**Lucca and the Italian Riviera**
(possible itinerary highlights)

— *Savor locally produced wine* (rich from the soil fed by the surrounding sea and mountains) and lunch at a family-owned estate and winery in the hills above Lucca.

— *Explore on foot the serene Ligurian Coast*, also known as the Italian Riviera, with an amiable local guide; hike tranquil Palmaria Island and through colorful villages around the Bay of Poets, so-called for the English Romantic poets, Byron and Shelley, who once lived here.

— *Attend an evening concert*, featuring stirring arias by Giacomo Puccini (a native of Lucca) and other Italian composers.

— *Visit historic Renaissance villas* in the countryside, still owned by the original noble families.

— *Board a rugged Land Rover and ascend into the stunningly-white marble quarries high above Carrara.*

— *Cruise by bike around Lucca’s wide Renaissance walls and join in with locals on the evening passeggiato (walk).*

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