MORE THAN SPAGHETTI TRAVEL

wine • cook • tour

Il Veneto
A region west of Venice in northeastern Italy with hillsides dotted with Palladio Villas, some of the best produce and wine in the world.

One week in the Veneto Region of Italy

Spend one week in the Veneto region located in northeastern Italy seeing Andrea Palladio designed Villas, learning cooking techniques and tips and touring world-class wineries, producing Proscecco, Soave and Amarone della Valpolicella.

Activities include market visits, cooking classes, owner guided private winery tours, private villa tours, visits to the beautiful cities of Padova and Vicenza and much more! Gourmet foods and regional wines will be enjoyed both in the villa and in restaurants known only to *congnoscenti*.

Optional activities include: visits to spas known from Roman times for their healing thermal pools, golf on 2 nearby highly regarded courses, horseback riding, biking, tennis and hiking.

Modernized and renovated accommodations with luxury linens and all the comforts of the USA with European elegance and history.

Small group sizes afford the ability to provide maximum customization.

Day One

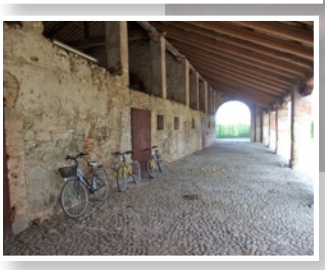
Morning arrival into Venice from US cities.

Visit to the interesting city of Padova. On Saturday the whole city turns into a market. It's one of the best in all of Italy. Explore the markets followed by lunch nearby.

Visit the Scrovegni Chapel to see the famous and amazing frescos painted by Giotto in the early 1300's.

Settle into the completely restored and modernized villa.

Dinner with wine pairing at the villa.



Day Two

Option of going to the nearby town of Bastia for the morning market.

Lunch with local Italian families at the 100% organic farm and restaurant.

Option of going to a nearby spa (good for jet lag!) with thermal pools that have been popular since Roman times due to the healing waters. Golfing, hiking, biking, tennis and horseback riding also available.

Cooking and dinner with wine pairing at the villa.

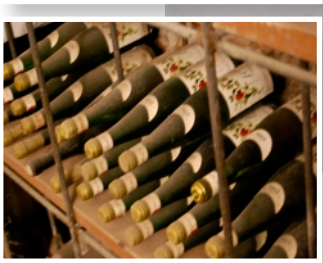
Day Three

Guided visits to artisanal producers of olive oil and cheese. Meet the animals, learn the steps of the cheese-making process and, most importantly, taste numerous cheeses made of sheep and cow milks.

The visit to the olive oil producer will include an explanation about the flavor profiles of different olive oils and how to spot the best quality. This area is know to have some of the most delicate and refined oils in Italy.

Lunch at a restaurant know for its execution of the region's seasonal produce.

Visit to a small production local winery. Dinner at the villa.



Day Four

See the beautiful walled town of Soave Tour one of Soave's best and most beautiful wineries.

Lunch at a restaurant with international acclaim in the Valpolicella hills.

Tour and taste the wines of Valpolicella, including Amarone della Valpolicella, one of Italy's most important reds.

Tours/tastings will be lead by winery owners, making this a great opportunity to learn about the wine production methods specific to the Veneto.

Light dinner at the villa.

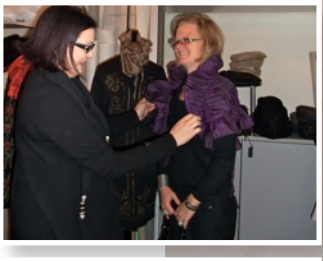
Day Five

Visits two Andrea Palladio designed Villas, including his most famous (Villa Capra, known as Villa Rotonda and the inspiration for Montecello).

Lunch and explore the beautiful city of Vicenza. Visit Teatro Olimpico, Palladio's last work.

Stroll down the Corso Palladio with locals taking their daily *passegiata* (stroll).

Dinner with wine paring at the villa.



Day Six

Go to the workshop/showroom of Daria Tasca for a little shopping. Her custom made, one-of-a-kind Italian creations make a fabulous wearable souvenir.

Enoteca lunch in the charming town of Asolo.

Private tour of Palladio-designed Villa Cornaro in Piombino Dese.

Everyone's favorite- a cooking lesson and dinner by Michela Tasca whose cuisine has been written about in *Town & Country Magazine*. Michela makes this day very special.

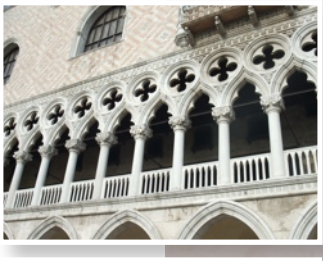
Day Seven

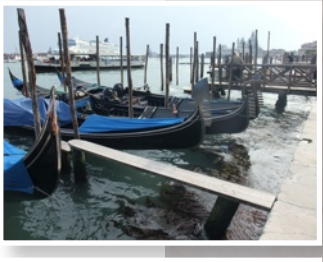
Easy morning with option of nearby sports, spa activities or relaxing by the pool.

Visit Villa Emo-Capodilista, one of the regions most beautiful villas, and, my personal favorite. It has been fabulously restored with gorgeous frescos inside and out and the tour will even be led by the Count, himself!

The villa sits next to the vineyards of La Montecchia Winery. The villa tour will be followed by a tasting of the wines.

Final dinner at the villa.





Day Eight

Optional trip to Venice (additional fees apply).

Overnight stay in Venice with a trip to the glass blowing island of Murano or walking tour of Venice.

Visit a local Bacaro (wine bar) and have dinner at one of Venice's best restaurants featuring all the specialities of Venetian fish cookery.

This makes a good point to take an international or regional flight, train to other points in Europe and Italy or to rent a car.

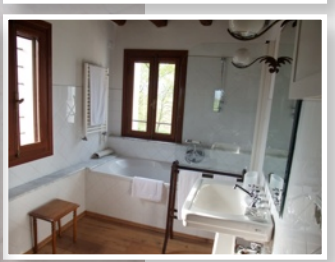
The Villa

Pristinely renovated villa with modernized plumbing and outfitted with beautiful antiques

6 bedrooms with 6 full bathrooms and a powder room

High quality linens with extra pillows, blankets, etc. provided. Bed covers made with washable hypo-allegenic cotton.

Separate HVAC controls for each room for climate control

2 indoor dining areas and one under an exterior portico, 2 living areas, swimming pool, washer/dryer

Daily maid service