

Cycling Europe

ITALY 2020 TASTY PIEDMONT

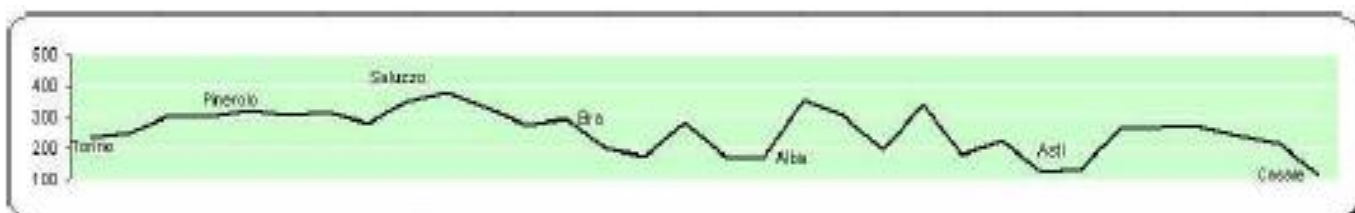
Self Guided Cycle Tour - 8 days/7 nights - 325 kms



The Piedmont region and Torino (Turin) are a real surprise. The region's name translates as "at the foot of the mountain"; the majestic Alps being a backdrop for your tour. The region is known worldwide for its wines and fine cuisine. Ride among green orchards, vineyards and beautiful hills, away from the hustle and bustle. Piedmont is elegance and style and the best example is the town of Turin, being the first capital of Italy 150 years ago, where the influence of the French style is still very evident. Towns such as Pinerolo and Saluzzo are very inviting with their medieval charm, but Bra and Alba are centres of gastronomy, where you will have the pleasure of delicious meals and sampling the noble wines of Barolo or Barbaresco. In short, discovering Piedmont by bike is a very memorable experience.

GRADE/ TERRAIN

Medium/easy on cycle paths and small roads. Some dirt paths in fairly good condition and flat from Torino to Fossano. Some easy hills in the Langhe to Barolo section and in the Monferrato from Alba to Casale.



ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrive in Torino

Visit the most important Egyptian museum outside Cairo and the cinema museum, which is housed in Torino's most famous landmark, the Mole Antonelliana. Torino's café culture is alive with historic cafes and restaurants from the Belle Epoque era. Its wide boulevards are graced with royal palaces of the Savoia monarchy plus many monuments.



Day 2: Torino to Pinerolo. 51 kms

With four rivers, there are many cycle paths in the Torino area. Cycle along the Po River, on cycle paths and small roads, to the foot of the mountains; you reach the hunting palace of Stupinigi, the royal residence of the Savoy family. The palace is a masterpiece in rococo style designed by the architect Filippo Juvarra. Travel through parks along the rivers until you reach Pinerolo which was once home to one of the most famous schools of cavalry in Italy.



DAY 3: Pinerolo – Cavour- Saluzzo. 46 kms

Today continue along country roads through orchards and vineyards towards Cavour, with its curious "Rocca", a hill in the middle of the flat protected landscape. Along the way, in the castle of Macello experience a tasting of the food typical to Piedmont, (guided option only). Overnight in medieval Saluzzo.

DAY 4. Saluzzo – Fossano – Benevagienna – Bra/Cherasco. 63/69 kms

Today you will encounter some slight inclines between Fossano and Benevagienna. On the way you will be able to visit the castles of Manta and Cosigliole, the ancient Roman town of Benevagienna and its archeological area. You will travel through Cherasco, which has a rich history in art, on your way to Bra. Bra, one of the main centres of the Piedmontese, lies at the edge of the Langhe hills. Baroque style, it has many churches and a palace dating back to the 17th and 18th centuries. Today, the town remains the home of the 'Slow Food' movement. Overnight in Cherasco or Bra.

DAY 5. Bra/Cherasco - Pollenzo – Barolo – Alba. 39/55 kms

Now you are in the Langhe area. Visit Pollenzo, once an important Roman settlement and today home to the University of Gastronomic Science. Enjoy a wine tasting (guided option only). Cycle along the Tanaro River towards Barolo. For the guided option of this tour, a wine tasting is included in the castle. You reach Alba, home of Ferrero Rocher chocolates and Mon Cheri cherry pralines! Alba doesn't disappoint foodies, also home of the famous white truffle. Year round, Alba's restaurant scene is second to none.

DAY 6. Alba – Asti. 45/55 kms

Today enjoy your ride in the Roero area. You'll see the castles of Guarene and Cisterna, and there will be time to visit the museum of Cisterna. Two choices – continue along the river or bike over the hill. Since 1950, the grapes grown around the area have produced Italy's top sparkling wine – Asti Spumante.



DAY 7: Asti – Casale. 56 kms

Travel through the charming hills of the Monferrato region, also well known by gourmets around the globe. From Moncalvo, you will see great views of the hillside vineyards that were the first vineyard landscapes to receive UNESCO status. A tasting at a working farm, 'agriturismo', is arranged along the route (guided group tour only). Continue on to the Baroque town of Casale, lying at the foot of the hills of Monferrato and alongside the Po River.

DAY 8: Tour ends in Casale, Monferrato after breakfast

Arrangements conclude after breakfast. Transfers can be arranged to Torino by private minibus - €38 per person for 1-4 passengers.

2020 SCHEDULE

Self-guided tour:

Departs every Saturday from 28 March to 26 September – minimum 2 participants required. For 4 or more people start on any day.

Less than 4 people can start anyday with a supplement of €50 per person

2020 TOUR COST PER PERSON IN EURO

Self-Guided Tour	Superior	Deluxe
Double/ Twin share	€825	€945
Single room supplement	€215	€240
High season surcharge (Sept.)	€ 10	€ 10
High season surcharge single room (Sept.)	€ 20	€ 20
7 x Dinners	€189	n/a

BIKE COSTS

Bike Hire(24 speed)	€ 90 – freewheel with pannier bag & tool kit
Electric Bike	€170
Helmet	€ 5
Bicycle Tachometer	€ 10

2020 TOUR COST INCLUDES

- **Superior** - Accommodation in 3* and one 4* hotel, or an agriturismo farm in a room with private facilities.
- **Deluxe** – Accommodation in 4 * hotels and one 5* hotel in Turin
- Daily breakfast
- Welcome briefing upon arrival in Torino/Turin
- Luggage transfers between accommodations
- Road book, maps & tourist information in English
- GPS tracks available to download to your device
- Telephone service hotline

EXTRA NIGHTS INCLUDING BREAKFAST PER PERSON IN EURO

Torino/Turin

Double/Twin Room €56/€100 Single supplement €28/€72

Casale

Double/Twin Room €80/€80 Single supplement €34/€34

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