



Your Wine Experience Itinerary:

- ❖ Cheryl Alexander will accompany the group around Orvieto to tour its grand cathedral that includes the frescoed Signorelli Chapel, which inspired Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel work. She will show us the magnificent Etruscan museum and famed underground tour of 3000 year old workshops.
- ❖ We will be guided by Meghan Vergara, our personal Certified Sommelier, through three distinct wine tasting lunches in the vicinity, throughout the course of our trip. The stunning Palazzone on the outskirts of Orvieto with lush vineyards surrounding the town, Le Velette with delicious and unique wine selections with it's fascinating Italian historical roots, nearby in the green hills and Sergio Mottura's organic, award winning estate in Civitella D'Agliano. Please check out their informative and beautiful websites in the links at the bottom of the page for a glance into the scenery of this magical place!
- ❖ A half day venture into the Montefalco area to experience the rich full red wines of Sagrantino where Meghan will discuss this important and culturally significant varietal unique only to this region.
- ❖ Lunch at the edge of Lake Bolsena, under the ancient sycamore trees with fresh fish from this volcanic body of water.
- ❖ A visit to the Roman ruins at Otricoli, once the main port for olive oil on the Tiber River.
- ❖ See Bomarzo, a medieval garden with stunning, oversized statuary that will certainly surprise and delight.

- ❖ Civita d’Bagnoregio, the unbelievable “dying city” on a pinnacle will provide you with unimaginable photographic moments. (<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/arts/civita>)
- ❖ Walk the ancient path between Sorano and Sovana forged by Etruscans more than 3,000 years ago as they herded their sheep, ending with an elegant picnic on an overlook.
- ❖ Special Dinner with a Montefalco winemaker that is offered only to guests of our group.
- ❖ Evening meals will be in small, family owned restaurants serving the best of the local, seasonal dishes with wine commentary by our Certified Sommelier.
- ❖ Free time will be set aside for personal shopping and relaxation as this is “slow travel” in the Italian style of living.

Cheryl & Meghan will be sharing stories of how the honored food and wine traditions have shaped and molded the Umbrian region, Orvieto in particular, into what it is today. (Please note that this sample of activities may be rearranged or changed according to unforeseen factors)

Tenuta Le Velette: “The role of wine has therefore always been of great importance for Orvieto and the subsequent commerce led the way to extending the fame and influence of the city in Italy and abroad, first with the Etruscans and later the Romans.

“The success of Orvieto wine continued thanks to the approval of the Papal Court and artists like Pinturicchio who asked for vast quantities as part of the payment for his works. Even the Duomo, the cathedral of the town, known all over the world, owes part of its splendour to wine. A great deal of evidence still exists as to how it was used in place of money for the master stone-masons who worked the travertine and for the artists who did the frescoes (Luca Signorelli asked for an annuity of 1000 litres!)”

<http://www.palazzone.com/en/company/the-vineyards/> <http://www.levelette.it>
<http://www.sergiomottura.com/it/cenare.asp>

“Grazie Mille! We can’t wait to share this experience with you. Please call or email Cheryl Alexander (www.italianexcursion.com) 760.470.8852 to register for this exclusive trip, which is limited to 10 guests.