Australia 1300 888 225
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From
$8,783 CAD

Single Room
$9,790 CAD

Twin Room
$8,783 CAD

Prices valid until
30th December 2025

15 days
Duration

Italy
Destination

Level 2 - Moderate
Activity

Tour of Northern Italy’s Lakes and Alps | Short Small Group Tour for Seniors

Apr 03 2026 to Apr 17 2026

Tour of Northern Italy’s Lakes and Alps

Odyssey offers easy, convenient, and relaxed escorted small group tours across Western Europe and beyond. We explore Italy’s incredible natural beauty, its ancient Roman heritage, its World Heritage Sites, and world famous cities, all with some truly spectacular scenery along the

way. This and more is all waiting to be explored on one of Odyssey's small group tours of Italy, designed for the senior traveller, and led by experienced, and enthusiastic like minded people.

Our short tour of Northern Italy draws you into one of the many fascinating parts of Italy. Northern Italy has been shaped by its beautiful landscape and long history. From Ancient Roman luxury villas to today's celebrities, the stunning lakes region has always attracted the world's rich and famous.

Itinerary:

This Northern Italy guided tour begins in the cosmopolitan city of Milan. Milan is the centre of Italy's world-renowned fashion industry, with luxury designers centred on the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele. From Milan we travel to two of the most famous Italian lakes – Lake Garda and Lake Maggiore. On Lake Garda we take a boat ride around the lake and visit the Roman Villa of Desenzano. We also make a day trip to Verona, a UNESCO World Heritage Site thanks to its well-preserved medieval town.

Following this, our trip to Italy heads into the north-east, a fascinating cultural blend of Italian, Venetian, Austrian and Slovenian influences. Here we make a visit to Trieste, one of Italy's most interesting cities, and the town of Cividale, home to an archaeological museum full of finds from the Roman, early-Christian and early-Medieval, Romanesque and Gothic ages.

About our short tour of Northern Italy:

Odyssey provides a collection of local guides who as a result share their knowledge of this part of Italy with you. You enjoy short guided walking tours around many of these destinations, learning about the lives of the locals who inhabit them.

Odyssey's short tour takes you through this diverse craggy and pastoral region of northern Italy and its mountainous borderlands. You will see

the regions bright lakes and azure seas. During the tour we will find out for ourselves why this land has for so long produced such a convivial and colourful people.

Northern Italy is the home of one of the world's great cuisines. In order for you to experience the local food culture, our tours always include breakfast, lunch, or dinner at a local restaurant. We also visit a vineyard in the Collio Hills for a wine tasting and sampling of local delicacies.

Frequently Asked Questions About Our Northern Italy Tour:

- **Two words to sum up Northern Italy?**

It's basically impossible to sum up such a beautiful and diverse region in only two words. Perhaps 'lakes' and 'alps' would work – but then you'd be leaving out fascinating cities with cobblestoned streets, ancient ruins, and the seaside villages of the Cinque Terre. I think we'll leave this one up to you.

- **How to get to Northern Italy?**

Our tour begins and ends in Milan, which has a well-serviced international airport. Travelers from the Australia, the US, UK, Canada and New Zealand do not need visas to enter Italy for up to 90 days. Italy is also a member of the European Union Schengen Zone, making it a good launching point for further European travel.

- **Why travel on a small group adventure?**

There are so many reasons to join a small group tour! Travellers find that a smaller tour allows you to develop personal relationships with your local guides, find friends in a close-knit environment, and most of all, have an authentic experience without the feeling of being 'herded' everywhere. For more information, take a look at our definitive guide to small group tours

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Lakes and Landscapes of Northern Italy short tour for seniors is an abbreviated 13 day version of the 22 day version of this tour.

If you're more interested in visiting Tuscany, the Italian Riviera, the Amalfi Coast, or Southern Italy, don't click away! This tour of Northern Italy is just one of many escorted programs offered as part of our small group tours of Italy each year.

For more details, click the 'Top 5' or 'Itinerary' buttons above! If you're keen to experience this tour, please call or send an email. Or, to book, simply fill in the form on the right hand side of this page.

Articles about Italy published by Odyssey Traveller

The following list of articles published by Odyssey Traveller for mature aged and senior travellers to maximise their knowledge and enjoyment of Italy when visiting;

- Questions About Italy
- Trip Advice for Travellers going to Italy
- The Roman Empire
- Who were the Roman Emperors
- 10 Great Books to Read Before You Visit Italy
- History of Genoa, Rival to Venice
- Southern Italy
- Key Men and Women of Renaissance Florence

You can also browse all the articles published on Italy by Odyssey Traveller.

External articles to assist you on your visit to Italy

- Italy’s many UNESCO World Heritage sites
- The 10 dishes you cannot leave Italy without eating
- History of Italy
- Planning Your First Trip in Italy
- 15 Best Places to Visit in Northern Italy

Tour Notes

- Group size is limited to a maximum of 18 participants.

Highlights

1. Explore Milan, Italy's most cosmopolitan city, at the crossroads of trading routes in Europe.
2. Visit Verona; with its Shakespearean connections it is Italy's Stratford-upon-Avon.
3. Visit the Archaeological Museum of Cividale, which features precious finds from centuries.
4. Visit Palmanova, the nine-sided city, a fortified town founded by the Venetian Republic.
5. Spend a day exploring Lake Garda, surrounded by mountain villages and peaks.

Itinerary

Day 1

Locations: Milan

Overview:

Upon arrival in Milan we check into our hotel individually. Milan is the centre of fashion and style in Italy, the country most renowned for its style icons. Among the fashion houses headquartered in Milan are Versace, Gucci, Armani, Valentino, and Moschino. Our tour begins with a welcome dinner at our hotel.

Accommodation:

1 night at Ibis Milan Centro or similar.

Day 2

Locations: Salo

Overview:

We enjoy a half day city tour with a local guide exploring the major works of art, architecture and design including the Duomo and Leonardo da Vinci's Last Supper. We transfer to Bergamo in the Lombardy region to the north-east of Milan with its four gates erected when it was part of Venice. These gates symbolise Bergamo's value as a major repository of past treasures. Here we enjoy a guided city tour including a ride on the Funicular up to Bergamo's Old Town. We then transfer to our hotel in Salo in Brescia in time for dinner.

Accommodation:

3 nights at Eden Salo or similar.

Day 3

Locations: Salo

Overview:

Today we enjoy a full day exploring Lake Garda, Italy's largest and most spectacular lake surrounded by mountain villages and peaks. We will be escorted by a local guide. The tour includes a boat trip on the lake and

entrance to the Roman Villa. We'll be back at the hotel late afternoon.

Accommodation:

Eden Salo or similar.

Day 4

Locations: Salo

Overview:

Today we explore Mantova, also known as Mantua, once an Etruscan stronghold before it was overrun by the Romans. It is this provenance dating back to 2,000 BC that makes it a mecca for students of the past and present. The capital of Lombardy is surrounded on 3 sides by man-made lakes created in the 12th century.

Then we travel to Verona, which is considered to be Italy's Stratford-upon-Avon with its Shakespearean connections. Its Piazza delle Erbe Verona was originally the Roman Forum; the rectangular piazza is in the heart of Verona's historic centre and is surrounded by beautiful medieval buildings and towers.

Accommodation:

Eden Salo or similar.

Day 5

Locations: Bressanone

Overview:

Our next stop is Trento, the capital city of the province of Trentino, 2 hours from the Austrian border. Here we enjoy a local guided tour which will demonstrate the Austrian influences on its architecture and cuisine.

Accommodation:

3 nights at accommodation in Gruner Baum hotel or similar

Day 6

Locations: Bressanone

Overview:

After a morning at leisure we drive the short distance to Vahrn and have a guided tour of the Abbazia di Novacella (also known as the Augustinian Canons Regular monastery of Neustift). This afternoon we have free time to explore Bressanone, before returning back to our hotel.

Accommodation:

Gruner Baum hotel or similar

Day 7

Locations: Bressanone

Overview:

We spend today exploring Bolzano, a mountain transformed into a city and gateway to the Dolomites. During our guided morning tour, we learn about the city before we visit the South Tyrol Museum where we get to meet the Ice-Age man, Ötzi. The trip includes a visit to the South Tyrol Museum of Archaeology. After some time to explore on our own we return to our accommodation for dinner.

Accommodation:

Gruner Baum hotel or similar

Day 8

Locations: Palmanova

Overview:

Today we transfer by coach to Palmanova including stops en route in Lake Misurina & Cortina d'Amprezzo. The remainder of the day is free to explore the town, and in the evening we will got out for dinner at a local restaurant.

Accommodation:

5 nights at Ai Dogi Hotel or similar.

Day 9

Locations: Palmanova

Overview:

Today we visit the Archaeological Museum of Cividale which features precious finds of the Roman, early-Christian, early-medieval, Romanesque, and Gothic ages. We are joined by our local guide for a city orientation tour of Udine. This tiny, mountain-ringed city in northeast Italy was once part of the Austrian Empire, so it radiates a strong Viennese flavour. Returning to Palmanova in the evening, we will get the chance to try the local cuisine again with a meal in the evening.

Accommodation:

Ai Dogi Hotel or similar.

Day 10

Locations: Palmanova

Overview:

Transfer by coach to Trieste where we enjoy a city tour with our local guide including the main sights of the city, the Basilica and the Castello di Miramare. Trieste lies at the very edge of northeast Italy and is sandwiched by both nearby Slovenia and also the Adriatic Sea and is amongst Italy's most unique cities and Mediterranean resorts.

Accommodation:

Ai Dogi Hotel or similar.

Day 11

Locations: Palmanova

Overview:

Today we explore Gorizia on the border of Italy and Slovenia. In Slovenia across the border a new town has been founded by the name of Nova Gorica. It lies on a plain surrounding by the Collio hills, famous for their full-bodied wines. After our guided city tour we transfer to Carso Plateau for a walk and vineyard visit which will include a wine tasting

and sampling of the local delicacies.

Accommodation:

Ai Dogi Hotel or similar.

Day 12

Locations: Palmanova

Overview:

We explore Palmanova with our local guide. This town is quite extraordinary in that it is a town shaped geometrically like a nine-point star. This fortified town was founded by the Venetian Republic at the end of the 16th century in order to defend its eastern borders both from the Hapsburg Empire and from the Turks. Itd is known internationally as one of the very few towns to have achieved the status of being an accredited perfect residential centre. Our journey continues to Grade and Aquileia, an important Roman site with impressive mosaics.

Accommodation:

Ai Dogi Hotel or similar.

Day 13

Locations: Venice

Overview:

We drive this morning to Quartro d'Altino to take the train directly to Venezia Santa Lucia Station from where we are then transferred by private boat to Piazza San Marco, Venice. A local guide will then escort us on a walking tour of the city. The tour concludes after the city tour.

Inclusions / Exclusions

What's included in our Tour

- 12 nights of hotel accommodation.
- 12 breakfasts and 5 dinners.

- Applicable entry fees and services of local guides.
- Touring by comfortable and modern coach.
- Services of a Tour Leader.
- Service charges and gratuities.
- Detailed tour information booklet.

What's not included in our Tour

- Comprehensive international travel insurance.
- Return international airfares and departure taxes.

Level 2 - Moderate

Participants must be able to carry their own luggage, climb and descend stairs, be in good health, mobile and able to participate in 3-5 hours of physical activity per day, the equivalent of walking/hiking up to 8 kilometres on uneven ground.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any requests for further information about this tour or any others offered by Odyssey Travel.