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## Things to do in Tuscany

☰ List view

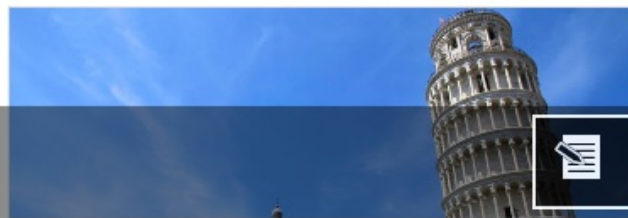
📍 Map view

Tuscany holidays are a feast for the senses, whether you choose to explore coast, countryside, take a city break, or plan a multi-centre holiday. The region is well known for its art and architecture, spectacular views, and is home to Chianti, the world's first officially defined wine producing region.

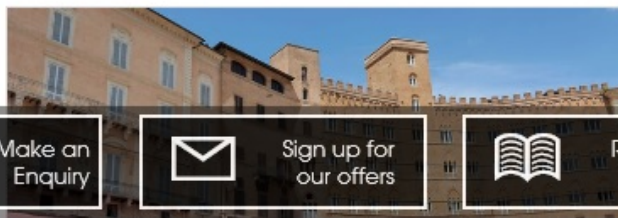
Our **Dinner in the Chianti Vineyards Excursion** offers a unique insight into wine production, in beautiful surroundings. Spend the evening taking a tour of the wineries, complete with tastings, before dining under the stars on traditional Italian fare, all cooked on the barbecue.

Why not follow an unforgettable evening with unforgettable icons by exploring Pisa and Florence in a day? The world famous Uffizi gallery is quieter in late afternoon, so first take in Pisa's square of miracles and breath-taking leaning tower, before ending the day in Florence, viewing work by famous renaissance artists including Michelangelo. With just an hour's train ride between the two, it's perfect for a day trip.

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Holidays in Tuscany will take you on an invigorating trip back through time. From the renaissance art of **Florence** to the gothic brick buildings in **Siena**, and the many castles, museums, and supreme works of art in between. Away from the romance of the region's art and architecture lies a culture of food and wine that will delight the senses. From the sun drenched vineyards and celebrations held during the olive harvest, to the quirky street food and delicious pasta dishes, every day will bring a new culinary experience.

Tuscany holidays aren't just about city breaks and cultural icons. The **countryside** has a charm all of its own, with sun drenched hilltop towns, small museums, traditional crafts and local food festivals. Enjoy a hot balmy summer day spent taking in the glorious views, or head to one of the many beaches on the **coast** and relax before taking a dip in the beautiful Mediterranean Sea.

## Explore Tuscany Like No Other

Our expertise as Italian specialists will ensure that you make the most of every holiday booked with Citalia. We help ensure you never miss the iconic sights of Tuscany, and suggest some lesser known treasures and hidden gems too.

If the busy towns are getting too much, the lush green Valdinievole area between Lucca and Florence is the perfect place to explore small churches, museums and traditional artisan crafts. For a touch of history why not visit the scenic town southwest of Florence, **San Gimignano**. Encircled by 13th-century walls this town is lined with medieval houses and surrounded by the breathtaking countryside.

Just a 16 minute train ride from Lucca is the perfect summer town of **Viareggio**. Enjoy a day or more in this Riviera style beach resort. Take a cooling dip in the calm seas as the sun beats down, or take a relaxing stroll along the promenade, which is lined with local shops and cafés.

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## Tuscany Specialities

Tuscany's tantalising cuisine crosses different budgets and tastes, while retaining its one common theme. Whether you are wandering the local markets sampling gelato, breads or olive oils, tasting the delights of a street food cart, or dining in a family run restaurant, the common themes are simple dishes and high quality ingredients.

Start your taste experience in Tuscany with a bowl of Pappa al Pomodoro, one of the best examples of traditional Tuscan comfort food. Featuring quintessential Italian flavours, this thick bread soup is widely served throughout the region, so why not sample a few variations to find your favourite? Although recipes may vary from town to town, the principle ingredients are the same, and typically include bread, tomatoes, and delicious Tuscan olive oil.

The autumn season doesn't just mark the harvesting of grapes and olives in Tuscany, it signifies a change in menus through the restaurants and cafés too. Warming hearty stews and pasta dishes are common, but for a real mouth-watering treat try a risotto flavoured with precious truffles or porcini mushrooms. Risotto is a popular part of Italian food culture, and the perfect dish to share with your partner or friends on a bright autumn day.

One of the best ways to end a relaxing Tuscan meal is by satisfying your sweet tooth with Cantucci. These traditional biscuits originated in Prato, and are famous for their crunchy texture and delicious almond flavour. Eat them on their own or go with tradition and enjoy these twice baked delicacies the right way, with Vin Santo (Holy Wine). Often served up as dessert wine for dipping, Vin Santo adds to the nutty, sweet flavours, for an end of meal treat.