

SMALL GROUP  
MAXIMUM OF  
28 TRAVELERS

# TUSCANY

IN A TUSCAN VILLA

**SPONSORED BY**

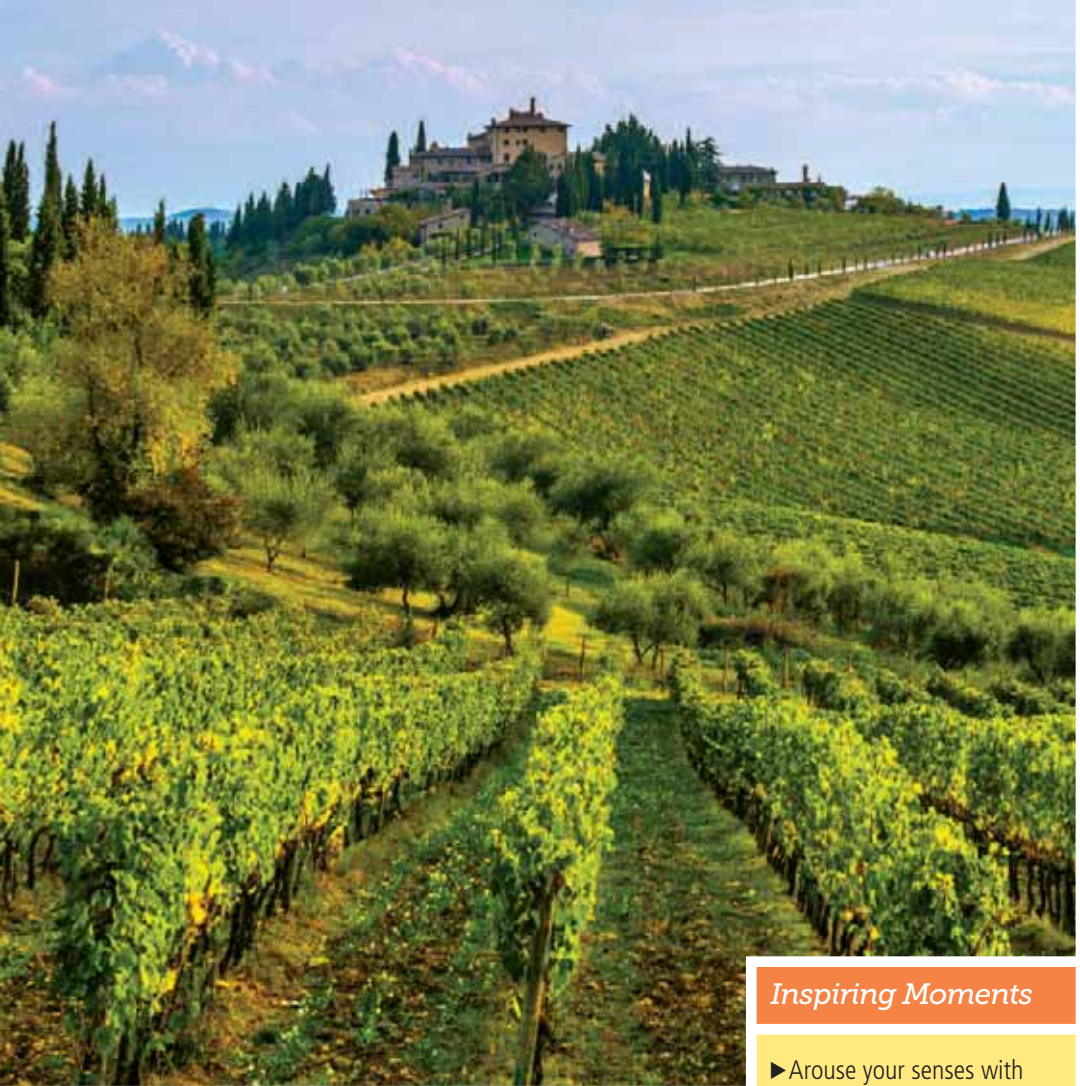


**Traveling Aggies**

A PROGRAM OF  
The Association of Former Students®



**MAY 23-31, 2017**



# A World Apart

The story of travel involves more than a ticket and a passport. It should weave together discovery, education and humanity, the best elements of any compelling tale. Your personal travel story begins with our commitment to delivering authentic experiences with local people.

The incomparable value of your journey lies in the personalized care you receive from your Travel Director and the knowledge you gain from expert guides and lecturers, who call this area home.

By eliminating logistical worries, your multilingual Travel Director allows you to immerse yourself comfortably in your surroundings. This high-caliber professional makes you feel safe and important by creating a convivial, welcoming atmosphere.

The other important characters in this story are the guides and lecturers, whose regional expertise shines in their insider perspective and commentary.

With these specialists at your side, become intimately engaged in the rhythm and beauty of timeless Tuscany, adding another memorable chapter to the rich story of your life.

## Inspiring Moments

- ▶ Arouse your senses with robust wines and nutty cheeses at a **Val d’Orcia winery**.
- ▶ Enjoy a coffee while people watching in the **Piazza della Repubblica**, the heart of Cortona.
- ▶ Witness a **fiery Tuscan sunset** from your villa’s terrace.
- ▶ Savor creamy gelato in Siena’s sprawling **Piazza del Campo**.
- ▶ Experience **Florence’s** unrivaled **romantic ambience**.
- ▶ Marvel at centuries-old artifacts and colorful mosaics at the extraordinary **Museum of the Etruscan Academy**.
- ▶ Roam ancient cobblestones and Renaissance palazzi in **Montepulciano**.





## Traveling Aggies

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### Howdy, Ags!

Join us and toast Tuscany, a region cherished the world over for its breathtaking natural beauty, magnificent Renaissance art, superb cuisine, delectable wines and rich cultural heritage. Tuscany's historic hilltop towns are living postcards, where ancient ramparts encircle colorful piazzas, elegant Etruscan fountains, stately palazzos and bustling cafés.

Stay in a charming Tuscan villa and, during exciting excursions, marvel at the countryside and stunning Val d'Orcia. Discover Montepulciano's ancient towers and visit gothic Siena perched above Tuscany's fertile vineyards. Immerse yourself in Renaissance Florence and taste the flavors of Tuscany from farm to table. Come experience Cortona like a local and live a true Tuscan experience.

This trip combines the security, ease and value of group travel with opportunities for independent exploration. Enjoy the camaraderie of traveling with a group and, during your free time, feel the thrill of making your own discoveries! Space on this exclusive journey is limited, and the trip is sure to sell out quickly, so make your reservations today!

Gig 'em!

Jennifer Bohac

Jennifer Bohac '87, Ph.D.

Director, Travel Programs

The Association of Former Students

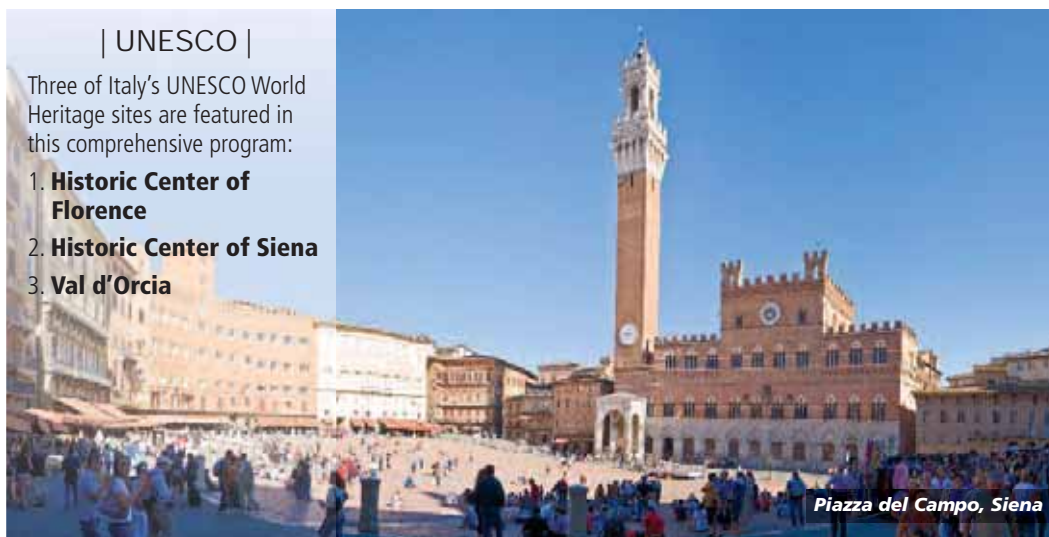
**800-633-7514**

**AggieNetwork.com/Travel**

| UNESCO |

Three of Italy's UNESCO World Heritage sites are featured in this comprehensive program:

1. **Historic Center of Florence**
2. **Historic Center of Siena**
3. **Val d'Orcia**



*Piazza del Campo, Siena*



# TUSCANY | IN A TUSCAN VILLA



Tuscany is one of the world's most beloved destinations, and for good reason: The wine, food, historic landmarks and art are second to none. Step off the beaten path and experience Tuscany as few travelers have before. On this unique journey, linger in medieval villages, sip Brunello among the rolling hills and nibble Pecorino at a family farm. Immerse yourself in the Tuscan way of life, and feast your eyes on both world-famous landmarks and hidden gems, from Florence's iconic Ponte Vecchio to the quintessential Tuscan town of Cortona.

DAY ONE

## IN TRANSIT

Depart your gateway city for Florence, Italy.†

DAY TWO

## FLORENCE, ITALY | CORTONA

Upon arrival, transfer† to Cortona and check in to the Villa Marsili, a charming Tuscan villa. This evening, gather for a Welcome Reception and Dinner at the villa.

## YOUR INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCE

Free time means something different to every traveler. Some people like to linger in a cozy café, while others prefer to stay on the go. That's why we have designed *elective* activities to allow you to craft your individual travel experience. Check out our itinerary for more details. We've done the legwork. Now the choice is yours.



**ELECTIVE** experiences are available at an additional cost.

DAY THREE

B | L

## CORTONA

**Educational Focus:** *Cortona and its Environs.*

**Excursion:** *Walking Tour of Cortona.*

Admire Cortona's exceptional Etruscan treasures from its perch of 600 meters above sea level. Stroll near charming piazzas, including the Piazza della Repubblica. Admire the 13th-century town hall, the cathedral and the 11th-century façade of the Diocesan Museum. See The Annunciation by Beato Angelico, and gaze at soul-stirring vistas from the town's ancient porta.

**Local Flavor:** Enjoy a classic Tuscan lunch.

**Excursion:** *The Tuscan Countryside.* Travel through a patchwork of burgeoning hill country in the Val d'Orcia. Spy vineyards heavy with grapes and red poppy playgrounds peppered with church steeples. Tour a winery and sample local vintages and cheeses in the Brunello di Montalcino region.

DAY FOUR

B

## SIENA

**Educational Focus:** *Renaissance Art.*

**Excursion:** *Sienna.* Sitting on a lofty perch atop three hills, Siena is a treasure chest of Gothic architecture, cathedrals and museums. Visit the shell-shaped Piazza del Campo, the site of the bi-annual Palio horse race. Surrounding the piazza are the prominent Torre del Mangia, Piazza Chapel and Civic Museum. Step into



Cortona

the Duomo, home to fascinating works of art and sculpture.

**Independent Exploration:** Enjoy time at leisure. Meander Siena's winding cobblestones, or sample two Sienese staples: panforte and ricciarelli.

DAY FIVE

B | D

## FLORENCE

**Excursion: *Cradle of the Renaissance.***

From the birth of Michelangelo in 1475 to the death of the last Medici heir, Florence embodies a wealth of momentous Renaissance history. Explore the city center, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and discover how the city's caché of creative genius left it laden with fine art and stunning architecture around every turn. Walk by the Old Palace, the Ponte Vecchio, the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore, the Piazza della Signoria and other highlights.

**Independent Exploration:** Explore the wonders and gastronomic pleasures of Florence on your own. Art lovers may choose to visit one of Florence's world-famous museums, the Uffizi or the Galleria dell'Accademia, home of Michelangelo's David. Pay a visit to the Basilica di San Lorenzo – the oldest church in Florence and the resting place of all of the principal members of the Medici family.

DAY SIX

B | D

## MONTEPULCIANO

**Excursion: *Explore Montepulciano.*** Travel through the Val di Chiana to the ancient Etruscan city of Montepulciano. En route, visit the Church of the Madonna di San Biagio. Consecrated by Pope Clement VII in 1529, the church features large arches and bell towers.



**Independent Exploration:** Enjoy leisure time in Montepulciano. Lounge in a shaded corner of Piazza Grande, or stroll the Corso, a narrow avenue with wine cellars and boutiques.

**Educational Focus: *A Contemporary View of Italy.***

**Local Flavor:** Dine on Italian fare in Cortona.

DAY SEVEN

B

## CORTONA

**Independent Exploration:** Explore Cortona on your own. Duck into a wine bar, or





Ponte Vecchio, Florence

taste sinful cakes at Pasticceria Banchelli.

### **ELECTIVE | Assisi and Perugia.**

Encounter the walled cities of Assisi and Perugia. Stroll through Assisi, and visit the Basilica of San Francesco, which is dedicated to the town's most famous resident, St. Francis. Step inside the Basilica of Santa Maria delgi Angeli, and enjoy lunch in Assisi. After, travel to the town of Perugia to see the 13th-century Fontana Maggiore and the Prior's Palace.


DAY EIGHT B | D

### **CORTONA**

#### **Excursion: Museum of the Etruscan Academy.**

Admire the artistic legacy of the Etruscans, who first settled in what now is Cortona. Visit the 14th-century Praetorian Palace. The Museum of the Etruscan Academy will astound you with archaeological finds and important Etruscan, Greek, Roman and Egyptian works of art. Also see colorful mosaics and collections of engraved gems.

**Independent Exploration:** Enjoy free time in Cortona.

 **ELECTIVE | Tuscan Cooking.** Enjoy an afternoon immersed in Tuscan cuisine during a cooking demonstration. After, gather for lunch to savor the culinary creations.

Tonight, join your fellow travelers for a Farewell Reception and Graduation Ceremony followed by a special Farewell Dinner.

DAY NINE B

### **IN TRANSIT**

Following breakfast, transfer<sup>†</sup> to the airport for the return flight to your gateway city.

**Note:** *Itinerary may change due to local conditions. Walking is required on many excursions, and surfaces may be uneven or unpaved.*

<sup>†</sup> Provided for AHI FlexAir participants

*B/L/D denotes included breakfasts, lunches and dinners.*

*Elective experiences available at an additional cost*

### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

(With baggage handling.)

- Seven nights in Cortona, Italy, at the deluxe Villa Marsili.

### **MEALS**

- Enjoy an **extensive meal program**, featuring seven breakfasts, one lunch and four dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
- Sample authentic regional specialties at local restaurants.
- Attend a special Welcome Reception and Dinner.
- Gather for a Farewell Reception and a Graduation Ceremony followed by a Farewell Dinner.

### **YOUR EXCITING TRAVEL PROGRAM**

- **Informative educational programs**, presented by local experts, will enhance your insight into the region.
- **Personal VOX listening devices** allow you to hear every word from your expert, English-speaking guides.
- Tipping of excursion guides and drivers.
- **The following excursions:**
  - Stroll through Cortona, a beautiful hilltop town.
  - In the picturesque Val d'Orcia, tour a winery and taste local flavors.
  - Uncover the Gothic splendors of Siena.
  - See Florence's romantic highlights.
  - Experience the ancient charms of Montepulciano.
  - Discover the Etruscan Academy in Cortona.





## AHI TRAVEL EXPERTISE

From your reservation to your return home, we are here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

### *Before you go:*

- ▶ **TRAVEL CONSULTANTS** | These experts stand ready to answer your questions about activities, meals, accommodations and more as they guide you through the reservation process.
- ▶ **PASSENGER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE** | Once you have reserved your spot, enjoy personalized assistance from this specialist, your one point of contact who will help you with everything from arranging flights to booking elective activities to fulfilling special requests.
- ▶ **TRAVEL INFORMATION** | Receive extensive destination information and travel tips compiled by our travel-savvy team to prepare you fully for your journey.

### *Once you arrive:*

On the ground, three layers of top-quality professionals offer their insiders' perspective. From suggesting the best café or pub to sharing a laugh over the stories of the day, our dedicated team takes your adventure to the next level.

- ▶ **TRAVEL DIRECTOR** | Throughout your journey, you will be in the care of a seasoned AHI travel professional who will manage all the logistics, allowing you to relax and simply soak up the ambience. Resourceful, knowledgeable and attentive, your Travel Director helps to ensure you enjoy an unforgettable travel experience.
- ▶ **EXPERT GUIDES** | Who better to show you around than the people who live there? We've specially selected informed and enthusiastic local professional guides who understand the needs of our educated and curious travelers. Warm and genuine, they're ready to share their passion for their country with you.
- ▶ **LECTURERS** | Coming from all walks of life, our entertaining local lecturers open your eyes to history and current events. The breadth of their knowledge deepens your appreciation for the region and its heritage.

## VILLA MARSILI | CORTONA, ITALY

Our travel experts have carefully selected this deluxe Tuscan villa for its charming ambience and prime location. Located in the heart of Cortona, the Villa Marsili is beautifully restored with warmth and character. Antique furniture and frescoed walls add to the hotel's Tuscan flourishes and cozy, modern comforts. Each guest room features a peaceful and revitalizing retreat after a day of sightseeing, and the tranquil courtyard is an ideal oasis to unwind with new friends. Wi-Fi is complimentary.

# Reserve your trip to Italy, today!

**Trip #:6-23082W**

Send to: The Association of Former Students  
Attn: Traveling Aggies  
505 George Bush Drive  
College Station, TX 77840-2918  
Phone: **979-845-7514**  
Fax: **979-845-9263**  
Toll Free: **800-633-7514**



Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on your passport)

Guest 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Home: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) Cell: ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

Sharing room with \_\_\_\_\_ (Form sent separately.)

Name(s) you would like on your name badge(s):

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year

**I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:**

### Land Program and AHI FlexAir

I/we reserve the Land Program and request the round-trip AHI FlexAir to Florence, Italy, to depart from:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Departure City

- Please contact me regarding air options.  
 Please send me information on upgrading my flights.

### Land Only Program

I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.

### Single Accommodations

- I prefer single accommodations at an additional \$695 (limited availability).  
 I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

Reservations are subject to availability and are processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations are to be paid in full by **March 9, 2017** (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard, Visa, Discover or Amex. Make checks payable to AHI Travel.

AHI Travel has assumed all costs for the printing and distribution of this promotion. This program is exclusively arranged by AHI Travel, 8550 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Suite 600, Chicago, IL 60631. No funds donated to The Association of Former Students or to Texas A&M University have been used in the production or mailing of this travel brochure; all such costs are covered by the tour supplier.

Enclosed is a deposit of \_\_\_\_\_ (\$600/person required) to reserve \_\_\_\_\_ place(s).

- Accept my check made payable to **AHI Travel**.  
 Charge my:  MasterCard  Visa  Discover  Amex

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expires \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature as it appears on credit card)

**Please note:** Any payment to AHI International constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out herein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.



# LAND PROGRAM

## May 24-31, 2017

**Full Price**

**\$3,145**

**Special Savings**

**\$250**

**Special Price\***

**\$2,895\***

\*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.  
VAT is an additional \$295 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated). Single accommodations are an additional \$695 (limited availability).

**NOT INCLUDED**-Fees for passports and, if applicable, visas, entry/departure fees; personal gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning; excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and meals not mentioned in this brochure under included features; travel insurance; all items of a strictly personal nature.

**MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL**-The right is retained to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

**AIR TRANSPORTATION**-The price of air transportation offered by AHI Travel is based on Advance Purchase Excursion fares. After tickets are issued, penalties up to 100% of the ticket price may be levied. If connecting flights are requested, special promotional fares may be used, in which case penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or canceled after ticketing. After departure, if the reservations are changed, you will be charged the higher, all year Economy class fare. **VARIATIONS TO THE GROUP ITINERARY MUST BE REQUESTED NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.** Passengers who choose to make their own airline reservations independently will be wholly responsible for arrival and departure transfers, and any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of program cancellation and/or change in travel dates, or airline schedule(s).

**BAGGAGE**-Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provided with your pre-departure information. Baggage allowances are subject to change by the carrier without notice. Excess baggage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces are expensive and not included in your trip price; plan your wardrobe accordingly. Transport of baggage and personal effects is at the owner's risk throughout the travel program.

**AUTHORITY TO USE IMAGES AND AUDIO RECORDINGS**-On occasion, AHI Travel obtains, from its staff, or from trip participants, photographic or video images of passengers and trip activities. By participating in this travel program, you authorize AHI Travel, without providing compensation to you, or obtaining additional approvals from you, to include photographic and video recordings of you, as well as voice recordings included with any videos, in AHI Travel's sales, marketing, advertising, publicity and/or training activities.

**RESPONSIBILITY**-AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association do not own or operate any entity which provides goods or services for this program, and act only as agents for the independent suppliers of travel conveyance, transport, accommodations or other services. All such persons or entities are independent contractors. As a result, AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association are not liable for any negligence or willful act of any such person or entity or any third person. In addition and without limitation, AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association are not responsible for any delays, delayed departure or arrival, missed carrier connections, loss, death, damage or injury to person or property or accident, mechanical defect, failure or negligence of any nature howsoever caused in connection with any accommodations, transportation or other services or for any substitution of hotels or of common carrier equipment, with or without notice, or for any additional expenses occasioned thereby. Dates, Program Details and Tour costs, although given in good faith and based on tariffs, exchange rates and other information current at the time of printing, are subject to change at or before the time of departure. No revisions of the printed itinerary or its included features are anticipated; however, the right is reserved to make any changes, with or without notice, that might become necessary, with the mutual understanding that any additional expenses will be paid by the individual passenger. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. If the entire program is canceled for any reason, participants shall have no claim other than for a full refund. By forwarding the deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she has no physical, mental or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for himself/herself or other passengers and accepts the terms of this contract set out herein and in more specific pre-departure passenger information. The airlines and other transportation companies concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event, during the time passengers are not on board their conveyances. The passage contract in use, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the company(ies) and the passenger and/or purchaser of this trip.

**CANCELLATION**-All cancellations for any reason will be subject to a \$250 per person administrative fee. You may choose, at the time of cancellation, to apply the withheld administrative fee to a future AHI Travel program that will operate in the current calendar year or year following. Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 10% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 75-30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. **TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE. AN APPLICATION WILL BE SENT AFTER YOU RESERVE.** All cancellations must be submitted in writing to AHI Travel. **CANCELLATION OF TRIP OPTIONS**-Purchases of optional excursions, trip extensions and additional hotel nights become fully non-refundable 45 days prior to departure. Air transportation and private transfer purchases are subject only to penalties assessed by the airlines and transfer suppliers.

## Let us arrange your flights!

### May 23-31, 2017

✈ **AHI FlexAir** | Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:

- ▶ a **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase
- ▶ arrival and departure **transfers** on most flights
- ▶ **flexibility** to change or cancel your reservations without penalty up to 60 days before departure on most flights
- ▶ discounted prices for business-class upgrades
- ▶ **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays
- ▶ flight insurance worth up to USD 250,000, subject to policy terms

**Travel stress free  
with AHI FlexAir.**





# Traveling Aggies

A PROGRAM OF  
The Association of Former Students



The Association of Former Students  
Attn: Traveling Aggies  
505 George Bush Drive  
College Station, TX 77840-2918

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**800-633-7514**  
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Duomo, Florence



Montepulciano

## Experience the beauty of Tuscany while staying in a Tuscan villa!

**Please call or refer to our website for the most current program information, discounts and pricing.**

**AHI Travel's** mission is to deliver inspirational educational and cultural travel programs that delight travelers.

**With AHI you can rely on:**

- Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey.
- An exceptional travel value.
- Unique access to local sites.
- Flexibility and customization.
- Safety and security.



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