

Mountains and Lakes of Northern Italy ~



Exploring, Enjoying and Relaxing September 23-October 4, 2019

Monday, September 23, 2019

We fly to Venice airport. Some may wish to fly in earlier to enjoy a couple of days visiting Venice.

Tuesday, September 24th

Mid-morning we meet up with David at Venice airport and drive to Verona (or Padua or Vicenza) where we have free time for lunch and to view the sights. In the afternoon we continue on to the charming town of **Bressanone** in the Alto Adige / South Tyrol region at the edge of the spectacular Italian Dolomites. Here we check into the rustic alpine style Hotel Grüner Baum at the entrance to this historic town's pedestrian zone. After a welcome drink we'll be served dinner at the hotel. Overnight Bressanone.

Wednesday, September 25th

After breakfast from the buffet, we discover **Bressanone** on a short walking tour. At midday we tour the spectacular baroque **Novacella Monastery**, followed by a **winery tour** with sommelier Andreas Hempel. We'll be served a **farmer's snack lunch** along with an **educational wine-tasting** including four wines. Though the South Tyrol region produces less than 1% of Italy's wines, their winemakers receive over 12% of the winemaking awards nationally! After lunch we visit the nearby pretty town of Sterzing (Vipiteno) where we might sample a gelato or an aperitif. Dinner and overnight Bressanone.



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Thursday, September 26th

After breakfast from the buffet, we **drive up into the Dolomite** heights at Grödner Joch. We can enjoy some free time for shopping and relaxing in **St Ulrich (Ortisei)** an elegant township famous for its **woodcarving** traditions and stores. At 12:30 p.m. we take a **cable car** up to Alpi di Siusi, a spectacular high plateau. A delightful light lunch will be served at an Alpine hut. The remainder of the afternoon is free in Bressanone. Dinner and overnight Bressanone.

Friday, September 27th

After breakfast, the morning is free to relax and shop in Bressanone. This afternoon we'll have time to explore the delightful town of **Bolzano** for shopping, relaxing, coffee, gelato, *aperitivo*, etc. Whoever wants to, may visit the famous 5,300-yr-old mummy, Ötzi, with David. Dinner and overnight Bressanone.

Saturday, September 28th

After breakfast from the buffet, we'll take a scenic drive to **Lake Karer and to the spectacular "Rosengarten" massif** to view the Dolomite peaks. Time permitting we may also visit the unusual **Feldthurns Castle** but the exact program will depend on the regional schedule of special events. Dinner and overnight Bressanone.

Sunday, September 29th

We check out early to travel south to Lake Garda. Here we visit Giulia and Giovanni at their home, **Villonga, in the olive grove and vineyards**. On a stroll into the olive grove we learn about the trees from Giulia, followed by an aperitif in the olive grove. Giovanni will explain the olive oil production. We are then treated to **lunch** accompanied by the farm's own wine (weather permitting, in the courtyard). **Early afternoon we stop at the pretty town of Sirmione** where we have time to visit, relax and check out the largest selection of gelato in all of Italy!!! We continue on to Lake Como where we check into the Sheraton hotel. Dinner will be served at the hotel or nearby. Overnight Como.

Monday, September 30th

After breakfast from the buffet, we take a full day excursion by bus and boat. Our first stop is at magnificent **Villa del Balbianello**. After the tour, our boat drops us at the jet-set **resort town of Bellagio** where we have free time for lunch and shopping. In the afternoon, we **visit elegant Villa Carlotta** with its fine gardens. Late afternoon we return to hotel in Como. Dinner is on our own. Overnight Como.

Tuesday, October 1st

After breakfast from the buffet, we visit the interesting **silk museum** followed by **free time in Como** for shopping and lunch. In the afternoon we visit **Lugano in Switzerland** for coffee, strolling or aperitifs. Dinner will be served at a fine restaurant near our hotel in Como. Overnight Como.

Wednesday, October 2nd

After breakfast from the buffet, we check out and transfer first to **Milan**. Here we'll be offered a guided tour including **da Vinci's "The Last Supper"**, **the cathedral** and the famed and elegant turn-of-the-century **Emmanuele Vittorio mall**. After free time for shopping and lunch we continue to Grand Hotel Dino in Baveno on Lago Maggiore. Dinner is on our own in the village. Overnight Lago Maggiore.

Thursday, October 3rd

After breakfast from the buffet, we take a **private boat to the island of Isola Bella** for an unforgettable tour of **one of Europe's most rewarding palaces**. The gardens are also a delight. The remainder of the day is free to relax and enjoy the spectacular scenery. Our farewell dinner will be served at the hotel. Overnight Lago Maggiore.

Friday, October 4th

We transfer to Milano-Malpensa airport.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

TOUR HOST:

Please feel free to contact Jennifer with any questions you may have. jennifern@burschtravel.com

TOUR PRICE:

Land only tour cost \$2999.00. Air not included and will be advised at a later date when it becomes available. Single supplement is \$500. Rates from other departing cities are also available upon request.

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:

PLEASE READ! This adventure is suitable for travelers who live an active lifestyle, enjoy good health & mobility and are able to walk unassisted several miles during the course of a day over uneven terrain, cobblestone streets, hills, etc.

RESERVATION AND DEPOSIT:

Early registration is recommended. A deposit of \$500 per person, along with the completed reservation form, is required to confirm your trip. The balance will be due July 15, 2019.

CANCELLATION:

Cancellations must be received in writing. For cancellations made from time of deposit until July 15, 2019 cancel fee is \$500 per person, After Final Payment, package is completely nonrefundable.

DOCUMENTATION:

A valid passport is required for the trip. Passports can take up to 2 months, please allow ample time for processing. Check your current passport validity. Passports expiration must not be less than 6 months from date of return.

TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE:

Optional trip cancellation insurance is highly recommended. Prices are based on total cost of trip and age. Please ask your Bursch Travel representative for more information and pricing. Purchase insurance at the time of deposit to be eligible for waiver of pre-existing conditions.

NOT INCLUDED:

Items of personal nature, such as long distance phone calls, room service, laundry, meals except as noted in itinerary, and tips.

OTHER:

This tour price is based on prices currently in effect and subject to change without notice. Prices are based on a minimum of 12 participants. We reserve the right to make changes to the itinerary should it be deemed necessary. If a price adjustment becomes necessary due to foreign currency exchange and/or additional fuel/security taxes, you will be notified immediately.

RESPONSIBILITY:

All reservations are accepted with the specific condition that Bursch Travel, operator of this tour, acts only as an agent of the hotels, sightseeing contractors, bus operators, airlines and others who provide the actual arrangements, and is not liable for any act, omission, delay, injury, loss or damage, or nonperformance occurring in connection with these arrangements.

Mountains & Lakes of Northern Italy Registration ~ September 23-October 4, 2019

1. Name _____ D.O.B. _____
first, middle & last legal names as they appear on passport date of birth

Passport # _____ Exp. Date _____

2. Name _____ D.O.B. _____
first, middle & last legal names as they appear on passport date of birth

Passport # _____ Exp. Date _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Sky Mile Numbers _____ Name #1 _____ Name #2 _____

Check appropriate item: Hotel: 2 beds 1 bed

Roommate (not listed above): _____ Special requests: _____

Travel Insurance: Yes, I wish to purchase optional insurance. No, I decline cancellation insurance.
The premium amount has been added to my deposit.

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Payment: Deposit of **\$500.00** per person:
 Check (Please make check payable to Bursch Travel.)
 Credit Card # _____
 Amount \$ _____ Exp Date _____
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