



A TASTE OF TUSCANY

WITH
RACHEL PRIESTLEY

4-14 SEPT 2017

FROM **\$5951*** PP
TWIN SHARE

*Flights are additional

Highlights:

- Meeting the locals with locals
- BBQ's on the deck with local produce
- Visiting the markets and local butchers wine tasting!
- Volterra, Lucca, Pisa, Collanata
- Truffle hunting
- Culture and learning with wonderful guides
- Wine, food and lots of fun
- Being part of a small group
- Encounter sights and sounds you would never experience travelling on your own

ABOUT RACHEL PRIESTLEY

Charcutier Rachel Priestley of The Prodigal Daughter in Wairarapa uses traditional Italian techniques to create cured pork products. The Prodigal Daughter is a local Wairarapa business using local products including Longbush Pork.

Rachel, a chef, spent more than 10 years in Italy, where she learned about cured meat production. In Europe she opened six different

restaurants including in Italy and Vienna, ran a truffle shop and opened a wine shop.

Four years ago she moved back to New Zealand to set up her business. When she came home, she missed the cured meats and began making her own. "I couldn't find the quality here. My Italian friends would come around and say, give up everything and do this." She uses the French word charcutier to describe her work - someone who makes artisan cured meats.



DATE ITINERARY

- 4 Sep 2017** Afternoon arrival at Jon and Massimo's meet your hosts Rachel of Prodigal Daughter and Jon and Massimo of Trovare Tuscany, Vicopisano near Pisa. Staying at the wonderful Villa Lenzi. Afternoon pick-ups and transfers to get the group together. Welcome aperitivo abbondante and relax until the next morning.
- 5 Sep 2017** Orientation day with local village tour. Morning walking tour to San Giovanni alla Vena - Local market visit and food shop followed by visit to Luciano's salumeria and vineria. Demonstration and tasting followed by lunch at home. Penichella - Italian afternoon nap.
- 4:00 pm icopisano village walk, visit to Olive Mill.
 - 7:00 pm Aperitivo at local wine bar, meet the locals.
 - 7:30 pm Dinner at La Vecchia Posta.
- 6 Sep 2017** Pisa Walking tour with your host Massimo. Climb the Leaning Tower of Pisa, visit the Cathedral and Baptistery in Piazza dei Miracoli. Lunch at a local Panninoteca, visit the oldest historic markets in Tuscany. Stroll through the historic centre of Pisa and enjoy a gelato from De Coltelli the best Gelateria in Italy on your way back to the bus for home. Local butchers demonstration and tasting including sausage, prosciutto and schiacciata. Relaxed BBQ dinner on the terrace with what we have bought from the local butcher.
- 7 Sep 2017** Volterra walking tour. Shuttle trip to local hillside towns where Tuscan salt comes from. Visit to Andrea Bocelli's home town Lajatico. Visit to Lischeto pecorino cheese factory where we stop for lunch. Swim in the pool at Lischeto, followed by a leisurely drive back to Vicopisano. Free evening at home helping yourself to the fridge of local delicacies.
- 8 Sep 2017** Monastero di Calci visit. Shuttle pick-up around 10am. Lunch back in the village at L'uovo Tegamino 3:30 pm. Cooking class and Dinner with Cousin Gloria.
- 9 Sep 2017** Morning local market visit at Vicopisano followed by Shuttle Bus to Lucca for a Walking and Cycling Tour with lunch at Enoteca wine bar. Free time to relax in the afternoon followed by Sagra dinner at an outside event at a local village.



DATE ITINERARY

- 10 Sep 2017**
- 9:30 am Mass at the local Pieve di Santa Maria, Vicopisano
 - 10:30 am Caffè e cornetti breakfast in Piazza
 - 11:00 am Shuttle departure for Collonata.
- Visit the marble caves of Carrara where the world's best marble comes from, including a sighting of where Michelangelo sourced his marble for his David statues. Drive to the hills of Collonata to taste the world's best Lardo which is cured in marble vats. Have lunch and finish with a stroll on the Tuscan Mediterranean coastline whilst enjoying gelato. Relax in the evening at home with a real Pizza in the terrace garden.
- 11 Sep 2017** Truffle hunting and tasting at Savini Tartufi, we go into the woods and hunt for truffles coming back to truffle taste then sit down to have lunch with the truffle suppliers. Pastry making lesson with Giovanni the pastry chef in a nearby town. Tonight you guys get the opportunity to cook on the BBQ for us, on the terrace of Jon and Massimo's, last night in Vicopisano.
- 12 Sep 2017** Shuttle departure from Vicopisano straight to Prince Corsini's castle in Greve in Chianti, where you will meet the prince and princess partake in olive oil and wine tasting, cooking classes and lunch. Drive to Florence and enjoy Michelangelo's David and take in the view of Florence. Walk down the road of 15 crosses followed by aperitivo at Fuori Porta, a further 5 minutes' walk to the hotel with free time until dinner at a local trattoria.
- 13 Sep 2017** Walk to the Accademia with private tickets to view Michelangelos' original Davide. Walk to Sant'Ambrogio markets, aperitivo at the market bar, prosciutto and schiacciata from Urbano, figs and salami. Shopping stop at Piazza Santa Croce to visit Gold and Leather stores. Gelato at Gelateria de' Neri, with free time until dinner. Aperitivo on rooftop terrace wine bar of hotel followed by Dinner somewhere special.
- 14 Sep 2017** Breakfast in the Hotel with final goodbyes with the Tour officially ending.



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*Terms & Conditions: Sales are valid until sold out. Price based on a minimum of 15 people travelling. Non-refundable deposit of \$500.00 per person required at time of booking. All prices are an indication and subject to currency variations, schedules and availability. We reserve the right to correct any pricing errors or omissions that may occur. Price may increase if minimum numbers are not met. Taxes, visas and personal expenses are additional. Travel insurance is essential. GENERAL: Travel agent service fees are not included. All prices are in New Zealand dollars. Prices are correct as at time of printing & may be subject to change without notice. Prices are based on payment by cash or EFTPOS only. Capacity may be limited & not available on all flights. Offers valid for new bookings only.