The Scenic Route to Assisi

A big city, a tiny island, a medieval hill town.
A perfectly reasonable detour.





Solid line: driving sequence · Dashed line: ferry, out & back
Illustrated orientation map; routes and lake shapes are simplified.

ROME	GIGLIO	ORVIETO
Casa Monti	*La Guardia*	*Palazzo Misciattelli*
2 nights	2 nights	2 nights

Six nights before the wedding. Add a seventh for one more island day.

Google Maps: Rome to the ferry

Google Maps: mainland to Assisi

From the City to the Sea

A suggested beginning to your time in Italy

01 · ROME

Begin at Casa Monti

Arrive in Rome and give yourself an evening to settle into Italy. Casa Monti, a colourful, art-filled hotel in the Monti neighbourhood, is our suggested first address. Take a wander, enjoy an aperitivo, and let dinner be the only appointment you keep. With two nights here, you also have a full day for exploring Rome before the coastal journey begins.

Explore Casa Monti

02 · CAPALBIO & THE TAROT GARDEN

A leisurely lunch, a wonderfully strange garden

After two nights in Rome, set off toward the Maremma coast. Stop in the hilltop village of Capalbio for lunch and a stroll. Ristorante La Porta is a lovely option for the flavours of the region, from homemade pasta to traditional Maremman dishes.

Continue to Niki de Saint Phalle's Giardino dei Tarocchi: a fantastical world of towering figures, mirrored surfaces and intricate mosaics. Allow around 90 minutes to explore before continuing to Porto Santo Stefano for the ferry to Giglio.

A little planning: the garden currently opens at 2:30 p.m., so lunch comes first. Reserve garden tickets and choose a ferry with time for the drive, parking and boarding. September 2027 schedules must be checked before booking this day.

La Porta · restaurant
Tarot Garden · visitor information

Open the driving route: Rome → Capalbio → Tarot Garden → ferry





Island Days on Giglio

Boat picnics, wild paths, island wines and a sunset to remember



03 · LA GUARDIA · TWO NIGHTS

Think Capri before Capri was Capri: sun-faded fishing boats, Italian chatter drifting across the harbour, and long lunches that quietly become the rest of your day. Giglio is still the sort of place where you hear more Italian than English, lunch runs late, and nobody seems particularly concerned about what comes next. Stay at La Guardia, a beautifully understated boutique hotel overlooking Giglio Porto, and settle into the serious business of doing very little.

A day on the water

Pack a panino, some snacks, plenty of water and your favourite beverages, and head out to see Giglio from the sea. Rent a small boat for the day, subject to the operator's requirements, or hire a captain and let someone else take the helm. Swim in clear-water coves, explore the coastline, and make a full circuit of the island if sea conditions and your operator allow.

A walk, a vineyard, or a little of both

For a day on land, follow the island's paths through Mediterranean scrub and coastal scenery, or arrange a winery visit and tasting. About 40% of Giglio is protected within the Tuscan Archipelago National Park. Tenute Agnelli offers vineyard and cellar experiences on the island; visits should be arranged ahead of time.

The old town & dinner at Da Maria

Do not miss a wander through the medieval lanes of Giglio Castello, followed by dinner at Da Maria. Book ahead, request a table with a sunset view, and arrive before the sun begins to drop. This is one of Christine's don't-miss recommendations: the sort of sunset you will still be talking about long after you have gone home.

Choose your island day: two nights gives you one full day. Choose boating or hiking and wine, and fit the old town and dinner around your plans. Add a third night if you would like a full day for each; our suggested mainland transfer uses a morning ferry.

La Guardia · your island stay
Da Maria · sunset dinner in Giglio Castello
Tenute Agnelli · vineyard visits and tastings
I can arrange boat hire or a captain, winery visits, guided walks and dinner reservations for you. — Christine



Into the Green Heart of Italy

A lakeside lunch and an unhurried arrival in Orvieto



04 · LAKE BOLSENA

From salt water to still water

Take a morning ferry back to Porto Santo Stefano, collect your car and head inland toward Lake Bolsena. Pause for lunch beside the water: Trattoria Da Guido in Bolsena offers a lakefront veranda and local fish dishes. Ask for a table with a view.

Take your time over lunch and enjoy the view across the lake. There is room for a stroll beside the water before continuing directly to Orvieto, with the rest of the afternoon to settle in.

Da Guido · lakeside lunch

05 · ORVIETO

Make yourself at home in a palazzo

Continue to Orvieto and settle into Palazzo Misciattelli, Christine's favourite address here. Its private residences, historic character and location inside the old city make it a particularly personal place to stay. We suggest two nights: one to arrive, and one to enjoy being there.

Spend the next day exploring Orvieto at your own pace, with time for the cathedral, small streets and a long lunch. Then continue to Assisi in time for the wedding celebrations.

Explore Palazzo Misciattelli

Google Maps: ferry port → Bolsena → Orvieto → Assisi

RESERVATIONS & LOGISTICS

Let me take care of the details

I can help with all your reservations and logistics, including hotels, restaurant tables, car hire or transfers, ferry arrangements, boat days, winery visits and guided walks. Contact me through Slow Travel Lab and we can shape the journey around you.
Christine Capano · Slow Travel Lab

Contact Christine at Slow Travel Lab