

TUSCAN

Experience

Tour Days - 11

Departure Date -
07 -October, 2010

Tour Price:

Based on per person on a twin sharing basis

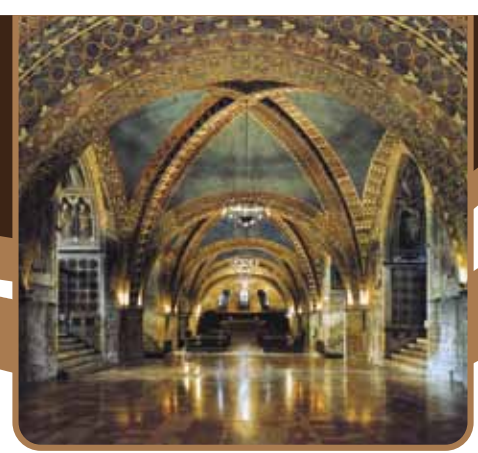
Members:	US\$2585
Non members:	US\$2685
Single Supplement:	US\$765

Price Includes:

- Superior hotels with private facilities.
- Airport transfers.
- Daily buffet breakfast.
- All sightseeing, excursions in an AC Coach.
- English speaking Tour Manager.
- Meals as per itinerary.
- Full day Rome and Vatican tour.
- All entrance fees.
- International flights from JFK.

Book before 01 April and get \$100/pp discount.





TOUR ITINERARY

Day 1, Thu: USA - ROME

Departure from USA to Rome.

Day 2, Fri: ROME

Arrival meet and greet service with transfer to hotel. Welcome briefing at the hotel. Dinner at the hotel and evening at leisure. (D)

Day 3, Sat: ROME DAY TOUR

Morning tour of the Vatican. Visit the Porta Pinciana, Aurelian Walls, Villa Borghese, the Vatican Museums, the Sistine Chapel, the Bernini Staircase of the XVI century and the largest church in the world, St. Peter's Basilica. Michaelangelo's Renaissance palace built on the ruins of the Acropolis, the Temple of Julius Caesar, Basilica Emilia, the Arch of Titus and the Holy Road and Rome's greatest amphitheatre—the Colosseum. The last stop is the Basilica of San Pietro in Vincoli that houses Michelangelo's masterpiece, the statue of Moses. (B)

Day 4, Sun: ASSISSI & PERUGIA

After breakfast you will travel to visit Assisi, famous all over the world for being the native town of St Francis, for a guided visit to the Basilica of St Francis. Explore the interior of the Basilica and listen to commentary about the frescoes by Giotto and Cimabue, via hired ear phones. You'll also visit the Basilica of Santa Chiara, and the Basilica of Santa Maria degli Angeli. In Perugia admire the Maggiore Fountain, the gothic Basilica of San Lorenzo and the Town Hall within Palazzo dei Priori. (B)

Day 5, Mon: SIENA - CHIANTI

On a guided walking tour of this compact city you'll see the major sites like the Piazza del Campo as well as exploring quieter back-streets to appreciate Siena's complex and rich history. Lunch in an Agriturismo in the area of Chianti, known all over the world for its wine and its countryside of unrivalled charm, where woods alternate with vineyards and olive groves, in a landscape dotted with Romanesque churches, farmhouses, villas and castles of rare beauty. (B,L)

Day 6, Tues: VOLTERRA – SAN GIMIGNANO

Start the morning in the heart of Tuscany, Volterra, and a beautiful city of Etruscan origin. The "magic and mysterious" city of Volterra has its roots in three thousand years of history. The ancient city walls, the imposing Porta all'Arco, the Necropolis of Marmiti and the numerous archaeological finds conserved in the Museo Etrusco Guarnacci like the Ombra della Sera with its unique profile, the funeral urns and the finely crafted jewelry, bear testimony of the Etruscan period. Afternoon tour of San

Gimignano, Famed for its medieval skyscrapers, high walls and narrow streets that typify most peoples image of a Tuscan hill town. Learn about the famous Guelph-Ghibelline conflict that inspired the local families to build their fortified towers and their forms of defence against their enemies, as well as the times of Black Plague when the population and power of San Gimignano was devastated. (B,D)

Day 7, Wed: FLORENCE

Discover why Florence became one of the greatest art centers the world has ever seen. See fabulous masterpieces. Hear about astounding events that shocked the Florentines. Immerse yourself in history and listen to medieval stories with a three hour stroll around Florence's essential sights. Afternoon guided tour of Uffizi Gallery (B)

Day 8, Thu: FLORENCE

Morning tour of Accademia Gallery. Filled with Baroque works by Pontorno, Girolandio, and others, it is still primarily known for Michelangelo's David. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

Day 9 Fri: PISA - LUCCA

Pisa is world famous and not just thanks to its unique Leaning Tower but because of the other masterpieces of Romanesque architecture in the "Miracle Square" such as the cathedral and baptistery. Climbing the tower is recommended, as it is particularly evocative. We will then drive to the even more interesting city of Lucca, famous for its beautiful walls, churches and towers which compose one of the best preserved historical city centers of Europe. After an introduction you will have time at leisure to enjoy the city or perhaps do some shopping. (B)

Day 10 Sat: GROSSETO – ROME

After breakfast travel back to Rome. Along the way, you will stop to visit the medieval city of Grosseto. Return to the hotel in Rome and an evening at leisure before your final Italian dinner. (B, D)

Day 11 Sun: DEPART FOR THE USA

Transfer to the airport this morning to board your return flight back to USA. (B)

TOUR LODGING INFO:

A hotel list is as follows :

Rome

03 Nights - Sheraton Four Points

Siena

02 Night - Garden Hotel

Florence

03 Nights - West Florence Hotel

Pisa

01 Night - H2C Pisa

Please note:

Itinerary and Hotels are subject to change

