Spotlight on Tuscany

October 12 – 20, 2019 Hosted by Bob and Linda Christman



Join the Bismarck Art & Galleries Association on a 9 day exciting tour of Tuscany, Italy



For more information contact
Direct Travel
Next to Barnes & Noble
561 S 7th Street, Bismarck ND 58504

Phone: 701-258-5000 Toll-Free: 1-800-833-8787

www.DirectTravelnd.com Email: info_dakotas@dt.com





9 Days ● **10 Meals**: 7 Breakfasts, 3 Dinners

Per Person Rates*:

Double Occupancy \$3,899

Single Occupancy \$4,349; Triple Occupancy \$3,869

Included in Price: Round Trip Air from Bismarck Municipal Airport, Air Taxes and

Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers

Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Travel Protection Insurance

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS: Your price is subject to increase prior to the time you make full payment. Your price is not subject to increase after you make full payment, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. Once deposited, you have 7 days to send us written consumer consent or withdraw consent and receive a full refund. (See registration form for consent.)

Single-hotel Stays: Unpack just once and explore the world's most iconic cities during Spotlights' single-hotel stays. The leisurely pace offers you the chance to get to know these destinations like a local. Must-see cultural highlights are always included, plus there's plenty of time to explore independently, creating your own unique adventure.







Collette Experiences

- Step to the front of the line to see Michelangelo's famous statue of David.
- See the Gothic Line, one of the Germans' last lines of defense during WWII.
- Visit the Museum of Liberation and see WWII fortifications and bunkers.

Must-See Inclusions

- Stay in the famous spa resort town of Montecatini Terme for seven nights!
- Journey to Florence for a tour of the "Cradle of the Italian Renaissance."
- Stop in the medieval city of Lucca, encircled by 16th-century walls.

Culinary Inclusions

- Sample delectable wines during a wine tasting in the Chianti region.
- Spend time at a cheese farm to taste flavorful pecorino cheese.
- Learn about Tuscan cuisine during a cooking class.

Highlights: Montecatini Terme, Florence, Lucca, Gothic Line, Pisa, Cooking Class, Siena, Choice on Tour, Winery Tour, Cheese Farm, San Gimignano

Day 1: Saturday, October 12, 2019 Overnight Flight Rolling landscapes, savory wines, delicious food and stunning architecture...this can only be Tuscany. Unpack once on this journey among Italy's most charming towns.

Day 2: Sunday, October 13, 2019
Montecatini Terme, Italy - Tour
Begins Your tour opens in the famous spa resort town of Montecatini Terme, nestled in the heart of the rolling hills of Tuscany. This evening, get to know your fellow travelers during a welcome dinner where regional foods and Italian wines kick off your adventure. (D)

Day 3: Monday, October 14, 2019
Florence A cultural tour in the "Cradle

of the Italian Renaissance" showcases. the beautiful city of Florence. Join a local Florentine guide who highlights many of the city's priceless treasures including a visit to the Academy Gallery* – housing Michelangelo's monumental statue of David. At the Piazza del Duomo, the center of religious life in medieval Florence, see the impressive Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore and the gilded bronze doors of the Baptistery dedicated to St. John. Take the remainder of your day to explore this unparalleled city as you choose. En route to the hotel, visit a family-owned leather shop and learn





the traditional Italian techniques of leather making. (B)

Day 4: Tuesday, October 15, 2019 Lucca - Borgo a Mozzano - Gothic Line Set out on a guided visit to Lucca, Tuscany's best-kept secret. Renaissance walls, Romanesque churches, medieval streets flanked by towers, and delightful squares are just some of Lucca's charms. Visit the medieval Basilica di San Frediano. Its otherwise simple façade is adorned with a colorful 13th-century mosaic. Enjoy some time to explore at your own pace. Then set off for Borgo a Mozzano to see the remarkable Ponte del Diavolo (Devil's Bridge). Continue on to the Gothic Line. Built by the Germans, it was one of their last lines of defense during WWII. We will visit the Museum of Liberation and see the actual fortifications and bunkers. (B)

Day 5: Wednesday, October 16, 2019 Pisa Explore the many historic sites in the ancient maritime Republic of Pisa including the Piazza dei Miracoli, or "Field of Miracles" (UNESCO). Keep your camera handy during our stop at the famous Leaning Tower of Pisa.

You probably won't be able to resist taking a picture that makes it appear as if you are holding this iconic structure up. Visit the Baptistery, the largest in all of Italy. This impressive building of Romanesque and Gothic architecture is known for its perfect acoustics. This evening we travel to the quiet countryside to learn the secrets of traditional Tuscan cuisine. Partake in a cooking class featuring a bounty of local ingredients and culinary techniques that have been passed down for generations. Then sit down and enjoy the fruits of your labor during dinner. (B, D)

Day 6: Thursday, October 17, 2019
Siena Welcome to Siena. Discover this charming town with a local guide. Embark on a walking tour through its narrow Gothic streets. Take in stunning palaces, mansions and the historic Piazza del Campo along the way. Then, it's your choice! Explore Siena's beautiful Gothic cathedral at your own pace -OR- join your guide to get to know local life in a contrada (neighborhood). Next we make our way to a Tuscan winery and meet the people behind some of Chianti's finest wines. Learn from experts as you



savor a selection of the local varieties. You'll also learn about the art of winemaking and the process of making olive oil. (*B*)

Day 7: Friday, October 18, 2019
Montecatini Terme The day is yours to relax and experience the local flavor. Take this opportunity to shop at the local boutiques and dine at one of the many fine local restaurants. Or, perhaps you will choose an optional excursion to Cinque Terre with its rugged coastline dotted with terraced vineyards; explore its string of fishing villages nestled between the mountains and the Mediterranean. (B)

Day 8: Saturday, October 19, 2019 San Gimignano - Cheese Farm Visit Begin the day traveling to the hilltop village of San Gimignano, one of the most picturesque places in Tuscany. Explore this enchanting medieval town, from its famous 14 towers to its magnificent vistas overlooking the vineyards of Tuscany. Enjoy free time and perhaps indulge in some gelato. Later, enjoy breathtaking views of the Tuscan hills as we make our way to a cheese farm. Learn how the famous pecorino cheese is made before sampling it for yourself. A delightful experience awaits this evening when you attend a Tuscan feast featuring traditional cuisine and savory wines in the magical Tuscan countryside. (*B*, *D*)

Day 9: Sunday, October 20, 2019 Montecatini Terme - Tour Ends Your journey comes to a close today. Depart with many fond memories of Tuscany. (B)

Itinerary at a glance

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2 – 8 Hotel Ercolini and Savi, Montecatini

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Experience It! Gothic Line

In the waning days of World War II (and after the fall of Rome), German forces made preparations to defend northern Italy. Along the Apennine Mountains, they created a formidable line of defense in an effort to hold back Allied forces. The site of some of the hardest fighting of the Italian campaign, the battles along the Gothic Line helped tie down two German armies. Join us and see the array of bunkers and fortifications along the line and visit the Museum of Liberation. Learn of the heroic deed of Allied forces and Italian partisans. Come away with a new appreciation for those who gave so much in the name of freedom.

Please Note:

IDENTIFICATION

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require a minimum of 6 months passport validity from date of return home. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements. IMPORTANT: We recommend that our clients traveling abroad take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

Days of features are interchangeable.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

Most shops and businesses in Italy are closed on Sundays and on national/religious holidays.

To complete your tour, we <u>include</u> roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your <u>own air</u>, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at prescheduled times.

*The Academy Gallery is closed Mondays, as are other state museums. If the Academy Gallery is closed the itinerary will be rearranged to accommodate it.

To truly experience the program and destination, you need to be able to participate in physical activities such as longer walking tours, walking over uneven terrain, climbing stairs and periods of standing. Some of the touring days may be longer, with select included activities occurring later in the evening. Some of the most unique sightseeing can mean accessing locations that restrict motorcoaches, especially in historic areas. For your comfort, we recommend bringing walking shoes.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until checkin at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Air passengers will arrive and depart from Florence or Pisa airports.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

A deposit of \$500 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of April 05, 2019 are based upon availability. Final payment due by August 13, 2019. Deposits are refundable up until April 12, 2019.

CST#2006766-20 UBN#601220855 Nevada Sellers of Travel Registration No. 2003-0279

For more information visit https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/926986

Air Upgrades

Collette's Elite Airfare allows you to travel in ultimate comfort and convenience. Treat yourself to a wealth of amenities that come with a business, premium economy, or first-class ticket. Land rested, refreshed, and ready for your adventure.

Upgrade your in-flight experience with Elite Airfare

Additional rate of: Business Class \$4,990 † Refer to the reservation form to choose your upgrade option

The Collette Passport Club

When you travel with Collette, you're automatically enrolled as a member of Collette's loyalty program, The Collette Passport Club. As a member of The Collette Passport Club, you will receive a \$150 travel credit for each trip you take† along with other great travel benefits, fun gifts, and special recognition.

The Collette Gateway

The Collette Gateway is designed to be your "one-stop shop" with all the important travel information you need, plus a lot of experience-enhancing extras you'll love. By registering for the Collette Gateway, you can discover more about your destination, explore exciting optional excursions, get a checklist of important things needed for a smooth journey, and access your Collette Passport Club features. Learn more at gateway.gocollette.com

† Full credit is valid for your next tour when travel is completed within 12 months of the original trip. \$100 of the credit remains valid for travel within 13-24 months. Credit expires 24 months after the original trip.

Optional Tours:

required. Transportation is included.

Montecatini Terme Tuscan Villa Dinner & Entertainment \$85 USD Spend your free night in a gorgeous villa overlooking the beautiful spa town of Montecatini Terme and feasting on delicious Tuscan cuisine. You'll dine in high style at this country estate that was once a family farm house. Live, traditional entertainment and wine are included in this magical outing. Now a family owned boutique inn and restaurant, the villa is known for its thoughtful hospitality, elegance, and home made olive oil. Stroll through its magnificent gardens and enjoy views of the rural hills and Montecatini Terme. *Duration: Approximately 3 hours.* Please note a minimum of 20 passengers is required. Transportation is included.

Lucca Day Trip to Cinque Terre \$140 USD

Spend a glorious day exploring the unique Cinque Terre. You'll discover a magical land nestled between the mountains and the Mediterranean that is nearly inaccessible. Travel by rail and boat*, past terraced vineyards and stunning panoramas on your way to a string of colorful fishing villages that sit along the area's breathtaking, rugged coastline. Savor the charms of this special place with a local guide who will help you explore some of the delightful towns of the area. Hear tales of the region's past and present as you come to know why the Cinque Terre National Park has been named a UNESCO World Heritage site. This is the perfect way to spend your day – feeling like you have stepped into a postcard. Your day comes to a close tasting the flavors of the area at a local shop as you sip wine made in the region and try some local treats. *Boat trip is seasonal. When boat is not available, travel will be by rail only. *Duration: Approximately 8 hours.* Please note a minimum of 10 passengers is



Direct Travel 561 S 7th St Bismarck, North Dakota, 58504-5859





TRAVEL DATE: 10/12/2019 TERRITORY: M4

RES#: 926986

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For Reservations Contact: Direct Travel (701)258-5000 Email: info_dakotas@dt.com Direct Travel, 561 S 7th St, Bismarck, ND 58504-5859

A deposit of \$500 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of April 05, 2019 are based upon availability. Final payment due by August 13, 2019. Deposits are refundable up until April 12, 2019. YOUR INFORMATION:

Clearly print your full name (first/middle/last) as it appears on your government issued travel documentation.

IMPORTANT: In order to avoid any unnecessary change fees, it is imperative that all guest names are entered correctly from the start. The information below must be the legal name and be 100% identical to the ID being used to travel passport/driver's license> including middle names or suffixes < Jr. Sr>.

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