



## Florence And Tuscany: A Literary Guide for Travellers (The I.B.Tauris Literary Guides for Travellers)

By *Ted Jones*

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### Florence And Tuscany: A Literary Guide for Travellers (The I.B.Tauris Literary Guides for Travellers) By Ted Jones

The majestic landscapes and rich culture of Tuscany have fostered the inspiration and settings for literature since the works of the great Florentine poets Dante, Petrarch, and Boccaccio in the 14th century, and the region has been a magnet for expatriate writers since the arrival in Florence of the English poet Geoffrey Chaucer in 1372. With its historic cities and villages, its countryside and coastline, its treasury of art covering five millennia and, above all, its long heritage of authorship, Tuscany is one of the most celebrated and well-travelled regions in the world. As the source of the Italian language and birthplace of the Renaissance, this region lies at the cultural heart of Italy and has been irresistible to writers, especially poets, for six centuries.

**Florence and Tuscany: A Literary Guide for Travellers** takes the literary-minded traveller – whether a literal tourist or an armchair traveller - on a vivid and illuminating journey, retracing the footsteps of writers who have lived and worked in, or been inspired by, the history and landscape of Tuscany. A work of literature itself, the guide is organized by the cities and regions in the area, and profiles the lives and works of several literary giants, including John Milton and Thomas Gray, Robert and Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Edward Gibbon, Percy Bysshe and Mary Shelley, Mark Twain, William Dean Howells, Ezra Pound, Charles Dickens, D.H. Lawrence, Thomas Hardy, E.M. Forster, Muriel Spark, and many others.

Extensive text features include more than two dozen photographs of notable sites in the area, a map of the region and of the city of Florence with key sites highlighted, an Author Profiles section with short bios of the writers and their works, a Chronology of Tuscany's cultural and political history, a bibliography for further reading, and an index for handy reference.

For anyone who has fallen under the Tuscan spell, as so many have before, this one-of-a-kind guide to the region will bring delight and a renewed sense of wonder about the place, and the artistic visions that have happened in Tuscany for many years.

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### **Editorial Review**

#### Review

I'm fascinated to learn that Milton visited Galileo, that Freud could be "bowled over," and that Emerson described the Duomo as "like an archangel's tent." Bravo, Ted Jones, for gathering a trove of writers' responses to Tuscany and for writing such an engaging context for their travels. Knowing of those who traveled before us deepens our own responses to a place. This book enriches my own journeys in this fabled land. - Frances Mayes, author of *Every Day in Tuscany: Seasons of an Italian Life*

#### About the Author

Ted Jones is a writer and journalist who specializes in Travel and the Arts. He is the author of *The French Riviera: A Literary Guide for Travellers*. He currently resides in the South of France.

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