VILLA MICHAELA

Picturesque & Historic Tuscan Retreat

Time for TUSCANY

Escape to Villa Michaela, a magnificent frescoed villa nestled in the tranquil Tuscan hills of Vorno, near Lucca. Perfectly situated, we're just a short drive from the airports of Florence and Pisa, and the captivating 14th-century walled city of Lucca.

As an English-speaking, family-run villa, we've spent over 40 years discovering the hidden gems of Tuscany. We can't wait to share our curated insights and help you experience the very best of this beautiful region.

BOOK NOW

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Travel itinerary

Day 1 & 2

Arrival & Lucca Immersion

Your Tuscan adventure begins with a seamless collection from Pisa Airport, or Lucca train station, followed by a comfortable transfer to Villa Michaela. We'll warmly welcome you to your serene Tuscan retreat.

Over the course of these two days, we will immerse ourselves in the captivating city of Lucca. A private, bilingual guide will lead you on an enchanting walking tour, unveiling the city's rich history and hidden gems.

We'll pause for a delightful lunch, savoring local flavors, and there will be ample time to explore Lucca's charming boutiques for some relaxed shopping. We understand there's a lot to see, so we'll ensure a relaxed pace over both days.

As dusk settles, opera enthusiasts have the optional opportunity (additional cost of €25) to attend a moving one-hour opera recital at 7 PM in the atmospheric Chiesa San Giovanni. (For more details, visit www.puccinielasualucca.com).

This evening we will return to Villa Michaela for a delicious dinner prepared by our private chef, with culinary instruction, at 5pm.

Day 3

Pisa's Icons & Livorno's Coastal Charm

Day three brings us to the iconic cities of Pisa and Livorno. We'll begin our exploration in Pisa, where you'll marvel at the world-famous Leaning Tower and the breathtaking Piazza dei Miracoli (Square of Miracles). This stunning complex also includes the magnificent Duomo, a true masterpiece of Romanesque architecture and one of Italy's most significant religious buildings.
After our captivating morning in Pisa, we'll continue our journey to the coastal city of Livorno—often referred to as “the Louvre of Italy” thanks to its remarkable Mercato Centrale (Mercato delle Vettovaglie), an architectural gem dating back to the late 19th century.
Here, we'll immerse ourselves in the vibrant local atmosphere, wandering through canals, discovering the historic Venezia Nuova district, and visiting the bustling market where locals shop daily. Inside this iconic space, we will hand-select the freshest seafood and regional ingredients that will later be used for our culinary experience back at Villa Michaela—bringing the authentic flavors of Livorno directly to your table.
Lunch will be a true local experience, enjoyed in a typical trattoria where we'll sample delicious Tuscan dishes. As the day concludes, we'll return to Villa Michaela for a relaxing afternoon, with culinary instruction beginning at 5pm—transforming the ingredients we’ve gathered into a memorable shared dinner.

Day 4

Puccini's Legacy, Artistic Marble & Carrara Quarries

Day four takes us on a journey through music, art, and natural beauty. We'll begin in Torre del Lago, a serene lakeside town nestled between the sea and Lake Massaciuccoli. This was the beloved home of the legendary composer Giacomo Puccini. Here, we'll visit the Puccini Villa, now a captivating museum, where he lived and composed many of his greatest operas. A true highlight is seeing the original piano on which he wrote Madama Butterfly, still in its authentic setting.

Next, we travel to the artistic town of Pietrasanta, renowned for its deep connection to sculpture and marble craftsmanship. Often called the "Little Athens of Italy," Pietrasanta offers a rich blend of art, culture, and history. We'll enjoy a relaxed stroll through the historic center, visit local galleries and artisan studios, and soak in its unique creative atmosphere.
Following our time in Pietrasanta, we'll stop for lunch at a typical Tuscan trattoria, where we'll savor regional specialties made with fresh, local ingredients.
In the afternoon, our journey continues to Carrara, world-famous for its stunning white marble quarries. Here, we'll take a guided tour through the impressive marble mountains and learn about the centuries-old quarrying traditions that supplied marble to masters like Michelangelo and countless others.

Late afternoon we will return to Villa Michaela for cooking instruction and dinner.

Travel itinerary

Day 5

Impruneta Terracotta & the Chianti Hills

Today we travel into the heart of Tuscany, to Impruneta, a small hill town just south of Florence that has been shaping terracotta for more than seven centuries. Its clay, rich in iron and minerals and fired at very high temperatures, gives Impruneta terracotta its warm rosy color and legendary strength. It was the kilns of Impruneta that supplied the bricks and tiles for Brunelleschi's great dome of Florence Cathedral.

We'll visit a traditional family workshop where pots, urns and lemon planters are still shaped by hand, see the artisans at work, and have time to shop for a piece of Tuscany to take home.

From here we follow the Chiantigiana, one of Italy's most beautiful roads, winding past cypress-lined drives, rolling vineyards, silver olive groves and hilltop castles. In Greve in Chianti, around its arcaded medieval piazza, we'll enjoy a tasting of Chianti Classico, the wine of the Black Rooster, followed by a long Tuscan lunch. In the late afternoon we return to Villa Michaela for a restful evening and dinner. There will be no cooking instruction this evening.

Day 6

Lucca Countryside Charm & Tuscan Delights

On Day 6, we'll stay delightfully close to home, immersing ourselves in the elegance, history, and exquisite flavors of the Lucca countryside.
Our day begins with a visit to Villa Torrigiani, one of the region's most beautiful and historic villas. Surrounded by stunning Italian gardens and brimming with Baroque charm, the villa offers a captivating glimpse into aristocratic life from centuries past.

We'll enjoy a guided tour of both the opulent interior and the magnificent grounds, learning about its remarkable architecture, priceless artwork, and the noble families who once resided there.

Next, we'll continue to Fattoria Maionchi, a traditional Tuscan estate celebrated for its exceptional wines, olive oil, and warm hospitality. Here, we'll indulge in a delightful wine tasting experience, paired with a lunch featuring authentic local products and delicious seasonal dishes. This is the perfect opportunity to relax and savor the true tastes of Tuscany in an authentic setting.
After our wonderful time at Maionchi, the rest of the day is yours to enjoy as you wish:

- You may return to Villa Michaela for some well-earned rest and relaxation amidst our beautiful gardens.
- Or, if you prefer, you can head into Lucca for some afternoon shopping, exploring the city's elegant boutiques, artisan shops, and charming streets within its historic walls.

Before dinner there will be cooking instruction.
Dinner will be served back at Villa Michaela, bringing a perfect close to your day.

Day 7

Farewell Tuscany

After enjoying a final, delicious breakfast at Villa Michaela, it'll be time to say a fond farewell to beautiful Tuscany. We'll take care of your seamless transfer to Lucca train station or Pisa Airport. Our team will ensure a smooth and timely departure, assisting with any final arrangements to make your journey as comfortable as possible. We truly hope you leave with unforgettable memories of your stay at Villa Michaela and the warm spirit of Tuscany forever in your heart.

Arrivederci e buon viaggio!

Seasonal Notes

February – Viareggio Carnival, one of Italy's most spectacular parades
March – Camellia Festival, celebrating blooming gardens near Villa Michaela
October – Lucca Comics & Games, Europe's largest comics and pop culture event

DATES 2026.

November 8, Sunday - November 14, Saturday 2026.
November 15, Sunday - November 21, Saturday 2026.

DATES 2027.

*February 13, Saturday - February 19, Friday 2027. **
*March 13, Saturday - March 19, Friday 2027. ***
*March 20, Saturday - March 26, Friday 2027. ****
April 3, Saturday - April 9, Friday 2027.
April 10, Saturday - April 16, Friday 2027.
April 17, Saturday - April 23, Friday 2027.
May 1, Saturday - May 7, Friday 2027.
September 25, Saturday - October 1, Friday 2027.
October 2, Saturday - October 8, Friday 2027.
October 9, Saturday - October 15, Friday 2027.
October 16, Saturday - October 22, Friday 2027.
October 23, Saturday - October 29, Friday 2027.
October 30, Saturday - November 5, Friday 2027.

DATES 2028.

March 11, Saturday - March 17, Friday 2028.
March 18, Saturday - March 24, Friday 2028.
April 1, Saturday - April 7, Friday 2028.
April 8, Saturday - April 14, Friday 2028.

September 30, Saturday - October 6, Friday 2028.
October 7, Saturday - October 13, Friday 2028.
October 14, Saturday - October 20, Friday 2028.
October 21, Saturday - October 27, Friday 2028.
October 28, Saturday - November 03, Friday 2028.

PRICES

TIER ONE US$ 6,850 per person sharing · US$ 7,425 single
Dante · Azzurra · Limonaia · Nottolini · Camellia

TIER TWO US$ 6,075 per person sharing · US$ 7,150 single
With bath · Paarl · Puccini · Garfagnana · Zano · Hambledon

TIER THREE US$ 5,525 per person sharing · US$ 6,500 single
Shower only · Loxton · Wellington · Girasole · Verdi

All prices are per person for a 6-night stay. A 30% deposit secures your booking.
Group discounts available – please inquire for details.

**Extend your stay for an extra night at €600 per person, including an additional dinner at the Villa, and visits to the Viareggio Carnival and the Lucca Antique Market.*

*** Join us for the Camellia Festival: arrive on Saturday to enjoy the festivities on Sunday, celebrating the stunning spring blooms of the Lucca countryside.*

**** Easter Special: Extend your stay for an additional 3 nights (€1,500 extra) to celebrate a traditional Tuscan Easter. Includes all meals, the festive Easter Sunday lunch, and a visit to the Antique Market on 21st March.*

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Villa Michaela provides a fully hosted experience with the following included in the price:

- All ground transfers and transport to and from:
  - Lucca Train Station
  - Pisa International Airport
- All scheduled day trip destinations
- Entrance fees and tickets to all museums, historical sites, and guided tours
- All scheduled lunches and dinners at local trattorias and restaurants
- All food and wine consumed at Villa Michaela
- Cooking instruction

Cancellation Policy: If Guest wishes to cancel his/her reservation, the deposit will be refunded by 50% if cancelled at least 150 days in prior to the Check-in Date for any reason. Cancellations requested less then 150 days in prior to the Check-in Date will be not refundable. Only in case of entry or exit restrictions in UK, USA or in Italy, no taxes will be charged for postponing the date of your rental, in base of our availability.

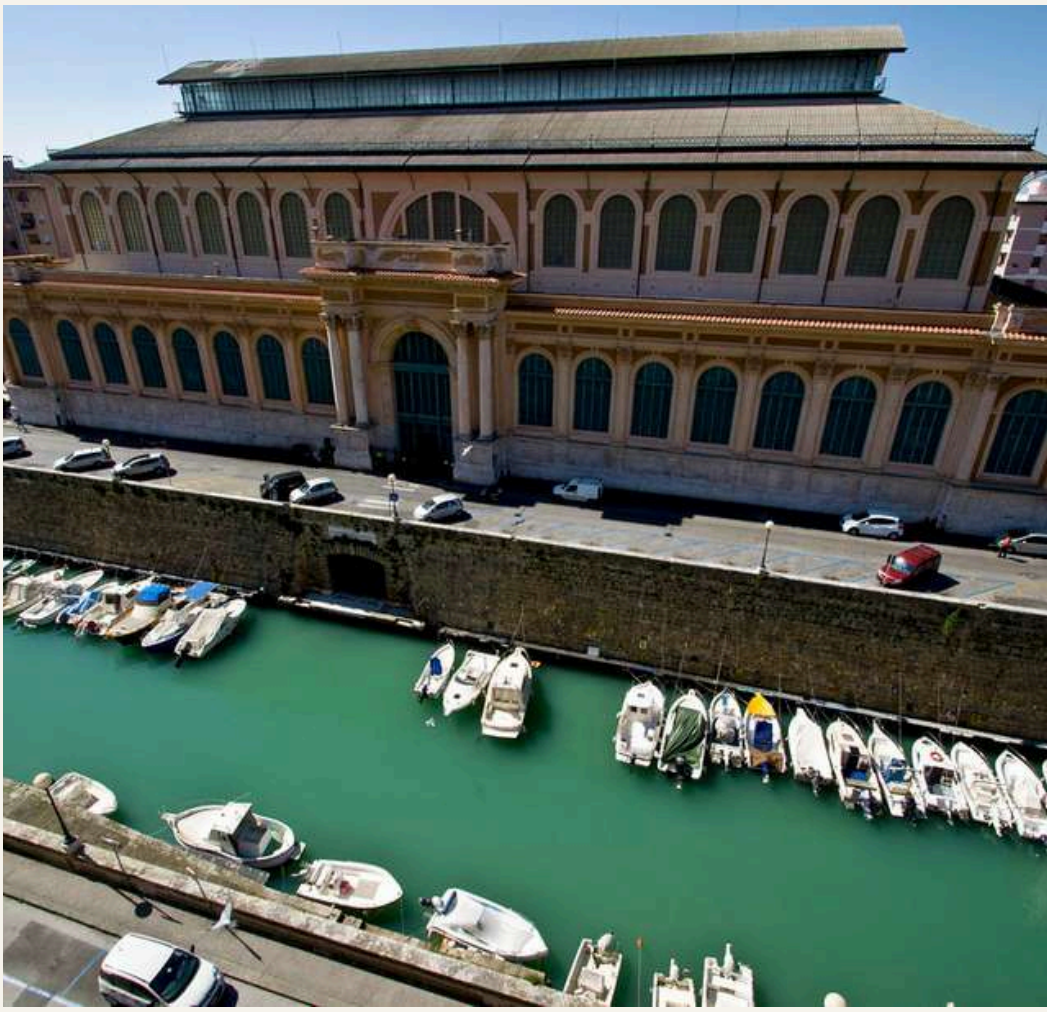
BUT... if you do not cancel, but only want to change your date and notify us of this change 30 days before your arrival date, we can re-schedule your date one time.

Villa Michaela
Your home for the week

VILLA MICHAELA
VINO ROSSO
da Tavola

Lucca

Pisa & Livorno



Carrara, Pietrasanta & Chianti

Villa Torrigiani & Fattoria Maionchi

Torre del Lago & Forte dei Marmi Market

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About us

Nestled in the tranquil hills of Vorno, just a stone's throw from the historic walls of Lucca, ***Villa Michaela*** is more than just a destination—it is a cherished family home with over 40 years of history.

Our magnificent frescoed villa offers a seamless blend of timeless Tuscan elegance and relaxed, "home-away-from-home" comfort. Whether you are wandering through our Lemon Garden, enjoying a spirited match on our private tennis court, or lounging by the sun-drenched pool, every moment here is designed for effortless ease.

With 17 bespoke bedrooms, the villa is the perfect sanctuary for intimate weddings, milestone celebrations, and our signature "Time for Tuscany" retreats. We pride ourselves on sharing the hidden gems of our region, from the birthplace of Puccini to the marble peaks of Carrara and the vineyards of Chianti.

At Villa Michaela, we invite you to slow down, embrace the art of Italian living, and make our home yours for a truly unforgettable stay.

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