



Tuscany: Pisa to Florence – 4 or 7 nights

'From The Leaning Tower to the Ponte Vecchio through marvellous Tuscan countryside'



Breathtaking Tuscany



Lucca



Buildings next to the river Arno, Florence

- Historic, cultural cities of Florence, Pisa and Lucca
- Cycle-friendly route on tracks and minor roads
- Choice of 4 or 7 nights with 2 'rest days' on longer itinerary
- Comfortable 2/3 star accommodation
- Extend your stay in Florence or Pisa

If you love Italy, and the wonders of Tuscany in particular, this is the tour for you. Pisa and Florence need little introduction, but you will also visit charming Lucca with its many palaces, churches and towers. Not to be missed is the ride inside Lucca's wonderful Renaissance city walls, completely intact and the best preserved in Europe.

The countryside is simply delightful. You will see the rolling Tuscan hills dotted with villas, olive groves and vineyards. Montecatini is one of Europe's most famous spa towns. Take the cable railway up to the narrow streets of the old centre. Visit Leonardo's birthplace at Vinci, and the beautiful Piazza del Duomo at Pistoia.

Florence and Pisa will most likely be your highlights. Florence is blessed with so much to see. Start with the Ponte Vecchio and the Uffizi Galleries, and add many more unforgettable sights as you stroll around. The Piazza dei Miracoli in Pisa is iconic with the cathedral bell tower and the Leaning Tower beside.

Choose your favoured itinerary and consider one or two extra nights to enjoy more of Tuscany.



The Florence skyline

ITINERARY

7 nights: Arr ✈ PISA

- Day 1 Pisa**
Arrive at Pisa Airport. Transfer to your hotel. Take in the famous Piazza dei Miracoli.
- Day 2 Pisa – Lucca** ■ Cycling 19/28m; 30/45km
Follow the river through the Pisan countryside to Lucca. There is a more demanding route along the Monti Pisani which doubles the distance.
- Day 3 Lucca** ■ Optional Cycling 25m; 40km
Try the optional circular itinerary in the surrounding countryside, or enjoy the marvels of Lucca: the fine city walls, the Roman amphitheatre, and fine palaces.
- Day 4 Lucca – Montecatini** ■ Cycling 28m; 45km
A picturesque route takes you through the small village of Collodi to Pescia with its renaissance mansions and typical street flower market.
- Day 5 Montecatini** ■ Cycling 36m; 58km
Cycle through the villages of the Medici family past olive groves, and visiting Vinci, Leonardo's birthplace. Alternatively, stay in Montecatini to enjoy the old town, situated on a hill reached by cable railway.
- Day 6 Montecatini – Florence** ■ Cycling 31m; 50km
With your bike take the train journey (12m; 20km) to Pistoia, a town rich in Renaissance monuments. Continue across flat terrain to Florence (31m; 50km)
- Day 7 Florence – Pisa** ■ Cycling 40m; 65km
Take the train from Florence to Empoli (25m; 40km), and then cycle along the River Arno on flat ground to Pisa (40m; 65km).

Day 8 Pisa
Depart for your journey home or maybe stay on for extra nights in Pisa or Florence.

4 nights: Arr ✈ Pisa

- Day 1 Pisa**
Arrive at Pisa Airport. Transfer to your hotel. Take in the famous Piazza dei Miracoli.
- Day 2 Pisa – Lucca** ■ Cycling 19m; 30km
Follow the river through the Pisan countryside to Lucca.
- Day 3 Lucca – Montecatini** ■ Cycling 28m; 45km
A picturesque route via Collodi and Pescia.
- Day 4 Montecatini – Florence** ■ Cycling 31m; 50km
Train to Pistoia, then cycle to Florence.
- Day 5 Florence**
Return to your chosen airport, or stay on in Florence for some extra nights.

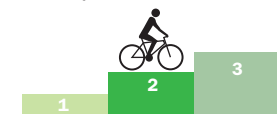


The famous Leaning Tower, Pisa

TOUR & TRAVEL INFORMATION

Terrain
Mostly on flat terrain but there are some hilly sections. Tours are best suited to those with some previous cycling experience. Can use trains if you don't want to pedal, as all towns on the route are served by rail network.

Daily Mileage
19-40m (30-65km)



Climate
Temperatures in high summer can be hot. Choose early or late season for cooler weather.

Travel Information
Flights from the UK are available into Pisa. Please check operators' websites (Easyjet, Ryanair, British Airways) for latest schedules and prices.

Transfer Information
By shuttlebus or taxi from Pisa Airport to your hotel in Pisa.

"Two of the world's great classic cities."

PRICES

Prices are per person and exclude flights. Board basis is bed & breakfast for 7 nights. Prices are based on two people sharing a room.

	ALL DATES
ADULT	
4 nights	£ 419
7 nights	£ 599

Single room supplement £18 per night.

DEPARTURE DATES 2010

Every Saturday 3 April - 23 October 2010



Basilica San Michele, Lucca