





















What is the most delicious meal you taste during the trip?

53 risposte

Cooking class first session.

Restaurant at Hotel Giglio, best meal ever!

Ravioli at Botegga del Borgo in Castellini in Chianti

Too hard to say. Everything was fantastic!

Il Pievano. Hard to compete with that one. 2nd favorite - La Bandita in Pienza.

The lasagna on the first night was unforgettable

Truffle risotto

Butcher shop in Gaiole

The meals we cooked with Paolo!

Re Tartu in Montefalco for lunch and Ristorante Locando del Teatro Montelfalco for dinner

Montepulciano

Zucchini Flan was my favorite dish and the Montepulciano restaurant.

all were great, but I think La Bandita was the best

All of it was the best

The meal in Pienza at La Bandita was excellent. (And George Clooney was 2 tables away!)

The ravioli on the first night !! Also the cheese pasta and wild boar in Panos town. But honestly everything was SO GOOD

Breakfasts made by Sandra

LA BANDITO

Beef tartare in Pienza, with a subtle Asian twist

La Bandita in Pienza



the homemade ravioli we learned how to make

Wild boar at Il Libridinoso in Murlo Castle

Pienza- La fonte! We enjoyed all meals but also liked osteria al pointe in gaiole

pork, pumpkin flan

Home made pasta with ragu in Pienza

My wife had a pizza in Montelpulciano that was the best of her whole trip (Sax Wine Bar).

difficult to choose, but Osteria al Ponte Gaiole

La Bottega di Portanuova - panino burrata e acciughe

Bucca della Fate in Pienza

Pienza, dal Falco

That's hard! I loved so many! Maybe Porta di Bacco but the others were fabulous as well. Even the food provided for the picnic.

Il Carraio, Scansano

On night 1 Paolo made a beef(?) lasagna that I still think about every day. My second favorite is the egg plant Parmesan lasagna he made. Paolo is great!!

Fresh fish baked in a salt crust

All of them

The Pici Pasta made by Sabrina

So many to chose from! Ristorate dal Falco in Pienza was great. Very friendly staff. Also the restaurant at the Hotel II Giglio.

Mint Cucina Fresca

honestly, all of them. the food was outstanding!

Wonderful evening in Siena

Tornano

Chef dinners were amazing and loved the farewell dinner our last night of beef topped with crispy bacon and asparagus with a square of potato Au gratin



dal Falco, Pienza

Punta Maga

Steak restaurant in Penza

This is a very difficult question as they all were delicious. There was only one town where we stopped which seemed to have nothing in it. Or perhaps the directions did not send us to the center of town?

groota in Polgmano a mare

Last night in Siena

Pica pasta with pine nuts, pecorino and tomato. (Pienza)

It was a baked fish dish from Portu Maga. The presentation by the server, including first offering a choice of first fish, and then removing the meat from the bones, was quick, careful and elegant.

Honestly, all were terrific!

Our chef at Pietranima

Scala in Portopalo, Norma Bistrot in Noto



A good night's sleep is crucial after a day of cycling. Please share your experience regarding the sleeping conditions at the hotels during your tour.

Consider Bed Comfort, Noise Levels, Lighting, Temperature, Bedding

Sleep can be influenced by other factors such as stress, or jet lag, so feel free to share comments positive or not!

25 risposte

Very comfortable accommodations

All the hotels were excellent

Our room was perfect.

All 3 hotels supported us well and were ready for us.

The sleep accommodations were great

Great bed arrangement, 2 separate beds were provided. Room very dark and quiet.

All the hotels we stayed at had comfortable beds, with fine noise levels, lighting, and bedding. Our trip was during the hottest time of the summer (July 19 to 26) and a few of the hotel rooms were quite hot through the night. When we asked the first of the hotels we experienced this about it, they indicated that the AC unit was working correctly (and as hard as it could be) but it was just that hot outside, there was little that could be done otherwise. Again, it is very understandable considering the older structures within the breathtaking towns we stayed in on our trip, but it is something to make note of.

Wonderful accommodations - no issues at all

Our room and the common area were very comfortable. No complaints.

Was great

Slept like a baby. The only thing that ever woke me up was the fox.

Wonderful....quiet, dark and nice linens

We slept well.

The villa was quiet and peaceful, the rooms and beds were very comfortable.

Sleeping conditions were perfect.



The hotels were excellent. We loved the hotel Giglio in Montelcino, the proprietors were wonderful. The bed a little hard, lighting a little dim but the rest was great. The balcony was fantastic The hotel in Siena was beautiful and top notch.

I thought the villa was very comfortable, I didn't have an issue sleeping. I think some others who had rooms which faced the communal courtyard area had issues with the lights out there remaining on all night.

no issues.

Overall very well, loved the scenic views from the window!

Montalcino was noisy with church bells and street parties.

all hotels were excellent

Great sleeping

Lodgings were excellent, unique, quite and clean. There were no places to charge bikes in those places that had garages- and we had been told to plan on charging in the garage. So we took the battery to the room. however, when you leave the hotel room, the electricity is cut off so no ability to charge the bike.

We sleep well

Pietranima was fabulous. Great beds, great staff, wonderful food and beautiful grounds. Masseria LuciaGiovanni was not what we expected... it was very large, dark rooms beds Ok. We just prefer smaller inns, more personal experiences.



Any suggestion to improve the overall experience?

49 risposte

More communication about next day's schedule is always good to help remind us. Maybe some more time off between when we get back to rooms and when we go to cooking class or out to eat would be good to have time to shower, relax, maybe go for swim. At times seemed rushed to get to cooking class, etc.

More relaxation time at the Villa!

nothing, was perfect

Overall we enjoyed our tour and loved the tuscan scenery. Getting to and from the start and end of the tour was not easy. Public transport to Pienza was non existent on Sundays and we had to taxi from Cortona at great expense Euro140. Finishing in Castellini we understood from your instructions that getting a taxi from the hotel to the train station would be easy. However this proved to be hard as Castellini does not have a taxi service. With the help of the hotel we were lucky to arrange a transfer but this could quite easily have cost over 100 euros had they needed to come from Sienna. We would suggest including transport from stations to and from the hotels in your tour cost or starting and finishing at places easy to get to from a train station, as the main reason for booking a tour was for everything to be easy. Most of our rides were 60km. It would have been great to have had some alternative shorter routes. We had a bad weather day and mnaged to find a 25km route from Sienna to Castellini on google maps that meant we avoided the thunderstorm and heavy rain

Train more prior! hah! We would have liked the option to stay in Montalcino a night instead of returning to Pienza.

Nothing to improve on, this was one of the peak experiences in my life

Include one set of wrenches in backpack with chargers.

1. Since you do not accept American Express to pay for the trip, I used a Visa card and was charged \$108 foreign transaction fee. American Express trip does not charge that fee 2. I wish you had a bike jersey for purchase with your name and map of Tuscany on it. 3. Offer a credit for anyone returning for another trip.

We had such an amazing trip through Umbria thanks to the team at Cicloposse! Each day was better than the one before and each town we visited was unique and beautiful. We truly believe there is no other way we could have experienced this authentic countryside in such a beautiful region of Italy. The environmentally friendly aspect of the trip was a bonus for us as well and traveling by bike was truly epic! Some lasting stand outs were the first stay of the trip in Citta della Pieve. Hotel Vannucci was exceptional — the staff was so incredibly accommodating, the pool perfect, and both the dinner and the breakfast here were some of the best meals we had during our two weeks in Italy. Another standout was the Palazzo Bontadosi in Montefalco. The hotel was so lovely, the staff was so friendly, and the location could not be beat. I guess one of our only suggestions for "improvement" is that it would have been helpful to have two water bottle holders on our gravel bikes instead of just one.

The routes were a little more than expected. I think the routes were challenging (listed as easy to moderate?)

we were unprepared for the large % of gravel - maybe communicate that earlier? I could have used more guidance with using Ride with GPS (and several days we did not follow it). The tour was listed as easy/moderate, which may be the case for e-bikes, but it was moderate/challenging for road bikes.

You already beat all my expectations, was truly a perfect time, your family/company was with us every step of the way

Only one..it would have been helpful to have bike mirrors to see what is coming up behind.

No, you guys have done an outstanding job

1/2 day spa or massage option

A little more time between cycling and cooking lessons and dinner

Nothing comes to mind

None! We loved it!

More recommendations for lunch stops and more water fountains mapped

We had a wonderful time and don't have anything negative to say! I can't wait to book another trip with you! Thank you!

everything was perfecto

Nothing specific. We really appreciated the local dining recommendations. Also, the suggested stops along the route that we might not otherwise have enjoyed. Adding even more local ideas would be good. Better to hear from you than relying on random google comments and reviews.

My wife was quite anxious the whole time when biking (narrow roads / traffic / etc). Would be nice if there were route options that took us on some gravel roads that were a little quieter. I also think an email follow-up during the trip would be nice to check on how things are going.

maybe include more information about washrooms along the route?

We struggled with the GPS some, perhaps our lack of experience biking with GPS. Sometimes it gave us some false information.

The Hotel Giglio food was overrated.

Probably just knowledge that a coffee maker was available prior to the 8:00 breakfast and maybe a suggestion that if you want wine in your villa in the evenings you might want to get some from the wine store on property the first day.



A minor point but it would have been helpful if all the bikes had had stands

I think it would have been nice to visit one more winery, but overall this has been the best vacation I've ever been on!

Bike Maintenance

Perhaps a nespresso machine in the other villa for coffee

When we picked up our bikes I told them mine was too big. They assured me it wasn't. Unfortunately it was and the seat was already at its lowest and could not be adjusted lower. As a result after day 2 I had pins and needles in my fingers (particularly on the left hand) and loss of strength. The loss of strength in my left hand has still not fully recovered and I am having treatment for it - trying to regain strength.

All was well thought out. Flawless. I had concerns about length of bike rides however all worked well. Staff exceptional!

Option to make up rained out ride

Thanks so much for the trip, we thought the whole package was excellent and well put together. The following points are very minor but hopefully are useful: The bikes were great, personally I prefer slightly wider tyres (35-38mm) for gravel riding and also a GRX group set but this is very personal. The route was brilliant and the distances were ideal; we liked that the final day was a contrast, mainly being on road which covered the distance a bit quicker.

When someone is standing at a crossroad, just motion or point instead of saying 'turn left". Minor thing

GPS was inconsistent. Some days fine, other days it froze and another day wadis not provide voice prompts. More suggestions around places to have a good coffee and a light lunch would have been useful. Routes carrying on in and out of places of interest on GPS would have helped. Also suggested itineraries each day would be useful - those provided were general but more specific

Everything was perfect! Thank you!

We did not like the e-bikes. Much too heavy and hard to handle. We are used to lightweight regular bikes

Awesome job!

The bikes were very heavy, it would be nice to provide more information on locations of interest or historical sites along the bike route. Charging was difficult- as explained above because of electricity shutting off when you were not in the room. Tell people to bring their own water bottles- we did and there was no need for you to supply one. If there is any way to minimize the routes on busy roads please do. Overall it was an absolutely amazing trip and we will book with you again.

nos gusta este esquema de viaje, privado para nuetro grupo, con guia y van de apoyo.

More time spent individually during the initial bike fitting

Our only suggestion would be that the bike gear ratio was not optimal to regain pedal power after downhills.

It was wonderful! We are recommending Cycloposse to friends!

Maybe warn people about extra traffic on holidays.

The "ride with GPS" directions on the last day were not correct in one spot

We had no problem riding the mileage but would have preferred a nice stop for coffee each morning with a bathroom. The rides seemed rushed, would have liked the wine tastings to be a bit later so we didn't have to rush to get there.

We had really bad bike experience when a pedal and arm fell off of one of the bikes during the ride on a big, busy road. Could have been tragic, but luckily our friend could stop and walk bike. 2 out of 3 bikes seemed really poorly maintained which is such a surprise from the regular Cicloposse experiences in the past we are used to. Two of the bikes were great, however. a



which tour you did? 56 risposte
Tuscany
Umbria self-guided
Sicily
Bike and cooking
Tuscany wine country
Tuscan Wine Country Self Guided
Tuscany Culinary tour 10/25/2024
Luxury Hills & Wheels
Tuscany Bike tour
Tuscany
Gravel Roads
Bike & Cooking in Tuscany
Tuscan Food and Wine
Cycling and cooking in Tuscany
Cycling and cooking in tuscany
Luxury Wine tour of Tuscany and Umbria. Hotels were WONDERFUL!
Cicloposse cycling and cooking
Cooking, biking Tuscany
Cycling and Cooking in Tuscany
Short Escape (Tuscany)
Tuscany 4 day gravel

culinary and cycling **Tuscany Short Gravel** Hills and wheels tuscany - cooking Tuscany Short Escape self guided tour 4-day Pienza to Siena Tuscany gravel tuscany gravel short 3 day on our own **Short Tuscany** Tuscany guided Tuscany to Sea: Maremma Oct 25 through Oct 31 2024 June 6-13,2024 Self-guided Southern Tuscany. Public Classic Bike tour - self guided cycling and cooking - Tuscany Tuscany self guided 4 night Self-guided gravel Cycling and cooking may 17-22,2024 Southern Tuscany self guided tour Gravel Tuscany tour



Self guided Puglia- Matera, Altamura, Ostuni, Poligano de Mare

Puglia

Tuscany Strada Bianche

Tuscany short escape - self guided tour.

Gravel routes, Cabras Loop, Portu Maga area

Southern Tuscany

esmeralda coast

Puglia. Panos and Alessandra were great.



Your name & Country 56 risposte	
Steve Boe, USA	
Maureen DeMarco-Omura -Canada	
John Morrell, Canada	
Ann Giles New Zealand	
Bruce Black, USA	
Tanya & Russ - U.S.	
Austin Matalon USA	
Monique Dagenais from Canada	
Doug Lyons	
Nancy Russo, USA	
Carrie - United States of America	
Brad Hall - USA	
Paula, United States	
Katharine & Earl Drake, USA	
Jean from USA	
Karen Selleck USA	
Julia Matalon USA	
Julie Boe USA	
Mike and Linda Kilburn	
Khue Cai (USA)	
Nancy Stafford, USA	

Karen USA Jim Coates, Canada Holly and Charlie, MN USA Laura Schoor USA Peter Osborne / Canada Aaron Harper - Canada Joe Heiserman USA Eddie Sams - USA Mussett, USA Kon Wyatt USA Lori Bruder -USA David Humphreys, UK Erik Black, USA Elizabeth Owes USA Michelle Laade Caroline Poole, USA Kathy Bjornson. US Penny von Behr - Australia Mary Matalon/USA Kathy Rispler - Canada Brian Jeffery, UK **Edith Lester United States** Alan Bardwell, Australia



Liz King, USA

Anne Ladd US

Jim Rogers USA

Tim and Valerie Hoover - USA

Mona USA

pelayo larrain - chile

Brian Douglas USA

Marion - South Africa

Len Carlman, USA

Susan Craddock, USA

Lori and Paul McCormack

Renee and George Greenfield

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