



SPRING & AUTUMN CAMINOS

type :	Solo Holidays Caminos Hiking Tours Self-Guided
level :	
duration :	10 days
period:	Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct
code:	ITSM370E

Via Francigena easy, from Siena to Orvieto - Italy

10 days, PRICE FROM € 1333



Are you ready to walk through the typical, picturesque setting of the Tuscan countryside? In the initial phase of this walk, you'll traverse the renowned **strade bianche** ("white roads" or dirt roads) of Siena, across the Val d'Arbia and the **Val d'Orcia**, both **iconic elements of the Tuscan scenery**. Along the way, you'll explore charming villages like **Bagno Vignoni**, featuring a massive thermal pool at its center square, and Radicofani, where a commanding fortress overlooks southern Tuscany. As you venture into Lazio, the captivating beauty of Lake Bolsena awaits, along with the ancient cobblestones of the Via Cassia, still remarkably preserved after two millennia, leading you to the enchanting historic center of **Orvieto**, "**city of the popes**".

Traversing the vineyards of Brunello di Montalcino, renowned as one of the finest Italian wines, and the production areas of cacio di Pienza (a type of cheese), you'll then step into one of the most significant regions for extra-virgin olive oil production, around Lake Bolsena.

Route

Day 1 Siena

You start your journey from **Siena**, without doubt one of the most interesting cities along the Francigena and famed for its **historic Palio horse race**. Spend your day wandering through its cobblestone streets, exploring the coats-of-arms adorning the walls of the *contrade*, or ascending the **Torre del Mangia** for a **panoramic view** of the town's rooftops. Don't miss the chance to visit the awe-inspiring **duomo**, where the striking black and white columns will leave a lasting impression. If you're fortunate, you might catch a festival in one of the *contradas*, witnessing the skillful artistry of flag-throwers. Conclude your day by sitting at a table in **Piazza del Campo**, savoring a plate of *pici all'aglione* for dinner, all while admiring the illuminated Palazzo Pubblico.

Day 2 Bus to Isola d'Arbia and walk to Lucignano, 10 km

Hopefully the sun grace your first day of the journey, as the **Crests of the Val d'Arbia** promise **unforgettable views**. A bus will take you from Siena to Isola d'Arbia: from there your path will lead you along the characteristic dirt roads towards the **fortified village of Lucignano**, adorned with its exquisite church. As you approach Monteroni d'Arbia, take in the awe-inspiring sight of the **Grancia di Cuna**, a fortified farm that once stored the wheat reserves destined for the Republic of Siena.

Distance: 10 km

Elevation gain: +175/-165 m

Day 3 From Lucignano to Buonconvento, 14 km

Departing from Lucignano, your adventure will proceed through the Valle dell'Ombrone, leading you to Buonconvento. Passing through the gate of the walls, you'll step into the **charming old town center of the village**, uncovering the meaning behind its name, "**happy fortunate place**". Meander through the picturesque streets, where life unfolds peacefully in tune with the unhurried rhythms of a countryside village. Art enthusiasts will have the opportunity to marvel at the masterpieces of some of the most renowned **Sienese painters** housed in the **Museum of Sacred Art of the Val d'Arbia**.

Distance: 14 km

Elevation gain: +170/-205 m

Day 4 Transfer from Buonconvento to San Quirico walk to Bagno Vignoni, 6 km

After a transfer to San Quirico, you wander through the captivating scenery of the Val D'Orcia, featuring **hills adorned with picturesque hues**, vineyards, and scattered **cypress trees**. You step into a timeless realm as you explore Vignoni Alto, immersing yourself in its unique ambiance. As you reach today's destination, indulge in a rejuvenating break in the thermal waters of Bagno Vignoni, where **the unmistakable pool graces the center of the main square**.

Distance: 6 km

Elevation gain: +105/-220 m

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Day 5 From Bagno Vignoni to Castiglione, 5 km

As you leave Bagno Vignoni, you continue your walk **across one of the most breathtaking panoramic sections** along the entire Via Francigena. You finally reach **Castiglione, a hilltop village** nestled in the heart of the Val d'Orcia.

Distance: 5 km

Elevation gain: +320/-95 m

Day 6 Transfer from Castiglione to Gallina and walk to Radicofani, 11 km

After an initial transfer to Gallina, the path will lead you to Radicofani. **This hilly section will offer wide panoramic views**, but for an ever better view you will be able to see most of southern Tuscany from the **Radicofani fortress**. Don't miss the opportunity to explore the Pieve di San Pietro, a precious gem dating back to the thirteenth century. Conclude your day with an evening stroll through its old town center, marveling at the enchanting illumination of the fortress.

Distance: 11 km

Elevation gain: +390/-70 m

Day 7 From Radicofani to Ponte a Rigo and transfer to Acquapendente, 10,5 km

Leaving Radicofani behind, your journey continues towards one of the most beautiful stretches of the Via Francigena. As you depart from the fortress, you'll traverse the ancient Via Cassia, **surrounded by an endless landscape of hills** dominated by **Monte Amiata**. Progressing through the valley bottom of the Val di Paglia and following the course of the Cassia nuova, you'll reach Ponte a Rigo. A transfer will take you to **Acquapendente**, the northernmost municipality of Lazio. You traverse the Porta della Ripa before entering its historic town center. Take a contemplative stroll in the quietude of the Romanesque crypt beneath the **Basilica del Santo Sepolcro**, where decorated capitals and arches grace the surroundings. According to tradition, some stones believed to be bathed in the blood of Christ are purportedly preserved here.

Distance: 10,5 km

Elevation gain: +50/-540 km

Day 8 Transfer from Acquapendente to S.Lorenzo Nuovo and walk to Bolsena, 12 km

From San Lorenzo Nuovo, your journey will gently progress until **the first glimpses of Lake Bolsena** unfold. Descending into a volcanic crater, you'll traverse dirt tracks, alternating between dense **woods and meadows adorned with scattered olive trees** before reaching Bolsena. For those curious about the miracle of the Corpus Domini, renowned in Bolsena, the Cappella del Miracolo houses marble pieces stained by the blood flowing from a Host in the thirteenth century. Alternatively, if your interest lies in the **local cuisine**, indulge in products from the lake, such as **Sbroscia**, a regional soup crafted from lake fish and tomatoes.

Distance: 12 km

Elevation gain: +160/-335 km

Day 9 Transfer from Bolsena to Sugano and walk to Orvieto, 6 km

Departing from Bolsena, a transfer will take you to Sugano. From there your journey will lead you through woods and olive groves. You will cross an area renowned for the production of extra virgin olive oil, it's highly recommended to savor a taste of it on a piece of fragrant local bread before reaching **Orvieto**. This city, strongly linked to the Papal State, rises on a tufa cliff 300 m above sea level, and offers **several architectural wonders** such as the **Duomo**, the **Pozzo di San Patrizio** and its underground caves.

Distance: 6 km

Elevation gain: +170/-295 m

Day 10 Arrivederci Orvieto!

Last day is included. Service ends after breakfast.

Practical info



From Bologna Airport (BLQ), reach the central railway station, from where you can take a train to Siena with change in Florence.

From Pisa Airport (PSA), you can take a train to Siena with change in Pisa Centrale station and in Empoli.

From Florence Airport (FLR), take a public bus to Florence Santa Maria Novella Train Station, and then either a bus or a train to Siena (both direct).

On departure, you can reach Pisa, Bologna and Florence by train.

Train timetables are available on the website www.trenitalia.com.

Included

What is included

- 9 Nights in double room in **/** hotels , B&B and agriturismi with breakfast
- 2 dinners (Lucignano, Radicofani)
- luggage transportation from hotel to hotel (1 item per person, max 20 kilos, size 65x40x30 cm)
- taxi transfers (Pieve a Salti accommodation-Buonconvento, Castiglione-Gallina, Ponte a Rigo-Acquapendente, Acquapendente-San Lorenzo Nuovo, Bolsena-Sugano)
- official guidebook, App
- Pilgrim Passport
- Medical and luggage travel insurance
- 24h phone assistance

What is not included

- Transfers to the starting location and from the arriving location of the tour
- lunches and dinners, if not otherwise stated
- visits and entrance fees - tips
- personal expense
- possible sojourn taxes
- everything that is not mentioned in the "What is included" section.

Optional Services

These services can be added to the ones included in the base price of the tour:

- Single room supplement
- cancellation insurance
- Transfers to reach the starting location or to leave the arriving location of the tour, which will be quoted on request.