



Cooking & Wine Tour in Tuscany's Brunello Wine Country Tour Itinerary

Day 1	Welcome to Pienza	Meals (D)
Meeting Time:		
Meeting Location:	Chiusi train station	
Description:	<p>Private transfer from Chiusi railway station to Pienza, a walled hill town.</p> <p>Arrive at 4 star hotel, an ex-monastery, beautifully restored with frescoes, magnificent Val D'Orcia views, gardens and swimming pool, in the heart of Pienza.</p> <p>Welcome dinner in a great local restaurant.</p>	
Day 2	Explore Pienza, country walk, cheese tasting, winery visit	Meals (B L)
Description:	<p>Explore charming Pienza on guided walk.</p> <p>Drive through a splendid valley to walled hill town, Montichiello. Enjoy two hour optional walk along country roads on a spectacular ridge with 360 degree valley views from Montichiello to Pienza. Your van will follow you, so you can walk or ride in the van.</p> <p>In Pienza enjoy lunch at a typical Tuscan restaurant. The manager (and sommelier) gives a cheese tasting of various styles of Pienza's famous pecorino cheeses.</p> <p>Visit a winery in a 14th century palazzo in the little hill town, Montefollonico. The owner takes you on a cellar tour and leads you through a tasting of his Rosso di Montepulciano, Vino Nobile and Vin Santo. In good weather, chat about life on his garden terrace with views across the valley to Montepulciano.</p> <p>Drive back to Pienza for light dinner on your own.</p>	
Day 3	Explore Montalcino, country cooking class, Brunello wine tasting	Meals (B L)
Description:	<p>Drive to a lovely valley near Montalcino to the home of Alberto, a fabulous cook and formerly an artisan olive oil producer. In his country kitchen, cook traditional Tuscan dishes that were vanishing from local cuisine. Dine on your creations around his dining room table.</p> <p>Visit a family's Brunello winery to walk through their cellars, discover what makes Brunello so special and taste their Brunello and Rosso di Montalcino.</p> <p>Visit 1000 year old Romanesque Sant'Antimo church. Set in an idyllic valley, stand in awe at the quintessential Tuscan view of cypresses zigzagging up hills, olive trees, vineyards and fields.</p> <p>With your guide, stroll through medieval hill town, Montalcino, home to Brunello wine. At the enoteca (wine shop) in a medieval fortress, learn more about Brunello with a staff member and taste a variety of Brunellos.</p> <p>Drive home. Enjoy a light dinner on your own in Pienza.</p>	
Day 4	Explore Montepulciano, cooking class, wine tasting	Meals (B L)
Description:	<p>Drive to hill town Montepulciano, famous for Vino Nobile, another top Italian red wine, and its lovely Renaissance palazzos and stunning views. Relax over a cappuccino in a beautiful 19th century café.</p> <p>Cook with the chef in an excellent restaurant in Montepulciano. Lunch of Tuscan dishes with creative touches at the restaurant.</p> <p>Explore Montepulciano on a guided walk. Visit a local winery's shop to taste Vino Nobile di Montepulciano and more. Free time in Montepulciano to browse stores selling tablecloths and ceramics, leather goods and art.</p> <p>Light dinner on your own in Pienza.</p>	
Day 5	Explore Siena	Meals (B L)
Description:	<p>Drive to Siena. Morning walking tour with a Siena guide in the historic centre to learn about Siena's history, art and architecture.</p> <p>Light lunch together in Siena. Afternoon free to shop, explore or just hang out.</p>	

Drive back to Pienza. Dinner on your own.

Day 6	Cooking in hamlet with top chef, olive mill visit & tasting in San Quirico	Meals (B L)
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Description: Drive into hills of Monte Amiata to a hamlet to a restaurant well known for its outstanding cuisine, especially its mushroom dishes. Gourmets in the know drive miles to eat there.

Cook beside chef and owner Roberto, the epitome of warm hospitality, an excellent cooking teacher and a charming man passionate about food and wine. An extraordinary experience! Dine on your creations with wines specially chosen by Roberto.

If you wish, visit a nearby park of intriguing, fun modern sculpture, managed by Roberto.

In less touristed, medieval hamlet, San Quirico, visit a family-run olive oil mill to taste their olive oil. The owner tells you everything you want to know about olive oil.

Light dinner on your own in Pienza.

Day 7	Ciao for now	Meals (B)
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Description: Leave after breakfast for Chiusi train station.

If you'd like a private driver for points beyond, we can arrange it for you.