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TOUR ITINERARY



Europe / Italy / Veneto

Verona Family Bike + Adventure Tour

Lake Garda and the Land of the Italian Fairytale

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TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Hand-craft fresh pasta during an evening of Italian hospitality with our friend and chef, Serena
- Dive into pristine mountain waterfalls during a canyoning trip on the slopes of Monte Baldo
- Learn the Italian form of mild mountaineering known as via ferrata
- Swim or sun on the shores of Italy's largest lake
- Explore historic WWI trenches in the Lessini mountains before biking all way across the Valpolicella



Departure Details Arrival Details Airport City: Airport City: Milan or Venice, Italy Milan or Venice, Italy **Pick-Up Location**: Drop-Off Location: Porta Nuova Train Station in Verona Porta Nuova Train Station in Verona **Pick-Up Time:** Drop-Off Time: 0 Θ 9:30 am 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

For the hikes on this tour, we strongly recommend bringing hiking boots or trail shoes with good traction (not running shoes or sneakers). Moisture-wicking clothing or daypacks are also recommended, but not required.

Younger Travelers

- This itinerary is designed with children age 9 and older in mind. The itinerary can be customized for your family's needs. For safety reasons, children must be at least 7 years old to ride their own bike.
- E-bikes are only available to ages 14 and older
- Trailers and tag-along bikes are available for younger children
- Safety triangles are provided to all children on tour
- Please note, children must be age 6 and older to participate in the via ferrata activity
- Please note, children must be age 9 and older to participate in the canyoning activity

TOUR ITINERARY

Tour By Day

DAY 1

Welcome to the Veneto

Your guides will meet you in Verona, and then we're off to the fairytale village of Borghetto on the banks of the Mincio River. Get fitted for your bike before we take off on a warmup ride to the fortified village of Castellaro. This tiny lakeside hamlet is listed as one of Italy's *Borghi piu Belli* (most beautiful villages). Our reward is a delicious lunch *al fresco*. Spend the rest of the afternoon exploring Borghetto's boutiques and footbridges, relaxing at our hotel, or enjoying a longer ride. Tonight, we'll taste the Veneto's best pumpkin *tortelli*—the hand-stuffed pasta that's a regional specialty—on the riverside terrace of our favorite local restaurant.

Meals: Lunch / Dinner Destinations: Borghetto sul Mincio, Castellaro Lagusello Accomplished: 14 miles / 23 km, elevation gain: 650 feet / 198 meters Longer Option: 29 miles / 46 km, elevation gain: 1,568 feet / 478 meters Accommodations: Regia Rosetta or Corte Guastalla



Renaissance Mantua

Breakfast awaits as you wake to the peace and quiet of the Veronese countryside. Today, we follow the winding course of the river through this famously fertile land to reach Mantua, home to one of Italy's greatest concentrations of Renaissance art. Explore the Renaissance architecture of the town before enjoying lunch at our favorite *osteria* off the main square. After lunch, opt to complete the ride back to the hotel or take a lift in the van to a local water park and spend the afternoon riding waterslides with the locals. Tonight, our chef friend Serena will show us true Italian hospitality as we make pasta and laughter at a cooking class that feels more like a dinner party.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner Destinations: Mantua, Goito, Falzoni Accomplished: 21 miles / 34 km, elevation gain: 338 feet / 103 meters Longer Option: 41 miles / 66 km, elevation gain: 774 feet / 236 meters Accommodations: Regia Rosetta or Corte Guastalla

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Exploring Monte Baldo

Leave the bikes behind and hop in the van for a 45-minute transfer—today we're making our way to Monte Baldo, the huge massif dominating the eastern shore of Lake Garda. Meet a local mountain guide for a canyoning trip; sliding, rappelling, and jumping down a series of waterfalls and crystal-clear mountain pools. Or, if heights aren't your thing, opt for a hike along one of Europe's most scenic footpaths with 360-degree views of the surrounding landscape. We'll stop for lunch in a typical mountain hut or historic castle before shuttling down to the lakeside town of Riva del Garda, then reward yourself with an afternoon of relaxing on the sunny shores and swimming in Italy's largest lake.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch Destinations: Monte Baldo, Riva del Garda Accomplished: 3-4 hours hiking and/or canyoning Accommodations: Hotel du Lac et du Parc



Via Ferrata

Today we'll venture into the mountains north of Lake Garda to try our hand at *via ferrata.* This form of Italian mountaineering combines hiking and rock climbing and can be adapted for all levels of explorers. Take an optional ride around the clear waters of Lake Cavedine and scramble up to the heights above Arco for breathtaking views of the lake and mountains below. Cool off with a dip in the river or dare to dive in from the old Roman bridge. This evening, visit a mountainside farmhouse that produces its own olive oil, vegetables, fruit, and meats for a truly remarkable dinner.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner Destinations: Lake Garda, Tenno, Arco Accomplished: 3-6 hours mountaineering; biking; swimming Accommodations: Hotel du Lac et du Parc

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^{DAY}₅ The Lessini Mountains

Get an early start and transfer to the tranquil Lessini Mountains, where we'll hike to the wellpreserved WWI trenches scattered across the plateau. These high pastures are the summer home for herds of cows who produce the local cheeses. We'll inevitably encounter these ladies during our gradually descending ride along the ridgelines of the Valpolicella—and sample their cheese a little later, too. A picnic lunch is served at a local farm, then pedal on through vineyards to our final farmhouse hotel. Spend the afternoon relaxing by the hotel pool before enjoying dinner amidst the peace of this bucolic wine region.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner Destinations: Lessini Mountains, San Rocco, Fumane Accomplished: 32 miles / 51 km, elevation gain: 2,060 feet / 628 meters Shorter Option: 22 miles / 35 km, elevation gain: 610 feet / 186 meters Accommodations: Costa degli Ulivi or La Caminella

DAY 6

Goodbye to Verona

Spend your last morning in the Valpolicella with a final ride through the hills or sleep in and take a stroll through the vineyards. Later in the morning transfer to the Verona train station and bid farewell to your guides on the way to your next destination.

Meals: Breakfast Destinations: Verona

