



Craig
travel

HIKING THE **DOLOMITES**

BOOK BY MAY 31
SAVE \$200 PP

SMALL GROUP

SEP 22 - OCT 2, 2024 | 11 DAYS | 19 MEALS

JOURNEY LEADER: ROBERT CRAIG

The serene beauty of Lake Braies

There is no better way to embrace "la dolce vita" than by trekking through the dreamiest landscapes of northern Italy on this hiking adventure tailored for the active traveller. From the Venetian Lagoon, we venture north through lush farmlands before reaching the rolling foothills of the Alps. Along the way, take in incredible vistas, dine on delicious cuisine, try your hand at cooking the Italian way, and of course, savour the fruits of the hills with a glass of wine or two.

Then, we head onwards to the towering Dolomites, where we will hike between peaks and drive along splendid mountain roads. To cap it all off, we will unwind over two nights in the serene, sparkling floating city of Venice with visits to the colourful islands of Murano and Burano.

With our journey leader and local guides, we will hike through exquisite scenery, soak up the region's history and culture, and connect with nature. This trip promises to be nothing short of magical!

Inclusive Features

- Return economy group airfare between Canada and Italy
- 9 nights in comfortable hotels, as indicated or similar
- Baggage handling for one piece of luggage per guest at hotels
- Sightseeing and excursions as outlined in the program
- A glass of wine and mineral water provided with included lunches and dinners
- 19 meals included as noted in the itinerary (B - 9 breakfasts, L - 5 lunches, D - 5 dinners)
- Services of your Canadian journey leader and local guides.
- All gratuities, surcharges, taxes and fees for included services
- Airport transfers in Canada or equivalent value with purchase of group airfare



Colourful Burano island at sunset



Tour Highlights

- Five days of guided hikes through the beautiful Italian countryside and the picturesque Dolomites, including Seceda Ridgeline, Fanes Waterfalls, Lake Braies, the Cinque Torri, and Tre Cime di Lavaredo
- Two nights in Venice, five nights in the Dolomites, and two nights in the Prosecco Hills
- Guided walking tour of Venice
- Day trip to visit the colourful villages of Murano and Burano
- Cooking class in the rural pre-Alps region

Journey Leader

Robert Craig is of the third generation of the Craig family to pursue the love of travel and currently leads Craig Travel as its President. Over the past few years, he has travelled via rail, cruise ship, coach and car through three continents, exploring the fjords of Norway, the Alps of Switzerland, the islands of the Caribbean and the wilderness of Canada. Among his favourites were the slopes above Interlaken and the inland waterways of Norway. Now, he looks forward to embarking on this exciting hiking adventure, ready to share his passion for travel and create unique memories with you.



SEP 22, Sunday **DEPART CANADA**

Group members gather in Toronto for the transatlantic overnight flight to Venice, Italy.

SEP 23, Monday **ARRIVE VENICE / FARRA DI SOLIGO**

Upon arrival in Venice, our guide will greet us and accompany us throughout our journey until we return home. We head north to the rolling hills between historic Venice and the Italian Alps. This evening, enjoy our welcome reception and dinner at our hotel.

Hotel Villa Soligo (2 nights) **D**

SEP 24, Tuesday **CONEGLIANO**

Departing from Piazza Cima, we take a short walk to Conegliano Castle, where we can enjoy a beautiful view of the hills and the Piave River. After a short break at a café, we return along the old walls. Nearby, we visit a young couple who will introduce us to “la dolce vita” in their rustic Italian home tucked away in the countryside. Here, surrounded by woodlands, is the perfect place to experience a unique cooking class from a professional chef. A perfect way to begin our discovery of the regional culture and cuisine. **BL**

SEP 25, Wednesday **DOLOMITES / TREKKING CINQUE TORRI**

This morning we venture deeper into the Dolomiti Region. We will ascend via cable car to Rifugio Scoiattoli, a charming mountain cabin refuge, for a lunch surrounded by breathtaking mountain vistas. Following lunch, we will embark on a scenic two-hour ring trail walk around the Averau and Nuvolau refuges. Time permitting we may visit the open-air museum showcasing WWI artillery emplacements. [up to 5km / 300m elevation change]

Hotel des Alpes (5 nights) **BLD**

SEP 26, Thursday **TRE CIME DI LAVAREDO**

Enjoy the incredible scenery as we travel along meandering mountain roads up to Rifugio Auronzo. From here we begin our trek on the mountain trails, basking in the views of the surrounding valleys and peaks. At Rifugio Locatelli, we will pause for lunch before returning to our coach. Time permitting we shall stop to explore some areas near the quaint village of Cortina d’Ampezzo. [up to 7 km / 150m elevation change] **BLD**

SEP 27, Friday **SECEDA RIDGELINE**

The Seceda Ridgeline is one of the most iconic landscapes of the Dolomites. We reach the ridgeline by cable car from the mountain town of Ortisei. Our walk takes us through the beautiful meadows that cascade down to the valley below, with breathtaking views of the surrounding mountains. [up to 6km / 300m elevation change] **BD**

SEP 28, Saturday **FANES WATERFALL**

Just north of our hotel, we find today’s trail. The many pools, rapids and waterfalls of the Rio Fanes dot the trail as it meanders through the valley. En route, we shall stop for panoramic views of the lower Fanes waterfalls, one of the tallest and highest flow rate falls in the region. [up to 8km / 250 elevation change] **BD**

SEP 29, Sunday **LAKES BRAIES**

This morning we visit the north side of the Fanes-Sennes-Braies Nature Park and the picturesque Lake Braies. Our



Venice's Grand Canal aglow with evening charm



The iconic Cinque Torri



Conegliano, the heart of Italy's Prosecco region



Take a cable ride to the majestic Seceda Ridgeline

leisurely walk will loop around what is arguably one of the Dolomites' most beautiful lakes, with mountain peaks towering above on all sides and various trails branching out into the surrounding valleys.

[approximately 4 to 6km / 100m elevation change] BD

SEP 30, Monday

VENICE

After we descend from the majestic Italian Alps, Venice welcomes us back. During our guided walking tour, you will encounter some of Venice's iconic landmarks, such as the Rialto Bridge, St. Mark's Square with the Doge's Palace and St. Mark's Basilica, and the Bridge of Sighs. Of course those interested may take an optional gondola ride (additional cost).

Hotel Santa Marina (2 nights) B

OCT 1, Tuesday

MURANO AND BURANO

Enjoy a relaxing boat trip to Murano and Burano, the two most colourful islands in the Venetian lagoon. These islands are home to generations of Venetian artisans, world-renowned for their incredible craftsmanship. Witness live demonstrations of their time-honoured traditions of glassblowing and lacemaking, then browse their exquisite collections. The rest of the day is yours to explore at your leisure. Tonight is our farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

BD

OCT 2, Wednesday

RETURN TO CANADA

All too soon, we say 'ciao' to Italy as we gather for our return flight to Canada.

B



The historic St. Mark's Square

CT Rating 4.5/5 - Extremely Challenging: This journey involves a number of hikes ranging from easy to difficult on hilly/uneven surfaces, lasting up to 2 - 5 hours per day. Listed hiking distances, elevation changes, and times are estimates and refer to the total hiking time for each full day. Travellers must be in excellent physical condition and be able to maintain the group pace. Alternate activities may be available for those unable to complete some of the hikes. Depending on weather and location conditions, daily activities may have to be altered or adjusted. Accommodations will be in comfortable traditional European hotels with atmosphere and character. Trail conditions may vary and are subject to change.

REV11MAR24



**Book by May 31, 2024
and save \$200 per person**



Tour Cost in Canadian Dollars Per Person

Land-Only* (Join first hotel / Leave last hotel).....	\$5,395
Toronto.....	\$6,595
Ottawa / Montreal	\$6,735
Halifax.....	\$6,835
St. John's / Fredericton / Winnipeg.....	\$6,935
Saskatoon / Regina / Victoria	\$6,995
Calgary / Edmonton / Vancouver.....	\$6,935
Single Supplement.....	\$1,375

*Land-only price is based on joining at the hotel in Farra di Soligo and leaving at the hotel in Venice. Airfares from other gateways are available on request. Airfares and air carriers are subject to change and will be confirmed prior to final payment. Refer to inclusive features for details. Please note twin bed (two beds) accommodation is limited.

Tour price is based on sharing a twin-bedded room at hotels. Prices are based on a minimum of 20 members and on rates, taxes and fees effective March 2024. Prices are subject to change due to factors beyond our control.

Small group size for a more intimate experience.

Maximum 25 travellers.

Insurance is NOT INCLUDED but is highly recommended. Premiums are calculated based on the individual's age, destination (country), trip length, and trip booking window – please contact our staff to receive a quote. Your coverage starts on the effective date of your confirmation of coverage. Please discuss your insurance coverage prior to booking. Check our website for the most current information. Refer to the enrollment form for terms and conditions.

First deposit is \$500 per person

**Second deposit of \$1,000 per person is due on
May 21, 2024**

Final payment is due on July 23, 2024

To reserve your places on this tour, complete the enclosed enrolment form, indicating the tour and your home city, and forward it with your deposit to:



Experiencing Our World
SINCE 1969

1092 Mount Pleasant Road
Toronto, ON M4P 2M6
416-484-0926 | 1-800-387-8890
tours@craigtravel.com
craigtravel.com

