



Toast to Tuscany

SCHEDULED DEPARTURE

Oct. 10 - 21, 2023

Tour Host:
Ken Koob



ALEX TRAVEL
UTOPIA TOURS



In partnership with Ed-Ventures, Inc.

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Day 1: Tues, October 10, 2023 • Departure
Our tour begins today with our departure to Venice, Italy.

Day 2: Wed, October 11, 2023 • Venice
Upon our arrival in Venice, we take a boat taxi to our hotel on fabulous Venice–La Serenissima, the “Serene One.” Built upon 117 islands, Venice is a mosaic of canals, plazas, fascinating markets, and chaos! This afternoon we head to Murano—a cluster of small islands connected by bridges and the center of the Italian glassmaking industry since 1291. **D**

Day 3: Thurs, October 12, 2023 • Venice
We begin our day in Venice with an excursion to St. Mark’s Square, including a cruise along the serpentine Canale Grande. Here a local guide shows us the Bell Tower and the impressive St. Mark’s Cathedral. We have the remainder of the day and evening on our own in Venice. **B**

Day 4: Fri, October 13, 2023 • Venice
We have an entire day free in Venice to explore other islands with our included vaporetto passes, visit museums or do a mask-making workshop, or perhaps shop along the Rialto Bridge. Later we rejoin the group to share stories of our day at dinner together. **B, D**

Day 5: Sat, October 14, 2023 • Lucca
Departing Venice, we now journey southward into the region of Tuscany, often described as the “heart of Italy.” Our home



tonight is Lucca, a Roman-style city surrounded by massive red brick walls. Our sightseeing stops today include the famous Leaning Tower of Pisa. Upon our arrival in Lucca we tour this wonderful city. The rest of the day is free to relax and explore before dinner as a group at the hotel. **B, D**

Optional: Leaning Tower of Pisa Tour \$25 per person.
Note: Tickets need to be purchased in advance. The visit takes about 30 minutes. The climb is on foot with 251 steps. The visit is not recommended for people with cardiovascular and muscular disorders. The floor is uneven and slippery.

Day 6: Sun, October 15, 2023 • Lucca
Today we have an excursion to the Cinque Terre, a series of fishing villages. We begin with a boat ride along the sea and then return by train and on foot. These villages have a special character, as we observe the life of the fishermen and the abodes to which they return. **B, D**

Day 7: Mon, October 16, 2023 • Siena area
Our first stop today is Florence, the Cradle of the Renaissance. Florence is home to the Duomo with its famed Baptistery, Giotto’s Tower, the Pitti Palace, the Accademia with Michelangelo’s incomparable David, and the Uffizi Gallery with the finest collection of paintings in all of Italy. We take time for exploring the sprawling San Lorenzo Leather Market and the shops along the Ponte Vecchio. Time permitting, we stop at the American Cemetery of Florence.





Here we see the graves of thousands of GI's who fell while fighting their way "up the boot" of Italy. **B**

Day 8: Tues, October 17, 2023 • Siena area

On our agenda today is the lovely city of Siena. A locally-guided tour of this fabulous Gothic city acquaints us with its sunken Piazza del Campo and the Duomo—perhaps the finest Gothic cathedral in Italy! The rest of the day is free to explore Siena. Tonight, we have a wine-tasting and dinner. **B, D**

Day 9: Wed, October 18, 2023 • Rome

This morning we travel east and enter the region of Umbria, where we arrive at its most beautiful town, Assisi. A local guide acquaints us with the life of Saint Francis as we enter the magnificent Basilica di San Francesco. The upper level is filled with stunning frescoes that were restored following the 1997 earthquake, while the lower level is where St. Francis is buried. After lunch and plenty of free time to further explore this serene and picturesque town, we drive to our hotel in Rome. **B, D**

Day 10: Thurs, October 19, 2023 • Rome

Our day includes a visit to Vatican City and St. Peter's Cathedral, home of the Roman Catholic Church and the largest building in Christianity. Also included is a visit to the Vatican Museums and the Sistine Chapel. We have free time to visit the city center in the afternoon. **B**

Day 11: Fri, October 20, 2023 • Rome

After breakfast, we begin our sightseeing in the Eternal City of Rome and the glories of the Caesars. We become acquainted with the city that was the birthplace for much of our civilization as we visit the Capitoline Hill area, from which we view the Roman Forum. We also experience sights such as the Colosseum, Constantine's Arch, and more. Tonight, we have our farewell dinner. **B, D**

Day 12: Sat, October 21, 2023 • Return

This morning, our driver returns us to the Rome airport, where we say "Ciao," and board our flight for our return home. **B**

Abbreviations for Meals
B=Breakfast D=Dinner

Tour Prices: \$3,599

Single supplement: \$675

Prices are *per person, land only, double occupancy* with a minimum of 20 participants

Your Tour Includes:

- **Land Transportation** via private deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- **Accommodations** (double occupancy) in 3 and 4 star hotels
- **Meals** per the itinerary
- **Admission** to all activities indicated in the itinerary except those listed as optional
- Services of **professional tour manager**
- **Hosted by Ken Koob & Alex Travel**
- Local **step-on guides** for city tours and major attractions
- **Luggage handling** of one piece per person
- **All taxes and tips** for provided services on land tour, except as indicated below

Your Tour Does Not Include:

- **Roundtrip Airfare** and related taxes, fees and fuel charges (*Estimated airfare from MSP to Venice and home from Rome \$1600*)
- Meals other than indicated above
- **Beverages**, except with breakfast
- End of tour gratuity for coach driver and tour manager
- Items of a personal nature such as passport fees. (*Passport must be valid for 6 months beyond return date.*)
- **Optional insurance** for health, baggage and cancellation. (*This insurance is available and recommended.*)

Payment Schedule:

A deposit of \$500 per person is due with reservation. Final payment is due 100 days prior to departure date. Invoice will be sent out prior to final payment. Passengers may add after this date subject to air and land availability. Generally airlines do not increase the price of a ticket after it has been contracted. However, prior to the issuance of a ticket, airlines may (and regularly do) impose fuel, tax, or security surcharges. In the event a surcharge is imposed after Ed-Ventures has received a final payment, Ed-Ventures will send an additional invoice for the surcharge amount. Early registration is encouraged.

Currency:

Currency exchange rates fluctuate constantly. In the event of a significant drop in the value of the dollar, we reserve the right to add a currency surcharge to the price of the tour.

Refund/Cancellation Policy:

All cancellations must be in writing. The date of postmark will determine the amount of refund due. Refunds are based on the number of days prior to departure date. From the time of deposit to 100 days before departure a \$100 administrative fee plus any airfare penalties will be assessed. From 99-31 days, a \$300 cancellation penalty plus lost airfare deposits and any unrecoverable deposits to ground suppliers will be assessed. Airline tickets once purchased are nonrefundable. Anyone canceling less than 30 days prior to departure will receive **no refund**.

Purchase of health, baggage, and trip cancellation/interruption insurance is strongly recommended.

Terms and Conditions

We reserve the right to cancel this trip due to lack of subscription. In the event of cancellation of the trip in its entirety, a full refund of all deposits will be made to passengers enrolled at the time of cancellation. Tour price is based on the value of the dollar and the cost of airfare and is subject to change without notice. Extensions are usually available, but must be requested when booking the tour. Any changes in airfare booking may result in a processing fee. It may be possible, that due to unforeseen events, conditions, or changes in airline schedules, the land portion of the trip may be extended or shortened. Any savings realized by such occurrences will be refunded, however any extra expenses incurred must be borne by the client. Trip cancellation insurance is available. This low-cost protection can save you money if you are forced to cancel or alter your trip for a medical reason only. You will be mailed trip cancellation insurance information with the brochure or upon receipt of your deposit.

Responsibility: Ed-Ventures, Inc., their officers and employees, tour hosts, or any other persons or vendors connected with the tour shall not under any circumstances accept liability, provide refunds or pay compensation where the performance of our contractual obligations is prevented or affected, or you otherwise suffer any loss, injury, death, inconvenience or damage as a result of circumstances amounting to "force majeure". This means any event or circumstances which we or our suppliers of the services in question could not foresee or avoid. Such events and circumstances may include, acts of God, actual or threatened, war, insurrection, riots, strikes, civil action, decisions by governments or governing authority, technical or maintenance problems with transport, changes of schedules or operational decisions of air/transport carriers, terrorist activity or the threat thereof, industrial action, natural or nuclear activity, epidemic, pandemic, illness, physical injury, quarantine, medical or customs or immigration regulation, delay, or cancellation, adverse weather conditions, fire and all similar events outside our control.

Due to COVID-19, we reserve the right to adjust the tour in order to follow the guidelines and policies set by the CDC and the local governments.

The airline(s) concerned are not held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not on their planes or conveyances. The passenger's contract in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of this tour and/or passenger. Any and/or all transportation companies herein mentioned shall not have nor incur any responsibility to any traveler aside from their liability as common carriers. Air and land costs are subject to change without notice. **Air transportation is via special, non refundable airfare. Any additional airfare assessments made by the airlines for any changes whatsoever shall be the responsibility of the client.** Other rules may also apply. Services of any A.R.C. or I.A.T.A. carrier may be used in conjunction with this tour. If there is a change in air prices and/or currency exchange rates, we reserve the right to adjust prices.

I grant Ed-Ventures, Inc and its agents the right to take photographs and videos of me during the tour and any meetings related to the tour before or after the tour. I authorize Ed-Ventures Inc, its assigns and transferees to copyright, use, and publish in print and/or electronically.

I agree that Ed-Ventures may use such photographs or videos of me with or without my name for any lawful purpose, including publicity, illustration, advertising, and Web content.

ALEX TRAVEL UTOPIA TOURS



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Please register me for:

Toast to Tuscany

- TTT23: Oct. 10 - 21, 2023 • \$3,599
- Single Supplement • \$675
- Optional** Leaning Tower of Pisa Tour • \$25

Passenger Information (1st Traveler)

Please record information **exactly as it appears on your passport**. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet to obtain a passport. *Best practice is to include a copy of the photo page of your passport.*

Legal Name: _____

(Name for name badge): _____

Passport #: _____

Passport Exp. Date: _____

Passport Authority: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Gender: (required by airline) Male Female

Special Dietary Needs: _____

Passenger Information (2nd Traveler)

Please record information **exactly as it appears on your passport**. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet to obtain a passport. *Best practice is to include a copy of the photo page of your passport.*

Legal Name: _____

(Name for name badge): _____

Passport #: _____

Passport Exp. Date: _____

Passport Authority: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Gender: (required by airline) Male Female

Special Dietary Needs: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____ **Phone:** _____

Work phone/cell: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Sleeping Preference (circle one): Double bed (1 bed) Twin Beds (2 beds)

Roommate name: _____ **OR Single supplement:** Yes No

Travel Insurance (7.2% of tour cost; policy must be purchased at time of initial deposit to cover pre-existing medical conditions)

- I wish to purchase Travel Guard insurance and have included the premium with my deposit.
- I wish to decline the travel insurance offered. I understand I am solely responsible for any cancellation penalties and out of pocket expenses occurred should I have an emergency before or during the tour.

Deposit Payment Information (please check one)

Enclosed is my \$ _____ deposit and insurance premium (if applicable). **Make checks payable to Ed-Ventures, Inc.**

Please charge \$ _____ deposit and insurance premium (if applicable) to my Discover/MasterCard/Visa

Credit Card Number: _____ **Exp. Date:** _____

Card ID Code:* _____ **last 3 digits in signature box on the back of the card*

_____ Initial to acknowledge you understand that Federal law prohibits the carriage of certain hazardous materials in your luggage or on your person aboard aircraft and could result in a fine or imprisonment. Visit www.tsa.gov for more information.

Prices in this brochure were effective on 9.1.22. By signing below, I understand that price changes are possible at the time of final invoicing, due to exchange rates, an increase in carrier charges, fuel costs, taxes and tariffs, and the number of passengers traveling in the group. I understand that insurance premiums and credit card fees are non-refundable. I agree to the terms and conditions of this tour.

Signature of 1st traveler: _____ **Date:** _____

Signature of 2nd traveler: _____ **Date:** _____



Return your registration and deposit to:
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