

Short Escape Tuscany - Self Guided Bike Tour 4 nights - 2020

Explore Siena, Montalcino & Pienza

Short Escape in the best of Tuscany hilltown

We put together this short bike tour- 3 full days of cycling and 2 half days – for those who do not feel like taking a vacation entirely on a saddle.

Besides each day there will be a choice for easier and short bike rides and more challenging ones.

Whether crowned by timeless villages, covered by vineyards and olive groves or strewn with wildflowers, the hills of Tuscany have one thing in common: they're perfect for exploring on two wheels. Pedal to lofty hill towns, spin through broad valleys and follow sinuous country roads past cypress-lined lanes and quiet woodland. Off your bike, discover unforgettable Renaissance art and architecture, visit winery and cellars: you will be in the heart of Brunello wine land, savour meals created from the finest local ingredients and relax in charming Tuscan retreats.

Tour Highlights

- Discover historic **Pienza**, a place of architectural heritage named for the Pope who made it his mission to transform the town into an ideal Renaissance city
- Riding through scenic landscapes where “English Patient” & “Gladiator” were filmed
- Breathe the history: Magical stay in XV century convent in Pienza
- Best Artisanal gelato
- taste superb Tuscan wines: Vino Nobile di Montepulciano & Brunello di Montalcino

Arrival Details

Begin Pienza

End Siena

Airport Arrival/Depart Florence airport and Rome airport (FCO)

Departure Details

Departure: train and bus available to reach Firenze where extension of vacation is suggested or where you can take fast train to other town

Your Itinerary - Tour By Day



Day One: Welcome To Pienza! Benvenuti in Toscana.

Pienza the “perfect town” is a remarkable example of Renaissance-era town planning.

If you have even the least appreciation for beautiful architecture, it is a treat to stroll around its cobblestone streets. Gift hunters will also be enthralled. Pienza is also a veritable gastronomic paradise. Meet and Greet, we'll fit your bikes and introduce you to each day ride. First loop to San Quirico to test the bicycle and the equipment! Stop in the village at Horti Leonini Garden, the top attraction of town. Total Distance 22 km. Your charming **Hotel Il Chiostro** is housed in a 15th-century convent in a quiet, secluded location right in the center of Pienza. Entirely rebuilt between 1459 and 1462, itself is a rare masterpiece: it was the brainstorm of Pope Pius II. Lodging at hotel **Relais Il Chiostro** in Pienza **upgrade La Bandita Townhouse**



Day Two: Montepulciano & nobile wine

Option A : Moderate to challenging Distance: 55 km/ 34 miles

Option B: easy to moderate distance 35 km /21 miles

Loop ride to Montepulciano and Monticchiello. Start your day with a pleasant downhill, you'll follow a route that winds through a scenic landscape checkered with vineyards, cypresses, and medieval villages... Among the sites you'll ride through meet the hilltop villages of Castelmuizio and Petroio. Today's ride will take you to Montepulciano, which is famous for the production of Vino Nobile di Montepulciano. Visit one of the typical wine cellars in town, the oldest one in town is situated under the Ricci Palace. Back to Pienza through Monticchiello... another hilltop village.

Lodging at hotel **Relais Il Chostro** in Pienza **upgrade La Bandita Townhouse**



Day Three - Montalcino brunello town

Level: Moderate to challenging

Distance: 46 km / 28,5 miles

Ride from Pienza to Montalcino, with a pause in fairy-tale **Bagno Vignoni**, a miniature spa that is among the most unique towns in Europe. You can have lunch in Castiglione d'Orcia, then push on to the monastery of **Sant'Antimo**, where you might catch one of several vesper services performed each day by the monks. The famed wine town of Montalcino is your destination. Visit the fortress to see a breathtaking view of the entire valley you've just biked, then reward yourself with dinner at our favourite wine cellar. Lodging at **hotel il giglio** in Montalcino



Day four Siena & Monte Oliveto abbey

Level: Moderate to strenuous Distance: 58 km/36 miles

Your detailed directions will take you through typical postcard scenery of Tuscany, Italy's most photographed region—for good reasons. Following a picturesque crest road, you'll ride by Monte Oliveto Maggiore Abbey, a Benedictine abbey built in the 13th century and famous for its frescoed cloister and stunning setting. Afterwards, you'll travel through the fascinating area called Le Crete, Tuscany's answer to the Badlands. Here the verdant hills give way to little domes of clay and Tuscany reveals another face of its identity, an unusual, almost lunar landscape of chalk cliffs and gullies soaked in a primeval atmosphere.

Lodging at **hotel chostro del Carmine** or **Villa di STR** in Siena

Prices & inclusions

Cost: Euro 990 per person (price based on double accommodations) single supplement euro 350

Inclusions:

Accommodations: six (4) nights in selected hotel listed
Meals: Daily breakfast
Luggage transfers
Route notes, maps, elevation gain and city map
All maps, trip notes and detailed route directions, Gpx tracks.
Complimentary Cicloposse water bottle
Pick-up of bikes and gear in Siena
Sales taxes

Not included:

Bike Rental per entire tour
Hybrid bike euro 105
Race bike, Gravel and E-bike euro 120

Top-of-the-line bicycle selection and bike helmet – available race bike, hybrid, e-bike and gravel – see box
Check all details about [Bikes & Equipment](#)
Our [terms & conditions](#)

Daily Mileage: 30-35 miles on gently rolling terrain with some climbs. Additional mileage available.

Tour Departures:

Any date between 15th March to end of October

hotels' web site

Pienza

[Relais il chiostro](#)

luxury upgrade www.labanditatownhouse.com or
www.a440intuscany.com

Montalcino

www.gigliohotel.com or <http://hotelsinmontalcino.com>
luxury upgrade castello Velona www.castellodivellona.it

Siena

www.lavilladistr.it or www.chiostrodeltcarminem.com
luxury upgrade www.camporegio.com



Race bike



Hybrid



E-bike



Gravel

The tour starts in Pienza - how to get there:

Best airports are Rome Fiumicino and Florence Peretola

1) From **Fiumicino airport** train Leonardo Express (takes about 30 minutes) start each half hour and is direct from Airport to termini train station. From fiumicino airport to train station : the first at 07.37, 08.07, 8.37....the last at 22.37 - From Termini station to airport : the first at 06.51, 07.21, 7.51 the last at 21.51

2) From **Florence Peretola** bus or cab to Florence station

To get in Chiusi by train: many train from Rome and from Florence

look for timetable in English at official web site www.trenitalia.com/tcom-en

some train are marked IC (intercity: faster) or marked R (regional: slow)

once in Chiusi you can take bus or taxi to get in Pienza

BUS: The bus fare is approximately 4 Euros per person. Take the bus from Chiusi to Montepulciano. There is a bus every 30 minutes. (Depending on your departure out of Chiusi, some buses will make a stop in Chianciano). The bus ride is 40 / 50 minutes.

Arrive at the terminal of Montepulciano: from Montepulciano bus terminal take the bus to Pienza: This is a 15 minutes ride. Buses leave at 9:00am, 1:35pm, 2:10pm, and 5:45pm.

Warning: the bus from Montepulciano to Pienza is not available on Sundays

TAXI: always available out the small station, cost is Euro 60/65

Tour ends in Siena, station just out the wall. Is possible go to Florence where all major line to different destination. Also train to Rome or bus direct to Rome.

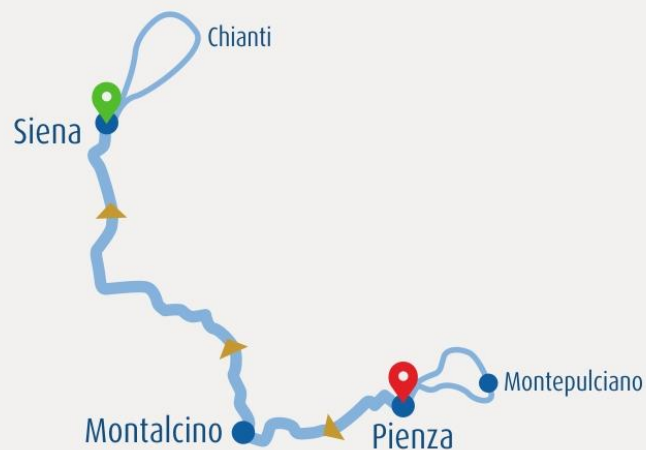
Self Guided Bike Tour

4 nights



Short Escape Tuscany

Biking Pienza, Montalcino, Siena



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