#### The other face of Tuscany...

Siena, San Gimignano, Volterra: hidden treasures behind the Tuscan hills



#### **1ST DAY:**

#### Arrival and stay in an hotel or in a farm holidays)

Welcome in the heart of the city of Siena, where you'll enjoy your stay. Afternoon and evening: you'll have time to relax yourselves and to get used to Siena's surroundings.

### 2ND DAY:

### Siena "Cor Magis tibi Saena Pandit": Siena, its great heart will open you

The typical and narrow streets of the city will guide you towards the celebrated Piazza del Campo (famous all over the world for its horserace run); around it there's all the most important palaces and towers of the city.

At lunch (optional) we have the possibility to taste the genuine tuscan medieval cooking in a special restaurant where the waiters are dressed up as medieval ones. After lunch we'll visit Santa Maria della Scala, once an hospital, destination of the pilgrims on the Francigena road towards Roma. We'll visit also the cathedral of Assunta, a wonderful but unfinished masterpiece, the "Piccolomini" library and the basilica of "San Domenico".

Last but not least we are going to visit the Museum of the Opera in the cathedral. Dinner at pleasure.

# **3RD DAY:**

#### San Gimignano: the tuscan Manhattan.A "must" of your tuscan tour

Walking along San Giovanni street, we cross the walls of the city and we reach the "little city by the beautiful towers" arriving on the Piazza della Cisterna, once heart of the commercial and popular life (markets, holy feasts...).

Visit to the cathedral with its Collegiata, so rich in religious frescos. From here rise the oldest towers of the city: Torre Grossa(the large tower) and the twin towers. Visit to the public palace and to the convent of the Augustinian monks. Finally, a visit to the estate of Medici in Montestaffoli with a wonderful sight over the Tuscan country and visit to the apothecary's shop of Santa Fina, the first museum of the Pharmacy during the Middle Ages.

Lunch at pleasure or in a farm holidays.

Afternoon: visit of a typical wine shop on the Chianti street where we could taste this special wine.

Dinner at pleasure with possibility to go all together in a typical restaurant adviced from us.

## **4TH DAY: Volterra, city of Etruscans.**

Characteristic Tuscan city on the hills, surrounded from declivities.From the top of this little city you can admire the Tirrenian sea, the famous saltworks and the soffioni boric-acid fumarols.

Through the Medici's residence, now sadly famous for its criminal prisons, we enter Piazza dei Priori where we can admire the "Palazzo del Podestà". Visit to the ancient cathedral, founded from San Giusto, one of the fathers of the catholic eastern church (he was the first bishop).

We arrive in the centre of the city through the Etruscan gates and we go on till the Carracci Museum, the original Pantheon of the Etruscan art, with its Etruscan sarcophagi, Jewels and Statues of bronze.

Finally we can forget the rooms of the pompous Inghirami palace with its collection from intensive colours, which were created by the famous painter Rosso

Fiorentino(The deposition of the cross) (collected inside the art gallery confining with the palace).

Of the Roman age are instead the ancient theater andthe thermal springs. Last but not least the workshop of alabaster, where industrious artisans work this transparent and pure stone.

Lunch at pleasure with the possibility to eat in a typical restaurant.

Afternoon: free time to shop before the departure.

# Cost of the tour : **449 eur** per person for a minimum of 10 participants <u>Included in price :</u>

Stay in a 3-star hotel or in a familiar farm holidays in B&B. At pleasure the possibility to stay in a higher-quality hotel or in an ancient and historical residence.

- Visits of the places with the company of a high-qualified personal.
- Transfers from and towards the places included in the daily program
- <u>:Excluded from price:</u>

- Lunches and dinners adviced from the agency personal based on the program of the day

- Trips from and to Florence and insurance.

For any kind of information you may need please don't hesitate to get in touch with our travel agency: RE...SPO TOURS

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