

## What people are saying . . .

*Da Vinci Capers is a delightful master class in Sensazione, also known as "La Dolce Vita!"*

— Michael J. Gelb, Author of international best-selling book  
*How to Think Like Leonardo da Vinci*

### **Traveling with Taste – Food trips, Wine Excursions**

*Da Vinci Capers ~ A Personal Renaissance Journey: A trip through Tuscany in which participants engage in Renaissance pursuits, including painting and sculpture – and Italian country cooking.*

**Bon Appétit Magazine**, Starters, March, 2005

*For me, the most special part of Da Vinci Capers was the luxury of youthful state of mind, free to experiment without fear of failure. I mean, a 40-something lawyer doing charcoal sketches of olive trees, ordering fresh produce in Italian, and chiseling away at a slab of marble?! It was a week when anything was possible.*

— J. Raskin, Miami, FL

*An exciting fun adventure. An enoteca of possibilities. It seemed there was a surprise around every corner. Da Vinci Capers is a wonderful collection of superb people coming together to help us experience and bring out our artistic skills.*

— Jack Walker, Boulder, CO

*Da Vinci Capers is the perfect respite – a week that brings your intuitive and rational aspects back in balance.*

— Leonard Shlain, M.D.,  
Author of *Art & Physics: Parallel Visions in Space, Time and Light*

*An extraordinary, professional, and worthwhile experience for anyone who has a sense of art, history, and the culture of the Italian Renaissance ... and who like to eat!*

— Ira Nottonson and Sandra Burton, Boulder, CO

*A unique experience – the opportunity to experience multiple artistic activities in a beautiful home. Location was superb!*

— D. del Bueno, Philadelphia, PA

*What a great way to meet the Italian people and, at the same time, expand our personal horizons!*

— Dr. Gene and Judy Bolles, Germany

*This is the don't-miss experience of Italy that you have probably been waiting for.*

— Tom Wilkerson, Logan UT

[www.davincicapers.com](http://www.davincicapers.com)



**Pack your bag ...  
we're going on an  
adventure in Italy!**

Let's experience a more creative life by having *un gusto*, a taste of the arts and Italian culture through the eyes of **Leonardo da Vinci . . .**

**Ignite old passions! Unveil new talents!**

# Sample Itinerary

## SUNDAY la domenica



### Shedding Light on Leonardo

In Florence, we unfold the mystery of Leonardo's genius. The passionate Joan Reifsnyder, consultant for the Florence Academy of Art and Leonardo aficionado, will guide us. We learn how *sfumato* (smoked, hazy) is Leonardo's famous painting technique and a willingness and open mind to try new activities. It is the secret to discovering your personal creative expression! We make our home near Lucca, nestled between the sea and Florence.

We stretch our legs and walk the grounds, enjoy a luscious meal with superb local wines, and rest our heads for a sound slumber.

### La Bella Lingua

It's never too late to learn a foreign language! We arrive at Centro Koinè in Lucca. In two small groups, we learn basic Italian. We will be able to buy fruit at the market and ask for directions like a true Italian! There is time on your own to buy a *panino* and to explore Lucca.

In the afternoon, we walk the history of Lucca with Gabriele, hear the tales of strength, riches, and *furberia* (foxiness). We will see Lucca's most revered *Volto Santo*, believed to have been carved by Nicodemus at the time of the Crucifixion.

## TUESDAY il martedì

### In Search of Truth and Beauty

Art historian Kenneth Clark called him "undoubtedly the most curious man who ever lived." Leonardo's quest for truth and beauty

was revealed in the thousands of pages of his notebooks – his thoughts, observations, and illustrations.

We stay home and meet Julio Monteiro Martins, Honorary Fellow in Writing, from the University of Iowa, professor at the University of Pisa, and founder of the creative writing school *Scuola Sagarana* in Lucca. Today, we experience how writing opens our mind to create space for reflection and imagination. This is a magical moment!

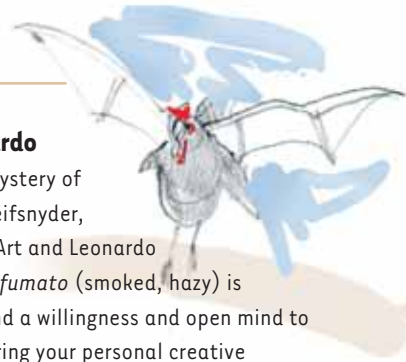
Later in the afternoon, we depart for Barga, one of Leonardo's favorite villages, located in the rugged Garfagnana region. On our own, we explore this artist colony. Then, we meet at the beautiful *Teatro dei Differenti*, built in 1690. From there, we enter into the private printmaking studio of Swietland "Nick" Kraczyna. Nick developed the multi-plate color etching technique, and is represented in the Uffizi Gallery Prints and Drawing Collection. A real treat!

## WEDNESDAY il mercoledì

### The All-Senses Cooking Lesson

A good morning to sleep in, write in your journal or take a hike in nature.

*Note:* If you would rather observe any activity or nap poolside for the day, that is *fantastico!* This is your experience.



## MONDAY il lunedì



## FRIDAY il venerdì

### Tuscany by the Sea

Depart for *Pietrasanta* (Holy Stone), the home of more sculptors than anywhere else in the world – from Michelangelo to Botero. We are greeted by Keara McMartin of Studio Sem. Keara will show us the process of carving marble and, as in Leonardo style, offer us a whack or two. From this day forward, you will have a new appreciation of sculpture.

It's market day! Free time to explore this wonderful town, purchase gifts and buy an espresso.

In the afternoon, we travel a few minutes to high on the Alpuan hills and visit Peralta, home and studio of the renowned sculptor Fiore de Henriquez. After lunch on the terrace, we try our hands at sculpting in terra cotta. Stefania Brandinelli will be our guide as we dive into using carving tools, sponges and spritzers to create our objects. Stefania has studied sculpting and painting with masters in the U.S. and in Italy. Whether we're a novice or expert, she inspires us.

### New Ways of Seeing in Drawing & Painting

For Leonardo, drawing was much more than illustration – it was the key to understanding creation and creativity. Today, we learn a new way to see objects – by shapes, shadow and perspective.

We will break for "A Taste of Regional Fare" – foods from Lucca, the Garfagnana and coastal regions – peppery oil, porcini mushrooms, a variety of grains, and cheeses. A table of stunning colors and tastes!

In the afternoon we play with color using oil paints. As Winston S. Churchill said, "Happy are the painters, for they never shall be lonely: light and colour; peace and hope will keep them company to the end."

In the evening, we wear our bow ties and silk scarves and gather for a farewell dinner and celebration. As we put our heads on the pillow tonight, we feel a little sadness that the week has come to an end; but also a tinge of excitement knowing that we have just started on a journey of creativity – maybe not tomorrow or next year ... but, one day.

## SATURDAY il sabato

### Arrivederci!

After a morning breakfast, we return to Florence...where it all began...



For more information, see [www.davincicapers.com](http://www.davincicapers.com), or contact Barbara Hardesty at (303) 284-1383, e-mail [barb@davincicapers.com](mailto:barb@davincicapers.com).