

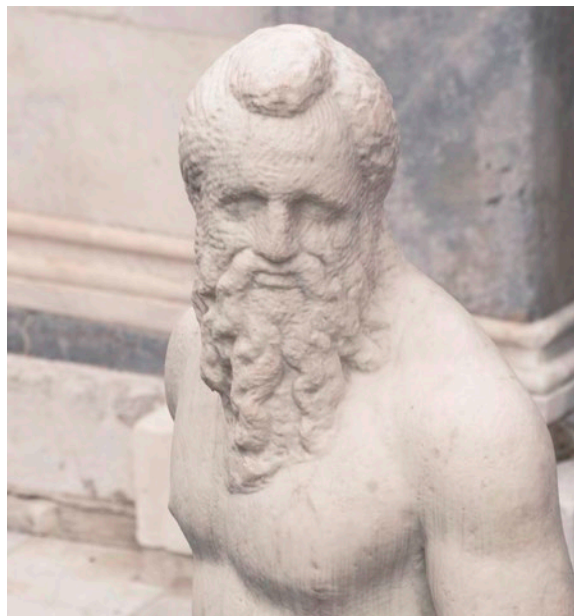


Tuscany

featuring Lucca, Carrara & the Cinque Terre

Inspiring Moments

- ▶ Marvel at the enchanting beauty of the **Cinque Terre** while cruising on the turquoise **Ligurian Sea**.
- ▶ Explore the magnificent walled city of **Lucca**, birthplace of Puccini.
- ▶ Stand before the soaring Leaning Tower of **Pisa** and discover the city's fascinating maritime relics.
- ▶ Savor an **indulgent seafood lunch** at a seaside restaurant in the Cinque Terre.
- ▶ Walk in the footsteps of Michelangelo during a visit to a **Carrara** marble quarry.
- ▶ Taste rich, bold vintages at a small winery in the coveted **Tuscan wine region**.
- ▶ Enjoy an **Italian operetta** performance in Lucca.
- ▶ Experience two **UNESCO World Heritage sites**.



Statue of Neptune, Piazza Duomo, Carrara

Tuscany is quick to embrace you! Discover the captivating energy and history of this timeless region where storybook imagery comes to life. From our base in Lucca, daily excursions reveal undulating landscapes and historical towns dripping with traditions. Spend time amid the stirring beauty of the Cinque Terre, feasting your eyes on the multicolored villages. Stand before the incredible Leaning Tower of Pisa and witness Lucca's artistry as reflected in its varied architecture. Experience local culture at elegant estates and Carrara's centuries-old quarries. From celebrated cuisine and wine to unforgettable landmarks, Tuscany's treasures will thrill your soul!

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day 1 | In Transit

Depart for Pisa, Italy. 🌐

Day 2 | Pisa, Italy | Lucca

Arrive in Pisa and transfer 🚗 to Lucca's Hotel Ilaria. Tonight, meet your fellow travelers at a Welcome Reception, followed by a Welcome Dinner.

Day 3 | Lucca

Enrichment: The History of Lucca. Delve into this beautiful region's alluring history and culture, from its Roman origins to modern society.

Discovery: Lucca Walking Tour. The streets of Lucca pulsate with centuries of creativity and artistry. Within this charismatic walled city, find brilliant examples of Romanesque architecture, including the Duomo di San Martino with its carvings by Nicola Pisano. Follow the storied path of Caesar, Pompey, Crassus and Puccini while exploring the old town, and see the Basilica of San Frediano and the enchanting Church of San Michele with a winged statue of St. Michael flanked by trumpeting angels.

Free Time: Carve your own path through Lucca.

Day 4 | Carrara

Discovery: Carrara. The centuries-old marble quarries of Carrara have been sought after by world-famous sculptors, including Michelangelo. During a tour of Fantascritti Quarry, see local artisans using the tools of the trade in their studios and test your skills in the medium of stone carving. Continue to the city's ornate Duomo. The building's marble rose window and façade are breathtaking masterpieces.

After lunch, return to Lucca and enjoy time at leisure.

Day 5 | Villa Reale di Marlia | Montecarlo | Tuscan Winery

Discovery: Villa Reale and Montecarlo. Once home to the sister of Napoleon Bonaparte, the Villa Reale di



Included Features

Accommodations (with baggage handling)

- 7 nights in Lucca, Italy, at the first-class Hotel Ilaria.

Extensive Meal Program

- 7 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 3 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
- Opportunities to sample authentic, local cuisine.

Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- **Small group:** Sized just right at 24 guests.
- **AHI Travel Assurance** plan covers Accident and Sickness Medical Expense, Trip Delay and Emergency Evacuation for U.S. residents.
- **Discovery excursions** highlight the local culture, heritage and history.
- Expert-led **Enrichment programs** enhance your insight into the region.
- **AHI Sustainability Promise:** We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.
- **AHI Connects:** Local immersion.
- Free time to pursue your individual interests.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.

Marlia showcases idyllic gardens, bubbling fountains and statues crafted from Carrara marble. Continue to the village of Montecarlo and visit the Teatro dei Rassicurati, an intimate 18th-century theater built entirely of wood, and the Collegiata di Sant'Andrea with a 16th-century baptismal font.

AHI Connects: Tuscan Winery. Journey through sun-drenched hills draped in vineyards to a countryside winery. Enjoy an intimate wine tasting session and lunch amid the verdant setting. Meet the friendly owners who are eager to welcome you and share insights into their land's viniculture.

Enrichment: The Life and Music of Puccini. A writer of countless 19th-century operas and impressionist music, Giacomo Puccini is known as one of the most significant composers in Italian history. Join a talk about his life and famous works.

Discovery: Evening of Music. Wrap up the day by attending an *operetta*. Similar to an opera, an *operetta* is often lighter in terms of subject matter.

Day 6 | Lucca

Free Time: Enjoy a day at leisure in Lucca. Set your own pace through the city as you discover *trattorias* (Italian-style eating establishments), boutiques and museums. Visit the house of Puccini or ascend the steps to the rooftop garden of Torre Guinigi.

Enrichment: The Cinque Terre. Prepare for tomorrow's visit to the Cinque Terre as you learn about the region's geography and economy. Cap off the evening with a tasting of wines and local foods.

Day 7 | Cinque Terre National Park

Discovery: Villages of the Cinque Terre. The dramatic Cinque Terre is an enchanting landscape of pastel-painted homes climbing rocking ridges, tree-covered bluffs and sparkling turquoise seas. From the ancient Roman seaport of Porto Venere, travel to Manarola, an authentic fishing village that is the center of the region's wine and olive oil production. Manarola slopes steeply down to a tiny harbor and a rocky shore, creating a truly picturesque vista. Continue with a memorable cruise on the Ligurian Sea, taking in coastal views of elegant Corniglia and Vernazza.



Discovery: Seaside Lunch. Dig into a delectable lunch, featuring seafood just plucked from the sea at a waterfront *trattoria* in Vernazza.

Free Time: Stretch your legs along Vernazza's cobblestones as you set your own pace through the village, inhaling the delicious aromas of espresso, sweet confections and fresh breezes.

Day 8 | Pisa

Enrichment: A Contemporary View of Italy. Explore the current events shaping contemporary Italy and its place within the European Union.

Discovery: The Miracles of Pisa and its Environs. Delve into the maritime history of Pisa at the city's Museum of Ancient Ships. This institution is home to a trove of archaeological finds and well-preserved Roman and medieval ships. In Pisa's famous Miracle Square, visit the Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta and Baptistry, and admire the incredible Leaning Tower. Join your fellow travelers and share stories of your adventures at a Farewell Reception and Dinner.

Day 9 | In Transit

Transfer to the Pisa airport for the return flight to your gateway city.



2023 Departures & Pricing

May 6-14, 2023

Full Price from	\$3,645
Special Savings	\$250
Special Price from	\$3,395*

*Special price available for a limited time. Call for details.
 VAT & port tax supplement are an additional \$295 per person.
 All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).
 Single accommodations are an additional \$650 (limited availability).
 Program-specific terms and conditions are available at <https://umich.ahitravel.com/destinations/1731A?schoolid=95>. You can also request a copy from our travel experts.
Note: Itinerary sequence and/or scheduled events may change. Walking is required on many excursions.
 Flights and transfers provided for AHI FlexAir participants.