A Tour to the Heart of Italy May 26 – June 5, 2025

A Special Journey to Appreciate the Unique Regions of Tuscany, Umbria & Abruzzo

www.toursbysierra.com

This central area of Italy has Spectacular Scenery, Cultural Depth,
Traditions & Culinary Heritage & Thermal Springs. On the Adriatic coast of
Abruzzo enjoy the Blue Flag beaches.

Mon. May 26: From Rome airport, we travel an hour for a short, refreshing stop at the Etruscan village of Tarquinia. A two-hour drive, we arrive on the edge of at Hotel Ristorante Tre Stelle for five nights. This town is known for its elegant architectural Renaissance, famous for Vino Nobile in the heart of Tuscany's Val



de'Orcia, full of picturesque medieval hilltop towns, wineries and olive groves.

Tues. May 27 AM: Tour of Montepulciano, led by local Antonella. www.antonellapiredda.com. Afternoon is free to explore individual interests.

Wed. May 28 AM: A private tour of La Foce Gardens. www.lafoce.com. Lunch is nearby at www.dopolavorolafoce.it, a lovely setting with a splendid menu. **Thurs. May 29**: Day tour led by Antonella to Val d'Orcia, including Food/Cheese/Wine tour.



Fri. May 30: Spa Day, a short drive to the thermal springs of the medieval villages of Vignoni & San Casciano dei Bagno, used for thousands of years due to the healing properites of the water.

Sat. May 31: On to the region of Umbria, with more breathtaking scenery of dense forests, Appennine Mts & Etruscan villages. A detour stop at Cortona, (Under the Tuscan Sun). we continue on to Norcia, (1300 B.C. at the foot of the Sibillin National Mt Park), a walled in town & home to proscuitto, hunting the wild boar & a favorite destination of "Foodies". Our lodgings are Santa Croce-Country resort in Sant'Anatolia di Narco, a lovely country setting near Norcia.

Sun. June 1: A short drive to Piano Grande, 4000 ft above sea level, is a basin of porous limestone that explodes with a spectacular sight of 1800 botanical species of alpine flowers in May & June. Lunch in the village of Castelluccio, made famous for their tiny flavorful lentils as well as meats & cheeses.

Mon. June 2: Depart for the region of Abruzzo. An hours drive for lunch at Lake Camposto in the Gran Sasso National Park & a two hour drive thru Campo Imperatore to the Adriatic Coast & our destination, the beach town of Pineto, (Pines). Our two-night stay is at Hotel La Pineto, one block from a sandy beach. with beach chairs & restaurants.

Tues. June 3: A tour of the hilltop medieval village of Pinetop. Afternoon, beach time.

Wed. June 4: Early afternoon, we head back to Rome airport (FCO) to our nights lodging at Ostia Antica B&B.

Thurs. June 5: departure.



Details

FEE: Double occupancy per person: \$1575. Single: \$1960. Eight People Max **Deposit**: \$300. 50% of deposit refundable until Feb 26, 2025 when balance is due. **Includes**: Ten nights lodging, 10 breakfasts, 2 guided walking tours, Wine/Cheese/Food tour, entrance fees, ground transportation & departing airport shuttle. Arrive at Rome airport (FCO) airport.

To Register, send deposit: by check to Tours by Sierra or by Zelle to backroadsjoy@gmail.com. Mailing address: Tours by Sierra P.O. Box 912, Green Valley, Az 85622,

Airfare not included. I will help with the research for prices of flight specials. Transportation will be provided from there to Tuscany.

Trip Insurance: Two that are less costly

are <u>www.freely.me</u>, <u>www.safetywing.com</u> or <u>www.toursbysierra.com</u>. Trip Insurance must be purchased before final payment.

Airfare not included. I will be glad to share information on airlines to obtain the best airline rates. Check Passports: Passports must NOT EXPIRE within SIX MONTHS BEFORE RETURNING TO U.S.!

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