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TOUR ITINERARY

RIDING LEVEL
3

Europe / Italy / Piedmont

Piedmont Truffle Bike Tour

Decadent and Delicious: A Story Behind Every Dish

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TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Celebrate Piedmont's gourmet season with a Michelin-starred dinner and private tastings at Barbaresco and Barolo estates
- Indulge in a three-night stay at the luxurious Relais San Maurizio
- Meet our friend Michela for some oven-fired focaccia and a tasting of her little-known wines in the garden of her classic Piedmontese farmhouse
- Pedal into the unexplored Alta Langa region, through a landscape dominated by *nocciole* (hazelnut trees) to a hazelnut-themed lunch at a family farm
- Hunt for white truffles with a local *tartufaio (*truffle hunter) and savor this seasonal delicacy on fresh pasta

ARRIVAL + DEPARTURE

Arrival Details

- **Airport City**: Milan, Italy
- **Pick-Up Location**: Tortona Train Station
- **Pick-Up Time**: 10:00 am

Departure Details

- **Airport City**: Milan or Turin, Italy
- **Drop-Off Location**: Asti Train Station
- **Drop-Off Time**: 11:30 am

NOTE: DuVine provides group transfers to and from the tour from the pick-up and drop-off locations stated on the itinerary. In the event your train, flight, or other travel falls outside the arrival or departure times or locations, you may be responsible for extra costs incurred in arranging a separate transfer.

Emergency Assistance

For urgent assistance on your way to tour or while on tour, please always contact your guides first. You may also contact the Boston office during business hours at +1 617 776 4441 or **emergency@duvine.com**.

TOUR ITINERARY

Tour By Day

DAY 1

Not Just Nebbiolo

Welcome to Piedmont! Your guides will meet you at the Tortona train station for a transfer to Monferrato, the sleepy wine region finally awakening to claim its place on prestigious wine lists worldwide. Meet our friend Michela at her historic family winery for a home-cooked lunch and a chance to taste some of the area's undiscovered vintages. After, we'll explore the vineyards by bike, following a scenic ridge through the wildly successful new Nizza DOCG wine region churning out top-quality Barbera. Our destination is the luxurious Relais San Maurizio where we'll unpack for the next three nights. Our first dinner together is a fitting introduction to this gourmet capital featuring traditional dishes and great wines.

Meals: Lunch / Dinner
Destinations: Alice Bel Colle, Rocchetta Palafea, Canelli
Accomplished: 23 miles / 37 km, elevation gain: 2,358 feet / 719 meters
Shorter Option: 17 miles / 27 km, elevation gain: 1,601 feet / 488 meters
Accommodations: **Relais San Maurizio**

DAY 2

Barbaresco Bike Ride

Today we ride through the heart of the Langhe hills, descending to the lower slopes where the perfect marriage of soil and sunlight nurture the Nebbiolo grape. Generations of winemakers have refined this world-famous wine on these very hillsides surrounding the ancient tower of Barbaresco. In the village of Barbaresco itself, pause for a coffee and some superb people-watching: renowned winemakers mingle with vineyard workers, chefs, and worldly wine-lovers—all characters drawn to the region during this time of year. We'll meet a young Barbaresco producer for a relaxed lunch and tasting at a private estate. After lunch, transfer back to our hotel or continue biking to its luxurious front doorstep. Retreat to the bar or soak in the spa before a truffle-themed dinner at our friend Fabrizio's classic *ristorante*.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner
Destinations: Castagnole delle Lanze, Barbaresco, Treiso
Accomplished: 34 miles / 55 km, elevation gain: 3,126 feet / 953 meters
Shorter Option: 21 miles / 34 km, elevation gain: 2,083 feet / 635 meters
Accommodations: **Relais San Maurizio**

DAY 3 Nocciole of the Alta Langa

Ride into the wildest parts of the Langhe: narrow roads, crumbling medieval towers, and endless hazelnut trees line our route. The area's remoteness made it a hotbed of Resistance activity during WWII, and monuments to these partisan fighters still punctuate the hilly landscape. But today is all about *nocciole* (hazelnuts), and our destination is our friend Isabella's hazelnut farm. After a hazelnut-themed lunch of sweet and savory dishes, a ridgeline ride serves up some of the best views in all of Piedmont. This evening, we're treated to a Michelin-starred meal at La Ciau del Tornavento, where the impressive wine cellar lends itself to thoughtful wine pairings with our dinner.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner
Destinations: Santo Stefano, Scorrone, Castino
Accomplished: 32 miles / 52 km, elevation gain: 3,293 feet / 1,004 meters
Shorter Option: 28 miles / 45 km, elevation gain: 2,640 feet / 805 meters
Accommodations: **Relais San Maurizio**

DAY 4 Truffles, Taleggio, and Tajarin

Say goodbye to San Maurizio as we ride towards the Barolo region and all its gourmet spoils. Though both black and white truffles are found in Barolo, the white truffle—with its fleeting season and more pungent flavor and aroma—is considered a treasure, with demand (and a price tag) to match. That makes our mid-morning meeting with our local friend quite literally priceless: we'll join him and his truffle-sniffing dog on a hunt for these elusive morsels. Next, we turn our tastebuds to Piedmont's artisanal raw-milk cheeses. Threatened with extinction during Italy's post-war industrialization, preservation of these unique local cheeses became the rallying cry for a group of concerned citizens, and the Slow Food movement emerged. At a small dairy farm, we'll taste these origin-protected cheeses—you can decide whether they were worth fighting for. On the other side of one more climb is a mouthwatering plate of *tajarin* pasta at our friend Massimo's hilltop *trattoria,* followed by a thrilling descent to our boutique hotel on a historic Barolo estate. This evening you are free to explore Alba, the gourmet capital of the region and home to a world-famous truffle fair. Your guides are happy to offer recommendations and help secure reservations.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch
Destinations: Mango, Benevello, Alba
Accomplished: 32 miles / 52 km, elevation gain: 3,310 feet / 1,009 meters
Shorter Option: 20 miles / 33 km, elevation gain: 2,729 feet / 832 meters
Accommodations: **Cascina Galarej**

DAY 5 Piedmontese Royalty

Our bikes bring us through the heart of Barolo, with famous *cru* vineyards every mile of the way. The first ride of the day climbs through one winemaking town after another, bringing us to the medieval town of La Morra. From here on out it's officially Barolo heaven: our route passes renowned estates on the approach to Barolo, where the castle of the Marchese di Barolo stands as a focal point. Lunch at our favorite local producer isn't complete without wine pairings, then complete the loop back to our hotel—an estate once owned by the King of Italy. Tonight, we dine like royalty at our final dinner prepared by a private chef.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner
Destinations: Monforte d'Alba, Barolo, La Morra
Accomplished: 24 miles / 39 km, elevation gain: 2,493 feet / 760 meters
Longer Option: 37 miles / 60 km, elevation gain: 3,798 feet / 1,158 meters
Accommodations: **Cascina Galarej**

DAY 6 Off to Asti

Challenge yourself with an optional morning loop ride or take a stroll through the estate before enjoying one last breakfast on-property. Your guides will then transfer you to the train station in Asti as you head on to your next destination.

Meals: Breakfast