



Katie Portanova
Italy Travel Consultant
Truly Italy

3128694725
trulyitalytours@gmail.com
<https://www.trulyitaly.tours/>



Wine & Relax Tuscany Retreat

Sep 7, 2024 - Sep 14, 2024

\$4,279 per person

Our Wine & Relax retreat provides beautiful and luxurious accommodation for our guests. Our retreat is held at a close family friend's villa called **Villa Antica Sosta**, owned by Maria & Vincenzo who have been friends and neighbors with Katie's in-laws for over 15 years. Located on a hill above **Castelfiorentino**, south of Florence, the villa is a perfect place to relax and enjoy the stunning Tuscan scenery.

The Villa offers the perfect setting for your group getaway. **Boasting 5 bedrooms, 3 shared bathrooms**, a spacious dining and family room with a fireplace and TV, our villa is the ideal place to relax and enjoy quality time with friends and family. The kitchen is fully-equipped and perfect for cooking as a group, including a cooking class. You'll also have full access to the kitchen for coffee, tea, and other beverages, plus **merendine** (snacks) will be available at any time.

Our secluded pool is surrounded by a lush garden full of **vibrant flowers, olive trees, smells of lavender and rosemary**, providing ultimate privacy and relaxation. Lounge chairs and umbrellas are available for sunbathing, and an outside dining table allows you to enjoy your meals while admiring the gorgeous views of the Tuscan hills.

With plenty of free time, you can take a stroll through the **Renai** neighborhood, taking photos of the stunning scenery, and experience the serenity of the Tuscan hills. We're also just a two-minute walk away from a **small café which serves up coffee, cocktails & light snacks**. Maria, Vincenzo, and Fernanda prepare and cook our personal pizzas by utilizing the custom pizza oven onsite. Maria & Fernanda teach you **how to make Pici pasta from scratch, crostini toscani, and Arista, a simple & delicious pork dish**.

*Our day trips will be visiting small towns like **towering San Gimignano, rolling Montefioralle, and a fortress on a hill, Monteriggioni**.*

Throughout your week in Tuscany, you'll be present amongst **delectable wines, splendid views, and simple recipes**.

Early Bird Special Pricing

- **Reserve your spot before August 15, 2023:**
Receive a \$300 discount
- **Reserve your spot between August 15 & October 1, 2023:**
Receive a \$200 discount
- **Reserve your spot between October 2 & November 30, 2023:**
Receive a \$175 discount

What you should know:

- Discount will apply to the remaining retreat fee after a \$500 deposit is received.
- Deposit must be paid before the end of the timeframe to receive that discount and bonuses.

Trip Summary

September 7 - Saturday

3:00 PM Pickup at Train Station
Transfer to Villa Antica Sosta
Check in at Villa Antica Sosta

6:00 PM Welcome Aperitivo

September 8 - Sunday

8:00 AM Breakfast
Welcome to Tuscany
La Pia in Percussina - Wine-Tasting & Tour
Free Time (walk, sit by pool, take a nap)
Dinner at Villa Antica Sosta

September 9 - Monday

8:00 AM Breakfast
Hike & Terracotta Tour
Free Time (walk, sit by pool, take a nap)
Dinner at Villa Antica Sosta

September 10 - Tuesday

8:00 AM Breakfast
Transfer to Castelfiorentino Train Station

9:00 AM Depart Castelfiorentino to Florence
Free Day in Florence

5:00 PM Depart Florence to Castelfiorentino Train Station
Dinner at Villa Antica Sosta

September 11 - Wednesday

8:00 AM Breakfast
Monteriggioni & Lunch OR another TBD Tuscan excursion- Hike & Beekeeping**
Free Time (walk, sit by pool, take a nap)
Pizza Party at Villa Antica Sosta

September 12 - Thursday

8:00 AM Breakfast
Altiero Wine-Tasting & Tour
Ristorante La Castellana
Free Time (walk, sit by pool, take a nap)
Cascina dei Fagiolari Ristorante

September 13 - Friday

- 8:00 AM Breakfast
- Transfer to San Gimignano
- San Gimignano Visit
- 12:00 PM Casa Lucii Wine-Tasting and Lunch
- Free Time (walk, sit by pool, take a nap)
- Dinner at Villa Antica Sosta

September 14 - Saturday

- 8:00 AM Breakfast
- 10:00 AM Check out at Villa Antica Sosta

September 7 - Saturday



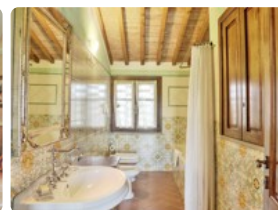
3:00 PM - Central European Summer Time
Pickup at Train Station



Transfer to Villa Antica Sosta



Check in at Villa Antica Sosta



6:00 PM - Central European Summer Time
Welcome Aperitivo

Our Villa retreat is held at a family run villa called Villa Antica Sosta. It is located in the small town of Castelfiorentino about 40 minutes by car outside of Florence.

The 5 bedrooms (double or twin) are large and airy, with a simple and tidy elegance, enriched by unique windows overlooking the rolling hills and a gorgeous private pool.

The 3 bathrooms, with bath or shower, are enriched by the bright colors of the hand-painted Vietri tiles. The bathrooms are shared among the guests.

A week of relaxation, wine tasting and delicious Italian dishes made by locals.

We'll visit local cities like Monteriggioni, San Gimignano and my favorite Florence. Far from the light pollution of large cities, you can enjoy a starry sky with a full moon.



September 8 - Sunday



8:00 AM
Breakfast



Welcome to Tuscany



La Pia in Percussina - Wine-Tasting & Tour

PRICE

\$40.00 USD

Our village, Sant'Andrea in Percussina is perched on one of the first hills in Chianti and stands watch over the city of Florence. Most small towns tell big tales, some are documented while others are passed from one generation to the next. [La Percussina's](#) tales stretch back centuries going as far back as Dante's Inferno, Machiavelli's Prince (written on our street during his exile from Florence) & Calamandrei's La casa di Campagna (the country house).

Romances start with a spark (an idea), then ignites with oxygen (hard work) to then becomes a roaring fire. La Percussina is the realized dream of Joe Mastrangelo (the spark) and Marta Santoro (the oxygen). Growing up on different continents they both quickly realized that their family dinners were exactly same just in two different languages. Food & laughter, along with good wine, shared with friends & family have driven their vision for La Percussina.

They purchased La Percussina after driving past it every Sunday morning for 5 years to buy bread at a local store. The past 9 years what was a dormant farm has now been brought back to life. After spending the last decade splitting time between first Paris, then Zurich & Florence they have now moved back home. They now look forward to sharing their passions & building new friendships around the table at La Percussina.

<https://www.lapiapercussina.com/>



Free Time (walk, sit by pool, take a nap)



Dinner at Villa Antica Sosta

September 9 - Monday



8:00 AM
Breakfast



Hike & Terracotta Tour

PRICE

\$62.00 USD

Hiking through vineyards, fields and small woods we will descend along a path that gently slopes towards the Pesa river in order to admire two old mills, important witnesses of the history of **Chianti area**. Water mills represented a real technological revolution in the Middle Ages, even more significant if we consider the simplicity of the mechanism at its base: a wheel that rotates outside a structure made of stone and wood and uses water as its driving force. The prototype of modern hydraulic energy system.

The spread of mills allowed a turning point in the agricultural production system, and therefore to the local economic development. The measure of how much this system proved to be effective is given by the number of water mills still present in the Chianti territory, even though many of them still to be rediscovered and enhance.

Going up along the creek we will have the opportunity to get in touch with another ancient Chianti tradition, **the art of terracotta**. Also in this case, the origin is medieval: the processing of clay for the production of amphorae, jars, bricks and many other objects dates back to the 11th century. And in 1419, for the dome of the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore in Florence, Filippo Brunelleschi also chose terracotta, for its strength and lightness.

After admiring how clay processing takes place, we will begin our return journey, along which we will visit a historic winery to experience a relaxing time together while tasting local wines: **Chianti Classico, Chianti Classico Riserva** and **Vinsanto**, paired with tasty local dishes.



Free Time (walk, sit by pool, take a nap)



Dinner at Villa Antica Sosta

September 10 - Tuesday



8:00 AM - Central European Summer Time
Breakfast



Transfer to Castelfiorentino Train Station



9:00 AM - Central European Summer Time
Depart Castelfiorentino to Florence

PRICE
\$10.00 USD



Free Day in Florence



5:00 PM - Central European Summer Time
Depart Florence to Castelfiorentino Train Station



Dinner at Villa Antica Sosta

September 11 - Wednesday



8:00 AM
Breakfast



Monteriggioni & Lunch OR another TBD Tuscan excursion- Hike & Beekeeping**
<https://www.discovertuscan.com/monteriggioni/>



Free Time (walk, sit by pool, take a nap)



Pizza Party at Villa Antica Sosta



September 12 - Thursday



8:00 AM - Central European Summer Time
Breakfast



Altiero Wine-Tasting & Tour

PRICE

\$30.00 USD

Paolo Baldini is the owner and main character at this estate where the vineyard plots are entirely within the Montefioralle area.

How did his path as a winery owner start though?

It was at the turn of the millennium that Paolo, who in that period was fresh out of studying agriculture, decided he wanted to turn the family land into a winery.

To honour his grandfather Altiero, who was the one having paved the way with his expertise in farming and viticulture, they decided to name the winery after him.

In 2001, the winery was opened under the name of Maurizio, Paolo's father, and then in 2005, Paolo stepped up and took over the reins entirely.

2001 was his first vintage of Chianti Classico, but since he had no cellar, he fermented and aged the wine in his family's garage.

The first year Altiero only made 1350 bottles, but slowly they started growing. In 2004 the first bottle of Riserva was made and in 2007 they produced their first super Tuscan. In 2015, they built their first, underground cellar and now they produce 6 types of wine and about 18/20 thousand bottles in total.

<https://www.altieroinchianti.it/en/tastings/>



Ristorante La Castellana

La Castellana is a small restaurant located in one of the most stunning landscape of Tuscany, dipped in the green hills in the heart of Chianti Classico, halfway between Florence and Siena. To be more precise it is located in the small medieval town of Montefioralle. La Castellana is a family-run and client-oriented restaurant, with only few tables and a fine cuisine made of passion, tradition, simple and genuine taste. Everything we serve is prepared with fresh and seasonal ingredients of Tuscan cuisine.

<http://www.ristorante-lacastellana.it/en/>



Free Time (walk, sit by pool, take a nap)



Cascina dei Fagiolari Ristorante

September 13 - Friday



**8:00 AM
Breakfast**



Transfer to San Gimignano



San Gimignano Visit



**12:00 PM - 2 hr 30 min
Casa Lucii Wine-Tasting and Lunch**

PRICE
\$65.00 USD

<https://www.casalucii.shop/pages/winetasting>



Free Time (walk, sit by pool, take a nap)



Dinner at Villa Antica Sosta

September 14 - Saturday



**8:00 AM
Breakfast**



**10:00 AM
Check out at Villa Antica Sosta**