



Itinerary

Spotlight on Tuscany

Sep 23, 2021 - Sep 30, 2021

Day 1: Montecatini Terme, Italy - Tour Begins



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. 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.

Hotel

Grand Hotel Francia And Quirinale
Montecatini Terme

Culinary

Dinner

Weather

High 27°
Low 15°
Rain 2"

Day 2: 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.

Hotel

Grand Hotel Francia And Quirinale
Montecatini Terme

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 27°
Low 15°
Rain 2"

Day 3: 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.

Hotel

Grand Hotel Francia And Quirinale
Montecatini Terme

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 27°
Low 15°
Rain 2"

Day 4: Montecatini Terme



Today, it's your choice! Learn more about Montecatini's curative waters 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.

Hotel

Grand Hotel Francia And Quirinale
Montecatini Terme

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 27°
Low 15°
Rain 2"

Day 5: 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.

Hotel

Grand Hotel Francia And Quirinale
Montecatini Terme

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Weather

High 27°
Low 15°
Rain 2"

Day 6: 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.

Hotel

Grand Hotel Francia And Quirinale
Montecatini Terme

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 27°
Low 15°
Rain 2"

Day 7: 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.

Hotel

Grand Hotel Francia And Quirinale
Montecatini Terme

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Weather

High 27°
Low 15°
Rain 2"

Day 8: Montecatini Terme - Tour Ends



Your journey comes to a close today. Depart with many fond memories of Tuscany.