



VILLA MICHAELA  
*Picturesque & Historic Tuscan Retreat*

# *Time To* **TRAVEL**

Join us at Villa Michaela, a glorious , tranquil , frescoed villa within easy reach of Florence and Pisa airports and only 6 kms from the historical centre of Lucca, a walled city dating back to the 14th century and soon to be the scene of a film being shot at the moment with Dustin Hoffman much to the excitement of us locals!

*We are a family run , English speaking villa and we would love to share with you the wonderful discoveries of places to visit which we have been lucky enough to experience over the past 40 years.*

**BOOK NOW**

[www.reallygreatsite.com](http://www.reallygreatsite.com)

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# Travel itinerary

## *Suggested travel itinerary*

Price for 7 nights per person \$ **5 950** with a deposit of 30% paid on booking.

October 01 - 08 | October 12 - 19 | October 19 - 26 2024

February 08 - 15 | February 15 - 22 | February 22- 29 2025

March 15 - 22, | March 22 - 29 2025

## *Day 1 & 2*

We would start with a guided tour of Lucca with a bilingual guide , with visits to Puccini s birth house , the cathedral ( Il Duomo ) , Palazzo Pfanner, Palazzo Mansi , the fascinating museum of immigration , with a wonderful lunch in between and of course time for shopping !

This quite a lot to take in so will almost certainly take place over two days .

There will also be the optional opportunity for opera lovers to attend a one hour opera recital in Chiesa San Giovanni at 7pm every evening

[www.puccinielasualucca.com](http://www.puccinielasualucca.com)

Dinner at Villa Michaela by our resident chef ( all dietary requirements will be accommodated . )

## *Day 3*

Our third day will be to visit Pisa with the world famous Leaning Tower and " La Piazza della Meraviglia " ( square of miracles ) which also includes the Duomo ( cathedral ) , one of the most important buildings in Italy .

We will also visit the museums of Palazzo Blu and Museo di San Mateo .

We will be accompanied by a local English speaking Pisan guide and will have lunch in a typical trattoria .

Dinner at Villa Michaela

## *Day 4*

The next day we will visit Vinci , the birthplace of the famed Renaissance polymath, Leonardo da Vinci and a museum dedicated to his life and works.

## *Day 5*

We will go to Villa Torrigiani in the morning , a beautiful Baroque villa with gardens attributed to Le Notre at Camigliano on the outskirts of Lucca Dating back to the early 16th century.

We will have lunch and a wine tour with the owners of the privately owned Tenuta Valgiano ( [www.valgiano.it](http://www.valgiano.it) ) producers of some outstanding Tuscan wines.

Pre dinner lecture at Villa Michaela on the life and works of Giacomo Puccini .

Dinner at Villa Michaela.

## *Day 6*

No trip to Tuscany is complete without a visit to the seaside so we will go first to Torre del Lago to visit Puccini s magnificent villa which he built and lived in when he left his beloved Lucca . It is is now a museum and is right on the shore of the Lago ( lake ) di Massaciuccoli where Puccini loved to hunt birds. From here we will visit Pietrasanta with its famed sculpture museum and quaint shops and restaurants .

After lunch we will go to Forte dei Marmi on the Tuscan Riviera and a golden opportunity for serious shopping .

## *Day 7*

Today we will drive north of Lucca over the famous Devils Bridge ( Ponte Maddelena ) to the wild unspoilt area of the Garfagnana , with its rugged Beautiful landscapes . This is still a largely rural agricultural area producing organic cheeses , wonderful honeys and organic meat .

We will stop in Bagni di Lucca , a famous historical spa town , and have lunch in Castelnuovo Garfagnana .

Gala farewell dinner at Villa Michaela with live cabaret.















# *Lucca*





# *Pisa*





# *Vinci & Tuscany landscape villages*





# *Villa Toriggiani Venuta di Valgiano*





# *Torre del Lago Forte dei Marmi*

