

Wonderful  
RETREATS

OUR 2019 TUSCAN ADVENTURES

## LOVELY LUCCA HISTORIC CITY CENTER

JUNE 24 - JULY 1

7 NIGHTS IN LUXURIOUS APARTMENTS IN THE HISTORIC CENTER OF LUCCA, ITALY



Are you ready to discover the hidden gem of Tuscany? Lucca is often a day trip destination of folks staying in Florence but we get to call this charming town home for a whole week!

Right along the train route between the coast and Florence, Lucca is easy to get to even though it may seem off the beaten path. These bustling cobblestone streets are filled with bikes, food, shopping and more! Being able to walk right out

of our apartment building and be in the center of lively Lucca is the perfect inspiration for a week of exploring and creating!

**CORTE DEL GALLO:** Our two private apartments are located right in the historic center of Lucca.

Locals commute across town on bikes as most of the streets are closed to outside car traffic. Our two apartments are housed in a lovely historic building that dates back 7 centuries. While it has the old world charms you'll expect of Tuscany, it has plenty of bright natural light and modern conveniences (an elevator, for one). You'll be close to everything while being protected from the city noise.

Just how close to everything? Exit our building and you'll be a 3-5 minute walk from small grocers, bakeries and cafes, the main Cathedral San Michele, over a dozen restaurants, excellent shopping, bike rentals and more! You'll have the convenience of a larger city to explore with a quiet apartment to escape to at the end of the day for a glass of wine with your new friends.

**LUCCA:** There's so much hiding inside these city walls. Lucca has a rich history that dates back to 180 BC when it was a Roman colony but there's evidence of Etruscans even before that. The main feature of Lucca is intact surrounding walls. This rampart wall encircles the main historic center and is now a popular spot for bike riding, picnics or an evening  *Passeggiata*. Inside the walls you'll find 8 prominent churches, museums, the Anfiteatro (built atop an ancient Roman amphitheater), the birthplace of Puccini and even a tower with trees on top. During the summer, Piazza Napoleone gets converted into a concert center for the Lucca Summer Music Festival. There is SO much happening inside these city walls just waiting to be explored!

## ITINERARY:

**Day 1:** Transfer from Train Station | Check in at apartments | Evening group aperitivo and group stroll around the city...gelato, anyone?

**Day 2:** Orientation and breakfast at apartments | Walking tour of town | Lunch and afternoon sketching around town | Group dinner down the street from our apartment

**Day 3:** Day trip north of Lucca to Ponte della Maddalena and Garfagnana hill towns | Dinner in Lucca

**Day 4:** Free day (activity suggestions can be provided) or optional day trip to Pisa

**Day 5:** Quiet morning in apartments before transfer | Private cooking class in the hills above Lucca | Evening dinner in Lucca

**Day 6:** Florence day trip via trains with guided tour around the city | Lunch and unscheduled afternoon for shopping, site-seeing and flexible return home to Lucca by train

**Day 7:** Morning sketching and painting around town | Afternoon transfer to private wine tasting at Colle di Bordecheo | Group dinner in town

**Day 8:** Check out of apartment | Transfer provided to train station if needed

*\*Itinerary is subject to change -- this is Italy afterall*

## RETREAT COST:

**\$2650 - Double occupancy**

**\$2950 - Single occupancy**

### **Included:**

- Lodging for 7 nights in Lucca historic center in one of our two apartments
- All breakfasts
- 2 group dinners in Lucca, 1 lunch in countryside (cooking class)
- Welcome cocktails and aperitivo
- 1 cooking class in countryside (see above)
- Private drivers for all transfers to and from apartment
- 2 Day trips, North of Lucca and Florence
- 1 wine tasting
- All art lessons
- A handmade art journal and tote bag



## NOT INCLUDED IN EITHER RETREAT:

Airfare is not included. You may use miles for free flights. We are happy to provide assistance recommending travel itineraries and will provide detailed train travel instructions to arrive at the retreats as well. Travel from airport to the destination city is also not included but we can help arrange for a private transfer if needed.

All art materials (brushes, watercolors, paper, etc) are not provided but we are happy to ship you our recommended travel sketching and watercolor supply kit along with your included sketchbook for a fee.

## OTHER DETAILS:

Early birds registrants (prior to February 28, 2019) will get a signed copy of your host's, Chelsea Ward, first published book on drawing, Modern Drawing. Also available at Barnes & Noble and on Amazon.

We will be instructing on sketching and watercolor. Please inform us on the mediums you intend to participate in and we will provide you with a suggested supply list if you wish to shop on your own. You are more than welcome to bring any of your preferred art supplies (acrylics, pastels, etc).

To hold your spot in the trip, a deposit of \$650 must be paid as soon as possible as space is limited. Please make checks payable to Wanderful Retreats. If you would like to use a credit card there is a 3.5% processing fee.

The payment for the remainder of the trip can be scheduled, but is due in total by no later than May 30, 2019.

It is highly advised that you obtain private travel insurance if you have any concerns about canceling, as all fees are nonrefundable.

## RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

### HAVE QUESTIONS?

SEND US AN EMAIL: [WANDERFULRETREATS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:WANDERFULRETREATS@GMAIL.COM)

GIVE US A CALL: (805) 403-1633