



SAVOY SPLENDOUR AND ALPINE BEAUTY

PIEMONTE AND THE VALLE D'AOSTA
9 - 22 OCTOBER 2025





OVERVIEW

AUD 9,870

P.P. (double/twin-share)

AUD 11,770

P.P. (solo traveller)

Our Piemonte and Valle d'Aosta tour offers stunning lakes, unspoiled mountains, authentic cuisine, and a deep dive into a fascinating chapter of Italian history shaped by powerful rulers. This journey is a perfect introduction to a less-travelled part of Italy, far from the usual tourist routes of the 'Grand Tour.'

This tour is ideal for those who appreciate a sophisticated wine and food culture, elegant cities, and breathtaking natural landscapes. We'll begin by exploring Turin, the capital of Piemonte and the historic seat of the Savoy family, who became Italy's royal family. With its regal architecture and rich history, Turin was also the first capital of a unified Italy. From there, we'll venture into the Langhe, a region steeped in centuries-old agricultural traditions and renowned for its Barolo and Barbaresco wines, and then on to the untamed beauty of the Valle d'Aosta before concluding with a stay in a chic lakeside town.

To ensure a relaxed pace, we'll be staying in just four hotels over the 14 days. This allows you to fully enjoy your surroundings without the hassle of frequent packing and moving. Our bases for the tour include Turin (3 nights), the Langhe (3 nights), Aosta (3 nights) and Lake Maggiore (4 nights).





ITINERARY

DAY 1 - ARRIVAL IN TURIN

Your Piemonte adventure begins today as you arrive in the elegant city of Turin. After checking into the hotel, the rest of the day is yours to relax and unwind before the tour officially starts. In the early evening, we'll gather in the hotel lobby for a welcome aperitivo, then head out together for dinner at a local restaurant, where you can enjoy your first taste of Piemonte's renowned cuisine.

Overnight: Turin

DAY 2 - TURIN'S REGAL SPLENDOUR

Today, we will explore Turin's rich history and culture with the guidance of a knowledgeable local expert. Our morning begins with a visit to the impressive Palazzo Reale, the former royal residence of the House of Savoy. As we explore, you will learn about the city's regal past and marvel at the stunning architecture of Juvarra, whose works have left a lasting mark on Turin's skyline. We'll continue our journey through the city's elegant piazze and charming streets, where you'll discover the historic cafés that have been the heart of Turin's social life for centuries.

In the afternoon, you can explore Turin at your own pace. You can visit the iconic Mole Antonelliana, home to the National Cinema Museum, or delve into ancient history at the renowned Egyptian Museum. Alternatively, a visit to the Palazzo Madama offers a glimpse into the city's cultural and architectural heritage.

Overnight: Turin



DAY 3 - SECRETS OF THE SACRA DI SAN MICHELE

This morning, we venture out of Turin to visit the awe-inspiring Sacra di San Michele, a medieval abbey perched high above the valley. Said to have inspired Umberto Eco's famous novel *The Name of the Rose*, the Sacra is steeped in history and legend. With our local guide, we'll explore this remarkable site, learning about its fascinating past and taking in the breathtaking views of the surrounding landscape.

After our visit, we will return to Turin, where the afternoon is yours, to enjoy more of the city. You could visit one of the city's museums, enjoy a stroll along the river, sit in a historic cafe or indulge in some shopping.

Overnight: Turin

DAY 4 - ONWARDS TO THE LANGHE

This morning, we bid farewell to Turin and set off for the beautiful Langhe region, our next base for exploration. Our first stop is the charming town of Alba, renowned as the truffle capital of Italy. Here, you'll have time to stroll through its picturesque streets, perhaps stopping to sample some of the local delicacies or simply soaking in the vibrant atmosphere of this historic town.

After we visit Alba, we continue our journey to the pretty town of La Morra, where we'll check into our hotel. Nestled among rolling vineyards, La Morra offers stunning views of the surrounding countryside—a perfect spot to unwind and prepare for the adventures ahead.

Overnight: La Morra

DAY 5 - FLAVOURS OF THE LANGHE: HAZELNUTS AND HOME COOKING

Today, we delve into the culinary traditions of the Langhe with a visit to a local hazelnut producer, now a charming agriturismo. This family-run farm is a true gem, and we'll be welcomed by the

owners, whose passion for their craft is evident in every detail.

We'll begin with a tour of the farm, where you'll learn all about the cultivation of hazelnuts, a key ingredient in many of the region's delicacies. After the tour, we'll sit down to a delicious lunch featuring dishes crafted from the farm's own produce, a true taste of the Langhe's bounty.

In the afternoon, we drive back to La Morra, winding through the beautiful Langhe countryside, where every turn offers another breathtaking view of vineyards and rolling hills.

Overnight: La Morra

DAY 6 - MORE FLAVOURS OF THE LANGHE: CHEESE AND WINE

Our day begins with a visit to a local cheese producer renowned for their artisan cheeses, including the region's beloved Robiola. Here, you'll learn about the traditional cheesemaking methods, from the care of the animals to the ageing process that gives these cheeses their distinct flavours. After the tour, we'll enjoy a lunch featuring the farm's fresh produce, including the delicious cheeses made on-site.

In the afternoon, we head to the picturesque town of Serralunga d'Alba, where we'll visit a prestigious winery. Nestled among the rolling vineyards, this winery offers an authentic taste of the Langhe's famous wines. You'll have the opportunity to sample some of the region's finest, including Barolo while taking in the stunning views of the surrounding countryside.

Overnight: La Morra

DAY 7 - FROM LANGHE'S ROLLING HILLS TO ALPINE CHARM

Today, we make our way to the Alpine town of Aosta. Skirting around Turin, we pause to visit the magnificent Venaria Reale, a former royal residence and one of Italy's largest palaces. We'll explore this stunning Baroque masterpiece,





delving into its rich history and marvelling at the grandeur of its architecture and expansive gardens.

After our visit, we continue our journey through the picturesque Italian countryside, arriving in Aosta by the late afternoon. Once we check into our hotel, the evening is yours to relax and stroll through the town's historic streets.

Overnight: Aosta

DAY 8 - DISCOVERING THE HISTORIC HEART OF AOSTA

Today, we explore the rich history of Aosta, often called the "Rome of the Alps." In the morning, a local guide will lead us through the town's fascinating historic sites, including its well-preserved Roman ruins, ancient city walls, and the impressive Arch of Augustus. As we wander through the streets of Aosta's centre, you'll gain insights into the town's unique blend of Roman heritage and Alpine culture.

The afternoon is yours to enjoy at leisure. You might choose to explore Aosta's shops and cafes

further, visit one of its museums, or relax and take in the stunning mountain views.

Overnight: Aosta

DAY 9 - INTO THE WILD - GRAN PARADISO NATIONAL PARK

Today, we venture into the breathtaking natural beauty of Gran Paradiso National Park, Italy's oldest national park. Our morning begins with a stop to admire a remarkable Roman aqueduct, a testament to the region's history before we continue along the scenic Cogne Valley.

Our destination is the quaint village of Cogne, nestled in a lush, green meadow surrounded by towering mountains. Once a royal hunting ground, the park is now a protected sanctuary for wildlife, including chamois and ibex, which we may spot during our visit. We'll take a walk towards the picturesque mountain village of Lillaz, where we'll be rewarded with views of its stunning waterfalls— a serene spot to immerse yourself in the natural wonders of the Alps.

Overnight: Aosta



DAY 10 - FROM RENAISSANCE FRESCOES TO MAJESTIC LAKES

Today, we begin our journey from the Valle d'Aosta to Lake Maggiore. We stop first at the Renaissance Castle of Issogne. Built in the 15th century, the castle is known for its vivid frescoes that depict scenes of daily life in the Renaissance era, offering a unique glimpse into the past.

Next, we stop at the Roman bridge in Pont Saint Martin, a remarkable feat of engineering that dates back to 25 BC. This ancient bridge, which spans the Lys River, was used continuously until the 1880s when modern transportation began to outgrow its narrow structure.

After our visits, we continue our journey to Lake Maggiore, arriving in the early afternoon. Here, you'll have time to relax with an aperitivo and enjoy a stroll along the lakeside promenade, soaking in the serene beauty of your new surroundings.

Overnight: Intra (Lake Maggiore)

DAY 11 - DISCOVERING LAKE ORCA

A short drive from Lake Maggiore brings us to the enchanting Lake Orta, one of Italy's smallest yet most charming lakes. We'll explore the picturesque town of Orta San Giulio, with its narrow lanes, historic buildings, and a lovely promenade that offers views of the tranquil island of San Giulio. Here, we'll also visit the Basilica of San Giulio, a significant Romanesque structure dating back to the 9th century.

After lunch, we'll take a scenic walk with views over the lake to the Sacro Monte, a shrine dedicated to Saint Francis. In the late afternoon, we return to Lake Maggiore.

Overnight: Intra

DAY 12- BETTELMATT CHEESE AND THE TOCE WATERFALLS

This morning, we journey into the mountains surrounding Lake Maggiore to visit a local producer of Bettelmatt, one of the region's most

well-known cheeses. At the farm, we'll learn about the traditional cheesemaking process.

Following our cheese tasting, we continue our exploration with a visit to the Toce Waterfalls, one of Italy's highest and most spectacular waterfalls. Cascading down a dramatic mountainside, the Toce Waterfalls offer a breathtaking natural spectacle, perfect for a moment of reflection amidst the serene surroundings.

Overnight: Intra

DAY 13 - THE SPLENDOUR OF THE BORROMEAN ISLANDS

Today is dedicated entirely to exploring the magnificent Borromean Islands on Lake Maggiore. In the 1600s, Cardinal Carlo Borromeo, Archbishop of Milan, set out to transform these islands into a vision of beauty and elegance, and they remain in the Borromeo family to this day.

We'll begin our day with a private boat trip to Isola Bella, where we'll tour the opulent Palace, a grand residence where Napoleon once stayed. As we wander through the baroque gardens, you'll be surrounded by elaborate terraces, fountains, and rare plants.

Afterwards, we'll visit Isola dei Pescatori, the "Island of the Fishermen," which offers a charming contrast to the grandeur of Isola Bella. This quaint island is known for its picturesque village and traditional houses.

Overnight: Intra

DAY 14 - FAREWELLS

Our tour concludes after breakfast today, with a group transfer to Milan's Malpensa airport for your onward journey.

Overnight: NA





ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

STAY

- ❖ 3 nights in Turin in a centrally located hotel
- ❖ 3 nights in the Langhe in a lovely hotel in a small town
- ❖ 3 nights in the centre of Aosta
- ❖ 4 night in a lakeside hotel in Intra

INCLUSIONS

- ❖ A dedicated tour leader will be on hand for the duration of the tour
- ❖ Breakfast daily and five lunches and five dinners (wine, or something softer if you would prefer, included with all lunches and dinners)
- ❖ All land travel in Italy in private, air-conditioned mini-coach
- ❖ Entry fees to all attractions listed in the itinerary
- ❖ Expert, local guides at many of the attractions

WEATHER

In October, Piemonte and Valle d'Aosta experience the crisp, refreshing onset of autumn, making it an ideal time for travel. Daytime temperatures in the region typically range from 16°C to 20°C, with cooler evenings, especially in the Alpine areas. While it's generally mild, occasional rain showers are possible, so it's wise to pack layers and a waterproof jacket. The cooler weather is perfect for exploring, with fewer tourists and the harvest season in full swing.

PHYSICAL FITNESS

We don't place any age limits on our clients and welcome anyone with good physical fitness. Specifically, you should be comfortable on your feet for up to 3 hours, with short breaks, and confident on cobblestones and uneven surfaces. In the Valle d'Aosta, we also include some gentle walking on alpine tracks, typically lasting 2-3 hours, so you should feel comfortable navigating varied terrain.

BOOKING

If you would like to book a place on this or any other tour or have questions about the itinerary, please don't hesitate to contact Luca or Philippa at Italian Tours.

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