

ITALY – VENICE & THE VENETO GUIDED CYCLING 2008

A cycling tour among the European classics, that is just perfect for discovering Italy by bike. Cycling between the Alps and the Adriatic sea, the itinerary is completely flat and travels on cycle paths or level roads with low traffic volume. The itinerary is completely in the lowlands except for the 1 km slope in Asolo. You will cover 283 km in 6 stages, riding on secondary streets with low traffic or paved bike paths. Trains with bike transportation connect the main 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.

Venice & The Veneto: \$1655 per person (twin share). **\$305** Single supplement
Departs: 26 Apr, 10 May*, 7 Jun, 13, 20 Sep 08 Starts & Ends in Vicenza (*in Mestre)

Includes: Twin share 3-4 star hotel accommodation, 7 buffet breakfasts, 6 dinners, guide on bike, tour information on the spot by our representative, with route descriptions & maps, minibus in the area, luggage transportation, 7-days Hotline service, drink in Vicenza, ferry transfer from Tronchetto to Chioggia, excursions and visits.

Not Included: Venice accommodation, meals not mentioned, drinks, personal expenses & optional activities. The ferry-boat transfers in Venice are not included in the tour price (3 ferry-boat transfers cost in total approx. 20 Euro per person + bike, paid locally).

DAY 1. Vicenza.

Arrive in Vicenza. A nice and intimate historical city center, characterized by the buildings of the famous architect, Andrea Palladio (16th century).

DAY 2. Vicenza–Bassano del Grappa (40 km).

From Vicenza we cycle towards Marostica, famous for its castle and the chessboard in the main square. The last stop is Bassano del Grappa with its covered wooden bridge and the “grappa”.

DAY 3. Bassano del Grappa– Treviso (62 km).

We enter Asolo, which presents us with the only real uphill section of our ride. The downhill run takes you to the land of Prosecco vineyards and on to Maser. The trip ends in Treviso.

DAY 4. Treviso–Mestre/Venezia (38 km).

Leaving Treviso behind we follow the course of the River Sile up to Casale. At the end of the trip Venice awaits for an evening among canals and narrow streets; accommodation is in Mestre.

A supplement applies for lodging in Venice instead of Mestre – *please advise if you want this when making your booking.*

(DAY 1 for those starting on 10 May in Mestre).

DAY 5. Mestre/Venezia–Chioggia (33 km).

Leaving Mestre this morning we head into Venice pedalling on the 4 km bridge “della Libertà”, then to Tronchetto harbour. From here we take a ferry along the canal Giudecca to Lido. It is the most exciting day, pedaling on two narrow islands that divide the sea from the lagoon: Malamocco and the island of Pellestrina.

DAY 6. Chioggia–Padova (60 km).

We pedal along the two rivers that carried trade in and out of Venice in this area centuries ago: Bacchiglione and Brenta. We continue on to Strà, famous for the majestic Villa Pisani. On arrival in Padova, we will find the great basilica dedicated to St. Anthony, the historic Caffè Pedrocchi and Prato della Valle.

DAY 7. Padova–Vicenza (48 km).

The Bacchiglione River points the way out of the the city and we reach Costozza, a little town at the foot of the Berici hills. The bike path passes in front of Villa Rotonda, the most famous of the Palladian villas. Just before entering Vicenza we see the Villa Valmarana ai Nani with its marvellous frescoes by Tiepolo.

DAY 8. Vicenza. The tour ends after breakfast at the hotel.



All Reservations Call 1800 331 582

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