

# ON THE ROUTE OF THE OLD DOLOMITES RAILWAY TO VENICE

⇒ Self-guided tour

₀<a>300-300 km</a>

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Duration: 8 days / 7 nights

14 years and older



#### **DESCRIPTION**

On the railway line of the former Dolomite Railway, you cycle till it end in Pieve di Cadore. The path continues through the valley of the ice cream makers ("Gelati") manufacturers, trough the foothillsand along the river Sile you towards the Serenissima - the lagoon city of Venice as a magnificent final destination for your exploration of northern Italy. From the northeastern Dolomites, you will cycle through the Höhlensteintal Valley below the famous Drei Zinnen (Three Peaks) to the Olympic city of Cortina d'Ampezzo and to Pieve di Cadore - the birthplace of the famous Tizian. The path continues in the Dolomite town of Belluno and passingt to Feltre and you reach Bassano del Grappa. From here you will slowly reach the plain. After a short detour to Asolo, the "city of a hundred horizons", the fashion city of Treviso awaits you . The Serenissima - the lagoon city of Venice is a magnificent final destination for your exploration of northern Italy. The first two days you mainly follow the old Dolomites railway track. From the third day, the tour encounters slight ascents and descents on quiet side roads through idyllic landscape and typical Italian villages until reaching the plains on the last day.

#### **DETAILED ROUTES**

## P Day 1: Alta Pusteria (Dobbiaco o Villabassa)

Individual arrival at the hotel in Hochpustertal. Free, unquarded public car park near the hotel.

## P Day 2: Niederdorf/Villabassa or Toblach/Dobbiaco − Cortina d'Ampezzo (approx. 30 - 35 km)

From Villabassa/Dobbiaco you start on the bike path into the Höhlenstein Valley, past lake Toblach and the War cemetery. This area was used as the front during the 1st World War. You carry on past lake Dürrensee (on the left you can see the famous Drei Zinnen/Three Peaks); the cycle path ascends slightly before you get to the border – Gemärk/Cimabanche – of the region South Tyrol and the region of the Veneto. From here you cycle towards the south to Cortina d'Ampezzo.

## Pay 3: Cortina d'Ampezzo - Belluno

(approx. 75 km)

Today the path is going slightly downwards, for the most part on the old railway track; you will see the Sorapis on the left and located on the right the Cinque Torri (Five Towers). You continue on to the south through the Boite Valley towards Pieve/Calalzo di Cadore. From here the new cycling path takes you to Longarone. This town was completely rebuilt in 1963 after a landslide filled the dam above the village and caused a flood. From Longarone the cycle path is slightly hilly until you reach Belluno.

## P Day 4: Belluno - Feltre

(approx. 40 km)

From Belluno, the small capital of this province, the tour follows tree lined avenues and hilly landscapes until the end of the day in Feltre. During the day you come along small and scenic villages. In the North you see the magnificent southern Dolomites, your companion for the first stages.

## Pay 5: Feltre – Bassano del Grappa

(approx. 55 km)

The first kilometres you cycle easily before you descend to the Brenta Valley. Where the river Brenta joins the plains, lies the town of Bassano del Grappa. The name of the town comes from Mount "Monte" Grappa. Upon arrival you can enjoy a well-earned "Grappa". There are many places of interest to visit in the town such as San Francesco, the "Museo Civico" (museum) or the Piazza della Libertà.

## O Day 6: Bassano del Grappa - Treviso

(approx. 55 km)

On leaving the Dolomitic Alps, you occasionally see various villas designed by the renowned architect Palladio. The town of Asolo is ideal for a rest before continuing along to the plains to Treviso, the town of the water striders. Along the canals there are many wonderful houses and shops to admire. This is a centre for Italian fashion, especially shoes and famous labels like Benetton.

## **♀** Day 7: Treviso – Venice mainland/Mestre

(approx. 45 km)

Following the River Sile, you cycle towards the Adriatic Sea straight to Venice (mainland) where the impressive "Serenissima" can be admired.

| • | Day 8: Venice mainland/Mestre Individual departure from Venice mainland/Mestre or possibility to extend your stay. |
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#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Classification: Self-guided tour
Duration: 8 days / 7 nights
Distance: ca. 300-300 km

• Starting point: Toblach

• Arrival:

By car: on the Brenner/Brennero motorway (A22) to Brixen/Bressanone – take the exit "Brixen-Pustertal", then through the valley Pustertal/Valle Pusteria (SS49) to Niederdorf/Villabassa or Toblach/Dobbiaco, depending on the location of your hotel or drive along the Felbertauernstraße to Lienz in Eastern Tyrol (Austria) and then further into Italy through the valley Pustertal/Valle Pusteria to Toblach/Dobbiaco or Niederdorf/Villabassa, depending on the location of your hotel.

By train: take the train from Innsbruck over the Brenner/Brennero to Franzensfeste/Fortezza. Change the train to the valley Pustertal/Valle Pusteria - Lienz and get off either at Niederdorf/Villabassa or Toblach/Dobbiaco depending on the location of your hotel. Timetable available on: www.deutschebahn.de, www.oebb.at,www.trenitalia.com.

By plane: Low cost flights are available to Treviso and Venice. We can organise transfers from the airport to the starting point of the cycle tour on request.

#### Accomodation:

Hotels 3\*\*\* and 4\*\*\*\* category.

Attention: Tourist tax – if requested – has to be paid on the spot!

#### • Parking:

Free and unguarded parking facilities for the duration of the bicycle tour at a nearby public parking area.

#### Rental bikes:

- · 21-gears women's or men's bicycle
- · Rental bike TOP (unisex bike, men's bicycle on request)
- E-bike (unisex bike, 500 W battery, range up to 100 km)

#### • Transfer:

Return transfer every Wednesday and Saturday by shuttle bus from Venice mainland/Mestre to Toblach/Dobbiaco or Niederdorf/Villabassa at a price of € 79.00 per person + € 39.00 per own bike (reservation and payment upon booking).

Alternative: Cortina Express: daily departure from Mestre train station and Venice airport to Cortina d'Ampezzo and/or Toblach/Dobbiaco (booking necessary www.cortinaexpress.it).

#### **INCLUDED SERVICES**

- Accommodation in hotels 3\*\*\* and 4\*\*\*\* category
- · Breakfast buffet or full breakfast

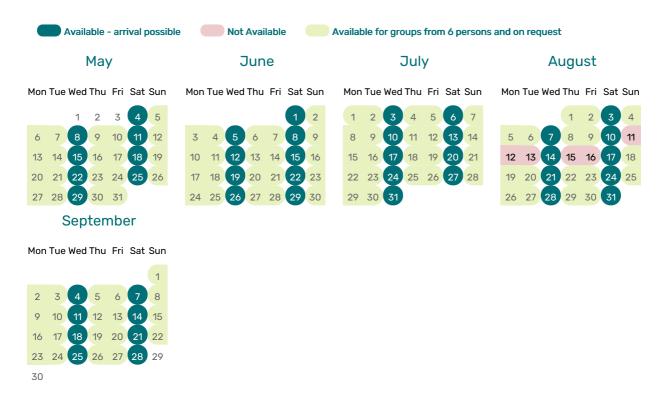
#### NON INCLUDED SERVICES

- · Arrival to the starting point of the tour
- · Departure at the end of the tour
- · Drinks, tourist tax and all extras

- Videobriefing
- Luggage transfer from hotel to hotel
- Well planned routes
- Detailed documents (maps, route description, places to visit, important telephone numbers)
- Navigation APP
- Telephone service hotline for the entire tour

- Lunch, Dinner
- Not mentioned entries
- Rental bikes and Travel insurance
- All not expressly mentioned under the item "Included services"

#### **STARTING DATES**



#### **PRICES**

| Standard                       |                                     |       |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| Package price in a double room | Arrive on 04/05/2024 and 28/09/2024 | 749 € |
| Package price in a double room | from 08/05/2024 to 25/09/2024       | 829 € |
| Package price high season      | from 15/06/2024 to 11/09/2024       | 894 € |
| Single room surcharge          |                                     | 229 € |
| Additional services            |                                     |       |
| rental bike 21-gear (men)      |                                     | 99 €  |
| own bike                       |                                     | 0€    |
| rental bike 21-gear (women)    |                                     | 99 €  |
| rental electric bike           |                                     | 249 € |
| rental bike TOP (men)          |                                     | 169 € |

| Gravelbike              | 190 € |
|-------------------------|-------|
| rental bike TOP (woman) | 169 € |
| Additional nights       |       |
| See ebsite              |       |