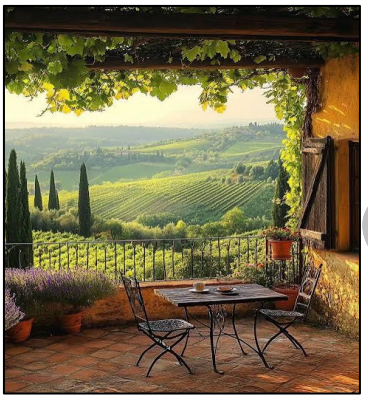
SOJOURNERS' TRAVEL™
CURATED HERITAGE ADVENTURES

Sovereign Soils – Tuscan Treasures

| 7-Day | Individual or Escorted Tour Where Medieval Valor Meets the Noble Vine |



Journey into the heart of Tuscany on an intimate, highly curated luxury adventure designed exclusively for discerning travelers who seek far more than a sightseeing vacation. Crafted for individuals and groups, *Sovereign Soils – Tuscan Treasures* blends the rich military history, architectural grandeur, culinary traditions, and celebrated wines of central Italy into one unforgettable experience. From the volcanic citadel of Orvieto and the ancient battlefields of Lake Trasimeno to the Renaissance treasures of Montepulciano and the legendary fortress town of Montalcino, each day reveals a new chapter in Tuscany's remarkable story.



At the heart of the journey lies an exclusive multi-night stay at the enchanting Lupaia Estate, a restored collection of 17th-century stone farmhouses nestled among vineyards, olive groves, and rolling Tuscan hills. Here, guests step beyond traditional touring and immerse themselves in the rhythms of rural Tuscany. Hunt for prized truffles alongside expert truffle hunters and their celebrated Lagotto dogs, master the art of hand-rolled *pici* pasta in a chef-led cooking class, savor private sommelier-guided tastings of Brunello and Vino Nobile wines, and explore the iconic landscapes of the Val d'Orcia by premium electric bicycle.



Throughout the journey, the themes of Vine and Valor intertwine seamlessly. Walk the underground passages and siege defenses of medieval strongholds, stand where Hannibal orchestrated one of history's greatest military ambushes, discover the ramparts of fiercely independent city-states, and conclude your adventure before Italy's legendary "Sword in the Stone." Along the way, indulge in exceptional regional cuisine, boutique luxury accommodations, family-owned wineries, and private experiences unavailable to the ordinary traveler.

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Sample Itinerary:

Duration	*7 Days / 6 Nights*
Arrival / Departure	Rome Fiumicino (FCO)
Base Hubs	*Orvieto, Umbria (2 nights) | Montepulciano, Tuscany (4 nights) | Siena, Florence, or Rome (1-2 nights optional post-tour extension)*
Lodging	
Orvieto	*La Badia di Orvieto – A beautifully restored 12th-century Benedictine abbey just outside Orvieto that serves as the gateway to the itinerary's "Valor" experiences.*
Montepulciano	*Lupaia – An intimate luxury country estate near Montepulciano in the heart of Tuscany's Val d'Orcia. This serves as the immersive "Vine" base where guests enjoy: Private wine tastings, estate truffle hunting, chef-led cooking classes, E-bike excursions to Pienza, Brunello experiences in Montalcino, and relaxed luxury among vineyards, olive groves, and rolling hills*
Pacing	*This itinerary is thoughtfully paced to balance immersive cultural exploration and active experiences with ample time for relaxation, estate living, exceptional dining, and unhurried enjoyment of Tuscany's celebrated countryside.*

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- ***Days 1: Overnight flight – Arrival in Rome – Private Transfer to Orvieto***
  - ***The Route:*** *Arrive at Rome's Fiumicino airport; Private luxury transfer east to Orvieto's volcanic plateau; Comfortably settle into your beautifully restored 12th-century Benedictine monastery accommodations.*
  - ***The Experience:*** *Explore the subterranean Etruscan tunnels and descend the spiral staircases of St. Patrick's Well.*
  - ***Dinner: Trattoria La Palomba.*** *Hand-rolled umbricelli pasta shaved with fresh truffles table-side.*
  - ***Overnight: La Badia di Orvieto.***
- ***Day 2: Hannibal's Battlefield & Cortona's Etruscan Ramparts***
  - ***The Route:*** *Orvieto → Lake Trasimeno loop → Cortona → Return to Orvieto.*
  - ***The Experience:*** *Track the exact terrain of Hannibal's historic tactical ambush at Lake Trasimeno (217 BC), then ascend to Cortona to walk its massive Etruscan defensive walls.*
  - ***Dinner: Coro****. Contemporary tasting menu served inside a dramatic, minimalist converted 16th-century church.*
  - ***Lodging Base: La Badia di Orvieto.***
- ***Day 3: Montepulciano Caves & Welcome Wine Tasting at Lupaia***
  - ***The Route:*** *Check out of Orvieto → Drive through the Val d'Orcia → Check into Lupaia.*
  - ***The Experience:*** *Tour the fortress town of Montepulciano and descend into the cathedral-like wine cellars carved deep under the Renaissance palazzos.*
  - ***Late Afternoon:*** *Arrive at* ***Lupaia*** *and settle into the 17th-century stone farmhouses.*
  - ***Vines (Lupaia Activity):*** *Enjoy a private welcome wine tasting hosted in Lupaia's intimate cellar or overlooking the valley. Their resident sommelier will guide you through local Vino Nobile and Brunello vintages, perfectly framing the terroir you will be exploring.*
  - ***Dinner: Osteria Acquacheta*** *for a high-energy and authentic Bistecca Fiorentina feast.*
  - ***Lodging Base: Lupaia.***
- ***Day 4: Estate Truffle Hunt & Open-Kitchen Cooking Masterclass***
  - ***The Route:*** *Entirely on-site at Lupaia (no driving required!).*

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- ***The Experience (Lupaia Activity):*** *Embark on a private morning truffle hunt in the secret woodlands surrounding the Lupaia estate. Guided by a professional local trifolao and expertly trained Lagotto Romagnolo dogs, your will unearth prized Tuscan truffles.*
- ***The Experience (Lupaia Activity):*** *In the afternoon, tie on aprons for a hands-on Lupaia cooking class in the estate's spectacular open kitchen. Under the guidance of the estate chef, the group will learn to make traditional pici pasta from scratch, incorporating the very truffles they found that morning along with fresh herbs plucked from the property's organic garden.*
- ***Dinner:*** *A private banquet celebrating your handmade culinary creations.*
- ***Lodging Base: Lupaia.***

Day 5: Val d'Orcia E-Bike Safari to Pienza

- ***The Route:*** *E-bike excursion starting directly from Lupaia's gates to Pienza and back.*
- ***The Experience (Lupaia Activity):*** *Set out on a guided E-Bike tour using premium electric mountain bikes. Your group will breeze across the iconic, rolling white-gravel paths (strade bianche) of the Val d'Orcia, framed by majestic cypress alleys.*
- ***Valor & Food:*** *Ride right up to the fortifications of Pienza, the "Ideal Renaissance City." Explore the stone streets and enjoy a comparative Pecorino cheese tasting before coasting back to the estate.*
- ***Dinner: Ristorante L'Oliveto****, dining open-air underneath illuminated olive trees.*
- ***Lodging Base: Lupaia.***

Day 6: The Independent Citadel & The King of Sangiovese

- ***The Route:*** *Lupaia → Montalcino → Return to Lupaia.*
- ***The Experience:*** *Your chauffeured van takes you to Montalcino, a fierce hill town that famously held out against imperial sieges. Walk the towering 14th-century fortress ramparts before diving into a private tasting of Brunello di Montalcino at a boutique, family-run vineyard.*
- ***Lunch: Locanda Demetra****, focusing on seasonal, rustic farm-to-table Tuscan classics.*
- ***Lodging Base: Lupaia****.*

Day 7: The Sword in the Stone & Departure

- ***The Route:*** *Lupaia check-out → Abbey of San Galgano → Onward travel connections.*

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- ***The Experience:*** *Conclude the trip at the roofless Gothic ruins of the Abbey of San Galgano. Walk to the nearby Montesiepi Hermitage to view Italy's real 12th-century "Sword in the Stone," thrust into the bedrock by a repentant medieval knight, before your van drops you at Siena, Florence, or Rome.*

Pre-trip Reading Recommendations:

- *"Hannibal: One Man Against Rome" by Harold Lamb*
- *"The Stones of Florence and Venice" by Mary McCarthy*
- *"Brunello di Montalcino: Understanding Tuscany's Noblest Wine" by Kerin O'Keefe*

For those wishing to extend their adventures in Italy, optional pre- and post-tour extensions in Rome, Siena, and/or Florence are available!

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