

Escape to Umbria with Annabelle White

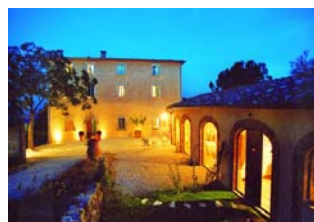
nine nights / ten days 3 - 12 June 2011



Annabelle White



Villa Aurea, Cortona



Villa Cicolina, Montepulciano



Villa Zucari, Montefalco

If you are an HSBC Premier customer and enjoy escaping the tourist spots, want to mix with the locals, indulge in great regional food and wine, stay in charming authentic accommodation, and in short, have the trip of a lifetime – then join Annabelle White, New Zealand's favourite cooking personality, for an enchanting tour of the Italian countryside by Vespa.

Annabelle will be hosting a small group of HSBC Premier customers on this extraordinary, gastronomic adventure for ten days in June 2011. As numbers are very limited applications to join the tour will be on a first come, first served basis.

Brief outline of itinerary

Day 1	Arrive the university town of Perugia, also the provincial capital of Umbria.
Day 2	Drive to Cortona, the town made famous by Frances Mayes' book, "Under the Tuscan Sun", passing Lake Trasimeno on our way.
Day 3	Stay in the heart of Umbria, visiting the famous ceramic makers and Torgiano, Lungarotti wineries home town.
Day 4	Visit Montepulciano before heading to Monticchiello, a tiny hamlet with cobbled alleys and one of the most beautiful views of the whole trip. Continue to Pienza, a wonderfully preserved Renaissance 'city' with a fine Duomo, museum and Palazzo.
Day 5	The route to San Casciano Bagni is an amazing sequence of grand sceneries including Bagno Vigoni, the Roman ancient thermal baths and Radicofani, with its imposing "rocca". An afternoon cooking course at a charming country estate, La Plazzina, where we also overnight.
Day 6	Drive to Orvieto known for its Etruscan tombs, landmark Duomo and archaeological museum. This is also the centre for the Slow Food Movement. Distinctive to Orvieto are interesting restaurants built in caves with a wonderful atmosphere and fantastic food.
Day 7	Travel to the lovely Lake Corbara before reaching Todi. Continue on to the most important Umbrian wine region and Montefalco.
Day 8	Assisi is a UNESCO World Heritage site for its innumerable artistic and architectural treasures include the Basilica of Santa Chiara, the Monastery of San Domenico and the splendid Basilica of St. Francis. Wine tasting and lunch at Dionigi cellar followed by a late afternoon cooking class and dinner at Alfonsa's house (15kms from Assisi).
Day 9	Return the Vespas and join Cristina at the Saturday market to buy food for dinner. Prepare bruschetta and appetizers while in the relaxing environment of her home Villa il Poggiolo, a charming 19 th century villa where we spend the night.
Day 10	Transfer to the Perugia railway station or airport.

Quotes from the 2010 tour

"Best holiday I have ever had and our two Italian men were the icing on the cake" Susan Howard, Auckland

Beppe and Paolo did a wonderful job and made the trip very easy, informative and enjoyable" David Reid, Auckland

"Would have to say it was a fantastic holiday. I am sure that many New Zealanders would thoroughly enjoy. Good value for money" Fiona Gray, Auckland

"The Vespa Tour was magnificent, couldn't fault it. Very well escorted by Annabelle, our guide and driver. They couldn't do enough for us. Villas spectacular, cooking classes very enjoyable. Absolutely the best" Joy Hudson, Ashburton

Everything about the vespa tour was fantastic. The guides, the group, the weather, the scenery, the accommodation – not to mention the food and the wine. It would certainly rank as a very special holiday" Alison Muckle, Ashburton

Tour cost

The cost for this exclusive tour is as follows:

- ▶ Tour cost: €1,989 per person
- ▶ Single supplement: €190 extra
- ▶ Vespa hire: €290 per Vespa (exclusive of petrol and insurance)

Costs are in Euros and converted to NZ\$ at the time payment is due. All costs are subject to currency fluctuations until received in full.

What your tour cost includes

- ▶ Return transfers to and from Perugia train station/airport
- ▶ 9 nights accommodation, share twin, including breakfast
- ▶ 7 dinners (No meal included in Orvieto or Hotel Fortuna)
- ▶ Luggage transfers
- ▶ 2 wine tastings
- ▶ 3 cooking classes
- ▶ Vespa guiding and minivan support by Italian guides, Beppe and Paolo



Please note:

- Travel to Perugia, Italy will be at your own arrangement and is not included in the cost of the tour. (Air and rail bookings can be arranged through *A Walker's World* – the travel agency organising this tour.)
- **Very important: You must be over 18 years of age, have a valid motorbike licence and an International Driver's Licence to drive a Vespa. Previous experience driving a motorbike or scooter is necessary before the tour and you must arrive to begin the tour a competent rider. Of course anyone can be a passenger. If you would rather hire a small car and follow the Vespa group, you are welcome to do so.**
- Annabelle White and travel agency, *A Walker's World*, are organising this tour exclusively for HSBC Premier customers. HSBC Premier will be referring applications to participate in this tour to *A Walker's World*. All aspects of the tour, including bookings and payments, will be managed by *A Walker's World*.

If you would like to experience this trip of a lifetime, please email marketing@hsbc.co.nz or contact Louise Cleary on 09 368 8745 by 18 February 2011.

