

# EXPLORE!



**Self-Guided Cycling Along Italy's Prosecco Route**

7 days

Italy - Trip code CSIV

## Self-Guided Cycling Along Italy's Prosecco Route

Pedal through the vine-covered hills of the Prosecco region on this self-guided cycling holiday. Your route wends its way from winery to winery where you can learn more about the local frizzante wine. Make your way through the Veneto region as we follow the River Sile to the medieval town of Bassano del Grappa where you can turn your attention to the famous spirit.

### Trip highlights

- ★ Prosecco and Grappa - Sample great Prosecco wine and the famous Grappa spirit
- ★ Treviso, Castelfranco Veneto and Vittorio Veneto - Charming villages rich in history
- ★ Venetian region - Explore the river valleys and charming villages by bike
- ★ Varied cycling - Peaceful roads, country lanes and lovely bike paths with views of the dramatic Dolomites
- ★ Venice - Extend your stay to include a visit to this enchanting town

#### ACCOMMODATION GRADE:

##### Standard

Our standard, mid-range accommodation offers a good level of service, often with other amenities such as a restaurant, bar, garden or swimming pool. Generally rooms will be comfortable with en suite facilities.

#### CYCLING GRADE:

##### Moderate

Medium length rides suitable for cyclists who are used to undulating routes with occasional energetic climbs. Mainly on trails and quiet roads and you should have a reasonable level of fitness.

## Itinerary

Itineraries on some departure dates may differ, please select the itinerary that you wish to explore.

### DAY 1 - Trip starts in Treviso

Your cycling holiday starts in the charming old town of Treviso. If you arrive early you can walk through the historic streets and see the magnificent intact city walls. You might like to relax with a glass of wine in a bar on the Piazza dei Signori, Treviso's main square.



**Accommodation: Albergo Il Focolare** (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: None

### DAY 2 - Ride from charming Treviso to Asolo

After breakfast you bike from your hotel, through the old town centre and the city walls on to a scenic northwesterly route. Narrow and winding roads past cultivated fields will lead you to the town of Montebelluna, situated on the edge of the Montello Nature Reserve. Cycle through quiet countryside and past the Palladian villas (country houses) dotted along the route. A final 2km climb takes you up to the town of Asolo; one of Italy's most beautiful towns and nicknamed 'City of a hundred horizons' where you spend the next two nights.

Your total cycling distance today is approximately 43km (total 600m ascent and 380m descent)



**Accommodation: Hotel Duse** (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

### DAY 3 - Circular countryside ride through Bassano del Grappa

Enjoy a circular ride along beautiful country roads to the town of Bassano del Grappa - famous for its local tippale. Grappa is a strong

spirit made by distilling the skins, pulp and seeds of grapes left over from winemaking. Also worth a visit is the wooden Alpini Bridge over the Brenta River, and the many cosy town squares of Bassano del Grappa and its surrounding villages. After lunch, today's ride continues across the plains, on quiet back roads passing through small villages. Monte Grappa dominates the horizon and was the theatre of 3 battles in the First World War. A final ascent leads you back to the hotel in Asolo.

Your total cycling distance today is approximately 43km (total 630m ascent and 670m descent)



**Accommodation: Hotel Duse** (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

## DAY 4 - Views of snow-capped Alps, ride to Pedeguarda di Follina

After breakfast you say farewell to Asolo and a descent brings you to one of the most beautiful roads in the whole region. The breathtaking panorama of the snow-covered Alps provides a stunning backdrop to today's ride. After crossing the Piave River, the landscape changes and the Prosecco vineyards on the surrounding steep hillsides now dominate. Today's terrain is a lot hillier; although the ascents are never very long, at times they can be steep. The panoramas you will encounter make all your efforts worthwhile. The ride ends in the village of Follina where you spend the next two nights.

Your total cycling distance today is approximately 34km (total 480m ascent and 670m descent)



**Accommodation: Agriturismo La Bella** (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

## DAY 5 - Circular ride through historic Vittorio Veneto

An exciting and challenging ride awaits you today. After a steep climb you will pass through the tiny villages of Tarzo and Rolle situated along the 'Strada del Prosecco' or Prosecco route, Italy's oldest wine trail through ancient terraced vineyards. Ride downhill to the Revine Lake; then visit the historic town of Vittorio Veneto, where in 1918 the Italians defeated the Austro-Hungarian army, marking the end of the war on the Italian Front. A gentle climb will lead you out of the town, on extremely scenic roads passing through vineyards as you return to Pedeguarda.

Your total cycling distance today is approximately 48km (total 740m ascent and 745m descent)




**Accommodation: Agriturismo La Bella** (or similar)



Standard Hotel

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 Single room available

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 Meals Provided: Breakfast

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## DAY 6 - Ride the beautiful hills of the Prosecco Region to Gorgo al Monticano

Today's ride starts with a route that once more passes through the breath-taking hills of the Prosecco Region. Reach Conegliano, a historic town founded in the 12th century. As you enter the town, you cannot help but be impressed by the castle which dominates the whole territory. Ride on, now across the plains, until you reach Oderzo with its beautiful Piazza Grande. Finally the ride arrives at the small village of Gorgo al Monticano where you spend the night.

Your total cycling distance today is approximately 51km (total 475m ascent and 625m descent)




**Accommodation: Villa Revedin** (or similar)

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 Standard Hotel

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 Single room available

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 Meals Provided: Breakfast

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## DAY 7 - Trip ends in Gorgo al Monticano

After breakfast, the organised part of your holiday comes to an end.

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 Meals Provided: Breakfast

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# Cycling information

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## DAILY DISTANCES



CSIV Distance Chart

### General cycling information

On this tour we cycle 219 km over five days (an average of 44 km per day). We generally cycle on quiet tarmac country roads with little or no traffic. Although Veneto is a relatively flat region there are significant hills on days 4, 5 and 6. We have graded the route as moderate.

### Bike included

24 gear hybrid bike.

### Bike information

Your included bike is a 24 gear hybrid bike and will be the correct frame size for your height. Each bike is fitted with a lateral pannier bag as well as a 3-litre handlebar bag that doubles as a map note holder. A water bottle holder is provided as well as the facility to fit your own pedals or saddle if you wish to bring them. A lock, pump, spare inner tube and puncture repair kit with tyre levers is included. You will also be given an odometer (one per booking, not per bike). All you need to bring is your own helmet. You will be required to sign an agreement of care upon receipt of the bike.

Electric bikes (e-bikes) are available for an additional cost for the duration of the holiday. You will be required to pay a refundable deposit upon collection of the e-bike in country. Please contact us for more details or to request your e-bike.

### Cycling grade

Moderate



# What's included?



## Included meals

Breakfast: 6



## Transport

Bicycle



## Accommodation

6 nights standard hotel

# Trip information

## Country information

### Italy

#### Climate

April/May and October/November are pleasantly warm. June/September are the hottest months. Showers are common in Autumn.

#### Time difference to GMT

+1

#### Plugs

2 Pin Round

#### Religion

Roman Catholic

#### Language

Italian

## Budgeting and packing

### Clothing

Bring cycling gear such as quick drying cycle tops, padded cycle shorts and cycle gloves. The sun can be very strong in the south of Italy though at the start and end of the season you should bring a warmer jacket/fleece. A waterproof cycle jacket is recommended in case of rain. A light windproof jacket is always useful.

### Footwear

If you are not bringing cycle shoes then try to bring stiff-soled shoes as these are better for cycling - transmitting your energy into the pedals more efficiently. This becomes more relevant and recommended the more demanding the grade and distances to cover. SPD cycle shoes are not well suited to tours that combine sightseeing with cycling. Comfortable shoes, trainers, sandals or flip flops are useful when not on the bike.

### Luggage: On tour

Bring one main piece of baggage as per your airline luggage allowance, maximum 20 kg per person. Remember you are expected to

carry your own luggage during transfers by public transport so don't overload yourself. Luggage transfers between hotels are normally arranged by the hoteliers. Mark your bags clearly and leave them at the place and time arranged with them. When travelling on public transport you should always take your luggage with you.

## Luggage transfer

Included between each hotel.

## Equipment

On all Explore cycle holidays we strongly recommend you bring along and wear your cycle helmet. In case of an accident resulting in personal injury, certain insurance policies are invalidated in cases where a helmet was not being worn. Cycle glasses to protect against dust, pollen and the sun, padded cycle gloves and a water bottle or water delivery system (e.g. camelback or platypus) are also useful. You may choose to bring your own gel seat cover for added comfort. Other items to consider bringing are a sunhat and sun cream, torch, earplugs and insect repellent. If a handle bar bag or pannier is not provided (check bike details) then you may like to bring a small rucksack to wear while cycling. Please carry some or all of your cycling equipment e.g. helmet as part of your hand luggage.

Maps - Along with the destination manual and route notes you will be sent a set of maps that have been created specifically for this trip to help you navigate. The route is marked on each map together with a series of numbered waypoints which correspond with instructions in the route notes.

## Tipping

### Local fees

City tax is payable directly to some hotels. Expect between 1 and 3 euros per night.

### Country Information

## Italy

### Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

#### Lunch price

£5.00 - 10.00

#### Dinner price

£15.00 - 20.00

#### Beer price

£2.00 - 4.00

#### Water price

£1.00 - 2.00

### Foreign Exchange

#### Local currency

Euro.

#### Recommended Currency For Exchange

GBP.

#### Where To Exchange

We recommend that you change any currency into Euros prior to arrival. Bureau de Change are generally only found in major cities and large airports.

#### ATM Availability

Major towns.

#### Credit Card Acceptance

Larger hotels and restaurants.

#### Travellers Cheques

Only in major towns. Please note, the exchange rate for cash and Travellers Cheques is poor.

## Transport, Accommodation & Meals

### Transport Information

Bicycle

### Recommended airport

Marco Polo Venice Airport

### Flying to your destination

We recommend return flights into Marco Polo Venice Airport or Treviso Airport which are served by both budget (including Easyjet, Ryanair) and non-budget airlines (including British Airways) from multiple airports in the UK.

### Arrival and departure information

At the start of your trip you can fly into Marco Polo Venice Airport.

Visit the Marco Polo Venice Airport website for up to date detailed info about travelling from the airport to downtown Venice where you catch the train to Treviso.

[www.veniceairport.it/pageervizi/trasporti/treno?m=01020201&language=en](http://www.veniceairport.it/pageervizi/trasporti/treno?m=01020201&language=en)

The Marco Polo airport is connected to the nearby railway stations of Venice-Santa Lucia and Mestre-Venice by scheduled bus services with 2 different companies: with ACTV urban line 5 to reach Venezia Santa Lucia (15 to reach Venezia Mestre), or the Express Service by A.T.V.O.

The updated service timetable can be found here: Azienda del Consorzio Trasporti Veneziano ( A.C.T.V. ) [www.actv.it](http://www.actv.it) or calling 0039 0412424; Azienda Trasporti Veneto Orientale A.T.V.O. [www.atvo.it](http://www.atvo.it) or calling 0039 0421594672.

From Venice take a train to Treviso, for timetable information visit the website [www.trenitalia.it](http://www.trenitalia.it)

If you are travelling from Milano or Bergamo or Bologna airports, you can take the local bus to reach the city train station, then you can take a train to Treviso with several changes along the route. The timetable can be found here [www.trenitalia.it](http://www.trenitalia.it)

At the end of your cycling trip, from Gorgo al Monticano you can take a train, for more detail visit this website [www.trenitalia.it](http://www.trenitalia.it)

## Essential Information

### FCO Advice

We strongly recommend that you check your government's travel advisory for up-to-date information and advice about your destination: safety and security, entry requirements, health, local laws and customs. For UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office advice click [here](#).

For more information from Explore about travel advice, click [here](#)

#### Under 18 immigration guidance

Please note that some countries require proof of parental consent when travelling overseas with under 18s. Please check requirements with the relevant embassy or consular office well in advance of travel if this applies to your party.

### Price Guarantee

Once your booking has been confirmed we guarantee the price will not increase, whatever the circumstances. Before booking please ensure you have read our important tour pricing information. [Booking Conditions](#)

### Visa and Passport Information

Italy: Visas are not required by UK, E.U nationals, Australian, New Zealand, US and Canadian citizens. Other nationalities should consult their local embassy or consular office.

All visa information is subject to change. You should confirm all visa related questions with the relevant Embassy prior to



departure.

If you do require assistance in obtaining a visa then you may consider applying through Explore's recommended visa service in the UK, Travcour. See [www.travcour.com](http://www.travcour.com) to download the relevant visa application for your trip, if applicable (UK citizens only), along with details of how to apply for your visa through Travcour. The Team at Travcour will be happy to answer specific questions relating to visa applications, please call them directly on 0208 5431846.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you are in possession of a full passport, with the correct validity for your chosen destination.

## Booking conditions

Before booking your Explore trip, please ensure that you read both our Essential Information and Booking Conditions.

## Transfers

[Find out more about Trip Transfer Terms and Conditions before you book.](#)

### Booking a land only package with Explore

Customers who have chosen to book on the 'Land Only' arrangements of our tour, please ensure that you have checked your tour specific 'Joining Instructions' prior to booking your own travel arrangements. Your joining instructions can be found below in the dates and prices information.

You may also be eligible for the Free Explore Transfer.

### Joining Tour Abroad

Customers booked on the 'Land Only' arrangements will now receive a Free Transfer, provided you arrive and depart on the tour only itinerary start and end dates. The transfers will be from the Explore designated airport or train station to the joining point of your tour, and then back from the ending point to the designated airport or train station. The exception to this rule is customers who are booked on a tour where the joining and ending point is at the designated airport or train station.

Free transfers are not available for Self-Guided, Polar, Tailormade or Tours for Churches customers.

If you are not eligible for the Free Transfer then you will need to make your own way through to the joining and ending point. On a majority of our tours Explore will be able to provide a private transfer at an additional cost. Please ask for a quote at the time of booking.

For more information regarding the Explore Free Transfer [click here](#)

## Insurance

It is a condition of booking with Explore that you have adequate valid travel insurance. It is your responsibility to arrange appropriate travel insurance and ensure you have read and understood the full terms and conditions of your travel insurance policy to ensure that you are covered for all activities you intend to undertake whilst on the tour, including all optional activities. Your Insurance Policy must fully cover you for medical expenses and emergency repatriation to your home country. Please ensure your policy includes medical emergency helicopter evacuation in the event of illness or injury and covers the entire duration of your holiday. If you are trekking at altitude please ensure that there is no upper altitude limit which may limit or exclude cover for your trip. The cost of many of our Polar Voyages will exceed the capped amount covered by standard insurance premiums and you will be required to pay an additional premium to cover the full value of your trip. Please ensure that you are covered for the full amount of your holiday cost, as insufficient cover could invalidate a claim under the policy. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not mandatory for UK residents who are travelling on trips within the United Kingdom.

Read more information about what travel insurance is required.

## Flight information

Explore offers a wide range of flexible flying options to make joining and leaving our trips easy. [Read more about them here.](#)

### Flight Information

You are able to book this tour on a 'land only' basis or as a 'flight inclusive' package. Your flight inclusive package will be fully protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) ATOL protection scheme.

### Booking a flight inclusive package with Explore

We have a good selection of flights not only from London but from many regional airports around the UK allowing us to compare fares between scheduled carriers as well as low cost and charter airlines. Our dedicated flights team will match the best flight options to your arrival and departure airport.

On our website we display a UK flight inclusive package guide price which is generally based on a London departure. To avoid paying supplements or to secure your preferred flight option, we recommend booking as early as possible, especially for peak travel dates.

## Italy

### Vaccinations

Nothing required. Tetanus recommended. Please check the latest requirements with your travel clinic or doctor prior to departure. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at [Explore Travel Health](#) and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed by you before travelling.

