

TUSCANY

Capriccio Travel



September 22-30, 2012

Capriccio Travel 2012 Program

For the past 15 years we have organized annual culinary and cultural holiday excursions to Italy. Most of Cafe Capriccio's staff have joined one or more of these groups so that they can better understand the Cafe's purpose and commitment to Italian traditions. Our Italian holidays are designed for individuals who wish to become acquainted with the beauty and splendor of Italy, its culture, traditions and cuisine. We are particularly excited to offer a travel opportunity in the Fall to a fabulous vineyard near Florence, in the Chianti hills. Fattoria Lavacchio, pictured here, is an organic farm that produces spectacular wines and olive oil, includes a great restaurant and is set in one of Tuscany's most picturesque areas. (photos courtesy of Tuscany '07 traveler and photographer B.A. Nilsson)



Autumn Holiday In Tuscany

Grape Harvest in Chianti ~ High Culture in Florence

Four Days and Nights at a Fabulous Elegant Organic Vineyard in Chianti;
Three Days & Nights in the Center of Historic Florence

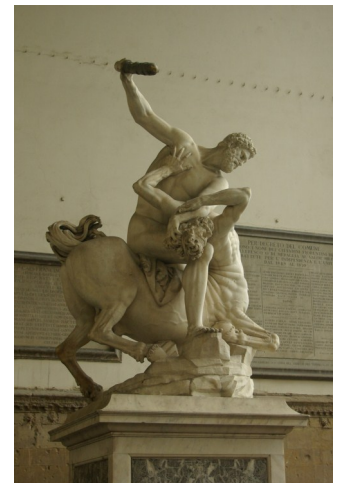
September 22 - 30, 2012

Join Capriccio Travel for an unforgettable visit to Tuscany. We stay at Fattoria Lavacchio, a fabulous organic vineyard in the exquisite Chianti Region of Tuscany and then travel to nearby Florence for an unforgettable sojourn in the center of Italy's greatest Renaissance city. We will have the opportunity to visit an elegant vineyard, fabulous Tuscan towns, great restaurants & kitchens, enjoy a cooking lesson, learn wine making and olive oil production techniques as well as enjoy some of the best personal guides and accommodations in Tuscany.

Price: \$4900 per person
(\$400 Single Supplement for Travelers in need of Single Accommodations)



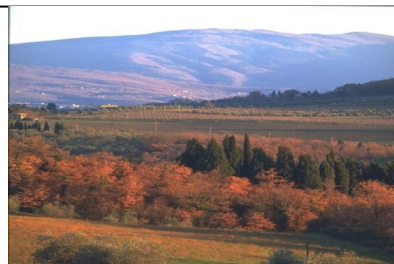
Join us for an unforgettable 9-day trip to Tuscany. Price Includes: Roundtrip Airfare, Private Transportation from Albany to New York, Fabulous 5-Star Accommodations, Land Transportation and Guides, Breakfast each day, Dinner (all nights but 1), Lunches at the Vineyard (lunches on your own in Florence to sit in outdoor cafes and trattorias at your leisure) Capriccio travel groups are small and tickets are booked on a first-come, first-served basis. We expect to sell the trip out quickly so please contact Jeanette at jcapriccio@aol.com if you think you want to join the group. A deposit of \$1600 will be due upon registration with 2 additional payments to follow on April 1 and June 1. We hope you can join us on this wonderful adventure and look forward to enjoying the beauty of Tuscany in the Fall with you!





Itinerary ~ Capriccio Travel

Tuscany 2012



Saturday, Sept. 22 We meet at Café Capriccio, 49 Grand Street in Albany, at approximately 10:30am. We will board a comfortable chartered coach for departure to New York. We arrive at approximately 2pm, with plenty of time to check in for our flight and to enjoy a leisurely respite at the airport. Our flight will board at approximately 5:30pm and depart at 6:25pm.

Sunday, Sept. 23 Upon arrival in Italy, we will be escorted to Fattoria Lavacchio (the vineyard!), our new home in Tuscany. The shuttle from Florence to the vineyard is a pleasant ride through the wonderful Tuscan countryside. We check in, enjoy a light lunch, settle into our charming accommodations, and rest before enjoying our first dinner at Mulino a Vento, the Fattoria's superb restaurant. (Dinner time will be based on our comfort level)

Monday, Sept. 24 In the morning, after a delicious country breakfast, we tour Fattoria Lavacchio, the vineyards, wine making, and olive oil production facilities, the mill and stables. All are invited later to attend a cooking demonstration followed by lunch alla Toscana (in the outdoor patio near the pool). We spend the afternoon at leisure on the farm, swimming, horseback riding, hiking, or exploring the fascinating surroundings. In the evening a grand dinner will be served on the farm.

Tuesday, Sept. 25 Chianti Countryside. Today we travel through the fabled Chianti countryside, visiting the beautiful city of Siena. The beauty of this area is spectacular and its local products (wine, cheese, cured meats and honey) are delicious and world renowned. Siena also features spectacular, sophisticated shopping as well as historic cathedrals and other noteworthy attractions. Lunch will be on our own at one of Siena's many cafes and trattorias. We will be escorted on our excursion to Siena by our guide Carolina Bosi who has worked with our groups for many years. After a leisurely day of shopping and touring we reboard our shuttle and return to Fattoria Lavacchio for a late afternoon rest by the pool followed by dinner at Mulino a Vento.

Wednesday, Sept. 26 We spend our final day at leisure on the farm, swimming, horseback riding, hiking, or exploring the fascinating surroundings. An optional trip to Lucca and/or San Gimignano will be available for travelers who wish to do more touring of the Tuscan region. Arrangements for this optional day trip will be made in Italy, depending upon individual interests. In the evening, everyone will gather for a final grand dinner before we say farewell to country-life and travel 40 minutes by shuttle to the wonderful city of Florence the following morning.

Thursday, Sept. 27 After breakfast we depart for Florence from Fattoria Lavacchio at approximately 10am. We will be escorted by our guide Carolina Bosi and assisted with checking into the Hotel Bernini. The Hotel Bernini is ideally located in the center of town and is one of the finest hotels in all of Florence. Following check in, we will set out on our first excursion in Florence, a guided walking tour, including stops at the Duomo, Giotto's Bell Tower, Dante's Church, Piazza Signoria, Palazzo Vecchio, Ponte Vecchio, and much more. We'll have lunch in town (on our own) followed by a grand dinner in the evening at one of our favorite trattorias.

Friday, Sept. 28 In the morning we will tour the Uffizi Gallery, Italy's greatest Renaissance museum. We'll have free time for lunch on our own, shopping and sight seeing in the afternoon, always accompanied by our expert guide. We will be free this evening to explore the town and select for dinner one of the many fabulous Florentine cafes, trattorias and restaurants near our hotel.

Saturday, Sept. 29 After breakfast we visit the Accademia for a close up view of Michelangelo's David, recently restored. We will plan the rest of our final day in Florence based on our interests. There is so much to see and do; it is wise to remain flexible. In the evening, we will gather for a final, memorable Florentine feast together as we conclude our Tuscan adventure.

Sunday, Sept. 30 Today our hosts, now friends, will escort us to the airport for our return flights. We leave Florence at 2pm for a departure for New York. We will be greeted by our chartered coach in New York, then driven to Albany with an expected arrival time of 9pm at Café Capriccio.

The City of Florence Speaks for Itself! The Epicenter of Italy's Grand Artistic Traditions...



The Best of Both Worlds

About Fattoria Lavacchio
This is no ordinary vineyard!



Fattoria Lavacchio is a fabulous elegant estate formerly owned by the noble Florentine family Strozzi and now owned and operated by the Lottero family, originally from Genoa. There are 110 hectares (about 250 acres) devoted to grapes, olives and wheat production, along with 5 star guest accommodations, stables and a great restaurant, Mulino a Vento (the Windmill). The estate is also home of the Innocenti family ceramics studio, one of Italy's most important ceramicists. The Vineyard includes Italy's only working windmill from which is produced flour for the estate's bread and pasta. Fattoria Lavacchio is an organic farm that produces 7 wine varieties and exquisite extra virgin olive oil pressed at the estate. The estate is set in the magnificent surroundings of Montefiesole, about 16 kilometers from Florence. The extraordinary panoramic views from 400 meters above sea level, across the Chianti countryside, are stupendous. Activities on

the farm include equestrian, mountain biking, cooking demonstrations, programs devoted to wine and olive oil production, Italian language study, ceramics workshops, swimming, among others.



**Contact Jeanette Stanziano, Capriccio Travel, for Information and Reservations
E-mail Jeanette: jcapriccio@aol.com**

A more extensive packet of information including a CD of photographs of the Vineyard and Florence will be forwarded upon request to interested travelers.