

# GIRO D'ITALIA EXPERIENCE



The Giro d'Italia is known for its mythical mountains, where legends of cycling are written on the tough climbs of the West Dolomites, the gigantic mountain passes of the East Dolomites and Italian Alps on the Franco-Swiss border.

The mountain passes of STELVIO, GAVIA, CERVINIA, GRAN and PETIT SANT BERNARD and ofcourse the most mythical of all, the MORTIROLO, are part of the Giro 's history.

To fulfill our dream to complete our own Giro d'Itàlia, we have designed a route that takes us from the East Dolomites to the valleys of the Alps, passing along the most emblematic and majestic climbs. This time, however, we embark on an adventure that professional cyclists would chose for their big tours. You will experience a new surprise every day, an experience that will leave us tired but incredibly satisfied.

## PROGRAMME

### Day 1. Arrival

Arrival and pick up at the airport of Venice. Transfer to Pozza di Fassa.

### Pozza de Fassa – Caprile

Distance: 36 km, 740 mts up

After our arrival at Venice, we take our transfer to Pozza di Fassa where our guide will explain how to enjoy every kilometer of our tour. For our first stage we cycle through the beautiful village of Canazei, where our first climb begins, called the Fedai, on the foot of the famous «La Marmolada» mountain top. We descent to Caprile where we spend the night.

### Day 2. CAPRILE – PASSO DEL PORDOI – PASSO DE SELLA – BOLZANO – MERANO

Distance : 93km + 1800mts up

This might be a long stage but we do more descent than ascent today, with an easy 50 km at the end of the day. We cycle out of Caprile in search of the Passo di Pordoi, where the statue of Fausto Coppi stands. After a fast descent we climb de Passo de

Sella. The views at the top are stunning but it is time to descent all the way into Bolzano. Once arrived at Bolzano, a transfer is ready for you to go to our accommodation. If you prefer to continue, you can cycle until Merano, our last stop (+30km).

### **Day 3. MERANO – PASSO DEL STELVIO – BORMIO**

Distance : 94km, 2.400 up (Queen Stage)

This stage is a must for all cyclists, the climb of the Stelvio! The day starts easy, before we start our big climb. The further we go up, the more beautiful the views become. And then we arrive at 2770m, the top! Enjoy the amazing views before we descend to the most mythical of all GIRO villages, Bormio.

### **Day 4. BORMIO – PASSO DE GAVIA – APRICA**

Distance: 78km / 2000mts up (Queen Stage)

In our Giro, we cross the GAVIA pass at 2665 MTS. We attack this climb that for years has been and still is the «big monster» at the gates of the Dolomites. At the top we have a view of one of the most beautiful lakes of the Alps and a glacier of more than 10,000 years old. We are next to mountains of more than 4,000 metres high.

From here we have nothing but descent until Aprica, with an average percentage of 3%. Aprica has been and will be the arrival of many Giro stages, another mandatory stop for all cyclists.

We can a little surprise for those who still have some strength left in the legs!



### **Day 5. APRICA – VARENNA- VILLA DEL BALBIANELLO- LENNO**

Distance: 95km / 600mts up

Recovery Day. We leave the village of Aprica, the third and last of our «Giro-villages» in the Dolomites. A gentle descent for the next 60 km takes us along the big Alpine mountains to arrive at Lake Como, with its villages Bellagio o Varenna. For the next 20 km we cycle along the lake and conquer a small ascent of 250 metres after which we have an amazing view of the lake. We descent to the village of Varenna where we load the bicycles into the van and drive to the other side of the lake, passing the villages of Bellagio and at Cadenabbia we cycle the last leg until we arrive at Villa del Balbaniello and Lenno. This is a stage for sprinters! We will have time to recover from the hard work in the Dolomites and get ready for the following, spectacular stages.

We take a transfer to Saint Vincent (2h20) where we are going to spend the night.

### **Day 6. SAINT VINCENT – CERVINO – AOSTA**

Distance: 85km / 1300mts up.

During the 6th stage we cycle up Europe's most beautiful mountain, el Cervino (Matterhorn). This is a long but not very tough ascent to the paradise of the Alps. Once at the top we take our time to enjoy the unforgettable views.

From here it is all descent to the village of Aosta. During the descent we can do an optional ascent, off the official Giro Tour.

### **Day 7. AOSTA – PETIT SAINT BERNARD – BOURG SAINT MAURICE**

Distance : 80km / 1700mts up.

Last stage ... and last big surprise! We will cycle across the Alps into France via the Petit Saint Bernard. At 2200m high we will be able to enjoy some of the best views of the MONT BLANC and its glacier. This view means we have achieved our goal and that we have earned our GIRO D'ITALIA maillot!!

Descent to BOURG SAINT MAURICE where our tour finishes.

Transfer to ANNECY where we spend the night (2h)

### **Day 8. Free day and departure**

Free day and departure to Geneve airport (1h).

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

**Level:** very high

**Terrain:** 100% road

#### **ACCOMMODATION\***

Caprile

Hotel Pineta 4\*

[www.hotelpineta.net](http://www.hotelpineta.net)

Merano

Hotel Aurora 4\*

[www.hotel-aurora-meran.com](http://www.hotel-aurora-meran.com)

Bormio

Hotel Palace 4\*

[www.palacebormio.it](http://www.palacebormio.it)

Aprica

Hotel Arisch 4\*

[www.hotelarisch.com](http://www.hotelarisch.com)

Saint Vicent

Hotel Alla Posta 4\*

[www.hotelpostavda.it](http://www.hotelpostavda.it)

Aosta

Hotel Duca d'Aosta 4\*

[www.alpissima.it/hotel-duca-d-aosta-brasserie-cafe-d-europe.1.88.html](http://www.alpissima.it/hotel-duca-d-aosta-brasserie-cafe-d-europe.1.88.html)

Annency

Hotel Le Precarré 4\*

[www.hotel-leprecarre.fr](http://www.hotel-leprecarre.fr)

*\*The hotels could be changed, depending on the availability.*

<b>PRICE GUIDED TOUR</b>
--------------------------

**Minimum 7 pax – Maximum 14 pax**

Group 7 - 10 pax: 2.770€ per person/double room

Group 11 – 14 pax: 2.445€ per person/double room

Single supplement: 425€

Rental bike: 250€

The price includes:

- Transfer from Venice airport /to Geneve airport
- Welcome pack
- Guide-Coach speaking English
- 7 nights accommodation (4\* hotels)
- 7 lunches (picnic or restaurant)
- 7 dinners (drinks not included)
- Snacks, water and energetic bars during the trail
- Support car
- The transport of belongings between overnight stays
- All the transfers described in the itinerary

The price does not include:

- Flights
- Extra Drinks
- Rental bike