

Gourmet Tuscany Tour

September 12–20, 2020

What's not included in the package price? Travel Insurance; Meals not listed above or included in the Tour itinerary; Sightseeing not listed or included in the itinerary; Passport fees; Airline luggage fees; along with any items of personal nature. Please note we can offer airfare from other cities. If you not live in the Joplin/Neosho area, we can easily make those air arrangements for you.

Gratuities included: The Tour Director and Driver gratuities are included in our package price. The gratuity cost is a total of \$86US, per traveler. If you do not want to pre-pay, please contact GalaxSea to discuss, but so you know - they are "included" in our package price.

Travel Insurance: Insurance costs are \$269 per person (\$299 for Single). This comprehensive plan protects all of your vacation costs, and provides you with Medical coverage and emergency assistance during your travels. Protect yourself and your vacation by purchasing travel insurance at time of your deposit.

Airline luggage fees: Most airlines allow for (1) free check-in bag (up to 50lbs), along with a carry-on bag and a personal item. However there is a constant change of baggage policies, it's hard to forecast everything. Once our official flight schedule is in place, we can discuss baggage fees, limits, and all other components associated to your flights. Our detailed air conversation will most likely occur in January 2020.

How do you join? Deposit is \$500 per person, and due when you join. Please call GalaxSea at 417-451-5468 to sign up, or complete the enclosed Reservation Form and send along with your deposit to GalaxSea Cruises & Tours, 210 N Business 49, Neosho, MO 64850. Other payments will come due in 2020. A \$500 per person payment will be collected in January and April, 2020. The final balance will be due by July 2, 2020.

When is the last date to join? Space is sold on a first-come, first-served basis. We only have a limited numbers of seats on the package. Our registration deadline for group pricing will expire on March 1, 2020. We encourage you to join before it's too late.

Can I visit more of Italy than Tuscany? Our trip costs are focused specifically on the Tuscany tour. However, it is very easy to adjust your plan around our tour dates to include many of the other Italy cities. Because of the proximity of Rome; Venice; or Como to Tuscany, any of these other locations can easily be added before or after the tour. Customizing your program in Italy is exactly what you should consider – we highly recommend this and will help you every step of the way.

Free Time & Optional Excursions

While our Italy tour has many items included for you each day, there will be free time on certain days. During this free time, you are free to explore as you wish, or, you can take advantage of other optional excursions that will be offered. Whether it's a special dinner, a local show, or a special behind-the-scenes glimpse into an historical site, these optional excursions are a wonderful way to enrich your vacation experience even further.

Allowing you flexibility to choose is what makes this type of tour special. While many of the "must-see" sites and experiences are included in the package itself, but we understand people take interest in different activities and the flexibility of this tour allows each traveler to craft a more personal vacation experience by providing optional excursions and free time that they can hand-pick based on appeal and personal interest.

The optional excursions for the Gourmet Tuscany tour will be announced at a later date. We will discuss these in detail before you depart, and will include information about the opportunity to pre-book most of these excursions. All with plenty of time before you leave on tour.

Other Helpful Travel & Tour Detail

Passport Names & Expiration Date: You are required to have a passport for this trip. Please double check your name spelling and make sure that is listed correctly on the Reservation Form. Your passport expiration date must be valid thru December 2020.

What is the weather in Italy like in September? It's certainly hard to predict the weather, let alone control it. Even a few weeks before you leave on your trip it's hard to be 100% accurate as to what will exactly occur. We can tell you specifically that the Tuscany area of Italy will experience mild to warm temperatures mostly in the 60's and 70's during the day; and 50's and 60's during the overnight hours. While we don't expect anything in the 80's, there is always a chance. It should be very pleasant and comfortable, but there is always a chance for rain, though nothing significant. You will need a light jacket, and some rain protection like an umbrella. You can wear casual clothes during the entire tour – no formal dress will be required. Comfortable clothing and comfortable shoes are suggested.

You will need an electrical adapter: These adapters are not expensive; usually \$15-\$20. You will need one, perhaps two. Many of these adapters have plugs containing multiple outlets and USB ports for additional charging capabilities. Locally, you can find them at places like Walmart, Target, Walgreens, and TJ Max, but you can also find them online. You need one that will work for "Europe". A hair dryer will be in your hotel, so no need to bring yours, unless you want too. For a straight iron or curling iron, you may want to consider getting a dual voltage iron, which can also be found at stores nearby..

How do you get money on tour? The (cash) currency in Italy is the Euro. You will either pay for your items with a credit card or use the local cash/currency. If you use a credit card, a Visa or Master-card is widely accepted. American Express can be used at some stores, but Discover card is not accepted as much in Italy. To obtain local currency for your travel, we recommend you use a Debit Card at any ATM after you arrive in Italy. You can also get cash at any time thru the ATM's, as needed during the tour. We will discuss this information again during our trip meetings, and several times before you leave on your trip.

Are any shots or vaccinations needed? No medical shots or vaccinations are needed for this trip, unless you will be traveling into Africa or Asia within the few months prior to Italy.

Extend your trip! Without a doubt we suggest you consider extending your trip. The close proximity of Rome; Venice; and Lake Como would be excellent additions to add to your trip. Our sample suggestions below will give you an idea on how you could extend your trip. Contact GalaxSea at 417-451-5468 to plan and customize your Italy experience around our tour.

Rome – 3 Night Pre-tour experience. We suggest you leave early, fly to Rome, and explore the eternal city. Our pre-tour program will include: arrival transfers in Rome to your hotel; 3-nights hotel accommodations in Rome; sightseeing including the Vatican, Colosseum, Roman Forum, along with famous landmarks such as the Trevi Fountain, Pantheon and more. After your fun filled days in Rome, you'll catch an afternoon train on September 13th to enjoy the Italian countryside and arrive in Montecatini to meet our Tuscany Tour. You can also do Rome "after" the Tuscany Tour ends if you would prefer. \$849 per person additional to the Tour Package cost above. Call us for a single rate.

Venice – 2 Night Post-tour experience: If you've seen Rome, and enjoyed Tuscany, why not cap off your Italy adventure by visiting Venice. This bucket list city can be easily reached by train from Montecatini, and give you 2 full days of exploring the canals and alleyways of this dream destination. We would suggest you visit Venice "after" our Tuscany tour, but you can also switch it around and start in Venice if you desire. Easier access onto the island is by train and with you doing this after the tour we think a 2 night stay is perfect. Our sightseeing for Venice will include a guided walking tour; gondola ride; and an optional visit to the island of Burano. \$499 per person additional to the Tour Package cost above. Call for Single rate.

Lake Como & Milan: Italy has so much to offer, it's hard to do it all. Should you like to visit the Alpine Lake region of Italy, then consider visiting Lake Como, and Milan. The charming area is easy access again by train and can include relaxing lakeside resorts, and a visit to the famous "Last Supper" painting in Milan. For more details on this or to customize your own pre or post tour adventure, call GalaxSea at 417-451-5468.