

Our Private Italy May 7–17, 2026

This itinerary is based on all passengers being on a single Group Air contract. Anyone NOT on this flight itinerary MUST arrive in Rome one day earlier, then meet the Group at FCO airport for the tour's start.

DAY 1, Thu, May 7 - Meet your Group at **Clinton National Airport (LIT)** for your overnight journey across the Atlantic to Italy (*actual flight itinerary to be determined*).

DAY 2, Fri, May 8 - Arrive at Rome's **Fiumicino Airport (FCO)** and board your private motor coach and journey north to **Tuscany**. Along the way, stop in the region of **Umbria** at the hilltop wine town of **Orvieto** (*see below left*). After lunch on your own in town, continue on to your four-star hotel in **Montecatini Terme**, a Tuscan town that has been designated as one of the *Great Spa Towns Of Europe*. (D)



DAY 3, Saturday, May 9 - Enjoy a morning at your leisure to recover from the previous day's journey. Then drive through breathtaking scenery to the magnificent **Chianti** region (*see above right*), where one of Italy's most famous red wines is produced. Your first stop is the small town of **Greve In Chianti** where you will have a special lunch experience at the famous **Enoteca Falorni** and you'll enjoy a lite Tuscan lunch with an opportunity to sample your choice of more than 100 wines. After lunch, continue to one of the Chianti's wineries for a tour of the facility and a tasting of their iconic wines before you return to Montecatini. (B, L)

DAY 4, Sun, May 10 - Today, travel to Florence (see below left) birthplace of the Italian Renaissance. Upon arrival, take a guided walking tour through the heart of Florence, to view the magnificent Duomo, the renowned "Gates of Paradise" of the Baptistery by Ghiberti and Giotto's Bell Tower. Proceed to the open-air art museum of Signoria Square before continuing to the splendid Ponte Vecchio, the "Old Bridge." Spend time on your own in the afternoon to visit museums, shop for gold and quality leather before returning to Montecatini. (B)



DAY 5, Monday, May 11 - After breakfast, to the enchanting medieval city of Siena that sits elegantly over three hills. The heart of the city is the stunning Piazza del Campo, the huge central plaza where the Roman Forum used to be. It is now the site of the famous *Palio* horse race, that takes place twice every summer. Tour Campo Square before having lunch on your own. After lunch stop in San Gimignano, known as *The Medieval Manhattan* due to its centuries-old towers looming over the village (*see above right*). After a walking tour of this iconic Tuscan hilltown, spend free time to take in the quaint atmosphere, wander through the alleyways, admiring the churches, palaces, and medieval houses before returning to Montecatini. (B)

DAY 6, Tuesday, May 12 – Magnificent panoramas await you today. Drive through the rolling countryside dotted with olive trees to Lucca, a jewel of medieval architecture, with its massive 17th century walls framing the city. Walk along the winding streets of the original Roman grid revealing layers of history at every turn. Then, to Pisa to view the famous Piazza dei Miracoli with its Leaning Tower, one of the most instantly recognizable structures on earth. A lovely end to the day with a visit to a traditional Tuscan farm. After a warm welcome and wine tasting, participate in a cooking class followed by dinner with delicious typical local dishes and regional wines. (B, D)

DAY 7, Wednesday, May 13 - This morning, depart Montecatini and travel to the small medieval town of Assisi perched high on a hill in the Umbria region with its rugged, winding streets and sacred shrines. Participate in a walking tour of Assisi, the birthplace of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of Italy. Its main attraction is the 13th century **Basilica di San Francesco**, one of the artistic highlights of medieval Europe which contains the sacred relics of St. Francis and Giotto's amazing frescoes. Afterward, continue to Rome, the astonishing city built on seven hills and your four-star hotel. (B)

DAY 8, Thursday, May 14 - Following breakfast at the hotel, embark on a historic tour of *ancient* Rome, beginning with a walk along the uneven and irregular paths of the Roman Forum, the original central plaza of the city from which ancient Rome developed. Next, view the triumphal Arch of Constantine, erected by the Roman Senate to commemorate Constantine's tenth year of leadership over the *Eternal City*. On to view the outside of the mighty Colosseum, the largest amphitheater built in the Roman Empire that seated over 50,000, where gladiatorial contests and public events were attended by the rich, the poor and by the Emperor himself. Discover the delights of Rome this afternoon on your own (the perfect time to explore the Colosseum on your own). Lunch and the afternoon are on your own. (B)



DAY 9, Friday, May 15 – Enjoy a morning at the Vatican City. Start of your visit in this micronation in St. Peter's Square (*Piazza San Pietro*) with its grand scale, iconic colonnade designed by Bernini, and the symbolic embrace it offers with the piazza framed by colossal colonnades that are adorned with 284 Doric columns and 88 pilasters. Stretching 350 yards long and 240 yards wide, the piazza can hold over 300,000 people! From there, venture in to St Peter's Basilica (*see left*). At 448 feet in length, St Peter's is capable of holding 20,000 seated worshippers. Your tour guide will take you through this magnificent building that includes famous works of art like Michelangelo's *Pieta* of Mary and the dead Jesus, Bernini's magnificent altar and bronze canopy, and the Basilica dome, originally designed by Michelangelo. After the tour, you are free to visit the Vatican Museum and Sistine Chapel on your own or spend the afternoon exploring other areas of Rome at your leisure. (B)

DAY 10, Saturday, May 16 – It's the last day of your Italian adventure and it is entirely up to you. Your Tour Manager will be available to advise you on sites that appeal to you. Visit other Roman Catholic Churches or Roman Ruins. Walk the steps of your favorite novels and movies. Go shopping for Italian fashions. Or just find a café on one of Rome's many piazzas and people watch. The day is yours! That evening meet back at the hotel, to embark on a scenic drive through the city before stopping for a memorable *Farewell Dinner* in a local restaurant with wine and music. (B, D)

DAY 11, Sunday, May 17 - After breakfast, transfer to Fiumicino Airport (FCO) for your departure flight back to the States. (B)

SPECIAL FEATURES:

- This exclusive tour has been custom-designed for ITravelWithMiki and their clients
- Travel through the Chianti region, where one of Italy's most famous red wine is produced
- Visit medieval Siena and San Gimignano
- Walking Tour of Lucca, a jewel of medieval architecture
- View Pisa's famous Leaning Tower
- Wine tasting, cooking class and dinner at a Tuscan Farm
- Explore the Renaissance city of Florence
- Visit the 13th century Basilica di San Francesco in Assisi
- Historic tour of Ancient Rome including the Roman Forum and outside view of the Colosseum
- A walking tour of St Peter's Plaza and Basilica and all of its *splendor*
- A memorable Farewell Dinner in Rome

Land-Only Package \$3549/person (double-occupancy) Single Supplement \$950

Group Air contract from Little Rock available in June, 2025. Airfare is <u>projected</u> to be \$1550

Travel Insurance available (cost of the insurance is based on the final package price)

Contact Miki Holder for details and to book 501-412-0485 ITravelWithMiki@yahoo.com