



Annual Tuscany Villa Cooking/Sightseeing

April 30-May 7 2023

(Early arrivals leave April 29/ arrive April 30. See below)

Limited to 10 going as this is hands on cooking with our chef. We cook, eat drink and visit highlights of Tuscany.

**\$3499 UNTIL NOVEMBER 1 2022 Nov 2 onwards: \$3799 single occupancy
\$3099 UNTIL NOVEMBER 1 2022 November 2 onwards \$3399 double occupancy.
Deposit \$750 See below**

All rooms are spacious with wifi/air conditioning and are nicely furnished. They have private modern bathrooms-several have large tubs rather than showers. The house is a former farmhouse restored beautifully with several living rooms, a huge kitchen, several dining areas, UK television, and large public spaces. There is a swimming pool to use at your own risk. The house sits in the middle of rolling vineyards, about 1 1/2 mile walk from a typical Tuscan village. Part of the complex is a medieval chapel, wine store, and olive oil press. If the owner is not in residence, we also visit these ancient sites.

Deposit \$750 of which \$350 is non refundable. If we do not reach our minimum we refund; however we have a wait list every year. Balance payable 90 days before departure and non refundable at that time. If paid by credit card, we add 4%. Travel insurance available to protect you and your money.

Checks must be written to **ECPS Consulting Corporation** (legal name of our group). Credit card payments accepted as well as Zelle. For wires, we will automatically add any bank costs. We require a completed and signed booking form. Mail Payment and Filled Out / Signed Booking Form to : Phyllis Stoller/ ECPS Consulting Corporation Suite 4A 116 East 63rd Street New York NY 10065 Or Fax Booking Form to **917 634 4022**.

As soon as we have our full group, we advise you so you can book flights.

Itinerary

Optional Pisa Overnight

Leave N. America **April 28** arrive **April 30, 2023**.

We suggest The Hotel Bologna in Pisa with its free airport shuttle - free only if you book directly with the hotel. (A taxi from Pisa Airport is 15 minutes or 25 Euro, no tip necessary). The hotel is small, charming has free wifi, and an excellent breakfast.

April 29 free evening The hotel can suggest restaurants within a few blocks.

April 30 Pisa Group: On April 30 at 10AM our escort will meet you at the hotel then walk you to the Tower area and central shopping areas of Pisa. You will be picked up at 3PM April 30 at Hotel Bologna.

If you are not overnighing in Pisa, your trip begins here:

Day One April 30

Our transfer meets you at Pisa Airport for flights to arrive by 3PM (earlier if last flight is before 3PM). We drive to the villa an hour away. This is a group transfer so you might have to wait if you arrive early. Welcome drinks and dinner prepared by our local chef.



Day Two May 1

After breakfast a first cooking lesson with our chef, enjoying the results for lunch. This afternoon visit Lucca for a casual guided walk. Our walks are accompanied by our local escort, who stays with us in the villa. Dinner is prepared for you at the villa. *All meals in the villa include wine or Prosecco or both.*

Day Three May 2

Enjoy our second hands-on cooking lesson after breakfast, and eat the results for lunch. Afternoon visit achocolate factory. Return to the villa for dinner prepared by the chef.

Day Four May 3

After breakfast, visit Florence. Enjoy a day sightseeing or shopping. Our guide accompanies us for a casual look at this great city then you will have free time. Lunch is at a local "trattoria" in Florence. Return late afternoon for dinner in our villa.

Day Five May 4

Another cooking lesson then lunch. This afternoon we visit the Cosimo Maria Masini winery for tastings. Dinner at the villa. (We also have a cheese tasting one night).

Day Six May 5

This morning is our fourth cooking lesson, followed by lunch. The afternoon will be spent in San Gimignano with a chance to explore, before dinner at a local restaurant in town.

Day Seven May 6

After breakfast is our final cooking lesson and lunch. Enjoy our last afternoon relaxing at the villa. Half day Siena tour. In the evening, we enjoy a special farewell dinner prepared by our chef.

Day Eight May 7 2023

After breakfast, AM transfer takes you back to Pisa for flights not leaving earlier than 11AM. Private transfers available optionally at 100 euros per car, to Pisa Airport We arrange shares if possible.

Price Includes: • Land only • Airport transfers from/to Pisa for flights no later than 3PM/ leave no earlier than 11AM. • 7 nights en-suite accommodation at a Tuscan villa. Note: there are stairs in our villa. Some bathrooms have large modern tubs not showers. • 5 x 3 course cooking lessons with our Italian chef. • Experienced host throughout your stay. • Meals as noted with wine • Visits as above • Recipes printed for you and apron to take home. • Transport by private Mercedes minibus **Price Excludes:** Airfare, insurance, items of personal nature, drinks not mentioned, tips to guide/chef or drivers; we suggest \$100 to escort and \$100 to chef, \$25 to drivers at the end of the trip.. Private transfers quoted separately. Travel insurance.

Sample Menus include biscotti, fresh linguini, fresh ravioli, chestnut cake, tiramisu, pannacotta, chicken, fish and sausage dishes, real bolognese sauce, with lots of cooking tips.

Villa: stay in a luxury private villa with private bathrooms, hairdryers, a/c and wifi. The villa is large, with several living rooms, several dining rooms. It is modern inside, historic outside and surrounded by vineyards. There are tv's in public areas. The villa has some stairs. There is a swimming pool to use at your own risk-no guards. Linens, towels and soap are provided and changed once during the week. Our rooms are cleaned once during the week. As this is a private home, you need to bring personal products.

Past groups have loved the feeling of being at home in Italy.