

Tuscany & Rome

11 days from £829



Swiss Guard



Rome

- Visit Florence
- Wine tasting in Chianti
- Family-run Tuscan hotel
- Stay in the heart of Rome



Witness the timeless landscapes and rolling hills of Tuscany before immersing yourself in the splendours of ancient and modern Rome. Discover frescoes by Giotto in Assisi, sip a cappuccino in Florence's Piazza Signoria, throw a coin into the Trevi fountain and take home a host of memories to treasure for years to come.

ITINERARY

DAY 1 UK/Reggello We fly to Bologna and transfer to the mediaeval village of Reggello in the heart of Tuscany where we stay for seven nights on a half board basis.

DAYS 2 – 7 Beautiful Tuscany Tuscany is Italy's most famous region and it won't take you long to realise why. There's such a host of fascinating places to see: from wonderful historic cities to quaint mediaeval villages, from great artistic treasures to gently rolling landscapes. You'll be able to take in the very best of these with our combination of included and optional excursions. At the end of each exciting day, you can escape to the peace of Reggello, tucked away in the beautiful Arno Valley, surrounded by rolling hills and forests. You may even choose to spend a day or two close to home: the village has an attractive central square with shops and cafes and the countryside is ideal for gentle walks.

Included excursions:

Florence (full day) Visit the birthplace of the Renaissance, a veritable treasure-house of art and architecture. Of all the great Italian cities, this is one of its best loved. The huge terracotta dome of the cathedral was designed by Brunelleschi to dwarf the buildings of ancient Greece and Rome and it still dominates the skyline today. Enjoy a walk to the Piazzale Michelangelo, where you will be able to look

out over the entire city spread along the banks of the Arno. Shop for jewellery on the famous Ponte Vecchio; join art lovers from around the world at the Uffizi, Bargello and Accademia; and linger over coffee in the Piazza della Signoria, the impressive city square – the day promises to be a highlight of your holiday.

Siena & San Gimignano (full day) Two mediaeval gems, these lovely hilltop towns are remarkably little changed since the Middle Ages. In Siena, a network of narrow streets and alleys radiates out from the magnificent fan-shaped Piazza del Campo. San Gimignano is instantly recognisable by its 13 stone towers. Walk around the town walls to get a lovely view of the narrow streets, elegant palaces and mediaeval churches.

Chianti (half day) Some of Italy's finest red wines are produced in this region of stunning rolling countryside, so a tour and a tasting at one of the respected vineyards is something to look forward to.

Optional excursions:

Assisi (full day) Today you have the opportunity to visit Tuscany's equally beautiful neighbouring region, Umbria, and its main town, Assisi. The mediaeval town is exceptionally well-preserved and home to the Basilica of San Francesco. The frescoes by Giotto alone are worth the visit.



Siena



Lucca

Pisa & Lucca (full day) The buildings of the Campo dei Miracoli in Pisa are instantly recognisable. Here you can see one of the most famous symbols of Italy, the Leaning Tower. The adjacent cathedral has a superb pulpit by Giovanni Pisano. Lucca is a graceful town enclosed by Renaissance ramparts. A gentle walk along these walls offers views over the many palaces, churches and pretty squares.

DAY 8 Tuscany to Rome We head south this morning for a three-night stay in the 'Eternal City', steeped in 2,700 years of noble history.

DAYS 9 & 10 The Treasures of Rome A guided walking tour introduces us to this fabulous city. Time is then your own to explore at leisure. Discover Bernini's famous Fountain of the Four Rivers in the beautiful Piazza Navona, a favourite meeting place for Romans and tourists alike. Stand in awe of the huge Colosseum and be truly delighted when you come across the magnificent Trevi Fountain almost by accident as you stroll through the maze of narrow streets. Remember to throw a coin into the water to ensure your return to Rome. You may also like to visit the Vatican. The splendour of St Peter's Basilica and the treasures of the vast Vatican Museums are not to be missed. From Etruscan sculptures to Renaissance paintings, from beautiful tapestries and ancient frescoes to Michelangelo's unforgettable Sistine Chapel, it will take your breath away.

To see more of the Eternal City, choose from two inspiring optional excursions:

Ancient Rome (half day) As befits the capital of the mighty Roman Empire, the ancient ruins here are

second to none. Explore the Forum and Palatine Hill, where you will be able to sense their former splendour; and witness the mighty Colosseum, once large enough to seat 55,000 people.

Rome by night As majestic as the city is by day, it takes on a magical air by night, as the famous sights are illuminated against the night sky. Enjoy a tour following dinner in a typical Roman restaurant.

DAY 11 Rome/UK We transfer to the airport for our return flight.

YOUR HOTELS

REGGELLO

Hotel Italia (3-star), 7 nights half board. Your Tuscan base for seven nights is the friendly 3-star Hotel Italia. You'll be made to feel very much at home in this family-run hotel, which offers comfortable guest rooms, a pleasant restaurant and a sun terrace and courtyard with beautiful views of the surrounding hills. The hotel's lounge and conservatory are great places to relax after dinner.

ROME

Hotel Cicerone (4-star), 3 nights bed and breakfast. Situated within walking distance of the Piazza Navona, Castel Sant'Angelo and St Peter's, this lovely hotel has a bar and excellent restaurant. Guest rooms are well appointed with TV, minibar and air-conditioning. Please note that the 11 September departure will stay at the 4-star Hotel Nova Domus.

Included excursions

- Florence
- Siena & San Gimignano
- Chianti
- Walking tour of Rome

Optional excursions

- Assisi
- Pisa & Lucca
- Ancient Rome
- Rome by night

Meal arrangements

7 nights half board and 3 nights bed and breakfast

Also included

- The services of an experienced Page & Moy Tour Guide
- Hotel portering

Travel Arrangements

Departure Dates & Prices

Holiday Number: **EEITTR**

2008	Price Per Person
27 March	£829
10 April	£859
22 May	£879
29 May	£899
5, 19 June	£899
4, 11 September	£899
25 September	£859

Deposit: £100 per person

Prices are based on the shared occupancy of twin or double rooms with private facilities.

Scheduled flights by British Airways between London Heathrow and Bologna, departing at 12:40h and arriving back from Rome at 16:45h.

Supplements per person

Single rooms £200

Please see pages 157-159 for details of items not included in the holiday price and our price policy.

Transfers

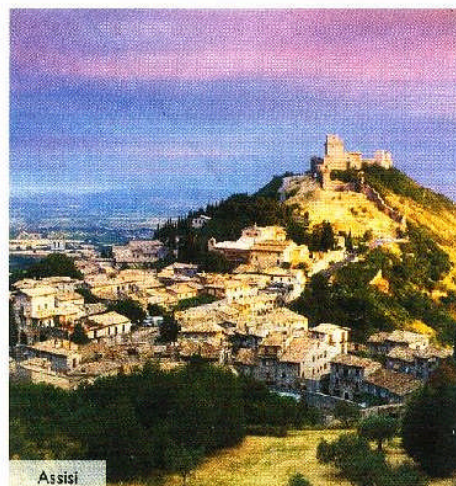
Transfer time from the airport to your hotel is approximately 1 hour 45 mins.

Regional connecting flights to London also available. Please see pages 6-7 for details.

For details of airlines and approximate flight timings please see pages 160-161.

Make your own way

Save £150. Please see page 6 for further details.



Assisi