

Italy - Slovenia - Croatia - From Venice to Trieste and Istria Bicycle Tour (2025)

8 Days / 7 Nights
Individual Self-Guided



The starting point of this cycle tour is "la Serenissima", Venice the lagoon city on the shores of the Adriatic Sea. Cycling past the beaches of the classical holiday resorts of Jesolo and Caorle on the Italian Adriatic, an opportunity always presents itself to take a refreshing swim in the sea. Due to this fact, you should never forget to pack your swim gear. Besides these beaches, the inland regions of the Friuli-Venezia-Giulia offer countless sites with very special charm waiting to be discovered; Mediaeval fortress towns; Roman archaeological excavations; typical Italian Piazzas and buildings embossed with Venetian influences causing the visitor to forget time and space. While on the one side, the Adriatic stretches calmly and silently, the Julian Alps rise majestically to the north. Finish with a trip down the beautiful Croatian peninsula of Istria. The return journey to Venice can be done by boat.



## **Itinerary Day to Day**

#### Day 1: Arrival in Venice mainland/Mestre

Individual arrival at the hotel on the mainland of Venice. The "Serenissima" with all its splendid buildings invites to a primary inspection. The city of Venice has a well-organized and easily accessible public transport system. (There is a bus or train stop near to the hotel).



# Day 2: Venice mainland/Mestre – Jesolo/Caorle 35 km or 80 km

Today you have two possibilities: either you cycle along the dam and the lagoon to Venice or you cycle through the back country following the river Sile to reach Jesolo/Caorle. The first few kilometers in the lagoon city are carried out by bicycle. Then you take a ferry across to Punta Sabbioni (ticket not included in the "package-price"). On the endless beaches at Litorale di Cavallino, a spit of land in the north of the lagoon, the route is lined by numerous fishing

boats and souvenir stalls. Before you leave Venice through the "backdoor", the opportunity exists for an excursion to the lighthouse at the outmost end of the island for a last view of the lagoon city and the surrounding islands.

On the way to Jesolo can hardly resist the opportunity to have a refreshing dip into the cool wet. You spend the night in Jesolo or Caorle. If you choose the alternative through the hinterland you cycle along the river Sile. This natural finish river carries always a constant amount of water and flows quietly; that's why its name is derived from the Latin word "silet" what means "keep silent". Passing the ruins of Torre Caligo, a tower from the Middle Age which is situated near the homonymous canal "Caligo", you directly reach Jesolo. If you will spend the night in Caorle you continue cycling along.

# Day 3: Jesolo/Caorle – Concordia Sagittaria/Portogruaro 30 - 35 km

Along the coast and once you have passed the last fishermen's cottages, you reach Caorle, a wonderful, small seaside resort with a historical center. On reaching this destination, it signifies leaving the sea for a while as the direction is dictated by the mainland in the direction of the Julian Alps on the horizon. During the spring period of the Venetian Republic, it was convenient for the interior to encompass Portogruaro as a very important River harbour in the "Serenissima". Even today there are those in Portogruaro who regard their city as the most Venetian. They are not entirely incorrect when you look at the Venetian embellishments of the magnificent buildings and places.



# Day 4: Concordia Sagittaria/Portogruaro – Grado/Aquileia 65 km + boat from Marano Lagunare or 45 km, if the first part is additionally shortened by a train ride to Latisana; 85 km without boat

Besides the beaches of the Adriatic, there is a lot to discover; ruins of former Roman cities, ancient churches and lonely landscapes on the edge of the lagoon. From Marano Lagunare you take the boat until just before Aquileia, once a large city of the Roman Empire, excavations of the Roman

city can be seen in the open air site and in two museums



# Day 5: Grado/Aquileia – Trieste 40 - 80 km or 40 km + train; ticket not included)

Today's stage continues through the hinterland of Trieste, soaked in a meagre barren landscape of rocky caverns before returning to the sea and a coastline of unique beauty. Where the elevated plateaus plunge into the deep blue water and the white precipices stand upright jutting towards the heavens; and then the coastal road follows through suggestive resorts like Duino, Sistiana, Miramare, and Barcola. You should take time to visit the romantic castle of Miramare above the Bay of Grignano situated in the

middle of a beautiful park in which a multiplicity of more the 2000 plants prosper. Above the Gulf of Trieste, entrenched is a city bearing the same name, once a harbour metropolis of the Habsburgs Empire and where you will be spending the night.

# Day 6: Trieste – Piran/Portorož 35 km + ferry Trieste-Muggia\* or 65 km depending on the chosen variant)

Only after a few kilometers today, we take leave of Italy. In Slovenia, the route continues predominantly on cycle paths through well-



known seaside resorts like Koper (Capodistria) and Izola (Isola d' Istria), to Piran (Pirano) or to Portorož (Portorose), a spa resort on the Slovenian Riviera. There is a little bit longer alternative of this stage which passes along the valley "Rosandra" in the back country. \*Tickets not included.



## Day 7: Piran/Portorož - Poreč 70 km

Cycling past the salt gardens of Secovlje where on enormous surfaces and through natural vaporization, sea salt is recovered, you cross over the border into Croatia. For a distance, the route goes through the Croatian part of Istria, the largest peninsular on the Adriatic with its slightly hilly terrain on the way to Porec, the most important coastal city on the west coast of Istria. It is certainly worth a visit to Euphrasian Basilica which has been taken up by UNESCO as a World Cultural Heritage Site.



# Day 8: Departure

Individual departure or possibility to extend your stay in Porec.



#### **Route**



# **Technical Characteristics:**

**Route Profile:** Relatively Easy. The cycle trip to Istria is flat until shortly before Trieste, then it continues slight hilly until Porec. The tour is suitable for children from the age of 14.

Distance: 8 day tour: 255 - 430 km

**Travel Season:** Departures Wednesday and Saturdays from April 176 to September 27 No departures July 30 – August 26

Season 1: arrivals on 16/04/2025 and 27/09/2025

Season 2: from 17/04/2025 to 23/05/2025 (incl.) and from 13/09/2025 to 26/09/2025 (incl.)

Season 3: from 24/05/2024 to 12/09/2025 (incl.)



# Price per Person: all prices subject to confirmation on booking

€ 799
€849
€ 949
€ 239
€ 99
€ 169
€ 269
€ 89
€ 39
€ 89
€ 39

<sup>\*</sup>Transfer to Venice included

#### **Included:**

- Overnight stays in hotels 3\*\*\* and 4\*\*\*\* category
- Breakfast buffet or a full breakfast
- Video briefing
- Luggage transfers from hotel to hotel
- Ship transfer on Day 4
- Well planned routes
- Detailed documents (maps, route description, places to visit, important telephone numbers)
- Telephone service hotline for during the entire tour
- Navigation app



#### **Not Included:**

- Visitor's tax payable locally
- Arrival to the starting point of the tour
- Departure at the end of the tour
- Drinks, tourist tax and all extras
- Lunch, Dinner
- Train tickets
- Rental bikes and travel insurance
- All not expressly mentioned under the item "Included services"
- It is possible to add a rental bike disclaimer to your booking. Price is € 24/ per trekking bike and € 49/ per TOP bike/ e-bike /mountain bike.

# **Bikes**

# **Top Bike**

Aluminum, Shimano Deore XT, 21 speed, sizes S-XL





#### **Hybrid Bike**

Mens Trekking Aluminum, with water bottle holder, Shimano Alivio/Deore 21 gear freewheel, Royal saddle, size S-X Women's Trekking Shimano Alivio/Deore, 21 gear freewheel, Royal saddle, step-through frame, size S-XL





#### **Electric Bike**

Step through frame, Bosch Performance Line Motor, 8 gear, range performance: approx. 200 km (using middle/constant speed)



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