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TOUR ITINERARY

RIDING LEVEL 3

Europe / Italy / Tuscany

# Classic Tuscany Bike Tour

## Essential Italy: What Locals Love Beyond Siena and Florence

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# TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Meet Paolo and his mother at their olive mill for a home-cooked lunch and olive oil tasting featuring products grown on the farm
- Experience the warmth of Tuscan hospitality with our friend Serena during an afternoon of laughs, lore, and local recipes in her garden
- Stay in just two luxurious properties, a noble estate outside Renaissance Pienza and a medieval hamlet converted into a Relais & Chateaux resort
- Pedal through UNESCO-recognized landscapes of wheat fields where scenes from *Gladiator* were famously filmed









# ARRIVAL + DEPARTURE

## Arrival Details

- **Airport City**:
  Rome or Florence, Italy
- **Pick-Up Location**:
  Chiusi Train Station
- **Pick-Up Time**:
  11:00 am

## Departure Details

- **Airport City**:
  Rome or Florence, Italy
- **Drop-Off Location**:
  Florence Piazzale Michelangelo
- **Drop-Off Time**:
  1:30 pm

**NOTE:** DuVine provides group transfers to and from the tour from the pick-up and drop-off locations stated on the itinerary. In the event your train, flight, or other travel falls outside the arrival or departure times or locations, you may be responsible for extra costs incurred in arranging a separate transfer.

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## Emergency Assistance

For urgent assistance on your way to tour or while on tour, please always contact your guides first. You may also contact the Boston office during business hours at +1 617 776 4441 or **emergency@duvine.com**.



# TOUR ITINERARY

## Tour By Day

DAY 1

### La Dolce Vita

Meet your guides at the Chiusi train station for a transfer to our first boutique hotel, a converted estate perched on a hill outside Pienza. Here, an authentic Tuscan welcome awaits with lunch on the scenic terrace. After, get fitted on your bike and set off on a ride through the classic Tuscan countryside, pausing to admire the Temple of San Biagio—a masterpiece of Italian Renaissance architecture. You'll feel as though you've traveled back to the 13th century pedaling on the cobbled streets of tiny Montichiello and greeting locals as they tend their olive groves. Choose your own adventure with longer or shorter ride options that lead back to our hotel. Relax, settle in, and enjoy a glass of wine. This evening, watch the sun set over the Val d'Orcia as the chef welcomes us with a seasonal dinner served just steps from the hotel's garden.

**Meals**: Lunch / Dinner
**Destinations**: Pienza, Montichiello
**Accomplished**: 23 miles / 37 km, elevation gain: 2,273 feet / 693 meters
**Shorter Option**: 18 miles / 29 km, elevation gain: 1,761 feet / 537 meters
**Accommodations**: **Casa Newton**

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DAY 2

### Farms of the Val d'Orcia

Set off riding through the Val d'Orcia, an area so beautiful that UNESCO designated it a World Heritage Site—you may also recognize it from the movie Gladiator's famous wheat field scene. Marvel at the morning light in Renaissance Pienza, sip a coffee on the main square in San Quirico, and follow in the footsteps of emperors, popes, painters, and peasants as we trace the Via Cassia, an ancient Roman road to Torrenieri. This is the gourmet heart of Tuscany, where Brunello vineyards meet truffle-rich forests. Celebrate the bounty with a homemade lunch and olive oil tasting at our friend Paolo's olive mill, then complete the loop back to the hotel. Tonight we'll visit a local organic farm known for its flavorful raw milk sheep cheeses. Taste their tangy pecorino then sit down for a meal crafted from fresh ingredients grown and produced onsite.

**Meals**: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner
**Destinations**: San Quirico, San Giovanni d'Asso, Castelmuzio
**Accomplished**: 30 miles / 49 km, elevation gain: 2,257 feet / 688 meters
**Longer Option**: 40 miles / 64 km, elevation gain: 3,228 feet / 984 meters
**Accommodations**: **Casa Newton**

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## DAY 3 Across the Crete Senesi: Monks and Masterpieces

Say goodbye to Casa Newton as we pedal out into the Crete Senesi, where the landscape turns positively panoramic. Stop to take in the Renaissance frescoes at the Abbey of Monte Oliveto before riding along a ridgeline where sheep graze and the view reveals the medieval towers of Siena in the distance. Crossing into Chianti Classico country, we'll pedal through a green and gold landscape to lunch at a family-run winery. Afterwards, ride or transfer to the stunning Relais & Chateaux Borgo San Felice, our home for the next three nights. Get settled, relax by the pool or pamper yourself with a treatment at the spa. Tonight we'll regather and head to a picturesque hamlet for dinner at an inviting, Tuscan *osteria*.

**Meals**: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner
**Destinations**: Monte Oliveto, Asciano, Monteaperti
**Accomplished**: 37 miles / 60 km, elevation gain: 3,096 feet / 944 meters
**Longer Option**: 43 miles / 70 km, elevation gain: 3,841 feet / 1,171 meters
**Accommodations**: **Borgo San Felice** or **Castel Monastero**

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## DAY 4 Chianti Classico: The Tuscan Heartland

Olive and cypress trees surround us as we ride deep into the hills of Chianti. We'll see plenty of fortified hamlets and castles—relics of Florence and Siena's 300-year struggle for regional dominance and ownership over the birthplace of Chianti Classico wines found in ancient cellars around the area. Pedal past countless estates as we weave our way through forests and vineyards, completing our loop for lunch back at the hotel. Spend a relaxed afternoon at the pool or spa before heading into Siena. Explore the cobbled streets of this UNESCO-designated medieval city and enjoy dinner on your own—your guides are happy to recommend their favorite restaurants.

**Meals**: Breakfast / Lunch
**Destinations**: Castagnoli, Gaiole, Siena
**Accomplished**: 25 miles / 41 km, elevation gain: 2,552 feet / 778 meters
**Longer Option**: 32 miles / 51 km, elevation gain: 3,562 feet / 1,086 meters
**Accommodations**:**Borgo San Felice** or **Castel Monastero**

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## DAY 5 A Casa in Chianti

Wake up to the quiet beauty of the Chianti countryside and ease into the day with a relaxed breakfast. Today's loop ride leads us through a cycling paradise, tracing the storied roads of the famed Strade Bianche bike race. On the outskirts of Siena, we'll visit our friend Serena, who welcomes us into her home for a memorable, home-cooked lunch inspired by her bountiful garden and passion for local cuisine. After, continue cycling back to the hotel or opt for a transfer. The afternoon is yours to spend as you wish—take a stroll through the beautiful grounds or enjoy a poolside spritz. This evening we'll toast to our week together before a final gourmet dinner paired with renowned wines grown here on the estate.

**Meals**: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner
**Destinations**: Castelnuovo, Pianella, Bossi
**Accomplished**: 32 miles / 52 km, elevation gain: 2,906 feet / 886 meters
**Longer Option**: 43 miles / 69 km, elevation gain: 3,988 feet / 1,216 meters
**Accommodations:** **Borgo San Felice** or **Castel Monastero**

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## DAY 6 Ride to Florence

On our last day, choose between a late morning at the hotel or a ride all the way across Chianti for a triumphant finish in Florence's Piazzale Michelangelo. Whether you rode here or took a transfer, we say our goodbyes with the stunning Florentine skyline as our backdrop as guides see you off to your next adventure.

**Meals**: Breakfast
**Destinations**: Radda, Panzano, Florence
**Optional Ride:** 36 miles / 58 km, elevation gain: 2,270 feet / 692 meters
**Longer Option:** 48 miles / 78 km, elevation gain: 3,611 feet / 1,101 meters

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