FROM \$3,250 PP

2022 2023 APR | 21 **APR** | 22 MAY | 06, 20 **MAY** | 05, 19 JUN | 02.16.30 JUN 103.17 JUL | 14, 28 **JUL** | 01, 15, 29 **AUG** | 11, 25 **AUG** | 12, 26 **SEP** 108, 22 **SEP** | 09, 23 **OCT** | 07 **OCT** | 06



VIEW ONLINE FOR FULL DATES, PRICES AND SPECIAL OFFERS

∧ COUNTRY ROADS
ACTIVITY LEVEL: BALANCED

10 DAYS 1 COUNTRY 13 MEALS

12 INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

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GUEST REVIEW ★★★★☆

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER®

Venice: Witness the ancient skill of glassblowing, now practised by precious few masters. Watch artisans create delicate pieces using rare traditional practices, and support the preservation of their art.

INSIGHT EXPERIENCE

Milan: A local historian brings Milan's history to life through the works of Leonardo da Vinci during a guided walking tour. See the impressive facade of the Milan Cathedral and the world famous La Scala Theater.

INSIGHT CHOICE

Verona: Choose a walking tour through the grand piazzas, see the statue of Dante and admire the Gothic tombs of the Scala family. Alternatively, embark on a Shakespearethemed walk to recount famous moments from the story of Romeo and Juliet.

AUTHENTIC DINING

Lake Maggiore: Meet Stefano, the last true fisherman on Lake Maggiore, for a exhilarating walking tour of Isola dei Pescatori. Later, sit down to a Farm-to-Table Celebration Dinner complemented by local wine.

Welcome Dinner in Milan • Dine-Around options in Como.

Taste Prosecco in Veneto.

TOP RATED HIGHLIGHTS

Travel by gondola, serenaded on the canals of Venice.

City tours of Milan and Verona, both with Local Experts.

COUNTRY ROADS OF NORTHERN ITALY

"We all live to explore. I became a Travel Director because it gives me an opportunity to help our guests to pursue their passions and dreams of travel." – Margaret, Travel Director









SIRMIONE, LAKE GARDA

DAY 1 WELCOME TO ITALY

After a warm welcome at Milan's Malpensa Airport, transfers depart for your hotel at 09:30 and 12:30. Meet your Travel Director at 15:30 and join a local historian to navigate through Milan's history and the life of Leonardo da Vinci. See the impressive facade of Milan Cathedral and the world famous La Scala Theater.

Mingle and get to know your fellow travelers during your Welcome Dinner at a local restaurant. (DW)

Crowne Plaza Hotel Milan City.

DAY 2 FAIR VERONA AND TRENTO

Cross the fertile plains of Lombardy to fair Verona, the home of Shakespeare's star-crossed lovers. Explore its maze of elegant squares and visit the well-preserved Roman Arena, still used for opera performances.

Explore Verona with Insight Choice. Choose a walking tour through the grand piazzas, see the statue of Dante and admire the Gothic tombs of the Scala family. Alternatively, embark on a Shakespeare-themed walk to recount famous moments from the story of Romeo and Juliet, stopping at Juliet's famed balcony. Continue on to Trento, regarded as one of Italy's most appealing cities to live in. (B)

NH Trento

DAY 3 CLIMB UP TO CORTINA D'AMPEZZO

Relaxed Start. Follow the Adige River north into the magnificent mountains and the distinctive limestone peaks of the Dolomites. Arrive at the town of Bolzano, where Italy and Austria culturally collide and you are at leisure to explore the the arcaded streets and squares. Continue along the zig-zagging scenic route to Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy's most exclusive ski resort and a beautiful alpine haven during summer. (B) (DW)

Hotel de la Poste, Cortina d'Ampezzo.

DAY 4 THE DOLOMITES AT LEISURE

Relaxed Start. E njoy a day at your leisure in this fashionable playground of the rich and famous, surrounded by towering cathedrals of rock. Take in

the fresh mountain air as you stroll the pedestrianized Corso Italia, lined with designer stores and backed by the impressive green and white bell tower of the parish church. Why not ascend to the summit of one of the nearby peaks for magnificent panoramic views of the Dolomites? (B)

DAY 5 THROUGH PROSECCO COUNTRY TO VENICE

Travel down through more majestic Dolomite scenery to one of the world's most breathtaking wine regions. Protected by the Alps to the north, and caressed by the warm breezes from the Adriatic, the vineyards around Conegliano Veneto produce Italy's most prized sparkling wine.

Stop at Carmina where great care is taken to ensure these hand-picked grapes producethe world's finest prosecco. See how production differs from its more famous French counterpart, champagne. Be tempted with a taste of the crisp and aromatic flavors and learn how to make the perfect bellini. Continue on to the unique and remarkable island city of Venice, Queen of the Adriatic and check into your hotel. (B)

Eurostars Residenza Cannaregio, Venice.

DAY 6 THE MAGIC OF LA SERENISSIMA

Wake up ready to embrace this romantic city. Join a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience during a visit to a traditional arts center, where you can see how beautiful handcrafted glass is made by expert glassblowers, safeguarding traditional skills. What better way to see Venice than from a private boat, cruising past palazzos and churches to St. Mark's Square? See the gilded basilica, the Doge's Palace and Lord Byron's Bridge of Sighs. No visit to Venice would be complete without a gondola serenade through the myriad of beautiful canals. Relax and enjoy traditional local songs, as you drift along in romantic awe.

Spend the afternoon as you wish. As night falls, why not savor the magic of St. Mark's Square with its orchestras and al-fresco cafes? (B)

DAY 7 SIRMIONE AND COMO

Relaxed Start. Bid farewell to this enchanting city and continue past the university town of Padua to the peaceful shores of Lake Garda, the largest of Italy's lakes.

Visit the charming resort of Sirmione clustered around the 13th century Scaligero Castle and jutting out into the lake, near the tip of a narrow peninsula.

Follow the southern fringes of the Alps to reach the spectacular Italian Lake District and your hotel on the shores of Lake Como, where you will enjoy views on the lake from your room.

Later, you have a choice of cuisine and ambience from a hand-picked selection of local restaurants for your Dine-Around Evening. (B) (DW)

Hotel Barchetta Excelsior, Como.

DAY 8 COMO AT LEISURE AND LAKE MAGGIORE

Relaxed Start. Enjoy a morning at leisure in Como. Nestled in the foothills of the Alps, this is a prime people watching spot with Europe's rich and famous.

Journey onwards to Lake Maggiore's Baveno, renowned for its charming 16th century square and narrow cobbled streets. (B)

Hotel Simplon, Baveno

DAY 9 ITALIAN LAKES AT LEISURE

Relaxed Start. Relish a full day to relax and enjoy this popular resort and beautiful lake. Napoleon came here to plan his Italian Campaign, and Mussolini and Chamberlain met here before World War II to sign the Treaty of Stresa. Perhaps take a cruise out to the lovely Borromean Islands? Isola Bella is where Carlo Borromeo built his charming Palace.

Savor delicious Farm-to-Table cuisine during your Celebration Dinner, accompanied by some exquisite Italian wines. Raise a glass to your travels and newfound friends. (B) (DW)

DAY 10 DEPART MILAN

Your journey draws to a close in the morning and transfers arrive at Milan's Malpensa Airport at 07:30 and 10:30. (B)

KEY

1 Central Hotels + Nights

Scenic Hotels + Nights

Place Visited

CHOOSE YOUR GROUP SIZE

This trip operates both classic and small group departures. You can also book your own private group with as few as 12 travelers.





OPTIONAL EXPERIENCE Wonder at the breathtaking beauty of the Dolomites. (Photo by @Anna Target, Day 4, Cortina d'Ampezzo)



VIEW ONLINE

