



Tuscany Villa Cooking/Sightseeing/Christmas Markets Dec 3-10, 2025

\$3899 single \$3599 sharing. Limited to 10 going.

This is hands on cooking with our chef. We cook, eat, drink and visit highlights of Tuscany with festive Christmas Markets. All rooms in our villa are spacious with wifi/air conditioning and are nicely furnished. They have private modern bathrooms-several have large tubs instead of 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. The house sits in the middle of rolling vineyards, 1 1/2 miles 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 might also visit these sites. Weather in December is mild.

Deposit \$750 of which \$400 non refundable. Balance payable 90 days before departure and non refundable at that time. Travel insurance available. Checks to ECPS Consulting Corporation (legal banking name of our group). Credit cards accepted with a 4% surcharge. Zelle accepted under phyllisnycity@gmail.com and ECPS Consulting Corp.

ECPS Consulting Corporation Suite 4A 116 East 63rd Street New York NY 10065 Or Fax Form to 917 634 4022. As soon as we have our full group, we advise about flights.

Itinerary Optional / on your own Pisa Overnight Leave N. America on Dec 1 and arrive Dec 2 2025. We suggest Hotel Bologna in Pis. Its airport shuttle is free if you book directly with the hotel. (A taxi from Pisa Airport is 15 minutes or \$35, no tip necessary). The hotel is charming, free wifi, and excellent breakfast. Those who arrive Dec 2, can meet for optional dinner with time to see the Tower and shopping area. **On Dec 3** The extra Pisa to Villa transfer will come to the hotel at 3PM. Cost per van is 125 Euros up to 4 passengers, from Pisa to the villa.

Dec 3-10 2025

Day One Sunday Dec 3 Our transfer meets you at Florence Airport for flights to arrive by 3PM. This is a group transfer so you might have to wait if you arrive early. Welcome drinks and dinner prepared by our chef. All dinners include wine or Prosecco, (Italian bubbly wine) or both. If you fly into Pisa, see above.

Day Two Monday After breakfast a first hands on cooking lesson with our chef, enjoying results for lunch. After lunch visit the beautiful winery of Cosimo Maria Masini for tastings. Dinner is prepared for you at the villa. (Some recipes will be Italian Christmas specials).

Day Three This morning we visit Lucca, the famous hill top town with cobbled streets and festive shops. Lucca is surrounded by impressive medieval walls and full of history in buildings and churches. We enjoy lunch in a local restaurant then return to the villa for a cooking lesson followed by dinner.

Day Four After breakfast visit Florence. Enjoy a full day casual sightseeing. Our guide accompanies us for a walking look at this great city, then free time to visit the Christmas Market. We lunch at a fun pizza restaurant. Late afternoon, enjoy the tradition of Italian aperitifs like Negoni, Bellini, Aperitivo Nonino, pre dinner drinks served with traditional snacks, in a local venue. Dinner prepared by our chef.

Day Five Another cooking lesson then lunch we prepare. This afternoon we visit an artisanal chocolate factory to taste and have an opportunity to purchase amazing chocolates. On return, dinner at the villa followed by a cheese tasting with a lesson on varieties and serving expertise.

Day Six Today we visit two spectacular towns: San Gimignano and Volterra. We will stay on for dinner in a local restaurant in one town, (traffic depending on which one).

Day Seven After breakfast visit a local village, Lari. The village is famous for its pasta, sold in fancy stores like Harrods. <https://www.famigliamartelli.it/> is located at the foot of the ancient castle and it is one of the last ancient method pasta factories. Tonight dinner at our villa with farewell menu to remember as you prepare to return home.

Day Eight Dec 9 After breakfast, AM transfer takes you to Florence Airport for flights not leaving earlier than 11AM. Private transfers available optionally for earlier flights: 125 Euros per van up to 4.

Price Includes: • Land only • Airport transfers r/t from Florence for flights arriving on Day 1 no later than 3PM / leaving no earlier than 11AM on departure day. • 7 nights en-suite accommodation at a Tuscan villa. Note: there are stairs in our villa. Some bathrooms have large modern tubs not showers. • Meals and cooking lessons mentioned in our itinerary • Experienced host throughout your stay at the villa. • Dinners as noted with wine • Visits as above • Recipes printed for you and apron to take home. • Transport by private Mercedes mini bus.

Price Excludes: Airfare, insurance, items of personal nature, drinks not mentioned, tips to guide/chef/drivers. Private transfers quoted separately. We supply tipping guidelines with final documents. We send you travel insurance choices when you book.