Flavors of Chianti

A Cultural Journey Through Tuscany’s Historic Sites, Quaint Villages, Welcoming Wineries, and Creative Kitchens

MAY 18-26, 2023

with Special Faculty Leader
Jillian A. Wanik, DCN, RDN

100% REFUND GUARANTEE
See reservation panel for details.

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The Foundation shall not be responsible for alteration in the itinerary as deemed necessary for carrying out the tour and the right is reserved to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of the tour should such person’s health, actions or general deportment impede the operation of the tour or the rights or welfare of the other participants. No refund will be made for the unused portion of any tour.

By paying the deposit or participating in this travel program applicants and participants accept in full all of the terms and conditions set forth herein and on the tour operator’s website at www.orbridge.com.
Dear Alumni and Friends,

Join our small group for an intimate journey exploring Chianti's countryside—a region brimming with living history, extraordinary family traditions, and an endearing farm-to-table way of life. Meander through Tuscany's colorful cities, cypress-studded hilltop towns, classic cucinas, and idyllic vineyards, exploring the Italian countryside that provides overwhelming inspiration for artists, chefs, and vintners alike.

Settle in for seven nights at the luxurious hillside Castello La Leccia in Castellina, featuring deluxe accommodations and exceptional views of the lush, rolling Tuscan landscape.

Each invigorating day is enriched by historical site visits, cultural activities and interactions, memorable cuisine, and festive wine tastings. Admire the Etruscan ruins and Roman center at Volterra before visiting charming San Gimignano—the Town of Fine Towers—which is completely encircled by medieval walls. Enjoy a stroll through spectacular Siena—a UNESCO World Heritage Site—with its well-preserved cityscape, celebrated Duomo, and bustling Piazza del Campo. And learn the secrets of preparing traditional Tuscan food side-by-side with chefs from Castello La Leccia.

Space is limited. With significant savings of more than $1,000 per couple, we anticipate this tour will fill quickly, so be certain to reserve your spot today and share this brochure with family and friends who may be interested in traveling with you.

Please reserve online at uconn.orbridge.com, by calling our travel partner, Orbridge, at (866) 639-0079, or by returning the enclosed reservation form.

Sincerely,

Montique Cotton Kelly
Senior Vice President for Stakeholder Engagement and Chief Operating Officer
UConn Foundation

Jillian A. Wanik, DCN, RDN
Assistant Professor in Residence | Director, Dietetic Internship Program | Dept. of Allied Health Sciences, University of Connecticut

As we embark on this new world of group travel, the health and well-being of our guests, our team, and the communities we visit remain our top priority. For a detailed listing of the enhanced safety measures and hygiene protocols specific to our tours, please visit orbridge.com/wellness.
Embrace the bewitching enchantment, bucolic ambiance, and charismatic culture of Chianti.

Meander through Tuscany’s colorful cities, cypress-studded hilltop towns, classic cucinas, and idyllic vineyards during this small-group journey. Explore the Italian countryside that provides endless inspiration for artists, chefs, and vintners alike.
Your 9-Day Itinerary *(subject to change)*

**Day 1:** En route from U.S.

**Day 2:** Arrive in Florence, Italy / Castellina (D)
- Welcome dinner
- Overnight: Castello La Leccia

**Day 3:** Volterra / San Gimignano (B,D)
- Panoramic Volterra city tour, San Gimignano tower exploration, visit award-winning Gelateria Dondoli
- Overnight: Castello La Leccia

**Day 4:** Pienza (B,L,D)
- UNESCO site tour, organic farm visit
- Overnight: Castello La Leccia

**Day 5:** Cortona (B,L,D)
- Santa Margherita church, Bramasole villa, city center, Etruscan museum.
- Overnight: Castello La Leccia

**Day 6:** Castello La Leccia (B,D)
- Enjoyment of accommodations with cooking class at the property, evening wine tasting and tour, plus leisure time
- Overnight: Castello La Leccia

**Day 7:** Monteriggioni / Via Francigena / Gaiole (B,L,D)
- Walled medieval village visit, Abbadia a Isola, vineyard excursion with cooking class and dinner
- Overnight: Castello La Leccia

**Day 8:** Siena (B,D)
- Guided sightseeing, Duomo, Sanctuary of Santa Caterina, Piazza del Campo, farewell dinner
- Overnight: Castello La Leccia

**Day 9:** Florence / Depart for U.S. (B)
- (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner)

**Activity Level:** Activities are generally not very strenuous, however, this program requires individuals to have higher mobility due to many steep hills and stairs to climb in Chianti. Guests should be able to enjoy two hours or more of walking, be sure-footed on cobbled and uneven surfaces, and walk up and down stairs without assistance.
Repose

- With your small group, enjoy seven nights deluxe accommodations in the luxurious hilltop Castello La Leccia in Castellina featuring exceptional views of the lush, rolling Tuscan landscape.

Explore

- Admire the Etruscan ruins and Roman center in Volterra before visiting charming San Gimignano—the Town of Fine Towers—which is completely encircled by medieval walls.
- Stop into the Renaissance town of Pienza, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which sits atop a hill overlooking the Tuscan countryside.
- Discover Podere Il Casale, an organic farm. Tour the grounds while learning about the owners’ passion for the slow food movement, followed by a leisurely lunch.
- Take a guided tour of Cortona with free time to explore afterward.
- Wander within the walled medieval village of Monteriggioni—a city along the ancient pilgrim road of Via Francigena—before strolling down the road to visit the Abbadia a Isola abbey.
- Stroll Siena—another UNESCO World Heritage Site—with its well-preserved cityscape, celebrated Duomo, and bustling Piazza del Campo.

Partake

- Learn secrets of preparing traditional Tuscan food in class with chefs from Castello La Leccia.
- Savor a cooking class and dinner at Badia a Coltibuono, a remarkable winery featured on the Netflix TV show, Salt Fat Acid Heat.

What’s Included

- 7 nights accommodations
- 7 breakfasts, 3 lunches, and 7 dinners served with wine
- All lessons and tastings as described in the 9-day itinerary
- Private motor coach transportation
- Luggage porterage
- Gratuities to Orbridge Travel Director, local guides, drivers, porters, and wait staff for included meals
- Group airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times

Insider, Interpreter, Epicure, Host

Your Orbridge Travel Director will infuse your journey with an epicure’s appreciation of food and wine, a local’s knowledge and pride of place, and a travel aficionado’s ability to gather the beauty of all senses to your discoveries in Italy.
Your Accommodations (subject to change)

Become part of la famiglia as you settle into this authentic Tuscan wine estate. Sip a glass of Chianti on a sun-dappled terrace, stroll the grounds, and admire vineyards draped with Sangiovese, Merlot, and Petit Verdot grapes.

Historical sources cite La Leccia castle’s ownership was divided among 16 owners for strategic purposes. Near the mid 1400s, the Ricasoli family dominated a large part of the Chianti Classico region as well as the castle.

After being modified to serve more as a villa in the 18th century, the entire property was purchased in 1920 by Giuliano Daddi, great-grandfather of the current proprietors, and subsequently was the site of heavy bombardments during WWII that destroyed part of the tower, the last medieval testimony, and devastated a wing of the villa.

Recently undergoing more than four years of careful and rigorous restoration, the castle and the surrounding garden have returned to life.

With a focus on sustainability and the environment, the original spaces remain intact but feature modern enhancements using eco-compatible materials and technologies. To warm the surroundings, wooden floors, beamed ceilings, pastel colors, and furniture were designed exclusively for the common spaces and made by Florentine craftsmen.

Each room offers climate control, desk, LCD TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, phone, safe, minibar, and en suite bathroom with a shower or tub and shower, sundries, and hairdryer.

CATEGORIES

**Superior:** Enjoy elegant furnishings and a serene area to unwind after an enriching day of exploration (approx. 301-452 sq.ft.).

**Deluxe:** Delight in absolute refinement with beautiful views of the surrounding countryside. Each room is different from the others, but all provide modern comforts and tasteful décor (approx. 474-603 sq.ft.).
Florence is arguably the cultural capital of Europe and the showcase of Renaissance exuberance. Lovers of beauty, art, and history can extend their experience in Tuscany to embrace the treasures of this magnificent city.

**Post-Tour Itinerary (subject to change)**

**Day 9:** Depart Castellina / Arrive in Florence (L)
Guided walking tour with art historian: Piazza della Signoria, the Duomo and Ponte Vecchio; local culinary market tasting tour to sample a delicious assortment of breads, cheeses, salumi, crostini, balsamic vinegars, sweets, and seasonal specialties—paired with glass of Chianti; afternoon artisanal tour and boat excursion on the Arno
Overnight: Hotel Executive

**Day 10:** Florence (B)
Historic walking tour: Baptistery of San Giovanni, Uffizi Gallery
Overnight: Hotel Executive

**Day 11:** Florence / Depart for U.S. (B)

**What’s Included**

- Two nights accommodations at Hotel Executive—shown below—or similar, with breakfast each morning
- Guided art history and cultural tour, plus a panoramic walking tour of Florence’s historical highlights
- Local market experience and tasting, featuring three courses and a glass of wine
- Visit to artisanal leathermaker and jewelry workshops
- Private boat tour on the Arno River
- Admission to the Uffizi Gallery
- Luggage porterage
- Gratuities to local guide, drivers, and porters
- Airport transfers for guests departing during the suggested times
Flavors of Chianti

MAY 18-26, 2023
Florence Post-Tour: May 26-28, 2023

Reserve by Credit Card:
Online: uconn.orbridge.com
Phone: (866) 639-0079
Fax: (206) 452-5655

Reserve by Check:
Made payable to Orbridge, LLC
Mail to: Orbridge, P.O. Box 10339
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

GUEST INFORMATION:
Guest #1 Name (Title/Salutation): ______________________________
Email: ________________________________ Home Phone: __________________
Alt. Phone: __________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________________________________
City: ______________________________________________________ State: _______ Zip: _____________

Guest #2 Name (Title/Salutation): ______________________________
Email: ________________________________ Home Phone: __________________
Alt. Phone: __________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________________________________
City: ______________________________________________________ State: _______ Zip: _____________

DEPOSIT PAYMENT:
☐ Check ☐ ACH (Automated Clearing House) ☐ MasterCard/Visa ☐ American Express ☐ Discover
Card #: ____________________________________________________ Exp. Date: _______ CVV:
Name (as printed on card): ______________________________________________________
Billing Address (if different from above): ____________________________________________
City: ______________________________________________________ State: _______ Zip: _____________

CATEGORY SELECTION & DEPOSIT:
Category Preference: 1st choice ______________________________________________  2nd choice _______________________________
# _________ guests joining program ($850/person) +
# _________ guests joining post-tour ($500/person) = TOTAL DEPOSIT: $ _________

I/we have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at terms.orbridge.com and the COVID-19
Acknowledgement at orbridge.com/wellness; and I/we agree that Orbridge, LLC is authorized to charge my credit card
above and/or take my/our deposit for this program.

Signature: ________________________________ Date: ______________

Reservations, Deposits and Final Payment. To secure your reservation, deposits are due upon placing a reservation as follows: $850
per person per program and $300 per person for any pre-tour and/or post-tour. Deposits are payable by check, ACH, wire transfer or
major credit card. Final payment, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour, optional excursion(s) fees and optional electives, is payable by
check, ACH, wire transfer or major credit card, and is due no later than 90 days prior to the program’s scheduled departure date. If your
reservation is made between the final payment due date and the program’s scheduled departure date, the full cost of the program, plus
any pre-tour and/or post-tour, optional excursion(s) fees and optional electives, is due at the time of registration, payable by check, ACH,
wire transfer or major credit card. If final payment is not received by Orbridge by the final payment due date, Orbridge may, at any time
and with or without notice, cancel your reservation in its sole discretion with no right of refund. CST#20918750-40 WST#602828994

Reservation Cancellations and Refunds. All cancellations must be submitted to Orbridge in writing. If the cancellation notice is received
by Orbridge: (a) more than 90 calendar days prior to the program’s scheduled departure date, all monies paid to Orbridge for the main
program and for any pre-tour and/or post-tour will be refunded in full; (b) between 90 and 60 days prior to the scheduled departure date, a 25%
cancellation fee will be applied to the full cost of the program, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour, and the balance will be refunded;
(c) between 59 and 30 days prior to the scheduled departure date, a 50% cancellation fee will be applied to the full cost of the program,
including any pre-tour and/or post-tour, and the balance will be refunded; (d) within 29 days prior to the scheduled departure date, a 100%
cancellation fee will be applied to the full cost of the program, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour. In addition to and
not in lieu of the foregoing, a Cancellation Fee equal to 100% of the carrier charge applies to all non-refundable airfares due to your
cancellation made at any time prior to the scheduled program departure date, as applicable. Refunds, if any, will be processed within 30
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included. Single availability limited. **Place your deposit on or before the specified date, and one Orbridge Wine Gift per room reserved will
ship after receipt of final payment. Where prohibited by state law (including, but not limited to AR, DE, KY, MS, OK, RI, UT) or by retailer licensing
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