SANTA BARBARA MUSEUM OF ART



Duration
8 days

Activity Level
Moderate

Journey Type
Land
Solo-Friendly

Umbria ~ The Green Heart of Italy

April 6-14, 2027

Starting from $5,445/pp

Discover Umbria on a 7-night sojourn to Italy's lush, green heartland! Unpack once in a deluxe hotel in Perugia and set out daily to discover medieval towns and storied historical landmarks amid Umbria's breathtaking hills and valleys. You'll visit Orvieto, Assisi and Gubbio; including a pilgrimage to the revered Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi. Plus, enjoy Perugina chocolate, Umbrian olive oil, wine and a cooking experience!





Day-by-Day Itinerary

Italy | Umbria ~ The Green Heart of Italy
Air Program: 9 days/ 8 nights (includes 1 air night)

Land Program: 8 days/ 7 nights

Breakfasts: 7 | Lunches: 4 | Dinners: 2 | Receptions: 2 B | L | R | D denotes included breakfasts, lunches, receptions and dinners.

A special note about air: If you have purchased only the Land Program, please book flights that arrive on Day 2, the first day of the Land Program. The date is listed at the top of your Reservation Confirmation.

This itinerary is subject to change due to operational conditions.

Activity Level ratings indicate each excursion's physical expectations. To make the best personal choice, please evaluate each excursion's rating and your ability to meet the tour's physical demands. Excursions on this program require: walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths or uneven surfaces, up and down steep hills at times, and getting on/off motor coaches.

- Mild: Walk under 1 mile on mainly flat terrain; navigate under 50 stairs; stand under 1 hour
- Moderate: Walk 1–3 miles on flat/uneven terrain; navigate 50–100 stairs; stand 1–2 hours
- Active: Walk 2+ miles on flat/uneven terrain, including up and down inclines; navigate 100+ stairs; stand 3+ hours

Depending on the excursion, more leisurely alternatives may be available.

Day 1 | Depart gateway city
AHI FlexAir passengers depart for Rome, Italy. Please check your luggage from your gateway city to your arrival city. Your claim checks should have the following airport code: FCO.

Day 2 | Rome, Italy / Perugia

Sina Brufani Perugia

R | D
Arrive at Leonardo da Vinci International Airport. Proceed through immigration to the baggage claim area and retrieve your luggage. After completing customs, AHI FlexAir passengers traveling on flights that qualify for the group arrival transfer and Land Program passengers who have purchased seats on the group transfer should exit the baggage claim area and proceed to the designated meeting spot, where an AHI Travel representative will meet you. The meeting location will be provided with your final documents.

Transfer to the deluxe Sina Brufani Perugia hotel. Located in the heart of medieval Perugia, the former castle boasts sweeping views over the lush Umbrian valleys. Please note that if you arrive before check-in time, your room may not be immediately available.

Welcome Reception and Dinner. This evening, meet and mingle with your fellow passengers at the Welcome Reception and Dinner at the hotel.

Day 3 | Perugia

Sina Brufani Perugia B | L
Enrichment: History of Perugia and Umbria. Discover the fascinating history of Perugia, the capital of Umbria, well known as the chocolate capital of Italy's central region. Gain insight into these two regions, lauded for their medieval towns, vineyards, wine, olive groves and olive oil mills. Known as the "Land of the Saints," Umbria is renowned for its profound spiritual heritage, marked by its sacred sites and peaceful atmosphere..

Perugia City Tour. Take a guided walking tour of Umbria's capital city, brimming with medieval pageantry. You'll begin in the heart of the city at the 14th-century Piazza IV Novembre and admire the stunning 13th-century Fontana Maggiore, decorated with intricate carvings. Pass by Etruscan- and Roman-period walls and see the Gothic-style Prior's Palace, a masterpiece of medieval architecture.

Have lunch at a local osteria, a traditional Italian establishment focused on wine and simple, regional specialties.

Continue to the National Gallery of Umbria to enjoy a private tour of the Galleria Nazionale dell'Umbria, set within the impressive Palazzo dei Priori in the historic center of Perugia. One of Italy's most significant collections of medieval and Renaissance art, the museum showcases the evolution of the celebrated Umbrian school of painting through works by masters such as Pietro Perugino — Raphael's teacher and Perugia's renowned painter—alongside Piero della Francesca, Fra Angelico, and Gentile da Fabriano. As you move through its beautifully preserved historic galleries, you'll trace the progression of Italian art from richly luminous Gothic panels to the balanced harmony and humanism of the Renaissance, all within the evocative setting of Perugia's medieval civic palace. (Moderate)

Gather with new friends for dinner at leisure tonight. Your Travel Director will be available for dining recommendations.

Day 4 | Perugia | Orvieto

Sina Brufani Perugia B | L

The Hill Town of Orvieto. After breakfast, venture to picturesque Orvieto, the Umbrian jewel perched atop a dramatic volcanic tuff cliff. Set out on a guided walk up and down the hilly, cobblestone streets to the town square, lined with shops, cafés and restaurants. Peek into the town's charming alleys as you stroll while admiring breathtaking vistas over the Umbrian countryside's rolling hills. Arrive at the Duomo di Orvieto, one of Italy's most stunning cathedrals, which is considered a masterpiece of Italian Gothic architecture. As you approach, admire the façade adorned with intricate mosaics, sculptures and reliefs. Step inside to marvel at the Chapel of San Brizio's frescoes that depict the Last Judgement and see a relic of the Eucharistic Miracle of Bolsena housed in the Chapel of the Corporal.

Next, descend beneath the city to explore its remarkable 2,500-year-old network of subterranean tunnels. Carved first by the Etruscans and later expanded during the medieval period, this hidden world contains more than 1,200 chambers once used as wells, workshops, cellars, and passageways, offering a fascinating glimpse into the city's layered history. Within this underground maze, discover the extraordinary Pozzo di San Patrizio (St. Patrick's Well), a 16th-century Renaissance engineering marvel. Designed with a double-helix staircase of 248 steps, the well ingeniously allows descending and ascending visitors to pass without ever meeting, showcasing both ingenuity and architectural brilliance. (Moderate – Active)

Enjoy the remainder of the evening at leisure back in Perugia, including dinner. Find a local trattoria to savor Perugia's cuisine, known for its simple, hearty and flavorful dishes that showcase local ingredients such as olive oil, truffles, pork, legumes and grains.

Day 5 | Perugia | Cortona | Montepulciano

Sina Brufani Perugia B

A Day in Tuscany. Begin your day in the Etruscan city of Cortona and the gateway to Tuscany. Take a guided walk past historic palazzos and charming piazzas and step inside the 11th-century Cortona Cathedral, a remarkable example of religious architecture with Romanesque- and Renaissance-style elements. A highlight of our time in Cortona is a privately guided tour of the Museo Diocesano di Cortona, located within the historic Church of Gesù. The museum houses one of Tuscany's most distinguished collections of sacred art, offering an intimate journey through the region's spiritual and artistic heritage. Among its treasures is Fra Angelico's luminous Annunciation, widely regarded as one of the masterpieces of early Renaissance painting, alongside significant works by Pietro Lorenzetti, Luca Signorelli and Bartolomeo della Gatta. Together, these works illustrate the evolution of religious art from the Gothic tradition to the Renaissance, revealing the depth, refinement and devotion that define central Italy's artistic legacy.

Continue to "The Pearl of the Renaissance," Montepulciano, to appreciate Renaissance Italy's classical antiquity, architecture, art and literature that influenced the entire Western world. Walk to the town's Renaissance-style Piazza Grande central square, admiring the architecture, the Town Hall, the Duomo and historic palaces, churches and cathedrals. Continue your stroll down the hilltop town's delightful winding streets lined with shops, cafés and artisan shops, stopping to chat with the artisans. Also, be sure to peek inside the historic underground wine cellars ; Vino Nobile di Montepulciano, one of Italy's finest red wines, is produced in this region. (Moderate)

Return to the hotel in Perugia and enjoy the remainder of the evening, including dinner, at leisure.

Day 6 | Perugia

Sina Brufani Perugia B | L

If you're up early this morning, perhaps head out for a stroll through the city before breakfast. A morning in Perugia is less about rushing from sight to sight and more about absorbing the city's rhythm.

PYJ | Personalize Your Journey | Choose ONE of the following excursions.

- Winery Cooking Demonstration. You're in for a treat today! Set in the gentle hills just outside Perugia, you'll visit a welcoming local winery for an immersive and hands-on cooking class, where Umbrian culinary traditions are brought to life in an intimate, family-style setting. Begin your experience with a warm introduction to the region's food culture, learning how simple, high-quality ingredients — olive oil, seasonal vegetables, herbs and locally milled flour — form the foundation of traditional Umbrian cooking. Under expert guidance, watch and participate as time-honored recipes are prepared before your eyes, from handmade pasta such as tagliatelle or strangozzi to rustic cakes and classic regional desserts. As the aromas build in the kitchen, gain insight into the stories behind each dish, reflecting the rhythms of rural life and the importance of food in Umbrian family gatherings. Once the cooking is complete, settle in to enjoy a leisurely and memorable lunch featuring the dishes you've helped create. Each course is thoughtfully paired with local wines produced at the winery, enhancing the flavors and showcasing the character of Umbria's celebrated vineyards. Surrounded by rolling countryside and the relaxed hospitality of your hosts, it's a deliciously authentic experience that captures the heart of Italian home cooking at its finest. (Mild) Please note that a minimum of 10 guests is required.
- Siena Discovery. Set out on a guided walking tour through one of Italy's most enchanting medieval cities. Crowned across three clay hills and remarkably preserved through the centuries, Siena glows in warm rose tones as its winding lanes lead past elegant Gothic palaces, richly decorated churches, and exceptional museums. Your route brings you to the magnificent Piazza del Campo, widely regarded as one of Europe's finest medieval squares, home to the striking Fonte Gaia fountain adorned with intricate bas-reliefs. Rising above the skyline is the imposing Torre del Mangia, the 14th-century tower that defines the city's silhouette and is closely associated with Siena's civic pride and artistic legacy, including nearby works by Ambrogio Lorenzetti. Continue to the historic Santa Maria della Scala, one of Europe's oldest hospital complexes, now a cultural landmark. Its frescoed halls and atmospheric underground chapels offer a compelling insight into Siena's medieval traditions of care, devotion, and artistry. The tour concludes at the awe-inspiring Duomo di Siena, where you'll admire Nicola Pisano's celebrated pulpit and the cathedral's extraordinary inlaid marble mosaic floor—an intricate masterpiece of storytelling, symbolism, and Renaissance craftsmanship. (Moderate) Please note that a minimum of 10 guests is required.

Return to the hotel for the evening and dinner at leisure.

Day 7 | Perugia | Assisi | Montefalco

Sina Brufani Perugia B | L

Assisi, The City of St. Francis. Set out for the walled town of Assisi, birthplace of St. Francis and one of Italy's most important pilgrimage destinations for Christians and Franciscans worldwide. Visit the UNESCO-inscribed Basilica of San Francesco d'Assisi, the burial place of St. Francis, who founded the Franciscan Order. The basilica is a deeply spiritual site that embodies the teachings of St. Francis.

Explore this masterpiece of medieval architecture and a treasure trove of religious art at your own pace. Discover the Basilica Superiore, the upper basilica, characterized by a light-filled Gothic style with tall ceilings and the extraordinary cycle of 18 frescoes by Giotto, illustrating the life of St. Francis. In the Basilica Inferiore, the lower basilica, take note of the Romanesque style of the arches and stonework and a darker, more intimate atmosphere conducive to prayer and reflection. Also, admire the remarkable works by Lorenzetti and Martini here—depicting the Passion of Christ and scenes from the Virgin Mary's life—as well as the luminous frescoes by Simone Martini. Then, in the spiritual heart of the basilica in a crypt beneath the lower basilica, view the hallowed tomb of St. Francis, a reverent, holy space imbued with spiritual significance.

Continue to the UNESCO-listed Basilica di Santa Maria degli Angeli. At the heart of the basilica is the Porziuncola, a tiny stone chapel with immense spiritual significance. Here, St. Francis experienced his divine calling and founded the Franciscan order in 1209. View the Chapel of Transit, where St. Francis passed away on October 3, 1226, and admire the beautiful frescoes. The much larger basilica, built between 1569 and 1679, features Renaissance and baroque styles represented by harmonious proportions and grandeur, with a light-filled central dome, a nave lined with side chapels, elegant artwork, frescoes and sculptures, some depicting scenes from St. Francis' life and the history of the Franciscan order. Stroll the adjacent Rose Garden, known as the "thornless rose garden," where, according to legend, St. Francis experienced the Miracle of the Roses. While you are here, pause to admire the backdrop of Mount Subasio and the sweeping views of the Umbrian valley's natural, serene beauty. (Moderate - Active)

Montefalco Discovery. Our next destination is Monefalco, often called the "Balcony of Umbria" for its sweeping views over vineyards, olive groves and medieval villages. Perched high above the Umbrian valley, Montefalco is known for its beautifully preserved medieval character and its dramatic hillside setting. The town's compact historic center is encircled by ancient stone walls, with narrow cobbled streets leading

to small piazzas, artisan shops, and quiet viewpoints that open onto some of the most scenic countryside in central Italy. The apse frescoes by Benozzo Gozzoli in the Church of San Francesco in Montefalco are a remarkable highlight of the Umbrian Renaissance. Rendered in luminous color and filled with expressive detail, they depict scenes from the Lives of Christ and the Virgin with a vivid narrative quality and profound sense of devotion. Set against richly observed landscapes and animated figures, the frescoes reflect Gozzoli's exceptional storytelling skill and his ability to blend spiritual intensity with everyday beauty. A visit to Montefalco offers a rare opportunity to encounter the artist's work outside Florence, revealing the breadth of his influence across central Italy. These frescoes not only showcase the refinement of Renaissance painting in Umbria, but also provide an intimate glimpse into the region's deep-rooted artistic and religious traditions. (Moderate)

Back in Perugia, relax over dinner on your own after a full and enriching day.

Day 8 | Perugia | Todi

Sina Brufani Perugia B | R | D

Enrichment: Contemporary Italy. Join an engaging discussion of Italy's current economy, politics, society and role in the European Union.

Historic Todi. Set out for a morning excursion to visit this charming town perched on a hill amid the Tiber River Valley's rolling hills, olive groves and vineyards. On a guided walk in the town center, see the Piazza del Popolo, one of Italy's most beautiful medieval squares. It is surrounded by historic buildings, such as the Palazzo del Capitano, which houses the Civic Museum and the Etruscan-Roman Museum, and the Palazzo dei Priori, featuring a grand façade adorned with a bronze eagle that symbolizes Todi. Look up and be awed by the Romanesque-Gothic-style Duomo di Santa Maria Anunziata, or Todi Cathedral, towering over the piazza from its location at the top of a grand staircase. During your walk, you'll also see the Temple of Santa Maria della Consolazione, or the Cathedral of Saint Mary, a striking visual presence that dominates the Umbrian skyline. Built to honor a miraculous image of the Virgin Mary, this masterpiece of Renaissance architecture is notable for its centralized Greek-cross layout with a massive central dome and a perfect symmetry that reflects the ideals of balance, harmony and serenity.

Visit the San Fortunato Church for a guided tour of the magnificent Umbrian-Gothic-style structure dedicated to St. Fortunatus, a 4th-century bishop and the patron saint of Todi. The church's unfinished façade, with its simple yet elegant portal and bell tower, contrasts with the vast and majestic interior featuring high vaulted ceilings and pointed arches. In the church's crypt, see the tomb of Jacopone da Todi, a 13th-century mystic, poet and Franciscan friar famous for his religious poems and hymns, including "Stabat Mater." Take in the church's spiritual importance, tranquil atmosphere, architectural beauty and spectacular panoramic views from here. (Moderate)

Farewell Reception and Dinner. Gather to toast your amazing Umbrian adventure with your fellow travelers at this evening's Farewell Reception and Dinner at the hotel.

Day 9 | Depart for gateway city

B

After breakfast, AHI FlexAir passengers traveling on flights that qualify for a group transfer and Land Program passengers who have purchased seats on the group transfer depart for Leonardo da Vinci International Airport for your return flights home. Your Travel Director will provide the details.

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions.





What's Included

Program Overview

- Small group: Sized just right at 28 guests.
- 7 nights in Perugia, Italy, at the deluxe Sina Brufani, Perugia hotel.
- AHI Connects: Local immersion.
- AHI Sustainability Promise: We strive to make a positive, purposeful impact in the communities we visit.
- Complimentary travel mementos.

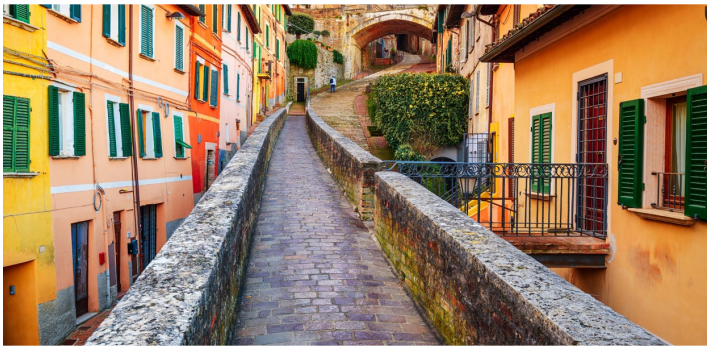
Meal Program

- 7 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 2 dinners and 2 receptions.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions and Dinners to mingle with fellow travelers.
- Tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
- Opportunities to sample authentic cuisine and local flavors.

On-site Features

- Deluxe motor coach transfers during the Land Program with baggage handling.
- Enrichment by expert speakers enhances your insight into the region.
- Engaging excursions showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- Free time to pursue your individual interests.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.





FlexAir Travel Program

Need assistance booking your travel arrangements? Our experts are here to help. Our air program offers the following benefits.

Trip Transportation

- Assistance in the event of schedule changes or delays
- Arrival and departure transfers on group dates

Price Guarantee

- Price guarantee to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase

Travel and Hotel Accommodations

SINA Brufani Hotel

Sina Brufani is ideally nestled in the heart of Perugia, offering guests a prime location to immerse themselves in the city's rich culture and history. The hotel's attentive service ensures a welcoming experience, while the elegant rooms and unique swimming pool, set against ancient Etruscan ruins, provide comfort and charm. While some areas may benefit from modernization, the hotel's timeless style and overall cleanliness continue to impress. Dine at the hotel's restaurant or relax in the stylish lounges, where traditional elegance meets contemporary comfort. Wi-Fi is complimentary.



Tripadvisor

Pricing

$250 Special Savings expires December 8, 2026

Trip Price (USD)

Base Price	**$5,445**
Special Savings (Expires December 8, 2026)	**-$250**
Special Price	**$5,195**
You Pay	**$5,195 per person**

Package rates are per person based on Double occupancy from Land Only. Prices include all service charges; port charges when applicable; U.S. government taxes and fees. The minimum deposit is $1000.00 per person. To view Program Terms and conditions please click here. Some airlines may impose additional charges if you choose to check any baggage. Please contact your airline or refer to its website for detailed information regarding your airline's checked baggage policies.

*Full Payment Discounts are only available at the time of booking with initial payment 120+ days prior to departure. This offer only applies to full payment at the time of reservation. Details on how to qualify for this savings will be included when your reservation request is confirmed.


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