

# Harvest Tour of Tuscany with Wine, Food, Truffles and Olive Oil

# Dates: Start dates Oct. 10, Oct. 17, Oct. 24 and Oct. 31

### Day 1 – Arrival Day & Welcome Dinner

Arrive at Villa Ravelli, and settle in to the relaxing pace of Tuscan country life. We will arrange transfers depending on location of client's arrival (Additional costs apply).

Enjoy cocktails at 7:00 PM in the villa around the stone fireplace or outside on the panoramic veranda

A special welcome dinner will be served at the villa.



# Day 2 – Participation Cooking Class & Visit to Certaldo

Participate in a late-morning cooking class in the on-site kitchen. Learn to make a traditional Tuscan meal, from antipasto to dolce, completely from scratch. This hands-on class culminates in a group lunch to savor the delicious dishes you prepared. Receive the recipes of everything you make so you can keep the tastes and memories of Tuscany alive when you return home.

Spend free time in the late afternoon exploring the ancient town of Certaldo, offering superb views of the surrounding countryside. Inside its walls and fortifications, find small shops on winding streets and a wealth of palazzi and churches.

Dine at a traditional Tuscan restaurant of your choice that features some of the most delicious local dishes anywhere in the region. (Dinner and wine paid locally) Return to your hotel after dinner with your private driver.



## Day 3 – Wine Tour and Tasting and Interactive Pizza Making Class

Spend the morning at your villa, reading or strolling through the hillside and gardens before you depart for a private wine tasting and grounds tour at Verrazano Villa and Winery.

Enjoy lunch and wine tasting at their delicious restaurant with spectacular views of the Tuscany countryside.

Dinner is another hands-on experience, as you will learn the technique of authentic wood-fired pizza-making, and enjoy your own signature pizza while you compare notes with your fellow pizza makers.





## Day 4 – Olive Picking & Pressing

Spend the early afternoon picking olives in our grove. This is a unique opportunity that few visitors to Tuscany get to experience. While the morning fog dissipates, visit a nearby organic winery for a tour and tasting. Meet the family who has owned and operated this business for generations.

Following a light lunch of cheese, bread and wine, head out into the olive grove to start the harvest, with the owner and her trained staff. When your crates are sufficiently filled, transport the olives to the local press, where you will view the pressing process first hand.

In the late afternoon, after a shower and rest, take part in a second cooking class with a special focus on the use of the freshly pressed olive oil in Tuscan food preparation. Receive a bottle of the day's fresh batch of oil – a reward for your hard work in the grove. For dinner, enjoy all of the dishes you prepared in cooking class.



## Day 5 – Montalcino Visit & Free Time. Sant' Antimo Gregorian Chant Experience

Depart mid-morning to explore the gently rolling hills of Tuscany as you head to the pristine medieval town of Montalcino, home of the world-renowned Brunello wine. Spend the afternoon on your own a strolling through the steep, narrow streets, leading to the town's hilltop castle, experience an extensive tasting of wines from a variety of producers as you wander the streets of Montalcino. Wine tasting and lunch will be on your own and paid for locally in Montalcino.

Make a special side-trip to the Abbazia di Sant'Antimo, a stunning Romanesque church, in a pictureperfect setting outside of Montalcino. Twice a day in the early afternoon, for just twelve minutes each time, the abbey's monks perform a Gregorian chant that is other-worldly, a remarkable experience that will be a highlight of your time in Tuscany.

On your way back to your villa, stop for a winery tour noted as the music winery and a tasting at one of Montalcino's unique boutique producers, where you will sample a range of wines from the same winemaker. Learn about the music in the vineyards that helps with their production. Then, after a long, wine-filled day out, enjoy a quiet dinner at your country villa.



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#### Day 6 – Truffles & Truffle Hunt

On your final day, head out to explore Tuscany, famous for its white truffles. After a winding drive through the hills experience a truffle hunt with your guide and their truffle dog and learn what makes these roots so sought-after.

Enjoy a unique truffle tasting light lunch before return to your villa for a relaxing final afternoon.

Celebrate a special farewell dinner at Villa Ravelli Boscarecce, where you can exchange contact information with other guests, share photos of the trip and reminisce about your favorite moments of this unique Tuscan harvest adventure.



#### Day 7 – Departure Day

Following breakfast, depart for airports, train stations and other destinations. We will arrange transfers to departure points or add extensions depending on client's wishes. (Additional costs apply).

Cost for the package is \$2995 per person

Based on a group of 16 passengers with double/twin occupancy **NOTE**: For larger or smaller groups we will be happy to supply pricing



# We will be happy to assist you with booking your clients:

Special Activities for free time based on your client's interest Pre or Post Extensions to this package

# Harvest Tuscany Tour – Oct. 2016 includes:

- 6 nights in a Tuscany Villa/Inn located in the heart of Tuscany, including daily Breakfast.
- · Meals and wine as noted above
- 3 participation cooking lessons at the Villa/Inn using fresh & local ingredients
- Educational session on how wine is made from vine to table; includes tasting of the region's wines
- Truffle hunt an truffle inspired tasting lunch
- Olive picking, harvest and new olive oil tasting and fresh oil to enjoy at home
- · Visits to medieval Hill towns of Tuscany and other small hamlets
- Special side trip to Abbazia di Sant'Antimo to experience the abbey's monks Gregorian chant
- Recipes in English to bring the tastes of Italy back home
- Private transportation for all the excursions/visits as noted above
- English speaking Italian host
- All local taxes, (NOTE Local Hotel city tax is paid locally)

# PLEASE NOTE:

The pricing for the enclosed is for 16 paying passengers at 8 rooms

The daily schedule may vary due to weather or unforeseen changes with local producers and may be rearranged by our hosts

Trips with low enrollment may be subject to cancellation. Please ask for more details

# \*\*NOT INCLUDED\*\*

Airline tickets Arrival and departure transfers Personal expenses Everything not written in the program Trip / Cancellation insurance