



## TUSCAN HILLS: ITALIAN DOLCE VITA ON TWO WHEELS

self-guided tour  
8 days / 7 nights

  → approx. 300 to 350 km



## DESCRIPTION

Goethe, too, loved Tuscany, the home of eminent people like Giacomo Puccini and Leonardo da Vinci; Tuscany impresses all of our senses: mouth, nose, ears, and even the stomach. Perhaps with a portion of delicious pici and a classic Chianti? As a cyclist, you will get many opportunities to perceive the full scale of impressions, colors, shapes, and sounds in this region: the elegance of magnificent castles, the use of forms in the stylish villas, surrounded by the silvery green of the olive groves and the purple of the lilies. Visit Florence, "la bella" – the beautiful one, Siena, Vinci, and Pisa and enjoy the solitude of the wide hills cycling on quiet roads. For centuries, Tuscany has enchanted people. Both the people who have left their traces behind and helped to enrich the culture of this region and the people who came to stay. You will understand once you have been on this trip you will understand why!

## CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ROUTE

Tuscany has a wonderful but also hilly landscape. You will cycle on quiet minor roads and sometimes even on country lanes from one famous city to another. Close to bigger cities, traffic is unfortunately unavoidable.

## **A DAY BY DAY ACCOUNT OF THE ROUTE**

### **DAY 1: Arrival in Montecatini Terme**

In the hotel, you will first get detailed information on the tour and your bikes. Afterwards, we recommend taking a walk in the spa park or taking the historical rack railway train to Montecatini Alto.

### **DAY 2: Vinci (approx. 55 km)**

At the beginning of your tour, you will cycle through the vast plains of the valley Valdenievole, which is characterized by a lot of agriculture. You will continue through the first Tuscan villages, through olive groves to Vinci, the birthplace of Leonardo. We recommend visiting the museum in the castle since it is home to one of the largest and most original collections of machines and models of the inventor. Then, you will take quiet roads back to Montecatini Terme.

### **DAY 3: Montecatini Terme – Pisa (approx. 40-90 km)**

On your way to Lucca, you will pass the small, medieval wine town of Monte Carlo, where one of the few white wines of Tuscany flourishes. (Alternatively, you can take the train to Lucca). A bike ride on the historic city walls offers magnificent views of churches and towers that rise above the countless roofs of the city. Afterwards, you will continue to Lake Massaciuccoli (also called Lake of Giacomo Puccini) with stunning views of the sea and Pisa with its Court of Miracles (“Piazza dei Miracoli” – Leaning Tower).

### **DAY 4: Pisa – Casciana Terme (approx. 50 km)**

First, the bike path leads you along the river Arno. Many fertile fields line your way and you will continue your tour through the Pisan hills, on whose gentle slopes sweet wines, olives and juicy peaches grow. You will see small medieval villages located on the hilltops and soon you will have reached today's destination, the spa town Casciana Terme.

### **DAY 5: Casciana Terme – San Gimignano (approx. 55 km)**

Today, you will cycle on beautiful trails through vineyards and rolling hills to San Gimignano. On your way, you will see images of the original Tuscany as they have been painted many times. Just before you reach today's destination, the silhouettes of the famous medieval towers appear in front of you. Each aristocratic family once had their own tower here – and these towers still dominate the townscape.

### **DAY 6: San Gimignano – Siena (approx. 50 km)**

The beautiful Tuscan landscape on today's stage makes you forget the small climbs on the route. Once you reach the small fortified village of Monteriggioni, you will feel as if you were in the Middle Ages. Today's highlight undoubtedly is the architectonic paradise of Siena.

### **DAY 7: Siena – Florence (approx. 50 km + bus transfer)**

The tour takes you into the midst of the wide Chianti region. Only here the world-renowned “Chianti Classico” wine, which is much respected among wine connoisseurs, is grown. The charming wine village of Castellina is on your way to Greve. Thanks to its famous wine and olive production, it is called the capital of the Chianti region. From here you will get back to Florence by bus.

### **DAY 8: Departure or extension**

Afterwards: individual departure, extension of your trip, or combination with the tours “Venice-Florence” and “Florence-Rome”.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION:**

- **Classification of the cycle-tour:** Self-guided tour
- **Duration:** 8 days / 7 nights
- **Distance:** Approx. 300 - 350 km
- **Starting point:** Montecatini Terme
- **Arrival:**  
By train: Montecatini Terme central train station.  
By plane: Florence and Pisa airport.
- **Accommodation:**  
Category Charme: 4\*\*\*\* hotels, 1 x 3\*\*\* hotel and 1x agriturismo  
Category A: 3\*\*\*Sup and 4\*\*\*\* hotels, sometimes with a swimming pool  
Category B: 3\*\*\* hotels  
Tourist tax - if requested - has to be paid on spot
- **Parking:** Car park garage ca. € 45.00 per week (only in Cat. A and Charme). Car park about € 35.00 per week (Cat. B). Car parking or garages can't be booked by us in advance and has to be paid on the spot.
- **Transfer:** Good train connections from Florence to Montecatini Terme.  
In alternative: Return transfer by minibus to Montecatini Terme on request, costs € 29.00 per person, to be paid for at the time. The bicycles of the customers can be brought directly from Greve to Florence or Montecatini Terme for no extra charge
- **Rental bikes:**  
21-gears women's or men's bicycle  
27-gears bike PLUS with free wheel and crossbar (sportier and lighter, more quality in the saddle)  
E-bike (unisex bike, 500 W battery)

### **INCLUDED SERVICES; SELF-GUIDED TOUR:**

- Accommodation in hotel according to the chosen category
- Breakfast buffet or extensive breakfast
- Luggage transfer from hotel to hotel
- Welcome briefing (German and English)
- Well planned routes
- 1 transfer by bus Greve-Florence (incl. bike)
- GPS tracks available on request
- Detailed travel documents 1x per room (German, English, French - with route maps, route description, local attractions, important telephone numbers)Telephone service hotline for during the entire tour
- Telephone service hotline during the entire tour

### **NON INCLUDED SERVICES**

- Arrival to the starting point of the tour
- Departure at the end of the tour
- Drinks, tourist tax and all extras
- All lunches and dinners
- Not mentioned entries
- Public transports
- Rental bikes and Travel insurance
- All not expressly mentioned under the item „Included services“

### **STARTING DATES 2021**

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>ARRIVAL</b>                        | every Saturday<br>from 27/03/2021 (first available date) to 09/10/2021 (last available date) |
| <b>NON SCHEDULE<br/>ARRIVAL DATES</b> | upon request!  |

**PRICES 2021**

**SELF-GUIDED TOUR - CATEGORY A**

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 1 | € 899.00 |
| Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 2 | € 969.00 |
| Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 3 | € 999.00 |
| Single room surcharge, per person                                    | € 299.00 |

**SELF-GUIDED TOUR - CATEGORY B**

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 1 | € 799.00 |
| Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 2 | € 839.00 |
| Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 3 | € 869.00 |
| Single room surcharge, per person                                    | € 219.00 |

**SELF-GUIDED TOUR - CHARME**

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 1 | € 1.049.00 |
| Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 2 | € 1.079.00 |
| Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 3 | € 1.129.00 |
| Single room surcharge, per person                                    | € 399.00   |

**ADDITIONAL SERVICES**

|                  |          |
|------------------|----------|
| Bike rental      | € 85.00  |
| Bike rental PLUS | € 129.00 |
| E-bike           | € 189.00 |

**EXTRA NIGHTS IN MONTECATINI TERME (CATEGORY CHARME)**

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Per person and night in a double room incl. breakfast | € 89.00 |
| Surcharge single room, per night                      | € 49.00 |

**EXTRA NIGHTS IN MONTECATINI TERME (CATEGORY A)**

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Per person and night in a double room incl. breakfast | € 69.00 |
| Surcharge single room, per night                      | € 19.00 |

**EXTRA NIGHTS IN MONTECATINI TERME (CATEGORY B)**

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Per person and night in a double room incl. breakfast | € 55.00 |
| Surcharge single room, per night                      | € 15.00 |

**EXTRA NIGHTS IN FLORENCE (CATEGORY CHARME/CATEGORY A)**

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Per person and night in a double room incl. breakfast | € 115.00 |
| Surcharge single room, per night                      | € 89.00  |

**EXTRA NIGHTS IN FLORENCE (HOTEL CATEGORY B)**

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Per person and night in a double room incl. breakfast | € 69.00 |
| Surcharge single room, per night                      | € 59.00 |

Season 1: from 27/03/2021 to 16/04/2021 and from 25/09/2021 to 09/10/2021  
 Season 2: from 17/04/2021 to 21/05/2021 and from 04/09/2021 to 24/09/2021  
 Season 3: from 22/05/2021 to 03/09/2021

We suggest travel insurance.

Changes in the offer as well as errors, printing errors and arithmetic errors reserved!