

Details of Discovering Tuscany - Hotel 3*

Duration

8 Days 7 Nights

Location

Florence Historical Centre

Language

English, Spanish

Availability

From April 1st to March 31st 2020

Program of Discovering Tuscany - Hotel 3*

Day 1 **Florence**

Arrival in Florence and accommodation at the hotel.

Day 2 **Florence (walking tour)**

Breakfast at the hotel, then you will meet with your guide at the meeting point to start your walking tour. A nice walk which is ideal for those who want to learn more about the events and secrets of Florence, with more than 2000 years of history, from its Roman origins to the 15th century, Ponte Vecchio (the Old Bridge), the Uffizi Gallery courtyard, the incredible architecture of Brunelleschi's dome and the Baptistery. You will discover the important role that Florence had in the history of architecture and art. At the end of the walk you will enjoy a typical Italian aperitif near the Cathedral. Return to the hotel with transfer not included.

Day 3 **Florence/Monteriggioni/San Gimignano/Siena/Chianti/Florence**

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to the "meeting point" and meeting with the guide. Departure by coach
Crossing the suggestive hills of Chianti, we reach Monteriggioni, a small town that fits perfectly with the archetypal image that most of us have of a walled village. The walls and towers are almost intact and the view from below is surprising. Our tour continues to Siena, the medieval city known for its characteristic

Gothic architecture exemplified in the Public Palace with the Torre del Mangia, located in the suggestive Plaza del Campo. We continue the visit to Piazza Duomo, before having lunch in a charming restaurant in the center and taste some delicious traditional Siena cakes. We leave Siena to move to San Gimignano, a fascinating medieval town declared by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site, also known for its white wine called Vernaccia and for its towers. Here we have free time to browse through the ancient streets and to admire the charming landscape that surrounds this town. In the end we move towards the hills of Chianti where we will taste the best red wine "Chianti" accompanied by homemade snacks, oil and balsamic vinegar in a typical winery. Return to the meeting point in Florence.

Day 4 **Florence (Duomo museum & baptistery guided tour)**

Breakfast at the hotel. Follow your guide through centuries of history and witness the beauty that the Duomo Complex has to offer: visit

the Opera del Duomo Museum and the Baptistery of Florence, whose radiant splendor will remain in your memories forever. The first stage of this enlightening tour will be the spectacular Opera del Duomo Museum, housing the most comprehensive collections of works of art connected to the Cathedral of Florence and Brunelleschi's Cupola. Your guide will take you on an engaging guided tour including the highlights of this incredible museum, such as Donatello's wooden Maddalena Penitente, the original Gates of Paradise by Ghiberti and Michelangelo's Pietà. The whole museum has been recently restored and offers to visitors an unforgettable experience, letting them admire incredible masterpieces in a setting that reproduces the environment they were originally designed for, creating a museum within a museum. Continue afterwards with a visit to one of the oldest buildings in Florence, dating back to the XI century, the Baptistery of St John. Originally a Roman temple dedicated to Mars, it owes its octagonal design to the number eight, the symbol of regeneration in Christianity. Together with your guide, discover how the white and green marble external decorations hide a shining triumph of golden mosaics crowning the ceiling, a feast for the eyes that shall not be missed. Last but not least, enjoy an intriguing guided overview of the entire Duomo Complex, a celebration of Renaissance art at its greatest height.

Day 5 **Florence/Cinque Terre /Florence**

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to the "meeting point" and meeting with the guide. Day dedicated to the discovery of one of the most beautiful and suggestive landscapes of the world. A territory, declared by UNESCO a World Heritage Site, where the sea and the land come together to form a unique and evocative space. Eighteen kilometers of rocky coastline full of bays, beaches and deep water, hiking trails with spectacular views. The visit begins at dawn, with the arrival to Riomaggiore (visit for free): the town, which dates back to the thirteenth century, is known for its historical character, its wine and its typical houses that lean on each other in the small stone paths. Then we arrive in Manarola, walking along the famous "Via dell'Amore" * (Camino del amor), a romantic and evocative walk sunk in the rocks that fall to the bottom of the sea. The small port of Manarola (visit for free) has a ramp for boats and picturesque buildings placed on the cliff. Our tour continues to Monterosso (visit for free), "the pearl of the 5 Earths", an old fishing village that the beach and the vegetation seem to embrace. Here we have free time to swim in the sea of ??crystal

and sunbathe on the largest beach in the Five Lands, before taking the boat to Vernazza (visit for free), our last destination. This coastal city, characterized by its colorful and picturesque houses, surrounds a small natural harbor. We advise you comfortable shoes and ... swimsuit! Return to the meeting point in Florence.

* Currently the "Via dell'Amore" is closed and the reopening will depend on the local authorities. In the event that during the high season is not yet accessible, we will offer as an alternative a longer boat trip and the itinerary may suffer variations in the route. Depending on the weather, it is not always possible to visit by boat.

Day 6 **Florence/Lucca/Pisa/Florence**

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to the "meeting point" and meeting with the guide. Departure by bus to Pisa and Lucca, without doubt two of the most beautiful cities in the world thanks to its artistic and architectural heritage. In Pisa we can enjoy a guided tour in the beautiful Piazza dei Miracoli: we admire the Baptistery and the Leaning Tower next to other important sites of cultural interest, such as the Cathedral (including the interior). We have free time to enjoy a good coffee and go shopping before leaving for Lucca. Once you arrive in Lucca - a city renowned for its walls characterized by majestic gates and bastions - guided tour of the magnificent old town strolling between the walls. We can appreciate from the outside the best artistic places in Lucca, such as the Amphitheater, the Guinigi Tower and the Cathedral of San Martín. The tour ends with a pleasant tasting of the famous Buccellato, the typical Lucca sweet. Return to the meeting point in Florence.

Day 7 **Florence/Uffizi Gallery**

Breakfast at the hotel. Meeting with your guide at the entrance of the museum (priority admission). The Uffizi Gallery: it is impossible to leave Florence without visiting one of the most important art galleries in the world. Here you will admire the many masterpieces by Botticelli, Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael, Giotto, Cimabue, and Masaccio (at the end of the guided tour, visitors can remain in the museum). Then free time.

Day 8 **Florence**

Breakfast at the hotel. End of our services.

Highlights Of Discovering Tuscany - Hotel 3*

THE PRICE INCLUDES

- Accommodation in a 3-star hotel in Florence
- Bed & Breakfast formula
- Multilingual guides for all tours and excursions

- Transfers from your accommodation to the meeting point (available free of charge on request for excursions outside Florence) and viceversa.
- Lunch and tasting of typical products during the tour of San Gimignano/Siena and Chianti.
- Tasting of buccellato in Lucca
- Entrance fees: the "Uffizi Gallery" and "Opera del Duomo".

THE PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Tourist tax in Florence
- Transfers on arrival and departure
- Transfers to the "meeting point" for tours of Florence city
- Tips and extras
- Any other service not specifically mentioned in the "The price includes" section

HOTELS EXPECTED OR SIMILAR:

Hotel Arcadia Florence 3 - *Hotel de la Pace* 3 - Hotel Alba 3*