

## Monte Amiata Safari

24 - 30 September 2018



*Six days exploring the undiscovered Monte Amiata region of Southern Tuscany: a pioneering walking route traversing the Orcia River valley and Maremma hills, forging a link between two magnificent medieval castles.*

*Journey on foot across a mythical corner of Italy - hot springs, Etruscan gods, bee-eaters and wild boars, golden olive oil, blue blood, and the finest red wines in Tuscany...*





## Itinerary

### Mon 24 September

Arrival in Bagno Vignoni. Chance to soak up the thermal hot springs before dinner at a local trattoria. Overnight Bagno Vignoni.

### Tue 25 September

We cross the Orcia River and climb through oak forests, then descend via farmlands to our lunch spot. In the afternoon we ascend with wide-ranging views to the spectacular Castello di Potentino (potentino.com) where we stay for two nights, nestled among organic vineyards in a pristine valley on the slopes of the Monte Amiata. [estimated totals 21km walk; 700m ascent, 600m descent. Optional vehicle pickup available at lunchtime for those who prefer to walk a half-day only.]

### Wed 26 September

Morning at leisure for independent exploration and/or lounging by the infinity pool. Late morning hike to the nearby town of Seggiano (about 1 hour) for lunch at a local trattoria. Evening tasting of Potentino's award-winning wines and castle/cantina visit, followed by dinner in the grand courtyard.

### Thu 27 September

Today's walk traverses the Ente and Zancona streams, climbing through chestnuts and olive groves to the hilltop towns of Montegiovi and Monticello - a superb trajectory. We overnight below Castiglioncello Bandini, with long views across the rolling Maremma hills. Accommodation is at a private farmhouse. [estimated totals 18km walk; 800m ascent, 650m descent. Optional vehicle pickup available for those who prefer to walk a half-day only.]

### Fri 28 September

From Castiglioncello we follow a ridge dropping steadily into the Orcia River valley. Having crossed the river we continue through Brunello-vineyards and woodland to the stunning Castello di Argiano (www.sestiwine.com) where we stay for two nights - one of Montacino's finest wine estates. [estimated totals 20km walk; 500m ascent, 700m descent. Optional vehicle pickup available for those who prefer to walk a half-day only.]

### Sat 29 September

Full day at leisure to enjoy Argiano's dreamy castle, estate, and pool. Optional local excursions can be arranged upon request. Evening wine-tasting of the phenomenal Sesti organic wines, followed by final dinner.

### Sun 30 September

Departure and onward travel.



## Nota Bene

- The trip price includes: 6 nights accommodation; all breakfasts and dinners including house wines (supplementary wines can be purchased separately); lunch in Seggiano on 26 Sept; tickets for the thermal hot springs at Bagni Vignoni; packed lunches on the three walks; the wine-tastings at Castello di Potentino and Castello di Argiano; guiding; baggage transfers; optional vehicle pickups at pre-arranged spots on the three walks.
- The trip price excludes: travel to/from Tuscany; arrival transfer to Bagno Vignoni on 24 Sept and departure transfer from Argiano on 30 Sept (can be arranged upon request); any excursions arranged upon request on 29 Sept; lunch on 29 Sept; travel insurance.
- Please contact us to discuss the difficulty level of the walks and the nature of the hiking terrain in Tuscany before booking.
- For local weather conditions and average monthly temperatures and rainfalls in Seggiano/Tuscany please check <https://it.climate-data.org/location/110234/> or <https://www.worldweatheronline.com/>

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