



Italy Road Less Traveled Tour

A Fairytale Trip Through Northern Italy

Hosted By *Travel With Me-Allen B*

May 15-28, 2027

Highlights

A 14-day tour through enchanted Aosta, charming Tuscany and hidden gem cities and towns of Le Marche. We will visit places less visited by tourists. You will be immersed in Italian culture, eat fabulous meals, see spectacular landscapes, walk cobblestone medieval and renaissance villages as your Italian speaking host, Allen Bartimioli escorts you throughout your journey.



We Fell in Love

The first time Ellen and I visited Italy we toured the usual places, Venice, Rome, Florence, Pizza...you get the idea. But it was on a side journey on our way between iconic cities that we decided to visit the small, hilltop village of Orvieto. We slow-walked up and down cobblestone roads visiting local artisan shops. We sampled wine, walked through a quaint market, ate pizza and gelato and at some point, Ellen looked at me and said, "I could have done this the entire time". Since then, our returns to Italy have been mostly shaped around going to places where most tourists are not. On one of our trips we invited some good friends with us, and we all had an amazing time. We visited the Alps, enjoyed authentic Italian restaurants, walked through UNESCO World Heritage villages-lost in time, and ate a fantastic amount of gelato. That's where this tour was born. I'm not suggesting that Venice, Rome, Florence, Naples, Amalfi, etc. are not all fabulous, but this tour is about seeing the Italy that is authentic, ancient, and hospitable. Ellen and I learned how to embrace the "dolce vita". We invite you to join us.

Your journey will be built around the regions of Aosta, Tuscany and Le Marche

Note: For this Adventure, I recommend Arriving 2-days early, giving yourself a full day to recover from jetlag and ensuring that flight delays don't cause unnecessary challenges

Day 1

Be at Hotel Villa Malpensa near Milan MXP airport. Load into vans and head to Aosta where we will arrive at our first hotel and relax in the Alps. There is a quaint village just a 10-minute walk from the hotel. That evening we will have dinner together.

Day 2

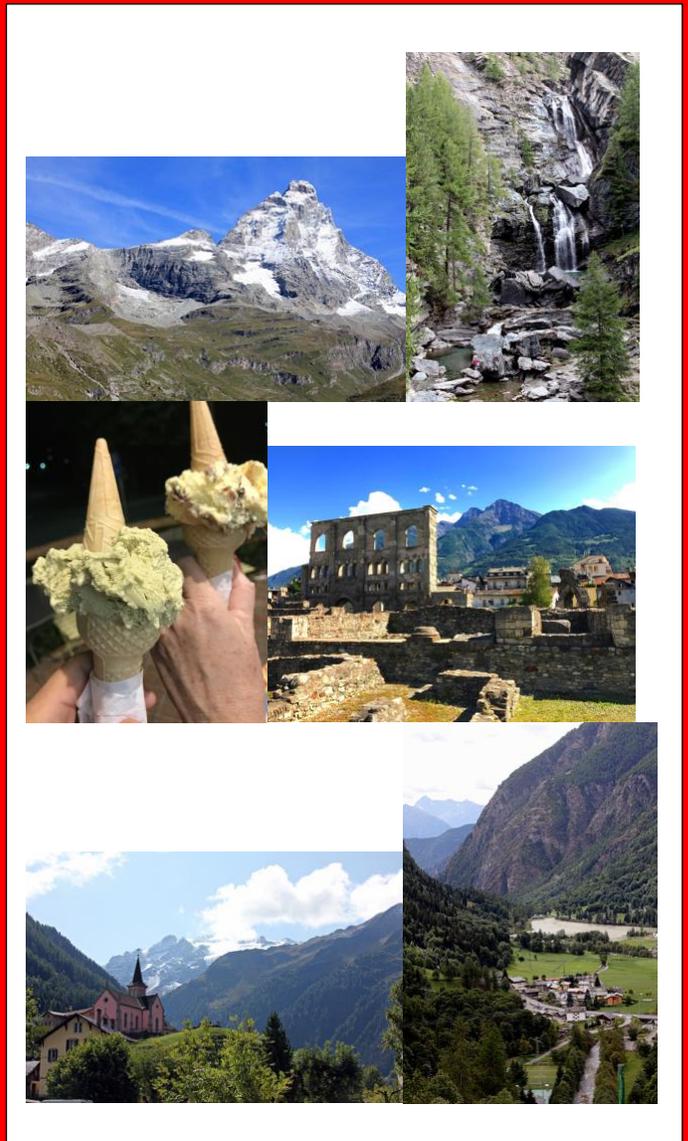
After breakfast we will depart for Paradise National Park (Parco Nazionale Paradiso). This is one of many protected parks throughout Italy. We will take the leisurely walk through the park village to a beautiful waterfall and allow time for those who would like to go up to the footbridge that crosses over the falls. We then head to the ancient town of Aosta, wander the medieval center and visit the ancient Roman ruins and theater. We will join for lunch in a wonderful restaurant.

Day 3

After breakfast we head north to visit the famous Matterhorn and the town of Cervinia. We will visit the lovely Blue Lake, wander the quaint village of Cervinia then climb aboard The Alpine Crossing where we will journey across the Alps on 7-connected Gondolas crossing the face of the Matterhorn on to Zermat, Switzerland. After lunch, we'll take the return trip back to Italy. Back at our hotel we will have dinner together.

Day 4

After breakfast we will depart for Castle Di Fenis and take a tour of this 13th century marvel. After our tour we will drive across the border to Switzerland and visit Monte San Bernardo Hospice, where the dogs became famous, and head back to our hotel for dinner together. If the pass isn't open we will drive under the Alps into France and visit the French village of Chamonix



Day 5

After breakfast we depart to Montepulciano and our hotel in Tuscany. On the way we will stop in the Medieval town of Lucca. We will have our together meal there then head to our hotel. Once we have settled into our hotel, everyone is free to sleep or wander.

Day 6

Today will be a relaxed day to wander the fairytale cobblestone streets of Montepulciano, wander the allies, visit artisan shops, and see amazing views of Tuscany. You may choose to do some Montepulciano Nobile winetasting and take about a million photos of and from this breathtaking village. We will gather for a wonderful lunch at one of our favorite restaurants in Italy, Osteria Acquachetta, the home of the famous Bistecca Fiorentina.

Day 7

After breakfast and a laid-back morning, we will head into the Val d'Orcia and visit the small Unesco World Heritage Medieval villages of Pienza, San Quirco d'Orcia and Montalcino. We will simply wander the streets, visit shops, find the gelatarias, visit the beautiful piazzas and have our meal together Montalcino.

Day 8

After breakfast and a laid-back morning, we head north to the Chianti region where we will visit the small, family-owned vineyard, Savignola, where we will have an official Chianti Classico winetasting experience. Be prepared for an amazing lunch and pairings of their personal label wines. After lunch we will wander the Tuscan village of Greve in Chianti and head back to Montepulciano.



Day 9

After breakfast we depart for Ascoli Piceno in Le Marche. On the way we will visit the Medieval hilltop village of Orvieto where we will wander and have lunch on our own. From there we will finish our journey through the Appenini Muntains to Ascoli and arrive at our hotel in the Centro Storico (Historic Center). We will come together for dinner.

Day 10

Today is a day to take at your own pace. Ascoli Piceno has one of the most beautiful Piazas in all of Italy, Piazza Del Popolo. It is surrounded by two beautiful rivers, the Tronto and Castellano. There are lovely churches, shops, cafes, bars (Not what you think) and restaurants. Feel free to wander, take a riposa (nap) or sit in one of the two piazzas to have a gelato and people watch. We will gather together for dinner.

Day 11

After breakfast and a laid-back morning, we will drive about 30 minutes to the Adriatic Sea and the town of San Benedetto Del Tronto. The sea will be cool, but we should be able to swim. The beautiful white-sand beach is amazing, and you will be able to soak up some sun. You can bring a book, grab a fun drink, swim or take a walk. For lunch we will be at a seafood restaurant on the beach.

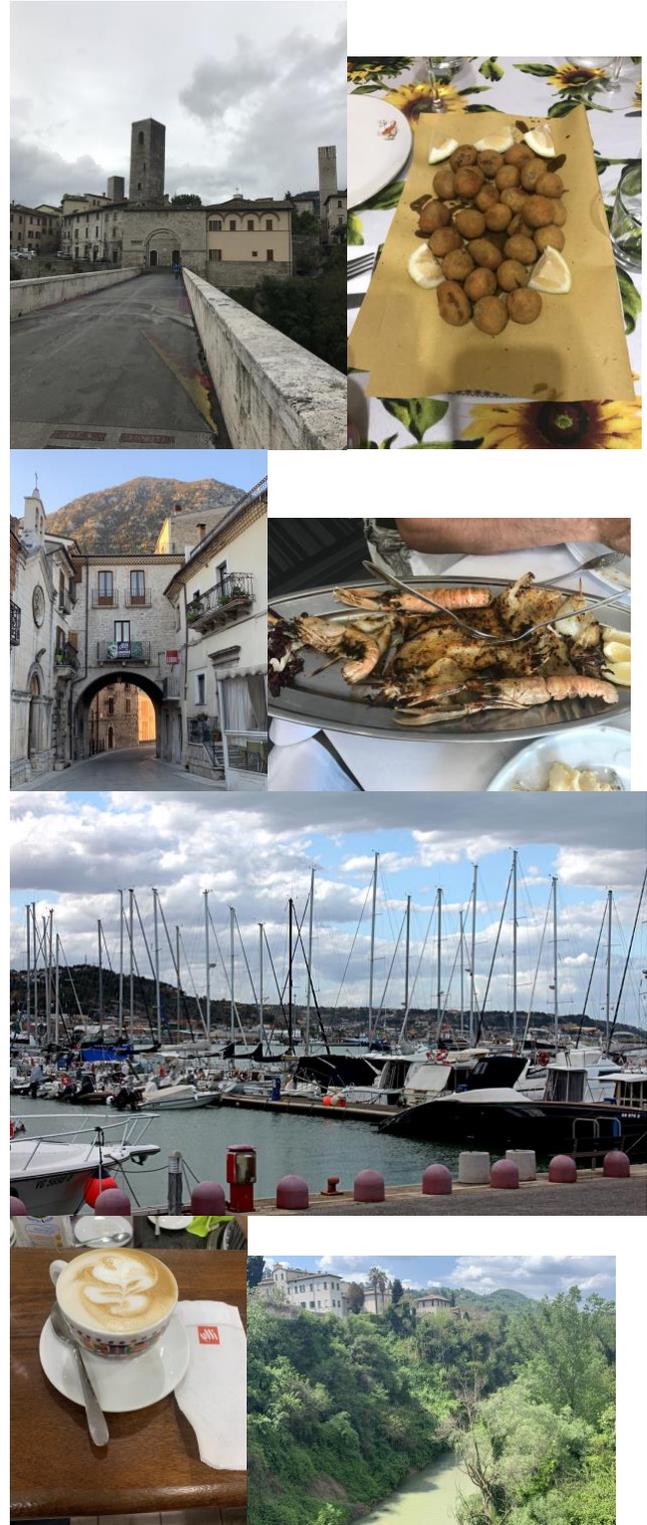
Day 12

This day is one of my favorite days as my cousins treat us all like family. We will visit the countryside near Montegallo. We will visit some ancient ruins, hang out with my family and my cousin, Raffaele will make us an amazing 4-course meal. Wine will flow; much merriment will be made.

Day 13

We head to Rome to settle into our hotel near FCO airport.

Day 14 Return Flight Home



Cost is \$3,300 per person.
Non-refundable \$500 deposit holds your spot.
For single room supplement, please add \$1,500

Rate Includes:

- All 13 nights in four-star hotels
- All tours, attractions and activities mentioned including Alpine crossing and Entrance tickets.
- All transportation costs and fees including vehicle rentals, fuel, tolls, and parking while in Italy
- Daily breakfast buffet and one other significant meal each day
- All gratuities and taxes
- Flight Trip cancellation if you fly with me (If you want to use points or arrange your own flights, my trip cancellation insurance will not cover you)

Rate does not include:

- Extras not mentioned.
- Round-Trip International Airfare (At the time of writing \$900-1,500)
- Lunches
- Snacks (Yes, this includes gelato)
- Traveler's medical and total trip cancellation insurance.

Important Notes: *This trip requires at least 2-3 miles of walking a day. There are hills, stairs and sometimes we walk at pace. Also, as the name suggests, we travel a few windy roads through mountains and hillsides. Some of our drives are hours long. If you struggle with any of the above, this trip is probably not for you.*