



# Hidden Trails

Ph. 1-888-9-TRAILS

*Equestrian Vacations  
- on & with Hidden Trails*

## About Hidden Trails

Hidden Trails is owned and operated by nature enthusiasts who love horses and adventure activities. We have been involved with riding and other outdoor vacations for over 20 years.

With our partners Voyage du Cheval (France), Pegasus (Germany) as well as Equitour (Switzerland and France) we have collected the best riding destinations all over the world in some hidden places we would like to share with you.

These rides are about galloping on endless beaches, forging rivers, cantering through forests, trotting along age-old trails, gazing at beautiful vistas and encountering foreign cultures. But most of all, these trips are about getting away from the cycle of too much work and never enough free time.

Escape from the rituals, which long ago froze our nights and days into little more than routine and away from the worries of our new tense times. It is so satisfying when we take the plunge of adventure - it's unfortunate that we invent so many reasons to put aside living our dreams of adventure. It is sometimes a tangled web that we weave through life. Some of the threads reveal a work-a-day world of commitments, duties and obligations. Other threads are of a quiet fabric of hope, responsibility and refreshment.

On our adventures you see the real country, its back country and meet the locals. The love for horses has no boundaries but possesses a common language we all speak and understand. The majority of the overseas rides are from inn to inn, some from castle to castle and a few are camping rides.

You will experience new countries and their customs and make new friends. The Hidden Trails trips are the best you can find.

They have been tested by our staff or associates and received our stamp of approval. If you are considering a special riding vacation anywhere in the world, call us first and let our experienced consultants match the perfect trip with your dream.

We will listen to you and give you objective advice to help you choose the best destination and adventure.

Your vacation is the most precious time of the year and we are committed to making it the most memorable time of your life. Wherever you go, have a great time and bring back some peace of mind.

Thank you for your continued support.

### Hidden Trails

Phone: 604-323-1141

Fax: 604-323-1148

Toll Free: 1-888-9-TRAILS

from within the USA or Canada or

E-mail: [info@hiddentrails.com](mailto:info@hiddentrails.com)

Website: [www.hiddentrails.com](http://www.hiddentrails.com)

Address:

659A Moberly Road, Vancouver BC Canada V5Z 4B3 or

4406 Tennyson Road, Wilmington, DE 19802 USA

### Toll Free from the U.K.:

Ph: 0-808 189-0420

Fax: 0-808-280-1860

### Toll Free Worldwide:

Skype: hiddentrails



# Tuscan Discovery Week - Italy, Europe

Tour Code: IT-ITSR02  
8 days / 7 nights ~\$2,870.00  
Dates: April-May & Sep-Oct

Trip Rating : ●●●●●  
Difficulty : ●●●●●  
Lodging: ●●●

**Tack:** English  
**Horses:** Local Sicilian and Maremma  
**Pace:** Moderate with some trots and canters  
Walk, Trot, Canter,

**Airport:** Florence



## Introduction

Tuscany, Italy  
Horseback ride through the picturesque Chianti hills - the lovely unspoiled region between Florence and Siena, famous for tasty food, great wine and stunning scenery!

Our rides take you through the beautiful countryside, with its terraced vineyards, cypress avenues and extensive woodlands. As riders you are especially privileged, able to ride off the beaten track, away from tourists and vehicles, to explore the land of Dante, Galileo and Leonardo da Vinci. Even if the region was not full of history and culture as it is, you could truly just simply bask in the beauty of it all!

The charming farmhouse and stables (it is not a hotel or luxury villa) are on the eastern slopes of the Chianti Mountains. Before it lies the broad valley of the Arno and beyond, the long ridge of the Pratomagno, with its highest point at 1,591 meters. On the other side lies the Casentino Valley, rich in castles and Romanesque churches, while behind the farm stretches the beautiful range of Chianti. Here is a place where animal and nature lovers will immediately feel right at home - there are eighteen beautiful horses, but also many dogs and cats, chickens, ducks and a resident goat. Jenny, your hostess, fell in love with this special part of Tuscany forty years ago and is happy to share with you the beauty of the Italian countryside she calls home. She is knowledgeable about local art and history and happy to give you the details. A guest once said of her holiday haven here: "It's the perfect combination of riding and culture."

## Accommodation



### Accommodations

This is a stationary ride so all nights are spent at the same location.

### Description

This small family-run farm holiday center in the Chianti hills was established back in 1969. While fully surrounded by pristine countryside (vineyards, olive-groves and woodlands), it is conveniently less than thirty miles from Florence and Siena by car and only three miles from the station of Monteverchi.

The 17th-century house has a panoramic view over the Arno valley. It is typically Tuscan, with its pigeon-loft, beams, terracotta floors and arches. Each bedroom is attractively furnished and has its own small bathroom. There is a sitting room with a large selection of English books and classical music and a fire is prepared on the hearth on wintry days.

It is not for people looking for elegance. Hens and ducks peck around the house, our Labrador Miranda greets you on your arrival, and you may find Catkin the cat curled up in an armchair.

The farm is primarily a riding-centre: the stables are just behind the house, a dozen or so horses graze in the surrounding paddocks. No one has to dress up on any occasion. Non-riders are welcome, of course, but they must not be shocked at the occasional whiff of manure! The house itself is clean and pretty, but it is after all a family home, with books spilling out of the shelves and jackets hanging on the back of chairs.

Jenny and her son Nicholas are happy to welcome country-lovers to their home and guests quickly become friends. The place is suitable also for single people, who will here feel looked after and cherished.

Washing machines are on site. There is free internet access (WIFI) at the riding center.





#### Meals

All meals are included in this trip.

At meal-times the guests all sit together at a long table and there is plenty of merriment as well as good food and wine.

You will be amazed at the variety of Tuscan dishes offered. Our cook has a large repertoire of pasta, rice and meat dishes and typical Italian desserts. Franca has now been our cook for several years and Jenny gives her a hand with her cooking classes. A typical meal comprises 3 courses: a "primo piatto" of pasta or rice, a meat or fish dish, followed by fresh fruit or dessert.

The Farm has a well-stocked organic vegetable garden. Eggs are home-produced and the extra-virgin olive oil used for cooking comes from the groves around the house.

Local Chianti wine is served with every meal and each evening there will be a chance to sample other local wines and liqueurs.

#### Dietary Restrictions

We can cater to all dietary restrictions with prior notice.

#### Riding



#### Riding

In a week's stay, you will never do the same ride twice. This is not fast riding country, but there is so much to look at that speed is not an issue. You will follow trails through pretty vineyards, olive groves and woodlands without any landowners objecting and without meeting a single gate, something that never ceases to amaze.

#### Horses

There are 12 horses on our property, and they are of various breeds, as we believe that it is the temperament of the horse, not the breed that matters.

The horses are kept in the stables immediately behind the house or in the surrounding fields.

The horses, all trained in the English style of riding, are sleek, fit and even those which are stable-kept spend some hours in the paddocks every day if they are not ridden. They all have good characters, strong hooves and plenty of stamina. All the horses do arena work as well as riding out on the trail, so they are obedient and responsive to the aids on all occasions.

There are also 2 ponies available, but they are lively little fellows and are not suitable for children less than ten years old.

If riders feel inclined, they are welcome to help with the grooming and tacking up of the horses, an excellent way of making friends with their mounts.

#### Staff

Jenny set up the riding center because she wanted to transmit to others her love of horses and the Tuscan countryside. She is very knowledgeable about the local history, art and architecture as well as the flora and fauna. Eraldo (qualified as a BHS instructor) is in charge of the riding side of activities. He is very knowledgeable about birds, is an experienced instructor and guide, a keen fisherman and hunter – and a charming fellow with a great gift of the gab!

#### Non-Riders

Non-riders are welcome, of course, but they must not be shocked at the occasional whiff of manure! Franca, the cook, organizes cooking courses on specific dates but can also provide, on request, tailor-made cooking lessons.

For walkers and mountain-bikers there are many waymarked trails radiating out from the Centre. For those using road-bikes, there are plenty of quiet lanes in the Chianti region and the Arno valley.

#### Itinerary





NOTE: our programs have a degree of flexibility for your own leisure, and some details may change due to weather or specific events such as grape harvest.

**Sample Itinerary: A Taste of Tuscany Getaway - subject to changes**

*Note that this programme can also take place (Sat – Wed) during the first part of a Tuscan Discovery Week programme.*

**Day 1 (Saturday): Arrival**

Go to the main railway station of Florence (Firenze Santa Maria Novella). Now take the 6:14 pm train (RV4085) to Foligno, and get off at Montevarchi-Terranuova, our local station (you should reach it for 6:51 pm). The preceding station is San Giovanni Valdarno, but when the train leaves it you can start getting your luggage together, as only four minutes later you will arrive at Montevarchi. Your host, Jenny (white-haired and wearing a red shirt) will be there to welcome you on platform 1.

Then, take a ten-minute drive in a minivan to the farm, the 400-year-old typically Tuscan home of your host. Settle in and then enjoy a chat and a glass of Chianti Classico with your host, either in the sitting room or outside the farmhouse with its panoramic views.

*Meals included: Dinner  
Overnight at the Farm*

**Day 2 (Sunday): Introductory Ride**

Breakfast and morning ride through vineyards, olive-groves and woodland, passing near an 11th-century tower and a 14th century church. Return home for lunch.

In the afternoon a short walk to a local farmhouse to sample some homemade jams and visit the "Museo della civiltà contadina" (Museum of Rural Culture).

*Riding approx. 2.5 hours  
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at the Farm*

**Day 3 (Monday): Morning Ride & Farm Visit**

The morning ride crosses the wooded hills north of the farm, scattered with charming hamlets and traditional farmhouses.

After lunch, visit to the farm of Alessandro to discover how Tuscan pecorino cheese is made (and to taste it of course!), followed by wine tasting at Fattoria Casabianca with Aldo's top quality wine and award-winning Vin Santo.

*Riding approx. 2 hours  
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at the Farm*

**Day 4 (Tuesday): Castles Ride**

Today, you go on a full day ride in the Chianti hills south of the farmhouse, passing the medieval village of San Leolino, the Castle of Cennina and a pretty lake, with picnic nearby.

We then head back home past the Castle of Lupinari with frequent canters.

*Riding approx. 5 hours  
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at the Farm*

**Day 5 (Wednesday): Departure**

Breakfast and EITHER your own arrangements to leave (departure is usually by 10:00 am) OR a ten-minute drive to Montevarchi to meet the train back to Florence. For those going to Rome, there is a direct train from Montevarchi.

*Meals included: Breakfast*



**Sample Itinerary: Tuscan Discovery Week - subject to changes**

**Day 1 (Saturday): Arrival**

Go to the main railway station of Florence (Firenze Santa Maria Novella). Now take the 6:14 pm train (RV4085) to Foligno, and get off at Montevarchi-Terranuova, our local station (you should reach it for 6:51 pm). The preceding station is San Giovanni Valdarno, but when the train leaves it you can start getting your luggage together, as only four minutes later you will arrive at Montevarchi. Your host, Jenny (white-haired and wearing a red shirt) will be there to welcome you on platform 1.

Then, take a ten-minute drive in a minivan to the farm, the 400-year-old typically Tuscan home of your host. Settle in and then enjoy a chat and a glass of Chianti Classico with your host, either in the sitting room or outside the farmhouse with its panoramic views.

*Meals included: Dinner  
Overnight at the Farm*

#### **Day 2 (Sunday): Introductory Ride**

Breakfast and morning ride through vineyards, olive-groves and woodland, passing near an 11th-century tower and a 14th century church. Return home for lunch.

In the afternoon, cooking lesson with Isabella preparing dishes such as: pasta fresca, ravioli, ragù "bolognese" and strawberry ice cream or tiramisù for dinner.

*Riding approx. 2.5 hours  
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at the Farm*

#### **Day 3 (Monday): Morning Ride & Farm Visit**

After breakfast, we go for a morning ride. After lunch Eraldo will accompany you to the farm of his friend Alessandro who will show you how Tuscan pecorino cheese is made. After some cheese-tasting you will be driven by Eraldo to Fattoria Casabianca to sample Aldo's top-quality wine, as well as his award-winning vinsanto. (N.B. A 'fattoria' is a big farm with lots of land.)

*Riding approx. 2.5 hours  
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at the Farm*

#### **Day 4 (Tuesday): Castles Ride**

Day ride with Eraldo in the Chianti hills south of the riding center. You will pass the medieval village of San Leolino, the Castle of Cennina, a pretty lake and then have a picnic nearby. You will eventually ride back home past the Castle of Lupinari with frequent canters.

*Riding approx. 5 hours  
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at the Farm*

#### **Day 5 (Wednesday): Relax (no riding)**

A free day to make your arrangements for sightseeing, perhaps to visit Florence (if she is available, your host will gladly give you a guided tour of the main sights).

You can also take a train to visit Arezzo, Assisi, or engage in other activities we can suggest, such as: a trip with qualified hiking guide to visit the spectacular "balze del Valdarno"; a guided e-bike tour; a workshop with Isabella to paint your personal pottery mug or a "truffle hunt" in the early morning with our friend Luigi and his dog.

*Meals included: Breakfast & Dinner  
Overnight at the Farm*

#### **Day 6 (Thursday): Market Day & Afternoon Ride**

This morning we go to the local street market, to buy typical Italian food, "porchetta", cheese and fresh vegetables for your lunch.

In the afternoon, after a short ride, we go on a short walk to a local farmhouse to sample some homemade jams and visit the "Museo della civiltà contadina" (Museum of Rural Culture).

*Riding approx. 1.5 hours  
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at the Farm*

#### **Day 7 (Friday): Montegonzi Ride**

A final day-ride with a stop to visit the typical medieval village of Montegonzi, with a light lunch at the local "osteria". In the afternoon, leisurely ride home to the farmhouse for a rest and a nice cup of English tea, with your hostess.

Tonight, we enjoy a special farewell dinner.  
*Riding approx. 5 hours  
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at the Farm*

#### **Day 8 (Saturday): Departure**

Breakfast and EITHER your own arrangements to leave (departure is usually by 10:00 am) OR a ten-minute drive to Montevarchi to meet the train back to Florence. For those going to Rome, there is a direct train from Montevarchi.

*Meals included: Breakfast*

#### **Non-Riders**

Non-riders are welcome, of course, but they must not be shocked at the occasional whiff of manure! Franca, the cook, organizes cooking courses on specific dates but can also provide, on request, tailor-made cooking lessons.

For walkers and mountain-bikers there are many waymarked trails radiating out from the Centre. For those using road-bikes, there are plenty of quiet lanes in the Chianti region and the Arno valley.

Riding can be substituted for walks and/or cooking lessons for riders who need a rest from the saddle!

## **Other Info**

**Meeting:** Farm

**Airport:** Florence

**Train station:** Montevarchi

**Transfer:** Montevarchi Train Station

Your host, Jenny will meet you at Montevarchi Train Station for about 7 pm on Day 1

**Tack:** English

**Horses:** Local Sicilian and Maremma

**Pace:** Moderate with some trots and canters

Walk | Trot | Canter |

**Level:** 🐾🐾🐾🐾 (2.5 to 3 out of 5) Low Intermediate

**Age:** Min 14

**Weight:** 190 lbs

**Riders:** Min 2 riders

Max 6 riders



## Rates and Dates 2026 - IT-ITSR02

Rates include: Accommodation, Most meals including wine, 5 riding days, Guided visit to Arezzo & Transfers

### Packages and Options

Season	Description	EUR	~US\$
A 2026	8 day trip	€2390	\$2870

The US Dollar Rate is based on a EUR Exchange Rate of 1.2 and subject to currency fluctuation

### Transfer Option

#### Description

2026	Transfer from/to Montevarchi train station at set times included		
2026	Non-rider rate, dbl, pp	€1640	\$1970
2026	Single supplement	€325	\$390

#### Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2026	04/18/2026 - 04/25/2026	8d / 7n	8 day trip
A 2026	05/09/2026 - 05/16/2026	8d / 7n	8 day trip
A 2026	05/16/2026 - 05/23/2026	8d / 7n	8 day trip
A 2026	09/12/2026 - 09/19/2026	8d / 7n	8 day trip
A 2026	10/03/2026 - 10/10/2026	8d / 7n	8 day trip
A 2026	10/10/2026 - 10/17/2026	8d / 7n	8 day trip

Min/Max: 2/6

Rates do not include: Transportation and lunch on Day 5, Travel insurance (mandatory) & Gratuities

# Reservation Form

**Tour :** \_\_\_\_\_ **Code #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **from:** \_\_\_\_\_ **to :** \_\_\_\_\_

The Travelers (Last Name, First Name)	Male Female	Single room / or tent	Birth Date MM/DD/YY	Height	Weight	Special diets											
						Special diets	Beginner	Novice	Intermediate	Strong Intern.	Advanced	ride English	ride Western	mostly arena	mostly hacking		
1. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					
2. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					
3. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					
4. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					

Special Diets: \_\_\_\_\_

Your fitness level: Excellent  Moderate  Poor  How long have you been riding? \_\_\_\_\_

How often do you ride? \_\_\_\_\_ Have you been on other riding tours? No  Yes  last trip when? \_\_\_\_\_

If Hidden Trails offers a transfer from the local airport/station: I would like the transfer to be included: YES  NO

In an emergency, name and phone number of contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Attention: Please, if there is more than one participant, all have to sign the reservation form - make copies if needed

With my signature I confirm my reservation of the listed program(s) under the Hidden Trails Booking Conditions. I'm aware, and I made all participants aware of the risk involved with these outdoor adventure activities. All participants have read and agree with the Hidden Trails Booking Conditions and the Hidden Trails Recreational Activity Release and Indemnity Agreement in this brochure or as listed on the Internet.

I (we) will sign and forward the Recreational Activity Release and Indemnity Agreement at least 10 weeks before trip starting date.

Last Name and First Name (The Traveler) \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Postal/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (wk) \_\_\_\_\_ (hm) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature (mandatory) 1. \_\_\_\_\_

Please, charge a 25% deposit (minimum \$ 350 per person) now and full payment 10 weeks before the travel date to my credit card.

For payments by **VISA**  or **Mastercard**  (no debit cards)

Cardholder: \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ 3 digit Security # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp.Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address for Credit Card (if different than mailing address):  
\_\_\_\_\_

I have enclosed a check for the deposit

Additional Signatures:

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Travel Cancellation Insurance** Credit Card required

Sign me (us) up  initial \_\_\_\_\_

No, we will provide our own  initial \_\_\_\_\_

## Hidden Trails

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Canada V5Z 4B2

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Pacific Standard Time

