



TUSCANY - 2019

October 13 – 19

Expanding on our love of food and table, A'Tavola will be offering two unforgettable trips this year, to experience first hand that which inspires us. Through travel, food, and new friendships, we will explore all that the spirit of Tuscany has to offer.

Food is one of the best and most enjoyable ways to understand and appreciate other cultures.

Join us & our small group for an intimate & memorable experience of the Italian countryside. We will spend a week exploring the culture through food, unforgettable landscapes, cooking classes, vineyards, olive groves and private tours of some of Italy's most charming villages.

DAY 1 | FIGLINE VALDARO* & GREVE IN CHIANTI

Our group will gather this afternoon and meet our driver outside the Figline Valdaro Railway Station (easily accessible from Florence). Departing from the train station it's time to head to our villa located in the hills of Chianti just outside the town of Greve In Chianti. Upon arrival at the villa, guests will have time to settle into their rooms and take a tour of the villa and the beautiful grounds. Our guest chef and friend of the owner will prepare a delicious Tuscan dinner, paired with Chianti Classico from this region.

Dinner

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DAY 2 | MARKET VISIT & COOKING CLASS

The second Monday of every month Gaiole In Chianti holds their market in town. We will drive there after breakfast to walk around the market and check out the beautiful produce, cheese, and cured meats that are produced in this region. After visiting the market we will drive to Badia al Coltibuono, an 11th century abbey that also operates a well known cooking school. Our tour includes a tour of the abbey & wine cellar, which will happen after our cooking class in regional Tuscan cuisine. Down the road is their shop, where you will be able to buy wine and olive oil produced on site. Tonight, guests will have time to relax and enjoy the villa, where Lisa will prepare a delicious meal paired with wine from Badia al Coltibuono.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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*We recommend guests fly into Florence a day or two in advance in order to recover from jet lag and to take advantage of this amazing city. Figline Valdaro is a quick train ride from Florence, departing frequently each day.

DAY 3 | BARBERINO VAL D' ELSA & SAN GIMIGNANO

Barberino Val d' Elsa, despite being in Chianti, is slightly off the usual tourist tracks, which makes it perfect for those wishing to explore a more authentic, un-crowded Tuscany. The historic center of Barberino Val d' Elsa is a classic medieval settlement, elongated in shape and divided by a main street that connects the two gates, the Sienese-Roman and the Fiorentina. We will have time to explore this town before driving to the famous town of San Gimignano. En route, we will stop at a farmhouse winery, for a delicious meal and wine tour. San Gimignano is a charming hill town with its striking medieval towers. We will have time to wander through this photogenic town, including a stop at one of the world's best gelato shops.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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DAY 4 | SIENA

Today we visit Siena where we will enjoy a special, in depth tour of the medieval town, led by our Tuscan guide and friend Camilla, who has been a licensed tour guide for over 30 years. Our tour will include visits to the Cathedral, which houses works by Michelangelo, Bernini, & Raffaello, along with some of the most impressive Piazzas, Medieval fountains & Gothic palaces. We will feast in Siena for lunch at one of Camilla's recommended haunts. After lunch guests will have time to shop some of the beautiful streets and explore on their own before we head back to the villa for a relaxing Tuscan meal.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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DAY 5 | CHIANTI

After breakfast at the villa, we will visit the iconic Chianti villages of Greve & Panzano. First stop is Greve, where my favorite butcher shop, Antica Macelleria Falorni was founded in 1729. To this day it still produces the highest quality of meats & products. After perusing the quaint shops, we will enjoy lunch at Falorni's. After lunch, we will drive back to the villa for guests to relax this afternoon. Tonight we will head to the charming town of Panzano where we will have time to explore this scenic town before beginning our complete Tuscan wine tasting at Academia del Buon Gusto. Just down the road from our wine tasting, is where we will enjoy dinner at one of the top restaurants in Panzano.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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DAY 6 | PIENZA & MONTALCINO

Our last full day in Tuscany, we will head south of Siena to visit the quintessential hill town of Pienza with our local guide. With its strategic position on top of a hill, guests will relish in views of the Val d' Orcia & the surrounding countryside. Pienza was first declared a UNESCO heritage site in 1996, making for an unforgettable & charming visit. After lunch we will head to Montalcino, a town famous for Brunello de Montalcino, where we will sample some of Italy's finest wine. Tonight we will be treated to a traditional Tuscan meal prepared by a local chef.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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DAY 7 | FIGLINE VALDARO & DEPARTURE

We will say ciao to our lovely group today & depart, as a group, for the Figline Valdaro train station. Here we will drop you off to catch the mid-morning train to Florence, where you can connect with your flight home or continue your travels in Italy.

Breakfast

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TOUR PRICE:

***\$4,895.00 per person / Double Occupancy
Single Supplement \$ 750.00***

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PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

At time of reservation: 50% (\$500 is non-refundable)
90 days prior to departure: 50%

CANCELLATION SCHEDULE:

More than 120 days prior to departure: 25% of trip cost
120-60 days prior to departure: 50% of trip cost
60 days or less: 100% of trip cost

TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

- * 6 nights double occupancy lodging in a private Chianti villa
- * All breakfasts / all dinners with local wine / all lunches with local wine
- * Small group travel / maximum of only 16 guests
- * Snacks and Beverages available at the villa
- * Private transportation / Car & Driver for all excursions
- * Local Guides / Private Tours
- * Entrance Tickets
- * Cooking Class
- * Olive Oil Tasting
- * Wine Tastings
- * Wi-Fi at the villa (be aware that Wi-Fi connections are not as fast or as reliable as in the United States)

****NOTE-**

This promises to be a wonderful trip for all; however, flexibility and a spirit of adventure are always appreciated! We will do our very best to stick to the itinerary but we may have to change it due to weather or any unexpected situations. Please note that some activities are subject to a slight change, but you will receive the final itinerary two months before the trip begins.

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TOUR DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- * Air Transportation.
- * *Travel insurance for your trip.*
- * Anything that is not specified to be included
- * Any personal related expenses or travel related expenses outside of the scheduled itineraries.
- * Any wine or other alcoholic beverages or meals that are not presented during scheduled meals.
- * Optional tips to restaurants, tour guides or drivers. These gratuities are given at the sole discretion of each individual traveler.