


 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

# TRAVELER



APRIL 2006

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## DEALS

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## The A\*List

April 11-18

*"A" is for affordable. Log on every Tuesday for our top picks. Rates are listed in U.S. dollars and are based on double occupancy, unless otherwise noted. Rates for hotels and tours outside the U.S. may be slightly higher or lower, depending on the current exchange rate. Deals are subject to availability.*

### New Deals This Week

#### Tuscan Way: Four-Day Italian Cooking Vacations in Tuscany from \$1,490

Combine your visit to Italy with authentic cooking classes offered at four different Tuscany properties by Tuscan Way. Prices start at \$1,490 for four days on new bookings until October 2. The family-owned company offers classes in the 18th-century Villa Poggiarello, in Roccastrada village (\$1,490); Casa Innocenti, a five-story home in Arcidosso (\$1,750); Villa Gaia, a country estate outside the town of Seggiano (\$1,890); and Villa Castelletti, a noble estate near Florence (\$1,900). Rates for a full week are also available at the four properties starting at \$2,390. Guests are part of small groups that learn to cook Tuscan peasant cuisine in a casual setting around the kitchen table. Participants learn how to plan meals, choose ingredients, prepare food, and pair appropriate wines. Highlights include excursions to local markets, wine vineyards, and medieval villages. The four-day cooking course includes accommodations, meals, wine, transfers, and local transportation. During the stay, guests will participate in three hands-on cooking courses. *For more information and reservations, go online or call 800 766 2390.* [Tuscan Way »](#)

#### Shangri-La Hotels and Resorts: Value Rates from \$149

Shangri-La Hotel and Resorts recently launched "value rates" at all of their hotels worldwide, providing added benefits to guests paying nondiscounted room rates. Available throughout the year, samples of the value rates include the following hotels and resorts: Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore, starting at \$252, where guests receive complimentary airport limousine service, buffet breakfast, unlimited dry-cleaning and laundry, free broadband Internet access, and guaranteed late check out to 6 p.m.; and Shangri-La Rasa Ria Resort in Malaysia starting at \$149, where guests receive complimentary buffet breakfast and buffet dinner in the café or designated restaurant, unlimited laundry services, free broadband access, use of nonmotorized water sports, late check-out to 3 p.m., and a \$20 credit for recreational facilities. *For a list of all participating hotels and resorts, go online or call 866 565 5050 (866 344 5050 in Canada).* [Shangri-La Hotels & Resorts »](#)

[CruiseBrothers.com: 11-Night Holy Lands and Pharaohs Cruise from \\$2,795](#)