



## The heart of Italy on a motorbike

9 days/ 8 nights

The heart of Italy is a dream holiday come true... Spend a wonderful week in this beautiful region and ride along scenic countryside roads while exploring the most beautiful sites that Central Italy has to offer!

Some of the holiday highlights include the magnificent town of Lucca and its Renaissance-era city walls, the leaning Tower of Pisa, the exotic island of Elba, the magical Sienna, the Chianti and its Italian culinary delights, Florence or the 'cradle of the Renaissance', the Great Bologna and its medieval architectural features, the majestic Apuan Alps and finally the mesmerizing National Park of the Cinque Terre.

### YOUR PROGRAM

#### Day 1 - Lucca

Arriving in Lucca. Night in a traditionnal 2\* hotel, the perfect place to start your trip!

#### Day 2 - Between land and sea

You will make your way to the Piazza del Duomo. Soak up the exciting atmosphere around you and admire the famous leaning Tower of Pisa. Next, you will head southwards and ride along a countryside road in the direction of Volterra. Why not take a break and visit this enchanting little town, perched atop a rocky promontory culminating at 500m? Finally, you will end today's journey by riding through Salina di Volterra, Bibbona, and San Vincenzo before reaching Piombino.

You will then take the ferry for a short crossing (1 hour). Night on Elba in a 3\* hotel.

Distance: approximately 160km.





### **Day 3 - The island of Elba**

Your motorbike adventure in Elba will begin with a ride along a slightly hilly piece of road, and then along the coastline, which is dotted with charming little villages. When the weather is bright, it is possible to see the other islands of the Tuscan archipelago, such as Pianosa, Capraia and Monte Cristo as well as the French island of Corsica. If you're lucky, you might even see the Apennine Mountains in the distance. A wonderful loop and truly magical experience!



### **Day 4 - Meravigliosa Siena**

After breakfast, you will ride to the port of Portoferraio and take the ferry back to the continent (duration: 1 hour). Once you arrive in Piombino, it will only take you 20 minutes to speed off to the peaceful and beautiful hills of Tuscany. The road winds through the woods up to the city gates of Sienna. Park your motorbike in the hotel's parking lot and explore the



historical sites of this marvellous city.

Night in a 3 star hotel in Sienna.

Distance: approximately 150km.



#### **Day 5 - Florence and the Chianti**

Today's motorbike journey will lead you to ride to Florence, otherwise known as the 'cradle of the Renaissance'. Classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Florence is a magnificent city and a must-see while in Italy. However, before visiting Florence, you will also be able to enjoy the sumptuous countryside landscapes of the Chianti, with olive trees glistening in the sun. Today's itinerary is slightly shorter so as to enable you to make the most out of your visit to Florence.

Night in a 3 star hotel.

Distance: approximately 100km.





### Day 6 - Bologna

In the morning, you will ride off to Bologna. Also known as Italy's Red City, Bologna is a true architectural marvel with the Piazza Maggiore, Basilica of San Petronio, Fountain of Neptune and its medieval towers. Next, you will climb a hilly piece of road which will take you to the hilltops of Bologna before riding back down to this medieval city.

Night in a 3 star hotel in Bologna.

Distance: approximately 140km.



### Day 7 - The Apuan Alps

Today, you will leave your urban setting for the peacefulness of the Italian countryside. During your rural motorbike adventure, you will ride through landscapes dominated by the Apuan Alps. As Baudelaire would say: 'there, all is order and beauty / luxury, peace, and pleasure'. The itinerary is a real delight for bikers who enjoy riding in the mountains. At the end of the day, cool down and have relaxing swim in the hotel swimming pool.



Night in a 3 star hotel in a little village of the Garfagnana region.

Distance: approximately 140km.



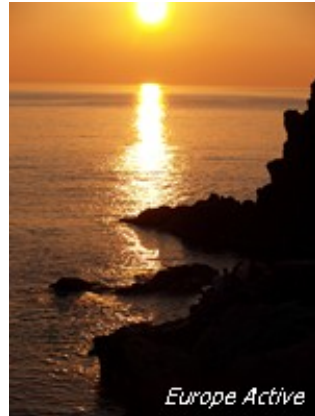
#### **Day 8 - Il Parco delle Cinque Terre**

Riding amidst mountain ranges, you will explore the Italian countryside before reaching the Gulf of Poets. From Spezia, you will climb uphill to get magnificent views over the Gulf and, after riding through a tunnel, you will most probably feel as if you have set foot into another dimension. An entirely unique scene is laid out before you and the surrounding landscape is a true feast for the eyes, with fragrant vineyards and five colourful villages set against the backdrop of the sea's turquoise waters. Welcome to the Cinque Terre!

Distance: 110km.

Soak up the vibrant atmosphere of the Cinque Terre and spend the night in a 3 star hotel with incredible views over the rest of the Park. The owners of the hotel are also proud winemakers who will be delighted to offer you a wine tasting.





### **Day 9 - The end**

Your trip ends after breakfast.



## **Additional information**

### **TARIFFS**

Price from 790 euros per person.

### **OPTIONS**

Supplement for single bedrooms : 330 euros per person.

Supplement for July and August departures : 70 euros per person.

GPS tracks on USB stick : 25 euros per person.

### **INCLUDED**

Nights in 3 and 2 star hotels (double bedrooms), breakfasts, ferry crossing to and from the island of Elba (the fare includes a





crossing for two people and a motorbike), information package with maps and road-books.

### **NOT INCLUDED**

Transport options to the meeting point and from the point of dispersal, transfers which are not included in the tour, personal travel insurance, meals and beverages, motorbike rental, repair costs, fines and speed tickets, visits of tourist sites, optional activities which are not included in the tour and personal expenses.

### **ACCOMMODATION**

7 nights in 2 and 3 star hotels (double bedrooms).

For nights in single bedrooms only, see the 'options' section below.

### **SIZE OF GROUP**

From 2.

### **DEPARTURES**

From the beginning of April to the beginning of November.

### **DEPARTURE**

Lucca.

### **DISPERSION**

National Park of the Cinque Terre.

### **HOW TO GET THERE**

By train from Pisa airport (every 30 minutes):

Cost: 6.30 €

Time: 45/50 minutes by train, count 1 hour in all

Take the train to Pisa-Centrale at the exit of the airport

Change to Central for a train to Lucca.

By motorbike from Nice: 350km, 4 hours (cost of tolls: 30€).

### **EQUIPMENT TO TAKE**

Bike Trousers.

Bike Jacket.

Bike Gloves.

Bike Boots.

Helmet (can be hired)

Waterproof Boot Covers.

Waterproof Coat & Trousers.

First aid kit.

Head lamp.