

**WOMEN OF THE MIDWEST**  
Travel Solo Together

**ITALY**

Tuscan Delights

with Women of the Midwest!

**October 18-27, 2026**



Ciao, Women of the Midwest!

Tuscany has a way of calling us back... My first stay at Villa Casagrande was love at first sight, and I've been dreaming of returning. I'm Lora Black, your Women of the Midwest Ambassador, and I truly can't wait to share this special place with you. Over the years, so many of our travelers have said, *"I want to go back... but this time I want to slow down, stay longer, and really live Tuscany."* Tuscan Delights was created for that very reason: a beautifully handcrafted journey designed not just to visit Tuscany, but to experience it in an even deeper way.

This fall, we return to one of Italy's most breathtaking regions—when the countryside is at its loveliest, the light turns golden, and the days feel refreshingly comfortable as the vineyards glow with the colors of harvest. It's a season made for lingering lunches, scenic drives, and savoring Tuscany at a slower pace. Our home for the week is the charming Villa Casagrande in Figline Valdarno, perfectly located between Florence and Chianti, offering the comfort of a peaceful retreat with easy access to Tuscany's most treasured towns and experiences.

From the masterpieces of Florence to the iconic sights of Pisa, the storybook charm of Lucca, and the towers of San Gimignano, each day brings something unforgettable—yet never rushed. We've also made room for what matters most: time to relax, to treat yourself, and to simply enjoy being in Italy. Whether it's a leisurely afternoon at the villa, a hands-on pasta-making class, or savoring local wines and cheeses in the countryside, every detail is thoughtfully arranged with comfort and joy in mind.

And of course, Tuscany wouldn't be complete without its most delicious traditions—like truffle hunting in San Miniato, tasting Brunello in Montalcino, and enjoying Pecorino in Pienza. This is the kind of trip where you come home with incredible memories, new friendships, and the feeling that you truly lived Tuscany. I can't wait to share it with you.

Lora Black, Ambassador  
Women of the Midwest



Call Executive Travel's Group Department today at 888-549-1186. Space is limited.

## A Vespa - A Lifestyle



### October 18, 2026 - Sunday

Traveling to Italy

Your inspiring and delightful journey begins as we board our overnight flight to Rome, Italy. Settle in, enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service, and let the excitement build as you embark on your dream adventure. In-flight meals.

### October 19, 2026 - Monday

Welcome to Italy!

Upon arrival at Rome Airport, your long-awaited Italian adventure begins. Take a deep breath—this is the land of rolling vineyards, golden hills, cypress-lined roads, and timeless villages that feel like a postcard brought to life. Our local English-speaking tour director will be waiting to greet us with a warm welcome and assist us every step of the way, making our arrival smooth and stress-free. From Rome, we travel into the Umbrian countryside for a delightful olive oil tasting and lunch before continuing on to Tuscany and our charming historic villa in Figline Valdarno, filled with old-world Tuscan character. Nestled between Florence and the Chianti region, this peaceful setting is the perfect home base for discovering Tuscany at a comfortable, unhurried pace. After settling in, enjoy time to relax, refresh, and soak in your first evening in Italy. Tonight, we gather for a delicious welcome dinner at the villa, raising a glass to new friendships, unforgettable days ahead, and the sweet beginning of Tuscan Delights. In-flight breakfast | T | L | D

### October 20, 2026 - Tuesday

Florence

Today we travel into the Cradle of the Renaissance for a full-day guided visit to magnificent Florence, a city where art, beauty, and history meet at every turn. Boarding our private motor coach, we

## Florence: Heart of the Renaissance



arrive ready to explore at a comfortable pace with a local step-on guide leading the way. Our walking tour highlights Florence's most iconic landmarks, including the breathtaking Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore (the Duomo) with Brunelleschi's famous dome, the Baptistery and its celebrated Gates of Paradise, and Piazza della Signoria, home to the grand Palazzo Vecchio. We'll also admire Giotto's Bell Tower and the exterior of the renowned Uffizi Gallery. Lunch is another "masterpiece of Florence." Caffè Gilli awaits. Florence's oldest café (est. 1733), is a beloved spot for an elegant Tuscan lunch in a beautiful historic setting. In the afternoon, enjoy a special visit to Riccardo's shop, where Florentine craftsmanship comes to life. Watch a demonstration of leather gilding with 22kt gold and learn the traditions behind marbled paper—one of the city's treasured artisan arts. Late afternoon, we return to our hotel with wonderful memories of a beautiful day. B | L

### October 21, 2026 - Wednesday

Pisa & Lucca

Today we set off for a delightful full-day adventure to two of Tuscany's most beloved treasures: Pisa and Lucca. Our morning begins in Pisa, where we stroll with our tour escort through the famous Piazza dei Miracoli. Here you'll see the iconic Leaning Tower, the beautiful Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta, and the impressive Baptistery—a breathtaking collection of art, architecture, and history in one unforgettable setting. After exploring Pisa, we slow the pace and savor the countryside with a wine tasting and light lunch at a rustic local farm. Enjoy fresh Tuscan flavors paired with regional wines in a warm, relaxed setting—one of those simple pleasures that makes Italy so special. In the afternoon, we continue

## Marbled Paper Workshop



to Lucca, a charming medieval city wrapped in Renaissance walls. Lucca is famous for its fully intact walls—and they're not just for admiring. They've been transformed into a tree-lined promenade, perfect for a comfortable stroll with lovely views over the rooftops and countryside. During a guided walking tour, wander cobblestone streets and discover timeless beauty at every turn. Return to your villa this evening with wonderful memories of Tuscany. B | T | L

### October 22, 2026 - Thursday

Leisure & Learning

Today is yours to enjoy at an unhurried pace. Spend the morning relaxing at Villa Casagrande—lounging by the pool, strolling through the gardens, or enjoying a quiet moment with a book and a cappuccino. Just beyond the villa, Figline Valdarno offers a wonderful taste of everyday Tuscany, with its welcoming cafés, small shops, and a charming historic center that's perfect for a gentle stroll. If you'd like a little movement, you may explore nearby walking paths or choose an optional spa treatment. In the afternoon, we come together for a special hands-on experience: Pasta Making at the Villa. Under the guidance of a local chef, you'll learn how to craft authentic Tuscan pasta from scratch—mixing, kneading, and shaping the dough with plenty of laughter along the way. No cooking experience is needed. We'll finish by enjoying your homemade pasta, paired with local wine—an unforgettable taste of Tuscany. B | C

### October 23, 2026 - Friday

Truffle Hunting & Tasting Experience

Today, immerse yourself in one of Tuscany's most cherished traditions—truffle hunting! Italy is world-renowned for

## Look at Lucca!



## Hands-on Pasta... From Scratch



## Delightfully Delicious Delicacies



truffles thanks to its rare combination of ideal soil, gentle climate, and ancient woodlands, paired with generations of culinary tradition that knows how to honor these “diamonds of the earth.” Truffles are treasured not only for their flavor, but for their unforgettable aroma and the way they turn even a simple dish into something extraordinary. On this exclusive 3-hour experience, we venture into the heart of San Miniato, celebrated worldwide for its exceptional truffles. Guided by an expert truffle hunter and his trained dogs, you’ll explore hidden forest paths where three prized varieties thrive: Bianchetto, Scorzone, and the coveted White Truffle. As you walk through the woods, you’ll learn the secrets behind this ancient art—how the land is read, why preservation matters, and what makes Tuscany one of the premier truffle regions in the world. After the hunt, enjoy a tasting of local truffle specialties. This immersive experience blends nature, tradition, and gourmet delight—truly a feast for the senses. B | T

### October 24, 2026 - Saturday

#### Brunello & Cheese Tasting

Begin your day with a hearty breakfast at the villa before setting off on a scenic drive through Tuscany’s postcard-perfect countryside. Rolling hills, vineyards, and silvery olive groves accompany us as we journey toward Montalcino, a charming medieval hill town best known for producing one of Italy’s most celebrated wines: Brunello di Montalcino. At a local winery, you’ll enjoy a guided tasting of this iconic red—loved for its deep, full-bodied character and its remarkable ability to age beautifully. Brunello is more than a wine; it’s a proud Tuscan tradition, crafted with patience, skill, and a true sense of place. A light lunch is included, thoughtfully paired to complement the

rich flavors in your glass. After lunch, we continue to Pienza, a UNESCO World Heritage site admired for its Renaissance design and timeless beauty. Enjoy time to stroll its inviting streets, browse charming shops, and take in the sweeping countryside views. We’ll then indulge in a tasting of Pecorino di Pienza, the region’s famous sheep’s milk cheese—savory, satisfying, and wonderfully Tuscan. Return to the villa with unforgettable memories (and perhaps a bottle or two of Brunello!). B | T | L

### October 25, 2026 - Sunday

#### Michelangelo & Masterpieces

This morning we board our private motor-coach and return to Florence, the cradle of the Renaissance and one of the most inspiring cities in the world. With our local guide, we step into a place where art is not simply admired—it is felt. Our day begins at the Accademia Gallery, home to Michelangelo’s breathtaking David. Standing before this masterpiece is unforgettable. Carved from a single block of marble, David is far more than a statue—it is a symbol of courage, beauty, and human potential. Michelangelo was not only a sculptor, but a visionary who shaped the Renaissance with his genius, discipline, and deep understanding of the human spirit. His work changed art forever, bringing marble to life with emotion, strength, and grace. Many say you don’t truly understand Florence until you’ve looked into David’s eyes. Next, we visit the magnificent Basilica of Santa Croce, a sacred and historic church filled with beauty and meaning. It is also the final resting place of some of Italy’s greatest minds, including Michelangelo, Galileo, and Machiavelli—a powerful reminder of the brilliance that once walked these very streets. After our guided visits, enjoy free time to explore at your own pace. Stroll

along the Arno River, browse shops, or linger at a café in a lively piazza. Later this afternoon, we return to the villa. B

### October 26, 2026 - Monday

#### Towers, Tastings & Toasts

Wake up to a hearty breakfast and get ready for a day full of laughter, flavor, and Tuscan charm! This morning we travel to San Gimignano, a picturesque medieval hill town and UNESCO World Heritage site, often called the “Manhattan of the Middle Ages” for its striking skyline of stone towers. Enjoy free time to wander its cobblestone lanes, browse local shops, and take in sweeping countryside views. Next, we head to a welcoming Tuscan estate where the fun truly begins. During a special winery visit, you’ll learn the essentials of wine tasting—understanding the grape, discovering aromas, pairing wine with food, and even which glass is best for each pour. We’ll also enjoy an olive oil and truffle oil tasting, served the most delicious way: with fresh bread. Then it’s time to sit down for a fabulous lunch and wine tasting, raising a joyful toast to an unforgettable journey. Cin-Cin! By day’s end, you’ll return with happy memories, new favorites, and the kind of stories that make Tuscany stay with you long after you’re home. B | T | L

### October 27, 2026 - Tuesday

#### Traveling home

All too soon, our adventure comes to an end. Transfer to Rome airport in plenty of time to check in for our flight and to clear security. Enjoy some last-minute duty-free shopping before boarding and flying back to the United States. B | Meals during flights.

The itinerary is subject to change

B = Breakfast, T = Tasting,  
L = Lunch, D = Dinner



**To register contact:**



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www.executivetravel.com

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ONLINE REGISTRATION LINK:  
Via our website [www.WomenoftheMidwest.com/journeys](http://www.WomenoftheMidwest.com/journeys)

**3-night extension packages in Rome and Venice are available - ask us to assist!**

**Package Price:**

Per person in a shared double room: \$3,695  
Per person in a single room (limited single room): \$4,695

Triple rooms are not available on this trip.

We offer “Pair & Share”-service. Ask us to assist in finding your roommate!

A non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person is required at registration and can be paid by ACH (Automated Clearing House), check, or credit card. The balance is due on July 10, 2026, is non-refundable, and can be paid by ACH, check or credit card. When using a credit card for final payment a 3.5% processing fee applies as assessed by the credit card processing company. Checks must be received in our office at least 100 days before the tour’s departure date. If you book within 100 days of departure, ACH or credit card payment is the required payment method.

**EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT**  
Register by April 18, 2026: Receive a **\$200 DISCOUNT!**

*This tour will be materialized with a minimum of 15 and a maximum of 20 travelers. Should the number fall below 15, all funds paid to Executive Travel will be refunded 90 days prior to departure.*

**Tour Activity Level: LEVEL 1 2 3+ 4**

Level 3+: This tour involves a considerable amount of walking, stairs, longer periods of standing, outdoor activities, and steep areas within the places visited. Expect to walk approximately 5 miles over the course of a day. Add to this the walking you do outside the group activities. This trip is not recommended for guests with walking difficulties.

**Travel Insurance:**

We recommend travel insurance to help protect you and your trip investment against the unexpected. For your convenience, we offer a plan provided by Travelex Insurance Services. For rates and plan highlights, please ask us. *Travelex Insurance Services, Inc. CA Agency License #0D10209. Insurance coverages underwritten by individual member companies of Zurich in North America, including Zurich American Insurance Company (NAIC #16535, state of domicile: New York), 1299 Zurich Way, Schaumburg, IL 60196.*

**Group airfare:**

Group airfare is available. See page 5/separate insert.

**Accommodation:**


Figline Valdarno: Hotel Villa Casagrande

**Included:**

- 8 nights at Villa Casagrande
- 8 breakfasts
- 5 lunches
- Welcome dinner incl. wine
- Local tastings (wine, truffles, olive oil, cheeses)
- Bottled water during all motor coach services
- All transportation as per the tour program
- Admissions to all sites mentioned in the tour program
- Full-time English-speaking professional tour director
- Local step-on guides where required
- Gratuities to local tour director, step-on guides, and motor coach drivers
- Baggage handling at hotels (one piece per person)
- Women of the Midwest Ambassador, Oct. 18-27, 2026
- Detailed travel documents, handed out three weeks prior to departure (hard-copy and electronic)
- All local taxes and fees as of January 24, 2026

**Not Included:**

- Airfare
- Airline baggage fees. One checked bag (50 lbs) is free
- Travel insurance
- Personal expenses
- Meals and beverages other than those mentioned in the program
- Entrances other than those mentioned in the program
- Professional fee, \$100 per person, due at the time of registration
- Anything not mentioned in the inclusions



**WOMEN OF THE MIDWEST**  
Travel Solo Together  
A wholly-owned division of Executive Travel

Forwarding registration and deposit signifies that you agree to the terms and conditions of this tour found at <https://executivetravel.com/eti-home/escorted-tours/>

## JOIN OUR GROUP AIRFARE!

We offer group airfare with American Airlines:

October 18, 2026	Omaha* - Philadelphia	6:00 AM - 9:46 AM
October 18, 2026	Philadelphia - Rome	4:55 PM - 7:05 AM (October 19, 2026)
October 27, 2026	Rome - Philadelphia	1:00 PM - 5:50 PM
October 27, 2026	Philadelphia - Omaha*	7:35 PM - 9:46 PM

\$1,195 per person including taxes and fees, economy class.

We are happy to assist with airfare from airports other than Omaha. Please reach out to receive your personalized quote. If you travel from a different airport, we aim to have you meet your fellow travelers in Philadelphia on October 18 and return from Rome around the same time as the rest of the group on October 27. Individual additional transfers may be necessary if meeting the main group is not possible. We are happy to assist, though additional costs may apply.

### Important notes about seat assignments, upgrades, TSA Pre-Check- & Frequent Flyer Numbers:

- Group airfare comes with **seat assignments 30 days prior to departure**. We cannot confirm precise seat numbers earlier than 30 days prior to your departure and therefore cannot guarantee the availability of specific seating on the aircraft. We do our best to honor your preferences (window, aisle seat).
- **Premium seating upgrades - depending on availabilities:**
  - Main Cabin Extra* can be purchased and confirmed **once the tickets are issued** = 30 days prior to departure. Estimate a supplement of \$600-\$900.
  - Premium Economy* can be reserved **at the time of booking** your trip with us. Estimate a supplement of \$3,000-\$4,000.
  - Business Class* can be reserved **at the time of booking** your trip with us. Estimate a supplement of \$7,000-\$9,000.
- **Mileage credit** for individuals on group air contracts is not guaranteed and is subject to the rules of the airline under contract.
- **TSA Pre-Check numbers and Frequent Flyer numbers must be reported at the time of reservation**. Otherwise, each traveler must provide these numbers upon check-in on the day of departure.
- **Taxes, fuel charges, and security fees** are subject to change.
- **Air schedules** are subject to change at the discretion of the airline.

**SECURE YOUR AIRFARE WHEN SIGNING UP!**

