

## ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

- Day 1 THURSDAY - VENICE
- Day 2 FRIDAY - VENICE - ROVIGO
- Day 3 SATURDAY - ROVIGO - FERRARA
- Day 4 SUNDAY - LOOP FROM FERRARA
- Day 5 MONDAY - FERRARA - RAVENNA
- Day 6 TUESDAY - LOOP FROM RAVENNA
- Day 7 WEDNESDAY - RAVENNA - CASTROCARO TERME
- Day 8 THURSDAY - CASTROCARO - BRISIGHELLA - FAENZA
- Day 9 FRIDAY - ARRIVEDERCI

### Day 1: THURSDAY - VENICE

We meet at our hotel in Lido di Venezia for introductions and a quick spin. In the afternoon we stroll along Venice's maze of waterways, have a break for a spritz in one of Venice's campi (squares) and take a unique insider's look at Venice. Our welcome dinner is followed by a late night stroll to Piazza San Marco.

### Day 2: FRIDAY - VENICE - ROVIGO

Today we are cycling in the Veneto region. We begin with a couple of short ferry rides that connect us with the enchanting fishing village of Pellestrina. From Pellestrina we take a ferry to Chioggia with its bustling market along the canals. Our point of arrival, the town of Rovigo, is located between the rivers Po and Adige, two of the longest Italian rivers.

### Day 3: SATURDAY - ROVIGO - FERRARA

We ride through Polesine area. We'll ride along the canals once used to bonify the land, now used as watering canals and pass through Fratta Polesine, with its elegant Villa Badoera. In the afternoon we arrive in Ferrara, one of the centers of Italian Renaissance history and an outpost of papal power in the north.

### Day 4: SUNDAY - LOOP FROM FERRARA

Optional quiet morning loop in the fields around Ferrara, along some canals, and through opulent and rich farmhouses. Afternoon walking tour of the town: Castello Estense, Cathedral, medieval Via delle Volte. Then an unforgettable wine tasting experience at the oldest winery in the world!

### Day 5: MONDAY - FERRARA - RAVENNA

Today we wind our way through orchards of fruit trees and along the shores of a canal en route to our fabulous Ciclismo Classico picnic! In the afternoon we make our way to Ravenna. Heir to the Roman Empire, the port of Classis (later Ravenna) was one of the only European cities to prosper during the Dark Ages.

### Day 6: TUESDAY - LOOP FROM RAVENNA

Walking tour of Ravenna in the morning. There will be plenty of time today to explore this once strategic Roman port. Be sure to visit the Piazza del Popolo, Ravenna's famous mosaics in the Church of San Vitale,

Price per person	Dbl	Sgl	Tri
Land Only	\$3,595	\$4,095	N/A

May 12  
September 22

A 6 day mini tours is also available. It is the same itinerary, but the tour stops on day 6.  
Special departures on request with supplement

the covered market, the leaning towers and the tomb of Dante! Loop ride from Ravenna to Sant Apollinaire in Classe.

### Day 7: WEDNESDAY - RAVENNA - CASTROCARO TERME

We ride through the Emilia-Romagna region. The ride is gorgeous, spinning through endless fruit orchards along tiny farm roads to a special farmhouse lunch hosted by our friends. After lunch we finish up our ride to Castrocaro terme.

### Day 8: THURSDAY - CASTROCARO - BRISIGHELLA - FAENZA

Ride through rolling hills with breath-taking views to Brisighella. Then roll down to Faenza, where we'll visit La Vecchia Faenza ceramic laboratory, where the artisans will show us how they paint and decorate the finest potteries in the world. In the afternoon ride back to Castrocaro and relax.

### Day 9: FRIDAY - ARRIVEDERCI

Morning shuttle to train station in Bologna-- a very centrally located hub of activity. We will assist you with your travels to other parts of Italy or Europe. Buon Viaggio!

**Total mileage: 180**  
**Daily average: 22**

### Included:

- All accommodations
- Six dinners
- One picnic & a lunch hosted by our local farmer friends!
- Cooking lesson
- Cycling clinics
- Music
- Tours with local guides
- Early morning shuttle to Bologna railway station

### Not Included:

- A 27-speed lightweight road or 24-speed hybrid bicycle (available in Italy at additional \$170.00 rental cost)
- Transport of bike case (for guests who bring their own bike; shipping available in Italy for additional fee)
- Wine and alcoholic beverages
- Most lunches
- Airfare
- Transfers to the starting point or from the finishing point unless specified; we can assist you in planning and arranging for any necessary shuttles
- Helmets (Bring your own, can not be rented in Italy)
- Personal expenses (laundry, supplies, phone calls, etc)
- Guide tip

### Selected Hotels

RUSSO PALACE	Lido di Venezia (1 night)
REGINA MARGHERITA	Rovigo (1 night)
ANNUNZIATA	Ferrara (2 nights)
HOTEL DIANA	Ravenna (2 nights)
GRAND HOTEL TERME	
DI CASTROCARO	(2 nights)