

Cycling Safaris

BOLZANO-VERONA-VENICE 2016

Guided Tour (guide cycling with group)

7 nights/8 days | 280-345 km



This tour will offer you the chance to visit the mountains around Bolzano, the beauty of lake Garda, cities full of culture and history like Verona, Vicenza and Padova and, last but not least, the fascinating Venice.

As a whole it is an easy to manage itinerary, riding on secondary streets with low traffic or paved bike paths. There are light hilly bits with short uphill sections. Trains with bike transportation connect all the cities of the tour, so in case of bad weather, or if you need a day of rest, you can reach your destination by train. A 4-hour ferry cruise through Lake Garda is included.

TOUR ITINERARY

Day 1 Bolzano

Arrival. Bolzano is a famous commercial and tourist centre and also a historical and cultural connection between the Italian and the German world.

Day 2 Bolzano-Trento

65/70 km, Elevation up 370 m

Today you will ride mostly along the Adige River, through orchards, vineyards passing the villages of Ora, Egna and Salorno. The dam pathways lead then to Trento. 3rd DAY Trento-Peschiera (50 km + boat).

Day 3 Trento-Peschiera/Desenzano

50km + boat, elevation up 200m

Always pedalling along the Adige you reach Rovereto and Mori. From here westwards towards Lake Garda. After a short ascent, a refreshing descent will follow and lead you to Torbole and to Riva. The ferry cruise takes you to the southern part of the lake.

Day 4 Peschiera/Desenzano–Verona**35/60 km, Elevation up 150/330 m**

Today you head to Verona. With the Adige crossing it, this is one of the most important and beautiful cities in the Veneto region. Worth visiting are: the roman Arena, the Church of San Zeno and Juliet's House.

Day 5 Verona–Vicenza**75 km, Elevation up 470 m**

At first, the route starts out flat and then heads through the Monti Berici, a hilly region just south of Vicenza, with a wonderful view of the city. The old city centre is characterized by the beautiful private palaces and public buildings by Andrea Palladio, the famous 16th century architect known all over the world. The ones who consider this stage too long can take a train from several railway stations.

Day 6 Vicenza –Padova**50 km, Elevation up 80 m**

Cycling out of Vicenza you will come across the beautiful Palladian Villa Rotonda. Along the Bacchiglione river, the route will continue to the fascinating city of Padova with its famous Giotto's Chapel and one of the biggest squares of Europe "Prato della Valle".

Day 7 Padova –Mestre/Venice**40 km, Elavation up 0 m**

The tour continues easily through the flat Veneto. You will cycle along the Brenta Canal, overlooked by the countryside villas of the ancient Venetian nobility (Villa Pisani, Malcontenta, Villa Widmann) until you reach Mestre, Venice's mainland. You can chose to stay directly in Venice with a price supplement.

Day 8 Mestre/Venice

Departure. Transfer back to Bolzano on request when booking the tour.

Route profile

- Total length: 280/345 km
- Total vertical up: 1,270 m / 1,450 m
- Terrain: 95% asphalt, 5% unpaved
- Train connection among the overnight stays: every day
- Possibility to shorten the itinerary by taking the train: day 2 and 5

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2016 GROUP TOUR DATES & PRICES

Saturday**April 30,****May 14,****June 18,****July 9,****Sept 17****€1,065 per person sharing.****€1,265 single occupancy****Minimum group size: 8 people****(Departure from Bolzano)**

WHAT THE TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- 7 nights hotel accommodation
- Breakfast buffet
- 7 Dinners
- 21-speed touring bike
- Guide cycling with the group & support van in the area
- Route descriptions & maps
- Luggage transportation
- Wine tasting
- 4 hours ferry cruise on Lake Garda
- Entrance to Villa Valmarana ai Nani
- Ice cream in the best ice cream parlour in Vicenza
- Guided visits to Verona and Venice
- 7-days hotline service

Helmets are **not** included in the price, but can be booked for an additional €15

Helmets need to be ordered at time of booking!

Local hotel taxes are not included in the tour price and must be paid on the spot (approx €10-€15)

Train transfers (optional).

E-bikes available for a supplement of €90.

TOUR ACCOMMODATION

The accommodation is in 3/4 * Hotels mostly in a central location.

We ensure private facilities and air conditioning.

On request we can book additional accommodation for you:

- 65 € per person in double room with breakfast in Mestre and Bolzano
- 85 € in single room with breakfast in Mestre and Bolzano

- Extra nights in Venice/Venice instead of Mestre are on request. Venice price depends on the season, day of the week and distance Hotel-Railway station. Prices from € 90 per person sharing and from €150 for single room (breakfast included).

WHAT TO BRING

- Waterproof windbreaker or poncho (recommended in spring time)
- Sunglasses and Hat
- High protection sun cream and after sun cream
- Insect repellent
- Swimming costume
- Casual clothes for evening. You may be grateful for something warm with long sleeves.

BIKE / FITNESS

Bike hire is included in the tour package.

Details:

Gel saddle
Shimano Deore 27 gear
4bis. Grip shift gear
28" tyre
Shimano v-brake
Anti-slip pedal

Also Provided:

Handlebar bag (female bikes)
Map rack (on male bikes)
Back panniers
Padlock
Water-bottle
Helmet (on request)



Level of difficulty

Easy tour

GROUP, GUIDE AND BACK-UP SERVICE

The group size typically varies from 6 to 15 people. Each person has their own route details, as well as a guide who cycles with you, and there is a guide in a support van nearby who also delivers your luggage.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Transfer back on minivan to Bolzano from Mestre/Venice on Saturday and Sunday. €60 per person, bike included. The availability is limited, therefore you need to check when booking the tour. Good train connections from Mestre/Venice to Bolzano.

The airport in Bolzano is very small and there are not many international flights landing here. Therefore, listed are the nearest airports to Bolzano incl. train connections:

- Verona Villafranca Catullo (VRN)

www.aeroporto.verona.it

Every day the Aerobus shuttle service to the station of Verona Porta Nuova leaves every 20 minutes from 6:30 to 23:35 (transfer: about 30 min; ticket: 5 euro). From Verona Porta Nuova you take a train to Bolzano (transfer: 120 min; ticket: from 8 to 20 euro depending on the type of train).

- Innsbruck airport (INN)

www.innsbruck-airport.com Bus line F links the airport to Innsbruck HBF railway station and departs every 15 minutes (transfer: about 20 min). From Innsbruck you take a train to Bolzano (transfer: about 130 min).

- **Bergamo Orio al Serio (BGY)** www.sacbo.it The shuttle service Autostradale connects with 6 transfers a day (08:30 - 11:15 - 12:30 - 16:20 - 18:00 - 22:30) the airport to the station of Brescia (transfer: 60 min; ticket: 10 euro; www.autostradale.it). From Brescia you take a train to Bolzano (transfer: 160 min and change in Verona; ticket: from 10 to 20 euro). Connections between Mestre/Venice and Bolzano

- Venezia Marco Polo (VCE)

www.veniceairport.it

Every day the Fly Bus shuttle service leaves for Venezia Mestre station every 25-30 minutes from 06:06 to 23:40. (transfer: 20 min; ticket: 3 euro; www.atvo.it). From Venezia Mestre you take a train to Bolzano (transfer: 180 min and change in Verona Porta Nuova; ticket: from 14 to 28 euro depending on the type of train).

- Treviso Canova (TSF)

www.trevisoairport.it

The service ATVO offers every day a fine connection between the airport and the station of Venezia-Mestre based on the arrivals and departures of the low-cost flights (transfer: 55 min; ticket: 5 euro; www.atvo.it). From Venezia Mestre you take a train to Bolzano (transfer: 180 min and change in Verona Porta Nuova; ticket: from 14 to 28 euro depending on the type of train).

- Milano Malpensa (MXP)

www.sea-aeroportimilano.it

The service Malpensa Shuttle leaves every day and every 20 minutes from the airport to the station of Milano Centrale (transfer: 60 min.; ticket 7,50 euro; www.malpensashuttle.it). From Milano you take a train to Bolzano (transfer: 180 min; ticket: approx 30 euro depending on the type of train).

- Milano Linate (LIN)

www.sea-aeroportimilano.it

Every day the service Starfly Shuttle leaves every 30 minutes to the station of Milano Centrale (transfer: 30 min.; ticket: 4 euro). From Milano you follow the same indications as in the section above 'Milano Malpensa'.