

Victoria College Academy of Lifelong Learning presents...

Explore Tuscany

with Optional 3-Night Rome Pre Tour Extension

March 17 – 25, 2026



Book Now
& Save
\$100
Per Person

Upgrade to Elite Airfare! See inside for details.



For more information contact
Victoria College Academy of Lifelong Learning
361-582-2520
WCE@VictoriaCollege.edu





9 Days • 10 Meals: 7 Breakfasts, 3 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Montecatini Terme, Lucca, Family-Owned Winery Experience, Florence, Pisa, Cooking Class, Siena, Cheese Farm, San Gimignano

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2 – 8 Hotel Ercolini and Savi, Montecatini Terme

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Day 1: Tuesday, March 17, 2026 Overnight Flight Rolling landscapes, savory wines, delicious food and stunning architecture – find all of this and more in Tuscany. Unpack once on this journey among Italy's most charming towns.

Day 2: Wednesday, March 18, 2026 Montecatini Terme, Italy Your tour opens in the famous spa resort town of Montecatini Terme, nestled in the heart of the rolling hills of Tuscany. This evening, get to know your fellow travelers during a welcome dinner where regional foods and Italian wines kick off your adventure. (D)

Day 3: Thursday, March 19, 2026 Lucca Enjoy a guided tour of Lucca, Tuscany's best-kept secret. Discover Renaissance walls, Romanesque churches, and medieval streets flanked by towers. Explore the lively city center on your own and discover the piazza built on top of a Roman amphitheater. Make your way to a Tuscan winery and learn about the art of winemaking as you taste local varieties. (B)

Day 4: Friday, March 20, 2026 Florence Welcome to Florence where an extensive walking tour showcases the beautiful "Cradle of the Renaissance." Join a local Florentine guide and make your way through the city on foot. At the Piazza del Duomo, see the ornate façade of the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore and the gilded bronze doors of the Baptistery dedicated to St. John. Take in views of the Piazza della Signoria and Santa Croce Square before enjoying the remainder of your time in Florence to explore this unparalleled city as you choose.* (B)

Day 5: Saturday, March 21, 2026 Montecatini Terme Today, **it's your choice!** Choose to relax in Montecatini, spending a morning at leisure **-OR-** set off for Borgo a Mozzano, where you will see the *Ponte del Diavolo* (Devil's Bridge) and the nearby remains of the Gothic Line – the Germans' last defense during WWII. Visit the Museum of Liberation and see authentic fortifications and bunkers. This afternoon, learn more about Montecatini's history during a half-day guided walking tour and visit to the historic Tettuccio Spa,** (UNESCO) known for the health benefits in its mineral waters. (B)

Day 6: Sunday, March 22, 2026 Pisa Explore historic sites in the ancient maritime Republic of Pisa, including the city center and the famous *Piazza dei Miracoli*, or "Field of Miracles" (UNESCO). Keep your camera handy at the famous Leaning Tower of Pisa. This evening, travel to the quiet countryside to learn the secrets of traditional Tuscan cuisine. Partake in a cooking class, using local ingredients and culinary techniques that have been passed down for generations. Enjoy your freshly-prepared meal for dinner. (B, D)

Day 7: Monday, March 23, 2026 Siena Travel south to Siena, a UNESCO World Heritage site where stunning Romanesque and Gothic architecture can be found on every corner. Walk the narrow medieval streets on a guided tour. Get to know the local lifestyle of a *contrada* (neighborhood) whose community museum is centered around the colorful *Palio* horse race. (B)

Day 8: Tuesday, March 24, 2026 Cheese Farm Visit - San Gimignano Take in the rural atmosphere of a family-owned farm among the goats, cows, and organic gardens and sample their local products. Soak in breathtaking views as you travel to the hilltop village of San Gimignano, one of Tuscany's most picturesque places. Explore this enchanting medieval town, from its famous 14 towers to its magnificent vistas overlooking vineyards. Enjoy free time and perhaps indulge in some gelato, before joining your travel companies for a farewell dinner. (B, D)

Day 9: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 Montecatini Terme - Tour Ends Your journey comes to a close today. Depart with many fond memories of Tuscany. (B)



Book Now & Save \$100 Per Person:

Double \$3,929; **Double \$3,829***
 Single \$4,229; **Single \$4,129;**
 Triple \$3,899 **Triple \$3,799**

For bookings made after Sep 18, 2025 call for rates.

Included in Price: Round Trip Air from Houston Intl, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers

Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$549 per person

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change, based on air inclusive package from IAH

Upgrade your in-flight experience with Elite Airfare

Additional rate of: Premium Economy \$1,890; Business Class \$4,290

• * Elite Air pricing (Premium Economy, Business Class or First class) is valid until 8 months prior to departure, after which rates are subject to change and will be quoted based upon availability.

† Refer to the reservation form to choose your upgrade option

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS: Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received and booking confirmed by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received and booking confirmed, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. **(See registration form for consent.)**

PLEASE NOTE:

Book Now rates valid until Sep 18, 2025, valid on air inclusive packages only.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour, covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. Expect some longer days with early mornings or late nights balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

This level is not a fit for travelers who require mobility assistance devices.

In Italy, some of the most unique sightseeing can mean accessing locations that restrict tour bus circulation, especially in historic areas such as Lucca, Pisa, Siena, San Gimignano and Florence. In Florence you must be prepared to walk approximately 3 miles (4.8 kilometers) to complete the sightseeing with limited opportunities to sit. The full day walking tour takes place over flat but cobblestoned streets with narrow sidewalks which are often crowded. For your well-being, we recommend bringing comfortable walking shoes.

Days of features are interchangeable.

Experience It! Walls of Lucca

Lucca is famed for its extensive, well-preserved city walls, which date back to the Renaissance. This massive fortification, while never actually used for defense, represents what was, at the time, the height of military technology. The walls, studded with gates and bulwarks (defensive elements), were built from stone, brick, and earth. In 1812 the gates were closed, saving the city from flood waters when the Serchio River overflowed. In the 1820s, Maria Luisa de Borbón, duchess of Lucca, had some of the walls converted to green spaces that later became a large public park. Today, the walls of Lucca aren't only a famous city attraction but a place for people to play, stroll, picnic, and enjoy *la dolce vita*.

EXTEND YOUR VACATION WITH

Optional 5 Days 3-Night Rome Pre Tour Extension

Per Person Rates: \$1,199.00 USD double, \$1,499.00 USD single, land only

For more information on extensions and options for this tour visit
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1294367>

Most shops and businesses in Italy are closed on Sundays and on national/religious holidays.

**The interior of Tettuccio Spa is closed to visits during the months of November and December. They do not offer spa treatments like massages; this is a hydrotherapy center that offers healing waters.

*Due to the extensive walking required in Florence, free time will be limited to approximately 3 hours, during which, you may wish to visit the Academy or the Uffizi Museums. Both are closed Mondays, and both require advance reservations as tickets are often sold out on the day, or close to the day of visit. If you are interested, we recommend that you purchase tickets online, prior to departure, through the museum's official website. You can expect your included walking tour to conclude by 1:00 p.m. and you will meet again for departure to Montecatini around 4:00 p.m. If booking tickets for one of the above museums, allow yourselves 30 minutes to reach them from the end point of your walking tour and 30 minutes to return to the meeting point in the afternoon.

Most museums in Florence are closed on Mondays, including the Academy Gallery (Michelangelo's *David*) and the Uffizi. Most museums in Florence require reservations to access. In order to reduce queuing, we suggest you reserve your ticket online prior to departure if you plan to visit the Academy Gallery or the Uffizi during your free time in Florence.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of purchasing these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

Air passengers will arrive and depart from Florence or Pisa airports.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

IDENTIFICATION

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require that your passport be valid at least 6 months beyond the dates of your travel. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that travelers take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

Effective for travel in May 2025, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS visa waiver, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the seat reduction date of September 11, 2025 are based upon availability. Final payment due by December 17, 2025. Deposits are refundable up until September 18, 2025.

CST#2006766-20 UBN#601220855 Nevada Sellers of Travel Registration No. 2003-0279

NOTES:



For important reservation information visit
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1294367>.
You can also find this information on your tour documents.

Extend your vacation with

Optional 5 Days 3-Night Rome Pre Tour Extension

Per Person Rates: \$1,199.00 USD double, \$1,499.00 USD single, land only
4 Meals: 3 Breakfasts, 1 Dinner

Day 1: Overnight Flight

You are on your way to the eternal city of Rome.

Day 2: Rome, Italy - Tour Begins

Get settled into Rome for your 3-night stay. Take time to get acquainted with the area on your own. This evening, join your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner featuring regional delicacies. *Today dinner will be included.*

Day 3: Rome

Start your morning with a ride on *La Metro* – Rome's underground system. First stop – a locally guided tour of the Eternal City's most iconic monuments. Walk over cobblestoned streets and weathered passageways to discover famous sights such as the Trevi Fountain, the Pantheon, and Piazza Navona, one of Rome's most breathtaking Baroque esplanades. The remainder of the day is yours. Perhaps you'll wander through one of Rome's many museums, such as the Capitoline or stroll the Avenue of the Imperial Forum for views of the Colosseum. This evening, consider an optional dinner in a popular restaurant, where you'll indulge in a hearty meal accompanied by wine and local entertainment. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Day 4: Rome

Make the most of a free day in Italy's capital city. Perhaps you will join an optional tour* to the Vatican Museums and St. Peter's Basilica, taking in world-renowned wonders such as the Sistine Chapel and Michelangelo's mural of the Last Judgment. In the afternoon, consider strolling through the Borghese Gardens for views of the city's skyline or meander through Rome's bohemian *Trastevere* district. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Day 5: Rome - Montecatini Terme

Your Roman sojourn comes to a close today. Say *Arrivederci Roma* as you transfer to Montecatini Terme to begin your tour of Tuscany. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Please Note:

The overall activity level of this extension is a level 3. This means walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.), and could possibly anticipate changes in elevation. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable as is climbing 3 flights of stairs. You can handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. You can expect some longer days balanced with free time. This level is not a fit for travelers that require mobility assistance devices.

Fully-guided extensions are a great way to explore a new destination. Enjoy sightseeing and local experiences led by a Tour Manager or local expert.

We reserve the right to cancel this extension if a minimum of 4 passengers is not met to operate.

The space on this extension is limited and will be available on a first come, first served basis. Applicable charges may apply at time of request.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

*The optional tour to the Vatican Museums may operate on a different day on select departures due to availability of reservations and closure on Sundays and holidays.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

**The transfer to Montecatini will be by driver-only. The transfer is 200 miles (325 kms) and will take approximately 4 hours depending on traffic. A restroom stop at a rest area along the highway will be made mid-journey. Your Tour Manager will meet you upon arrival in Montecatini.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.



Special Needs Form

Please complete this form, sign and return it to us within 14 days of receipt.

Email: TravelOperations@collette.com

Fax: 401.727.4745

Mail: Collette: Travel Operations
180 Middle Street
Pawtucket, RI 02860

TRAVELERS NEEDING SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

You must report any disability requiring special attention to Collette at the time the reservation is made. *Collette will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of tour participants. Such participants, however, should be aware that the Americans with Disabilities Act is inapplicable outside of the United States and facilities outside the United States for disabled individuals are limited. It is strongly recommended that persons requiring assistance be accompanied by a companion who is capable of and totally responsible for providing the assistance. Neither Collette nor its personnel, nor its suppliers, may physically lift or assist clients into transportation vehicles. If a traveler thinks he or she might need assistance during a trip, he or she should call Collette to determine what assistance might reasonably be given. Collette cannot provide special individual assistance to tour members with special needs for walking, dining, or other routine activities. Internationally, a great deal of walking may be necessary to fully enjoy the destination. Travelers should be in good health and must be able to walk reasonable distances. In some areas, travelers may be required to walk on uneven ground, cobblestone streets or raised thresholds.

****To request a wheelchair accessible room on a cruise, the traveler or person sharing the room must have a recognized disability that alters a major life function and requires the use of a mobility device and the use of the accessible features provided in the wheelchair accessible stateroom. The cruise company may take appropriate action against someone who has reserved or purchased such a stateroom fraudulently. Action may include but is not limited to removal from the stateroom to a non-accessible accommodation up to denial of boarding.***

Reservation # _____

Name: _____ Male or Female (circle one)

Are you traveling with a wheelchair? Yes No

If you answer “YES”

- Does your wheelchair collapse? Yes No
- Can you stand and climb steps to board the coach without it? Yes No
- Are you capable of lifting your own wheelchair? Yes No

If you are not capable of lifting your own wheelchair who will provide assistance?

This form cannot be processed without the dimensions of your wheelchair:

Height _____ Length _____ Width _____

Are you traveling with a walker? Yes No

If you answer “YES”

- Does your walker collapse? Yes No

This form cannot be processed without the dimensions of your walker:

Height _____ Length _____ Width _____

Tour Managers and drivers do not provide assistance lifting, pushing or carrying wheelchairs or walkers. Motorized scooters are not permitted on tour.

Are you requesting any hotel room accommodations? Yes No

If “YES” Please indicate if one or more of the following is required in the washroom.

- Walk-in shower Yes No
- Grab bars Yes No
- Raised toilet seat Yes No

Please provide any details in reference to the nature of your request.

Most hotel rooms that can accommodate the request will be equipped with only 1 bed.

Do you understand and accept? Yes No

Collette cannot guarantee the availability of such rooms as many hotels have a limited number of rooms that are equipped with the above accommodations.

Are you traveling with an oxygen tank? Yes No

If you answer “YES”

- You must contact the airline directly to arrange transportation of the oxygen on the plane. Oxygen requests vary by airline and location and can take up to 2 weeks to request.
- You are responsible for supplying your own electrical cords, and converters as needed.

This form must be remitted within 14 days of receipt for any special needs accommodation request.

Collette cannot provide special individual assistance to tour members with special needs for walking, dining, or other routine activities and motorized scooters are not permitted on tour.

The Americans with Disabilities Act only applies in the United States. Many international destinations cannot accommodate passengers’ requests. Collette will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of tour participants, but we cannot guarantee that all requests will be honored on international destinations.

Collette also regrets that it cannot provide individual assistance to a tour member with special needs for walking, dining, or other special personal needs. It is strongly recommended that persons requiring assistance be accompanied by a companion who is capable and totally responsible for the assistance.

I have read and understand the above:

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Internal Use Only

Reason: _____

Tour: _____ Reservation # _____

TS/Group: _____

Tour Date: _____