



CASTELLO DI CASOLE™

TOSCANA ITALIA

— A Timbers Resort —



Activity Guide



Fitness & Wellness

Outdoor Pool

The pool terrace and infinity pool overlook the surrounding Tuscan countryside with food and beverage service available.

Private Instruction †

From yoga to strength training to cardiovascular conditioning, expert trainers will work with you to meet your fitness goals during your stay.

Yoga & Pilates †

Group classes or individual instruction are available, offering a range of techniques and methods to keep your body and mind in harmony.

° *Activity located off-site.*

† *Activity requires reservations.*

Essere Spa

The spa at Castello di Casole offers a complete menu of treatments, each inspired by the best of Tuscany's natural ingredients and ancient rituals of healing, revitalizing and nourishing. Pools, steam rooms and comfortable spaces allow for ample relaxation. There are six treatment rooms, secluded men's and women's areas, a spectacular couple's treatment suite with deep soaking tub and show, and luxurious private outdoor gardens. For the ultimate indulgence, schedule a treatment in your Tuscan villa or luxury suite.

In addition you'll find our Fitness Center complete with the latest equipment from Technogym, elliptical trainers, Pilates machines and free weights.

Please refer to the [Spa Menu](#) for a complete list of treatments or contact the spa for more details.

Appointments are available between 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. When booking in-room treatments, please expect your therapist to arrive 15 minutes before the scheduled time. It is recommended that you make reservations well in advance to ensure availability of your preferred date and time.



Nature

Bike Tours & Rentals †

Take in the magnificent landscapes in a sea of scents and colors on bike. Choose an English-speaking professional bike guide and a wide range of itineraries, based on number of kilometers, length of tour and location. Or, for the more adventurous, explore on your own. Our concierge can arrange for bike rentals and have them delivered to you. Road, hybrid and mountain bikes available.

A Romantic Tuscan Picnic †

Enjoy a romantic and relaxing picnic in the middle of the beautiful Tuscan wood of our property. The famous film director, Luchino Visconti, who lived in the castle during the late 20th century, arranged the wood creating a nice area of tables and stones where you can relax and spend unforgettable moments, complete with a gourmet basket including delicious Tuscan food and our estate-produced wine.

Flowers & Lavender *†

Taverna di Bibbiano is a beautiful farmhouse situated in the heart of Tuscany, between Siena and Florence, with endless fields of flowers. The beautiful stone buildings are surrounded by roses and lavender bushes, rosemary shrubs and other aromatic herbs. Special tours are available in this quaint hilltop country house surrounded by flowers and romance, experiencing all the flora and scents of Tuscany. In the shop you will find dried lavender bags and fragrant pillows. In the picturesque setting of the Butterfly Room or outside on a natural terrace overlooking the valley, it is possible to have dinner; the restaurant offers typical Tuscan cuisine. Here in this colorful place, time seems to stand still while you admire the towers of San Gimignano.

Hot Air Ballooning *†

Experience the magic of an aerial adventure where the destination is irrelevant, and the journey means everything. Hot air balloon expeditions capture your imagination, as each flight is a unique and magical voyage. Afterwards, a splendid continental breakfast awaits you upon landing, where you will also find a car ready to take you back home. The pilot will come and pick you up from the hotel; the distance is determined by weather and the wind. We suggest wearing casual, warm clothes, long trousers and sneakers. In the cooler seasons a hat is also suggested. The ballooning season is approximately late spring to early autumn. Typically, flights start at dawn (approximately 6:00 a.m.) and last an hour. Please note a minimum of 12 years of age is required.

Truffle Hunting *†

Enjoy the seasonal delight of truffle hunting in the nearby town of Certaldo, approximately 45 minutes driving distance from the estate. Your guide will meet you at the railway station and you will follow him to the woods where the truffle hunter and his dog will await you. The guide will be along during this two hour walk through the Natural Reserves of Truffles to translate and explain everything about this treasure, including its botanical characteristics and culinary tradition in the region. Afterwards, you will enjoy your choice of a delicious brunch/lunch or cooking class in the historical part of Certaldo. We suggest wearing sporty, comfortable clothes and sturdy shoes for a nice walk through wet woods as it can get pretty muddy in the fall.

* Activity located off-site.

† Activity requires reservations





Shopping

The Mall *

This outlet mall is located about one and a half hours from our estate, or 30 minutes from Florence. There you will find all your favorite designer brands. Complete with cafés, restaurants, a children's play area and free parking, guests can browse more than 100 boutiques. Shops range from iconic fashion brands like Polo Ralph Lauren, D&G, Burberry, Fendi, to Giorgio Armani, Gucci, Loro Piana, and Valentino, just to name a few.

Visitors can take a break and enjoy an espresso at Ca'Puccino, or lunch at Borgo Café. Other highlights include Tuscan flavors at Il Torrachione and homemade ice cream and Café Mediceo.

The Prada Outlet (Space) *

Another popular outlet is Space, otherwise called the Prada Outlet. This outlet is located in Montevarchi, about 20 minutes from The Barberino Designer Outlets. If you wish to spend a full day at the outlets, we suggest that you enjoy lunch at The Mall as there is only a small café at The Prada Outlet, a great stop for coffee or a light snack.

Be sure to note that at the entrance they give you a number, which will help you in case you want to have your bags stored along your walk!

* Activity located off-site.

† Activity requires reservations.



Culinary

Pizza Making Class †

One of the great cooks at Castello di Casole will share the secrets of preparing traditional Tuscan pizza dough and toppings made from local ingredients in this hands-on, casual cooking class. This demonstration includes working the pizza dough, topping your favorite pizzas and baking in a real stone-wooden oven, all assisted by a professional chef.

The class for adults is offered on Monday or Friday at 5:30 p.m. at Pazzia. Guests dine on their own pizza creations following the demonstration.

Cheese Farm Paugnano *†

The farm Paugnano is located near Radicondoli, only 20 minutes away from the estate. This is an authentic, small sheep farm, where the owners make their own pecorino cheese. They also have other animals you can see, such as chicken and pigs. It is a casual and friendly atmosphere, where the owners will gladly welcome you into their home, show you their farm, and offer you a tasting of their cheeses and olive oil. There is also the possibility to enjoy a light lunch, prepared by Giovanna, who enjoys making her delicious ravioli with seasonal vegetables from her garden. Each meal is prepared with ingredients grown and raised at the Paugnano farm: flour, olive oil, farm fresh vegetables, eggs, and of course, cheese.

Please note the family does not speak English, but our guests always have a lovely time. Also, around 5:00 p.m. you might see how the family milks the sheep. For hygienic reasons they cannot show you the cheese production, however you can see the curdling process.

* Activity located off-site.

† Activity requires reservations.



Wine

Castello di Casole has more than 100 acres of organic vineyards dotting its gorgeous landscape with 13 distinct plots that include Cabernet, Sangiovese, Merlot and Petit Verdot varietals. Beyond the estate are three distinct areas known for the production of great wines: the Chianti region, the Brunello region and the Nobile region near Montepulciano. Tours can be arranged based upon how far you wish to travel, anywhere from 15 minutes to 1 hour 45 minutes. Each region is unique. The wineries can be reached with our driving instructions or a hired driver, and can be visited by yourself or a guide, based upon your preference.

Winery Le Macchie †

Located at the bottom of the hill is the winery of Castello di Casole where they produce three different wines available for tasting: Alberaia, Macchie and Passito; all made of 100% pure Sangiovese grapes.

The Chianti region is one of the most well-known areas in Italy and is located approximately 40-60 minutes from the estate. Along the way you will pass through the towns of Castellina in Chianti, Gaiole, and Radda; all located in a wonderful part of Tuscany world famous for its soft green hills and unforgettable landscapes.

Poggio Amorelli *†

About 50 minutes from the estate, close to Castellina in Chianti is the Mazzarrini family operated winery. The tour includes the wine cellar, vineyards and a final tasting of five wines: Spumante, a Chianti Classico, a Chianti Classico Riserva, their favorite Super Tuscan and a Morellino di Scansano, as the family also owns a winery in the Maremma region.

Castello di Volpaia *†

Volpaia is a very fine winery in Radda in Chianti, set amidst a fortified medieval village. The interior of its ancient houses, underground passages and ancient churches have been discreetly converted into wine cellars, bottling plans and olive presses. Your guided tour begins in the sacristy and concludes in the the cellars of various churches. Afterwards you can enjoy lunch or dinner at one of the restaurants or cafés in the village while enjoy beautiful views all around.

Badia a Passignano *†

Located in the Chianti region, an approximate 40 minute drive from the estate, is a winery built in ancient cellars, fortified in a magnificent abbey. Badia a Passignano has an outstanding restaurant, recently awarded a Michelin star. Your tours of the vineyards and cellars is complete with wine and olive oil tastings.

The Brunello region is located approximately 1 hour 30 minutes from the estate and is world famous for its wine produced with 100% Sangiovese grapes. Brunello di Montalcino is one of Italy's most famous and prestigious wines, sharing a top spot with only the highly-prized Vino Nobile di Montepulciano and the ubiquitous Chianti.

Poggio Antico *†

A small winery, located 1,476 feet above sea level, Poggio Antico is also one of the highest elevation wine producers in the Brunello region. They warmly welcome visitors and take great pride in the quality of their tours, sharing their passion, the work and energy that goes into each and every one of their bottles. Your tour of the winery is free but guests pay per glass for wine tastings.

Casanova di Neri *†

Another fine winery in this region is the award-winning Casanova di Neri. Here you have your choice of two private tours. The Experience Private Tour includes a guided tour of the wine cellar and tutored wine tastings. At the tutored wine tasting you are invited to sit, sip and savor select wines paired with pecorino cheese, marmalade and bruschetta with extra virgin olive oil. The second tour, the Top Class Vineyard Private Tour, includes areas of production, barrel aging and bottling along with a tour of the vineyard before enjoying the tutored wine tasting.

* *Activity located off-site.*

† *Activity requires reservations.*



Art

Ceramic Painting Class †

Enrich your life during your stay at Castello di Casole with this fun art class. In this ceramic painting class you will work on white clay using ceramic colors. A qualified artist will provide you all the tools and materials and explain the traditional Tuscan artform of decorating and realizing a beautiful, finished ceramic piece. Traditional Tuscan images will be available for you to copy or you may paint from a still life of flowers and fruits or, let the surrounding panorama inspire you.

Watercolor Painting Class †

Capture the beauty of Tuscany in your own hand and take it home with you as a keepsake. In this water painting class, a local artist will teach you the fine technique of mixing color and water to capture the beauty that surrounds you.

Classes can be held in the privacy of one of the inspiring places on the estate, or in your private villa or hotel suite.

Guided Tour of Florence Museums *†

A perfect combination of the arts and the pleasure of a stroll through the quaint and narrow streets of Florence. Explore the most important painting gallery in Italy, the Uffizi, and the marvelous David by Michelangelo in the Galleria dell'Accademia. Tours can last 3-6 hours depending on your preference.

Ask your concierge to arrange a tour with a highly specialized, English-speaking private guide. Kindly note that pre-booking entrance tickets to the museums is highly recommended to avoid long lines upon arrival.

* Activity located off-site.

† Activity requires reservations.





Golf

Toscana Resort Castelfalfi *†

The course at the Golf Club Castelfalfi is one of the most fascinating in terms of landscape and views and one of the most challenging, built according to principles of sustainability without the addition of superfluous artificial elements. With its 27 holes, divided into two courses, it invites expert players to rise to the challenge and is fun for practicing amateurs. There is a driving range with grass tees, covered areas for golf clinics and a small Club House with bar and terrace. Both courses are re-designed, a project undertaken by two expert architects, both EIGCA associates - European Institute of Golf Course Architects - out of London.

Located approximately 1 hour from the estate. Equipment and shoe rentals available.

Gold Club Ugolino *†

Golf Club Ugolino has been named among the 50 most beautiful golf courses in the world by American writer Chris Santello. Ugolino is a natural course, designed and built in 1934 in the Chianti hills. It exploits the natural characteristics of the Tuscan landscape: the cypress and olive trees, the slopes that curve and follow the magnificent scenery, the small greens which are often very well-defended. These are the obstacles that the golfer comes up against on a course which is part and parcel of Italian golfing history and severely tests players of all abilities.

Located approximately 1 hour from the estate. Equipment rentals available. Shoes available for purchase.

* *Activity located off-site.*

† *Activity requires reservations.*



City Tours

San Gimignano & Monteriggioni *†

The medieval towns of San Gimignano and Monteriggioni are two beautiful settlements retaining their original architectural layout. The views from the walls surrounding the settlement of Monteriggioni are breathtaking and San Gimignano is famous for its towers, which were also the backdrop for Zeffirelli's masterpiece "Tea with Mussolini." Monteriggioni is a small village enclosed in ancient walls with lovely buildings and the air of a distant age still permeating the small winding streets.

A self-guided tour can last 3-6 hours, depending on your preference. San Gimignano is located about 45 minutes away from Castello di Casole and Monteriggioni about 25 minutes away. The distance between these two towns is of approximately 30 minutes. Guided tours can be arranged per guest request.

Guided Tour of Siena *†

With its narrow streets and steep alleys, the stunning gothic Duomo, a bounty of early Renaissance art and the glorious Palazzo Pubblico overlooking its magnificent Piazza del Campo, Siena is often described as Italy's best-preserved medieval city. Your professional English-speaking guide will escort you through the beauties of the town, explaining all the history of Siena and its Palio.

The tour normally begins around 10:00 a.m. and can last 3-6 hours, depending on your preference. Siena is located approximately 40 minutes from the estate.

Guided Tour of Pisa *†

Pisa is world famous for its leaning tower, a tribute to both human ingenuity and folly. The tower is part of the beautiful cathedral complex, whose architecture mixes Moorish, Byzantine and Roman motifs recalling Pisa's glorious past as a Mediterranean seaport. Around the Piazza dei Miracoli, the Square of Miracles, you find the Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta, the Campanile (the leaning bell tower), the Baptistery and the Camposanto, the monumental cemetery allegedly created by the Crusades with earth from the Holy Land and now home to beautiful Roman sarcophagi.

The tour normally begins around 10:00 a.m. and lasts about two hours.

* Activity located off-site.

† Activity requires reservations.



Culture

Palio of Siena *†

The world famous Palio horse race in Siena is an incredible event, held twice a year in the beautiful Piazza del Campo in the town center. The first race is on July 2nd, the second on August 16th. You can view the excitement and drama of the Palio live from a private terrace overlooking the central Piazza del Campo. From there you can enjoy a perfect view of the event, including the parade and exhibitions which precede the actual race and the boisterous victory celebrations that follow. If you prefer to be in the middle of the action, your concierge can buy tickets for you in the palchi (grand stand seats) that surround Piazza del Campo.

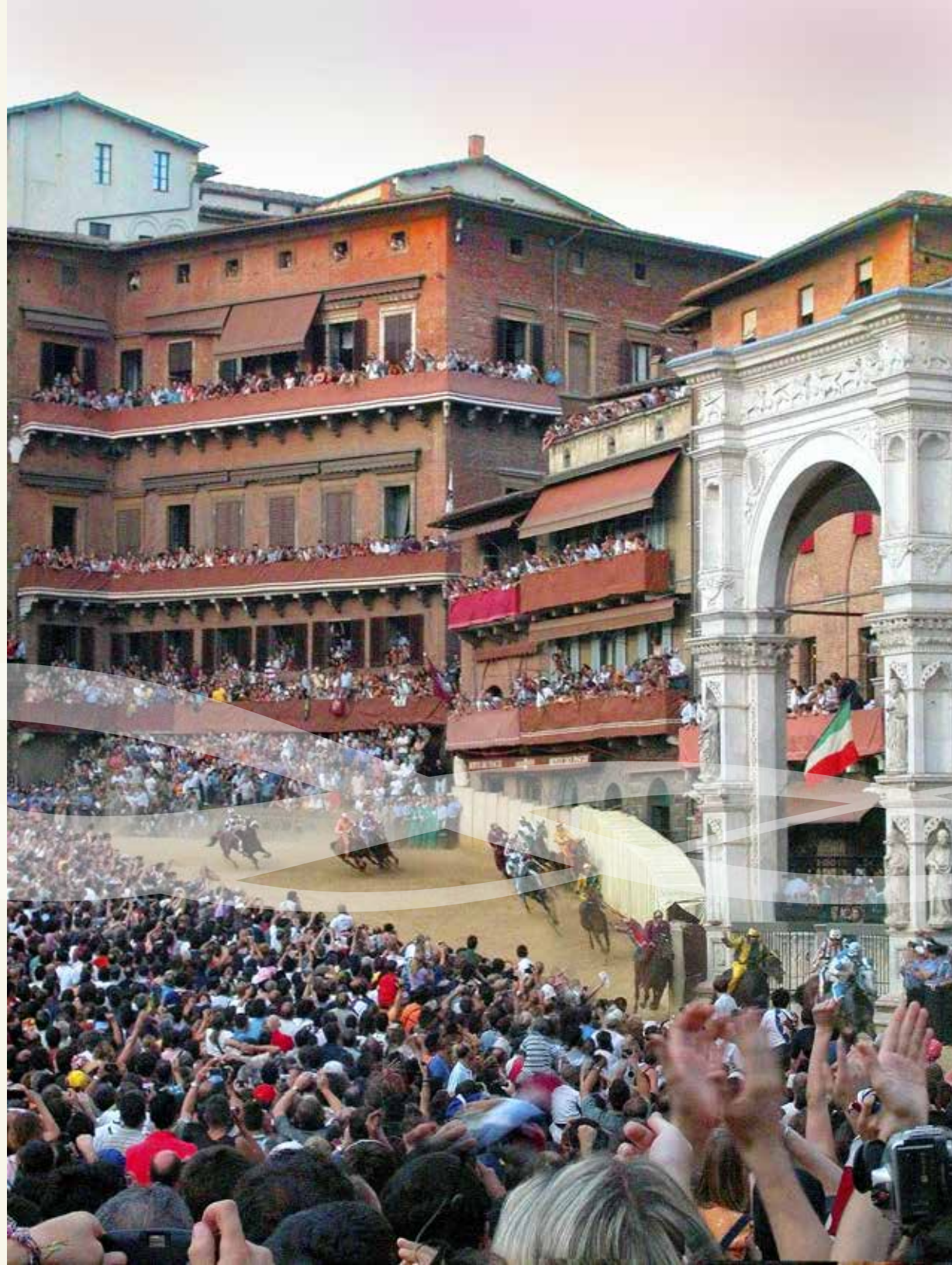
The parade lasts approximately two hours and the race itself may last only a few minutes. Please note that the tickets for the palchi offer you a seat, while the ones for the terrace are standing-only. Normally the parade begins around 4:30 p.m. Remember that if you are approaching Siena around 4:00 p.m. you might have difficulty reaching the town itself and finding parking. We do not recommend this experience to children younger than 8-10 years old as well as to claustrophobic guests even if you arrange for a private terrace or window seat as it is quite crowded. An advance reservation is required at least six months prior to the race.

Italian Language Class †

Can you think of a better place to start learning Italian than Tuscany, the region where the beautiful language was born? Castello di Casole offers guests the chance to learn or practice Italian during their stay with fun and authentic Italian language classes held right on the estate. Our qualified tutors all share the common passion for their Italian language and culture. Whether you choose a group or individual lessons, learning to speak Italian has never been so much fun!

* Activity located off-site.

† Activity requires reservations.



Youth & Family Friendly Activities

Horseback Riding *†

Kids can enjoy the lovely Tuscan landscape from horseback, only a 30 minute drive from Castello di Casole. Club Ippico L'Agrifoglio offers a wonderful kid friendly experience. Guided rides are available for children ages 9 and above. Children ages 3-8 can ride a pony in the paddock. Your child will be paired with a horse suitable to their skill and height, and provided a cap and proper safety gear. For safety please note that children who are not accomplished horseback riders, regardless of age, will be asked to ride only in the paddock. The duration of the tour may vary depending on the experience and age of the riders.

Horse-drawn Carriage Ride *†

Amidst the beautiful hills and Tuscan woods the Tègoni Farm is located inside the province of Siena in Radicondoli, a small town rich of history and traditions, located in the heart of the Elsa Valley. Our concierge can arrange an exciting carriage tour of an hour or even half day for your entire family, stopping for a picnic and, later on, for a refreshing swim in the river. Immerse yourself in the pleasure of pristine nature, with song birds and the beauty of horses in this natural environment.

Treasure Hunt *†

Let your children experience unforgettable moments with a fantastic treasure hunt in Florence. A special treasure hunt can be organized throughout the city with the amazing support and experience of teachers that will make this activity fun and memorable. The best treasure hunter will win a prize!

The minimum age for this activity is 4 years old. Children must be supervised by an adult.



Pizza Making Class †

Your child will get hands-on experience in the kitchen as they prepare their favorite Tuscan-style pizza pie; working with the dough, piling on the toppings and lastly baking their yummy creation in a real stone-wooden oven, all closely assisted by one of our very own chefs!

The class for children is offered on Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at Pazzia. Afterwards, kids will enjoy their own pizza creations.

Chocolate Factory Tours *†

Visiting a chocolate factory appeals to kids and kids-at-heart! Just a few minutes drive from the estate, your dream of seeing the precious production in person comes true at Follie di Arnolfo. This nearby chocolate factory offers tours of the fragrant facility where you can watch chocolate confections come to life, as well as try samples of every variation.

Another possibility is visiting Amedei, one of the best chocolate factories in Italy. Located near Pisa, approximately two hours from Castello di Casole, you can combine the tour at the chocolate factory with the visit of this beautiful town.

Ice Cream Experience *†

In Castellina in Chianti, a lovely town located in the Chianti region, there is a great gelateria where you can taste this delicious Italian ice cream from a wide selection of flavors. The factory is open to the public upon an advance reservation with tours available in the morning. There you will see how real Italian gelato is made and take part to the production with the Gelataio (ice cream maker). At the end of the demonstration you will taste the ice cream you have helped prepare.

* Activity located off-site.

† Activity requires reservations.





For your child's inner artist we offer a variety of arts and crafts classes to engage their mind, creativity and sense of play.

Ceramic Painting Class †

In this decorating course your child will work on white clay using ceramic colors. A qualified artist will provide all the tools and materials and teach them the traditional Tuscan art of decorating a beautiful, finished ceramic piece for them to take home and treasure. The artist employs music and books to create a happy atmosphere, engaging your child in a wonderful experience. At the end of the course the artist will collect the painted items and fire them, returning them to you within a few days. There is no minimum age required for this class, however adult supervision is required.

Handmade Puppets †

Children enter a special world of make-believe as they learn how to make their own puppets. Our teacher will come to your suite or villa to teach your child various techniques and entertain them with colors and play in this fun activity. There is no minimum age required for this class, however adult supervision is required.

Fun with Recycling †

Recycling has never been so much fun! Your child will learn how they can create so many "new" things from reused paper, plastic and fabrics. This class engages your child's imagination, sense of play and creativity while at the same time teaching them the importance of recycling. There is no minimum age required for this class, however adult supervision is required.

Handmade Crafts †

Make your child's stay special by creating funny activities to recapture the art and joy of handcraft. Our teacher will come to the hotel and teach your child some special handmade activities such as creative sewing, embroidery, découpage, and costume jewelry making. Our teacher will provide all the tools and materials and explain with creative techniques the way of realizing nice handmade decorations. The minimum age required is 4 years old and adult supervision is required.

* Activity located off-site.

† Activity requires reservations.

Childrens' Museum in Florence *†

The Palazzo Vecchio Family Museum in Florence is located in one of the most famous historical buildings in Florence. The palace was built in the 13th century to host the city government and serve as the residence of the Medici family. Nowadays, a few halls of the same palace host the Palazzo Vecchio Family Museum, with two small theatres, a multimedia room, a painting room and many other rooms completely dedicated to the kids. Visitors can choose among the several activities, which are different every day, and the kids are divided in groups according to their age. Also available is the Life at Court interactive tour. Advanced reservation is required, and kids must be accompanied by one of their adult relatives.

To book this activity we will need to know the age of your child(ren), and the date you would like to visit the museum so that we can ask for the exact activities they will offer during your visit.

Private Childcare †

Our concierge can arrange for an English-speaking babysitter to care for your children. The professional childcare provider will come directly to your suite or villa, allowing you to enjoy Tuscany knowing that your children are being cared for and that they are having fun with their new friend. Hourly, half-day and full-day service available.

* *Activity located off-site.*

† *Activity requires reservations.*



Group Activities

Olive Oil Tour †

Explore the Tuscan tradition of olive oil production. Guests begin with a guided tour of the olive groves at Castello di Casole, learning about the different species of olive trees while taking in the breathtaking views and surrounding wildlife. The tour includes a lesson on the technique of extracting oil, dating all the way back to antiquity. However improved by the passing of time and innovation, the result remains the same - rich Italian extra virgin oil. To complete this unique experience into the Tuscan tradition, guests enjoy an oil tasting guided by our Sommelier, followed by a delicious light lunch at Bar Visconti. Have you ever tried extra virgin olive oil on Italian gelato?

Tour requires a minimum of 4 guests. Please allow 3 hours for this experience.

Photographic Trek †

Perfect for nature and wildlife enthusiasts, this trekking adventure takes guests throughout the 4,200 acre estate at Castello di Casole and into the wood reserve to capture images of the local game, flora, fauna and perhaps a beautiful sunset over the Tuscan countryside. Guests take a break to enjoy a lovely picnic in the vineyards.

Activity requires a minimum of 3 guests. Please allow 3.5 hours for this experience.



Wine & Dine †

This class is dedicated to Italian wine production with a particular focus on the heritage of Tuscan wines. Guests have a special opportunity to follow every step of the wine-making art. This unforgettable experience is enriched with a tasting of four different Tuscan wines: Vernaccia di San Gimignano, Chianti Classico, Super Tuscan and Vin Santo. Following the lesson guests are delighted with a three-course traditional Tuscan dinner prepared by our Executive Chef.

Activity requires a minimum of 4 guests. Please allow 3 hours for this experience.

Italian Mixology Class †

Bellini, Tiziano and the Martini are just a few of the world's famous Italian libations. Take part in this highly interactive class where you and your friends will learn how to think about and prepare classic and modern Italian cocktails while you taste history in a glass. Utilize a blend of core bartending tools, multitasking skills, creativity and elements of science.

Activity requires a minimum of 4 guests. Please allow 3 hours for this experience.

Floral Decoration Workshop & Tea Time †

Immerse yourself the beauty of your natural surroundings as you walk around the estate looking for the natural heritage available to create an authentic floral composition. Learn the art of using natural plant material in new and interesting forms. Guided by our floral designer, guests enjoy this two hour workshop, followed by tea time with rose petal tea.

Activity requires a minimum of 3 guests. Please allow 3 hours for this experience.

* *Activity located off-site.*

† *Activity requires reservations.*



CASTELLO DI CASOLE™

TOSCANA ITALIA

— A Timbers Resort —

For more information or reservations, please contact our concierge team.
We kindly ask for reservations to be made four (4) days in advance, except where otherwise noted.

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