



STERLING

TOURS LTD

Presents

A Food and Wine Tour of Italy

Focusing on Emilia Romagna and the Chianti Wine Region of Tuscany

September 2026



September 8 – Arrival in Florence / Transfer to Bologna

On your arrival you will be met by your tour escort Michael holding a sign labeled “Sterling Tours LTD” where you will meet your fellow group members and be transferred to your hotel by your private driver. (We recommend arriving the night before and staying in Florence – depending on collective arrivals and pre night stays will determine the exact time of the transfer).

This evening there will be a welcome cocktail, dinner and wine at the hotel.



Bologna is the lively, historic capital of the Emilia-Romagna region, in Northern Italy. Its Piazza Maggiore is a sprawling plaza lined with arched colonnades, cafes and medieval and Renaissance structures such as City Hall, the Fountain of Neptune and the Basilica di San Petronio. Among the city’s medieval towers are the Two Towers, leaning Asinelli and Garisenda.

3 nights at Hotel Corona D’Oro or similar including daily breakfast. Dinner included today.

September 9 – Private Walking Food Tour of Bologna

This morning we meet an expert local guide at **10:00AM** for a private walking food tour of Bologna. Explore the culinary traditions of Bologna, taste local specialties such as Parmigiano Reggiano cheese, Bolognese ragu, and mortadella. Perhaps begin the tour with a gourmet coffee, visit markets, and see artisans at work. Free afternoon and evening to explore the city on your own.

Breakfast included today

September 10 – Private Full Day Emilia Romagna Food and Wine Tour

Begin at **8:00AM** with a private transfer from Bologna to a renowned Parmigiano Reggiano dairy where you will be able to witness the traditional production process in action. Your guided tour at **9:00AM** includes an in-depth look at this world-famous cheese, followed by a tasting that highlights the complexity and aging of various vintages.

At **10:45AM**, continue through the rolling countryside with a scenic transfer to Castelvetro, home to the precious traditional balsamic vinegar. Here, you will enjoy a guided tour and tasting that showcases the centuries-old methods of aging balsamic vinegar.

Following your visit, sit down to a traditional four-course lunch paired with three regional wines, carefully selected to complement the bold flavors of the morning’s tastings. In the afternoon, depart at **3:00PM** for a visit to a charming local winery where we will enjoy a guided tour and tasting of three estate wines.

At **5:30PM** we will head back to Bologna arriving around **6:30PM** for an evening at leisure.

Breakfast and Lunch included today

September 11 – Private Sightseeing Transfer to Florence

This morning, depart **9:30AM** for a private sightseeing transfer to Hotel Palazzo Castri 1874 in Florence, enriched with memorable stops along the way.

Your first destination is the storied estate of Tenuta di Capezzana, nestled in the Tuscan hills and known for its centuries-old traditions of winemaking and olive oil production. Upon arrival at **11:00AM**, enjoy a guided visit and tasting of three of their finest wines, complemented by their extra virgin olive oil. A light lunch featuring a seasonal appetizer, fresh pasta, and a regional dessert.

At **2:00PM**, continue your journey toward the hillside town of Fiesole, where history comes alive. Join a local guide at **2:30PM** for a private tour through the Archaeological Area, including the Roman Theatre and the Etruscan Walls.

After your exploration, you will transfer into Florence at **4:00PM**, arriving at your hotel by **4:30PM** with time to settle in before a special welcome dinner served in house with regional wines.

Florence, capital of Italy's Tuscany region, is home to many masterpieces of Renaissance art and architecture. One of its most iconic sights is the Duomo, a cathedral with a terracotta-tiled dome engineered by Brunelleschi and a bell tower by Giotto. The Galleria dell'Accademia displays Michaelangelo's "David" sculpture. The Uffizi Gallery exhibits Botticelli's "The Birth of Venus" and da Vinci's "Annunciation."



3 nights at Hotel Palazzo Castri 1874 or similar including breakfast

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included today

September 12 – Full Day in Chianti: Wine, Villages, and Vineyards

Today, set off on a full-day journey through the heart of Chianti accompanied by driver-escorts with deep knowledge of the region's wine production and viticulture. Your day begins with a visit to a winery where you will enjoy a guided tasting of wines and olive oil, followed by a leisurely stroll through a quaint Chianti village.

Continue to a second family-run estate, where a viticulture expert will lead you on a guided walk through of the vineyards, gardens, and production areas. Gain a deeper appreciation for the land, grape varieties, and winemaking techniques that define the Chianti region.

Return to Florence for an evening on our own. Lunch will be provided at one of the wine estates visited.

Breakfast and Lunch included today

September 13 – Free Morning & Chianti Classico Wine Expo in Greve

Enjoy a leisurely morning at your own pace in Florence, perfect for a stroll through the historic center, a visit to a favorite museum, or a quiet coffee in a Piazza.

Around noon, regroup for a private transfer to Greve-in-Chianti, where the charming village will be buzzing with the annual Chianti Classico Wine Expo. Accompanied by your driver escorts with expertise in local wine production and viticulture, you will have insider guidance as you navigate one of Tuscany's most celebrated wine events.

Upon arrival, the group will likely split into two smaller parties with their wine escorts to get oriented and make the most of the experience. You will receive wine glasses for tastings, granting you access to sample a wide variety of Chianti Classico wines from top regional producers. Soak in the festive atmosphere with local food stalls, live music, artisan stands, and the unique energy of true Tuscan celebration.



After a full afternoon of wine and cultural discovery, you will return to Florence around **8:00PM**, full of new favorites and festive memories.

Breakfast included today

September 14 – Departure Day

This morning private transfers will be arranged to Florence Airport, coordinated according to individual flight times to ensure a smooth and comfortable departure.

If you wish to extend your stay in Italy at either the beginning or end of your tour, please let us know in advance, we are happy to assist with additional nights, transfers or personalized sightseeing.

Breakfast included today

WHERE YOU ARE STAYING

HOTEL SELECTIONS



[HOTEL CORONA D'ORO](#) - BOLOGNA

Arrive Tues 8 September 26

Depart Fri 11 September 26

Rooms Multiple Room Types

Ref. Sterling

Phone +39 051 745 7611

Email Corona@hco.it



[HOTEL PALAZZO CASTRI 1874](#) - FLORENCE

Arrive Fri 11 September 26

Depart Mon 14 September 26

Rooms Multiple Room Types

Ref. Sterling

Phone +39 055 472118

Email Welcome@palazzocastri.com

What's Included?

Accommodation is included for 6 nights at the following hotels including breakfast. (**city taxes of between 2-5 Euro per person per day will be charged locally upon check out of each hotel)

| Date | Nts | City | Hotel | Accommodation |
|----------------|-----|----------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Tue 08 Sept 26 | 3 | Bologna | Hotel Corona D'Oro | Multiple Room Types |
| Fri 11 Sept 26 | 3 | Florence | Hotel Palazzo Castri 1874 | Multiple Room Types |

Transport

| Date | City | Service | |
|----------------|----------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Tue 08 Sept 26 | Florence | Arrival Airport Transfer | Private Service |
| Fri 11 Sept 26 | Bologna | Sightseeing Transfer to Florence | Private Service |
| Sat 12 Sept 26 | Chianti | Driver/Escorts for Chianti Touring | Private Service |
| Sun 13 Sept 26 | Chianti | Driver/Escorts for Wine Expo | Private Service |
| Mon14 Sept 26 | Florence | Departure Transfers | Private Service |

Services

| Date | Service | |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Wed09 Sept 26 | Bologna Food Walking Tour | Private Service |
| Thu 10 Sept 26 | Full Day Emilia Romagna Wine & Food Tour | Private Service |
| Fri 11 Sept 26 | Wine/Olive Oil Tasting incl. Lunch @ Capezzana | Private Service |
| Fri 11 Sept 26 | Sightseeing in Fiesole | Private Service |
| Sat 12 Sept 26 | Full Day in Chianti: Wine & Villages Touring w/Lunch | Private Service |
| Sun 13 Sept 26 | Chianti Classico Wine Expo | Shared Event |

All communications costs, hotels taxes and fees are also included and the services of our professional travel experts on the ground are available to you throughout your trip.

WHATS NOT INCLUDED: Flights, tips to your drivers and guides and anything not mentioned above.