



Northern Italy

FOODIE HEAVEN





FOOD & WINE

the perfect way to discover Italy!



DAY 1: *Milano to Polesine*

FROM THE HOME OF THE KINGS OF THE DUCHY TO HOME OF THE KINGS OF HAM AND CHEESE.



After picking you up from your hotel in Milan, we make our way to the plains along the Po river to the town of Polesine Parmense. This is the home of Culatello, Italy's most prestigious and expensive ham, and the home town of Giuseppe Verdi. We will spend the afternoon exploring the grounds of the Spigaroli family Estate that will be our relais for the next two nights. This evening we take a short stroll to our delectable restaurant that has been in the family history for generations.

Meals: Dinner **Accommodation:** Luxury

DAY 2: Polesine

ORGANIC FARM TOUR CULATELLO CAVES COOKING CLASS WITH MICHELIN CHEF



After a flavoursome breakfast overlooking the expansive grounds of our relais, we will pick up our bicycles and head to a Parmigiano Caseificio to watch as this regal cheese is produced by our Artisan cheese maker.

We then spend the rest of the morning at the Spigaroli farm and in their private caves to witness the amazing collections of Cured Hams. Next up we commence the never to be forgotten cooking class with our Michelin Starred Chef using ingredients freshly plucked from the grounds garden.

In the evening, we will enjoy a celebration of traditional and modern Italian cuisine at our michelin dinner at our relais.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodation: Luxury Accommodation

DAY 3: Iseo & Franciacorta

After a delicious breakfast, alfresco style, we will visit some of the most spectacular scenery that Italy has to offer. Home of some of Italy's best seafood and stunning views, Lake Iseo is Italy's undiscovered gem of the North, and any traveller's paradise. We will pick up our vintage cars, we will take a leisurely drive along the lake en-route to the Franciacorta Region. Franciacorta wine is Italy's answer to Champagne. Our hill top drive will overlook the lakes and provide stunning views of the beautiful Vallecamosca Mountains.

Sampling some of the regional wines is inevitable before we check in at our Luxury Relais – an oasis. Spend a few hours meandering amongst the vines. Tonight we wine & dine & serve up regional plates including fish found only on the lake.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner **Accommodation:** Luxury Accommodation



DAY 4: Iseo Lake

Enjoy a full day at leisure at the amazing Iseo Lake. In the morning you will enjoy a guided discovery of the largest lake island in Europe: Monte Isola, famous for the unique panoramas and the artisanal making of the dry sardines.

In the afternoon, relax by the pool of your exclusive accommodation.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodation: Luxury Accommodation



DAY 5: *Castello di Torrechiara, Prosciutto, Parma*

ONCE RULED BY SOME OF EUROPE'S WEALTHIEST FAMILIES, EMILIA ROMAGNA IS A TERRITORY OF RICH FARMING AND AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPE THAT STRETCHES FROM THE PO RIVER TO THE APPENINES' CREST. The Food and Wine roads that run through these villages are also renowned for the production of some of Italy's most famous delights. Today we will take the time to experience the best that this territory has to offer. We will make our way to one of the most magnificent of Castles of the Duchy of Parma. We stop for lunch in their Locanda before heading on to Langhirano where we will watch specialist Norcino make the most prized cured ham in Italy: Prosciutto di Parma. Late afternoon will be free to explore the city of Parma, famous for its architecture, palaces and of course SHOPPING. In the evening we will head out for a real Parmigiano tradition: the Aperitivo!

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Aperitivo **Accommodation:** Luxury Accommodation



DAY 6: Cinque Terre



Enjoy a full day excursion to the worldwide known Cinque Terre, the unique five villages facing the Ligurian Sea at only 1 h 30' drive from Parma. Once arrived, a private boat will wait for you for a unique tour on the sea with amazing views of the coast.

A panoramic lunch will be served at one of the villages followed by an easy walk through the paths that connects all of them discovering the unique wine productions of this area. Return in the evening to Parma, dinner on your own and overnight.

Meals: Breakfast, Tastings, Lunch **Accommodation:** Luxury Accommodation



DAY 7: Traditional Balsamic Vinegar, Bologna, Tuscany



Today you'll check-out in order to reach your next amazing Region: Tuscany! After breakfast, it is time to head towards Modena. We will take an exclusive trip into the attic of one of Modena's oldest producing families who will explain to us the processes needed to produce this liquid gold: be one of the first in the culinary world to sample an authentic 50 years old drop. Along the way, we can't miss a stop to the largest city of Emilia-Romagna : Bologna. Bologna is a unique city and it's called « la Grassa, la Rossa e la Dotta » (the Fat, the Red and the Learned). You'll have a private guided tour of the city center including the main highlights and interesting multiple tastings in different typical spots that will make your « itinerant » lunch. Next, we head for Tuscany and arrival in the afternoon at the selected luxury accomodation we found for you. Welcome dinner and overnight.

Meals: Breakfast, Tastings, Lunch, Dinner **Accommodation:** Luxury

DAY 8: Greve Market - Dario Cecchini Famous Butcher & Lunch



Today you'll check-out in order to reach your next amazing Region: Tuscany!

After breakfast, it is time to head towards Modena. We will take an exclusive trip into the attic of one of Modena's oldest producing families who will explain to us the processes needed to produce this liquid gold: be one of the first in the culinary world to sample an authentic 50 years old drop. Along the way, we can't miss a stop to the largest city of Emilia-Romagna : Bologna. Bologna is a unique city and it's called « la Grassa, la Rossa e la Dotta » (the Fat, the Red and the Learned). You'll have a private guided tour of the city center including the main highlights and interesting multiple tastings in different typical spots that will make your « itinerant » lunch. Next, we head for Tuscany and arrival in the afternoon at the selected luxury accomodation we found for you. Welcome dinner and overnight. **Meals:** Breakfast, Tastings, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: Luxury

DAY 9: San Gimignano - Wine tour & tasting



This morning we will arrive at the beautiful hamlet often dubbed as the 'Medieval Manhattan', famous for its Artisan Ceramics, San Gimignano. We will visit a local pasticceria that is the true essence of Florentine sweets: from panforte to ricarelli and pandolce, we watch the artisans create the dolce that all of Italy talk about. Take your time to explore this beautiful place, and why not head in and watch some of the ceramic makers perfecting their craft. Lunch today will be at a stunning winery where we will also enjoy a guided tour and tastings. This family run winery has committed to twenty-six generations of wine making, upholding tradition but your contemporary surrounds will astound you. Our final dinner will be a celebration of Tuscan cuisine at the terrazza restaurant of our castello. There are places in Tuscany where time seems to have stopped, and this is one of them. **Meals:** Breakfast, Food Tour Tastings, Wine Tastings, Lunch, Dinner **Accommodation:** Luxury Accommodation





DAY 10: *End of the tour*

After breakfast it's time to say goodbye to our luxury relais in the heart and soul of Tuscany.

Transfer: To Florence airport or train station

ACCOMODATION our selection

Antica Corte Pallavicina

Palazzo Dalla Rosa Prati





Castello di Spaltenna



Relais Mirabella Jseo



Inclusions

- All the meals listed in the description
- Excursions: Visit and guided tour of Parmigiano Caseificio, Culatello Caves, Balsamic vinegar producer, Prosciutto di Parma. Visit and tastings local pasticceria, visit to Castello di Torrechiara, market tour Greve, unforgettable lunch at Dario Cecchini. Wine tasting, dinner in Michelin restaurant, two fine dining dinners, cooking class with Michelin chef. Guided visit to Monte Isola with lunch, boat tour in Cinque Terre with lunch and visit to a winery. Guided tour of Bologna with multiple tastings.
- Fully escorted by a local expert tour leader.
- Accommodation (2 nights in Polesine Parmense, 2 nights at Iseo Lake, 3 nights in Parma, 3 nights in Tuscany)

Exclusions

- International Airfares
- All beverages, laundry, phone, items of a personal nature or tipping
- Passport
- Travel Insurance
(COMPULSORY)

Why choose this tour

- Fully escorted by a local tour leader in the country of origin
- Our itineraries are carefully thought out and put together with the assistance of our worldwide culinary connections
- Small groups – no waiting
- Unique food and wine experiences. Our tours are not cooking tours.
- No decision making needed – Sit back and relax, we have done all the hard work for you
- Guaranteed the best meals without having to look for the perfect restaurant
- Experience – our tours are full of surprises!
- Authentic & cultural regional experiences balanced with free time
- Travel and share experiences with like-minded people
- Meet the passionate producers and artisans, learn about their craft
- Comfort and luxury – travel and accommodation
- Stress free – no google maps required
- Gastronomy experts and local English guides with exceptional knowledge
- Hosts that care about you as an individual