

The Eternal Senses of

Sept 15, 2017 thru Sept 24, 2017

ITALY

Hosted by the Lincoln Olive Oil Shop and Rob Baker



Dear Friends,

For many years it has been my dream to be able to host an extraordinary tour to Italy. The time has now come to materialize my dream – let us travel to Italy, September 15-24, 2017!

Italy has always been a synonym for good food and our tour is nothing less than a parade of passion, a love affair with century-old traditions, art, music and literature and of course ... tastings of delicacies you will not soon forget!

This once-in-a-lifetime 10-day tour is an explosion of flavors, scents and aromas. I will share my knowledge and secrets of olive oil, truffles and balsamic vinegar as our custom tailored unique route leads us through the regions of Piedmont, Emilia Romagna and Tuscany.

We will visit the “Center of Fashion”, Milan and travel through the verdant rural countryside, golden fields of wheat and green olive groves in Tuscany. These landscapes, largely unchanged since medieval times, are decorated with country churches, beautiful abbeys, medieval villages and hilltop castles.

And as “All roads lead to Rome”, we will conclude our tour spending two full days exploring The Eternal City.

Tour highlights includes a city tour of Milan with a visit to the Duomo; a truffle hunt; olive oil, ham, balsamic vinegar, and wine tastings; a hands-on-cooking lesson in our very special Villa Casagrande in Tuscany; a guided tour of the New Enzo Ferrari Museum for car buffs, a city tours of Florence and Rome ...and much, much more.

There is a certain timelessness about the sights that is unbelievable. The opportunities for photography are exceptional and in sight to the history, architecture, lifestyle and culture is unparalleled, just like the cuisine of Italy.

If you ever wanted to discover Italy's beauty, this is the perfect custom tour for you to see it all. Please take a look inside this brochure to learn all the details. Once you do, I hope you will join me on this special tour.

Sincerely,

Rob Baker, Lincoln Olive Oil Shop



Call Executive Travel's Group Department today at 402-458-9858. Space is limited.

Friday, September 15th, 2017

Depart your hometown and take an overnight flight across the Atlantic to Milan. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service as you start your vacation.



Saturday, September 16th, 2017

Arrive in Milan Malpensa Airport in the early morning. We will be met by our local English speaking Tour Manager who will follow us during our journey in Italy.

We are off for a half day guided tour of Milan, one of Europe's richest cities, known for stylish shops, galleries and restaurants, and with a pace of life much faster than most Italian cities.

Upon arrival we visit the famous Duomo with its beautiful marble façade, and across the Duomo Square we find the majestic glass-roofed Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II, one of the world's most glamorous and oldest shopping malls – it was built in 1867. We will also pass from the impressive landmarks of Piazza Sempione with its Arco della Pace ("Arch of Peace"), the Castello Sforzesco, ranked amongst Europe's largest citadels, and La Scala, one of the world's most famous opera houses.

Lunch at a local restaurant in Milan.

In the late afternoon we arrive to our hotel in the Piedmont region: Hotel I CASTELLI or similar in Alba, for a good night's rest.

Distance: Milan-Alba = 2 hours



Sunday, September 17th, 2017

Today we experience a truffle hunt and meet with the dogs in the Piedmont, Alba area. We will be offered a unique and exciting experience. Surrounded by the beautiful panorama of Langhe, we will have an opportunity to participate in a real "Truffle hunting" with the truffle man and his dog, discovering the hidden treasure and learning about the subject of truffles and their natural environment.

After the truffle hunting we will visit a local winery where we will taste some wines (Nebbiolo d'Alba DOC Spumante Metodo Classico - Langhe DOC Rossese Bianco - Barbera d'Alba DOC - Langhe DOC Nebbiolo - Barolo DOCG), olive oil with truffle and enjoy a special light lunch.

Remainder of the day for leisure in Alba.

Monday, September 18th, 2017

This morning depart for a delicious journey in the Parma area to visit the farm and meet the makers of the local Parma Ham and Balsamic Vinegar. Of course we will not only visit and listen...but also taste! You will never forget the taste of this special food.

The day continue with the visit of a traditional balsamic vinegar private production, where we will taste from 12 to 50 years old vinegars!

Lunch and dinner will be on our own.

Accommodation at 4-star hotel in Modena: Una Hotel or similar.

Distance: Alba-Parma = 2 hours & Parma-Modena = 1 hour



Tuesday, September 19th, 2017

This morning before leaving Modena, enjoy a guided visit at the New Enzo Ferrari Museum (1 hour guided visit included).

Around 10:30am depart to Florence and free time for lunch.

Around 3.00pm meet with our local expert guide as we enjoy a guided walking tour of the city (3 hours): Stroll down cobblestone lanes, through majestic squares and across ancient bridges, pausing along the way to visit and learn about Palazzo Vecchio, Piazza della Signoria, the cathedral and Giotto's bell tower and the Accademia (entrance fees and reservations are included). Florence offers the largest number of historical buildings and works of art in Italy, as well as several world-class museums.

We transfer to our Tuscan villa, Villa Casagrande or similar, where we will enjoy a 2 night stay. Tonight we will relish the genuine Tuscan hospitality: Welcome dinner at the villa including wine/water.

Distance: Modena-Florence = 2 hours 30 min & Florence-Figline Valdarno = 1 hour



Wednesday, September 20th, 2017

The day is dedicated to olive oil in Tuscany!

This morning we reach Reggello (20 minutes from the Villa) for an olive oil tasting and tour at Santa Téa Olive Oil Mill (Frantoio Gonnelli 1585).

Enters the oil history by visiting Italy's oldest Mill: It is possible to visit the Santa Téa Olive Oil Mill thus entering into a virtual path that traces the history of oil: From the date of Foundation of Santa Téa, 1426, to the year of purchase by the Gonnelli family in 1585 and up to the present.

(continued)

Wednesday, September 20th, 2017

The olive oil mill was built in 1426, when Cosimo de' Medici, the grandfather of Lorenzo the Magnificent, ruled Florence and it is still possible to see the construction date engraved on an old stone mill, where the millstone and the press are still preserved, once used for crushing. The Oil Mill owes its name to the adjoining chapel dedicated to St. Tea, whose cult has spread through many parts of the early Christian world and has expanded in our area since the Byzantine-Gothic period. Today, the Santa Téa Olive Oil Mill represents one of the most advanced realities, both from the qualitative and technological point of view in the world of extra virgin olive oil. The oil museum, the olive groves and the modern exclusive extraction system, are the stages that we will walk through at the Santa Téa Olive Oil Mill.

Afternoon enjoy a cooking class at the Villa: The course lasts three hours from 4:00pm. The lesson will be run by the chef Paola Boncini and together we will prepare (and afterwards eat!) typical Tuscan dishes and other Italian specialities, sweets and Tuscan cakes.



Thursday, September 21st, 2017

After breakfast at the hotel, depart for Siena and a half-day guided tour of this unique city with the red of the Piazza del Campo - with an alchemy geometry of the Piazza, suggestively neo-Gothic and cathartic - commanded by the Duomo and surrounded by narrow streets and alleys. Sweet-smelling Trattorias, the sounds of the artisans and spouting fountains; Fontebrande and the mystery of the Diana, a famous river underneath Siena. These are the reasons why Siena opens up its heart more than any other place, as the famous inscription reads on the Porta di Camollia.

Proceed to San Gimignano with a light lunch at a local farm.

After lunch enjoy a walking tour of San Gimignano: Passing through the most wonderful Tuscan countryside. The rolling slopes are covered with vineyards and silvery green olive groves, like a picture. Only this spectacle would be more than enough to enjoy this tour! Fortified walls and watchtowers show power and prosperity in the middle Ages. Only 13 of the town's original 76 towers remain. Enjoy your time to stroll the narrow cobbled streets taking San Gimignano's sights, Piazza della Cisterna, the Collegiata in Piazza del Duomo, a Romanesque cathedral.

We proceed to Rome to our 4-star hotel: Hotel Donna Camilla Savelli or similar. Overnight.

Distance: Figline Valdarno-Siena = 1 hour

Distance: Siena-San Gimignano = 45 min

Distance: San Gimignano-Rome = 3 hours

Friday, September 22nd, 2017

This morning enjoy a guided tour with the highlights of the Eternal Rome:

From the Roman Squares including Trevi fountain, where you can throw a coin inside in order to make a wish come true- remember to do that giving your shoulders to the fountain! To the ANCIENT ROME with Piazza Venezia, Rome Historical Centre with "The Vittoriano" the altar dedicated to the King Vittorio Emanuele II in 1911, the Roman Forums and the Colosseum, the Rome's greatest amphitheatre built by the Emperor Vespasian in 72 A.C.

Afternoon at leisure, dinner on our own and overnight.



Saturday, September 23rd, 2017

This morning, we are off to spend the day at the Holy See, Vatican City:

It's a 5-minute drive to another country. With our expert local guide we'll tour the Vatican Museums, a treasure trove of ancient Greek sculptures, medieval tapestries and Renaissance paintings. Our visit culminates in the Sistine Chapel, the room where the Pope is elected. We enter in total silence, not wanting to disturb Michelangelo's famed frescoes depicting stories from the Bible and the "End of Times."

With our expert local guide we'll visit St. Peter's Basilica, by far the largest church in Christendom. We'll see Michelangelo's Pieta, sculpted when he was just 24, as well as Bernini's seven-story bronze canopy located above the main altar.

Afternoon at leisure.

Tonight enjoy a Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant in Rome tasting Roman dishes.

Overnight.



Sunday, September 24th, 2017

All too soon, our vacation has ended. Transfer to the airport in plenty of time to check in for our flight and clear security. You may do some last-minute shopping at the duty-free stores before flying west across the Atlantic Ocean back to the United States, arriving the same day.

ARRIVEDERCI ITALY!

Pricing & Inclusions

LAND PACKAGE price:

\$2,995 per person in shared double room
Single supplement at **\$695.00**

Land price includes:

- 8 nights at mentioned hotels or similar
- 8 x full breakfast
- 3 x light lunches
- 1 x truffle hunt with tasting
- 2 x olive oil tastings
- 1 x ham and balsamic tasting
- 2 x wine tastings
- 1 x cooking class with dinner
- Tuscan Welcome Dinner with wine/water
- Farewell dinner in Rome with wine/water
- Professional English speaking tour manager during whole tour
- All transportations as mentioned in tour program
- Half day guided tours of: Milan, Florence, Siena, San Gimignano and Rome (2 x HD in Rome)
- Guided visit at the New Enzo Ferrari Museum in Modena
- Admission "Skip-the-Line" to: Duomo Milan, Accademia Gallery
- Florence, Vatican Museum & Sistine Chapel
- Headphones where required
- Mandatory city tax at all hotels



Exclusions

- Air (Executive Travel can assist – we estimate air at \$1,400 per person incl. taxes and fees)
- Gratuities
- Meals other than mentioned
- Entrance fees to monuments and/or museums other than mentioned
- Personal expenses
- Travel insurance – highly recommended - \$226 per person – ask Executive Travel!



Final Reservation Requires

A non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person is required upon final reservation.
Balance is due 90 days prior to departure (July 15th, 2017).
We refer to Executive Travel's general terms and conditions

Hotel Accommodations

Hotel I Castelli, Alba
4-Star ★ ★ ★ ★
<http://hotel-icastelli.com/?lang=en>

Una Hotel Modena
4-Star ★ ★ ★ ★
http://www.unahotels.it/en/una_hotel_modena/modena_hotels.htm

Villa Casagrande, Tuscany
3-Star Superior Land Villa ★ ★ ★ +
<http://www.villacasagrande.it/en/spa-hotel-tuscany.html>

Hotel Camilla Savelli, Rome
4-Star ★ ★ ★ ★
<http://www.hoteldonnacamillasavelli.com/>



To register contact:



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