

# Tour Tuscany with Tamara!

Saturday, May 20 – Saturday, May 27, 2017 (7 nights)

Approx. \$2,500/pp double occupancy (\$3,200 single - or let me try to find you a roommate!), excl. airfare and trip insurance  
Limited to 14 participants (must be 16 or older)

Maybe you've been to Florence, but haven't explored the beautiful, undulating hills or Medieval hilltop towns of the Tuscan countryside? Or perhaps you've never been to Tuscany at all? The focus of this trip will be on Italian food, wine, art, and architecture from the region that has it all! Foodies, art lovers, and history buffs will all be in seventh heaven as we'll do several wine and food tastings, city tours, and a few guided museum visits in the birthplace of the Renaissance.

## INCLUDES:

- 4 nights in Florence's city center; 3 nights in Siena's city center
- Visits to Florence, Pisa, Lucca, Greve in Chianti, Siena, San Gimignano, Montalcino, Montepulciano, and Pienza
- Transfers from the Florence airport
- Boutique 3-star accommodations and all taxes
- Professional guided city tour of Florence, including the Galleria dell'Accademia, home to Michelangelo's David
- Professional guided city tours of Lucca and Siena
- Two winery visits with wine tastings, a cheese tasting, and an olive oil tasting
- All breakfasts, one lunch, one welcome dinner, one farewell dinner (lunch and dinners include wine)
- Transportation via luxury mini coach
- All tips to drivers, guides and hotel staff

## OPTIONAL ADD-ONS:

- Depending on the group's interests, optional artisan workshop tour in Florence, and optional guided tours of the Uffizi Gallery and Palazzo Pitti in Florence
- Round trip airfare from your preferred airport to Florence (or another destination)
- Assistance with pre- or post-travel plans within Europe at no addition cost

## PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

- December 20, 2016: final details, pricing and registration form sent to interested participants
- January 10, 2017: non-refundable deposit due of 30%
- March 10, 2017: balance due

## REQUIRED FOR PARTICIPATION:

- Trip insurance
- Passport valid 6 months past the date of travel
- An open heart, a curious mind, and a sense of humor



Yep, I'm turning 50 in 2017. Come help me celebrate by letting me share my love of Italy, and particularly Florence and Tuscany, where it all began back in 1988 during a semester abroad my junior year in college! Since then, I went on to receive a Master's in Italian Language and Literature and lived and worked in Italy from 1997-2000. I have traveled back countless times and remain fluent in the language and a massive lover of Italian food, wine, art, architecture, culture and design.

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## Proposed Itinerary

(Subject to change based on specific participant interests and availability of certain sights and excursions.)

**Saturday, May 20:** Arrival in Florence. Transfer from the Florence airport to the hotel. Afternoon at leisure. Welcome dinner, including wine. Overnight in Florence.



**Sunday, May 21:** Morning professionally guided tour of Florence, including the Galleria dell'Accademia, home of Michelangelo's David. Lunch on your own. Optional afternoon professionally guided tour of the Uffizi Gallery. Dinner on your own. Overnight in Florence.

**Monday, May 22:** Day trip to Pisa and Lucca. Begin with a visit to Pisa's Piazza dei Miracoli, where you'll have the chance to climb the Leaning Tower. Then on to the delightful walled city of Lucca where you'll have lunch on your own, followed by a professionally guided tour and olive oil tasting. Return to Florence. Overnight in Florence.



**Tuesday, May 23:** Morning optional professionally guided tour of artisan workshops in Florence to see age-old local crafts still being done in the traditional style. Lunch on your own. Optional afternoon professionally guided tour of the Palazzo Pitti, including entrance afterward to the beautiful and extensive Boboli Gardens. Optional late afternoon stroll uphill to the church of San Miniato al Monte with stunning views over the city, and then take in the sunset from another gorgeous vantage point, the Piazzale Michelangelo. Dinner on your own. Overnight in Florence.



**Wednesday, May 24:** We begin our descent southward through the Chianti wine region with a stop in the charming little town at its heart, Greve in Chianti. Visit a winery and enjoy a wine tasting and multi-course lunch. Travel on to Siena where we'll enjoy a professionally guided tour of the city in the afternoon. Dinner on your own. Overnight in Siena.

**Thursday, May 25:** Morning at leisure to explore Siena. Lunch on your own. Afternoon trip to visit the almost intact Medieval city of San Gimignano, the "Manhattan of the Middle Ages". Another winery visit and wine-tasting in the countryside outside San Gimignano. Return to Siena. Overnight in Siena.

**Friday, May 26:** Day trip to the graceful Renaissance towns of Pienza and Montepulciano. Lunch on your own. Cheese-tasting and wine-tasting in the afternoon. Return to Siena. Farewell dinner. Overnight in Siena.



**Saturday, May 27:** Return via mini coach to Florence, with stops at the train station and airport for those either continuing on to other parts of Italy or Europe, or returning back to the States. Arrivederci!

