

Family Horse Riding Holiday in Tuscany



Highlights

Explore the glorious Tuscan countryside on this week-long family horse riding holiday for all abilities in the heart of Tuscany. You'll stay in comfy, traditionally-styled holiday apartments on a farm with a swimming pool, tennis court and plenty of space for kids to roam.

Tuscany. It's home to no fewer than six UNESCO protected sites. And with this in mind, it's little wonder so many film directors have set their movies here. Room with a view, Much Ado About Nothing and The English Patient are just a few of the well-known names to have brought the Tuscan countryside to the silver screen. And Montaigne is just as scene stealing. Sun-drenched hills, the nearby Medieval city of San Gimignano and the artists' mecca, Florence, are all within striking distance. Closer to home, you have scenery comprising of gentle rolling hills, vineyards and olive groves.

Flexibility is key on this family horse riding holiday, and with the option of two half-day rides to pick from each day, you get to decide where you fancy going. Ride to places like San Vivaldo, a Franciscan monastery which dates back to the 16th century. Or trot along trails that lead to the natural sulphur springs of Bagni di Mommialla. Then there's the 13th-century castle at Tonda which you'll reach along sun-dappled woodland trails. And should the time come when you just fancy lazing at the farm, there's the swimming pool and tennis court to enjoy, too.

Is it for me?

For all riding holidays that this team organises, novice riders need to be under 15 stone in weight. If you're an experienced rider, however, it's ok if you weigh more than this. The pace of this holiday is nice and relaxed and rides can be determined according to your ability; from beginner to advanced. As the weather during the summer months is very hot during the day, rides take place in the morning or early evening, so there's a certain amount of flexibility to get out and see other things during the day, or simply stay and relax by the pool! Group sizes never go above nine, so they're small and low-key, but you'll get the most out of the experience if you're happy to mingle with new people. Due to the farm location and the number of things to do here, this would make a great holiday for families.

As this is a riding holiday designed for families, children aged 14+ can join the trail rides or take lessons on the farm..

Accommodation

You'll be staying in holiday apartments that have been recently renovated in a traditional Tuscan style, on a farm in the heart of the Tuscan countryside. The accommodation is spread over a large farmyard and the apartments are spread out around the grounds in small buildings. On the whole farm, there are 25 apartments in total. Each one has its own separate entrance and own terrace. A typical apartment for 2 - 3 people would consist of a bathroom, kitchen, lounge area with TV (although hopefully you won't need it) and one bedroom with a double and a single bed in it. For larger families, there are apartments with two bedrooms. Rooms are light and airy, with beamed ceilings, terracotta floor tiles, and rustic-style furniture. Please take a look at the photos above for some images of the accommodation. Outside, there's a swimming pool, a tennis court, and eight mountain bikes for guests to share. There is no additional charge to use these, although you will need to bring your own racquets.

Prices from

821 GBP (8 days) per person

Why book with Tourdust?

- ✓ The Best Local Operators
We handpick the best local operators
- ✓ Local Price Guarantee
Pay what you would locally with our Best Price Guarantee
- ✓ Secure Online Payments
Safe and easy online booking



- ✓ ABTA Bonding for your protection
We even throw in complimentary Supplier Failure Cover



As for food, fresh local produce is delivered daily for you to make your own breakfasts, while lunches and dinners are provided. Lunches consist of things like fresh Tuscan paninis and Sardinian style barbecues. Evening meals are taken as a group, either at a restaurant or on the terrace. And it goes without saying that you will want to be sampling the locally produced wine from the region!

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive and transfer to the farm.

Days 2-6: On the first day you'll be introduced to your style of riding before setting out on the trail. There is plenty of guidance for those new to western riding and you're encouraged to take a natural horsemanship approach when around your horse.

The four half-day rides go out twice a day (you can choose to ride morning or evening) and you'll explore the countryside riding in a different direction every day. Half-day rides visit destinations such as -

- Casterfalfi and Tondi: castles and forest trails
- Vignale: the abandoned hamlet in the forest.
- The mysterious convent of San Vivaldo
- The ruins of Pietrina Sanctuary
- Natural springs of Bagni di Mommiolla
- Villamagna and the Volterra hills
- Castagneto: ancient village

Day 5: This is a free day to visit Florence

Day 7: Today there is a full-day ride to Montaione and the Roman Cistern, stopping off to enjoy a Sardinian style BBQ for lunch. The ride back to the farm takes you via a different route with impressive panoramic views. Dinner tonight is around the campfire.

Day 8: Departure at 10.30

Details

Getting there

Pisa is the closest airport – about 40 minutes away by car. The team can organise a transfer for you – for 35 Euros per person if arriving on Saturday at 4.30pm.

Price includes

Seven nights accommodation in apartments, all meals. Children under 16 pay a lower rate.

Comfort level

Reasonably comfortable (Inns, B&Bs, luxury camping etc.)

Experience required

A reasonable level of fitness and interest is all that is needed