



# **Tuscany Walking Tour**

## 11 days | 13 days with Rome extension

In the land of cypress trees and Chianti, a leisurely stroll may not be the fastest way to get around, but it's certainly the most preferred. On this walking tour of Tuscany, you'll step into historic cities like Florence and Siena, and amble through charming hamlets like Montalcino and Cortona for an authentic glimpse into the heart of Italy.



#### Your tour package includes

9 nights in handpicked hotels

9 breakfasts

1 lunch

4 dinners with beer or wine

6 guided walks

8 sightseeing tours

Expert Tour Director & local guides

Private deluxe motor coach

## Included highlights

Florence's Duomo

Basilica of Santa Maria Novella

Chianti Region wine tasting

Siena

Monteriggioni walk

San Gimignano walk

Volterra

Cortona

Montalcino

Pienza

#### Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 2.5 hours daily across uneven terrain, including unpaved paths and cobblestone streets, with some steep hills.

## Group size

12-22

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## Overnight Flight → 1 night

#### Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Florence today.

## Montecatini → 3 nights

# Day 2: Arrival in Florence & transfer to Montecatini

Included meals: welcome dinner
Welcome to Italy! Arrive in Florence and transfer
to your hotel in Montecatini. Then, meet your
Tour Director and fellow travelers at tonight's
welcome dinner.

#### Day 3: Free day in Montecatini

Included meals: breakfast
Enjoy a free day in Montecatini or add an

+ Medieval Lucca & Farmhouse Lunch

#### Day 4: Sightseeing tour of Florence

Included meals: breakfast

excursion.

Set off on a day trip to Florence, the city at the center of the Renaissance, for a tour led by your local guide.

- Visit the legendary Florence Cathedral, known as the Duomo
- Pass Giotto's Campanile, a masterpiece of Gothic architecture
- Walk past Piazza della Repubblica to the medieval Ponte Vecchio
- Stroll along the Arno River and through the courtyard of the Uffizi Gallery to Piazza della Signoria, center of Florentine life
- Step inside the Basilica of Santa Maria Novella, of Tuscany's most important Gothic churches with artwork by Masaccio, Ghirlandaio, and Giotto

## **Siena** $\rightarrow$ 3 nights

## Day 5: Siena via Chianti

Included meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner
Pass through the famous Chianti region and the
village of Greve en route to Siena.

 Traverse the vineyards and farmlands of the Chianti region on a local walk

- Sample the area's rich red wine over an included lunch and wine tasting
- Explore the main square and winding side streets in the village of Greve

Continue on to Siena and sit down for an included dinner this evening.

#### Day 6: Monteriggioni & Siena

Included meals: breakfast

Today, explore the rolling hills of Monteriggioni and culturally rich streets of Siena.

- Embark on a scenic walk through the woods and countryside of Monteriggioni
- View the Romanesque church of Abbadia a
  Isola
- Enjoy a guided tour of the UNESCO-listed historic center of Siena
- Pass Piazza del Campo
- Enter the Piccolomini Library and Siena Cathedral

#### Day 7: San Gimignano & Volterra

Included meals: breakfast

Take a day trip to the medieval towns of San Gimignano and Volterra, where you'll do some exploring.

- Enjoy a breathtaking view of the town as you walk into San Gimignano, a medieval hilltop city known for its towers
- Embark on an afternoon trip to Volterra, where you can visit the cathedral, Roman Theater ruins or local shops

Enjoy a free evening in Siena or add an excursion.

+ Tuscan Villa Winery & Dinner

## Montepulciano Region → 2 nights

## Day 8: Cortona & Montepulciano

Included meals: breakfast, dinner
Enjoy sweeping views of the Tuscan countryside
as you enjoy guided walks in both Cortona and
Montepulciano.

- Walk downhill from St. Margaret's Church to explore the town of Cortona
- Transfer to the town of Montepulciano, where you'll pass the cathedral and enjoy breathtaking views of the Tuscan hills

Sit down for an included dinner this evening.

#### Day 9: Montalcino & Pienza

Included meals: breakfast

Explore the scenic Montalcino area and the beautiful town of Pienza, nicknamed "the Pearl of the Renaissance."

- Walk through the countryside of Montalcino, ending at the Abbey of Sant'Antimo, a Romanesque church surrounded by rolling hills
- Continue to Pienza, where you'll have free time to see the cathedral and the town's Gothic churches

Enjoy a free evening in the Montepulciano region or add an excursion.

+ Montepulciano Wine Tasting & Dinner

## $\textbf{Rome} \rightarrow 1 \, night$

#### Day 10: Rome via Monte Amiata

Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner Leave the Montepulciano region for Rome, stopping in the Monte Amiata region on the way to visit the charming town of Abbadia San Salvatore.

This evening, join your group for a farewell dinner. As you dine, you'll be treated to a multi-course traditional Italian meal with a live musical entertainment.

## Flight Home

#### Day 11: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home or extend your stay to further explore the history of Rome on foot.

#### + Rome extension

Have your sights on more art, history, and street life? Rome is sure to deliver. Only in the Italian capital can you sip cappuccino in front of the Pantheon and have an audience with the pope all in one morning. See the city's highlights during guided sightseeing, and then look to your Tour Director's expert suggestions to uncover even more.

## **Rome** $\rightarrow$ 2 nights

## Day 11: Walking tour of Rome

Included meals: breakfast

Follow in the footsteps of the ancient Romans during a guided walking tour of the Eternal City.

- Soak up over 2,000 years of history in Imperial Rome, viewing the Arch of Constantine and the Arch of Titus
- Enter the Colosseum, the largest amphitheater of the Roman Empire
- Walk through the ruins of the Forum, once the setting of parades, elections, and trials
- Pass the Imperial Forums, Trajan's Market, and Trajan's Column as you stroll along Via dei Fori Imperiali
- Head to Piazza Venezia to see the Vittorio Emanuele II Monument and Mussolini's balcony
- End your tour in the Jewish ghetto neighborhood

Enjoy free time in Rome or add an excursion.

+ Rome Home-Hosted Dinner

## Day 12: Free day in Rome

Included meals: breakfast
Spend a free day in Rome or add an excursion.
This evening, enjoy a farewell drink as you
celebrate your trip with your fellow group
members.

+ Iconic Sights: Vatican City

## **Flight Home**

## Day 13: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)
Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

## Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.\* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: **goaheadtours.ca/WAT | 1-800-754-5066** 

#### Day 3: Medieval Lucca & Farmhouse Lunch

\$175CAD/\$185CAD\* (8 hours, departs in the morning with lunch)

Visit the gorgeous Tuscan town of Lucca, famous for its Renaissance-era city walls, medieval churches, and awe-inspiring towers. Enjoy free time soaking in the town's history before making your way to the provincial town of Colle Verde in the Tuscan hills. Here, you'll visit an authentic agriturismo, or farm stay, to learn about the process by which olive oil is extracted and refined. Enjoy a tasting of wine and olive oil produced right on the farm before sitting down to a lunch in the farmhouse to savor more locally made products.

#### Day 7: Tuscan Villa Winery & Dinner

\$199CAD/\$209CAD\* (4.5 hours, departs in the evening with dinner)

Set off into the rolling hills of the Chianti region to visit a winery and farm estate, known locally as an agriturismo. You'll tour the villa and gardens to learn about wine production surrounded by the stunning scenery of the Tuscan countryside. Then, enjoy dinner accompanied by three wine varietals produced on the estate.

#### **Day 9: Montepulciano Wine Tasting & Dinner**

\$115CAD/\$125CAD\* (4 hours, departs in the evening with dinner)

One of things that makes Tuscany so special is the amount of farms and wineries that dot the countryside. For tonight's dinner, visit a farm and vineyard near the medieval hilltop town of Montepulciano, which is known around Italy for its regional food and wine. Sample a few of their wines, including the world-famous Vino Nobile, and then sit down for a homemade three-course dinner.

## **Extension excursion options**

#### Day 11: Rome Home-Hosted Dinner

\$99CAD (3 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

Join a local at their home in Rome to enjoy traditional dishes and dine like a true Italian. During this dinner, you'll receive an authentic understanding of your host's day-to-day life while learning about Italian culture and traditions from a new perspective. Please note: Your Tour Director will not attend this excursion. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 20 days prior to departure.

## Day 12: Iconic Sights: Vatican City

\$175CAD (3.5 hours, departure time varies)
This guided tour takes you inside Vatican City—a
UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the most
sacred places in Christendom. This independent citystate within Rome serves as the headquarters of the
Roman Catholic Church and is home to the Pope. Upon
arrival, turn on your pre-distributed headset and dive
into the Vatican's rich history with your local guide. First,

visit the Vatican Museums, which are more than 500 years old and house many of the world's most important Classical- and Renaissance-era sculptures. Next, step inside the Sistine Chapel, whose frescoed ceiling is arguably Michelangelo's greatest masterpiece. Finally, pay a visit to the enormous St. Peter's Basilica, the epicenter of the Roman Catholic faith. The artists who have contributed to its glory are some of the best Italy has ever known: Bramante, Peruzzi, Raphael, and Michelangelo. Masterpieces await at every turn, from Bernini's magnificent bronze canopy to Michelangelo's Pietà.

Please note: Should this excursion fall on a Sunday, it'll be moved to another day of the tour. Backpacks aren't allowed in the Vatican, and shorts and sleeveless shirts are strictly prohibited. Due to closures of certain entrances and pathways, wait times may extend to several hours during busy travel months. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 70 days prior to departure.

\*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at goaheadtours.ca/terms