

SAMPLE ITINERARY B

Tuscany

Cooking, Food, Travel and Fun

STUDENT TOURS



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Day	Details	Snapshot
Day 1 – Depart Australia	<p>We meet at the International Airport for an adventure of a lifetime.</p> <p>Nothing will ease the excitement as we all prepare to board knowing some, but not all of the adventures that await us in Italy.</p> <p>We will be met at Rome airport by our private coach to be driven to our accommodation in Rome. Our hostel is centrally located and an easy distance to all the sites we will visit over the next two days.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meet at International Airport ▪ Commence our Journey ▪ Arrive in Rome 
	<p>There's no better way of starting a holiday in Italy than with a trip around the historic wonders of Rome. Our first visit is to the mighty Colosseum, where will have a private tour guide to show us around this iconic building.</p> <p>We will tour the ancient ruins of the Forum, which was for centuries the centre of life in Imperial Rome, evidenced by the many remains of triumphal arches, temples and basilicas.</p> <p>Using the red double decker tourist bus, we will circumnavigate the city, hopping on and off to visit all the famous sites including the Vatican, Pantheon, Trevi Fountain.</p> <p>We will dine at a typical Roman restaurant, eat gelato on the Spanish Steps, try a true Italian pizza and watch the buskers in the Piazza Navona.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Colosseum and Forum ▪ Trevi Fountain ▪ Piazza Navona ▪ Pantheon and Vatican ▪ Dinner at restaurant  

Day 4 – Tuscany

After breakfast, our private bus will collect us to drive to Tuscany and our home for the next 8 days. We will be staying at Villa in Tuscany, nearby to the little village of San Donata in Collina.

The villa's origins date back to the 12th Century and are a complex of apartments created by the restoration of the ancient estate buildings.

We will use several of the restored buildings for our accommodation, which are beautifully appointed and decorated, equipped with kitchens and well furnished lounge rooms.

The estate is close to Florence and is part of a 200 hectare estate with olive groves and vineyards producing excellent olive oil and wines.

On arrival we have some free time for getting settled and relaxing before cooking our first dinner under the guidance of Pauline Leonard.

- Bus from Rome to Tuscany
- Settle into apartments
- Cooking class and dinner



Day 5 – San Gimignano - Pisa

Dating back to 63 BC this amazing "City of Towers", San Gimignano is a highlight not to be missed. We will walk the narrow streets of this small but beautiful town, and perhaps climb to the top of one of the towers.

A short drive takes us to the Fattoria Poggio Allora farm, a family owned business where honey, saffron and cured meats are just a few of the things produced on this property.

We have a guided tour of the farm property which will give a better understanding of why traditional local production is an important part of Italian culture. We will also have lunch at this delightful property.

Going to Italy and not visiting the famous Tower of Pisa would be a mistake you would not want to make. It is one of the most famous and recognisable buildings in the world and is a very special place to visit and of course to climb to the top of the tower.

Not far from Pisa, in the small town of Lari, is the extraordinarily well preserved Castella dei Vicari with its medieval prison and museum. The sights and stories told within the prison are sometimes gruesome but somehow fascinating. We will also visit the home of one of Tuscany's best known brands of pasta for a guided tour of the factory.

- Tour San Gimignano
- Farm tour and lunch
- Climb the Tower of Pisa
- Tour of a medieval prison
- Visit to a pasta factory



Day 6 - Siena

We will be guided around the beautiful and ancient city of Siena with a private tour, visiting some of its landmark features including the city's piazza, famous for the Palio horse race.

Siena's famous confectionary is the Panforte and we will taste the many delicious versions of this dish in the speciality stores.

Siena holds its market on a Wednesday and we will have time to walk around the colourful food, clothing and variety stalls.

We also stop at Greve in Chianti to see the beautiful Piazza and visit one of Tuscany's most famous butchers and producers of smallgoods, Falorni's.

The menu for tonight's dinner will be from a selection of local dishes created by the students.

- Guided tour of Siena
- Panforte tasting
- Greve in Chianti
- Cooking and dinner at the villa



Day 7 – Villa Collina

Today we will be given a formal tour of the Villa Torre a Cone and the farm.

We will be shown the ancient cellars, the vineyards as well as tasting the famous Molino D'Orlando olive oil produced from the 5000 olive trees farmed on the property.

Once the tour is over we will have a hands on cooking class where we will prepare the nights' meal.

- Cellar and vineyard tour
- Olive oil tasting
- Cooking class



Day 8 - Podere il Casale

Today we travel to Pienza to Podere il Casale, a farm that produces milk, cheese, honey, olive oil, wine, and pasta. With everything grown organically this is a truly remarkable operation.

We will tour the farm, visit the cheesery for a demonstration of cheese making, learn about beekeeping and the abundance of other produce on the property.

The owners of Podere il Casale, Ulisse and Sandra, are passionate farmers and dedicated to organic and sustainable production of food.

Sandra will give the cooking class to show us simple and delicious local dishes – followed by lunch and a cheese tasting.

- Cheese making
- Farm Tour
- Cooking lesson from Italian chef
- Local osteria for dinner



Day 9 – Castello di Meleto

Castello di Meleto was built by the Benedictine monks and dates back to 1269 and is located in the heart of the Chianti Classico region.

As the castle is half way between Florence and Siena, it has for centuries been the site of many feudal family wars of the region.

We will be given a guided tour of the castle, its staterooms, incredible furnishings and decorations. A hands-on cooking class will be held in the original kitchens of the Castello and the Castello's head chef will show us some traditional and special dishes of the area.

Lunch follows in the beautifully decorated and historic dining room – this is just like stepping back into medieval times!

We will return to our villa to make our own real Italian pizza and relax after a busy full day.

- Guided tour of the Castello
- Cooking class with the Castello's chef
- Lunch at the Castello
- Pizza making night



Day 10 – Florence

With the church bells ringing for the celebration of Sunday morning, we drive to Florence, the city that is celebrated as the birthplace of the Renaissance and home to many of its most famous artistic treasures.

Florence is also famous for markets, leatherwork, cobble paved streets, palaces and beautiful shops.

We will have a private guided walking tour of the ancient streets to hear the stories of some of the city's famous names such as Dante, Michelangelo and the Medici dynasty.

- The fresh food market and shops
- Guided tour of Florence



Day 11 – Villa

Today we are going to spend our last day at the Villa.

It will be time to start packing for tomorrow's departure, but as a special treat we will have the Villa Chef run a cooking class for us.

Our cooking class will focus on traditional Tuscan Easter recipes

We will witness some of the traditional but basic cooking techniques used for hundreds of years in the Tuscan regions.

As tonight will also be our last dinner together, the meal we prepare will be a special occasion.

- Cooking class with the villa's chef
- Packing ready for the morning's departure
- Our last dinner at the villa



Day 12 – Rome

After packing up and saying our final farewells we board the Coach to take us back to Rome airport where we say goodbye to Italyfor the moment.

Along the way we will see beautiful vistas of the Italian country side leaving us with images to share with family and friends back home.



Day 13 – 14 Home

Touchdown at home with a few mementos, a lifetime of memories and a warm welcome from families.

This is the end of our wonderful Tuscany Adventure.

Until next time.



The following list itemises all inclusions in the cost for this trip.

- **Return Airfares** – Economy Class with selected Airlines.
- **Accommodation :**
 - 2 x nights' accommodation in Rome
 - 8 x nights' accommodation in Tuscany
- **Coach Transfers**
 - Rome airport to Rome hotel
 - Rome hotel to villa in Tuscany
 - Villa to Rome Airport
- **Meals**
 - Breakfast in Rome included
 - All Breakfast in villa
 - All Lunches and dinners – provided in-house, via cooking classes or provided in restaurants as per the itinerary
- **Entrance and guide fees**
 - All Guided tours
 - Tourist bus in Rome and Tuscany
 - All Entrance fees
 - Factory, farms and estate tours
 - Pisa Tower
 - Torre A Cona tour
- **Cooking classes**
 - All cooking classes with Italian chefs, includes ingredients, equipment and chef fees
 - All Cooking classes with Pauline Leonard includes ingredients and equipment
- **Services of the 2 x tour leaders throughout the tour that includes :**
 - oversight of all travel arrangements, activities and tours
 - confirmation of flights
 - arrangements and negotiations with hotel and villa
 - preparation of daily itinerary and travel details for bus company
 - confirmation and liaison with local tour guides
 - supply of meals and refreshments in the villa and shopping for provisions
 - restaurant bookings
 - engagement of and liaison with local chefs in preparation of cooking class menus; supply of ingredients and equipment
 - where required, provision of maps and other tourist information for participants
 - in-house cooking classes and supervision of meals and menus

- **Prior to the tour Taste Cook Travel will provide :**
 - A detailed presentation of the tour and its activities to the staff, participating students and families

The following exclusions are an additional expense to the individual and are not part of the trip cost.

- Additional food or snacks as selected by individual students or teachers are not included.
- Personal gifts or souvenirs are not included.
- Additional tours and or guides are not included.
- Additional activities that incur a cost are not included.
- Airport Taxes applicable at time of ticketing are not included.
- Heating costs in the villa are charged on usage and are paid at the end of the stay and are not included.
- Travel Insurance is not included.
- Personal transport costs, phone calls and other personal needs are not included.

Please note:

- In the instance where, due to unforeseen circumstance, an activity is cancelled or changed, Taste Cook Travel will ensure that a replacement activity will be of equal interest and value as indicated in the itinerary.
- Travel Insurance for each group member is compulsory before tour commences
- Every guest must have a valid passport and Visa to enter Italy if required

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

PASSPORTS & VISAS

All travellers must have a valid passport and/or Visa for international travel and many countries require at least 6 months validity from the date of return and some countries require a machine-readable passport. When assisting with an international travel booking, we will assume that all travellers on the booking have a valid Australian passport. If this is not the case, you must let Taste Cook Travel know.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Taste Cook Travel require each guest travelling on a tour organised and/or managed by Taste Cook Travel to purchase, prior to departure, appropriate travel insurance to cover your travel arrangements. Travel insurance is strongly recommended by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for all overseas travel. Confirmation that all guests have current travel insurance must be provided to Taste Cook Travel 30 Days prior to departure.

AGENCY

Taste Cook Travel recommend various travel related products for and on behalf of, numerous transports, accommodation and other service providers, such as airlines, coach, rail and cruise line operators, as well as all of our wholesalers. Any services we provide to you are collateral to that agency relationship. Our obligation to you is to (and you expressly authorise us to) make travel bookings on your behalf and to arrange relevant contracts between you and travel service providers. We exercise care in the selection of reputable service providers, but we are not ourselves a provider of travel services and have no control over, or liability for, the services provided by third parties. All bookings are made on your behalf subject to the terms and conditions, including conditions of carriage and limitations of liability, imposed by these service providers. We can provide you with copies of the relevant service provider terms and conditions on request. Your legal rights in connection with the provision of travel services are against the specific provider and, except to the extent a problem is caused by fault on our part, are not against us. Specifically, if for any reason (excluding fault on our part) any travel service provider is unable to provide the services for which you have contracted, your rights are against that provider and not against us.

LIABILITY

To the extent permitted by law, neither Taste Cook Travel nor any of its related bodies corporate, directors, employees or agents accept any liability in contract, tort or otherwise for any injury, damage, loss (including consequential loss), delay, additional expense or inconvenience caused directly or indirectly by the acts, omissions or default, whether negligent or otherwise, of third party providers over whom we have no direct control, force majeure or any other event which is beyond our control or which is not preventable by reasonable diligence on our part. Our liability will also be limited to the extent that any relevant international conventions limit the amount of compensation which can be claimed for death, injury, or delay to passengers and loss, damage and delay to luggage. Under circumstances where our liability cannot be excluded and where liability may be lawfully limited, such liability is limited to the remedies required of us under applicable law (including the Australian Consumer Law). This liability clause is subject to your rights under the Australian Consumer Law and nothing in these terms and conditions is intended to limit any rights you may have under the Competition and Consumer Act 2010

CANCELLATION FEES

Tours organised and/or managed by Taste Cook Travel are subject to your refund and remedy rights under the Australian Consumer Law. Cancelled bookings may also incur supplier fees, which can be up to 100% of the cost of the booking, regardless of whether travel has commenced. Supplier fees may also apply where a booking is changed. Where we incur any liability for a supplier cancellation fee for any booking which you change or cancel, you agree to indemnify us for the amount of that fee. Where you seek a refund for a cancelled booking for which payment has been made to the supplier, we will not provide a refund to you until we receive the funds from that supplier.

ITINERARY CANCELLATION OR CHANGES

In the instance where, due to unforeseen circumstances, an activity is cancelled or changed, Taste Cook Travel will ensure that a replacement activity will be of equal interest and value as indicated in the itinerary.

DEPOSIT AND FINAL PAYMENT

You will be required to pay a deposit or deposits when booking. Taste Cook Travel will advise on their final invoice as to when and how much that will be. All deposits are non refundable for changes of mind or cancellations by you (subject to your rights under the Australian Consumer Law). Some services must be paid in full at the time of booking.

PAYMENTS BY DIRECT DEPOSIT

If paying via this method please direct payments to the nominated account on the Taste Cook Travel Invoice. Confirm direct deposit payment with receipt number once made.

PAYMENTS BY CHEQUE

Please note that cheque payments require about 5 business days to process. If you intend to pay by this method you will need to make the payment at least 5 business days prior to the actual due date. You agree not to stop payment of the cheque even when you cancel a booking. You agree that Taste Cook Travel may apply the proceeds of the cheque to satisfy any liability you have to us, including any liability in respect of cancellation fees, before refunding the balance to you.

TAXES

Airline taxes are subject to change and are confirmed at the time your airline ticket is issued.

SERVICE GUARANTEES

The booking and advisory services of Taste Cook Travel come with a guarantee that they will be provided with due care and skill; they will be reasonably fit for the specified purpose; they can reasonably be expected to achieve the desired result; and they will be provided within a reasonable time. If we fail to meet any of these guarantees, you have rights under the Australian Consumer Law.

MONIES NOT HELD ON TRUST

All monies paid by you to Taste Cook Travel will be the property of Taste Cook Travel and will be a debt due and payable to the travel service provider once the services to which the money relates have been provided. You agree and acknowledge that such monies will not be held by us on trust for and on behalf of you and we may hold such monies in any account as we see fit, including with our own and/or other customer monies.

GOVERNING LAW

If any dispute arises between you and Taste Cook Travel, the laws of Australia will apply. You irrevocably and unconditionally submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of Australia, and waive any right that you may have to object to an action being brought in those courts.

PLEASE READ THIS DOCUMENT CAREFULLY, PRINT AND SIGN BELOW AND RETURN TO TASTE COOK TRAVEL

I have read, understand and accept the information contained in this document and accept the terms and conditions of this tour on behalf of:-



