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TOUR ITINERARY

RIDING LEVEL 4

Europe / Italy / Dolomites

Dolomites Challenge Bike Tour

High-End at High Altitude: Epic Climbs of the Italian Alps

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TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Conquer northern Italy's greatest, hardest, and most classic climbs, including the legendary Passo dello Stelvio and Passo di Gavia, plus Mortirolo, Passo Fedaia, Passo Falzarego, Passo Giau, and more
- Stay in a *refugio*-style Alpine luxury hotel typical of the Dolomites and an inviting, family-owned chalet in the heart of Bormio, changing accommodations only once
- Cover an array of technical terrain including the otherworldly Sellaronda loop in Alta Badia, car-free passes like Pampeago, and satisfying switchbacks on Passo Pordoi
- Clip into world-class Colnago V4 road bikes with Dura-Ace Di2 shifting and Vision carbon wheels and kit up in custom Rapha x DuVine jersey and bibs









ARRIVAL + DEPARTURE

Arrival Details

- **Airport City**: Milan or Venice, Italy
- **Pick-Up Location**: Bolzano Train Station
- **Pick-Up Time**: 8:30 am

Departure Details

- **Airport City**: Milan or Venice, Italy
- **Drop-Off Location**: Lecco Train Station
- **Drop-Off Time**: 11:00 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**.

Travelers Take Note

Upon booking this tour, you will be asked to complete a short form. We use this information to ensure all Level 4 trip participants are adequately prepared for our most difficult riding and have proximate cycling experience to the rest of the group.

Note that many hotels in the Dolomites rely on the cool mountain air, especially at higher altitudes, and may not offer air conditioning.

Lodging at Rifugio Salei is at 7,300 feet of altitude. Due to this altitude, weather can change quickly. Expect anything from peak summer heat to hail and snow in a single day, and pack accordingly. Helpful hints about dressing for all climates can be found on **our blog**.

This tour route includes some sections of riding on well-packed gravel. Please note that e-bikes cannot be reserved for this tour.

TOUR ITINERARY

Tour By Day

PRE-TOUR

Bolzano Pre-Night (Optional)

Arrive on your own to Bolzano, an easy train ride from Venice and a lovely gateway city to the Italian Alps. Get settled at Park Hotel Laurin, a central property within walking distance of the archaeology museum that's home to Ötzi—the famous Copper Age "Iceman" mummy. The next day, breakfast is included before you're due to meet your DuVine guides at the train station just down the road.

Inclusions: Hotel, Breakfast
Accommodations: **Park Hotel Laurin**
Price per person in double occupancy: $270
Price in single occupancy: $390

DAY 1

Alpe Di Pampeago

Welcome to the Italian Alps: meet your guides at the train station in Bolzano and transfer to the Tyrolean village of Obergeggen where our bikes are waiting. First things first: we'll have a coffee and a bike fitting before we start climbing the Alpe di Pampeago—a two-meter-wide slice of tarmac that seems to rise right into the pale, jagged peaks of the Dolomites. As we descend into the valley, it's common to see local farmers in traditional clothing working the hay with the same scythes their grandparents used. The Val di Fassa bike path brings us to the base of Passo Sella: with 11 kilometers at 7.2%, it's one of four passes that comprise the Sellaronda loop. Break away from the main road and grind gravel for the next half mile, leading right to our luxurious mountain refuge and home for the next three nights. Tonight we'll feel like true kings of this mountain range as we dine on the terrace, watching the Dolomites turn orange and pink until the very last ray of sunlight disappears.

Meals: Lunch / Dinner
Destinations: Obereggen, Moena, Canazei
Accomplished: 41 miles / 66 km, elevation gain: 6,420 feet / 1,957 meters
Accommodations: **Rifugio Salei**

DAY 2 Sellaronda Circuit

Get dialed in for our biggest day of riding: the Sellaronda loop has become an instant classic thanks to its four passes that feature frequently in the Giro—and they're tremendously beautiful to boot. First up is Passo Pordoi, an average of 6.1% over a span of 9 kilometers; you know you've reached the top when you spot the statue dedicated to Italian legend Fausto Coppi. Take a coffee break in Arabba before some serious rollers that bring us to the foot of Passo Falzarego, where we'll keep the momentum going up this historic mountain pass, which witnessed some brutal battles between the Italian and Austrian armies during World War I. A cold beer and lunch atop the last climb marks the end of our miles for today, but it's an ideal afternoon to hit the spa at our hotel or head out and hike the Sella range as a cool down. Our dinner is typically South Tyrolean—hearty and comforting food that's perfect for recovery.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner
Destinations: Arabba, Pieve di Livinallongo, Corvara
Accomplished: 53 miles / 85 km, elevation gain: 8,083 feet / 2,464 meters
Shorter Option: 33 miles / 53 km, elevation gain: 5,679 feet / 1,730 meters
Accommodations: **Rifugio Salei**

DAY 3 Queen of the Dolomites

The Marmolada is the nearly 11,000-foot massif that asserts a constant and prominent presence wherever we go—but our preferred way to appreciate this gigantic glacier is to ride right up her flatter side. As it happens, this is also the history-making ascent that earned Italian pro Pantani his first Maglia Rosa during stage 17 of the 1998 Giro d'Italia, paving the way for his series of grand tour triumphs. We begin our approach from Canazei via the Passo Fedaia, pausing to admire Marmolada's reflection in Lake Fedaia's clear, glacial waters. Relief comes on our descent into the Pettorina Valley, where our route briefly veers into Italy's Veneto region before we revisit Passo Pordoi. This time, we hit it from the south side for a technical climb up 33 switchbacks all the way to the top of the Sella Pass. Back at our hotel, wind down the day with an *al fresco* dinner at our hotel on the Sellaronda circuit.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner
Destinations: Canazei, Malga Ciapela, Arabba
Accomplished: 49 miles / 80 km, elevation gain: 8,245 feet / 2,513 meters
Accommodations: **Rifugio Salei**

DAY 4 The 48 Switchback of the Stelvio

Arguably Italy's most famous pass, the Passo dello Stelvio is also the country's highest as it straddles the border with Switzerland. Leave our *refugio* in the morning and transfer to the start of the climb: a 25-kilometer feat at a respectable 7.4%. Our homemade energy snacks will keep you from bonking until the glorious descent into Bormio, a town nestled into the Valtellina valley. Our ride ends right at our hotel, a chic Alpine chalet a short walk from town. Tonight, you'll have the chance to taste the Nebbiolo wines grown in the Valtellina Valley during dinner on your own—your guides will gladly recommend their favorite Bormio restaurants.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch
Destinations: Prato allo Stelvio, Bormio
Accomplished: 36 miles / 57 km, elevation gain: 6,617 feet / 2,017 meters
Accommodations: **La Genzianella** or **Hotel Eden**

DAY 5 Valtellina Legends

Call us crazy, but breakfast tastes different when it's taken on a terrace with views of the Italian Alps. Once we're well-fueled, ease into the day with a spin down the valley to wake up our legs—after that, it's strictly business. The mighty Mortirolo is mercifully at the lowest altitude of the week, because it's also our meanest climb at 12 kilometers with a 10% average. Bomb into Monno before we take on the last pass of the week: the Passo di Gavia is a legendary 17 kilometers at an average of 7.9% with some 16% ramps—now that's an epic finish! On our last evening, raise a glass and toast to winning some serious Strava segments this week.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner
Destinations: Grosio, Monno, Ponte di Legno
Accomplished: 66 miles / 106 km, elevation gain: 10,335 feet / 3,150 meters
Accommodations: **La Genzianella** or **Hotel Eden**

DAY 6

Addio, Dolomiti

Enjoy one last coffee at La Genzianella before transferring with your guides to the train station in Lecco. From here, it's an easy connection to Lake Como, Milan or Venice airports, or wherever your adventure takes you next.

Meals: Breakfast
Destinations: Lecco
