



# Archaeology Field School

*Experience excavating 2200-year-old Etruscan tombs*

ITALY  
**Tuscania**

JULY 2017



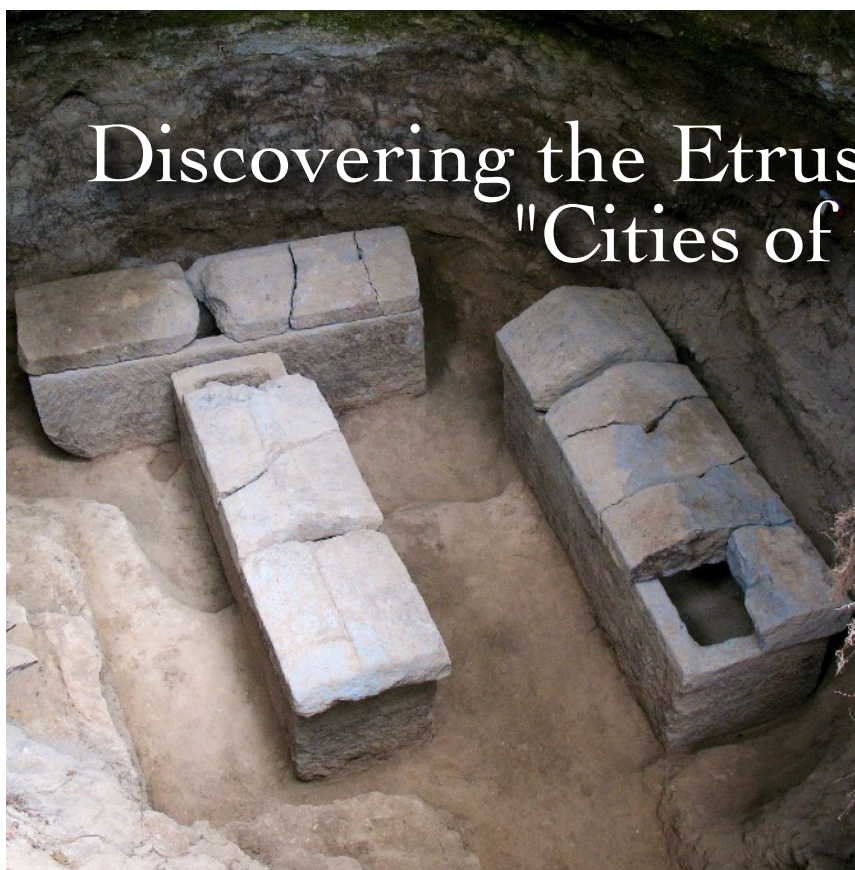
*Basilica of San Pietro at Tuscania, 11<sup>th</sup> century*



*A detail of a fresco inside the Basilica*

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# Discovering the Etruscan "Cities of the Dead"



*Above: An incised bronze mirror with gods from a tomb near Tuscania, 3<sup>rd</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> cent. BC*

*Left: Three stone sarcophagi inside a tomb near Tuscania, 3<sup>rd</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> cent. BC*

*Below: Archaeologist exploring a tunnel in a tomb*

## **Introduction**

Lorenzo de' Medici and CAMNES run a four-week intensive Archaeology Field School under the direction of a team of professional archaeologists. This program gives the opportunity to learn and work in a real excavation environment while gaining an understanding of ancient Etruscan culture and archaeological methods. In previous sessions of the Field School students have uncovered important archaeological finds such as a mirror with incised gods, now exhibited at the National Museum of Tuscania.

Students play an active role in the excavation of the Etruscan necropolis (city of dead) near Tuscania. Through field trips and by examining the abundance of materials found in this region, students learn about the lives of the ancient Etruscans from archaeological evidence and literary sources.



This program is an exciting and unique opportunity for a firsthand look at archaeological fieldwork and a new approach in understanding ancient civilizations.

## **The Site**

The archaeological area of Tuscania is composed of necropolises distributed throughout the modern town, which is believed to be an ancient settlement. LdM started to investigate two newly discovered "cities of the dead", Pian delle Rusciare and Podere Pratino in 2005, with the recent support of CAMNES. Both necropolises are from the 3rd-2nd century BC and have ipogeum tombs. In these underground environments, Etruscans buried their dead and deposited their belongings when celebrating funerary rituals. Many tombs had been violated over the years; however several have been left intact revealing an incredible number of ancient artifacts. One tomb held 47 graves with a total of

450 objects that LdM students and CAMNES are currently restoring in the 'Archaeology Workshop' course in Florence.

## ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD SCHOOL TUSCANIA - JULY 2017

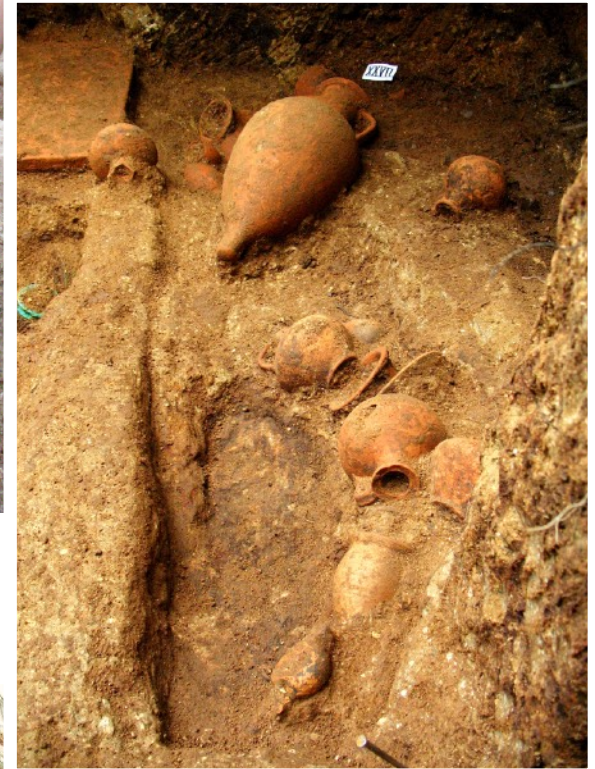
### Further Details

The LdM-CAMNES archaeological field school is an incredible journey in an inspiring environment. This program gives the possibility to dig and uncover 2200 year old artifacts and structures of the Etruscan civilization, while interacting with Italian participants in the breathtaking countryside. Participants stay in Tuscania and absorb the atmosphere of this ancient Medieval town situated in the heart of ancient Etruria.

During the stay participants have the opportunity to visit, together with their instructors, the most important sites of Etruscan interest and the nearby area.



Weekends are a perfect chance to explore the countryside and discover the castles, towns and amazing aspects of this land including the warm Mediterranean area just over 30 minutes away or the Bolsena Lake just 18 minutes away.



**An unviolated tomb with multiple graves with their goods and human remains, 3<sup>rd</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> cent. BC**

## General Information

### Duration:

Arrival Thursday July 6  
Departure Friday August 4

### Location:

Podere Pratino, Tuscania (VT)  
LdM Tuscania, Italy.

### Tuition:

See separate price list on web site

### Prerequisites and Requirements:

- An up-to-date tetanus inoculation
- International Medical/travel insurance
- It is of paramount importance that every participant communicates to the enrollment offices any allergies, food intolerances or any kind of medical issues upon enrollment.
- No prerequisites and no experience of archaeology or knowledge of Italian are needed. The principal qualifications include a strong academic record, a desire to learn more about archaeology and the Etruscan civilization, and an enthusiasm to dig.
- Participants must bear in mind that the archaeological field school of Tuscania is a full-time workshop within a professional archaeological research project that includes a five day per week involvement including lessons, archaeological field activities and visits. Participants have Saturdays and Sundays off.
- The schedule includes a lot of fieldwork and walking during field trips. While at the archaeological site, fieldwork requires digging, stooping, bending and exposure to sun, wind and/or rain. This field school is not recommended to participants with allergies to sun and/or dust.

### Outline of Schedule

In the first part of the course, participants take classes that introduce them to the civilization of the ancient Etruscans as well as to basic archaeological theory and practice. Students also visit a number of local Etruscan sites and have field trips to some world famous Etruscan sites, such as Tarquinia, Cerveteri, Tuscania and the Archaeology Museum of Villa Giulia in Rome. During the final three weeks of the course students participate in the excavation of important Etruscan burial sites, it is therefore requested full cooperation and hard fieldwork labour. Participants must bear in mind that working days go from Mondays to Fridays.

### Equipment and Materials



*Unguentary for oil  
and perfumes,  
3<sup>rd</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> cent. BC*

Participants are responsible for proper usage and storage of their assigned tools and materials. Each participant is required to personally provide the following equipment, necessary to work on the archaeological dig:

- Simple, comfortable clothing for working in hot weather
- Safety-shoes (i.e. with a steel toe)
- Good-quality 100% cotton hat
- Strong sunscreen
- Bug spray
- An A4 size note-book to be used as an Activity Journal.

Participants must bear in mind that all above-mentioned equipment and materials are MANDATORY and must be brought from home. If participants are found devoid of any of these items, the director of the project may deny excavation access.

Further details will be given during the first class.

Participants will be provided with necessary work and study materials, covered by the tuition.

### Tuition and Application

Prospective applicants must contact **LdM** for further details about the program and how to apply.

A maximum of **20** participants are accepted, with preference given to early applicants.

**Deadline for applications: May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

### The Tuition Fee includes

- the entire course for a minimum of 148 contact hours and 6 credits (no additional registration fees required)
- transfer from Rome International Airport 'Leonardo da Vinci' to Tuscania and back
- accommodation in a typical and suggestive B&B, double room with private bathroom
- weekday breakfast at the B&B or at a Café
- weekday lunch at the excavation
- travel connected with course related activities
- scheduled museum entries
- social and cultural events organized by the institute

### The Tuition Fee does NOT include

- meals other than scheduled (i.e. dinner, week-end meals, etc)
- beverages (to be paid on site)
- required personal materials (to be brought from home)

Further details and suggestions about expenses will be given during enrollment and first classes.

### To Enroll:

See contact address or web site links on the last page.

# ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD SCHOOL TUSCANIA - JULY 2017

## Suggested Readings

• *Etruscan Studies: Journal of the Etruscan Foundation* 1994-2010 (available online at: [http://scholarworks.umass.edu/etruscan\\_studies/](http://scholarworks.umass.edu/etruscan_studies/))

• *Rasenna: Journal of the Center for Etruscan Studies* 2007; 2009 (available online at: <http://scholarworks.umass.edu/rasenna/>)

• S. Haynes, *Etruscan Civilization. A Cultural History*, Oxford (Oxford University Press) 2005.

• G. Camporeale et alii, *The Etruscans outside Etruria*, Los Angeles 2004.

• M. Torelli, *The Etruscans*, New York 2001.

• M. Sprenger, G. Bartoloni, *The Etruscans. Their History, Art, Architecture*, New York 1983.

• Stephan Steingraber, *New Discoveries and Research in the Field of Southern Etruscan Rock Tombs*, in *Etruscan Studies: Journal of the Etruscan Foundation*, VOLUME 3 –

1996, p. 75.

• G. Camporeale, S. Giuntoli, *Il parco archeologico dell'Accesa a Massa Marittima* (English version), Follonica 2000.

• T. F. Borrelli and M.L. Targia. *The Etruscans. Art, History, Architecture* - British Museum press.



• C. Renfrew and P. G. Bahn, *Archaeology. Theories, Methods and Practice*, London (Thames and Hudson), 2004.

• B. C. Trigger, *A History of Archaeological Thought*, Cambridge (Cambridge University Press), 2005.

• K. Greene, *Archaeology: An Introduction*, London and New York (Routledge), 2002.



*Tomb of the Leopards at Tarquinia, 5<sup>th</sup> cent. BC*

## Contact details

Further details of the on-going and other archaeological projects of CAMNES and LdM are available at:

[www.camnes.org](http://www.camnes.org)

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

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### LdM Headquarters

Via Faenza, 43 50123 Florence, Italy

Phone: (+39) 055.28.73.60

Phone: (+39) 055.28.72.03

[info@ldminstitute.com](mailto:info@ldminstitute.com)

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### LdM Academic Relations + Student Services

3600 Bee Caves Road, Suite 205B

Austin, TX 78746 USA

Phone: (+1) 877.765.4LDM (4536)

Phone: (+1) 512.328.INFO (4636)

[info@ldminstitute.com](mailto:info@ldminstitute.com)

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