

Trip to the Region of Asti with Truffles and Wine Tasting

Sunday, 25th October to Tuesday, 27th October, 2020

Dear CAI members,

Our truffle trip in 2020 will take us to the Asti region of Piedmont and will take place from Sunday, 25th October to Tuesday, 27th October (three days and two nights). This trip was designed by our members Claudio and Evelyne Feser, who own a vineyard and an agri-hotel in the area of Moncalvo, "La Quercia Rossa".

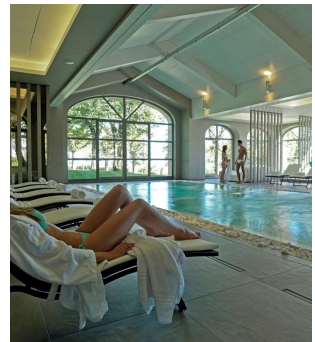
La Quercia Rossa



Hotel Relais Sant'Uffizio

The magnificent Relais Sant'Uffizio is an elegant 16th-century hotel that has been renovated to become a 4-star hotel, with a very nice wellness center and a gourmet restaurant.

The hotel is located in the hills of Monferrato, an ideal place to discover the beautiful Piedmont wine region. Close by you can discover charming towns and picturesque villages.



Sunday, 25th October

Individual arrival before 3 p.m. From Monaco, the drive lasts about three and a half hours (275 km) and 1 ½ hours from Milan airport (130 km).

We will meet at 4 p.m. in the lobby of the hotel and will then drive to the winery of our hosts Claudio and Evelyne Feser, La Quercia Rossa. There we will visit the winery, the vineyard and hazelnut plantations and enjoy an aperitif on the terrace. Finally, we will be invited to a gourmet truffle dinner, which will be prepared by the private chef of the domain especially for us.



Monday, 26th October

Shortly after 9 a.m. we will drive to Monte Sacro di Crea which is a pilgrimage site from the end of the 16th century, built on one of the eight "sacred mountains" of the ancient historical region - formerly a duchy - of Montferrat. It was added to the World Heritage List of Cultural Heritage by UNESCO on 3rd July 2003 and is a site everyone needs to have seen.



Then we will drive to the picturesque town of Canelli, where we will have lunch in the restaurant Osteria dei Meravigliati.



The ancient town of Canelli, about half an hour's drive south of Asti city, is the historical center of the Asti Spumante industry and the major manufacturing center for winemaking equipment in Italy. The old castle perches on top of a hill in the center of the town, and most of the old Spumante houses have built their Cantinas (wineries) along the bottom of the hill with extensive cellars carved directly into the limestone rock under the hill.

This network of tunnels, kilometers long, have become showcase museums for many of the wineries, shrines to the wine making art known as the "underground cathedrals of wine". In the afternoon we will visit privately the "underground cathedral of Contratto" and will also taste selected wines of the region.



After the wine tasting, we will return to our hotel where those who wish can take a break, go to the hotel Spa or, optionally, go to the picturesque village of Moncalvo and discover its churches, squares and alleys .

In the evening we will have dinner in the restaurant of our hotel, the Locanda, which has been awarded a Michelin star thanks to the know-how of the Italian chef Enrico Bartolini and the young talented cooker Gabriele Boffa.

Inspired by concepts such as authenticity, seasonality and experimentation, the La Locanda restaurant offers an unforgettable gastronomic experience with its famous Italian classics, regional specialties and a list of the best Piedmontese, Italian and imported wines with over 300 carefully selected labels.



Tuesday, 27th October

After breakfast we will drive to Asti, where we will visit the magnificent Baroque Mazzetti Palace with its art collection and the Roman-Gothic Asti Cathedral, the largest cathedral in Piedmont.



We will drive back to Moncalvo to the Restaurant Uva Spina, which offers a wide view on Montferrato's hills from its large glass doors and where we will enjoy a last lunch together, in a nice atmosphere.



From 3 p.m. onwards, it will be time to return back home, after having experienced plenty of new tastes and after several beautiful moments of friendship.

Program summary

Sunday, 25th October

Individual arrival and check-in at the Hotel Relais Sant'Uffizio at 3 p.m.

- 4.00 pm: meeting in the hotel lobby
- 4.30 pm: drive to the La Quercia Rossa winery and visit the wine cellar and hazelnut production. Afterwards aperitif on the terrace and gourmet dinner at the invitation of Claudio and Evelyne Feser

Monday, 26th October

- 09.15 am: drive to Sacro Monte di Crea
- 09.30 am: visit of Sacro Monte di Crea
- 11.30 am: drive to Canelli
- 12.15 am: lunch in the Restaurant Meravigliata in Canelli
- 02.00 pm: visit of the Contratto “underground cathedral” and wine tasting
- 04.00 pm: drive back to the hotel
- 04.45 pm: free time / spa / or visit of the village of Moncalvo
- 08.00 pm: gourmet dinner in the Michelin Star restaurant Locanda of the hotel

Tuesday, 27th October

Until 9.30 a.m: breakfast and check-out

- 09.30 am: drive to Asti
- 10.00 am: visit to the Mazzetti Palace and the Asti Cathedral
- 12.00 am: drive back to Moncalvo
- 01.00 pm: lunch in the restaurant Uva Spina
- 03.00 pm: return to the Hotel / Individual departure

MAP: See next page

