

## **VENETO : TOWNS AND VILLAGES**

### **FIRST DAY: PADOVA**

Arrival of the group in the morning at Padova, light lunch at restaurant.

Afternoon (from about 15 to 18 o' clock) dedicated to the old town centre of Padova: visit with a german – speaking guide, to the Scrovegni Chapel (frescoes from Giotto).



From here, the tour continues with some minutes walk to reach the old town centre, where the outside of the famous Caffè Pedrocchi, the ancient courtyard of the Bo university and the three major places (Piazza delle Erbe, della Frutta, dei Signori) will be visited. Then few steps take to the town Cathedral.



From here, walk through the charming streets and buildings of the jude's Ghetto, until Via Roma and the grab of Antenore, the mithical founder of the town. The tour goes on with the visit to the imposing Basilica of S. Antony and its wonderful chapels, that every year attract millions tourists.

From the Basilica, a little walk takes to Prato della Valle, one of the biggest place in Europe. Here, after some spare time, visitors can get on the bus.



Transfer from Padova to the hotel in Vicenza (40 km motorway). Accomodation, dinner and overnight stay.

## **DAY 2: VICENZA**

Breakfast at the hotel and transfer to the town centre. Meeting with the german speaking guide. Promenade from Viale Roma to Porta Castello and along Corso Palladio, with its wonderful buildings. Guided tour of the central places (Piazza dei Signori, Piazza delle Biade e Piazza delle Erbe). Lunch at a nearby restaurant.



In the afternoon, visit to the outside of the Palladian Basilica and to the Loggia del Capitanato. The tour continues towards Saint Corona's Basilica and its impressive paintings and sculptures. After that, visit [outside and inside] to the famous Olimpico Theater, one of the most beautiful Palladio's works (under booking, is possible to attend to a light – show with music from the 18th century, that lasts about 10 minutes)

From Piazza Matteotti, bus transfer to the hotel. Dinner and overnight stay.

### DAY 3: VERONA

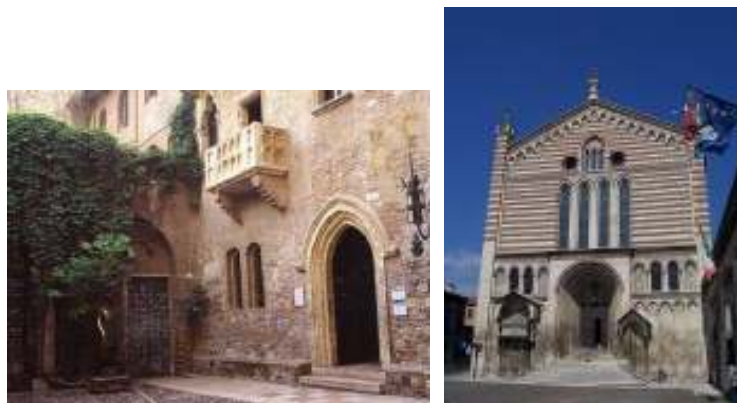
Breakfast and transfer to Soave (about 35 km motorway). Meeting with the local guide and visit to the old town centre and to the famous castle belonged to the regnant family of Verona.

At about half past eleven, transfer to the „Cantina di Soave“, one of the most important wine vault of the area. Guided visit to the underground cellar, with explanations of the wine - making of the “Garganega” grape, which the white wine Soave is obtained from.



A sampling of wine and snacks (like cheese and salt biscuits) will be offered. Possibility of shopping in the wine – shop: honey, wine, grappa and olive oil from the Garda lake. Transfer to Verona (25 km), until Piazza Bra, where the outside of the roman Arena will be visited. The tour goes on with a little walk to reach the roman door and Corso Porta Borsari. Lunch in a restaurant nearby.

Afternoon: promenade towards the imposing Church of Saint Anastasia - a gothic building that belongs to the Domenican monks - until the small place of the “Arche Scaligere” (the grabs of the “Scala” family). Then visit to Piazza dei Signori, Piazza delle Erbe and the famous home of Juliet (visit of the inside).



The promenade goes on along Via Cappello, the ancient roman “Cardo Maximus”, to reach the Church of Saint Fermo Maggiore, whose inside will be visited.

At about 17:30 departure to Vicenza (55 km). Dinner at the hotel and overnight stay.

#### DAY 4: TREVISO

Breakfast in the hotel. Soon at morning, bus transfer to Treviso until Piazza della Vittoria, where the german – speaking guide will be met. Visit to the Church of Saint Niccolò, built in the XIII century, that mantains beatiful wall frescoes, and visit to the hall of the Chapter with its wonderful frescoes, paited by Tommaso from Modena. After, walk to the town cathedral and small visit of the inside, than along Via Calmaggione to the old town centre, with Piazza dei Signori, the Palace of the “Trecento” with the civic tower and the Loggia of the knights (only outside). Lunch in a restaurant nearby.



In the afternoon, promenade along the Cagnan canal and the Pescheria quarter, until the beatiful area of the university and the bridge dedicated to the poet Dante.



From here, at about 15:00, bus transfer to Marostica (where every 2 years in September a chess – play with living chessmen is played). With the bus, climb to the upper castle to admire the beatiful panorama over the medieval walls and the lower castle.



From the top of the hill is possible to walk down (about 30 minutes) on an easy stonepath, that takes to the centre of Marostica. Here, visit to the castle, to the chess place and to the living chess costumes collection.

At about 17:00, bus transfer to Bassano del Grappa (8 km). The guided tour begins from Viale dei Martiri and reach the two central places and the famous "Alpini bridge" (possibility of grappa, ceramics and printing shopping in this area).



The dinner ( **farewell dinner** ) will be organised in a renowned restaurant nearby.  
Back to the hotel in Vicenza and last night.

## **DAY 5 RETURN**

Breakfast at the hotel and return journey.

POSSIBILITY OF A FULL DAY JOURNEY ON THE LAGUNE OF VENICE, WITH A PRIVATE BOAT. GUIDED VISIT TO THE ISLANDS MURANO (and its blown glass workshops) TORCELLO (and its wonderful Basilica).

*POSSIBILITY OF MADE TO MEASURE PRICES.*

## **Hotel's arrangement**

We have a large choice of hotels of different classes (from 3 stars and over) and locations: we can host groups in Mestre, along the Brenta's riviera, in Padova, Treviso, Vicenza, Castelfranco Veneto, Bassano del Grappa, Cittadella.

## **MONUMENTS / SCHEDULED ENTRANCES**

### PADOVA

SCROVEGNI CHAPEL  
S.ANTONIO'S BASILICA  
CATHEDRAL

### VICENZA

OLIMPICO PALLADIAN'S THEATER ( possibility to book a musical show )

### VERONA

THE SCALIGERI'S CASTLE - SOAVE  
SOAVE'S WINE VAULT ( with guided tour to the cave, the bottling area etc.)  
S.ANASTASIA'S CHURCH  
JULIET'S HOUSE  
S. FERMO MAGGIORE'S CHURCH

### TREVISO

CATHEDRAL OF S. NICCOLO'  
TOWN'S CATHEDRAL  
MAROSTICA: LOWER CASTLE AND THE CHESS MUSEUM

*In Marostica –under reservation- it will be possible to visit ( free) the handcraft workshops that produce works „in the madieval way“:*

- ceramic's workshop with pedal's lathe
- the copper's beater
- carpenter (toys and small furniture)

Beside that, is possible to visit the famous “Marosticana Caffè” and taste the Elisir of Prospero, a scholar of botanic, born in Marostica (see life). He studied and discovered coffee's properties. At the end is possible to visit Parise's glass – blowing workshop.

**Organized by:**



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