

≈ ROAD TO TUSCANY ≈



THE ITALY PICKLEBALL TOUR
Spring 2025

Join us

in April 19-26, 2025 for 7 days and 7 nights at a private historic villa in the heart of Tuscany. Players will be coached by Lee Whitwell the #1 Ranked Female Senior Pro and Will Tams, Road to 4.0 Co-Founder and Head Coach. Come experience what happens when you combine the best of Italy with the best of Pickleball to create a unique and magical experience.





Trip highlights

- **7 days and 7 nights** accommodations in a luxurious **private Tuscan villa** with **private swimming pool** and **4 pickleball courts**
- **5 day pickleball intensive clinic** with **#1 ranked Senior Pro Lee Whitwell** and **Road to 4.0 Co-founder and Head Coach Will Tams**. The intensive will include **over 24 hours of on-court time, plus unlimited personal use of the courts** during all other times, culminating in a festive **round robin tournament** and **final ceremony**
- Ability to **bring along a spouse, partner, significant other, or friend** who does not play pickleball but wants to experience everything else and enjoy the villa and pool while you play. **Discounted price and optional morning excursions available** for them.
- **Guided excursions** with private drivers to breathtaking local sites and historic cities in Tuscany organized and led by our European partner, **diVino Tours of Italy**

- **All meals***, including wonderful dining experiences, **catered directly at your villa by a private chef** (*Except one free night on your own in Siena.)
- **Day 6 special full-day group outing** on a **diVino exclusive tour of Montepulciano and Pienza**
- **Local expert Tuscan guide** (who also *loves* pickleball) **available throughout your stay** to provide assistance, insight, and well-timed humor to your journey
- **Organic Italian wines (including alcohol-free options)** perfectly **paired with each meal by your personal sommeliers**
- Multiple days with a **private massage therapist on-site at the villa** for optional booking after a long day of pickleball and excursions in Tuscany. ;)
- **Free custom travel planning with diVino Tours** to arrange your stay in Italy **before or after the Road to Tuscany Tour**. This is an exclusive benefit for *Road to Tuscany* tour participants.

THE *Villa*











VILLA PACKAGE

INCLUDES:

- 7 nights stay in single or double occupancy, with or without en-suite bath
- 16 bedrooms, 12 bathrooms
- Over 8,600 square feet
- Private swimming pool
- 4 private pickleball courts
- Daily house cleanings
- Wi-Fi
- 2 kitchens
- Ping pong table
- Pool/Billiards Table
- Laundry
- Independent heating
- House alarm
- Smart TV
- Dishwasher
- Espresso coffee



TEAM
Tuscany



AMY WADMAN

Founder and Director
diVino Tours of Italy



LEE WHITWELL

#1 Ranked Senior Pro
Womens and Mixed Doubles



WILL TAMS

Co-Founder and Head Coach
Road to 4.0



FEDERICO "FRED" MARCONI

Executive Trip Manager
Expert Guide and Sommelier
diVino Tours of Italy



ANDREA ANICHINI

Lead Chef and Owner
A Man from Chianti



LEE WHITWELL

#1 Ranked Senior Pro
Womens and Mixed Doubles

Lee Whitwell has a distinguished career and has made significant achievements in the sport, including being voted MVP for the Major League Pickleball in both the 2021 and 2022 season.

Often referred to as "*Lady Gibraltar*", Lee has had a trailblazing career in pickleball. She is celebrated not only for her outstanding performances but also for her vibrant personality and dynamic presence both on and off the courts.

Consistently voted as fan favorite, Whitwell's background and experience in pickleball have made her a prominent figure in the community, inspiring many up-and-coming players with her coaching, her story, and her accomplishments both on, and off, the court.

An avid coach, Lee has run clinics all over the world, from the US to China, Mexico to Europe. The same passion she brings to the courts shines through in her dynamic, and accessible, teaching style.



Lee and Anna Leigh on the Courts [➔](#)



WILL TAMS

Co-Founder and Head Coach
Road to 4.0

I've been completely obsessed with Pickleball for the last six years. I love both the social aspect of open play as well as the intensity of competing in high-level tournaments. I've participated in tournaments nationwide, including the 2022 and 2023 Pickleball Nationals.

In 2023, I secured gold in mixed doubles and singles at the APP Qualifier in Mesa, Arizona, earning Golden Tickets to Nationals. In November of 2023 at Nationals, I finished 6th out of 40 teams in Men's doubles and 7th in singles in a field of 25.

But beyond medals and finishes, my true passion lies in coaching and helping others improve. Pickleball, to me, is an exploration of learning and potential, where the court becomes a laboratory for experimentation and self-expression within the sport's boundaries.

Most of all, I absolutely love this game and my student's say that my enthusiasm is contagious and helps energize and motivate them to continue to improve their games.





AMY WADMAN

Founder and Director
diVino Tours of Italy

Amy is the Founder, Owner, and Director of diVino Tours of Italy and has been running the business since 2003. Originally born in Boulder, Colorado, she has lived in Italy for more than 35 years now and as a result, has a one of a kind perspective on travel—and life—in Italy. Being both bilingual and bi-cultural, she is uniquely qualified to share her experience with people who are seeking a deeper understanding of the Italian lifestyle.

Amy personally hand crafts diVino's Custom Tours, where she works with each individual traveler, creating one of a kind itineraries catering to each client's unique interests and needs. Though her trips are gourmet in nature she also weaves unique art and history experiences into her tours and arranges exclusive events throughout Italy at www.divinotours.com

Besides running diVino Amy also owns an organic farm and olive grove in Le Marche where she produces a rare varietal of olive oil, wines, honey, and blackberry jam. Her site is at: www.costadigiano.com





FEDERICO "FRED" MARCONI

Executive Trip Manager
Expert Guide and Sommelier
diVino Tours of Italy

Federico Marconi was born in Siena in the fuzzy Seventies, and since then, he has always been in motion. Having long lived abroad and traveled to countless countries, Fred is truly a World citizen with a broad and multi-faceted understanding of different cultures, languages, and countries.

By day, Fred is the Executive Trip Manager and expert guide for the Tuscany Region, as well as being a trained Sommelier with a true love for wines.

By night*, he is a true *Rockstar* to the bone. He is the lead singer of a band where his other side is able to come out. Lastly—and like the rest of us—he is a pickleball fanatic.

Fred fell in love with the sport in the early 2020s when there was little to no sign of Pickleball in Tuscany and he began building "guerrilla courts" to be able to play. One of his greatest claims to fame is having built the first ever pickleball court in Tuscany in 2021 in an abandoned parking lot.





ANDREA ANICHINI

Lead Chef and Owner
A Man from Chianti

Born in the Chianti Classico region and growing up with the values of cooking food with ingredients all from within 1 kilometer of our home shaped who I am today. And if you accompany this meal with a great glass of wine, now you have been introduced to my world.

I am a Man from Chianti, a man with a rustic but sincere personality. I wish to share with you those wonderful emotions I still feel today when I prepare a "pinzimonio" or simply look outside my window.

Andrea Anichini is an artist who crafts his plates with simple, organic, local ingredients creating unique and exquisite meals with just a handful, "one or two ingredients" as he likes to say.



*Shots of actual dishes
created by Andrea

YOUR COACHES





PICKLEBALL PACKAGE

INCLUDES:

- **24 hours on-court** with the coaches (20 hours instructional time in the 5-day intensive clinic series). Plus **unlimited** court time all other times
- **Grand finale event:** skill-level based **round robin tournament** on the private villa courts.
- **Two evening tasting events with the coaches.** Meet and greet opening night and closing sommelier & coach guided tasting special event.
(Non-alcoholic options available)

Continued ➡



PICKLEBALL PACKAGE

Continued...

- **Play in with the coaches** in a rotating MLP style exhibition match
- **Medals ceremony**—not your typical medals ceremony....everyone will receive a commemorative medal based not on performance on the court but on antics off the court. **Includes on-court prosecco service. :)**
- **Unlimited open play** when we aren't on the court for instruction time or these other special events



TOUR

Itinerary

DAY 1

Arrival at the Villa



DAY 1 :: ARRIVAL AT YOUR PRIVATE VILLA & WELCOME TO TUSCANY APERITIVO AND DINNER

Afternoon

Arrival at your villa in Tuscany with time to unpack, relax and settle in. Explore the villa and the vast grounds of the estate including it's private gardens, pool, and courts. Breathe in the surrounding landscape and unwind from your travel.*

Evening

📍 **7:00pm** That evening meet your coaches at the villa where we'll celebrate your arrival with a **Meet & Greet and Q&A session** accompanied by a Tuscan aperitivo with local wine and delicacies (non-alcoholic options available).

Continue the evening with a fabulous dinner catered at your villa of traditional local fare paired to an array of Tuscan wines.



INCLUDES:

- Welcome to Tuscany Meet & Greet with the coaches, aperitivo and wine
- Traditional Tuscan dinner catered at the villa with wine
- Services of a diVino sommelier host

* Transportation to the villa not included. Private transfers can be arranged.

DAY 2

Firenze by Night



DAY 2 :: PICKLEBALL CLINIC AND SIENA BY NIGHT



Morning

Help yourself to breakfast at the villa
(breakfast supplies pre-stocked for you to enjoy!)

Pickleball Clinic Day 1: Foundation

🏆 8:00am – 12:00pm

Pickleball with Lee Whitwell and Will Tams on the Villa Courts. This clinic will provide the foundation for the 5 day intensive plus an overview to understand how your game will improve exponentially.

🏆 12:30pm

Lunch buffet catered at the villa.



Afternoon

🏆 2:00pm Travel by private vehicle to the beautiful Gothic masterpiece of Siena.

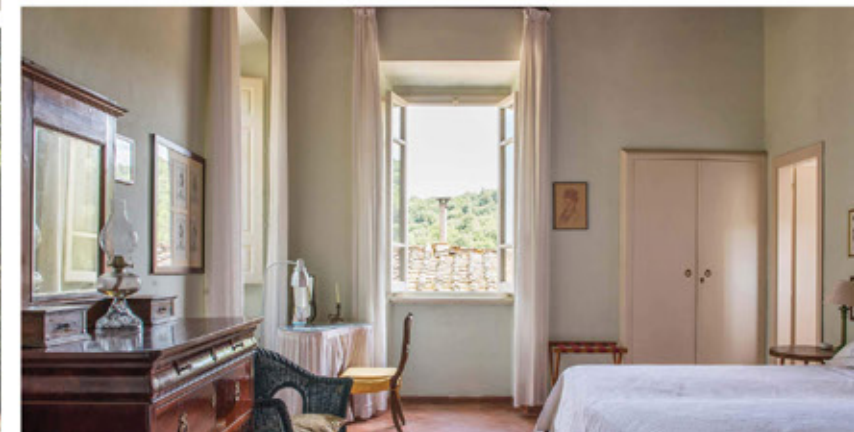
Meet our partnering local art historian guide for a 2 hour tour of Siena’s most breathtaking monuments. After your tour you’ll have free time to explore the city center, shop, and have dinner on your own.

Evening

🏆 9:45 pm Return to the villa and retire in your private quarters. Dream of pickleball and Italian gelato.

INCLUDES:

- Breakfast supplies
- Catered buffet lunch at the villa
- 2 hour guide tour of historic Siena
- Afternoon transportation in a private vehicle with driver
- Services of a diVino sommelier host



DAY 3 :: PICKLEBALL CLINIC AND VILLA EXPLORATION

Morning

Help yourself to breakfast at the villa
(breakfast supplies pre-stocked for you to enjoy!)

Pickleball Clinic Day 2

🏓 8:00am – 12:00pm
Pickleball with Lee and Will on the Villa Courts.

🏓 12:30pm
Lunch buffet catered at the villa

Afternoon

Enjoy a free afternoon at the villa to settle in and get situated, relax by the pool, explore the estate grounds, or keep on practicing at your own private court.



Evening

Enjoy a delicious Tuscan dinner catered at the villa.

INCLUDES:

- Breakfast supplies
- Catered buffet lunch at the villa
- Catered dinner at the villa with wine and beverages
- Services of a diVino sommelier host

DAY 4

*Wine Tasting
and Pizza
Making Demo*



DAY 4 :: PICKLEBALL CLINIC, WINE TASTING, PIZZA MAKING DEMO AND “APERICENA” AT THE VILLA

Morning

Help yourself to breakfast at the villa
(breakfast supplies pre-stocked for you to enjoy!)

Pickleball Clinic Day 3

🏆 8:00am – 12:00pm
Pickleball with Lee and Will on the Villa Courts

🏆 12:30pm
Lunch buffet catered at the villa

Afternoon

🏆 2:30pm
Winery tour and tasting at your villa’s estate winery (a leading Tuscany wine estate!)



Return to the villa and free time to relax by the pool and enjoy your surroundings before meeting your Chef for a pizza making demo.



Evening

Following the [pizza making demo](#), enjoy the products of the demonstration with a delicious Tuscan “apericena” (a casual light dinner with a variety of pizzas and veggies) paired with organic wine.

INCLUDES:

- Breakfast supplies
- Catered buffet lunch at the villa
- Winery tour and tasting
- Pizza demo and “apericena” with wine and beverages
- Services of a diVino sommelier host

DAY 5
Chianti Classico
Wine Tour

DAY 5 :: PICKLEBALL CLINIC AND CHIANTI CLASSICO WINE TOUR

Morning

Help yourself to breakfast at the villa
(breakfast supplies pre-stocked for you to enjoy!)

Pickleball Clinic Day 4

🏆 8:00am – 12:00pm
Pickleball with Lee and Will on the Villa Courts

🏆 12:30pm
Lunch buffet catered at the villa

🏆 2:00pm
Travel into the beautiful Chianti Classico region to tour an amazing organic winery, where we'll meet the winery owners and tour the historic cellars, followed by a tasting of estate wines.



Stop to explore charming sites in the heart of the Chianti Classico, stopping en-route for dinner at a lovely local restaurant.

🏆 9:45pm Return to the villa

INCLUDES:

- Breakfast supplies
- Catered buffet lunch at the villa
- Chianti Classico wine tour including wine tasting
- Afternoon transportation in a private vehicle with driver
- Dinner with wine
- Services of a diVino sommelier host

DAY 6

*Dinner Celebration
at the Villa*



DAY 6 :: TOURNAMENT, CEREMONY, AND GOURMET DINNER CELEBRATION AT THE VILLA

Morning

Help yourself to breakfast at the villa
(breakfast supplies pre-stocked for you to enjoy!)

Pickleball Clinic Day 5

- 🏆 8:00am – 12:00pm Pickleball with Lee and Will on the Villa Courts
- 🏆 12:30pm Lunch buffet catered at the villa
- 🏆 2:00pm – 4:00pm Skill-based festive and fun round robin tournament
- 🏆 4:00pm – 5:00pm Players awards ceremony with live court-side sparkling wines and alcohol-free bubbly



🏆 5:00pm – 6:00pm Hit the showers, clean up and get decked out for the final night celebration dinner!

🏆 6:00pm Begin your celebration with a toast of sparkling wines and gourmet finger foods.



🏆 7:30pm Continue with a multi-course gourmet Tuscan dinner paired to wonderful array of organic Italian wines perfectly paired to your meal by your personal sommeliers (non-alcoholic pairings available).

INCLUDES:

- Breakfast supplies
- Catered buffet lunch at the villa
- Aperitivo with sparkling wine and finger foods
- Medals ceremony and a medal for each player
- Gourmet Dinner with wine pairings
- Services of a diVino sommelier

DAY 7

Montepulciano & Pienza



DAY 7 :: DIVINO EXCLUSIVE TOUR: MONTEPULCIANO & PIENZA

Morning

Help yourself to breakfast at the villa
(breakfast supplies pre-stocked for you to enjoy!)

Directly after breakfast you'll meet your driver to begin your full day diVino experience on an exclusive diVino tour.

From the villa you will head to the breathtaking hills of Montepulciano. Explore the city center of Montepulciano and stop to taste wines at a historic cellar, followed by lunch at one of diVino's had-selected restaurants in Montepulciano.

After lunch travel to the magical city of Pienza and enjoy free time to explore this perfect renaissance village.



Return to the villa and prepare to explore wine in a completely new light as we treat you to a first ever in history event: a sommelier & coach guided wine tasting where we'll pair your favorite pickleball shots to an array of artisan Italian wines.

INCLUDES:

- Breakfast supplies
- Lunch in Montepulciano with wine
- Wine tasting in Montepulciano
- Full day transportation in a private vehicle with driver
- Evening wine tasting event including light dinner
- Services of a diVino sommelier host

DAY 8 :: DEPARTURE

Morning

Check-out of the villa and travel on to your next destination*.

*Transportation is not included but can be arranged to train stations or directly to your next destination by private car.

Interested in adding an extension to your trip?

Since 2003 diVino has been specializing in custom travel planning across Italy. If you'd like to extend your stay in Italy and plan a trip either before or after the clinic we can help you organize your trip to Italy's most famous destinations as well as it's undiscovered gems. This service is an exclusive offer for members of the Road to Tuscany.





DIVINO TOURS PACKAGE

INCLUDES:

- 3 diVino exclusive tours as outlined with private driver and transportation
- 6 dinners prepared by private chef with wine pairings including pizza making demo and dinner and gourmet celebration dinner at the villa.
- All catered buffet lunches at the villa prepared by private chef
- Welcome aperitivo with artisan wine and Tuscan delicacies
- All Breakfast supplies

Continued ➤



Continued...

- Special sommelier guided wine tasting event
- 7 days services of diVino's Senior Executive trip manager, sommelier (and pickleball aficionado!)
- Free custom travel planning service for your extensions in Italy either before or after the trip.
- Insider secrets restaurant recommendations for Siena
- Special welcome gift
- Optional daily experiences for non-pickleball participants (see next page)

OPTIONAL DAILY EXCURSIONS/EVENTS FOR NON-PICKLEBALL PARTICIPANTS

Note that all optional events take place in the morning during the pickleball clinic

This is a series of optional events and excursions that are available to partners, spouses, friends, and others on the trip who may want to participate in other extra curricular activities during the times that the pickleball intensive clinic. These events will be available for an additional fee. Minimum number of participants required. Pricing based on number of individuals.



SUNDAY COOKING CLASS

🕒 **8:00am - 11:00am** Join your chef Andrea for a hands-on cooking class at the villa where you'll learn to prepare an authentic Tuscan meal including hand-made pasta.



MONDAY GUIDED HIKE

🕒 **8:00am - 11:30am** Guided hike through the beautiful Tuscany countryside surrounding your villa.



TUESDAY LORO CIUFFENNA

🕒 **8:30am - 12:00pm** Travel with your guide and driver to the charming medieval village of

Loro Ciuffenna where you'll have time to wander, explore, and stop for a cappuccino at a local café.

WEDNESDAY MOUNTAINTOP VILLAGES OF TUSCANY

🕒 **9:00am** Visit some of Tuscany's hidden gems. Stop for coffee, gift shopping and explore some of the most beautiful and picturesque towns in Tuscany.



THURSDAY FULL DAY OUTING TO FLORENCE

🕒 **8:00am** Depart for Florence where you'll meet our partnering local guide for a 4 hour guided tour of Florence's finest treasures. After your tour, enjoy free time to explore Florence, shop, and have lunch on your own (including diVino's insider's secrets restaurant recommendations).

Return to the villa at approx **5:00pm**.

