GARDENS, LANDSCAPES, AND VILLAS IN THE HEART OF ITALY

Il Giardino Segreto
GARDEN TOURS

Dimore Storiche Italiane

DAY 1

Arrival in Rome at Fiumicino Airport and depart for the city center by private transfer.
Accommodation at **Hotel Donna Camilla Savelli****.
Welcome dinner and presentation of the itinerary by our English speaking guide.



DAY 2

Breakfast at the Hotel.

Day dedicated to exploring the city center of Rome and its main Baroque attractions.

Admire the marvelous **Trevi Fountain** and Piazza di Spagna.

Walking tour on a discovery of Caravaggio’s masterpieces in **Piazza del Popolo** and nearby churches.

Private visit of **Palazzo Colonna** and its magnificent rooms.

Time for lunch in the cafeteria of the **Palazzo**.

After lunch, wander across the most famous shopping streets and enjoy some free time to shop the most renowned brands.

Transfer to the gorgeous **Piazza Navona**, sightseeing at the incredible historic center

Return to the hotel. Dinner in selected restaurant.

Back to the Hotel for overnight stay.



DAY 3

Breakfast at the hotel.
Meeting with driver and guide and departure with luggage.
Arrival in Castiglione in Teverina, wine tasting and light lunch at Fattoria Madonna delle Macchie.
Transfer and guided visit of Civita di Bagnoregio.
Departure to Bolsena. Check in and accommodation at Palazzo Cozza Caposavi****.
Dinner in the exclusive setting of the Palazzo and overnight stay.







FATTORIA MADONNA DELLE MACCHIE

CASTIGLIONE IN TEVERINA (VT)



FATTORIA MADONNA DELLE MACCHIE WINERY & OLIVE MILL IS LOCATED IN THE HEART OF AN AREA KNOWN ASTUSCIA, AT THE EXTREME NORTHERN PART OF THE TIBER VALLEY; WHERE TUSCANY, UMBRIA AND LATIUM MEET. THIS AREA OF ITALY BOASTS AN ANCIENT WINE MAKING TRADITION AND THE OLIVE OIL PRODUCTION IS CONSIDERED AMONG THE BEST IN THE WORLD.

CIVITA DI BAGNOREGIO



BAGNOREGIO (VT)

CIVITA DI BAGNOREGIO IS A ONE-OF-A-KIND, STUNNING HILLTOP VILLAGE IN CENTRAL ITALY.

PERCHED ON THE TOP OF A STEEP, CRUMBLING ROCK FORMATION IN THE CALANCHI VALLEY, BETWEEN ROME AND ORVIETO, CIVITA IS ISOLATED FROM THE SURROUNDING VILLAGES AND CAN ONLY BE REACHED VIA A LONG BRIDGE CONNECTING IT WITH BAGNOREGIO, ITS NEIGHBORING TOWN.

THE ROCK THAT SUPPORTS THE TOWN IS SUBJECT TO INTENSE EROSION DUE TO WIND AND WATER AND THIS CONDEMNS THE CITY TO A SLOW YET SEEMINGLY INEVITABLE COLLAPSE.

OVER TIME, THE INHABITANTS OF CIVITA LEFT AND RELOCATED TO MORE SOLID GROUNDS AND NOW THE TOWN ONLY COUNTS 11 INHABITANTS.

THIS PECULIAR STORY MAKES CIVITA DI BAGNOREGIO UNIQUE AND IS WHAT GAINED THE VILLAGE THE NICKNAME OF ‘ITALY’S DYING TOWN’.

DESPITE THIS WORRYING PREMISE, CIVITA DI BAGNOREGIO IS A WONDERFUL PLACE TO VISIT AND DOES NOT FEEL LIKE A DYING PLACE AT ALL





PALAZZO COZZA CAPOSAVI

BOLSENA (VT)

LOCATED IN THE SQUARE IN THE HISTORIC CENTER OF BOLSENA, 550 METERS FROM THE LAKE,

THE VESCONTE IS A PERIOD RESIDENCE LOCATED IN THE HISTORIC 16TH CENTURY PALACE OF THE COUNTS COZZA CAPOSAVI AND OVER THE CENTURIES HAS HOSTED VARIOUS MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN ROYAL FAMILIES, TWO POPES, AND AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT WRITERS AND CINEMA CHARACTERS PASSING THROUGH NORTHERN LAZIO.

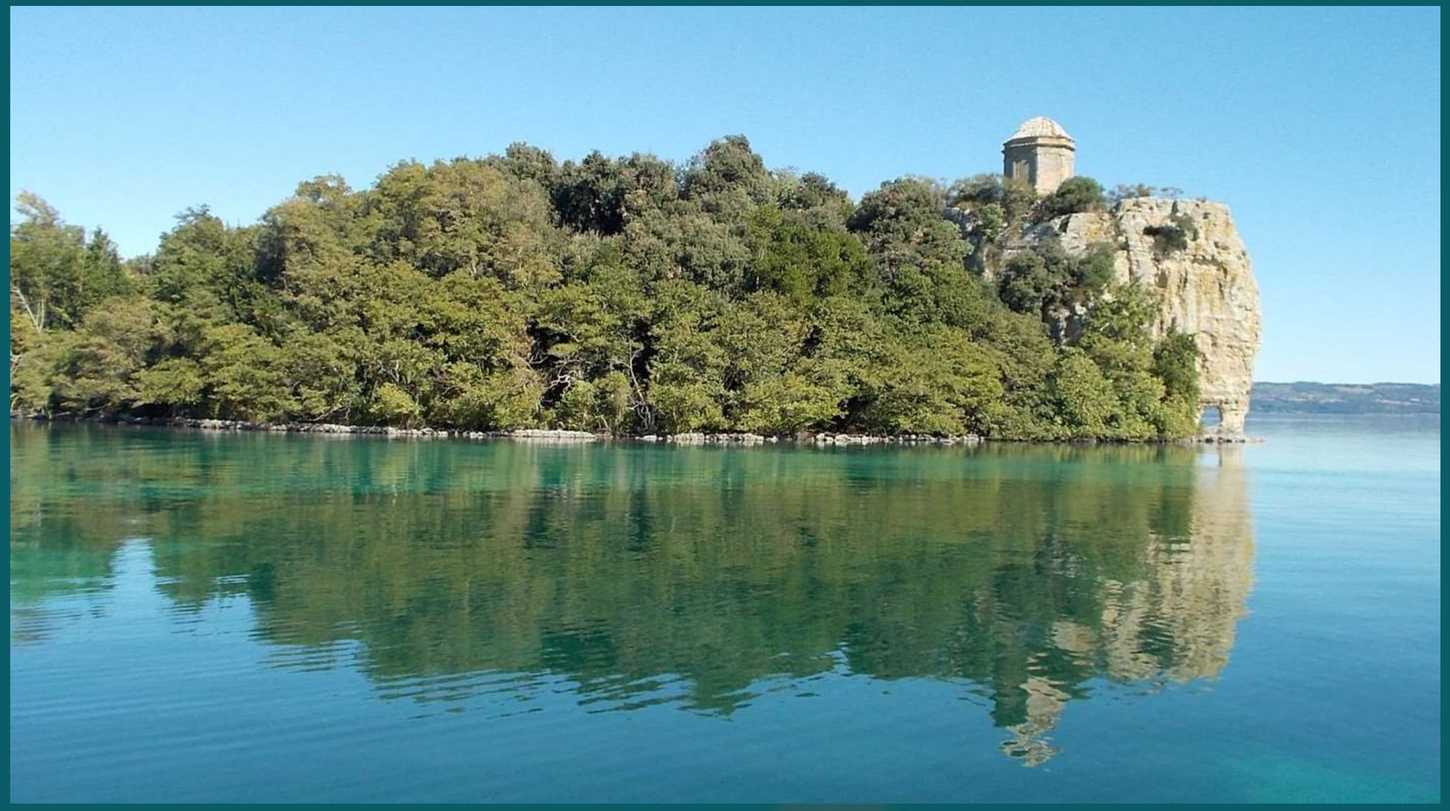
THE POSITION, ON THE ANCIENT VIA FRANCIGENA AND THE IMPERIAL ROAD CASSIA, MADE BOLSENA AN OBLIGATORY STOP FOR TRAVELERS BETWEEN TUSCANY, UMBRIA AND LAZIO.

DAY 4

Breakfast at the Palazzo.
Meeting with guide and transfer by walking to the harbour.
Departure by private boat to Bisentina Island and guided visit of the private island.
Back to Bolsena by boat.
Transfer by bus to the Estate Mazziotti, where a buffet lunch will take place.
Transfer again to Bolsena and guided visit of the village.
Afterwards, transfer to Palazzo del Principe del Drago, guided visit followed by a private dinner inside this historic house.
Back to Palazzo Cozza Caposavi for overnight stay.

ISOLA BISENTINA

BOLSENA (VT)



BISENTINA ISLAND RISES FROM THE CLEAR WATERS OF LAKE BOLSENA, ONE OF THE LARGEST VOLCANIC LAKES IN THE WORLD. THIS ISLAND IS A LUXURIANT OASIS, A TEMPLE OF NATURE AND ART. A PLACE OF CONTEMPLATION WHOSE HISTORY IS LOST IN CENTURIES.

THE ISLAND MUST BE CONSIDERED AS A UNIQUE WORK OF ART, CREATED ACCORDING TO A MYSTICAL AND ARTISTIC PROJECT BORN IN THE RENAISSANCE BY THE WILL OF POPE PIUS II AND THE POWERFUL FARNESE FAMILY. SEVEN CHAPELS AND A LARGE CHURCH WERE BUILT DURING THE CENTURIES.

THE ISLAND WAS LOVED BY BISHOPS, DUKES, PRINCES, BUSINESSMEN, WRITERS, POETS AND MANY OTHER IMPORTANT FIGURES, LEAVING BEHIND THEM SUGGESTIVE FRAGMENTS OF A PAST FULL OF HISTORY AND CHARM.





AZIENDA AGRICOLA MAZZIOTTI

BOLSENA (VT)

THE HOUSE OF MAZZIOTTI WAS FOUNDED IN BOLSENA IN 1900 BY GERARDO MAZZIOTTI WHO HAD ALREADY SPENT MORE THAN 10 YEARS IN THE OENOLOGICAL FIELD. HIS

ENTREPRENEURIAL TALENTS WERE SOON ACKNOWLEDGED AND REWARDED BOTH IN ITALY AND ABROAD.

ITALO MAZZIOTTI FOLLOWED IN HIS FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS, GIVING IMPETUS TO THE GROWTH OF THE HOUSE. AS WITH HIS FATHER, ITALO WAS CHALLENGED TO PRODUCE WINE TO MEET THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF QUALITY.

ONE OF ITALO'S MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS WAS THE PLANTING OF A VINEYARD LOCATED IN THE AREA WHERE THE "EST EST EST DI MONTEFIASCONE" HAD ITS ORIGINS. THIS HILLY SECTION IS SURROUNDED BY DECIDUOUS WOODS, WHICH CONTRIBUTE GREATLY TO THE FAVOURABLE CLIMATE FOR THE VINEYARD. THE VINES FACE THE AFTERNOON SUN AND THE VOLCANIC SOILS ARE ESPECIALLY RICH IN POTASSIUM AND PHOSPHORUS.

ONLY GRAPES GROWN IN THE PRIVATELY-OWNED VINEYARD ARE USED BY THE HOUSE OF MAZZIOTTI.

THE PLANTING OF NEW VINES ARE AIMED TO INCREASE THE PRODUCTION OF REDS. AFTER THE PASSING OF ITALO MAZZIOTTI HIS DAUGHTER FLAMINIA IS AT THE HELM OF THE FAMILY WINERY, CONTINUING IN THE TRADITION OF A QUALITY FOR WHICH THE HOUSE OF MAZZIOTTI HAS BECOME KNOWN.

CURRENTLY FLAMINIA'S DAUGHTER VALERIA IS OPERATING THE HOUSE AS WELL IN A CONTINUOUS RENEWAL OF THE FARM AND THE PRODUCTS.



BOLSENA (VT)

THE TOWN OF BOLSENA STANDS ON THE NORTH-EASTERN SHORE AND REPRESENTS ONE OF THE MOST ENCHANTING CORNERS OF THE AREA, DUE TO ITS TREE-LINED LAKEFRONT AND ITS ROMANTIC MEDIEVAL VILLAGE.

ONE IMPORTANT MONUMENT TO MENTION IS THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF SANTA CRISTINA, BUILT IN ROMANESQUE STYLE WITH RENAISSANCE DECORATION.

WE ALSO RECOMMEND A NICE WALK IN THE VILLAGE OF BOLSENA, AMONG ANCIENT TUFF BUILDINGS, ALLEYS DECORATED WITH FLOWERS AND SLEEPING CATS- IT REALLY LOOKS LIKE A FAIRYTALE.





PALAZZO DEL PRINCIPE DEL DRAGO

BOLSENA (VT)

AN ELEGANT RENAISSANCE BUILDING OWNED BY THE PRINCE DEL DRAGO. INTERESTING FOR ITS ARCHITECTURAL PECULIARITIES AND FOR A FRESCO CYCLE DATING BACK TO THE RENAISSANCE PERIOD.

NOTEWORTHY IS THE SUSPENDED GARDEN WITH NUMEROUS LEMON TREES IN POTS AND THE BEAUTIFUL VIEW OF LAKE BOLSENA.

DAY 5

Breakfast at the Palazzo.
Meeting with driver and guide and departure with luggage to Vignanello.
Guided visit of Castello Ruspoli.
Lunch at Palazzo Pretorio, right next to the castle.
Transfer to Viterbo and check-in at Villa Ascenzi and Palazzo Ubertini.
Transfer to the beautiful historic center of Viterbo for free time for visit and shopping.
Dinner in the exclusive private Villa Ascenzi with live music.
Back to the hotel for overnight stay.





CASTELLO RUSPOLI

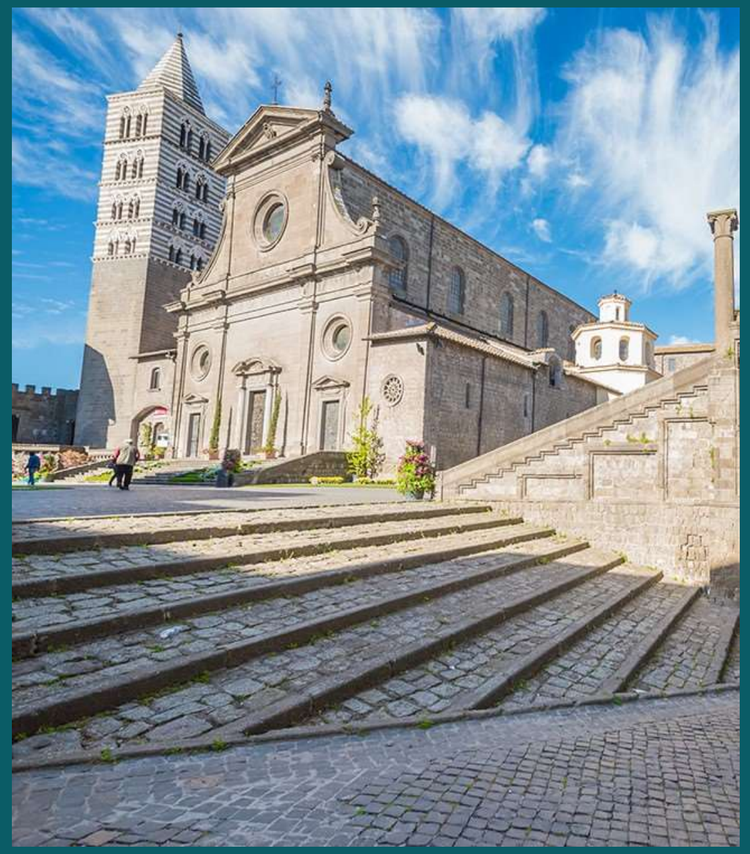
VIGNANELLO (VT)

A FORTRESS THAT PRESERVES THE HISTORY OF THE RUSPOLI FAMILY OVER TIME. THANKS TO THE RESTORATION AND CONSERVATION MEASURES PROMOTED BY THE FAMILY, THE CASTLE IS NOW KNOWN WORLDWIDE, ESPECIALLY IN EUROPE, AS THE SEAT OF ONE OF THE MOST EXCLUSIVE GARDENS OF THE RENAISSANCE PERIOD.

VITERBO

LEGEND HAS IT THAT THE NAME VITERBO COMES FROM THE LATIN VETUS URBS, THAT MEANS OLD CITY. NOWADAYS, THE MAIN CITY IN NORTHER LAZIO IS A LIVELY CENTRE WITH BUSTLING SHOPPING MALLS, OFFICES, BARS AND RESTAURANTS. HOWEVER, IF YOU LEAVE THE MODERN PART BEHIND YOU AND STEP INSIDE THE ANCIENT CITY WALLS THAT SURROUND THE HISTORICAL CENTRE, YOU WILL FEEL LIKE TIME HAS STOPPED HERE. COBBLED STREETS, LITTLE ALLEYS, QUAINT SQUARES AND PICTURESQUE STONE BUILDINGS AWAIT YOU IN THE LARGEST AND BEST PRESERVED MEDIEVAL CITY CENTRE IN EUROPE.











VILLA ASCENZI

VITERBO

THE GUEST HOUSE ON VIA DEI PELLEGRINI IS LOCATED BESIDE THE CHURCH THAT GIVES ITS NAME TO THE SQUARE. THE BUILDING HAS BEEN OWNED AND INHABITED BY THE ASCENZI FAMILY FOR OVER TWO CENTURIES, WHO HAVE PRESERVED ITS HISTORICAL FEATURES AND MAINTAINED IT THROUGH CONSTANT RESTORATION EFFORTS UP TO ITS CURRENT USE AS ACCOMMODATION.

THE CONSTRUCTION DATES BACK TO THE EARLY YEARS OF THE MIDDLE AGES, AROUND THE TURN OF THE FIRST MILLENNIUM, WHEN THE CONSTRUCTION OF ONE OF THE OLDEST CHURCHES IN THE CITY BEGAN. SUBSEQUENT ARCHITECTURAL INTERVENTIONS TRANSFORMED THE BUILDING IN DIFFERENT EPOCHS.

THE GARDEN IS THE TRUE DEFINING ELEMENT OF THE STRUCTURE AND REPRESENTS AN ALMOST UNIQUE CONTEXT IN THE HEART OF THE CITY'S HISTORIC CENTER. THE FUSION OF THE GREENERY OF THE URBAN ORCHARD AND THE GRAY OF THE LOCAL VITERBO STONE, COMBINED WITH THE LIGHT TONES OF THE INTERIORS DESIGNED IN STYLISTIC CONTINUITY BY THE ARCHITECT RAFFAELE ASCENZI HIMSELF, CREATES A POWERFUL ENERGY AND AIMS TO BE THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF SHARING WITH GUESTS.

DAY 6

Breakfast at the hotel. Meeting with driver and guide and departure for Bomarzo.
Guided visit of the famous Parco dei Mostri, also known as the Sacred Wood.

Transfer to Ronciglione, close to the charming little Lake of Vico.
Guided visit and lunch at Villa Lina.

Afterwards, transfer to **Magliano Sabina** for a breathtaking hot air balloon ride.

Return to Viterbo and have dinner at typical restaurant **Sor Bruno** in the heart of the medieval quarter of San Pellegrino.

Overnight stay.





SACRO BOSCO

BOMARZO (VT)

THIS SACRED WOOD, ALSO KNOWN AS “PARCO DEI MOSTRI” (PARK OF THE MONSTERS”), IS A MONUNENTAL AREA ON THE SLOPES OF A NATURAL AMPHITHEATER, IN THE PROVINCE OF VITERBO. IT WAS DESIGNED IN 1552, AT THE BEHEST OF PRINCE PIER FRANCESCO ORSINI WHO TASKED ARCHITECT PIRRO LIGORIO WITH THE CREATION OF A LABYRINTH OF SYMBOLS IN THE ESTATE OF BOMARZO.

HE WANTED TO GET HIMSELF LOST WANDERING AMONG GIGANTIC STATUES CARVED IN STONES, REPRESENTING MONSTROUS CREATURES.

THE ITALIAN GARDENS IN THE WOOD ARE BUILT WITH A GEOMETRIC AND PROSPECTIVE BASIS, WITH ORNAMENTS LIKE LARGE TERRACES, FOUNTAINS, AND MANNERIST SCULPTURES.

IN THE PARK THERE ARE FIGURES OF MONSTERS, DRAGONS, MYTHOLOGICAL SUBJECTS, AND EXOTIC ANIMALS PROTRUDING FROM THE GROUND; THERE’S ALSO A LEANING HOUSE, A FUNERAL TEMPLE, FOUNTAINS, SEATS, AND OBELISKS ENGRAVED WITH VARIOUS MOTTOS AND INSCRIPTIONS.



VILLA LINA

RONCIGLIONE (VT)

DEFINED BY THE FINANCIAL TIMES AS "ITALY'S BEST-KEPT SECRET," 40 HECTARES OF AN ORGANIC ESTATE, A MEDITERRANEAN PARADISE, CURATED BY WRITER AND FILMMAKER PAOLA IGLIORI.

AN AUTHENTIC HISTORICAL RESIDENCE IN EVERY DETAIL, WHERE ARTISTS LIKE SANDRO CHIA, CY TWOMBLY, AND JEAN MICHEL BASQUIAT, AND POETS LIKE GREGORY CORSO AND D'ANNUNZIO HAVE STAYED. ENCLOSED BY THE SUGGESTIVE BOTANICAL GARDEN IN THE LATE 1700S AND THE ITALIAN GARDEN.





RONCIGLIONE (VT)

A CHARMING VILLAGE WITH AN ANCIENT HISTORY WHICH FLOURISHED NOTABLY UNDER THE FARNESE FAMILY'S RULE BETWEEN 1526 AND 1649, BECOMING AN ECONOMICALLY ADVANCED CENTRE.

THERE ARE ALSO INTERESTING TALES SURROUNDING RONCIGLIONE, LIKE THE ONE ABOUT HERCULES HAVING VISITED IT: LEGEND HAS IT THAT THE LAKE OF VICO WAS FORMED WHEN HERCULES, IN A DISPLAY OF HIS IMMENSE STRENGTH, PULLED OUT A MACE HE HAD PREVIOUSLY THRUST INTO THE GROUND. THIS ACT CAUSED WATER TO GUSH OUT, FORMING THE LAKE. IT WAS ON THIS OCCASION THAT THE DEMIGOD VISITED RONCIGLIONE, DRIVEN BY HIS QUEST FOR THE NYMPHS MELISSA AND AMALTEA.

THERE ARE MANY MANY NATURAL AND ARCHITECTURAL WONDERS TO ENJOY IN TOWN AND IN ITS SURROUNDINGS. THE MEDIEVAL ROCCA IS CERTAINLY ONE OF THEM: IT WAS CONSTRUCTED BY THE PREFECTS OF VICO AND UNDERWENT SIGNIFICANT MODIFICATIONS UNDER POPE SIXTUS IV WHEN IT BECAME THE ICONIC CASTLE KNOWN TODAY AS I TORRIONI.

THE FONTANA GRANDE OR DEGLI UNICORNI, CRAFTED BY ARCHITECT ANTONIO GENTILI DA FAENZA, IS A MARVEL IN SANDSTONE, FEATURING THREE UNICORNS FROM WHOSE MOUTHS WATER FLOWS INTO THE BASINS BELOW.

DAY 7

Breakfast at the hotel.
Departure with luggage for Rome Fiumicino Airport.

WHAT IS INCLUDED

Accommodation for 6 nights with breakfast included:
2 nights at Hotel Donna Camilla Savelli - Rome
2 nights at Palazzo Cozza Caposavi – Bolsena
2 nights at Villa Ascenzi / Palazzo Ubertini – Viterbo

6 dinners included:
1 dinner at selected restaurant - Rome
1 dinner at the Palazzo Cozza Caposavi
1 dinner at "Sor Bruno" restaurant
1 dinner at Villa Cicchi with show cooking
1 dinner at the Palazzo del Principe del Drago (historic private house)
1 dinner at Villa Ascenzi (private house) with live music

4 lunches included:
1 Wine tasting and light lunch at Fattoria Madonna delle Macchie
1 Wine tasting and light lunch at Estate Mazziotti
1 Lunch at Palazzo Pretorio in Vignanello
1 Lunch at Villa Lina

Private visit of Palazzo Colonna as described
Entrance fees and guided visits as described
Private boat and guided visit to to Isola Bisentina (private island)
English-speaking guide all the tour long
Bus transfer
Customized 24-hour assistance by Il Giardino Segreto T.O.

Price per person:
€ 2500 (minimum 16 people)

Extra for Double-single use:
ON REQUEST

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED

Flights
Tourist tax at the hotels
Tips and personal extras

HOTELS

Villa Ascenzi - Viterbo
https://www.bbapiazzadelgesu.com/



Borgo Seghetti Panichi - Castel di Lama
https://seghettipanichi.it/



Palazzo Cozza Caposavi – Bolsena
https://www.vesconteresidenza.com/

Palazzo Ubertini - Viterbo
https://www.palazzoubertini.eu/

