

OSSORY AFD

# PILGRIMAGE TO TUSCANY

*Treasury of Religious Art*



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**Feb 16<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024 €975 p.p.s.**

Led by Frs Dermot Ryan and Kieran O'Shea

- Staying seven nights in 4-star hotel in Montecatini Terme
- Buffet breakfast
- All dinners at hotel
- Water & wine at dinner
- Day trip to the city of Florence
- Half day trip to Lucca
- Half day trip to Pisa
- Half day trip to San Gimignano
- Full time accompaniment
- All coaching and tours
- Luggage fees and all taxes

## FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

**MYRIAM**

Newtown, Rahan, Tullamore, Co. Offaly

Tel: 057 93 55050

Email: [info@myriam.ie](mailto:info@myriam.ie)

## HOW TO BOOK:

Fill out your booking form, having read the Terms & Conditions. Return it to us with a deposit of 300 euro per person (plus single supplement and insurance premium if applicable). Make cheques payable to: MYRIAM



Lucca



Montecatini Alto



Florence



San Gimignano





Florence



Chianti Region



Pisa



San Gimignano

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# OSSORY AFD ART PILGRIMAGE TO TUSCANY

February 16<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

### INCLUDED IN THE PRICE OF €975 p.p.s.

- Return flight (Dub-Pisa-Dub) with Ryanair
- 20kg hold allowance
- 7 nights in 4 star hotel in Montecatini Terme
- Quality hotel located in the centre
- All dinners (with drinks)
- Full time accompaniment and all coaching
- The organisation of Masses for the group
- Day trips to Florence and San Gimignano

- Half day trips to Lucca and Pisa
- All coaching and taxes

### EXTRA COSTS

- Single room supplement of €40 per night
- Travel insurance
- Entrance fee to Uffizi Gallery in Florence
- Entrance fee to Duomo in San Gimignano

### Day One, Friday

### Arrival

Mid-day departure from Dublin to Pisa. On arrival you will be taken by coach to 4-star hotel Grand Hotel Plaza in Montecatini Terme (1 hr drive), a town perfectly positioned for visiting the sights of Tuscany. It has large parks and a beautiful pedestrian area. Orientation tour of the town. Dinner and overnight.

### Day Two, Saturday

### Montecatini Terme

Today will be a relaxed day. The group can enjoy the pedestrian area around Piazza del Popolo and the parish church of the Assumption, some of the historic bathing establishments with their beautiful architecture and the relaxing town park. We will celebrate vigil Mass in the parish church of the Assumption. Dinner in the hotel.

### Day Three, Sunday

### The City of Florence

Full day in Florence (1 hour drive) beginning with the area of the Duomo, Baptistry and Campanile. The Baptistry has the famous bronze doors of Ghiberti with biblical scenes. These were called the "Doors of Paradise" by Michelangelo. Brunelleschi's dome on the Cathedral of Florence is one of the masterpieces of the Renaissance. Then we will visit the famous outdoor sculptures in front of the Old Palace. Free time to visit the Ponte Vecchio, have lunch and do some shopping. After lunch, there will be a visit, for those interested, to the Uffizi Gallery (entrance fee applies), one of the most important art galleries in the world. It houses works by Botticelli, Leonardo da Vinci, Caravaggio and many others. After our day in the city, we will continue to Piazzale Michelangelo, a look-out point with an unrivalled view of the city skyline. Return to Montecatini Terme. Dinner at the hotel.

### Day Four, Monday

### Pisa

The centre of Pisa lies just 45 minutes from our hotel. The main monuments of the city are collected in the square known as the "Field of Miracles". In medieval times, the maritime republic of Pisa was wealthy and powerful, and this led to a golden era of art and architecture in the city. The Leaning Tower, Cathedral and Baptistry make the Field of Miracles one of the most unforgettable sights in Italy. Nicola Pisano's pulpit in the Baptistry reveals this artist to be the most important precursor of Italian Renaissance sculpture, while the enormous mosaic in the apse of Christ enthroned between the Virgin and Saint John is famous as the last work of the great Cimabue (1302). Return to hotel. Dinner at the hotel.

### Day Five, Tuesday

### Day at leisure

Day at leisure. People are free to take the train to Pisa or Florence to explore further. There is an excellent train service from the station located not far from our hotel. Dinner at the hotel.

### Day Six, Wednesday

### Lucca

After breakfast, our coach departs for Lucca, a medieval town with well-preserved ancient walls. One of the squares, Piazza dell' Anfiteatro, is oval in shape and follows the lines of the ancient Roman stadium. The Basilica of San Frediano was built in the Middle Ages by an Irish monk who became bishop of the city. Inside are many beautiful works of art, including a 15th-century masterpiece of the *Virgin and Child* by Jacopo della Quercia. Celebration of Mass. Nearby, in the church of San Michele in Foro, there is a beautiful *Mother and Child* by Andrea della Robbia, and other important works of art. There will be time for people to walk around the tree-lined pedestrian pathway that follows the city walls. Dinner at the hotel.

### Day Seven, Thursday

### San Gimignano

After breakfast we will board the coach for an excursion to San Gimignano, a hill town that is still encircled by its 13<sup>th</sup> century walls and famous for its many towers. The large weekly market takes place in the central squares of this lovely town. Our drive takes us through part of the Chianti region. The Duomo has a very important cycle of medieval frescoes from the school of the great Simone Martini, including a famous *Last Judgement*. There is also a stunning renaissance chapel by Ghirlandaio, the teacher of Michelangelo. Return to hotel in the evening for dinner.

### Day Eight, Friday

### Departure

Breakfast and check out. Load coach for transfer to Pisa airport and our Ryanair flight to Dublin.

**Please note this is a sample itinerary, and is subject to change in the group's best interest.**