

Abercrombie & Kent



ROMANTIC HONEYMOON IN TUSCANY

Duration: 7 Days/6 Nights

A romantic break to the stunning Italian region of Tuscany!
Relax and enjoy the luxurious spa facilities and indulge in a wine and dine experience.

Programme Overview

Florence, Chianti, Siena and Montepulciano

Highlights

Vineyard visit in Classico Chianti Region
Hot air ballooning
Wine tasting and Michelin starred lunch reservations
Dinner at Michelin Starred restaurant

A&K Advantage

Florence – Oltrarno – South of the River Artisans & Chocolate!
A Half day walking tour of Florence with a “Guardian Angel”*

Private arrival and departure airport transfers
The services of an Abercrombie & Kent Guardian Angel

** On arrival in each country, you are welcomed by your A&K Guardian Angel who conducts a briefing on your time in the country. A Guardian Angel is always at hand to provide unparalleled 24/7 support, be it local travel tips or reconfirming arrangement details, to providing recommendations for restaurants and shopping. Should you ever need help or advice, dial your Guardian Angel's mobile phone for prompt and courteous service at any time.*

Detailed Itinerary

Day 1

ARRIVE TUSCANY—At leisure, massage and a 4 course candlelit dinner

Your private chauffeur will drive you from Florence Airport to your hotel in the heart of the stunning Tuscan wine producing region of Chianti in a private vehicle.

The ideal choice for both relaxation and exploration, the luxury sanctuary Castello Del Nero is located within striking distance of Florence and Siena. The carefully restored 12th century castle offers the absolute latest in modern facilities whilst maintaining the atmosphere of its historic surroundings.

Settle in & indulge in a Castello Del Nero Relaxation Ritual; a Balinese massage to help you unwind from the arrival journey.

Time at leisure to soak in the surroundings; followed by a 4-course candlelit dinner with tasting menu "The Tuscan Tradition" & selected beverages.

Overnight: Castello Del Nero

Meal Plan: B

Day 2

TUSCANY—Wine & Dine Experience

Wake up at leisure and get ready to enjoy your day in the amazing Tuscan countryside!

Your chauffeur will bring you into the heart of Chianti and perhaps one of the most beautiful wine regions in the world, Chianti Classico Wine Region is an area that has miles and miles of hill topped medieval villages and valleys covered in vines, all between the two beautiful cities of Florence and Siena.

You will begin in the vineyards and receive an explanation of the territory – the combination of local climate, soils and grape varieties that are the components that make wines so unique from region to region.

Enjoy an exclusive tour of the cellars; which could be followed by a Michelin starred lunchtime meal with accompanying fine delicious wines from the cellar. The sommelier will be happy to share his in-depth knowledge with you. Fully satiated, your chauffeur will bring you back to the paradise of your hotel.

Post lunch; enjoy the drive through the countryside. You could return to your hotel & perhaps stroll into the archetypal Tuscan village of Tavarnelle, just a short walk away.

Overnight: Castello Del Nero

Meal Plan: B

Day 3

TUSCANY—Hot Air Ballooning & Countryside

This morning by 5am you will be picked up and transferred to the launch site by your private vehicle between Florence and Siena.

You will soar over the renowned Chianti landscape with its hilltop towns, castles, valleys, famous vineyards, and mixed woodlands. On clear days at a distance you can view Florence to the North and the Apennine mountain range in the background; to the West you will see the Elsa valley, San Gimignano, Certaldo, and Volterra and the sea in the far distance; to the South, Poggibonsi, Colle Val d'Elsa and Siena and Monte Amiata in the distance; to the East the higher Monti del Chianti and mixed oak woodlands.

The flight is scheduled early morning just after dawn. Inflation takes about 30 minutes, and the flight approximately 1 hour depending on wind and weather conditions. After landing, the balloon will be loaded back onto the retrieving vehicle trailer that follows the balloon throughout the flight. Post the flight you enjoy a marvelous champagne breakfast with local produce.

Although flights are organised all year round, the "ballooning season" is approximately late spring to early autumn with annual variations. Weather in Chianti can be tricky and unpredictable, as all flights are subject to wind and weather, obviously these winter flights are not as regular as during the ballooning season.

After breakfast, you could wander throughout the countryside of Chianti and stop by Siena and Montepulciano.

Siena is possibly Italy's prettiest medieval city and a trip to Siena cannot be missed when in Tuscany. Siena's center of attraction is its central piazza known as Il Campo, famous worldwide for its Palio run here; a horse race run around the piazza twice every summer.

Enjoy the city & perhaps have lunch at another Michelin Star restaurant.

Post lunch, drive to the hill town of Montepulciano. Of all the region's small historic hill towns, Montepulciano has to be one of the most compelling. Standing imperious on its high tufa ridge, Montepulciano appears to have been artistically planned by a designer of Renaissance opera sets. Architecturally it is the most integral and unified historic centers of any Italian town: apart from a few restorations, no sizable construction work has taken place since 1580. You will find some good restaurants serving authentic hearty southern Tuscan fare, couple rustically elegant hotels, and the region which develops Tuscany's most serious, full-bodied red wines. But the town also has a certain discretion about it, a private side to its character that is very fascinating.

You could end the day with a lovely sundowner at a renowned restaurant overlooking the vineyards & soak in the amazing views of the Tuscan countryside at sunset.

Return to Castello Del Nero for the evening.

Overnight: Castello Del Nero

Meal Plan: B

Day 4

FLORENCE–Walking tour of the Oltrarno & Private tasting of artisan chocolates

Morning is at leisure.

This afternoon meet your Guardian Angel for a half day walking tour (4 hours) of the Oltrarno – the delightful South side of the River Arno, where the medieval streets are lined with artisan workshops. From your hotel, cross over the Ponte Vecchio to the south side of the river admiring the gold and jewelry shops that line this famous bridge. Once in the Oltrarno your English Speaking guide will lead you to some of the lovely workshops and boutiques where you can admire hand-made pieces such as the bold and bright costume jewelry designs* of Angela Caputi.

**Subject to availability.*

There are still a few chocolatiers in Florence who are committed to the tradition of artisan chocolate making. Their dedication to quality comes through in the flavor of their chocolate creations. Visit the best chocolatiers of Florence* (up to 1 hour) for a private tasting of artisan delights!

Spend some time at leisure followed by dinner & return to the hotel for the night.

Overnight: Castello Del Nero

Meal Plan: B

Day 5

TUSCANY–Dinner at a Michelin starred restaurant

Day is at leisure to explore the hotel facilities and local surroundings.

This afternoon, you could either enjoy a self-drive through the area or plan to spend the day by one of the spectacular beach sides. Maybe do a private boat tour of Tuscany's islands and the Monte Argentario peninsula.

This evening, you could enjoy dinner at Trattoria Toscana, the only Alain Ducasse restaurant in Italy with a Michelin star. The interiors of the restaurant have a sense of discreet elegance and intimacy, with wooden beams, exposed brickwork, a fireplace and cotto tile flooring. It leads onto an enchanting terrace that faces the kitchen gardens and surrounding hills, an ideal setting for a private romantic dinner.

Overnight: Castello Del Nero

Meal Plan: B

Day 6

TUSCANY–Spa & Thermal treatments

Day is at leisure.

You could spend a day with your partner in the natural hot springs. Tuscany has great geothermal activity underneath its surface and hot springs are the most enjoyable result of this phenomenon.

You can spot several SPA and thermal treatment outlets throughout Tuscany. You may try the natural-hot water pools and waterfalls such the ones in Saturnia, Bagno Vignoni, Petriolo or San Filippo. During winter it's weird to bathe in 40°C waters when outside it's cold, but it's undoubtedly an extremely pleasant experience, whichever season you'll choose. Invite your partner to bathe with you in one of the small pools and surprise him/her lighting up some candles around during the night hours: you'll always remember those magical moments!

Overnight: Castello Del Nero

Meal Plan: B

Day 7

DEPART TUSCANY

Your chauffeur will bring you back in your private vehicle to Florence Airport today.

Meal Plan: B

Possible Extensions:

Option 1:

3 Days VENICE

Day1

VENICE—Cruise to a Torcello for a romantic dinner

After breakfast, enjoy your drive to Venice.

On arrival, you are met by an A&K representative and transferred to your hotel, where you will be assisted with check-in. Speed across the lagoon to your palace hotel, conveniently located on the city's Grand Canal. A 14th-century Venetian palace adorned with masterpieces by the likes of Tiepolo – by private jetty.

This evening, cruise on Venice's famous canals as you pass the Santa Maria della Salute Church and into the lagoon to toast the sunset and your romantic holiday with a glass of Veneto Prosecco. Reach the beautiful island of Torcello, where a table is set for you in the enchanting gardens at the Locanda Cipriani. Savor one of their specialties: Adriatic fresh oysters.

Overnight: Ca' Sagredo

Meal Plan: B, D

Day 2

VENICE—Explore La Serenissima & a Gondola ride

End your romantic adventure in one of the world's gorgeous cities & explore the less-visited side of "La Serenissima" (a fitting nickname for this most serene of Italian cities) alongside your Guardian Angel. Lose yourselves in the charming labyrinth of narrow streets and passageways in the old artisans' quarter, where postcard-perfect scenes await around every corner. Wander through the Frari Church, which houses the breathtaking masterpieces of Titian, Bellini and Canova.

This evening, your private gondolier rows and serenades you through the Grand Canal and under the Rialto Bridge on to a restaurant of your choice.

Overnight: Ca' Sagredo

Meal plan: B

Day 3

DEPART VENICE

Your chauffeur will transfer you in a private vehicle to the Airport in Venice.

Meal plan: B

Option 2:

3 Days LAKE COMO

Day 1

LAKE COMO—Self exploration or enjoy a picnic

After breakfast, board a flight to Milan.

Arrive in Milan and then privately transfer to your luxury hotel on the banks of stunning Lake Como. Take a refreshing swim in the pool or a relaxing stroll in the nearby park. Alternately you could do a self-drive with a picnic hamper & spend the day by the stunning location.

Overnight: Villa d'Este Hotel

Meal plan: B

Day 2:

LAKE COMO—Sight-seeing on a private boat cruise

Post breakfast; meet your local guide for a half-day private boat cruise on Lake Como, Europe's deepest lake. Stop in the delightful village of Bellagio, an old retreat for the nobility of Lombardy, and visit the elegant Villa Carlotta at Tremezzo with its beautiful gardens. The gardens of Villa Carlotta are worthy a visit any time of the year. They feature old varieties of camellias, century-old cedars and sequoias, the rock garden and the ferns valley, the rhododendrons wood and the bamboos garden. All offer wonderful views of the lake.

You may enjoy your lunch at Silvio in Bellagio, where reservations can be arranged. A rustic restaurant on the little harbour inlet of Loppia just beyond the Villa Melzi. Restaurant owner, Cristian Ponzini is one of the few privileged to hold fishing rights on the lake—a privilege that has been passed down through his family for generations. He sails out each morning to catch lavarello and other native fish to serve at his glass-walled restaurant.

Lake Como is home to some of the very finest Italian cuisine with a number of world-class restaurants. Explore your options and enjoy your dinner. We recommend Villa Crespi and Piccolo Lago, both holding two Michelin stars each.

Overnight: Villa d'Este Hotel

Meal plan: B

Day 3

Depart Como

After breakfast, your chauffer will drive you in a private vehicle to Milan where you either board your return flight; or spend a couple of nights in this fashionable city!

Meal plan: B