



TOUR ITINERARY

RIDING
LEVEL

4

Europe / Italy / Dolomites

Dolomites Challenge Bike Tour

High-End at High Altitude: Epic Climbs of the Italian Alps

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Conquer northern Italy's greatest, hardest, and most classic climbs, including the legendary Passo dello Stelvio and Passo di Gavia, plus Mortirolo, Passo Fedaiia, Passo Falzarego, Passo Giau, and more
- Stay in two *refugio*-style Alpine luxury hotels that are typical of the Dolomites, changing accommodations only once
- Cover an array of technical terrain including the otherworldly Sellaronda loop in Alta Badia, car-free passes like Pampeago, and satisfying switchbacks on Passo Pordoi
- Get hooked up with pro gear for peak performance, including our Colnago V4 road bikes with Dura-Ace Di2 shifting and custom Rapha x DuVine kit



ARRIVAL + DEPARTURE

Arrival Details

- ✈ **Airport City:**
Milan or Venice, Italy
- 📍 **Pick-Up Location:**
Bolzano Train Station
- 🕒 **Pick-Up Time:**
8:30 am

Departure Details

- ✈ **Airport City:**
Milan or Venice, Italy
- 📍 **Drop-Off Location:**
Lecco Train Station
- 🕒 **Drop-Off Time:**
11:30 am

NOTE: DuVine provides group transfers to and from the tour from the pick-up and drop-off locations stated on the itinerary. In the event your train, flight, or other travel falls outside the arrival or departure times or locations, you may be responsible for extra costs incurred in arranging a separate transfer.

Emergency Assistance

For urgent assistance on your way to tour or while on tour, please always contact your guides first. You may also contact the Boston office during business hours at +1 617 776 4441 or emergency@duvine.com.

Travelers Take Note

Upon booking this tour, you will be asked to complete a short form. We use this information to ensure all Level 4 trip participants are adequately prepared for our most difficult riding and have proximate cycling experience to the rest of the group.

Lodging at Rifugio Salei and Sunny Valley Refuge are at 7,300 feet and 8,800 feet of altitude, respectively. Due to this altitude, weather can change quickly. Expect anything from peak summer heat to hail and snow in a single day, and pack accordingly. Helpful hints about dressing for all climates can be found on [our blog](#).

This tour route includes some sections of riding on well-packed gravel. Please note that e-bikes cannot be reserved for this tour.

TOUR ITINERARY

Tour By Day

DAY
1

Alpe Di Pampeago

Welcome to the Italian Alps: meet your guides at the train station in Bolzano and transfer to the Tyrolean village of Obergeggen where our bikes are waiting. First things first: we'll have a coffee and a bike fitting before we start climbing the Alpe di Pampeago—a two-meter-wide slice of tarmac that seems to rise right into the pale, jagged peaks of the Dolomites. As we descend into the valley, it's common to see local farmers in traditional clothing working the hay with the same scythes their grandparents used. The Val di Fassa bike path brings us to the base of Passo Sella: with 11 kilometers at 7.2%, it's one of four passes that comprise the Sellaronda loop. Break away from the main road and grind gravel for the next half mile, leading right to our luxurious mountain refuge and home for the next three nights. Tonight we'll feel like true kings of this mountain range as we dine on the terrace, watching the Dolomites turn orange and pink until the very last ray of sunlight disappears.

Meals: Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Obereggen, Moena, Canazei

Accomplished: 41 miles / 66 km, elevation gain: 6,420 feet / 1,957 meters

Accommodations: [Rifugio Salei](#)

DAY
2

Sellaronda Circuit

Get dialed in for our biggest day of riding: the Sellaronda loop has become an instant classic thanks to its four passes that feature frequently in the Giro—and they're tremendously beautiful to boot. First up is Passo Pordoi, an average of 6.1% over a span of 9 kilometers; you know you've reached the top when you spot the statue dedicated to Italian legend Fausto Coppi. Take a coffee break in Arabba before some serious rollers that bring us to the foot of Passo Giau, the tougher, bigger neighbor to Passo Falzarego. Keep the momentum going up Falzarego, a road which witnessed some brutal battles between the Italian and Austrian armies during World War I. A cold beer and lunch atop the last climb marks the end of our miles for today, but it's an ideal afternoon to hit the spa at our hotel or head out and hike the Sella range as a cool down. Our dinner is typically South Tyrolean—hearty and comforting food that's perfect for recovery.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Arabba, Pocol, Corvara

Accomplished: 72 miles / 116 km, elevation gain: 11,949 feet / 3,642 meters

Shorter Option: 53 miles / 85 km, elevation gain: 8,083 feet / 2,464 meters

Accommodations: [Rifugio Salei](#)

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DAY
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Queen of the Dolomites

The Marmolada is the nearly 11,000-foot massif that asserts a constant and prominent presence wherever we go—but our preferred way to appreciate this gigantic glacier is to ride right up her flatter side. As it happens, this is also the history-making ascent that earned Italian pro Pantani his first Maglia Rosa during stage 17 of the 1998 Giro d'Italia, paving the way for his series of grand tour triumphs. We begin our approach from Canazei via the Passo Fedaiia, pausing to admire Marmolada's reflection in Lake Fedaiia's clear, glacial waters. Relief comes on our descent into the Pettorina Valley, where our route briefly veers into Italy's Veneto region before we revisit Passo Pordoi. This time, we hit it from the south side for a technical climb up 33 switchbacks all the way to the top of the Sella Pass. Back at our hotel, wind down the day with an *al fresco* dinner at our hotel on the Sellaronda circuit.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Canazei, Malga Ciapela, Arabba

Accomplished: 49 miles / 80 km, elevation gain: 8,245 feet / 2,513 meters

Accommodations: [Rifugio Salei](#)

DAY
4

The 48 Switchback of Stelvio

Arguably Italy's most famous pass, the Passo dello Stelvio is also the country's highest as it straddles the border with Switzerland. Leave our *refugio* in the morning and transfer to the start of the climb: a 25-kilometer feat at a respectable 7.4%. Our homemade energy snacks will keep you from bonking until the glorious descent into Bormio, a town nestled into the Valtellina valley. Our ride ends right at a cable car that lifts us back into the mountains once again to our luxury log cabin in Stelvio National Park—and at an altitude of nearly 9,000 feet, it feels like you could reach out and touch the surrounding mountaintops. We've certainly earned tonight's dinner, which is also our first introduction to the Nebbiolo wines grown in the Valtellina valley.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Prato allo Stelvio, Bormio

Accomplished: 42 miles / 67 km, elevation gain: 8,307 feet / 2,532 meters

Longer Option: 59 miles / 95 km, elevation gain: 11,260 feet / 3,432 meters

Accommodations: [Sunny Valley Mountain Lodge](#)

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DAY
5

Valtellina Legends

Call us crazy, but breakfast tastes different when it's taken on a terrace with views of the Italian Alps. Once we're well-fueled, ease into the day with a spin down the valley to wake up our legs—after that, it's strictly business. The mighty Mortirolo is mercifully at the lowest altitude of the week, because it's also our meanest climb at 12 kilometers with an 11% average. Bomb into Monno before we take on the last pass of the week: the Passo di Gavia is a legendary 17 kilometers at an average of 7.9% with some 16% ramps—now that's an epic finish! On our last evening, raise a glass and toast to winning some serious Strava segments this week.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Mazzo di Valtellina, Monno, Ponte di Legno

Accomplished: 69 miles / 111 km, elevation gain: 11,033 feet / 3,363 meters

Accommodations: [Sunny Valley Mountain Lodge](#)

DAY
6

Addio, Dolomiti

Enjoy one last coffee at Sunny Valley before transferring with your guides to the train station in Lecco. From here, it's an easy connection to Lake Como, Milan or Venice airports, or wherever your adventure takes you next.

Meals: Breakfast

Destinations: Lecco
