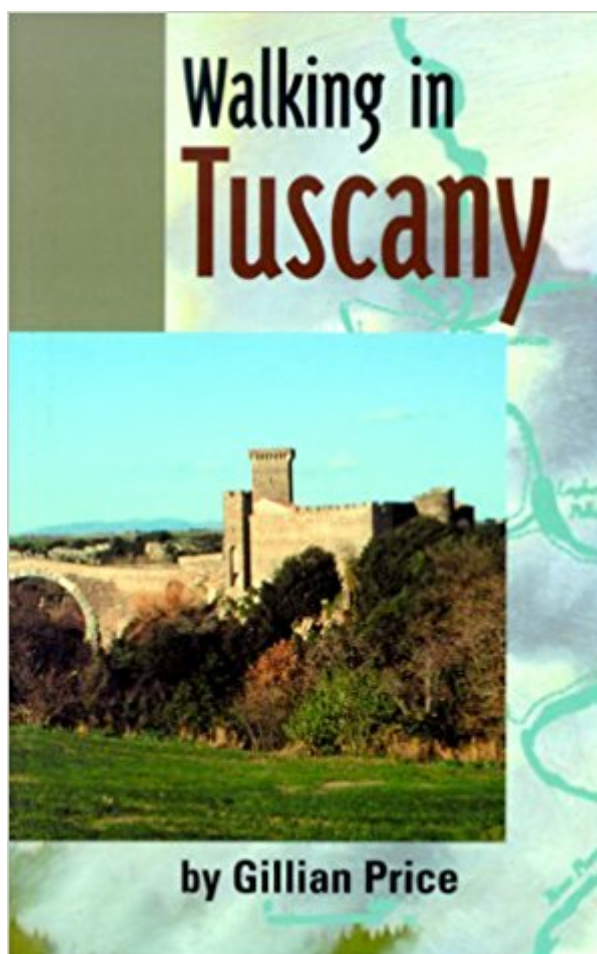


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Walking In Tuscany: Etruscan Trails In Old Etruria



Synopsis

This full colour guide is a new edition, and offers suggestions for exploratory walks through the picture postcard landscapes of Tuscany, Umbria and Latium. Once known as Etruria, it was home to the ancient and enigmatic Etruscan people who preceded the Romans. The book has fifty itineraries ranging from brief strolls to the Chianti Trail, a five-day trek, taking in little-known Etruscan marvels such as ancient sunken roads and monumental tombs. Walkers are guided through medieval hamlets, exquisite Romanesque churches, unspoilt coast and countryside alive with wildlife and carpeted with wild flowers and aromatic herbs. There's the wild Chianti ridge, city walks through Perugia, Orvieto and Volterra, day walks on the divine island of Elba and along the unspoilt coast around Orbetello. A mass of practical details cover accommodation in farms, country hotels, convents and hostels, with notes on local specialities in the food and drink field. Visitors are encouraged to use the public transport system so as to minimise impact. The aim of this guide is to encourage people to get out of their car and walk. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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Customer Reviews

After a degree in Anthropology and working in adult education, Gillian Price travelled through Asia and trekked the Himalaya. Eventually settling in Venice, she now works as a freelance travel writer. Gillian is steadily exploring all the mountain ranges and flatter parts of Italy, and has produced a series of outstanding guides for Cicerone. She is an active member of the Italian Alpine Club CAI and Mountain Wilderness. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I appreciated the depth and detail of this book...but then I do admire the Etruscan civilisation...unlike TW of Hobart who obviously has a limited horizon, does not read anything but a title before buying and whose opinion is frankly dull. I am Australian, live in Italy 4 months of the year in the La Tuscia region north of Rome and this is one of the few books that covers this region ..the core of Etruria. A delightful area of lakes, sea and wonderful towns all off the bog standard tourist trail taken by the ilk of TW...and I hope it stays that way.

This book gives you some very good ideas about out of the way places to visit in Tuscany (particularly in regard to the Etruscan tombs and ruins), but it was written so long ago that it is now extremely out of date. My wife and I have done about 15 walks out of the book over the past 3 years, and the conditions and signage of almost all of them have changed so much that the descriptions are unrecognisable. A good insight into some off the beaten track sites that are certainly worth visiting, but badly in need of updating!

I did both the no.29 "Sovana's Sunken Roadways and Necropolises" and no.30 "Sovana to Pitigliano the Old Way" walks and loved every minute of them. Italy is full of museums and archeological sites but this is ancient history out in the countryside! The sunken roads are fascinating gorges formed by the wheels of horse-driven vehicles that have worn ruts over the centuries in the soft rock called tufo. Sometimes these are up to 20 metres deep. We would never have discovered places so interesting and 'off the beaten track' without this book.

Tuscany is famous for being the cradle of the Renaissance, its wonderful medieval villages and churches, glorious wine, fabulous food and countryside. Just why this book focuses almost exclusively on etruscan ruins - probably the least interesting thing about Tuscany to the average traveller - is bewildering. Short shrift is generally paid to otherwise interesting villages in order to concentrate on this obscure and frankly dull topic. A terrible read with pretty ordinary photos to boot - and now I read that the directions are inaccurate. A thoroughly pointless endeavour.

Don't give this guide a second thought....it's complete trash. We are seasoned travelers and wanted to try something new in Tuscany. Place names and sign indications were mis-spelled, natural markers were not identified; it is clear that the author has not even stepped foot on the path that was described. Total waste of time.

A group of us (seasoned travelers) used this book as a guide. We only used it for a short time as it had very poor directions and wasted a lot of our time. I would recommend avoiding this product. It made for a frustrating time, albeit in a beautiful place.

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This book has poor directions and does not take you to the most interesting sites in Tuscany. A waste of money really...

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