

Italy Detailed Itinerary

Authentic Italian experiences—think rolling vineyards, jagged Dolomites peaks, prosciutto tastings, and countryside charm. Coastal hiking along the Cinque Terre. History, culture and architectural wonders in Venice and Florence.

Welcome to the Iconic & Unfiltered Adventure Through Italy!

<u>Airport Information</u>: Need assistance booking your flight? We are here to help.

Arrive: Venice Marco Polo Airport (VCE) - Venice, Italy

Depart: Amerigo Vespucci Airport (FLR) - Florence, Italy

Day 1: Arrival Day!

Plan to arrive at Venice Marco Polo Airport (VCE) - Venice, Italy **by 5 PM**, to make our welcome meeting and dinner, which typically start at 6:30pm. If you are unable to arrive by 5pm, please contact us to arrange alternative transportation and dinner options. After dinner, adjust to the time difference and rest up for our adventure packed itinerary.

Airport transfer and hotel details will be provided after booking.

If you are arriving ahead of our scheduled itinerary, we will help coordinate transportation and hotel accommodations.

Transportation:

Shuttle vehicle or taxi

Airport transfer → Hotel

Approximate travel time: approximately 10 - 15 minutes

Meals included:

✓ Welcome dinner

🖺 Accommodation included: Single occupancy accommodation near Venice

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Day 2: Exploring Venice: Canals, Culture, and Charm

We begin our morning with a locally guided cultural walking tour through Venice's rich tapestry of art, empire, and intrigue.

After sharing a true Italian feast for lunch, think fresh pasta and creamy risotto. The afternoon is yours to explore at your own pace. Float through the labyrinth of canals on a gondola, lose yourself in charming alleyways that end in unexpected waterside views, marvel at the grandeur of Saint Mark's Basilica, or climb the Campanile di San Marco for sweeping panoramas of the city's rooftops and shimmering lagoon. Venice awaits—mysterious, magnificent, and entirely yours to discover.

Venetian Lagoon Sunset Cruise - Enjoy a relaxed evening gliding through Venice's lagoon as the city's iconic sights unfold at sunset. Sip drinks, savor light bites, and soak in stories from the water—an unforgettable start to our Venetian adventure.

Shuttle transport via water taxi or bus	Hotel → Venice Tour		
Approximate travel time: less than 15 minutes each way			
2 🏃 Walking Time	→ Tour		
Approximate travel time: two - three hours on tour			
Meals included:			
✓ Breakfast, lunch, dinner			
Accommodation included: Single occupancy accommodation near Venice			

Day 3: Exploring Venice Charm to Dolomite Peaks

Ease into the day with time to explore Venice at your own pace—stroll quiet canals, sip espresso in a tucked-away piazza, or browse morning markets as the city wakes in its own poetic rhythm.

As we end our Venetian chapter, we'll reconvene at our designated meeting point to begin the next leg of our adventure—northward to the majestic Dolomites, where alpine air and breathtaking trails await.

Transportation:

The Dolomites base camp hotels for this trek are in Cortina d'Ampezzo, a small town that can boast a long tradition in the world of tourism and events. Cortina is surrounded by the world famous Dolomite mountain groups like Monte Cristallo (Mount Crystal), the Cinque Torri (the Five Towers) and the Tofane. On Corso Italia, the main street of Cortina, where culture and entertainment come together, you can admire historic buildings and high-end boutiques.

Transportation:

♣ Train or bus shuttle (dependent on availability)
Venice → Cortina d'Ampezzo
Accommodations

Approximate travel time: 2.5 hours

Meals included:

✓ Breakfast & dinner

🛍 Accommodation included: Single occupancy accommodation near Cortina d'Ampezzo

Day 4: Into the Peaks: Trekking the Dolomites (Day 1 of 3 hiking)

The adventure shifts into high gear as we lace up for our multi-day hike along the legendary Alta Via 1 Northern Trek.

Not hiking? No problem. While some of the group hits the trails, you'll soak up the Dolomites from town—think lakeside strolls, cable carviews, spa sessions, and aperitivo with a view. Optional (not included) activities may include boat rentals, scenic drives, local museums, and guided day trips. This is your time to roam at your own pace. **Accommodations near Cortina d'Ampezzo are included for 2 nights, transport is not.

Hiking Itinerary: After a hearty breakfast and strong Italian coffee, take a moment to soak in the jagged skyline—we'll be stepping into some of Italy's most breathtaking alpine scenery. Throughout this journey, we'll be accompanied by our local, safety-certified mountain guide, whose deep knowledge of the terrain and passion for the region adds confidence to every step. Over the next few days, dramatic ridgelines, glacier-fed streams, and flower-strewn valleys become our playground, and with expert guidance by our side, wanderlust meets altitude in the most unforgettable way.

Ascent 960 m. Descent 300 m. Altitude 1500 - 2300 m. Distance 10 km. Walking time 5 hours.

The Northern Trek starts at Lake Braies in the extreme north of the Dolomites. Being surrounded by the beautiful Dolomite peaks, Lake Braies is one of the most scenic lakes in the Alps. It was formed by a landslide that blocked the Braies Stream causing it to overflow and to form a natural basin called

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Lake Braies. Today, you will walk through the tree belt and reach the alpine meadows at the altitude of 2000 – 2300 meters. As one of the optional side hikes, we suggest the uphill climb to the Croda del Becco, where you can admire a 360-degree view of the Sennes Plateau. Or alternatively, a very interesting hike to Muntejela di Sennes which offers stunning panoramic views of the Fanes-Sennes-Braies National Park.

To close out our first day in the peaks, we'll be warmly greeted by locals at our long-standing mountain hut—an alpine haven where stories are shared and boots are kicked off. A traditional dinner awaits, rich and satisfying after a day of trekking: expect steaming bowls of pasta, creamy risotto, hearty dumplings, a savory second-course meat dish, and a sweet dessert finale. Let's raise a glass and celebrate day one of conquering the Dolomites!

The mountain huts have been thoughtfully upgraded to include heat, charging outlets, shared bathrooms and showers, plus other modern comforts. That said, reliable Wi-Fi is rare in these remote locations. Take it as an invitation to unplug—whether you're connecting over fireside chats or wandering the trails solo, the mountains offer their own kind of signal.

Meals included:

✓ Breakfast, lunch, dinner

Accommodation included: *During our hiking adventures, we'll stay in shared dormitories ranging from 8 to 16 guests per room. While single-occupancy upgrades are available for approximately \$20-40 per night, they're limited—so we recommend requesting and booking well in advance.

Day 5: Into the Peaks: Trekking the Dolomites (Day 2 of 3 hiking)

Fanes-Sennes-Braies Natural Park

Ascent 550 m. Descent 650 m. Altitude 1500 - 2100 m. Distance 11 km. Walking time 5 hours.

We will be immersed in the 25 thousand hectares of the Fanes-Sennes-Braies National Park, one of the biggest in South Tyrol. You'll trek through sweeping pastures, flower-drenched valleys, and cascading waterfalls—all humming with life. You will also be impressed by the beauty of the karst landscape which is a defining feature of this area. Caves, grooves, shafts, cavities, basins and other typical karst formations of the Fanes-Sennes-Braies National Park hide numerous fossilized plants, insects and shells of the Jurassic period.

Once again, we'll be welcomed into a beloved mountain hut—another alpine refuge where warmth and hospitality await. A traditional Italian mountain dinner will be served, rich and hearty to replenish us after a full day of hiking. From pasta and risotto to rustic meat dishes and sweet desserts, the flavors are as comforting as the stories shared around the communal table.

Meals included:

✓ Breakfast, lunch, dinner

Accommodation included: *During our hiking adventures, we'll stay in shared dormitories ranging from 8 to 16 guests per room. While single-occupancy upgrades are available for approximately \$20-40 per night, they're limited—so we recommend requesting and booking well in advance.

Day 6: Into the Peaks: Trekking the Dolomites (Day 3 of 3 hiking)

Lagazuoi Massif

Ascent 1120 m. Descent 440 m. Altitude 2000 - 2800 m. Distance 13 km. Walking time 6 hours.

From the Fanes-Sennes-Braies National Park, you will move to the Lagazuoi area which is remarkable both from a natural and historical point of view. It's a naturalistic oasis boasting an impressive panorama of the Dolomites—one of the symbols of the Alps. Approaching the Lagazuoi massif at an altitude of 7158 feet, you will find the Lagazuoi Lake nestled between the rocks fed by the underground springs. Its crystal-clear water changes color depending on the light and the mountains reflecting in its waters create a breathtaking landscape. You will see groups of fish of different species splashing in the water. The important historical information of the Lagazuoi massif is linked to the First World War. In fact, it was here that the Italians fought, transforming the Lagazuoi into a fortress. The mountain is still a real rock castle, where you can visit the tunnels, trenches, and military stations which have been recently renovated.

We will take our transport back to our basecamp hotel in Cortina d'Ampezzo.

Meals included:

✓ Breakfast, lunch, dinner

Accommodation included: Single occupancy accommodation near Cortina d'Ampezzo

Day 7: Countryside Calm: From Rolling Hills to Florence Renaissance

All aboard! We board our train to Florence and settle in for a scenic ride through Italy's rolling countryside—where vineyards, villages, and valleys unfold like a storybook outside our window.

Upon arrival in the enchanting embrace of Florence, we'll join our private guided cultural walking tour—diving headfirst into centuries of art, architecture, and Renaissance tales.

As twilight settles over terracotta rooftops and ornate facades, we'll kick off our first Florentine evening with a dinner to remember—surrounded by storied buildings and the soft hum of Italy's most romantic city.

Transportation:

Train or Bus (dependent on availability) Cortina d'Ampezzo Accommodations → Florence Accomodations Approximate travel time: 6 hours → Tour Walking Time

Approximate travel time: about two hours walking on a combination of city streets with potentially uneven streets.

Meals included:

✓ Breakfast, lunch, dinner

Accommodation included: Private Accommodations near Florence

Day 8: Cinque Terre: Coastal Trails & Colorful Dreams

The Cinque Terre hike is a stunning coastal journey that links five colorful villages—Riomaggiore, Manarola, Corniglia, Vernazza, and Monterosso al Mare—along Italy's rugged Ligurian coastline. Still used today for many locals to transport goods from one town to the next. This hike is all about panoramic sea views, vineyard-covered hills, and pastel cliffside towns. The most famous route is the Blue Trail (Sentiero Azzurro), which stretches about 7miles and takes roughly 5 hours to complete, not counting time spent exploring each village.

Trail Highlights – Cinque Terre Coastal Route

- Riomaggiore → Manarola Easy | ~0.9 miles | ~30 mins Also known as Via dell'Amore ("Lover's Lane") — iconic seaside stroll with romantic vibes.
- Manarola → Volastra → Corniglia Slightly Difficult | ~3.1 miles | ~2.5 hours Steep climbs & uneven terrain, but packed with vineyards, olive groves, cliffside panoramas, and a sacred stop at Sanctuary of Volastra. 🚍 Shortcut Option: Skip the steepest stretch by taking the free bus from Manarola to Volastra (included with Cinque Terre Card).
- Corniglia → Vernazza Moderate | ~2.5 miles | ~1.5 hours Winds along scenic cliffside paths with postcard-perfect views and lush Mediterranean flora.
- Vernazza → Monterosso Moderate | ~2.2 miles | ~1.5 hours Expect dramatic coastal drops, historic stone bridges, and occasional dolphins flirting with the horizon.

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Don't forget your swimsuit! A midday plunge into the sea is just the perfect way to cool off from our seaside hike.

Optional Boat Tour: Skip the Hike, Sail Instead

Prefer sea breezes over switchbacks? Join an optional boat tour along the stunning Cinque Terre coastline—cruising past cliffside villages, dipping into turquoise coves, and savoring the Mediterranean magic from the water. **Solo price:** \$90–\$160 per person (varies by boat size, duration, and inclusions) **Booking:** To reserve your spot, booking through us in advance is required. Space is limited, so early requests are encouraged to ensure availability.

~	Train or Bus (dependent on availability)	Accommodations → Cinque Terre	
Apı	proximate travel time: 2.5 hours each way		
*	Walking Time	→ Tour	
Approximate travel time: four to five hours on the Cinque Terre Trail			
Meals included:			
	✓ Breakfast & dinner		

Day 9: Savoring Italy's Countryside: Slow Days & Full Glasses

Accommodation included: Private Accommodations near Florence

Today is all about a well-earned pause. Your morning begins with gentle freedom—the quiet streets of Florence still wrapped in golden light as locals prepare for the day. You're invited to wander at your own pace: sip espresso at a tucked-away café, browse a family-run bakery, or simply roam the alleyways where Renaissance echoes meet everyday life. This is your moment to move like a local, slowly and with intention.

As afternoon draws near, we descend into the rolling hills of Tuscany - where vineyard views stretch for miles and every meal feels like a celebration. We'll indulge in pasta made with love (and probably a nonna's secret), sip our way through local wineries learning about their history and production. It's a slower pace, but no less rich—because sometimes, the best adventures are served at the table.

Transporation:

Transportation:

♣ Shuttle Accommodations → Tuscany Tour
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Approximate travel time: 45 minutes to an hour and h	nalf each way
Walking Time	→ Tour
Approximate travel time: an hour walking at the farm	/winery
Meals included:	
✓ Breakfast & dinner	
Accommodation included: Private Accommoda	tions near Florence
Day 10: From Salty Indulgence to Cheese Wheels	
It's time for a flavorful detour into Italy's artisanal heal local prosciutto producer and witness the craft behind cellar aging. Then, we'll step into the world of cheese and the rhythm of tradition lead the way. Hands-on modedication behind every wheel. This isn't just a tour—pride that transform simple ingredients into unforget soul of Italy is best discovered one bite at a time. As the sun dips behind Florence's skyline, the night is	nd this savory perfection—from salt-curing to making, where the aroma of aging parmigiano noments and guided tastings reveal the –it's a tribute to the people, patience, and table experiences. Because sometimes, the
hour across the Arno, sip Tuscan wine under starlit ar perfect gelato—this evening is your canvas.	ches, or simply wander until you find the
Transportation:	
🚙 Train, bus or taxi (dependent on availability)	Accommodations → Parma Tour
Approximate travel time: one half to two hours each	way
Walking Time	→ Tour
Approximate travel time: 30 minutes to an hour walki	ing
™ Meals included:	
✓ Breakfast & lunch	
Accommodation included: Private Accommoda	tions near Florence

Day 11: Departure Day - Arrivederci, but Not Goodbye

Your journey ends (for now) as you depart from Florence's Amerigo Vespucci Airport (FLR). Flights may leave at any time, but if your heart's tugging at your suitcase, you're not alone—we've only just begun to uncover the beauty of this region.

Your guide is happy to arrange optional extensions for those craving more: think the sun-soaked cliffs of Southern Italy, the quiet charm of nearby historical towns, or simply more time soaking in Florence's timeless allure. Honestly? Personally, I could spend months here and still find new layers to love.

Whether you extend the adventure or bid farewell, we're here to help craft whatever dream you're ready to chase next.

Transportation:

Arranged taxi service

Accommodations → Airport

Approximate travel time: 15-40 minutes

Meals included:

✓ Breakfast