





#### TOUR ITINERARY



Europe / Italy / Tuscany

# **Tuscany Harvest Bike Tour**

Olives, Truffles, Porcini, Chestnuts... And a Nice Chianti

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience Tuscany when its culinary treasures are ripe for the picking; take part in a dog-led truffle hunt, cook with our friend Lina in her 15th-century home, and harvest olives to be pressed into oil at a local mill
- Weave through buzzing vineyards to a scenic family-run estate, where a private tasting lunch featuring award-winning Chianti wines awaits
- Pedal deep into the forests of Mount Amiata, filled with porcini mushrooms and chestnuts, to a seasonal lunch with a Michelin-starred chef
- End the tour with a bang; ride across Chianti and finish in Florence's stunning Piazzale Michelangelo











#### 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:

<sup>2</sup> 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.

#### **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 By Day



# Raccolta: The Olive Harvest

Your journey begins with a transfer to La Chiusa, a former olive oil mill that is now a charming country inn. Enjoy lunch featuring ingredients from the surrounding countryside. Harvest time means there is work to do, and we will jump right into the action, picking olives from La Chiusa's grove before hopping on our bikes and riding to our friend Paolo's olive oil mill to get our olives pressed. Taste the alien green *olio nuovo* (new oil) on warm bruschetta before pedaling on to our first hotel in Pienza; a jewel of Renaissance urban planning. This evening, head to a local farmhouse for dinner featuring cheeses, vegetables, grains, and meats all produced onsite.

Meals: Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations**: Pienza, Petroio

**Accomplished:** 19 miles / 29 km, elevation gain: 1,919 feet / 585 meters **Shorter Option**: 14 miles / 22 km, elevation guide: 1,332 feet / 406 meters

**Accommodations: Bandita Townhouse** 



# **Truffles**

Set off riding through pastures and forests to join the village of San Giovanni. Here we'll meet up with our friend, a local truffle dog, and her human companion. They'll lead us into the oak forests that make this area famous for both its black and white *tartufi* (truffles). Back in San Giovanni we'll have a truffle-infused lunch at Donatella's cozy Osteria. After lunch we'll keep pedaling into the Brunello wine-growing region. It's a big climb up to Montalcino, the medieval hilltown at the heart of the Brunello zone, but the effort is well-rewarded when we check into our five-star castle hotel.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: San Giovanni, Torrenieri, Montalcino

**Accomplished**: 35 miles / 57 km, elevation gain: 2,486 feet / 758 meters **Shorter Option:** 23 miles / 37 km, elevation gain: 1,184 feet / 361 meters

Accommodations: Castello di Velona

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## **Chestnuts + Mushrooms**

Today we will ride along the slopes of Monte Amiata, famous for the deep chestnut forests hiding a bounty of porcini mushrooms. Mushroom season in Tuscany means lines of cars parked along the sides of country roads as Tuscans head *en-masse* into the woods to search for these delicious prizes. We'll join in the fun, going on our own hunt before a Michelin lunch at a mountain restaurant. After lunch, pedal back to our hotel to relax at the spa. This evening we'll head back into Montalcino for a cooking class and dinner featuring porcini and chestnuts, of course, in the 15th-century home of our friend Lina.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Vivo d'Orcia, Pescina, Seggiano

**Accomplished**: 28 miles / 45 km, elevation gain: 3,818 feet / 1,164 meters **Longer Option:** 43 miles / 69 km, elevation gain: 7,118 feet / 2,170 meters

Accommodations: Castello di Velona



## Pane dei Santi: An Autumn Treat

Ride to a local bakery for another seasonal treat, *pane dei santi*, a hearty bread with nuts and raisins made only around All Saints' Day. Spend the rest of the day making your way across stunning Crete Senesi, stopping to visit the Renaissance frescoes at the Abbey of Monte Oliveto. Continue riding along the open ridges of this scenic landscape to meet up with Davide, our host at a small family-run Chianti winery. Taste their selection of wines, from full-bodied Chianti Classico to Super Tuscans and sparkling whites during a private tasting lunch. Tonight you are free to explore the medieval city of Siena or dine at the hotel.

**Meals**: Breakfast / Lunch

**Destinations**: Buonconvento, Monte Oliveto, Asciano, Siena

**Accomplished**: 29 miles / 46 km, elevation gain: 2,083 feet / 635 meters **Longer Option:** 48 miles / 77 km, elevation gain: 3,972 feet / 1,211 meters

Accommodations: Borgo San Felice or Le Fontanelle

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Pedal through the olive and cypress trees deep into the hills of Chianti where fortified hamlets and castles are a testament to the area's unsettled past. Pass countless estates as we weave our way through forests and vineyards, completing the loop in time for a relaxed lunch at the hotel with time to enjoy the spa and grounds. Tonight we'll convene for a joyous farewell dinner at our dear friend Serena's Tuscan abode. Here, a bounty of autumn's Tuscan specialties awaits, including *cinghiale* (wild boar).

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Castelnuovo, Brolio, Castagnoli

**Accomplished**: 31 miles / 50 km, elevation gain: 2,673 feet / 815 meters **Longer Option:** 40 miles / 64 km, elevation gain: 3,575 feet / 1,090 meters

Accommodations: Borgo San Felice or Le Fontanelle



#### Ride to Florence

On our last day, choose between a late morning at the hotel or 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: Panzano, Greve, Florence

**Optional ride:** 32 miles / 52 km, elevation gain: 2,470 feet / 753 meters **Longer Option:** 43 miles / 69 km, elevation gain: 3,477 feet / 1,060 meters

