5 Day Lakes D'Orta and Maggiore Treasures of Lombardy and Piedmont Tour

2020 Private Tours by Appointment (4 Guests or more)
2021 June 7th to 11th / Sep 20th to 24th
5 Day Lakes D'Orta and Maggiore Treasures of Lombardy and Piedmont Tour

On this tour you will be living life like a local. Enjoy the gastronomic delights of Lombardy and Piedmont and marvel at charming medieval towns and castles. Explore the picturesque Lake D'Orta and enjoy Lake Maggiore from the elegant gardens of the lakeside Villa Taranto. This Italian small group tour will leave you coming back for more!

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:
- Lake D'Orta - Lake Maggiore (Villa Taranto) – Fabulous wine tasting experience at historic winery
- A visit to Jim’s dad’s Home town of Varzi – Genuine off the beaten track experiences
- Vigevano's hidden Jewel - the Piazza Ducale and its Castle.

INCLUSIONS
- Transfers to/from designated pick up/drop off locations
- 4 Breakfasts
- One lunch and Two Dinners
- Winery Tour and Tasting
- Entry Fee to Villa Taranto Gardens.

Tour cost – AUD $ 2,450 per person, twin share
(AUD$300 Single Supplement).
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ITINERARY

PROVIDED MEALS LEGEND
B-BREAKFAST  L-LUNCH  D-DINNER

Day One – (Arrival Meet and Greet Day)
Arrival: Milan/Voghera to Piedmont/Varzi

You will be met by your guide at Milan’s Malpensa Airport between 12.30 and 1pm, or alternatively at the Voghera train station between 3 and 3.30pm. A well-appointed private, air-conditioned vehicle will transfer you to the Agriturismo ‘La Tenuta Terensano’, in time to unwind in your room or the farmhouse grounds (or in the pool!) for the afternoon. In the evening we head off for aperitivi in the medieval town of Varzi and back for dinner at Tenuta Terensano or in and around Varzi.

Day Two – (Winery / Fine Dining and Natural Beauty Day)

Oltrepo Pavese/Colline Piacentini Wine regions - Rovescala lunch

Today begins with a scenic drive to Castello di Luzzano, an historical winery situated in the midst of a stunning natural landscape that straddles the border of the Oltrepo Pavese (Lombardy) and Colline Piacentini (Emilia Romagna) wine regions. Here we will have a cellar tour, wine tasting and lunch at the winery’s restaurant. After our slow lunch we will make our way back to Tenuta Terensano for a free afternoon/evening.

Day Three – (Lake D’Orta and Villa Taranto-Lake Maggiore)
The Majesty of two of Italy’s most beautiful lakes

Today we visit two of Italy’s most beautiful lakes - Lake D’Orta and Lake Maggiore. First up we head to the stunning gardens of Villa Taranto. Established from 1931-1940 by Scotsman Neil McEacharn. The gardens are on the edge of Lake Maggiore and offer a dazzling variety of plants and plant combinations. It is pretty much in full of colour from spring to autumn but the display in spring/early summer is particularly astonishing! After our Villa Taranto visit we head to the the gorgeous medieval town of Orta San Giulio on the shore of Lake D’Orta. Whilst here you can enjoy lunch at your leisure and also take a leisurely lakeside passeggiata, or simply explore the narrow alleyways of this charming town. After your evening meal we will make our way back to our accommodation for a restful night’s sleep after an invigorating and full day’s experience!
Day Four – (Classic Architecture Day)
Vigevano and its stunning Piazza Ducale)  B | D

This morning we visit the beautiful town of Vigevano, known throughout Italy and the world as a centre of shoe-making excellence, and for its stunning renaissance piazza - The Piazza Ducale. Prior to lunchtime guests can enjoy a relaxing stroll around the castle and Vigevano’s classy shopping precinct, visit the shoe museum, or climb Bramante’s Tower for a bird’s eye view of the piazza and rooftops of the town. Whatever choice is made the ambience of this town’s charming piazza will undoubtedly stay in your memories for many years to come! We return to Tenuta Terensano in the mid afternoon for a rest and our provided farewell dinner.

Day Five – (Farewell Day)
AM Depart for Milan Malpensa Airport and Voghera train station  B

Today we say farewell to our fellow guests and the delightful regions of Piedmont and Lombardy.
Tour Accommodation

Tenuta Terensano (Piedmont)

Situated a short 10-15 minute walk from the charming towns of Monleale and Volpedo, this rustic and immaculately maintained farm house is managed by the husband wife team of Valentina and Luigi. The grounds are absolutely gorgeous and immaculately maintained, and Valentina and Luigi ensure that guests are always extremely well looked after. Whether you're enjoying an al fresco lunch, dinner in their beautiful outdoor dining area, or simply lazing by the pool enjoying the stunning natural landscape surrounding the property, you will enjoy every minute here whilst on tour with us! The rooms are modern, clean and very comfortable and there are numerous outdoor common areas where guests can sit and relax with a book, or have a chat about the wonderful places that you have visited whilst with us.
Guest Testimonials

When you want a delightfully delicious and marvellous introduction to Italian living, this is it! Out of the way meandering through country lanes and unusual, historic towns provide adventure and surprises. Heartily, deliciously recommended. Lynn, Sydney, AUS.

"I can absolutely recommend Italian Delights tours! Every day of our tour was different, fun and interesting with full days exploring hidden delights. Sue – Sydney, AUS.

"Our Italian Delights tour was a great opportunity to have an "inside" look into local Italian life and really explore Italy. The tour was intimate, and the hosts were very caring, attentive, punctual and knowledgeable. They always went the extra mile to ensure that our tour was memorable. Great driving too!" Anthony – Canberra, AUS.

For the travellers who enjoy to experience good food wine and friendly people, this is the tour for you. Maree, Melbourne, AUS.

For my first experience as a single traveller in Europe your tour provided everything and more than my expectations. Locations- absolute delightful tour guide! -The weather (perfect), accommodation - and lengths of travel and free time were well planned. I have expressed to all my family and friends my recommendation for Italian Delights. Rosie, Vic, AUS.

"The best parts of my Italian Delights tour were the lovely countryside, wineries, and some very good food!" Barbara - NSW, AUS.

A wonderful experience and varied tour. Great hosts and a friendly small group. Ready to book next tour. Margaret, VIC, AUS.

We would say in all of our travels this must be the tour that offers the most diverse experiences! Tony and Sue, WA, AUS.

I would recommend Italian Delights Tours to anyone wanting to see the other parts of Italy unspoiled by tourists. Perfect! Leonie, Melbourne, AUS.

Our guide's attention to detail and desire to help out when we had a problem was exceptional. Graham, Melbourne, AUS.
Owners of Italian Delights Tours

Lynette and Jim Romagnesi

Jim and Lynette are passionate travellers and both have proud Italian backgrounds. They have an extremely close affinity with Italy, after having lived there with their children for 2 years from 2005. Put simply Lynette and Jim love all things Italian! They have developed Italian Delights tours over the past 10 years or so, based on their sound knowledge of what intrepid small group travellers (both singles and couples) are looking for in their guided Italian experiences. On the top of Jim and Lynette’s priority list for prospective guests is ensuring that their small group tours are exactly that - genuine small group tours! Italian Delights Tours have a maximum group size of 14 guests and the average group size is between 5-7 guests. Within a small group guests are able to blend into local life better and as a result really feel immersed in the Italian life and culture. Also and most importantly, in our small groups guests are very well looked after from the first point of contact to our final goodbye. All guests really need to do whilst on tour is relax and enjoy their experiences!

Italian Delights Tours provide guests with a genuine, intimate and informal experience of Italy, covering its culture, food, wine, and stunning natural and man made landscapes. All accommodation and eateries are handpicked by Jim and Lynette and are nearly all family-run small businesses, where the proprietors take pride in their work, because their business is often a legacy that has been passed down over numerous generations. There is no packing and unpacking of bags every day, or even every second day. All of the stays on all tours are three nights or longer. There are very few early morning starts and we tend to take guests out to provided lunches, hence late evenings are rare on our tours also.

Italian Delights Tours aren’t like the usual tours where guests march around following the guide with the coloured flag at every stop they make. Our experiences allow guests to explore hidden places in their own time, and importantly also at their pace. We have developed itineraries for independent exploration of towns, and we offer optional guided tours on certain days of the tours for those seeking more detailed information about some of the fascinating places that we visit.

Contact us now at info@italiandelights.com.au for your unique and intimate Italian tour experience. We guarantee you won’t be disappointed!
REGISTRATION FORM

I/We would like to participate in the Italian Delights 2017/2018 Tour(s) below (Please insert both the name and date of the tour(s) you are interested in participating in below. For commencement dates please see front page of this brochure or our web site)

Tour Name(s):

Tour Start Date(s):

Please acknowledge that you have read and accepted the terms and conditions of our tours (found earlier in this document and at (https://www.italiandelights.com.au/terms-and-conditions-for-our-italian) by signing the acceptance below (one person can sign on behalf of all passengers listed in the guests details section. 

Dated / / .

*Payment details will be forwarded to guests upon receipt of this completed and signed registration form. Please Email completed forms to info@italiandelights.com.au, or post a printed copy to PO Box 95, Bentleigh, VIC 3204. Please note that due to the very small group sizes on our tours, allocations will be given to early bookings and deposits received.

GUEST DETAILS

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Are you celebrating Anything special during the tour? ..........................................................|

Where did you find out about us? ..........................................................|

Lombardy Delights Pty Ltd. (Trading as Italian Delights Tours)  ABN – 82 886 161 696
www.italiandelights.com.au  EMAIL: info@italiandelights.com.au
PH: OS+613 9018 6624 / AUS-1300 681 822
Postal Address: PO Box 95 Bentleigh, VIC 3204.
Italian Delights' Tours Terms and Conditions

EXCLUSIONS FROM ALL TOURS

- Airfares
- Items of personal nature, phone calls, passport and Visas (if applicable), laundry or tips.
- Personal transport, excess baggage, security and government taxes, travel insurance.
- Meals not specifically mentioned in itinerary or which are referred to as ‘free lunches or dinners’.
- Entry fees to all places either mentioned or not mentioned in itinerary.
- Optional excursions or activities that may be offered which are not included in the tour price.
- All personal expenditure

Maximum group size 14 guests - average size is 5-6 guests and tour groups rarely exceed 8 guests. This ensures that your comfort and enjoyment are our top priority. Tours and tariffs are subject to change.

PRICES, DEPOSITS, AND PAYMENTS

Prices shown are per person, double occupancy. The deposit is 15% of the overall tour price, or as listed on the tour registration form. This deposit is required before a booking can be confirmed by us. Payment instructions will be sent after we have received the Booking Confirmation and Guest Details form. No booking will be reserved until the prescribed deposit is received. The balance of the payment will be due within 3 calendar months prior to the commencement date of the first tour date booked (90 days after Booking Confirmation Date if the date of the tour you are hoping to participate in is less than 90 days after the Booking Confirmation Date, and upon booking if tour commences within 90 days of booking date). Payment instructions will be sent to you after we have received your Booking Confirmation and Guest Details form. After your deposit has been deposited we will send you an invoice with the due date for the balance of payment. Should your final payment fail to reach us by the date specified on your invoice, we reserve the right to cancel your booking without refund.

CANCELLATIONS INSURANCE AND REFUNDS:

If you cancel your tour reservation for any reason at any stage, your deposit is non-refundable. If cancelling more than 60 days before the tour starting date 60% of your total tour cost will be refundable. If cancelling more than 30 days, but less than 60 days before the tour starting date, 50% of your total tour cost is refundable for physician documented emergency medical reasons for accident, flood, fire, or crime. If cancelling less than 30 days from the tour start date, a cancellation fee equal to 100% of the tour cost will apply. We do not provide refunds for: non-medical personal problems; air carrier delays or cancellations; inability to obtain passports; business problems or emergencies; etc.

In the unlikely event that we would cancel your tour, you would be entitled to a 100% refund within 2 weeks after the tour’s cancellation. Italian Delights reserves the right to cancel tours at any time for any reason such as lack of client numbers etc. You are required to purchase your own travel insurance to cover cancellation coverage, airline tickets, trip delay, lost luggage or any potential medical expenses. In order to keep our tour prices low it is not possible for Italian Delights to provide protection coverage of any sort and you agree to travel at your own risk.

IMPORTANT ARRIVALS/DEPARTURES INFORMATION

It is your responsibility to take note and enquire with us about the time we arrive at our arrival (pick up) and departure (drop off) points, prior to the beginning / after the end of our tours. This should be done prior to you making any flight or train bookings so that it is clearly understood that the arrangements will fit in with our times. Your train should arrive at least half an hour prior to the designated pick up time, and your flight should arrive at least two hours prior to the pick-up time. Upon your departure from the tour your train should leave no less than an hour after our intended arrival, and your international flight should leave no less than 3 hours after our arrival times (2 hours for Italian domestic flights and Europe-bound flights).

LUGGAGE

You are allowed one suitcase and one small carry-on bag. If you exceed this limit there may not be space in the vehicle(s) to transport your excess luggage and it will be at your own expense to have it transported throughout the tour. We suggest that you bring a day pack for carrying water, guide books, jacket, rain gear, etc.

HOW PHYSICALLY FIT DO YOU HAVE TO BE?

Our tours are not athletic events. To comfortably complete them you should be able to do some moderate walks over hills and be able to climb a number of stairs. We will also be doing a lot of walking in the towns we visit. If you are planning a tour with us it wouldn’t hurt to prepare yourself by starting a moderate walking program at least 2 months before the tour.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Please advise us of any special requirements such as Special Meals, Medical Requirements etc, as soon as possible. If you get motion sickness, it is advisable to bring with you motion sickness pills, as we will be traveling along mountainous roads at times.

LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

No responsibility is accepted for any loss, expense, accident, injury, or damage to any person or property due to the actions or omissions of any person, or any cause, including but not limited to acts of God, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, defects in machinery, breakdown of equipment, weather, quarantine, negligence, loss of baggage, or other causes beyond our control, such losses being the responsibility of the guest.
PERMISSION FOR PHOTOS AND VIDEOS OF GUESTS
You agree that our Tour Directors or Representatives may take photographs and films of you while you are on holiday and that these may be used in our Group brochures and/or advertising or publicity material without obtaining any further consent or payment in respect of such photographs and/or films.

MEMBERSHIP ON TOUR
Italian Delights reserves the right to accept, reject, or not retain any person as a tour participant whose condition or general deportment impedes the operation of the tour or, in the opinion of the tour manager, affects the rights and enjoyment of other guests. A guest not retained on tour shall have no cause for complaint or refund, and shall bear any and all extra expenses that ensue.

TOUR CHANGES
All information contained in this document is, to the best of our knowledge, correct. However, we reserve the right to make changes in accommodations, visits, and itineraries at any time should it become necessary or desirable. Delays or itinerary changes caused by strikes, bad weather, traffic, or other unforeseen circumstances are beyond our control and we are not obliged to pay guests compensation.

Italian Delights' Tours Terms and Conditions (Cont.)