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## **Andy Thompson\_Siena - Florence - The Five Lands\_Ollami**

**Oct 5, 2022 - Oct 13, 2022**

**2.450 euro per person**

Period: 5th - 13th October 2022

Total days: 9 days/ 8 nights

Guests: (5 people)

Destinations: Siena - Florence - The Five Lands

## October 5 - Day 1 Siena - Arrival



### Car rental - Midsize suv (Nissan Qashqai or similar) - Pick-up

5 seats

automatic

unlimited mileage



### Siena - option 1 - Check in at Nh Excelsior

4 star hotel

N. 1 triple room

N. 1 double room

Breakfast included - City tax not included



#### Nh Excelsior

Piazza La Lizza, Siena, Toscana, Italia  
+39 0577 382111



### Siena - option 2 - Check in at Grand Hotel Continental (extra cost + euro 3699)

5 star hotel

N. 1 triple room

N. 1 double room

Breakfast included - City tax not included



#### Grand Hotel Continental

Via Banchi Di Sopra 85, Siena, Toscana, Italia

## October 6 - Day 2 Siena



### Siena - Private guided tour

Today you will visit **Siena** with the guide. Siena is one of the most loved and visited cities in Tuscany, a place rich in history and art, but also in strong traditions, mainly linked to the districts and the famous **Palio** di Siena. Here you will enjoy a tour in the historical center. You will see **Piazza del Campo**, the Tower of Mangia and the lively and narrow streets surrounded by romantic palaces. You will see the stunning gothic **Cathedral**, where you'll enjoy a panoramic view from the Facciataone.



#### Province of Siena

Tuscany, IT



### Siena - Table reservation for dinner experience

Dinner will be served in a typical restaurant in the heart of the city where you will taste the typical dishes of the local cuisine. Dinner not included.



#### Siena

Siena, Tuscany, IT, 53100

## October 7 - Day 3 Siena - San Gimignano



### San Gimignano - Private guided tour

This morning you will enjoy a guided visit of **San Gimignano** known as the City of Beautiful Towers. It is a classic medieval walled hill town in Tuscany. You can admire its 14 surviving medieval towers that create a beautiful skyline visible from the surrounding countryside. The historic center is an UNESCO world heritage site for its architecture. You will see the landmark Great Tower - Torre Grossa.



#### San Gimignano

San Gimignano, Tuscany, IT, 53037

## October 8 - Day 4 Siena - Florence



### Florence - Private bike tour

Today you will meet your personal guide to enjoy a bike tour along the beautiful streets of Florence. Enjoy a relaxing and educational bike tour in Florence. Our professional guide will show you all the most important monuments of the town and you will ride through the unknown spots and medieval narrow streets. You will admire Santa Marina Novella, Pitti Palace, Saint Frediano, the Old Bridge, the Uffizi square and more districts around the old town center. After the tour you will taste a delicious ice cream in the Oltrarno.



#### Florence

Italy Florence, Italia



### Florence - option 1 - Check in at Hotel Firenze Number Nine

4 star hotel

N. 1 double room

N. 1 Triple room

Breakfast included - city tax not included



#### Hotel Firenze Number Nine

Via dei Conti 9, Firenze, Toscana, Italia, 50123

+39 055 293777



### Florence - option 2 - Check in at Hotel Lungarno (extra cost + 970 euro)

5 star hotel

N. 1 Family room

Breakfast included - City tax not included



#### Hotel Lungarno

Borgo San Jacopo 14, Firenze, Toscana, Italia, 50125

+39 055 27261



### Tuscany countryside - Optional tours not included

**Optional activity:** This early morning you will enjoy a **hot air balloon ride**. You will fly above the beautiful hills of Chianti at the early hours of the morning. Discover the rolling fields of Tuscany from a unique aerial perspective with a luxury hot air balloon ride. After getting picked up from your hotel, head to the starting point where you will receive a quick safety briefing before take-off. If you wish, you can help with the aeration of the balloon before entering the cart for your flight. During your **1-hour flight**, you will sail at heights varying from 500 feet to 3000 feet, depending on the wind of that day. Admire the breathtaking landscape of Tuscany and see gentle hills dotted with pretty Italian villages, cypress trees, dominant castles, and abundant vineyards, olive groves and orchards. Upon landing, toast your experience with a glass of **sparkling wine** and **light breakfast**. Flight routes and taking off locations are subject to flying conditions.

**Optional tour:** in Tuscany **Ape Tuk Tuk** was used by people who lived in small villages, where streets were narrow, or to take goods from the farms. Today you can enjoy a special Ape Tuk Tuk tour of Tuscany countryside or in Florence. A wine tasting will be served. You can also ride around your Tuscany with a **vintage Fiat 500**, with an **Italian Vespa** or a supercar like **Ferrari or Lamborghini**.

**Optional tour:** Today you will enjoy an amazing bike-tour. Pedaling in Chianti is the perfect way to taste delicious wines & enjoy great views. The Tuscany bike tour will show you the colors and flavors of Tuscany. This extraordinary Tuscany bike tour suitable for all levels, follows an itinerary which highlights small medieval towns and stunning landscapes. A relaxing atmosphere where you can leisurely pedal and admire the scenery, stop for pictures

**Optional tour:** Today your personal driver will pick you up at the hotel lobby to enjoy a cooking class with a professional chef. You will learn how to make traditional Tuscan dishes. You will learn the secrets of local ingredients and the connections between recipes and Tuscan fascinating history and culture. After cooking you will get to eat your well deserved meal! It will be an amazing real Italian life experience.

**Optional tour:** this morning private transfer to **Montepulciano**, one of the most characteristic and intact medieval cities in Italy which, from a height of 605 meters above sea level, offers amazing views over the surrounding hillsides. You will explore the wonderful town center of Montepulciano. Continue the drive to a vineyard for a wine taste and lunch. In the afternoon stop in another vineyard for another wine taste.

**Optional tour:** you will visit **Siena** with the guide. In Siena you will enjoy a tour in the historical center. You will see Piazza del Campo, the Tower of Mangia and the lively and narrow streets surrounded by romantic palaces. You will see the stunning gothic Cathedral, where you'll enjoy a panoramic view from the Facciata.

**Optional tour:** you will enjoy a guided visit of **San Gimignano** known as the City of Beautiful Towers. It is a classic medieval walled hill town in Tuscany. You can admire its 14 surviving medieval towers that create a beautiful skyline visible from the surrounding countryside. The historic center is an UNESCO world heritage site for its architecture. You will see the landmark Great Tower - Torre Grossa.

**Optional tour:** with your guide you will visit **Lucca**, which is the only old town in Italy entirely surrounded by walls which are still very well preserved. Visit the **San Frediano church**, with its magnificent thirteenth-century mosaic representing Christ in Majesty. Then, explore the **Piazza del Anfiteatro**, the most beautiful square of Lucca passing by elegant shops of **Via Filungo** through small medieval streets. End in the **Duomo** which houses the famous Volto Santo and the splendid Ilaria del Caretto sarcophagus, a masterpiece of Jacopo della Quercia. Passing **Piazza Napoleone**, we finally arrive at **Piazza San Michele**, the central civic square of Lucca since Roman times.

**Optional tour: Marble Experience** allows you to discover the many attractions of charming **Carrara**, one of Tuscany's jewel towns, and visit an authentic, working, **marble of Carrara quarry** in the mountains with the privilege of private transportation, private guide assistance and an exciting mountain-side adventure aboard a rumbling Jeep.

**Optional tour:** with your guide you will visit **Pisa**. Start your tour with a walk alongside the Medieval walls up to the entrance gate: Porta Santa Maria. From here you will see a unique panorama of **Piazza dei Miracoli** with its marble architecture and neat grass lawns. You will visit the interiors of the Cathedral a masterpiece of Romanesque art. Besides the Tower, Piazza dei Miracoli houses other buildings of historic artistic value such as the Baptistery and the Monumental Graveyard. At the end you will climb one of the most celebrated monuments in the world: **The Leaning Tower**.

**Optional tour:** our driver will take you for a full day-trip into the **Val d'Orcia** region. Have a guided tour of **Arezzo** the strongest and richest of the Etruscan towns. The next stop is **Cortona**, one of the oldest cities in Tuscany, also famous for the movie "under the Tuscany sun".

**Optional tour: Pienza** is a small village in southern **Tuscany** that you should visit! Is the most renowned town of the famous **Val d'Orcia**, known all over the world for its art, landscape and **Pecorino cheese** Pienza is the **town of Pecorino**, a very tasty cheese made from sheep's milk, more or less aged, very well known and very delicious . Pienza is known around the world as the "ideal" city of the **italian Renaissance**, built by Enea Silvio Piccolomini who became Pope Pius II . Pope Pius II was born in the small village of Corsignano (the ancient Pienza) and wanted to transform his own village into a "utopian" city embodying the principles and philosophy of the classical age and the Italian Renaissance. So under the direction of Rossellino and Leon Battista Alberti it has become the city we know today: a complex of beautiful and harmonious buildings, the beautiful Piazza Pio II, the Cathedral, the papal residence, its picturesque alleys and suggestive views.



**Optional tour:** When you visit Pienza you have to taste **Pecorino Cheese**, the most famous typical product of the area. You can learn all the secrets of Pecorino di Pienza, taste it and see how it is produced. You will visit a farm in the countryside a few kilometers from Pienza and using the milk of our 150 sheep and 30 goats we produce Pecorino di Pienza in its dairy. The milk used comes from the farm's livestock and production is carried out without pasteurization and cheese ripening varies in length and mode.

Here you can join a guide tour with an experienced dairy man. He will guide you through the entire production process from milking to ageing.

**Optional tour:** It is a classic fairytale hilltop town, set within a full circle of fortified walls and watched over by a mighty castle of medieval perfection. **Montalcino** is a beautiful village immersed in the breathtaking Val d' Orcia Natural Park, renowned all over the world for the production of its precious **Brunello red wine**.

**Optional tour:** enjoy the **IGT Super Tuscan Wines** around Tuscany countryside. You will visit two wineries **Tenuta dell'Ornellaia Winery**, one of Tuscany's most historic and respected estates, and **Antinori** or **San Felice**.

**Optional activity:** enjoy an half day or full day **horse riding** around Tuscany. Available in different area and with different horses. With or without a guide.

**Optional activity:** join the locals, feel the blood-rush, and experience authentic Tuscan excitement at il **Palio di Siena**: a bareback horse race in Medieval times. Watch the historic parade, admiring the bedecked horses and Sienese in period costume, enjoy a delicious buffet and refreshments on a **private terrace** or a **dedicated window** in one of the splendid noble palaces overlooking the square. The race takes place only twice a year, on July 2 and August 16.

**Optional tour:** discover the authentic fishing villages of the **Cinque Terre, Five Lands**. This 5-mile stretch of beautiful rocky coast takes its name from the five villages of Riomaggiore, Manarola, Corniglia, Vernazza, and Monterosso. With our guide you will have the opportunity to visit 3 or 4 villages in one day with a combination of **easy walks, train rides** and a **boat trip**.

**Optional tour:** you will enjoy a **horse riding excursion along Chianti hills**. Following an expert you will admire along a lush vineyards, thick shady woods and olive groves and catch breathtaking unforgettable views.

## October 9 - Day 5 Florence



### Florence - Accademia Gallery & Gourmet tour

This morning you will meet your personal guide at the hotel lobby to discover the city. From Repubblica square - the heart of the city. Stroll through streets, alleys of the medieval quarter to Palazzo del Bargello (exterior visit only) and Piazza della Signoria, where sculptures beckon. Continue walking along the Medici Chapels and Basilica di S. Lorenzo, church of the once influential Medici Family (exterior view only). Finally arrive at Piazza del Duomo and marvel at the vast Cathedral before stepping inside to admire the interior's intricate Gothic details. You will visit the **Accademia Gallery**, with the famous Michelangelo's masterpiece: The David.

Florence is not only a town full of art and architecture, but the majority of its cultural heritage is up to the culinary experience. Indeed **the eno-gastronomic** aspect of the town is dated to the Renaissance period. You will enjoy a **gourmet tour** and you will also take a stroll through the epic Central Market, where you will taste most of delicious and typical food of Tuscany: breads, cheeses, great regional cold cuts, crostini, wine, sweets, balsamic vinegars, olive oils and seasonal specialties.



### Metropolitan City of Florence

Firenze, TUSCANY, IT



### Florence - Optional tours (not included)

**Optional tour:** you will meet your personal guide to enjoy a bike tour along the beautiful streets of Florence. Enjoy a relaxing and **educational bike tour in Florence**. Our professional guide will show you all the most important monuments of the town and you will ride through the unknown spots and medieval narrow streets. You will admire Santa Marina Novella, Pitti Palace, Saint Frediano, the Old Bridge, the Uffizi square and more districts around the old town center. After the tour you will taste a delicious ice cream in the Oltrarno.

**Optional tour:** You will meet your guide to stroll around Florence to visit the **Accademia Gallery**, with the famous Michelangelo's masterpiece: The David. You are able to view the museum's other unique pieces, including a room dedicated to Michelangelo.

**Optional tour:** You will continue to the visit to **Uffizi Gallery**, one of the most beautiful and famous museums in the world boasting a hall of fame of the most important artists of all times: Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael, Michelangelo, Botticelli, Caravaggio and many others.

**Optional tour:** you will meet your personal expert guide to discover the world of the made in Italy in Florence. Florence is famous for the production of **leather and jewelleryes** in particular near Ponte Vecchio. Your personal guide will escort you to visit laboratories of Florentine artisans where you will see the final products but also you can admire the ancient techniques of processing.

**Optional tour:** you will attend at workshop of the **creation of perfume's fragrance**. You will create your personal fragrance according your preferences and following the suggestions of the master.

**Optional tour:** in the amazing piece of paradise in the center of Florence is located the **Boboli garden** park. Here your personal guide will lead you through the amazing fountains, statues and monuments, belonged to the De' Medici family, and it represents the major example of Italian garden. After you will walk to Bardini Garden, connected to Boboli, characterized by amazing sculptures, fountains and flowers, especially more than 60 types of hydrangea located in the Rondò Belvedere. From the square you will watch a breath-taking panorama of Florence.

**Optional tour:** Florence is not only a town full of art and architecture, but the majority of its cultural heritage is up to the culinary experience. Indeed, **the eno-gastronomic** aspect of the town is dated to the Renaissance period. You will enjoy a **gourmet tour**, an astonishing experience through the food and art Florentine culture. After the visit of the historical center you will see the famous local market of San Lorenzo, where you will taste most of delicious and typical food of Tuscany. Then you will discover the charm of several Florentine churches and will enjoy a pleasing wine tasting, garnished with great regional coldcuts. Your professional guide will lead you through the story of the most important wine producer families of Florence. The tour will end with the tasting of two "poor" dishes related to the Florentine culinary tradition.

**Optional activity:** you will visit **THE MALL OUTLET**. It is one of the biggest Italian shopping mall with the most important fashion brands (Gucci, Ferragamo, Moncler, Tod's...) for a shopping day. We can also add a personal shopper who will teach you more about brands, colors and Italian fashion.

**Optional activity:** you will enjoy a mini cruise of 60 minutes along the Arno to visit Florence not in a usual prospective. You will reach the meeting point called "barchetto". From here a local "barcaiolo" will ride the gondola while your guide will tell colorful local anecdotes, explaining the bridges, majestic palaces. Sit back and enjoy the cruise as you ride beneath the **Ponte Vecchio**, and then admire it and the **Uffizi Gallery**, **Palazzo Corsini** and gorgeous **Santa Trinita Bridge** from mid-river. At the end of ride you will enjoy typical Italian "aperitivo": a glass of chilled wine.

## October 10 - Day 6 Florence - The Five Lands



### The Five Lands - option 1 - Check in at La Vista di Marina by The First - Luxury Rooms Suites & Apartments

Luxury suites

N. 1 double room

N. 1 triple room

Breakfast included - City tax not included



#### La Vista di Marina by The First - Luxury Rooms Suites & Apartments

107 Via San Giacomo, Riomaggiore, Liguria, IT, 19017

## October 11 - Day 7 The five Lands



### Cinque Terre (Five Lands) - Private guided tour

This morning you will enjoy a tour of the breathtaking Five Lands. You will meet your private guide in Riomaggiore, to depart **by ferry boat** for an unforgettable day dedicated to the discovery of one of the most amazing and enchanting landscape in the world. **The Five Lands, "Cinque Terre"** is an area suspended between sea and land, hanging from sheer cliffs surrounded by hills and vineyards. You will enter into a little piece of heaven. By touring the coast line by boat, you will have the possibility to admire this amazing landscape from the seaside, like in a postcard. During the tour, you will see the most important villages: **Riomaggiore**, caught between two steep terraced hills descending in steep cliffs to the sea, the ancient village of Riomaggiore strikes visitors with its delightfully colored houses built vertically; **Manarola**, built on a high rock 70 metres above sea level, is one of the most charming and romantic villages; **Vernazza**, a small fishing village, the most characteristic of the Cinque Terre.



#### Manarola

Manarola, Liguria, IT, 19017



#### Vernazza

Vernazza, Liguria, IT, 19018



#### Monterosso al Mare

Monterosso al Mare, Liguria, IT, 19016



#### Riomaggiore

Riomaggiore, Liguria, IT, 19017

## October 12 - Day 8 The Five Lands



### Free day in the Five Lands

Time at your leisure



#### Five Lands



### Five Lands - Optional tours not included

**Optional activity:** Today you will enjoy a **pesto making class** in the beautiful five lands town **Manarola**. You will learn how to prepare the real Italian pesto. In the morning you will collect fresh basil and learn about the techniques and procedure to get the pesto for today's meal. The local expert will instruct you in how to make a typical pesto sauce, the most famous traditional recipe of Liguria. Enjoy the final lunch.

**Optional activity :** Today you will meet your private guide to enjoy a **trekking** tour through the main villages of the Five lands. Start in Riomaggiore and learn about the amazing history Walk up above the village overlooking the harbor and see the castle and the many churches of Riomaggiore and you will have views of the closed Via dell 'Amore below. Continue climbing up the terraces, learning how the grapes were cultivated in the past and present and overlook of the Village of Manarola with views of the entire region of Cinque Terre including Gropo and Volastra (the less known villages of Cinque Terre) You will be walking through idyllic homes nestled into the hillside and walk through a forested area until reaching the Santuario in Volastra, when you will stop for a quick lunch in Volastra. Continue onto the trail to see Corniglia in the distance and an optical illusion when looking the village of Manarola.

**Optional activity:** Today you will enjoy a **wine tasting in beautiful Monterosso region**. Admire the breathtaking views of the vineyard and enjoy a tasting of the local wines accompanied by local appetizers.

**Optional activity:** Today you will enjoy a private **cooking class in Five lands region**. Your local chef will welcome you and introduce you to the most typical Ligurian recipes: Genovese focaccia, vegetable pies, the famous pesto sauce, soups and homemade pasta. Local fresh ingredients will be provided along with lots of herbs as per the local culinary tradition. Enjoy the final lunch.

**Optional tour not included:** Today you will enjoy a private helicopter flight to admire the beauty of the Cinque Terre National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Taking off from Rapallo or Borghetto di Vara, you will leave for an extraordinary journey that will take you to fly over the colorful villages of the Cinque Terre and the splendid Portofino.

Note: The helicopter flight will last 60 minutes.

## October 13 - Day 9 The Five Lands

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### Departure



### Car rental - Midsize suv (Nissan Qashqai or similar) - Drop - off

5 seats

automatic

unlimited mileage