



JOIN VILLA MICHAELA

MUSIC & CULTURE TOUR

Exploring the life, work & times of operatic maestro Giacomo Puccini

Contact us for booking or questions

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TUSCANY, ITALY

Villa Michaela welcomes you to join a magical 7 day tour exploring the life, work and times of Giacomo Puccini along with other cultural experiences in the Lucca area.

Located along the Via Francigena, an ancient pilgrim route dating back to the 1st century, Villa Michaela has an important historical significance in Tuscany. Dating back to the 15th century the elegant Villa, once Villa Nottolini, is waiting to welcome you.

Months Of

February, March & April 2023



Day One

Transport from Pisa Airport

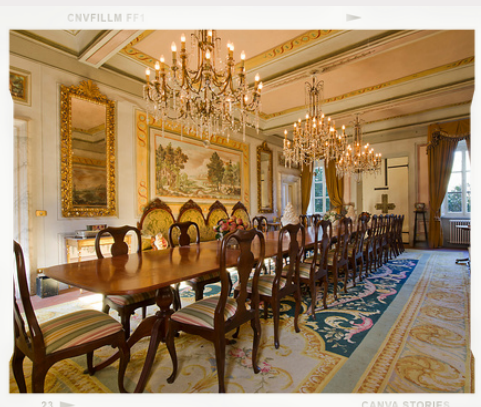
Our drivers will meet you at the gate in Pisa and transport you to historic Villa Michaela.

Welcome Lunch at Villa Michaela

Afternoon of Relaxation at the Villa

*7:00pm~ Introductory discussion
followed by dinner*

Local writer and author Geoff Pavitt will host an introduction to Puccini & his history in Lucca. This will be followed by dinner in our elegant frescoed dining room.





Day Two

8:00-9:30am Breakfast at Villa Michaela
10:00 am~ Leave for a tour of the Antique
Market in the medieval city of Lucca

Available the 3rd Sunday of the Month only. If you arrive on a different weekend other events will be scheduled for this time.

1:00pm ~ Lunch in Lucca at one of our
favorite restaurants

Return to the Villa

Massages & Yoga classes can be arranged one day prior to enjoy during relaxation time, lovely hikes in the surrounding area, or enjoy a game of tennis.

8:00 pm~ Dinner at one of our favorite local
restaurants





Day Three

8:00-9:30am Breakfast at Villa Michaela

10:00 am~Leave for Puccini's house on Lake Massaciuccoli

Geoff Pavitt will provide a private guided tour of Puccini's Torre di Lago house complete with anecdotes, legends and stories of Puccini's life in Torre di Lago

12:00~ Exclusive Tour of Puccini's house in Viareggio

Geoff Pavitt with guide you through this exclusive tour. Puccini's house in Viareggio is not normally open to the public.



1:30 pm~ Lunch in Pietrasanta

Pietrasanta is an artistic Tuscan town with an important church, bell tower, and fort. It has beautiful art galleries, as well as furnishings and clothing shops and more. There will be time after lunch for some shopping or sightseeing.

7:00 pm~ Private Concert in Villa Michaela Chapel followed by dinner
 Mezzosoprano Olympia Hetherington will perform with a pianist.
 Afterwards dinner will be served in our elegant dining room.



Day Four

8:00-9:30am Breakfast at Villa Michaela

10:00 am~Leave for a Private Guided Historial Tour of Lucca

One of the most esteemed Tour Guides in Lucca will take you through the medieval city teaching you about the history, and the architecture of Lucca

12:00~ Private Tour of Puccini's birthplace

1:00 pm~ Lunch in Lucca

After Lunch return to the Villa



If you prefer you can remain in Lucca for shopping or sightseeing on your own. Massages & Yoga classes can be arranged one day prior to enjoy during relaxation time, lovely hikes in the surrounding area, or enjoy a game of tennis.

6:00 pm-Leave for a Puccini recital in Lucca

The recital is performed at Chiesa San Giovanni(Piano, Soprano & Tenor)

8:30pm Dinner in one of our favorite restaurants in Lucca



Day Five

8:00-9:30am Breakfast at Villa Michaela

10:00 am~Leave for a photo tour of the hidden places of Lucca



Award winning Tom England will take you through Lucca showing you hidden spots in the city and helping you with photography techniques.

1:00 pm~ Lunch in Lucca

3:30 pm Tour of Villa Torrigiani

You will take a tour of the stunning 16th century villa and its romantic gardens. A must see when you visit Lucca.

8:00pm Dinner in one of our favorite local restaurants



Day Six

8:00-9:30am Breakfast at Villa Michaela

10:00 am~Leave for Villa Celle

Villa Celle is Puccini's Grandfather's home. It is here that the love letters between Puccini & Elvira are displayed

1:00 pm~Lunch in Pescaglia

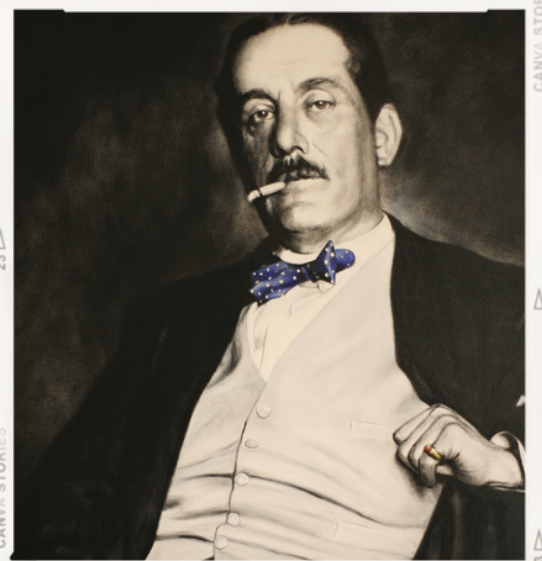
After Lunch return to the Villa

Massages & Yoga classes can be arranged one day prior to enjoy during relaxation time, lovely hikes in the surrounding area, or enjoy a game of tennis.

*7:00pm Lecture & Slideshow Presentation
at Villa Michaela*

Geoff Pavitt will present the history of Puccini's life along with his contemporaries.

8:00 Dinner in the elegant dining room at Villa Michaela





Day Seven

8:00-9:30am Breakfast at Villa Michaela

10:00 am~Local Event depending on the Month

*In February this day will be rearranged to include a trip to Viareggio Carnevale.
In March this day will be a tour the Ancient Camelia's in bloom at Borgo delle Camilie.
In April this day will be rearranged to include a cooking class at Villal Michaela.*

12:00 Lunch in the historic Montecarlo

2:00 Tour Montecarlo Theatre & Fort

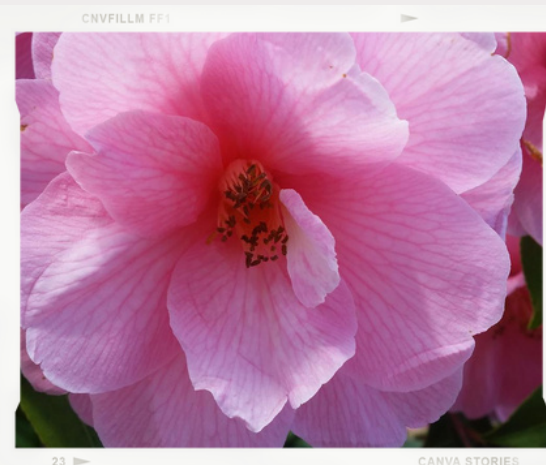
Private tour of Italy's smallest Opera House located in Montecarlo. After a private tour of the Medieval fort of Montecarlo.

Return to the Villa

Massages & Yoga classes can be arranged one day prior to enjoy during relaxation time, lovely hikes in the surrounding area, or enjoy a game of tennis.

7:30 Farewell dinner in the elegant dining room at Villa Michaela

Dinner will be accompanied by a tableside performance of a Guitar Duet





Day Eight

8:00-9:30am Breakfast at Villa Michaela

Departure for Pisa Airport

We will transport you back to Pisa airport according to flight schedule

Pricing Includes:

- *All transport and airport transfers*
- *7 nights accommodation at Villa Michaela with continental breakfast*
- *House coffee, water, and fruit always available*
- *All meals (at the villa and all restaurants)*
- *All tickets to the events and tours*
- *All entertainment (excluding massage or yoga)*
- *VAT tax*

Villa Michaela reserves the right to cancel & refund deposits in full if a minimum of 12 guests are not confirmed

Villa Michaela reserves the right to change the itinerary depending on local conditions during the stay.

All tours must begin with arrival at Pisa Airport on Saturday.

For pricing and booking information please contact us at

info@villamichaela.com or by whatsapp or telephone-+39 333 787 3307



About Us

Villa Michaela-Villa Michaela, previously Villa Nottolini, now belonging to the Rhode family, is situated at the foot of the Zano mountain, only a short distance from the "pieve" of Vorno. The villa dates back to the 15th century and holds great historic significance. It's elegant frescoes, gardens, fountains and architecture have been carefully maintained and restored by the Rhode family.

Thomas England-Thomas has spent his career photographing legendary musicians, presidents, actors & actresses and world events. He worked for The Carter Center in Atlanta along with major magazines, book publishers, corporations & non-profit organizations. He has also taught photography at Emory University's Continuing Education, The Nikon School & Northwestern University.

Geoff Pavitt- Geoff is a painter and author living in Lucca. In 2009 Geoff was awarded the Freedom of the City of London which sparked an interest that has lead to 3 completed books and one more in progress. Two focusing on the comparison of the city of London & Lucca through the centuries and one a biography of Puccini.

Olympia Hetherington-Olympia is a British Mezzosoprano based in Italy. She studies at the Accademia di Montegral under the guidance of Austrian conductor Gustav Kuhn.