



KDavisTravels

Dolomites, Italy **May 21 – 28, 2024**

The trip to the Dolomites begins and ends in Bolzano, Italy. You can fly to Venice, Munich or Milan and then take the train to Bolzano. After the minimum of 10 reservations is reached we will advise you to make your air travel reservations. We will meet at the Bolzano train station.

Trip Start: May 21, 2024 – Bolzano/Bozen train station
Trip Finish: May 28, 2024 – Bolzano/Bozen train station
Trip Length: 8 days, 7 nights
Trip Cost: \$3,000 per person sharing a room
\$3,200 for a single room

(Trip cost includes everything except airfare, 1 dinner, 2 lunches, beverages, tips, and all items of a personal nature.)

Day by Day Overview

Tuesday, May 21 - Meet Karen and Patrizia at the train station in Bolzano/Bozen (this is the Italian/German name for the town) in the main hall (ticket hall) at 4:30PM. From here we will take a bus to Collalbo/Klobenstein and the Dolomiten Hotel - www.hoteldolomiten.com. Collalbo is about 3,500 ft elevation. Get settled and explore the village on your own.

- 6:30—Meet on terrace for refreshments, getting acquainted and preview of week.
- 7:00 – Dinner together in the hotel dining room.

Wednesday, May 22 - We start our day from the hotel, walking an easy path through the town of Longomoso—at one time a stopover for the Teutonic Knights. Our woodland path gives us views to the “People Pyramids”, Gothic churches, fields of flowers and the small hamlet of Badsuss. We have an afternoon treat of local refreshments at the farmhouse of Siglinde. We walk back to Collalbo.

- Dinner together.

Thursday, May 23 - A bus will take us to another area of the Dolomites today. Casterotto, an alpine village (3,500ft) with lots of character is base for exploration of the Alpe di Siusi region. Alpe di Siusi, Europe’s largest high alpine meadow, separates two of the most famous Dolomite ski resort valleys. We use a cable car to reach higher elevations today. Views here are of the Sasso Lungo Mountains at the head of the meadow and the Schlern Peaks. We experience both meadow walks and altitude walks today. Return to Collalbo by bus.

- Dinner together.

Friday, May 24 – This is a “town day”. We take the narrow gauge train, then cable car down the mountain to Bolzano. At 10:00 a.m. we will visit the South Tyrol Museum of Archaeology, home to the famous 5000-year-old “Ice Man”—we have a specialist guide. <http://www.iceman.it/en>

Lunch/shopping from 11-1PM followed by a walk to visit a vineyard and a wine tasting. This has been a noted wine producing area since Roman times. Bus back to Collalbo.

➤ Lunch and Dinner on your own.

Saturday, May 25 - Our bus will take us to the cable car which will “lift” us to 6,600ft. Then an hour’s walk accompanied by spectacular Dolomite scenery takes us to the “Corno of Renon”. (Corno=horn; Renon=name of area). Then we walk back to our hotel through scented pine forest and alpine meadow. The descent is about 3,000ft.

➤ Dinner together.

Sunday, May 26 - Today we leave our hotel on a path that transverses field and woods. The view of the impressive Rosengarten range of the Dolomites is always with us. We will have interesting stops along our route today: the Bee Museum—the oldest surviving “maso” of the area—a typical farmhouse including dwelling, hay barn and stable (www.suedtirol-it.com/renon-en/apiculture-museum.htm); a picnic lunch by Lake Costalovara. Then a return walk to Collalbo.

➤ Dinner together.

Monday, May 27 - We take the bus today to Val di Funes located in the Odle Group of the Dolomites. From the naturalist point of view, this valley is among the finest in the region. This is a beautiful wooded valley where the cutting of forest has been regulated since 1577! We see spruce 30 meters high and 130 years old as well as larch and pine. Both deer and chamois populate the area. Return by bus to Dolomiten.

➤ Farewell dinner in hotel dining room.

Tuesday, May 28 - We leave Collalbo this morning after breakfast to be at the Bolzano train station by 10:00a.m. If you need an earlier departure, a taxi can be arranged.

Notes: Our hikes each day are 7-9 miles. This is the Italian Alps and so some of the hikes have significant elevation changes. For the hikes with the greatest altitude gain, we take a gondola/lift. While elevations change during our week from valley to high mountain meadows the actual hiking elevation range is from 500 ft to 1,500 ft. The highest elevation we reach is 7,000’. To enjoy this trip, you should hike regularly in the months prior to the trip, include hills and be prepared for a great week of hiking!

We leave Collalbo each morning around 9:00 AM. Our breakfasts and dinners are at the hotel with the exception of one dinner on your own. A picnic lunch is provided by the hotel with the exception of two lunches. Each evening we will meet to “review and preview” our day.

Please Note: The above schedule is subject to change due to weather or other circumstances beyond our control.

Flight and Airport Info

Getting to Bolzano — Fly from the U.S. to Venice, Milan or Munich. You can take the train from any of these cities to Bolzano. Train tickets are cheapest bought via the internet using the Trenitalia website or Bahn if traveling from Munich. Of course, tickets can be bought at your departure train station or through your travel agent.

Weather: Mild spring weather with possible cool mountain temperatures and rain. May daytime temperatures range 55-65 degrees, nighttime 40 degrees.

Helpful Websites:

www.visitdolomites.com

www.iceman.it

<http://www.trenitalia.com/cms/v/index.jsp?vgnextoid=ad1ce14114bc9110VgnVCM10000080a3e90aRCRD>

(Italy trains website)