

# Dolomites and Lake Garda

*'A superb ride from the Austrian border down to Verona – boat cruise the length of Lake Garda included!'*



Lake Garda

- Beautiful river valleys and impressive mountain scenery
- Attractive towns and villages in Italy's South Tyrol region
- Most of route on cycle paths on flat terrain
- Included boat excursion of the whole length of scenic Lake Garda
- Extend your stay in atmospheric Verona

**T**his exciting tour starts in Resia at the head of the large man-made lake close to the Austrian border. You are technically in Italy but the area has a distinctly Germanic feel to it. From your vantage point at almost 5,000 feet you will cycle on dedicated cycle tracks down the picturesque Val Venosta, passing the attractive towns of Malles (Mals) and Italy's smallest city Glorenza (Glurns). The mountains either side of you rise up to over 13,000 feet as you descend the valley of the River Adige to the stylish spa town of Merano, and then on to Bolzano, the regional capital.

Lake Garda is your destination as you cycle further down the Adige valley past apple orchards and vineyards. The boat trip from Riva del Garda down the lake to Peschiera is a definite highlight of your holiday with the ever-changing perspective of lake and mountains unfolding before you. Peschiera is a delightful walled town with a traffic-free centre. From Peschiera you have a short ride east to Verona, one of the finest cities in Italy. You may wish to add one or more nights in Verona to appreciate the Arena, the splendid Piazza delle Erbe, and other sights.

You ride almost exclusively on dedicated cycle paths on flat ground or downhill alongside the River Adige for much of the way. There is one challenging section on the approach to Lake Garda. The mixture of lake and mountain scenery and the marvellous city of Verona make the tour a definite winner!



Arena, Verona

## ITINERARY

**7 nights:** Arr ✈ Venice or Verona

### Day 1 Bolzano

Arrival at your chosen airport (Venice or Verona). Transfer by train to Bolzano, the capital of Italy's South Tyrol.

### Day 2 Resia – Silandro ■ Cycling 28m; 45km

Morning transfer to Resia where the cycling tour starts. Cycle along the lake and then downhill through the Val Venosta visiting Clusio and Glorenza, Italy's smallest city. Overnight in Silandro.

### Day 3 Silandro – Merano ■ Cycling 22m; 35km

Continue down the valley on the cycle path, passing attractive villages and apple orchards. The outdoor Adventure Pool in Naturns may entice you before the final leg to the affluent spa town of Merano. Here you will find tree-lined avenues, stylish villas, and the splendid Trauttmansdorff Castle and gardens.

### Day 4 Merano – Bolzano ■ Cycling 22m; 35km

Cycle along quiet side roads past the sleepy towns of Nalles and Andriano to the attractive regional capital of Bolzano.

### Day 5 Bolzano – Trento ■ Cycling 43m; 69km

Continue along the cycle track beside the Adige to the charming town of Trento.

### Day 6 Trento – Peschiera del Garda ■ Cycling 31m; 50km

A superb day as you approach Venice. The boat takes you part way and then you cycle along two islands on the edge of the Venice Lagoon. Tonight's mooring is the island of Giudecca right opposite St.Mark's, and just a short ferry ride from the legendary attractions of Venice.

### Day 7 Peschiera del Garda – Verona ■ Cycling 22m; 35km

Head east towards your final destination of Verona, where the city's famous sights will enthral you. See the famous Arena where the annual Opera Festival is held.

### Day 8 Verona

Depart for your journey home or stay on for extra nights in Verona or Venice.



Trauttmansdorff Castle & Gardens, Merano



Sunken Church, Caron



Lago di Resia

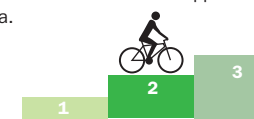
## TOUR & TRAVEL INFORMATION

### Terrain

Mostly on cycle paths on flat ground and along river banks for much of the way. There is one climb on the approach to Lake Garda before Riva.

### Daily Mileage

22-43m (35-69km)



### Climate

Temperatures from May to September are ideal for cycling. In high summer (July and August) average maximum temperatures are in the range 26-29°C (78-84°F). Rainfall is relatively light.

### Travel Information

Flights from the UK are available to Verona and Venice. Check the schedules of Easyjet, Ryanair, Jet2, and British Airways for latest information.

### Transfer Information

Train from Mestre nr Venice Marco Polo Airport to Bolzano – approx 2 hrs 45 mins. 25 euros.

Train from Verona to Bolzano – approx 2 hrs. 10 euros

*"Cruise the length of Lake Garda – all 32 miles – it's almost like a cruise."*

## PRICES

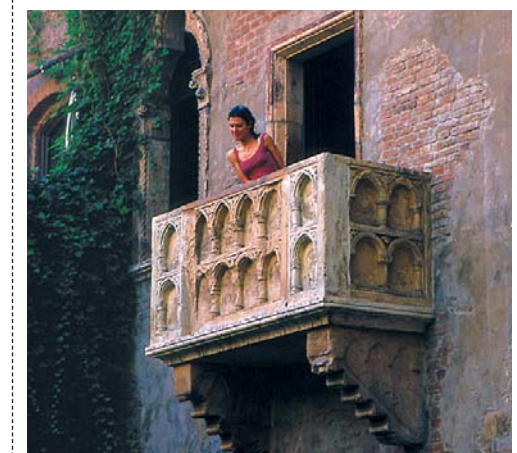
Prices are per person and exclude flights. Board basis is bed & breakfast for 7 nights. Prices are based on two people sharing a room.

ALL DATES	
ADULT	£ 699

Single room supplement £15 per night.

## DEPARTURE DATES 2010

Every Saturday 10 April – 16 October 2010



Romeo, Romeo...



Street scene, Burgeis – Saturday morning rush hour!