

DAY TRIP – OPEN DAY WITH TONI

“Every time an old woman, an old farmer or a shepherd of our rural areas passes away, is like a small library disappearing or bursting into flames. Our rural area is the real receptor of our cultural heritage. It has been growing and providing light to our cities that live backwards to the natural world and to our own culture and traditions (...)If they had the interest they would discover a light signaling their ways with no ambush, a light coming from ancient times and fading in the horizon of our future”

A region is its people, its history and its traditions and culture. We believe that the better way to understand a region is to understand its trades. Trades shape traditions, culture, festivities and gastronomy.

BACKGROUND

Together with your local host (speaking English) you will pick up and visit the same olives and olive trees that have produced the so called “liquid gold” you are going to taste during this hedonist appetizer

The plots of land where he works ooze tranquility surrounded by centenary olive trees and astonishing views of the nearby mountains. The organic olive oil he produced taste like the trees you are going to see. Pouring the oil into a slice of bread together with some salt is one of the main pleasures that still pass from generation to generation unspoiled.

Together with Toni you will also have the chance to speak about organic agriculture, the traditional and current techniques for producing olive oil(and their difference and reasons behind), when they collect, which olives are collected, and the different processes and types of olive oil depending on their quality, taste and smell.

Further, you will share and understand their self management philosophy with their vegetable garden and hens meanwhile admiring some of the oldest olive trees in the valley “if this trees were able to speak they will certainly speak Arab...”

Physical condition

We will also sit down in some fruit boxes at the plot of land for having a nice cup of coffee and we will be always surrounded by nature, etc. You will need therefore to be somehow fit if you want to participate in these tasks, though you may choose just to listen to the things we tell in the mean time. It is essential that you bring long trousers and adequate shoes.

ITINERARY

- **Prepack:** email sent with a detailed map on how to get to the starting point, contact phones and emails.

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- **10:00 Welcome at the meeting point (Benissili):** you will have an informal welcome chat with the local person serving as your host who will explain you this small beautiful village and who will lead you to the plot of land of Toni.
- **10:30-11:30 introduction of Toni,** admiring the views and getting to know a bit more of their olive trees orchard, life-style, philosophy, and initiatives. Toni and your host will explain you the ins and outs of being an organic farmer in the valley, the role of women and men in the agricultural tasks, the way trees are grafted in the valley, the history of olive trees and its importance in the past and currently, etc.
- **11:30-12:00 p.m. tasting.** The whole group will sit down in a beautiful corner of the plots of land of Toni, alongside the olive trees, to taste their own virgin extra olive oil together with bread, some snacks and of course, good company! This tasting will allow us to explore a bit further the characteristics of organic olive oil, the different types of olive oil available and some gastronomic uses of the olive oil for dressing different dishes.

Snack break at the olive grove



Toni's olive groves



THINGS YOU SHOULD BRING:

- Hat
- Sun cream
- Water
- Umbrella or rain coat in case of rain
- Appropriate shoes and clothes (long trousers and closed shoes are advisable)

BASIC DATA OF THE EXPERIENCE

- MAX SIZE OF GROUP: 15 PEOPLE
- NUMBER OF HOSTS ACCOMPANYING THE GROUP: 1 (speaking English)
- DATES: every Thursday

The price includes: welcome at the meeting point, 1 host speaking in English translating and guiding; hosting of Toni ; working at olive trees grove of Toni; final tasting of the olive oil with some snacks including wine.

The price does not include: transportation, other meals & drinks, insurance.

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