



Tour Operator

## ENOGASTRONOMIC TOUR OF THE TUSCIA

### **DAY 1**

#### **CIVITA CASTELLANA**

Arrival at the 4-star Hotel in Civita Castellana- check in. Half day guided tour of Civita Castellana, that is the land of the Falisci, a technologically and artistically evolved people that lived prosperously and often with the Romans until they were finally destroyed around the III century B.C. together with the Etruscans with whom they allied several times against Rome. The whole area preserves many necropolises, archaeological areas and a rich and fascinating Archaeological Museum of the Agro Falisco where precious finds are kept. Guided visit of Rocca dei Borgia or also called- Forte Sangallo - magnificent pentagonal fortress- Designed by Antonio da Sangallo for Pope Alessandro VI and completed by Julius II, it was initially built for military purposes (with an octagonal keep), but was converted into a papal residence before



finally a prison for many years. Now, it's an interesting tourist attraction with guided tours and a reasonable museum. Visit to the Archaeological Museum of the Agro Falisco located inside the Rocca, an interesting exhibit concerning the Falisci people. Visit of the Cathedral of Santa Maria: it presents a beautiful portico adorned with cippi, slabs, tombstones, capitals and a precious Roman ara in Greek marble with ornamental reliefs. The Latin cross interior and raised presbytery preserves beautiful mosaic decorations, from 1210, made by the Romans, Jacopo and Cosma di Lorenzo. Noteworthy is the baptistery with a baptismal font from the 15th century and the altar consisting of a

Roman marble sarcophagus. Dinner and overnight.

### **DAY 2**

#### **SUTRI -CAPRAROLA- BAGNAIA –**

After breakfast, departure by bus from Civita Castellana to Sutri, a place full of charme and ridde jewels, dug into the living rock . Visit of the regional park of the ancient city of sutri , not just outside the medieval village, with the Amphitheater entirely carved into the rock. The most recent studies date back to the construction of the Amphitheaters at the end of the century, Ia.C, full Augustan age. It's believed that the Sutri Amphitheater was built after that of Pompei , the latter was the first stabel amphitheather in the Roman world, and it could hold about 5000 spectators. Another monument of great appeal of



the regional Park of Sutri is the underground Church dedicated from the 18th century to the Madonna del Parto, the Church was built by excavating the tuff mass of the same hill where the Amphitheater was built. Then we will reach the village of CAPRAROLA and visit of Palazzo Farnese. Among the most monumental and intact examples of mannerist villas



in Italy, the palace (begun by Antonio da Sangallo the Younger as a fortress for the future Pope Paul III and transformed by Vignola into the summer residence of Cardinal Alessandro Farnese) is the emblem of this powerful family originally from Upper Lazio. The structure, articulated on several floors, consists of 365 rooms. A spectacular spiral staircase leads to the noble floor frescoed by the most famous painters of the time. The external estate, with an extension of about 19 hectares, includes the Secret Gardens and the Monumental Park, characterized by fountains,

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sculptures and water games, at the top of which stands the Casina del Piacere, a place of maximum concentration but also delightful setting for parties and summer banquets. Then beyond the forest of the Cimini mountains and the picturesque and volcanic Lake Vico guided tour of Villa Lante in Bagnaia, which was for a long time the holiday resort of noble lords and important prelates.

Villa Lante is a true jewel of mannerist architecture, famous for its Italian gardens, splendid buildings and numerous fountains and water games, commissioned by cardinal Giovanni Francesco Gambara on a design by Vignola. On the way we will stop for a tasting of wine and extra virgin olive oil



### **DAY 3**

#### **TARQUINIA AND TUSCANIA**

Full day dedicated to a fascinating itinerary in Tuscia. Visit of Tarquinia, a splendid city that has always been the emblem of the Etruscan civilization, of which it was one of the most important centers. Visit of the Necropolis of Monterozzi of Tarquinia, a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2004, is the ultimate example of Etruscan funerary painting, with chamber tombs with pictorial decorations, some of rare beauty, ranging from the sixth to the second century B.C. (Tomb of the Leopards, of the Hunt and of the Peach, of the hunter the most important). The Etruscans were the only civilization present in Italy before the ancient Romans. They were a rich, powerful, skillful people, and disappeared only when Rome began its slow and inexorable advance. Entrance to the National Museum which collects precious



archaeological finds from the area, set up in the 16th century Palazzo Vitelleschi, an authentic Gothic-Renaissance architectural masterpiece, funerary objects, sarcophagi and terracotta pieces including the sculpture of the Winged Horses. Lunch in typical Restaurant. Following will be the turn of Tuscania, an enchanting town immersed in the greenery of the Maremma countryside, with the historic center full of

churches, fountains and palaces reminiscent of the medieval and Renaissance periods. Visit of the ancient basilicas of S. Pietro and S. Maria Maggiore, masterpieces of Romanesque art. On the way back we will visit a farm producing oil and wine and we do a taste of it. Dinner at the hotel, Overnight

### **DAY 4**

#### **VITERBO – CIVITA DI BAGNOREGIO**

After breakfast, departure by bus to Viterbo, meeting with the guide and visit of the capital of Tuscia known as the "City of the Popes" but also "of the Beautiful Women and of the Beautiful Fountains", the city retains a rich historical and artistic heritage, a pontifical seat for over twenty years, still little known internationally. The very large historic center and the buildings made of peperino, a precious local gray stone, make this medieval town the true jewel of the Tuscia. You will admire Piazza del Plebiscito, Piazza del



Gesù, Via dei Pellegrini, the Palazzo dei Papi with the Cathedral and the splendid Piazza S. Lorenzo and its ancient palaces, Piazza della Morte and the Medieval Quarter of S. Pellegrino which preserves the original profferli of XII-XIII century. Due to its peculiarity, this neighborhood was chosen as a set for many films and commercials.

After the visit of Viterbo we will have a tasting and lunch at the dairy farm with Buffalo breeding, the visit consists of the breeding tour with explanation from birth to the production of the animals, after which there will be a stop at the dairy to see the

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equipment and possible processing of the mozzarella. Then we stop in the tasting room for the lunch with dishes of own products. Then we will visit the DYING CITY Civita di Bagnoregio so called because the land on wich it stands is slowly falling away and will inevitably desappear when the final pieces crumble into the spectacular Valle dei Calanchi below. Homeland of the Franciscan monk-philosopher San Bonaventura and of the essayist-novelist Bonaventura Tecchi, Civita di Bagnoregio has indeed ancient origins. The area was inhabited since the Villanova era (IX-VIII century BC), as evidenced by various archaeological finds. Later the Etruscans settled there, making Civita (whose ancient name is unknown) a thriving city. End of the Tour.

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