possibly anticipate changes in elevation. You can expect some longer days balanced with free-time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. During your included city tour of Classical Rome you will use the underground transportation system where seating cannot be guaranteed so you should be able to stand in a moving carriage where handrails are available for support. You must be able to climb a flight of steps to enter the subway station.

Important reservation information:

IDENTIFICATION

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require a minimum of 6 months passport validity from date of return home. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that our clients traveling abroad take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

***Airfare:** For your convenience, we offer airfare for purchase with all vacation packages. If you purchase an air inclusive program, your airfare will be quoted inclusive of all fuel, taxes and fees. Your rates are subject to change until paid in full. Preassigned seats are limited and may not be available on every flight or departure date.

Checked Baggage Charges: Some airlines may impose additional charges if you choose to check any baggage. Please contact your airline or refer to its website for detailed information regarding your airline's checked baggage policies.

Cancellation Charges for this tour: After your seat reduction date has passed, a non-refundable deposit will be retained. For Cancellation between 60-16 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 30% of total price. For cancellation between 15-1 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 50% of total price. For cancellation on the day of departure and after: 100% of total price. For Ocean Cruises: For cancellation between 90-61 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 35% of total price. For cancellation between 60-31 days prior to departure: 60% of total price. 30 or fewer days prior to departure: 100% of total price. For River Cruises: including Europe, Russia, Egypt and China, 90-61 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 50% of total price. For cancellation between 60-31 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 85% of total price. For cancellation 30 or fewer days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 100% of total price. For Galapagos and Antarctica: A cancellation fee of 60% will apply for cancellation between 120-90 days prior to departure; A cancellation charge of 100% will apply for cancellation less than 90 days prior to departure. Cancellation protection is highly recommended and must be purchased at time of deposit. Air rates are subject to change until tour is paid in full. If Travel Protection Plan has not been purchased and a reservation is cancelled for any reason prior to departure - Air is 100% non-refundable once paid in full. Cancellation charges also apply to reservations made for "pre" and "post" night accommodations. Payment of a Per Person Travel Protection Plan Fee guarantees a full refund of all payments (including deposit), except the Travel Protection Plan Fee itself, made to Collette for travel arrangements in case of cancellation of your travel plans for any reason prior to the day of departure. The Travel Protection Plan Fee with Air only covers airline tickets you have purchased from Collette. Exception: If you originally purchased nonrefundable airline tickets, Part B of the Travel Protection Plan may provide a refund for the airline tickets, taxes, or fees in the event of a cancellation for a covered reason (see Part B for more details). The Travel Protection Plan Fee does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual's traveling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. However, the Part B travel insurance includes a single supplement benefit of \$1,000 for certain covered reasons as detailed in Part B. In this case, the single supplement will be deducted from the refund of the person who cancels. Division of this charge between the two passengers involved is solely their responsibility. If insufficient funds are deducted from the canceling client, the traveling client will be charged the remaining portion of the single supplement. Cancellation waiver protects you from penalties in the event you have a need to cancel your entire inclusive tour package up to the day prior to departure. Cancellation waiver does not indemnify you from penalties if you chose to cancel partial tour components or air. If you chose to partially cancel your vacation, you will be responsible for a revision fee as well as any penalties that are incurred at the time of the cancellation. Upon cancellation of transportation or travel services where you, the customer, are not at fault and have not canceled in violation of the terms and conditions above, you will be refunded 100%. Please see your sales agent for more information, or review our brochure for details.

Responsibilities: Collette monitors security situations around the world as well as government travel advisories. Conditions may require Collette to change or even cancel trips. You accept the risks involved in travel, both foreign and domestic, and accept responsibility for your own travel decisions. Guests may be required to review and sign a participation agreement prior to engaging in certain activities on the trip.

Neither Collette Travel Service, Inc., its affiliated entities and its and their employees, shareholders, officers, directors, successors, agents, and assigns (collectively "Collette"), own or operate any person or entity which is to or does provide goods or services for these trips. You agree to be bound by the conditions of carriage for all transportation providers. Collette does not maintain control or operate the personnel, equipment, or operations of these suppliers it uses and as such Collette assumes no responsibility for and cannot be held liable for any personal injury, death, property damage or other loss, accident, delay, inconvenience, or irregularity which may be occasioned by reason of (1) any wrongful, negligent, willful or unauthorized acts or omissions on the part of any of the suppliers or other employees or agents, (2) any defect in or failure of any vehicle, equipment, or instrument owned, operated or otherwise used by any of these suppliers, or (3) any wrongful, willful or negligent act or omission on the part of any other party. Client shall indemnify and hold harmless Collette Travel Service, Inc., its affiliated entities and its and their employees, agents, shareholders, officers, successors and assigns (collectively "Collette"), from all suits, actions, losses, damages, claims or liability for any personal injury, death, property damage or other loss, accident, delay, inconvenience or irregularity which is occasioned by any negligent acts or omissions of Collette arising out of any goods or services provided for this or these trips. Additionally, responsibility is not accepted for losses or expenses due to sickness, lack of appropriate medical facilities or practitioners, weather, strikes, theft or other criminal acts, war, terrorism, computer problems, or other such causes. Other risks may arise such as, but not limited to, hazards of traveling in foreign countries including undeveloped areas, the hazards of travel by aircraft, bus, van, train, automobile or other motorized vehicle, differing safety standards, sickness, criminal acts committed by others, allergic reactions, and/or animal encounters. You are voluntarily participating in the tour and Collette, and as lawful consideration for the agreement to travel with Collette, you agree not to make a claim against Collette, its related companies, officers and employees for injuries, death, or any other claim and agree to release Collette, its related companies, officers and employees from any such claim. This release is binding on all members of your traveling party, as well as your Estate and heirs and this provision shall be enforceable even after your trip has ended. If you make your own air reservations, Collette is not responsible and shall provide no refund if your flight schedule changes so that you are not able to enjoy the entirety of your tour. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws of the country in which they are provided. Collette reserves the right to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their sole judgment, conditions warrant, or if Collette deems it necessary for the comfort, convenience, or safety of the tour. Collette reserves the right to withdraw any tour announced. Collette reserves the right to decline to accept any person as a member of the tour, or to require any participant to withdraw from the tour at any time, when such action is determined by the Tour Manager to be in the best interests of the health, safety, and general welfare of the tour group or of the individual participant. If you are traveling with children, you are solely responsible for their behavior and monitoring them throughout the tour. Neither does Collette accept liability for any carrier's cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable airline or other ticket to the tour departure city and return or otherwise. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owner at all times. Collette is not responsible, and will not be bound by, representations made by third party representatives, travel agents, unaffiliated websites, or any other party. Participants may be photographed for the promotional purposes of Collette. In addition, any comments that you submit as a review or your social media posts may be used for Collette's promotional purposes.

Payment of the deposit to Collette constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions. Collette reserves the right to modify these terms and conditions at any time, without notice.

Consumer Protection Plans: Collette Travel Service holds membership in the following highly reputable industry organizations: the United States Tour Operators Association and the American Society of Travel Agents. Each association operates a consumer protection plan to cover deposits made by travelers. Full details are available from the organizations or Collette Travel Service. Collette is pleased to give this additional protection to our clients. **Our California Sellers of Travel registration number is 2006766-20. Our State of Washington Unified Business Number is 601220855. Our Nevada Sellers of Travel registration number is 2003-0279.**

