



Cookery holiday in Tuscany



Cookery holiday in Tuscany

4 NIGHTS / 5 DAYS

- Two cookery lessons each of two to three hours' duration
- One pasta-making class followed by lunch or visit to organic farm
- Visit with English speaking guide of a local market



This 4-night cookery holiday in Tuscany features small group cookery classes for either 4 or 6 people that are held in the Chianti region not far from Arezzo at Relais Villa Belpoggio and a local bakery. The Villa's lessons are taken by the chef, who cooks using local, mainly organic, produce. All classes are hands-on and each participant will be invited to input ideas on menus and techniques. The emphasis is on explaining and instructing you in traditional cooking methods and regional dishes. Each of the lessons lasts between two and three hours and is followed by a meal together. Also included in this cookery holiday is a pasta making class nearby, a visit to an organic farm, a guided visit to a local market, an excursion to Arezzo and dinner at the hotel on two evenings. This holiday can be arranged for just two people, and with a hire-car instead of transfers. Contact us for exact price details.

PRICES

The holiday operates on the following dates: 25 April 2021, 9 May 2021, 13 June 2021, 19 September 2021 but can also be arranged at any time for individuals.

Price per person:

4 per party with transfers

1 April to 31 May £1860

1 June to 30 September £1920

2 per party with transfers

1 April to 31 May £2340

1 June to 30 September £2390

2 per party with car-hire

1 April to 31 May £1870

1 June to 30 September £1930

Single room supplement: £790 April and May,

£820 June to September

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Scheduled flights with British Airways London Gatwick to Pisa return, economy
- Mini-bus transfer from Pisa airport to the hotel and back
- Four nights' bed and breakfast in a double or twin classic room at the Villa Belpoggio near Arezzo
- Two cookery classes each of 2 to 3 hours' duration
- One pasta-making class followed by lunch or visit to organic farm
- Visit with English speaking guide of a local market
- Concierge service and Expressions Holidays regional helpful hints

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Early check-in or late check-out at any hotels (although we can arrange this on request at additional cost)
- Any other services not mentioned above, such as transfers and meals except breakfast at hotels
- Personal holiday insurance. This is essential and cover should be in place from when you book the holiday.
- Local tourist tax, usually between Euros 1 and 3 per person per night, and payable locally to the hotel

CODE

FHIT16

Day one Arrive Pisa and transfer to Loro Ciuffenna

ADepart from London to Pisa, on the British Airways morning flight. You will be met and taken by mini-bus to the Villa Belpoggio in Loro Ciuffenna. The journey time is about two hours. If you want to travel by another airline, or to another airport or have a hire-car, we can adjust the details and the price for you. Once you have checked in to the Villa, there is time to explore it and its grounds, perhaps enjoying a refreshing drink before your invitation to join a guided tour at 6.30 taking you through the history of the villa and its gardens. Dinner with wine this evening at Villa Belpoggio is included. The Relais Villa Belpoggio is a boutique hotel of only 10 rooms and two apartments, in the countryside near the village of Loro Ciuffenna just 35 kms from Florence in the direction of Arezzo. It is set in a secluded part of the valley of the River Arno, upstream from Florence, and its belvedere looks out over the valley and its wooded hills. Hills, woods, fields, olive groves and vineyards are all to be found nearby. The Villa dates back to the 17th Century, having been built for the aristocratic Fiorilli family. Today it is a boutique hotel, run by a husband and wife team and combines charm and cosiness with high standards of service and comfort.

Day two Visit Arezzo and first cookery lesson

This morning we arrange for you to be taken into Arezzo (about 40 minutes' drive), birthplace of Piero della Francesca and home to numerous churches, mediaeval palaces, fine town square and Roman amphitheatre, for some free time to explore and then you are transferred back to the hotel ready for the first cookery lesson given by the chef, which takes place at 3pm, followed by dinner at 7.30 pm of the menu you have created in the afternoon.

Day three Visit local market and second cookery lesson

AThis morning you will visit a local market from about 9.30 until 11.00 with an English-speaking guide. Then there is some free time before your afternoon cookery lesson at the Villa. This two-hour session is hands-on and provides an insight into the preparation of regional dishes as well as traditional cooking methods. At the end of the session, you share the evening meal together.

Day four Pasta making or visit organic farm

In the morning after breakfast there is a pasta making class nearby. Lunch consists of the



Cookery at Villa Belpoggio

fruits of your labour after a pleasant walk in the surroundings. If the pasta-making is not available, it will be substituted with a visit to an organic farm that produces wine and vegetables or truffle hunting. The afternoon is free for you to walk, potter around nearby Loro Ciuffenna or relax beside the pool and in the gardens. Tonight dinner with wine at the Villa Belpoggio is included.

Day five To Pisa and flight home

You have the morning at leisure, depending on the time of your return flight, before you bid farewell to your charming hosts at the Villa Belpoggio and the transfer back to Pisa for your flight.

GENERAL INFORMATION

This tailor-made holiday is one of several holidays we can offer you exactly as it is but also with any alterations you might want including extra nights in one or more places or adding in extra places. Do call to discuss the options with our travel consultants.

Expressions

OUR HOLIDAYS

Our tailor-made holidays are suggestions which work well as they are or which can be adapted in numerous ways. They can be fly-drive (with flight and hire-car included), self-drive (with ferry or Eurotunnel included with your own car) or rail and hire-car.

FLEXIBLE ARRANGEMENTS

Our arrangements are very flexible in that you choose to travel on any day you want, subject to availability of your chosen transport and hotels. As mentioned above, additional nights can be added at any point.

OUR PRICES

The sample prices mentioned in this leaflet are generally a 'from' price based on the cheapest season of travel. However, train fares and hotel rates can change (up and down depending on offers), so we give you an accurate price for your holiday when we provide you with a quotation. Our sample prices should be used as an indication of how much a particular combination will cost and to show the differences on average between the hotel categories on offer.

BOOKING CONDITIONS

Our booking conditions apply to all holidays. A copy can be found on our website and a copy is also sent to you with a written quotation and when you make a booking.

FINANCIAL PROTECTION

Expressions Holidays offers full financial protection for all holidays you book with us. If your holiday includes a flight, the ATOL (3076) covers the costs of the holiday. If the holiday does not include a flight, it is the ABTOT bond that protects the cost of the holiday. We are also members of AITO (the Association of Independent Tour Operators).

Expressions Holidays
Lynx House, Pynes Hill, Exeter EX2 5JL



HOW TO BOOK

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01392 441250

and we can take you through the details we need and start the booking process.



Cookery holiday in Umbria



Cookery holiday in Umbria

4 NIGHTS / 5 DAYS

- Two cookery classes each of 3 hours' duration
- Recipe booklet
- Meal follows each cookery lessons



This 4-night cookery holiday in Umbria includes cookery classes that are held at Villa di Monte Solare and are taken by the English-speaking chef, Nicola Fanfano, who cooks using mainly organic produce. The classes are hands-on with each of the maximum of 6 participants having their own work station. The emphasis is on explaining and instructing you in traditional cooking methods and regional dishes. Each of the two courses lasts approximately three hours and is followed by a meal together. You are provided with a recipe booklet. Also included are three dinners at the hotel and two wine tasting sessions. The Villa di Monte Solare is in the countryside near the village of Tavernelle di Panicale and a few miles south of Lake Trasimeno. Surrounded by undulating hills, woods, fields and olive groves, the Villa was the residence of a noble family and dates back to the 18th century. Today it is a small hotel of just 25 rooms and combines a charm and cosiness with high standards of service and comfort. Antique and traditional local furniture complete the picture of terracotta floors, murals and original fireplaces. Facilities at the hotel include two swimming pools for summer use, clay tennis court, spa and cycle hire. The hotel is about 2 hours' drive from Rome Fiumicino airport.

PRICES

The holiday operates on the following dates: 25 April 2021, 9 May 2021, 13 June 2021, 19 September 2021 but can also be arranged at any time for individuals.

This holiday can be operated for just 2 people with departures on a Sunday or Tuesday with the cookery lessons taking place on Mondays, Wednesdays or Fridays.

Price per person:

£1,860 when sharing a superior double or twin room.

Supplements per person:

£360 for a suite

£320 for single use of a classic room

(We can operate a version of the holiday for 2 people and not being part of the group, so with own hire-car, 4 nights, 2 dinners and 2 cookery lessons for £1,690 per person)

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Scheduled flights with British Airways London Heathrow to Rome return, economy
- Mini-bus transfer from Rome airport to the hotel and back
- Transport by luxury mini-bus from Rome airport to the hotel and back
- Four nights' bed and breakfast in a Superior double room at the Villa di Monte Solare, at Tavernelle di Panicale
- Two dinners at the hotel
- Two cookery classes each of 3 hours' duration
- Concierge service and Expressions Holidays regional helpful hints

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Early check-in or late check-out at any hotels (although we can arrange this on request at additional cost)
- Any other services not mentioned above, such as transfers and meals except breakfast at hotels
- Personal holiday insurance. This is essential and cover should be in place from when you book the holiday.
- Local tourist tax, usually between Euros 1 and 3 per person per night, and payable locally to the hotel

CODE

ITFH17

Day one Arrive in Rome and transfer to Umbria

Depart from London Heathrow on the British Airways flight at 08.35 arriving in Rome Fiumicino at 12.05. (Flight times may vary according to departure date). You are met and transferred to the hotel Villa di Monte Solare. The journey time is about two hours. Once you have checked in, there is time to explore the villa and its grounds, perhaps enjoying a sandwich or tea and cakes before changing for dinner. Enjoy an aperitif and then you are served dinner (drinks not included).

Day two First cookery lesson

After breakfast your first cookery class starts at 10 am. This three-hour session is hands-on and provides an insight into the preparation of regional dishes as well as traditional cooking methods. At the end of the session, you share a meal together. Free time this afternoon to explore on your own or to relax at the hotel. Dinner is not included tonight.



Cookery at the Monte Solare

Day three Day at leisure

Today is a free day but if you have a hire-car with you it is worth visiting the famous wine town of Torgiano and the Lungarotti Wine Museum, one of the best in the world. There is also an olive oil museum to visit. Then you could continue Assisi, birthplace of St Francis, World Heritage Site and a symbol of peace or visit the nearby university city of Perugia. Dinner (without drinks) is included at the Villa di Monte Solare tonight.

Day four Second cookery lesson

The class this morning starts after breakfast at 10 am. Once again it is hands-on and will focus on yet more aspects of regional dishes and traditional Italian methods of cooking. A meal together follows the course. Spend the afternoon relaxing or perhaps walking in the nearby countryside. Own arrangements for dinner.

Day five Umbria to Rome and flight home

A leisurely breakfast and then some free time before a departure about midday in your luxury minibus for the journey of about two hours back to Rome Fiumicino airport for your flight to London Heathrow which departs at about 17.20 hrs.



Villa di Monte Solare

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Cookery holiday in Sicily



Cookery holiday in Sicily

4 NIGHTS / 5 DAYS

- Two cookery lessons each of three hours' duration
- Explore the estate of the hotel with its farmland and wine production
- Visit Modica and Ragusa



This four-night luxury cookery holiday at the Eremo della Giubiliana about 20 minutes' drive from the Baroque town Ragusa includes two hands-on cookery lessons that will instruct you in how to recreate the aromas of Sicily in your own home. A hallmark of Sicilian cuisine is the way the tried and tested recipes of the local aristocracy are skilfully adapted to suit contemporary taste. Only the finest organic ingredients are used to execute a typical Mediterranean diet. The two cookery classes you receive feature hands-on tuition from the chef and allow you some flexibility tailored to your own preferences and experience. The hotel is set on a sizeable country estate near Ragusa in south-eastern Sicily, about 90 minutes' drive from the airport at Catania. During the cookery holiday you have time to visit the Baroque town of Ragusa and nearby Modica, setting for the Montalbano TV detective series. We can offer you private car transfers or the use of a hire-car.

PRICES

The holiday operates on any day of your choice for a minimum of two people.
 £1,490 from Jan-Mar, Nov-Dec
 £1,820 Apr-Jun, Aug-Oct

All above based on two people sharing a classic double or twin and including hire-car.

Supplements per person:

£120 for a private car transfer instead of the hire-car
 £60 for a superior double room
 £220 for a deluxe double room

£350 for a single except from 1 April to 30 June and from 1 Aug to 30 Sep when it is £410

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Scheduled flights with British Airways London Gatwick to Catania return, economy
- Use of a group B hire-car for the duration of the holiday (private transfers possible at a supplement)
- Four nights' bed and breakfast in a double or twin classic room at the Eremo della Giubiliana, near Ragusa
- Two cookery classes each of 3 hours' duration
- Concierge service and Expressions Holidays regional helpful hints

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Early check-in or late check-out at any hotels (although we can arrange this on request at additional cost)
- Any other services not mentioned above, such as transfers and meals except breakfast at hotels
- Personal holiday insurance. This is essential and cover should be in place from when you book the holiday.
- Local tourist tax, usually between Euros 1 and 3 per person per night, and payable locally to the hotel

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FHIT15

Day one Arrive in Catania and drive to Ragusa

Arrive at Catania airport, collect your hire-car and drive to Ragusa, about one hour and twenty minutes' driving time. You stay at the five-star Eremo della Giubiliana, which lies in its own estate on the fertile plains between the historic town of Ragusa Ibla and the seaside resort of Marina di Ragusa. The current owners have had the Eremo since the 18th Century and heirlooms such as portraits and antique furniture feature in both the bedrooms and the public rooms. The hotel's thick stone walls, once used to protect the property from pirates, now create a cool and tranquil atmosphere. The bedrooms, converted from what were once hermitage cells and used by the Maltese Knights of the Order of Saint John, are simple but comfortable and are beautifully furnished. There is a swimming pool, spa, restaurant and cycle hire. If you prefer, we can arrange for you to have a private car transfer from the airport to your hotel and back, but this leaves you less able to explore the region on your own in your free time.

Day two First cookery lesson

This is a three-hour practical lesson with the chef. Today's hands-on lesson with the chef is based around your own choice of theme for the three hours' tuition. You can choose between the secrets of home-made pasta where you learn how to combine the right sauce with the right type of pasta, using only the tastiest ingredients, or a comprehensive course on the cuts and preparation of meat, with suggestions for the accompanying vegetables, or you visit a fish market and learn how to select the best fish followed by a variety of traditional methods for its preparation, or Sicilian desserts!

Day three At leisure in Ragusa

A day to unwind and relax at the hotel, in the grounds, perhaps taking walk or enjoying a spa treatment. Or take a taxi (or drive yourself if you have the hire-car) into nearby Ragusa or Modica (setting in part for the TV detective series Montalbano).

Day four Second cookery lesson

Today's hands-on lesson with the chef is based around your own choice of theme for the three hours' tuition. You can choose between the secrets of home-made pasta where you learn how to combine the right sauce with the right type of pasta, using only the tastiest ingredients, or a comprehensive course on the cuts and preparation of meat, with suggestions for the accompanying vegetables, or you visit a fish market and learn how to select the best fish followed



Breads and grains at the Eremo

by a variety of traditional methods for its preparation, or Sicilian desserts!

Day five Ragusa to Catania and flight home

Depending on the time of your flight back to London, spend more time exploring the region, or relaxing at the hotel before the drive to the airport and return your hire-car ready for the flight back.

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