



# Randonnée Tours

## Tuscany Walking 8 Days

### Summary

#### Length

8 days/7 nights, with 6 days of walking

#### Dates

Start any date between April 1 and October 31

#### Level

10-24 km (6-15 miles) daily distance which will take 4-6 hours

*"The walks were beautiful and challenging. The villages were quaint with excellent accommodations and the service was stellar. We loved Tuscany and wish to walk other areas of this great region."*

- M. Klug

Tuscany is art. Perfectly proportioned villas framed by elegant cypresses cap lines of hills. Towns and villages display layers of heritage in stately palazzi, decorated window frames, even doorknockers and wine bottle labels. Picture yourself walking in Tuscany, and imagine the delights of a self-guided tour.

### Itinerary



#### Day 1

Arrival to your first accommodation in Montepulciano. Spend some time strolling around this beautiful town,

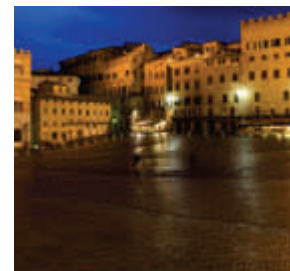
with its many Renaissance palazzi and churches. (15 km distance/490 m total elevation gain)

#### Day 2

Walk to the beautiful church of San Biagio on the outskirts of town, then head into the countryside. Stop at the walled village of Montichiello for lunch or an espresso before making your way to Pienza, a small town once called "the pearl of the Renaissance". Partly redesigned by Pope Pius II, Pienza boasts a splendid Renaissance Cathedral and the charming Palazzo Piccolomini. Sample pecorino, a local sheeps' cheese. (15 km distance/490 m total elevation gain)

#### Day 3

Continue through a beautiful region of rolling hills, oak woods, and charming villages. Pass through San Quirico d'Orcia (409 m), another walled city with an elegant 12th century church and Bagno Vignoni, a spa town which has central square that has a huge steaming pool of



sulfurous water famed for its healing properties since Roman times. End the day in the tiny cillage of Rocca d'Orcia. (21 km/685 m total eleva-

tion gain)

#### Day 4

On this challenging day, you will walk along dry riverbeds to reach the isolated Abbazia de Sant'Antimo, with its magnificent Romanesque church which the locals like to say was founded by Charlemagne in the 8th century. There are 10 more km to go before you get to today's destination, Montalcino, so you'll be picked up at the abbey and driven the rest of the way. (13 km/585 m total elevation gain)

#### Day 5

Montalcino is renowned for its ruby-red Brunello wines, so you'll spend much of the day strolling through vineyards as well as olive groves. Then you'll enter the primeval landscape of the crete senesi, where shepherds tend the sheep whose milk is used to make pecorino cheese. Spend the night at a delightful agriturismo near Buonconvento. (23.5 km / 525 m total elevation gain)



## How to get there?

You start in Montepulciano. You can reach Montepulciano from Chiusi by Taxi which is 20km away. Airports convenient to Chiusi are at Rome and Florence. From Rome train travel to Chiusi takes between 1 and 1.5 hours. From Florence the trip takes approximately the same time, but may require a change in trains.

Your confirmation package will provide additional planning information.

## Itinerary

### Day 6

Enjoy a leisurely day relaxing around the pool or follow a hilly path to the 14th-century Benedictine abbey of Monte Oliveto Maggiore, one of the most impressive abbeys in Italy. Contemplate the cloister with its magnificent fresco cycle on the life of St. Benedict. The walk back from the abbey takes 3 hours. (10 km/255 m, beginning with a shuttle to Monte Oliveto Maggiore)

### Day 7

Walk along a winding dirt road over hills and through oak woods. Pass buenconvento and Murlo, a tiny medieval borgo, the oldest settlement in the area.

A ring of houses forms Murlo's defensive walls. Visit the Museo Etrusco which commemorates the town's Etruscan origins. You'll be met in Murlo and transferred to Siena. (16 km/285 m total elevation gain)

### Day 8

Enjoy the sights of Siena before your departure. Stroll through the Piazza del Campo and to the spectacular Duomo, one of the few full Gothic Cathedrals built south of the Alps.

## Accommodation

### Classic



#### **Albergo Il Marzocco**

Montepulciano

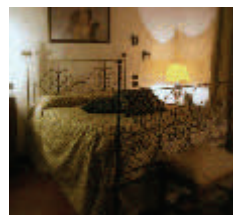
The 16th Century hotel has been run by the same family for over 100 years and is an ideal place for a peaceful relaxing stay with spacious and comfortable rooms.



#### **Hotel San Gregorio**

Pienza

This 3-star hotel is conveniently located steps to the historical district of Pienza.



#### **Il Borgo**

Rocca D'orcia

This charming and cosy albergo has only three rooms decorated with tradition and taste. It also has one of the best restaurant in the area.



# Randonnée Tours

## ***The Price includes:***

- 7 nights hotels
- All breakfasts and 2 dinners
- Detailed route instructions and map
- Luggage transfers and necessary transfers during the tour
- Area Manager available throughout the tour

## Accommodation

### Classic



#### **Giglio Hotel**

Montalcino

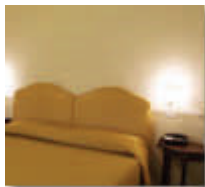
This charming family-run hotel is in the heart of Montalcino, and boasts spectacular views over the Tuscan countryside.



#### **Fattoria Pieve A Salti**

Buenconvento

A beautiful traditional Agriturismo (country hotel) with a spa, horse riding and outdoor & indoor swimming pools. There is a traditional tuscan restaurant on site, where organic food is served.



#### **Hotel Chiusarelli**

Siena

This 3 star hotel is situated in the heart of Siena, just 300 meters from the Famous Piazza del Campo. The rooms have all been refurnished and have a neo-Classic Style.

### Luxe



#### **Hotel Il Chiostro**

Pienza

Formerly a convent, this 4 stars hotel features beautiful views over the countryside from its gardens.



Randonnée Tours

## Accommodation

### Luxe



#### **Hotel Vecchia Oliviera**

Montalcino

The Vecchia Oliviera Hotel is a fascinating ancient olive- oil mill that has been carefully renovated. Both its location and warm service make it a relaxing place to stay. Swimming pool. Stay in suite.



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#### **Hotel Santa Caterina**

Siena

This 18th century villa has been converted into a cozy hotel. It is just a few minutes away from the medieval city gates.