

Self-guided

Hiking Tour

Tour description

Day 1	
Arrive Siena	
Day 2	18 km
To Buonconvento	
Day 3	18 km
To Montalcino	
Day 4	19 km
To Quiroco d'Orcia	
Day 5	14 km
To Pienza	
Day 6	9 km
To Montepulciano	
Day 7	5 km
End of Tour	

Tour Details

Departures: Saturday and Sunday

from Apr 4 to Oct 18

Cost: CD \$1250 per person

Single Supplement: CD \$300

Length: 7 days / 6 nights

Grade: Intermediate

Starts: Siena

Ends: Montepulciano

Italy



Southern Tuscany

With its lyrical landscapes, world-class art and a superb cuisine the Tuscan experience is perfectly suited for discovery on foot.

Tuscany has a timeless familiarity with its gently rolling hills dipped in soft morning mist and sculptural cypress alleys. But then, this region in central Italy is postcard material. Golden wheat fields, silver olive groves and green vineyards take over the landscape. Walk through the terraced rows on hillsides which lead to medieval hilltop villages.

Southern Tuscany offers the hiker an intimate view of ancient abbeys, churches and castles. Enjoy a day in charming Siena then start your hike from the small village of Buonconvento. Enjoy a glass of wine in Montalcino or soothe your muscles in the thermal resort town of Bagno Vignoni. Walk to Montepulciano, where you have the opportunity to taste its noble wine in the historical city centre. This walking holiday has something for everyone.

Fast Facts

- 6 nights staying in 3* hotels
- 6 breakfasts and 2 dinners
- Luggage transfers as outlined and internal transfers
- Detailed route notes and maps on app
- GPS track available
- Discover one of the most stunning Regions of Tuscany
- Amazing hiking, delicious food, and fine Italian wines...
- Discover olive groves, vineyards and hilltop towns.

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Day 1 – SIENA

Individual arrival in Siena. Visit of the city with its medieval charm and historical city centre. Overnight stay in Siena.

Day 2 – BUONCONVENTO – MONTE OLIVETO 18 km

Short train ride with your luggage to Buonconvento. Leaving your luggage at your first hotel you start your hike from here. You venture out to the Abbey of Monte Oliveto where you can visit the cloister with its renowned frescos. Then continue to Monteronghifoli's castle and the tiny village of Chiusure. From Monte Oliveto Abbey we arrange a private transfer back to your hotel. Dinner and overnight in Buonconvento.

Day 3 – BUONCONVENTO – MONTALCINO 18 km

A highlight of the tour is always walking through the wonderful vineyards, stopping en route at wineries that produce the famous Brunello wines. There is much to discover on this route including beautiful private villas and cellars along the wine route. In Montalcino, you can try a glass of excellent wine then visit the Priori's Palace, the Loggia, The Sant' Egidio's church and the Rocca, a pentagonal defence fortress built up in 1361 and a forerunner of the Tuscan fortresses of the Medicean Age. Return transfer to Buonconvento with public bus. Dinner and overnight stay in Buonconvento.

Day 4 – S. ANTIMO – S. QUIRICO D'ORCIA 19 km

Private transfer to S. Antimo. From here, you cross the Crete region enjoying the magnificent view before reaching the castle of Ripa d'Orcia. There are some stunning panoramic views of the valley below, the Orcia river, Castiglione and Rocca d'Orcia. Arrival in Bagno Vignoni, a thermal resort from the Middle Ages, with a stunning thermal bath right in the village square. Continue walking through some smaller villages then take the public bus to Montepulciano. Overnight stay in Montepulciano.

Day 5 – MONTEPULCIANO – PIENZA 14 km

Today's suggestion is to walk to Pienza, chosen by the Pope Pio as his temporary residence, it's the ideal Renaissance town. Along the way stop in Monticchiello, a charming medieval village. Take your time and discover the countryside leisurely and return to Montepulciano, the biggest town in Val di Chiana. The town is an architectural jewel with its magnificent Renaissance palaces, narrow streets and brick buildings. Overnight stay in Montepulciano.

Day 6 – PIENZA – S. QUIRICO D'ORCIA 9 km

Transfer to Pienza by public bus. From Pienza you will walk across the typical "Crete Senesi" landscape, and after a couple of ups and downs of hills you will reach S. Quirico d'Orcia, located on the Francigena's Way, the pilgrim's road heading to Rome, which contributed to the considerable economic growth of the town. Return to Montepulciano by public bus. Overnight stay in Montepulciano.

Day 7 – MONTEPULCIANO

Individual departure in the early afternoon; from Montepulciano bus station you can go to Siena, Florence (connection in Siena) or Chiusi by public bus. Private transfer possible.



What to Expect

What will the weather be like?

The daytime temperature will be warm and sunny. In summer, you can expect high 80's (high 20's C), and warm evenings. Sunscreen is a must during the day, as is a sweater for the cooler nights in the spring and fall. Traditionally it does not rain, but it is recommended to bring some rain gear in case.

How many hours of walking a day?

Be prepared to walk between 4 to 7 hours daily, rarely on flat terrain. Tuscany is all hills. You are either going up or down almost all the time; however these are shorter rolling ascents and descents.

How fit do I need to be?

The fitter the better, and some experience in mountain hiking is recommended but not required.

What are the accommodations like?

We use wonderful back-country lodges and 3* hotels with twin-bedded rooms, all with private facilities. These family run hotels have a friendly atmosphere and a welcoming bar/lounge for you to enjoy. We have 1 night in Siena, 2 in Buonconvento and 3 in Montepulciano.

Getting There

Arrive by train to Siena. You can fly either to Florence or Pisa and take a local train or bus from there.

Return journey from Montepulciano by train or bus. Transfer service also available.



Extra Costs

- Trip to Siena and from Montepulciano
- Meals except for breakfast and 2 dinners
- Drinks, entrance fees, insurance, public bus tickets, tourist taxes
- Paper road book (trip notes) available is ordered in advance for CD\$25
- Private transfers can be also arranged from Montepulciano to Siena (Day 7) and from Siena to Buonconvento (Day 2)

How to book your holiday

- Contact our office to make sure there is space available. One of our travel planners will walk you through the entire booking process.
- Download the reservation form from our website and send in completed form by fax or email. Once this is done, your space is confirmed and a pre-departure packet will be sent immediately.
- Deposit is required immediately, and final payment is due 60 days prior to departure. Terms & conditions are outlined on the back of our Reservation Form.
- Plan your air travel as soon as possible.
- We encourage you to purchase travel insurance, either through us or directly a travel insurance provider.
- Ensure that you are in proper health for the trip chosen. Contact us for more information on vaccinations, inoculations, and fitness requirements.

