



FunActive TOURS / Harald Wisthaler

**self-guided tour**

**bicycle holiday**

**DIFFICULTY:** easy

**DURATION:** 8 days / 7 nights

**DISTANCE:** approx. 255 – 430 km

**DESCRIPTION**

The starting point of this cycle tour is “la Serenissima”, Venice the lagoon city on the shores of the Adriatic Sea. Cycling past the beaches of the classical holiday resorts of Jesolo and Caorle on the Italian Adriatic, an opportunity always presents itself to take a refreshing swim in the sea. Due to this fact, you should never forget to pack your swim gear. Besides these beaches, the inland regions of the Friuli-Venezia Giulia offer countless sites with very special charm waiting to be discovered; Mediaeval fortress towns; Roman archaeological excavations; typical Italian Piazzas and buildings embossed with Venetian influences causing the visitor to forget time and space. While on the one side, the Adriatic stretches calmly and silently, the Julian Alps rise majestically to the north. Finish with a trip down the beautiful Croatian peninsula of Istria. The return journey to Venice can be done by boat.

**CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ROUTE**

The cycle trip to Istria is flat until shortly before Trieste, then it continues slight hilly until Poreč. The tour is suitable for children from the age of 14.

## A DAY BY DAY ACCOUNT OF THE ROUTE

### Day 1: Arrival

Individual arrival at the starting-hotel on the mainland of Venice. The “Serenissima” with all its splendid buildings invites to a primary inspection. The city of Venice has a well organised and easily accessible public transport system, there is a bus or train stop near to the hotel.

### Day 2: Venice mainland/Mestre – Jesolo/Caorle (approx. 35 km or approx. 80 km, depends on variant)

Today you have two possibilities: either you cycle along the dam and the lagoon to Venice or you cycle through the back-country following the Sile river to reach Jesolo/Caorle. The first few kilometres in the lagoon city are carried out by bicycle. Then you take a ferry across to Punta Sabbioni (ticket not included). On the endless beaches at Litorale di Cavallino, a spit of land in the north of the lagoon, the route is lined by numerous fishing boats and souvenir stalls. Before you leave Venice through the “backdoor”, the opportunity exists for an excursion to the lighthouse at the outmost end of the island for a last view of the lagoon city and the surrounding islands. On the way to Jesolo one can hardly resist the opportunity to have a refreshing dip into the cool wet. You spend the night in Jesolo or Caorle. If you choose the alternative through the hinterland you cycle along the river Sile. This natural river carries always a constant amount of water and flows quietly; that’s why its name is derived from the Latin word “silet” what means “keep silent”. Passing the ruins of Torre Caligo, a tower from the Middle Age which is situated near the homonymous canal “Caligo”, you reach directly Jesolo. If you will spend the night in Caorle you continue cycling along.

### Day 3: Jesolo/Caorle – Concordia Sagittaria/Portogruaro (approx. 30 – 35 km)

Along the coast and once you have passed the last fishermen’s cottages, you reach Caorle, a wonderful, small seaside resort with a historical centre. On reaching this destination, it signifies leaving the sea for a while as the direction is dictated by the mainland in the direction of the Julian Alps on the horizon. During the spring period of the Venetian Republic, it was convenient for the interior to encompass Portogruaro as a very important River harbour in the “Serenissima”. Even today there are those in Portogruaro who regard their city as the most Venetian. They are not entirely incorrect when you look at the Venetian embellishments of the magnificent buildings and places.

### Day 4: Concordia Sagittaria/Portogruaro – Grado/Aquileia (approx. 65 km + boat from Marano Lagunare or approx. 45 km, if the first part is additionally shortened by a train ride to Latisana; 85 km whole distance without boat)

Besides the beaches of the Adriatic, there is a lot to discover; ruins of former Roman cities, ancient churches and lonely landscapes on the edge of the lagoon. From Marano Lagunare you take the boat until short before Aquileia, once a large city of the Roman Empire, excavations of the Roman city can be seen in the open-air-site and in two museums.

### Day 5: Grado/Aquileia – Trieste (approx. 40 – 80 km short variant with train ride *TICKET NOT INCLUDED*)

Today’s stage continues through the hinterland of Trieste, soaked in a meagre barren landscape of rocky caverns before returning to the sea and a coastline of unique beauty. Where the elevated plateaus plunge into the deep blue water and the white precipices stand upright jutting towards the heavens; and then the coastal road follows through suggestive resorts like Duino, Sistiana, Miramare, and Barcola. You should take time to visit the romantic castle of Miramare above the Bay of Grignano situated in the middle of a beautiful park in which a multiplicity of more the 2000 plants prosper. Above the Gulf of Trieste, entrenched is a city bearing the same name, once a harbour metropolis of the Habsburgs Empire and where you will be spending the night.

### Day 6: Trieste – Piran/Portorož (approx. 35 km + ferry Trieste > Muggia or approx. 65 km, depends on variant)

After a few kilometres you say goodbye to Italy. In Slovenia you cycle mostly on cycling paths through famous bathing resorts like Koper (Capodistria) and Izola (Isola d’Istria) to Piran (Pirano) or Portorož (Portorose), a spa town on the Slovenian Riviera. The tour can be shortened by using the ship from Trieste to Muggia (ticket not included). The longer variant leads through the Val Rosandra valley in the back country and then from Muggia along the coast too.

### Day 7: Piran/Portorož – Poreč (approx. 70 km)

You pass the salt gardens of Sečovlje, where they produce sea salt on huge areas through natural evaporation, and cycle over the border to Croatia. Travelling through the Croatian part of Istria, the biggest peninsula of the Adria, slightly hilly to Poreč, the most important coastal city on the west coast of Istria. We suggest visiting the Euphrasian Basilica, which is on the UNESCO World Heritage list.

### Day 8: Departure

Individual departure or possibility to extend your stay.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Classification of the cycle tour: self-guided tour

Duration: 8 days/7 nights

Distance: approx. 255 – 430 km

Starting point: Venice mainland/Mestre

### ARRIVAL

**By car:** Via the Brenner motorway (A22) to Verona and on to Venice mainland/Mestre; from Villach over the border crossing Arnoldstein to Udine and then to Venice mainland/Mestre.

**By train:** Mestre train station. From there by bus or taxi to the hotel. Timetables: [www.deutschebahn.de](http://www.deutschebahn.de), [www.oebb.at](http://www.oebb.at), [www.trenitalia.com](http://www.trenitalia.com)

**By plane:** Airports Venice Marco Polo, Ronchi dei Legionari (Trieste) or Treviso. There are good bus connections (airport shuttle) to Venice mainland/Mestre.

### ACCOMMODATION

Hotels in 3- and 4-star-category // Attention: Tourist tax – if requested – has to be paid on the spot.

### PARKING

Depending on the first hotel, parking area or garage – approx. €30.00 – 50.00 per week.

Reservation of the parking area/parking garage not possible; payable on the spot.

### TRANSFER

**Every Wednesday and Saturday and according to the timetable:** Return transfer by ferry from Poreč to Venice. Departure in Poreč at approx. 7 – 8 am and arrival in Venice at approx. 10.45 am (depending on departure time from Poreč).

Price per person from Poreč: approx. €86.00 – 92.00 (depending on the season)

Price per own bicycle: approx. €18.00 (limited space for 4 bikes available)

It is necessary to book and fully prepay the ferry transfer at the moment of the tour booking. The cost for the boat is subject to payment on confirmation of the travel booking, as the ferry has to be paid in full. Following details are needed for the ferry ticket: First name, surname, date of birth, nationality, official document (passport or ID) document number and validity date.

**Transfer from the harbour in Venice to the first hotel:** public taxis (approx. €45.00 – €55.00). The transfer can be booked at the welcome briefing and has to be paid directly to the driver at the ferry terminal San Basilio on arrival.

For return transfers from Poreč to Venice we offer a transfer by shuttle bus in case the ship is not sailing – €89.00 per person+ €29.00 per own bike (minimum 4 persons).

**Transfer from Poreč to Trieste:** public transport. Timetables: [www.crnja-tours.hr/vozni-red-autobusa](http://www.crnja-tours.hr/vozni-red-autobusa) or [www.flixbus.de](http://www.flixbus.de)

### RENTAL BIKES

- 21-gears women's or men's bicycle
- Rental Bike TOP
- E-bike (UNISEX bike, 500 W battery; range up to 100km)

## INCLUDED SERVICES

- Accommodation in hotels in 3- and 4-star-category
- Breakfast buffet or full breakfast
- Personal tour information
- Luggage transfer from hotel to hotel
- Ship transfer on day 4
- Well planned routes
- Detailed documents (maps, route description, places to visit, important telephone numbers)
- Telephone service hotline for the entire tour
- Navigation app

## NOT INCLUDED SERVICES

- Arrival to the starting point of the tour
- Departure at the end of the tour
- Drinks, tourist tax and all extras
- Lunch, Dinner
- Not mentioned entries
- Rental bikes and travel insurance
- All not expressly mentioned under the item "Included services"

## STARTING DATES 2023

### ARRIVAL

Every Wednesday and Saturday: 15/04/2023 (first available date) to 30/09/2023 (last available date)

### DISABLED DATES (no start possible!)

22/07/2023 up to and including 18/08/2023

### NON SCHEDULE ARRIVAL DATES

Minimum of 5 persons upon request!

## PRICES 2023

| SELF-GUIDED TOUR  |             |
|---|-------------|
| Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 1*   | € 699.00*   |
| Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 2**  | € 799.00**  |
| Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 3*** | € 899.00*** |
| Single room surcharge, per person                                       | € 199.00    |
| ADDITIONAL SERVICES   |             |
| Rental Bike (return transport to Venice mainland / Mestre included)     | € 99.00     |
| Rental Bike TOP (return transport to Venice mainland / Mestre included) | € 159.00    |
| E-bike (return transport to Venice mainland / Mestre included)          | € 229.00    |
| EXTRA NIGHTS IN VENICE MAINLAND / MESTRE                                |             |
| Per person and night in a double room incl. breakfast                   | € 89.00     |
| Single room surcharge, per person                                       | € 29.00     |
| EXTRA NIGHTS IN POREČ   |             |
| Per person and night in a double room incl. breakfast                   | € 89.00     |
| Single room surcharge, per person                                       | € 35.00     |

\* Season 1: arrival dates 15/04/2023 and 30/09/2023

\*\* Season 2: arrival dates from 16/04/2023 up to and including 16/06/2023 and from 11/09/2023 up to and including 29/09/2023

\*\*\* Season 3: arrival dates from 17/06/2023 up to and including 10/09/2023

We suggest travel insurance. Changes in the offer as well as errors, printing errors and arithmetic errors reserved!