



## THE MYSTERIES OF TUSCANY

### DAY 1 – FOSDINOVO CASTLE & THE DEVIL’S BRIDGE OF BORGO A MOZZANO

**Fosdinovo Castle:** A castle steeped in history that appears to have been carved out of the rock face, that for centuries has been home to the kingdom of the Malaspina family.

It is at the Castle of Fosdinovo, where recently some human bones together with animal bones have been found. A discovery that has some strange concurrences with what was thought was only a legend.

**The Oak of the Witches:** Centuries of legends behind this mighty tree: it is said that the shape of its branches, rather flattened, is due to the presence of the witches, right on them.

**Bridge of Magdalene:** certainly the most beautiful bridge in the the province of Lucca, and one of the most beautiful in Italy, also known as the Devil’s Bridge for the legendary tale of its origins.



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### DAY 2 – POPPI CASTLE & FREE TIME IN FLORENCE

**Castle of Poppi:** Like all ancient castles, Poppi Castle has a resident ghost: the licentious Matelda who used to hurl her unfortunate lovers into a well when she had finished with them.

Prepare to meet Matelda the Beautiful.

Afternoon there will be free time for shopping or exploration in **Florence**.



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### DAY 3 – VOLTERRA & MONTERIGGIONI

**Volterra:** where the first witches ever used magic spells and formulas. Custodians of ancient Etruscan rituals, their spells were able to bring about love, hate and explore the depths of the human soul.

The story of Elena da Travale, an illiterate woman capable to arouse the darkest hate and the most intense love as well as to attract the hopes and the envies of a whole community.

**Monteriggioni,** the crown of Italy. There, at night, you can hear the poignant lament of a restless spirit. Someone thinks it's Captain Giovanni Zeti, still tormented by his decision that led to the fall of Monteriggioni and the end of an entire historical era.



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### DAY 4 – DIANA, THE GHOST RIVER OF SIENA & THE CASTLE OF BROLIO

**Siena:** Since remote times, many have heard the sound of flowing water in different parts of the city, coming from beneath the ground. A ghost river that the people of Siena have sought obsessively for centuries, and named after an ancient goddess: the Diana.

**Castle of Brolio:** The castle passed into the hands of the Ricasoli family due to an exchange of lands in 1141. Bettino Ricasoli was one the most important figures of the Italian 19th century.

It is now local legend that on nights with a full moon, his ghost still walks around the castle.



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## DAY 5 – SAN GALGANO & THE SWORD IN THE ROCK, AND THE CREVOLE CASTLE

**San Galgano:** A violent knight who then became a saint. A cathedral that opens up to the sky, knightly symbols and features recalling King Arthur.

**Castle of Crevole:** Crevole has always been and will always be the kingdom of bishop Donosdeo Malavolti. A bishop more used to lead soldiers rather than give spiritual guidance.

What is his spirit still looking for? Some says revenge, others something of the greatest value to him that would lie buried under the castle foundations.



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## DAY 6 – SORANO, PITIGLIANO AND THE ETRUSCAN QUEEN OF SOVANA

Make a walk through the monumental tombs of the necropolis of **Sovana** and the wonderful villages of **Sorano** and **Pitigliano** hunting for the golden carriage of Antiglia, the mythical Etruscan queen.



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## DAY 7 – DEPARTURE DAY

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