

Spring 2025 May 7 - 19, 2025

Italy: Veneto, Emilia-Romagna, Tuscany & Piedmont

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This Tour Includes:

- 2 MEALS PER DAY MOST DAYS
 - (Breakfast and Lunch OR Dinner)
- TRANSPORTATION WITHIN ITALY
- ALL EXCURSIONS AND ACTIVITIES AS LISTED ON THE ITINERARY
- ALL ACCOMODATIONS AS LISTED ON THE ITINERARY
 - (includes 12 nights and 13 days stay at hotels listed on Itinerary in Italy)
- ALL TASTING FEES AT THE WINERY VISITS AS LISTED ON ITINERARY
- WINE, FOOD, HISTORY EDUCATION

TOUR PRICING:

Limited to 15 people - includes the tour leader

DOUBLE OCCUPANCY: \$6000. - 6500.* SINGLE OCCUPANCY: \$7000 - 7500.* *Final price will be given by October 1, 2024.

NOT INCLUDED:

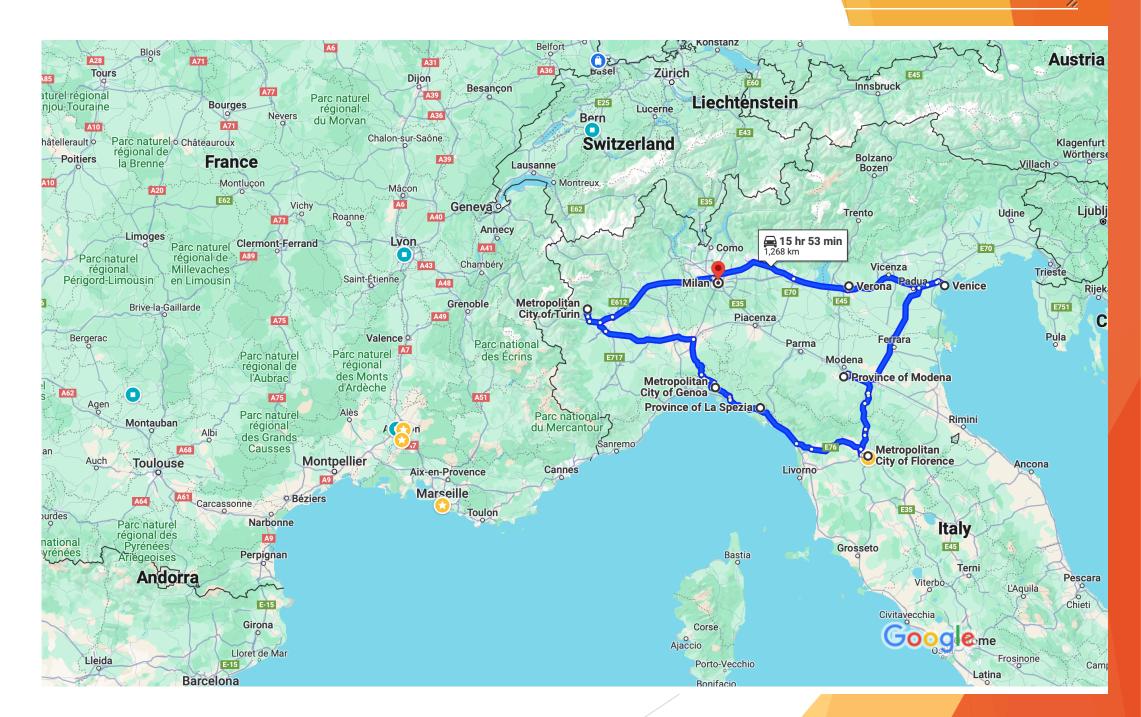
- 1 MEAL EACH DAY (Lunch OR Dinner)
- TIPS for GUIDES/DRIVERS
- FLIGHTS TO AND FROM EUROPE
- TRAVEL INSURANCE
- PRE AND POST
 ACCOMODATIONS
- PRE AND POST
 TRANSPORTATION

Tour Route ITALY

See the map on the next slide

<u>ARRIVE: Milano</u> Train to <u>Verona</u> (\$15 - \$43) 1 hour/15 minutes for the fastest train.

- <u>3 nights in Verona, Italy</u> Arrive to hotel, meet and greet, walking tour
 - <u>Verona, Italy</u> Food guided tour with wine samples
 - Valpolicella and Soave Region- Tours and tasting wines of the region at two wineries
 - <u>Veneto Region</u>- Prosecco producer lunch at the winery
- <u>2 nights in Venice, Italy</u> Enjoy time on a gondola and visit historical sites
- Free day in Venice
- **<u>Stop in Modena, Italy</u>** Balsamic Vinegar, Reggiano Parmigiano Cheese and Parma Ham
- <u>3 nights in Florence, Italy</u> walking tour of the city
 - Chianti Classico Tour and tasting with lunch included
 - Brunello di Montalcino Tour and tasting Olive oil, Wine tour and tasting
- Stop in La Spezia 4-hour boat tour of Cinque Terre
- <u>Stop in Genoa</u>
- <u>4 nights in Torino</u> Morning walking tour, visits to chocolate, vermouth and local foods
 - **Barbaresco** stop at a famous producer, lunch in Bra, tower of Barbaresco
 - **Barolo** tour and tasting, walk the vines
- End in Torino
 - Train back to Milano or stay in Torino





Milan to Verona

DAY 1: Wednesday, May 7, Travel Day RECOMMENDED to FLY into MILAN!

- Arrive in Verona via train from Milan
 - Guests provide their own transportation to Verona:
 - Options for Trains from Milan to Verona 1-2 hours \$15 - \$45
 - Option to stay a night or two prior in Milan or Verona

Check in To Hotel in Verona by 3PM

- Meet and greet at the hotel TBD
- City walking tour 4:30 6pm TBD
- Welcome Dinner nearby 7:30pm
 - Walk to restaurant







Valpolicella Wine Region

Day 2: Thursday, May 8

- Breakfast at Hotel
- <u>Verona</u> Food tour with wine samples private guide
- Tour & tasting in Bardolino Winery
- Dinner on your own

Soave/Valpolicella Wine Region

Day 3: Friday, May 9

- Breakfast at the hotel
- 10am Tour and tasting a Soave Producer or Master Class on Valpolicella and Soave
- 12:30 Lunch and tasting at Valpolicella Winery
- Back to the hotel by 4pm
- Dinner on your own



Prosecco Verona to Venice

Day 4: Saturday, May 10

- 10am Depart the hotel with bags packed
- Visit to a Prosecco producer on the way to Venice
- Lunch with Prosecco
- Arrive to Venice and check into the hotel
- Dinner on your own





Venice

Day 5: Sunday, May 11

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Depart for the Gondola Ride
- Cooking class lunch in Venice
- Enjoy Venice and shopping
- Dinner on Own

Modena Cheese, Parma Ham & Balsamic Vinegar

Day 6: Monday, May 12

- Check out with bags packed
- Arrive to Modena for a visit with the Balsamic Producer
- Visit to Parma/Cheese producer lunch to follow
 - Learn about Reggiano Parmigiano
- Drive to Firenze (Florence)
- Check into hotel
- Dinner on your own





Firenze & Chianti Classico

Day 7: Tuesday, May 13

- Breakfast at Hotel
- Walking tour of the city Private Guide
- Visit to the Uffizi museum and David
- Lunch on your own
- Back to the hotel by 2pm
- 3pm Afternoon visit to <u>Chianti Classico Estate</u> tour and tasting
- Shopping and enjoying the city
- Dinner with the group at the **hotel restaurant**



Montalcino Olive Oil & Brunello



Day 7: Wednesday, May 14

- Breakfast at hotel
- 9:30am Olive oil tasting
- 11:30 visit the Mercato in Firenze
 Lunch on your own upstairs
- Back to the hotel by 2pm
- 4pm Afternoon visit to Brunello di Montalcino Producer - tour and tasting
- Dinner with the group in Firenze





Cinque Terre and Genoa

Day 9: Thursday, May 15

- 7:30am Check out of hotel with bags packed
- 10am Boat ride in La Spezia
 - Stop for a swim
 - Views of the Cinque Terre slopes
- Lunch on the boat
- The boat tour is 3 hours
- Stop in Genoa for a rest
- Arrive to Turin and check into the hotel



Torino & Barbaresco

Day 10: Friday, May 16

- Breakfast at the hotel
- 10am 11:30 City walking tour with visits to historical sites
- Ipm Winery visit in Barbaresco includes lunch
- Visit to the tower of Barbaresco

Dinner on your own





Barolo

Day 11: Saturday, May 17

Breakfast at Hotel

- 11:00 Visit to Barolo Producer
- 1:30pm lunch in Bra Pizza with truffles
- Afternoon in Turin for shopping
- Dinner on your own

Final Day in Torino Day 12: Sunday, May 18

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Chocolate visit History of Nutella
- Vermouth bar tasting with cocktails
- Lunch on your own
- Time for shopping
- Farewell Dinner with music
- Last day for hotel check out in the morning.
- If you OPT for extra days please let us know, we can book them for you.



Check out Day Monday, May 19, 2025

- Choose a longer stay at this hotel?
 - Please email us regarding your options
 - Please pay up front for your hotel extra nights
- Need assistance with final travel plans?
 - Let us know if you need assistance with trains, planes or excursions.
 - Book your flights out of Turin or Milano a day later - this can help you with travel, Europe often has delays, strikes and cancellations due to overbooking.



LUGGAGE

Important to check with your airline on weights allowed in Europe!

Most airlines in the EU limit to 20 kg./44 lbs.

WHAT TO PACK

- Mostly spring and summer clothes
- Bathing suit/sandals/cover ups
- Jacket/sweater for chilly cellars and bus
- Good walking shoes non- slip
- Refillable water bottle
- Dramamine or other option for motion sickness for the bus and boats
- Adapters for EU plugs
- Covid tests (just in case)
- Bubble wrap or bubble bags for taking wine back
- Extra duffle bag!
 - Pack this in your suitcase, this can be a carry on for extra clothes or gifts that you bring back.

<u>CLOTHES</u> – Travelling light is best – bring clothes that are light weight and dry quickly in case you have to wash something out in the hotel sink or shower in your room.

- 2 pairs of walking/comfortable shoes (one closed toe/one open, weather permitting)
- 1 rainproof jacket
- 2 or 3 pairs of pants/shorts (one dressy, two casual; cotton blend or microfiber is recommended: when washed, it dries faster than jeans)
- 6-8 shirts/tops 2 dressy
- Women: 3-4 dresses(light weight and comfortable)
- Men: 1 suit jacket if you intend to enjoy fine dining
- Hat (optional)
- Scarf (optional)
- Sleepwear

TOILETRIES/MEDICINE

- Hand sanitizer and face masks
- Sunscreen, insect repellent
- Body soap/puff/synthetic washcloth; most European hotels do not supply washcloths
- Shampoo/conditioner EU usually has no conditioner
- Brush/comb
- Lotion (SPF recommended)
- Foot lotion (great for potential blisters)
- Razor (non-electric) and shaving cream or soap
- Prescription drugs (in original container with your name and your doctor's name.
- First aid kit and nail clippers/file/tweezers
- Spare glasses and/or prescription, mini-eyeglass repair kit, or contact lenses and supplies.
- Vitamins/Supplements
- <u>Clothesline</u> here's a link to one you can purchase online
- Most hotels have hair dryers available in the rooms.

<u>TOUR INFORMATION</u> (especially for those who don't travel internationally)

- 1. Call credit card and Banks to inform of travel plans
- 2. Some countries will not allow travel if your passport is expiring within 3 6 months
- 3. Digital copies of passport, credit cards, etc. is always good to keep in your luggage too
- 4. Adapters for electronics always have at least two per person.
- 5. Check cell phone coverage for international plans/calling, etc.
- 6. Wait until you reach a **BANK** ATM in EUROPE before taking euros out. Otherwise, you will be overcharged in exchange rates.
- 7. Pack a bag within the suitcase for extra items.
- 8. Bring packing materials for bottles- bubble wrap, etc.
- 9. Generally, washcloths are not offered in hotels, so if you need one bring it in a plastic baggie.
- 10. Refillable water bottle
- 11. Tips for jet lag prepare ahead by having medications, a neck pillow and rest ahead.
- 2. Tipping please tip guides and the bus driver.

WEATHER

- Switzerland and France are generally warm in October, but we will travel through Alpine regions where it is definitely cooler and chilly in the morning and evenings
- Temperatures can range from 40F to 80F (Alpine regions tend to be cooler).
- Cooler areas: from east to west as we travel will be in the foothills of the Alps and along the coast on water. COOL 40F - 75F
- Coastal areas: windy and very breezy with cool mornings and evenings and can be much cooler with elevation and in the cellars
- Inland areas: parts of the Verona, Tuscany, Emilia-Romagna - can still be relatively warm in the day and cooler at night. Be prepared for rain.