



8 Days in Tuscany with David Whyte

September 14-22, 2009

Join David Whyte and a group of 32 adventurous travelers for eight days in the Tuscan countryside. With David's morning sessions as a starting point, you will meet butchers and fishermen, olive growers and winemakers, wander through a wonderful village market and hike through beautiful country with vistas worthy of the famous painters of the Renaissance. Weather and courage permitting, you might even take a dip in the Mediterranean.

After the morning sessions with David, we travel to the location of that day's hike. The local artisans whom we have the privilege to meet are very deeply connected to the land, the literature and the culture of Tuscany.

Cost.

\$3900. This includes accommodation for the nights of September 14th through 21st, travel in country, breakfasts, and either lunch or dinner each day. It does not include airfare. If you make all of your payments by check, bank draft or money order in U.S. funds, you will receive a \$50 discount on your final payment.

The Participants.

An eclectic group of 32 people with a shared interest in David's work and the culture of Tuscany.

Walking & Hiking.

You need to be able to walk two to four hours each day. Most of the walks are on seldom-used dirt roads, but there is also some walking through fields and on more rugged pathways. At least one of the walks has significant uphill portions. As these walks are an important part of the tour experience, please be as realistic as possible in assessing your level of fitness.

Accommodations.

We stay at a beautiful old agriturismo, Fattoria La Loggia, with sessions in the twelfth century convent nearby. The Fattoria is 20km south of Florence in the heart of the Chianti Classico region, surrounded by olive trees and its own vineyards, with a stunning view of the neighboring hills and countryside. A collection of farmhouses once owned by the Medici family, it is now the home of various works of contemporary Italian and international artists. You can view it at www.fattorialaloggia.com.

Meals.

Breakfast is available in a common room each morning. In addition, either lunch or dinner will be provided each day, either at a restaurant or Fattoria La Loggia.

Arrival.

The closest airport is Florence (Firenze) A.Vespucci; train station Santa Maria Novella. Whether arriving by air, train, or car, you will make your way to Piazzale Michelangelo, a large car park overlooking the city. Any taxi driver will know where it is. As the trip gets nearer, we will let you know in more detail where to meet.

Departure.

We will transport you back to the Piazzale Michelangelo and/or the airport in Florence the morning of September 22, 2009 in time to meet your departure schedule.

Passport.

Each participant needs a valid passport. For U.S. citizens, you will need to allow several months for the processing of your passport, so you are strongly advised to begin this process immediately.

Cost and Payments.

Total cost for the tour is \$3900. We accept Visa and Mastercard. If you make all of your payments by check, bank draft or money order in US funds, you will receive a discount of \$50 on the final payment.

Payment Schedule.

A deposit of \$1200 is due with your application. A second payment of \$1800 is due May 15th, with the final payment of \$900 due July 15th. (\$850 if all payments and deposit have been made by check, bank draft or money order in US funds.)

Cancellation.

If, after being accepted on the tour, you need to cancel prior to May 15th, you will be refunded \$1000 of your deposit. If you have to cancel at any point after May 15th, any refund depends upon our ability to find a replacement.

What the trip price includes.

David's services as seminar leader. All accommodations for the nights of September 14th through 21st inclusive. All breakfasts. Either lunch or dinner each day, depending upon the day's activities. All transport in country during the trip and return to Florence on September 22nd.

Not included: Airfare. Either lunch or dinner each day.

Clothing.

Your selection of clothing for the trip should be based on thoughts of comfort for walking. You will need hiking boots for some of the walks, and you should be prepared for rain with a waterproof jacket. Temperatures can vary from 50 to 80 degrees Fahrenheit, although they are most likely to be in the 60s to 70s. Laundry facilities are available on site. Please bring a day pack for carrying water on the walks. Sunscreen is recommended.

Currency and spending money.

Italy uses the euro. As the exchange rate is fluctuating daily, we recommend you check www.xe.com for the current rate.

WE ADVISE THAT YOU COVER YOURSELF FOR BAGGAGE, ACCIDENT
AND TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE.

Our travel agent has given us the name CSA Travel Protection
800.348.9505, email info@csatravelprotection.com,
or ask your travel agency for their recommendation.