



sample itinerary
from
Lake Maggiore
to **Umbria**

Guida Da Lir

EXPERIENCES YOU WILL TREASURE AT LENGTH

A vintage camera in a brown leather case is the central focus, resting on a dark surface. Behind it, a straw hat with a wide brim and a dark band is partially visible. To the right of the camera, a pair of dark sunglasses with reflective lenses lies on the surface. The background is dark and textured, possibly a woven fabric.

Suggestions for an unforgettable *journey*

We represent unique, extraordinary independent and privately-owned boutique hotels, villas and yachts in Italy. To promote the hotels we represent we take pride in creating travel suggestions and itineraries, where our local knowledge meets the needs and interests of travel advisors and clients. Make this your very own tale of discovery along this unique peninsula, whether your primary concern is art, architecture, archaeology or even fine dining and shopping.

Our goal is to introduce travel advisors to new products and act as a primary resource for information and assistance ensuring they receive all the support they need in real time. Having a “**sample itinerary**” connecting the properties gives something more solid and potentially concrete to promote, rather than a mere collection of hotels.

Extraordinary hotels, whose credo is painstaking attention to details, excellence throughout, and whose experience is one you will treasure at length. Light varying a thousand times in a day, sensational dawns and sunsets, ever-changing hues, the lull of the waves by the shore, a star-studded sky, savouring an outstanding meal: you will simply ask for more.

Welcome to our world

LAKE MAGGIORE

● Villa e Palazzo Aminta Hotel & Spa / Stresa

PIEDMONT

● Locanda la Raia / Gavi

TUSCANY

● Il Bottaccio Boutique Art Hotel
/ Montignoso / Forte dei Marmi
● La Certosa di Maggiano / Siena

UMBRIA

● Palazzo Petrus Boutique Hotel
/ Orvieto

from **Lake Maggiore** to **Umbria**

9 days

● day 1, day 2, day 3 / **Lake Maggiore & Lake Orta**
3 nights at Villa e Palazzo Aminta Hotel & Spa LHW

● day 4, day 5 / **Piedmont**
2 nights at Locanda la Raia

● day 6, day 7 / **Tuscany**
2 nights at Il Bottaccio Boutique Art Hotel R&C
or La Certosa di Maggiano

● day 8, day 9 / **Umbria / Orvieto**
2 nights at Palazzo Petrus Boutique Hotel

Season

● From April to November

To make the experience even richer, every itinerary can be designed by Italian DMCs to the last detail. Every visit, every lunch and dinner, every overnight stay and every transfer is carefully selected to be part of a story, your story.



LAKE MAGGIORE



ISOLE BORROMEE



day 1 / day 2 / day 3

Visit the exquisite Borromean Islands: like a fleet of fine vessels, they lie at anchor at the Golfo Borromeo, between Stresa and Verbania. Of the three visitable islands, **Isola Bella** is undoubtedly the most striking: the Borromean Palace is impressively baroque, displaying numerous artworks and amazing, majestic gardens. **Isola Madre** is home to another palazzo and a luxuriant, less formal garden, a triumph of colours in the blooming season. Further north on the west bank, late 19th c. **Villa Taranto** and its splendid grounds are among Lake Maggiore's most imposing highlights: the Normandy-style villa was bought by a Scottish captain, Neil McEacharn, after spotting an advert in The Times in 1931. Some 20,000 plants were added over thirty years and the site is considered one of Europe's finest botanic gardens. **Parco Pallavicino** gives you the chance to spend an unforgettable day among paths in bloom, centuries-old trees, a stunning botanic garden and numerous species of mammals and exotic birds.



ISOLA DI SAN GIULIO



➤➤ Deep blue waters, reticent beauty and an intriguing island: Lago d'Orta, known as "Cinderella" by the locals, epitomises charm and captivating tranquillity. About 23 km (30minutes) from Stresa (Lake Maggiore), this little gem sits in one of the most fascinating corners of northwest Italy. Quintessentially fairy tale Piedmont.

The way mountains, weather and light are forever in counterpoint to the water itself is striking; whether it's the enchanting autumn light or the crisp early spring mornings, this lake has an ace up its sleeve any time of the year. Overlooking the forest-lined banks of the shimmering lake, **Orta San Giulio** is a romantic little village where narrow cobbled streets run between pastel-washed houses and palaces with elaborate iron-wrought balconies. Built on the slopes of a steep hill, tourists fill its alleyways at weekends in the spring and summer months, while it gets quieter in the evenings. 294m above sea level, the village boasts a wonderful position. The view from its central Piazza Motta directly onto the lake and the

Isola di San Giulio is simply breathtaking. The island of silence is, well and truly, more than a lovely definition: a small path runs along the island and it is called, in fact, the **Way of Silence**.

The island hosts a convent, as well, where eighty nuns live.

LAGO D'ORTA



Not to be missed

Lake Maggiore: Private visit and aperitif on Isola Bella • Helicopter flight to admire the Borromean Islands, the lakeshores and the marvels on the lake

• Spring flowering • A visit to Pallavicino Villa and Park

Lake Orta: Legro, the painted village • Profumo di Orta. Let yourself be lulled by fresh and captivating essences • Enchanting vistas • The village of Pella

Buon appetito!

Lake Maggiore: Verbano Restaurant / Isola dei Pescatori

• Hostaria La Speranza / Solcio Lesa • Restaurant I Mori at Villa Aminta

Lake Orta: Enjoy dinner or lunch at Villa Crespi ❀❀❀

• Aperitif Al Boeuc

Food ectstatic

• Alborelle fritte • Coregone • Paniscia • Tapulone

Wine

• Boca • Ghemme • Fara • Sizzano • Nebbiolo

Villa e Palazzo Aminta Hotel & Spa, LHW and Virtuoso, is a supremely exclusive resort with 70 rooms and suites granting the finest view on the Borromean Islands in a triumph of Murano chandeliers, silk curtains, acres of velvet and gilt, mirroring Stresa's Belle Époque.

Villa e Palazzo Aminta Hotel & Spa / 3 nights



The *Beauty* & Spa

VILLA E PALAZZO AMINTA HOTEL & SPA

PIEDMONT / MONFERRATO



day 4 / day 5

Piedmont. At the foot of the mountains. This is the place where a realm of unexpected surprises unwinds in front of your eyes. Northwestern Italy may well have been off most people's radars in the past, but the spell has now been cast. With the **Langhe, Roero and Monferrato** UNESCO sites since 2014, this staggering region provides a soul-stirring journey that will conquer your hearts. Autumn is the ideal time to visit, auburn and gold abounding and blessing the painterly landscapes.

It's high time you hit the road. **Alba**, the main town in the Langhe region, once known as the city of a hundred towers, still preserves the beautiful medieval city centre. Head to **Barolo**, where the world-famous wine is produced, and admire the castle, once home to Italian writer and patriot Silvio Pellico.

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>> Visit **Canelli** the capital of Italy's most famous white sparkling wines. Canelli also boasts the **Underground Cathedral**, a network of more than 20 km of tufa, whose digging started in the 18th c. Go from one cantina to another, invariably leading to the Canelli and Artesana Enoteca (wine cellar). A thermal spa town since the Roman era, **Aqui Terme** is a very pleasant little town with the famous Piazza della Bollente, a 19th c. kiosk beneath which the Spa water rises at a temperature of 75 °C. Enjoy a visit of the **castles** in Cremolino, Rocca Grimalda, Tagliolo Monferrato and Trisobbio. In **Casale Monferrato** visit the baroque Sinagoga degli Argenti, a museum of Jewish art and history.



Not to be missed

- Truffle hunting • Bra International Cheese Fair (Oct) • Alba International White Truffles Fair (Oct-Nov) • La Via del Dolcetto, by Ovada, goes along lovely vineyards
- E-bike or vespa along the vineyards • Brunate Chapel in La Morra, redecorated by David Tremlett and Sol LeWitt • Antique market in Ovada • Castagnole Monferrato hosts the biggest sundial • Cooking Class at Nordelaia

Buon appetito!

- Piazza Duomo ☼☼☼ / Alba • I Caffi ☼, Trattoria Parisio / Acqui Terme
- Archivolto Osteria Nostrale / Ovada • Wine tasting at Enoteca Regionale / Ovada • Enoteca Regionale in Acqui Terme for Brachetto tasting
- Bistrot and Orto at Nordelaia • Restaurant at Locanda La Raia

Food ectstatic

- Battuta di fassona • Bollito • Raviolo del plin • Tajarin al tartufo
- Piedmontese cheeses • Baci di dama • Bonet • Brut&Bon
- Gianduiotti • Krumiri

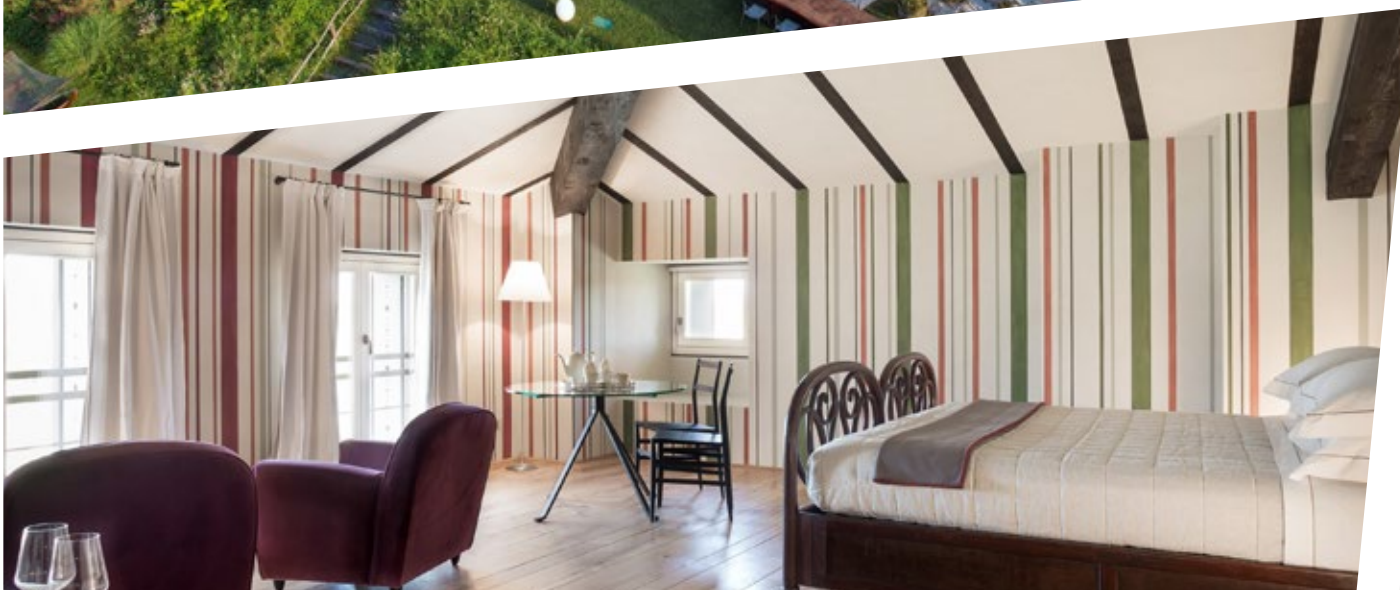
Wine

- Barolo • Barbera • Dolcetto • Barbaresco • Brachetto
- Grignolino • Spumante Moscato d'Asti • Gavi • Malvasia



Italian style *hospitality*

LOCANDA LA RAIA



Nestled amidst rolling vineyards and lush, verdant landscapes, Locanda La Raia in Piedmont offers an unparalleled retreat into nature's embrace. 12 rooms and suites, designed with elegance, provide sweeping views of the surrounding grapevines and wooded hills, ensuring a serene and picturesque stay. Guests can savor locally produced biodynamic wines, wander through fragrant gardens, and enjoy *al fresco* dining under the stars. The tranquil ambiance is complemented by luxurious amenities and personalized service, creating a perfect blend of comfort and countryside charm.

Locanda La Raia / 2 nights

T U S C A N Y



day 6 / day 7

The beauty of this area in northwestern Tuscany is the juxtaposition of mountains and the sea, rolling hills and medieval towns. All this majestic scenery can be contemplated by the wild and remote **Apuan Alps** soaring high and well visible from the coast. **Carrara** is the largest source of marble in the world and the place where you can sense history happening. The marble blocks for the Pietà of Michelangelo (Saint Peter's, Rome) comes from here. Head to **Pietrasanta**, also known as Little Athens, thanks to the concentration of artists who have decided to settle here. Among the best known in decades are Igor Mitoraj and Fernando Botero. **Forte dei Marmi** is an attractive resort where trendy shops and antiques fair, as well as music festivals, attract many visitors, who enjoy the beauty of the sea in a unique setting.



PISA



CARRARA MARBLE QUARRIES



>> Quaint, picturesque, scenic and pretty: **Lucca** has it all. Walk along fashionable Via Fillungo, with its series of trendy shops, before reaching sublime Piazza Anfiteatro, perhaps Tuscany's loveliest square, named after an amphitheatre that stood here in Roman times. **Pisa** and its leaning tower are so famous that you may be tempted to glance at the **Campo dei Miracoli** and move on; you should, instead, visit the epic Camposanto, the cemetery that was sadly heavily bombed during WWII and bestows an air of serenity and calm in an otherwise busy corner of the city. The Baptistery and the 11th c. Duomo are worth a visit. Further south, **Bolgheri** is famous for its epic cypress avenue and for the production of delicious Sassicaia.

Not to be missed

- Private tour to Carrara marble quarries • Private tour to Cinque Terre • Wine tasting at Antinori and Ornellaia • A trip into Chianti
- Visit Artistic Atelier in Pietrasanta • Puccini Festival • Lucca summer Festival
- Cooking class at Il Bottaccio with Chef Nino Mosca • Horse Trekking in the Apuanian Alps

Buon appetito!

- Il Bottaccio / Montignoso • Filippo, Enoteca Marcucci, La Martinatica / Pietrasanta
- Maitò, Lorenzo ☼ / Forte dei Marmi

Food ecstatic

- Lardo di colonnata • Ribollita • Fiorentina steak • Panigacci/Testaroli • Tordelli
- Tagliarin con fagioli • Zuppa Viareggina • Castagnaccio • Cantucci • Torta di riso
- Cecina (soft focaccia-style bread made with chickpea flour)

Wine

- Chianti Classico • Brunello di Montalcino • Rosso di Montalcino • Sassicaia
- Morellino di Scansano • Vin Santo • Tignanello • Solaia • Vermentino



Hidden gardens

IL BOTTACCIO
BOUTIQUE ART HOTEL

Il Bottaccio Relais & Chateaux with 8 rooms and suites is an exclusive boutique art hotel in Tuscany, dreamed of being a unique place where nature meets the most sophisticated luxury.

Il Bottaccio is famous for its distinct personality and for providing a cosy and intimate vibe to guests, an environment that is both welcoming and relaxing.

Il Bottaccio / 2 nights



A timeless **retreat**



Testo

La Certosa di Maggiano / 2 nights



day 8 / day 9

Umbria is affectionately called the green heart of Italy, it is a true hidden gem of a region which lies central right between Tuscany and Lazio, the regions home to Florence and Rome. Although Umbria may be considered off-the-beaten-path region in Italy, there is so much to see and explore. You can spend several days visiting destinations such as **Spoleto**, **Perugia**, **Todi**, **Gubbio**, and so much more. Umbria is home to several lakes, incredible hiking paths, home of Ceramic artisans, and of course it's a major gastronomical hub for several delicacies, including black truffles and its many wine varieties.

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PERUGIA



>> The UNESCO classified towns of **Assisi** and **Orvieto** are the undisputed starlets of the region. Visit the outstanding **Duomo of Orvieto** that brings together many eras and architectural styles. Descend the 200 steps into **St Patrick's Well** (Pozzo di San Patrizio), 53m-deep (174ft), it was commissioned by Pope Clement VII during the Sack of Rome and built between 1527 and 1537. **Assisi** is the home of Saint Francis, the founder of the Franciscan order. Visit the Saint Francis Basilica decorated with exquisite frescoes and the Basilica of Santa Maria degli Angeli with the famous *La Porziuncola*. Enjoy a walk into the historic center of **Spello** to get a real medieval vibe, only 10KM (6.2 miles) from Assisi. Head to the medieval town of **Todi** and visit the Church of Saint Mary of Consolation which is considered one of the symbolic buildings of Renaissance architecture, the Todi's Gothic Cathedral and have an aperitivo in Piazza del Popolo. **Perugia** is the capital of Umbria, the largest city in the region and a walk into the historic center is a must. With so many incredible places to explore, nature to see, and several experiences to enjoy - you will surely have a wonderful time in Umbria.

Not to be missed

- Truffle hunting • Visit the Duomo di Orvieto • Descend into the Pozzo di San Patrizio
- Climb The Torre del Moro Orvieto • Learn a lot about the Etruscans with a history lesson at Museo Archeologico Nazionale di Orvieto • Bike from Orvieto to the cliff-top village of Civita and explore the very best of the beautiful Umbrian countryside, castles, and food
- Visit the charming medieval towns of Todi, Spoleto, Perugia, Assisi, Gubbio, Spello

Buon appetito!

- Gelateria di Pasqualetti - L'Officina del Gelato • Montanucci for breakfast coffee and pastry • Oreto Alta Norcineria for a porchetta sandwich • La Palomba Trattoria
- 7 Consoli Restaurant • Mamma Angela • FEBO great place to grab a glass of wine and enjoy some small plates

Food ecstatic

- Lumachelle orvietane • Umbrichelli (with norcina sauce or truffles)
- Torta al testo (traditional focaccia) • The best lentils in the world of Castelluccio di Norcia • Panino con Porchetta • Prosciutto di Norcia
- Crostini al tartufo • Pigeon Olive Oil • Pampepato

Wine

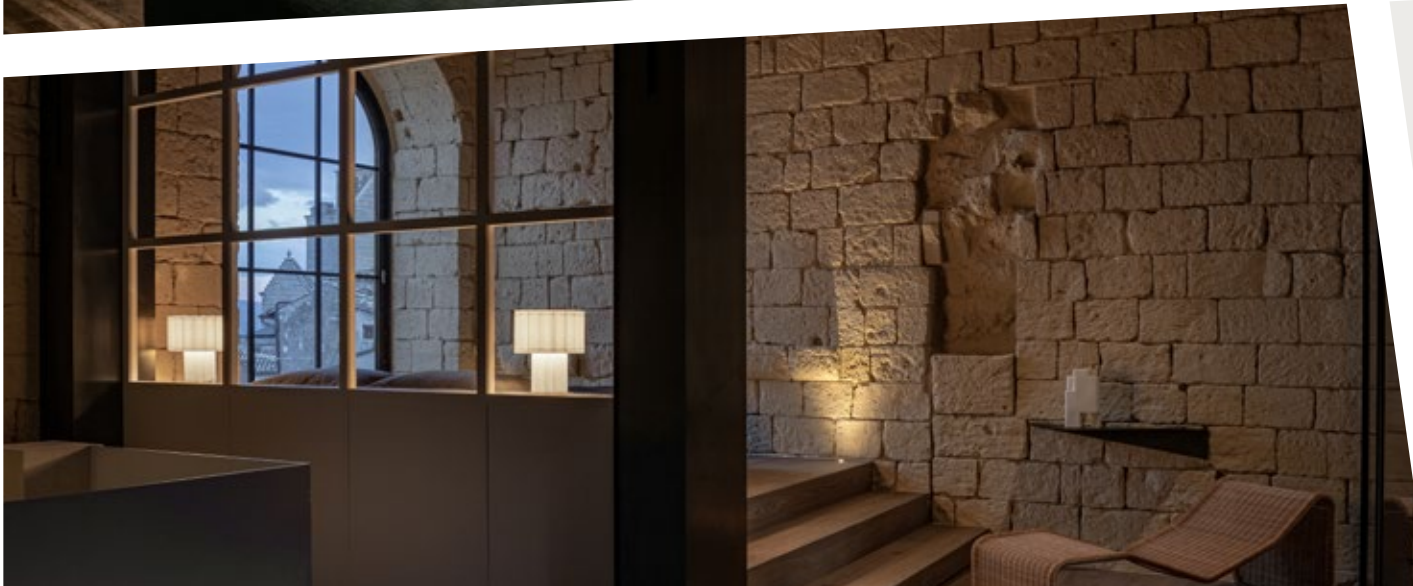
- Grechetto • Orvieto Classico • Sagrantino di Montefalco
- Montefalco Rosso • Torgiano Rosso Riserva
- Bianco di Torgiano • Cervato della Sala

ASSISI



PALAZZO PETRVS BOUTIQUE HOTEL

Authentic Umbria



A new boutique hotel brings a fifteenth-century aristocratic *palazzo* in the heart of Orvieto back to its former splendour.

Palazzo Petrus - experience Umbria at its most authentic.

Palazzo Petrus Boutique Hotel / 2 nights



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