

ITINERARY

Day 1 – Depart the U.S: from Miami airport via Alitalia Airlines (or similar) for Italy.

Day 2 – Montecatini: Upon arrival, proceed to baggage claim and after clearing customs you will be met by the ABC Destinations representative and transfer to your hotel. For centuries, Montecatini has been an exclusive world-renowned spa resort, famed for its spring waters, thermal baths and numerous spa treatments. Have a welcome cocktail and briefing at the hotel. Dinner is at the hotel. (D)

Day 3: Montecatini/Florence/Montecatini. After breakfast at the hotel, you will meet your driver and guide and transfer to Florence for walking tour. Its striking buildings, formidable galleries and treasure-crammed churches attest to the Florentine love of display. Its elegant appearance the skyline, with its russet rooftops and lofty domes, contributed to give this city its role of important center for culture and arts. See the Cathedral, whose gigantic “cupola” is the symbol of Florence’s artistic achievements, the Baptistery (from outside) with its fine bronze doors adorned with the famous gates of Paradise, and Piazza della Signoria. (B, D)

Day 4: Day at Leisure or take an optional tour to Cinque Terre & Carrara: Drive to Portovenere and the Cinque Terre “the five lands”; five medieval fisherman ports, which developed isolated through the ages as they could only be reached by sea and remained architecturally intact. Early in the morning depart for La Spezia along the Mediterranean Sea. Take a ferry boat to the Cinque Terre & Portovenere. (weather permitting). (B, D)

Day 5 - Montecatini/Siena/San Gimignano/Montecatini: After breakfast at the hotel drive to Siena and San Gimignano for your full day tour. Set in the most beautiful Tuscan countryside of rolling hills, lush vines and gray-green olive trees, Siena offers much to see, from the fine palaces that line the narrow cobbled streets and the superb Duomo, to the celebrated Piazza del Campo where the famed Palio horserace is run yearly. Continue to San Gimignano, a town of Etruscan origin. Built by noble families, the fourteen remaining towers that lined the ramparts look like medieval skyscraper. (B, D)

Day 6, Day at Leisure or take an optional tour to Chianti and Vinci: The beautiful birth town of Leonardo Da Vinci is just 30 minutes away. Visit the museum dedicated to his engineering works. Then head on towards Chianti, by many define as “the most beautiful countryside in the world” famous for the wine, enchants every visitor with the beauty of the architecture of its mediaeval small towns, castles and stone farmhouses. Perfectly blended in its breathtaking landscapes as if the whole area were shaped by the hand of an artist. Enjoy a wine tasting followed by a light lunch at the Castle of Verrazzano. (B, D)

Day 7, Day at Leisure or take an optional tour to Lucca and Pisa: This morning we head to the charming town of Lucca. Its peaceful narrow lanes wind among the medieval buildings, opening suddenly to reveal churches, tiny piazzas and many other reminders of the city’s long history, including a Roman amphitheater. Lucca is well known for its magnificent 16th and 17th century ramparts, having remained intact, encircling its narrow streets, which are lined with many medieval buildings. In the afternoon we continue to Pisa to see its incredible Leaning Tower, the bell tower of the 900-year-old Cathedral of Pisa. It is 14 feet off center at the top because of settling after construction was started in 1173. Your visit of Pisa will also include a sightseeing tour of Pisa’s Campo dei Miracoli, or Field of Miracle, to see the Baptistery, Duomo; all fine examples of the Pisan-Romanesque architectural style. (B, D)

Day 8 Day at Leisure: Have a late breakfast, relax and spend time exploring Montecatini, enjoy a spa treatment, or take the cable car up to Montecatini Alto’. (B, D)

Day 9 - Montecatini/U.S.: After breakfast transfer to the airport for your return flight to the U.S. (B)

Please note: Though rare, it may be necessary to substitute hotels and adjust itineraries due to local conditions.

