

FLAG
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Travel

THE SIENA PALIO

A SAMPLE ITINERARY



DAY ONE

Upon your arrival in Italy (**14:25**), you will be met by your driver outside the arrivals hall at the Florence Grosseto Airport.

From here you will transfer to your incredible Villa. Sleeping eight, and including an in-villa breakfast, the gorgeous rural property is only 45 minutes from the centre of Siena, and has a private pool in which to enjoy the summer sun!

You will have the rest of your first day here to enjoy at leisure. Details of your accommodation can be found [here](#). You have a table reserved at the Casa Del Fiume's **Chef's Garden Dinner** at **19.00** this evening. The Menu is included at the end of this PDF.





This morning, you will transfer to Siena, meeting your driver at the villa at **09:00**. Two minivans will be at your disposal all morning (your drivers mobile will be communicated the day before). Upon collection, you will transfer to the stables of one of the Palio's most famous jockeys in order to meet the team, tour the stable complex, and learn about the preparations for the Palio itself, as well as discovering more about the different breeds of horses kept for this specialist race. You will even have a chance to spend a chunk of your day riding on horseback!

A traditional Tuscan lunch will be supplied and organised to enjoy at the stable, and a special present for the children will be included - some signed memorabilia from the contrada jockey himself! You are welcome to continue riding into the afternoon should you wish. This evening, we have reserved you a table at the Campo del Drago at **19.30**.





DAY THREE

Transfer to Siena this morning after meeting your driver (your driver's mobile will be communicated the day before) at **09:00** at your villa. In Siena, you will meet your private guide for a walking tour in order to learn more about the history of the Palio - a tradition stretching back to 1633!

The bareback horserace runs straight through the ancient streets of impossibly quaint Siena, and is as popular today as ever! As much a celebration of the city as a race, each competitor or 'contrada' represents a different district of Siena. It culminates in the aforementioned Piazza del Campo - the city's principal public space and one of Europe's great medieval squares. Indeed, the entirety of Siena's historic centre is a UNESCO World Heritage site, and the Palio is a fun, colourful and riotous cultural experience that feels somewhat timeless!



After learning about some of the intricacies and mystiques of the event from your guide, they will take you to **Al Mangia** restaurant right on the piazza for lunch (already included). Next, you will visit the contrada to meet the local team! The evening before the famous Palio is a lively and atmospheric affair, with lanterns and heraldry lining the streets as local cuisine is served to at special outdoor 'contrada' tables.

You will join the procession to the practice race, and watch with the local partisans from a medieval building in a great location overlooking the Piazza!

After the practice race is complete, you will walk with the locals to your contrada or civic area, where we have arranged for you to be sat at a central contrada table for dinner.

The jockey will personally wait for you to arrive in order to greet and join you for dinner, and you will celebrate the occasion together with the locals, and the hero himself, enjoying an al fresco meal and learning first-hand from the residence about the history, civic pride and rivalry involved in the Palio!

After dinner, transfer back to your villa for the evening.





DAY FOUR

Rise this morning for an **11:00** transfer (your drivers mobile will be communicated the day before) from your villa back to Siena - Race Day has finally arrived! Upon arrival into the city, its time for a delightful lunch at **Antica Trattoria Papei**. Next you will meet your guide, and you will have some time to walk the streets to soak up the atmosphere as anticipation and excitement builds.

As the crowds begin to arrive, you will take your position for the main event! We have reserved your seats in a balcony just overlooking the track, in a superb position on the Curva San Martino. Watch the action unfold before your eyes, and after a new champion is crowned for another year, you will enjoy a delightful dinner at **Al Mestolo** restaurant one of Siena's finest restaurants, before a transfer back to your villa!





DAY FIVE

Depending on your choice of departure slot, enjoy your time today at leisure, before a private transfer to your chosen airport. Your driver will collect you when you wish.

*** END OF TRIP ***

