

## “ETRUSCAN TRAIL” – 13 days

The tour, which retraces the path taken by the Etruscans, takes visitors to the most important places inhabited by this great and ancient civilization of Italy, who extended his power over a vast territory. The main collection is preserved today in the regions of Tuscany, Lazio and Umbria.



### **1 Day ROME-VITERBO**

Arrival in Rome. Meet our representative at the airport, transfer to VITERBO. Check-in at the hotel, enjoy your spare time, dinner. In the event of early afternoon arrival, a visit to the fascinating Viterbo City Museum may be arranged. The museum contains wonderful artefacts from various archaeological sites in lower Etruria. A visit to the Alborno Museum may also take place. The Alborno houses pieces from the Acquarossa area. There are also scientifically accurate reconstructions and models of Etruscan architecture which provide a valuable learning experience. A walk through Viterbo's medieval neighbourhoods. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight stay.

### **2 Day VITERBO AREA**

Breakfast at the hotel and departure for TARQUINIA, an indispensable visit for those wishing to enter the mysterious world of the Etruscans. A visit to the museum housed in the Vitelleschi Palace. The museum faithfully recounts the history of Etruscan civilization through exhibits of artefacts which are displayed in chronological order. Visit to the Necropolis with its vast array of richly frescoed tombs. Walk through the historic center of the town. Transfer to TUSCANIA and lunch in a traditional restaurant. Visit to the enchanting “borgo” neighbourhood of TUSCANIA, to the Archaeological Museum and to the splendid Tomb of the Queen. Return to VITERBO, dinner and overnight stay.

### **3 Day VITERBO AREA**

Breakfast at the hotel. Visit to the Etruscan settlement of ACQUAROSSA (VII-VI century BC) where noteworthy architectonic terracotta pieces have been found, as well as a group of about twenty houses. These are part of the royal palace complex and of a place of worship. The visit continues to FERENTO, Etruscan center 9 Km from Viterbo. The majestic ruins of the theatre bear witness to the splendor of the past. An open-air summer theatre festival takes place here every year. A visit to the ancient baths will offer an opportunity to view the beautiful floor mosaics. Lunch in a traditional restaurant. Next stop, the archaeological zone of NORCHIA. This is one of the Tuscia region's most significant sites, where the ancient Orclia was once found. There are a number of hypogea and columbariae (tombs and sepulchres) on this site. The spectacular necropolis has monumental tombs carved into the cliffs of volcanic rock. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight stay.

### **4 Day SOVANA-SORANO-VITTOZZA**

Breakfast at the hotel and departure for a full-day excursion to the Etruscan sites of SOVANA, where you can admire, among others, the famous “Tomba Ildebranda”, built in the form of a temple. SORANO and VITTOZZA, with almost two hundred untouched caves bear witness to the daily life of the Etruscans. Stop in POGGIO BUCCO

(MANCIANO) and visit the necropolis. In this tour lunch is at leisure. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight stay.

#### **5 Day ORVIETO**

Breakfast at the hotel, leave for ORVIETO, one of the most powerful cities of the Etruscans. Arrival in Orvieto, check-in at the hotel, spare time and lunch at leisure. Half-day tour of the city. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight stay.

#### **6 Day ORVIETO**

Breakfast at the hotel. Half-day guided visit to the necropolis of CROCIFISSO DEL TUFO and the Faina Museum which houses the famous "Venus" of Cannicella. Lunch at leisure. Time to explore this outstanding town. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight stay.

#### **7 Day CHIUSI-PERUGIA**

Breakfast at the hotel, departure for CHIUSI, which is home not only to an excellent archaeological museum (Museo Nazionale Etrusco), but also to painted tombs. CHIUSI's Romanesque Cathedral is a further example of this town's ancient past. Lunch in a reserved restaurant. In the afternoon departure for PERUGIA. Arrival in PERUGIA. Check-in at the hotel, spare time, dinner at the hotel, overnight stay.

#### **8 Day PERUGIA**

Breakfast at the hotel, full-day guided tour of the city with its walls and city gates. Visit the outstanding IPOGEO DEI VOLUMNI. Lunch at leisure. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight stay.

#### **9 Day CORTONA**

Breakfast at the hotel. Leave for a full-day guided tour of CORTONA. This is one of the loveliest hill-towns of central Italy and it bears witness to its glorious Etruscan past as well as to its important role in the Middle Ages. Do not miss the Museo dell'Accademia Etrusca. Lunch at leisure. Return to the hotel in Perugia, dinner and overnight stay.

#### **10 Day PERUGIA-ROME**

Breakfast at the hotel. The morning is available either for relaxing and soaking up the atmosphere of the city or for visiting the Archaeological Museum. Lunch at leisure. In the afternoon departure for Rome. Arrival in ROME. Check-in and dinner at the hotel.

#### **11 Day ROME-CERVETERI**

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure for a guided visit to CERVETERI, one of the oldest and strongest cities of the twelve-city Etruscan Federation. This city's necropolis, with its streets and houses as well as very interesting tombs, is certainly worth a visit. The Museo Nazionale di Cerveteri, after your lunch at leisure, cannot be missed. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight stay.

#### **12 Day ROME**

Breakfast at the hotel. The whole day is available for relaxing or exploring the city or visiting the Museo Nazionale di villa Giulia, the world's best collection of Etruscan treasures. Lunch at leisure. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight stay.

#### **13 Day ROME**

Breakfast at the hotel and transfer to the airport.