

BOLZANO-VERONA-VENICE - TOUR OF THE VENETO

8-day / 7-night **SELF-GUIDED** inn-to-inn cycling holiday



This tour starts in the spectacular, UNESCO listed landscape of the Dolomites and from the mountains around Bolzano, winds its way through typical rural Italian countryside, alongside the Adige River to beautiful Lake Garda with its cosmopolitan little villages dotting shoreline. From the lake's southern end head east over the surrounding hills to re-join the Adige River and cycle on to cities full of culture and history like Verona, Vicenza and Padova, ending in enchanting Venice.

Verona is regarded as an historical city of romance, being the setting for *Romeo and Juliet*, home to Juliet's House and one of Italy's premier opera houses. Further on, Vicenza is dotted with buildings designed by influential 16th Century architect Andrea Palladio, and Padova's university is one of the oldest in Europe. Venice, *La Serenissima*, has been a great attraction for tourists for centuries and still today is a 'must see' inclusion on any holiday in Italy. This is a unique opportunity to explore Trentino-Alto Adige and the Veneto by bicycle, seeing splendid villas, market towns and colourful villages.

There are undulating sections along the route with short uphill stretches. Overall, this is an easy to manage itinerary, riding secondary roads or on unpaved or sealed bike paths. Trains (on which you can take your bike) connect the main cities of the tour, so in case of bad weather or if you need a rest day you can take the train.

Departs: Saturdays and Sundays from 27 March - 16 October 2027
Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 13 April - 29 September 2027

Tour cost from: **\$2255** per person (twin share) Single room supplement from \$875
Season supplements \$365 - \$455 apply on selected departures – ask for details
Optional bike upgrade to e-bike \$390 per person (limited – please book early)

Includes: 7 nights' hotel accommodation with ensuite; breakfast buffet; multi-geared touring bike hire with bike insurance, pannier, handlebar bag, tool kit & lock and helmet; luggage transportation (1 x bag per person, max 20kg); App with tour information, digital route descriptions and maps and GPS tracks; 4.5 hour ferry cruise on Lake Garda; ice-cream in the best ice cream parlour in Vicenza; wine & oil tasting in Padova area; emergency hotline service;

Not included: Other meals, drinks, personal expenses, optional train from Verona to Vicenza, transport to the start or from the end of the tour, Venice Municipality Access Fee (€3-10 per day), local taxes (approx. €18-22).

Grade: Easy to moderate cycling, mostly flat or on gentle rolling hills with 2 longer days.

Accommodation: selected 3 or 4-star hotels, located whenever possible close to historic centres or main squares in the towns along the route. Rooms have an ensuite bathroom and most have air-conditioning. The breakfast buffet is ideally suited for cyclists. The hotel on the last night is in Mestre on Venice's mainland.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on (03) 5750 1441 for details & reservations



Suggested itinerary:

Day 1: Bolzano

Aim to arrive mid-afternoon at your Bolzano hotel. Bolzano is a famous commercial and tourist city, with a centre in the colourful Tyrolean style, with historical and cultural links to both the Italian and the German world. Bolzano has an airport and can be reached by train from Rome, Venice via Verona or Munich via Innsbruck.

Day 2: Bolzano – Trento

cycling @ 70km

You ride mostly along the Adige River, through orchards and vineyards, passing the villages of Ora, Egna and Salorno. Salorno, which is nearly the halfway point, marks the linguistic border between German and Italian. Continue on the cycle path to Trento, where the Castello del Buonconsiglio and the Duomo are worth a visit.

Day 3: Trento – Desenzano / Peschiera del Garda

cycling @ 50km

Following the Adige, you reach Rovereto and Mori, where you turn westward towards Lake Garda. After a short ascent to Passo di San Giovanni, with beautiful views over the lake and the little town of Torbole, descend to Riva del Garda; here a scenic 4.5 hour ferry ride takes you to the southern part of the lake.

Day 4: Desenzano / Peschiera del Garda – Verona

cycling @ 35km

After a ride over the undulating terrain around Lake Garda, we re-join the valley of the Adige and ride once again alongside the river. Our destination is Verona, one of the most important and beautiful cities of the Veneto region. Worth visiting are the Roman Arena, the Church of San Zeno, Juliet's House and the historical centre.

Day 5: Verona – Vicenza

cycling @ 40 or 70km

The route starts out flattish, among vineyards and past the fortress of Brendola, and then heads through the hilly Monti Berici region just south of Vicenza, with a wonderful view of the city. The old city centre of Vicenza is home to several beautiful private palaces and public buildings designed by Andrea Palladio, the famous 16th Century architect. The day's ride can be shortened by taking the train (at extra cost) for part of the way.

Day 6: Vicenza – Padova spa region

cycling @ 50 - 60km

Cycling out of Vicenza on the unpaved Bacchiglione River cycle path, admire the Palladian masterpiece the *Villa La Rotonda* and Tiepolo's frescos at Villa Valmarana. Pass the hamlet of Montegalda and then take the paved cycle path into the Euganean Hills, the thermal spa region in the province of Padova. There is a 10km detour at the end of today's ride to the tasting room for your wine and oil tasting.

Day 7: Padova spa region – Mestre / Venice

cycling @ 55km

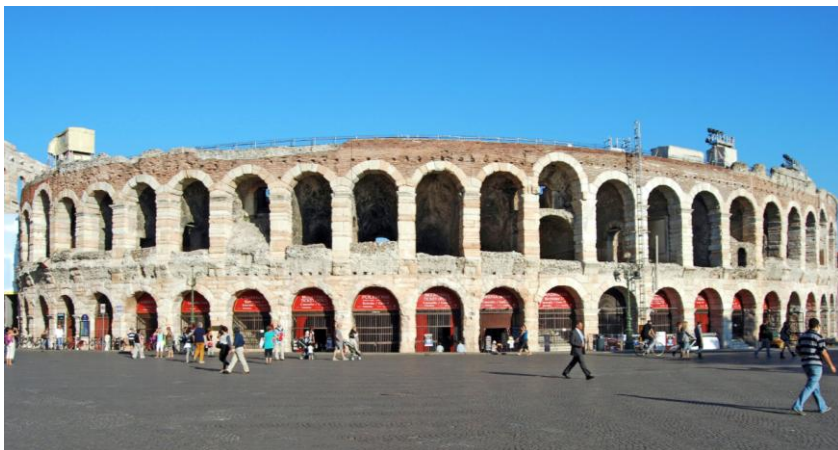
Cycle alongside the Battaglia Canal to Padova, rich in art and history and home to one of the oldest universities in Europe. From Padova, follow the Piovego Canal to Stra where you join the Brenta Canal. You then ride across the Veneto Plains with many grand villas including Villa Pisani, Malcontenta and Villa Widmann. Reach Mestre (on Venice's mainland) and the city of Venice itself, where you will have time to explore. Leave your bikes at your hotel in Mestre as they are not permitted in the city of Venice.

Day 8: Mestre / Venice

Tour ends after breakfast. Extend your stay in Venice at extra cost – ask for details.

This itinerary is subject to change. Note that poor weather may affect ferry services.

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Contact Outdoor Travel for more itinerary details and reservations:

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