**The lakes of Lombardy**
An 8 days self-guided cycling vacation deluxe

Code tour: ITLOM02C



**From Lake Garda to Lake Maggiore**

A fabulous cycling tour in a flourishing and varied landscape, in which you cross national parks, oases and natural reserves. You cycle along waterways zigzagging between green hills, passing characteristic villages, castles... always admiring the brilliance of the sun reflecting on the crystal clear water surfaces of the lakes. This cycling tour starts in Peschiera on the shores of Lake Garda. The next days you will cycle from east until west crossing the hills south of the big Alpine lakes. The first part follows the river Mincio, cycling along the cycle path 'Ciclopista del Sole' (a part of Eurovelo 7). At lake Como the route meets the Way of Pilgrims (Via dei Pellegrini), Eurovelo 5. You will pass hermitages, fortresses and picturesque villages, which preserve artistic treasures of exceptional value, ancient noble palaces and castles with famous botanical gardens enclosing a peerless silence. The tour ends at Lake Maggiore where you could make a relaxing boot trip on the lake with a visit to the enchanting Borromee Islands (isola Bella, isola Madre ed isola dei Pescatori)




**Period:**
Every Saturday from 21 March until 26 September (on request with min. 4 people it is possible to start on another day)

**Participants**: minimum 2 persons

**Level**: 2,5
Medium difficulty: Cycle experience is necessary. You cycle through a hilly landscape mostly on quiet country roads and sometimes cycle paths. The steeper climbs are short and the longer ones not too steep. The daily distances are restricted to between 35 km/22 miles and 63 km/39 miles.
Total length:
260 km/161,5 miles minimum and 270 km/167,7 miles.

**Program in short:**
Day 1 Arrival at Peschiera
Day 2 Peschiera – Brescia (53 km / 32,9 mi or 63,1 km /39,2 mi)
Day 3 Brescia – Lake Iseo (35 km / 22,1 mi)
Day4 Lake Iseo - Bergamo (35 km /21,7 mi)
Day 5 Bergamo – Garlate (37 km /23 mi)
Day 6 Garlate – Como (40 km / 24,9 mi)
Day 7 Como – Ranco (60 km /36,8 mi)
Day 8 End of tour

## Program day by day

**Day 1 Individual arrival at Peschiera del Garda**
The historical centre of Peschiera, a town on the shore of lake Garda, is surrounded by cannels. Garda lake is the largest lake of Italy and the beautiful landscape has inspired many writers like Johann Wolfgang von Goethe and Franz Kafka. The lake has numerous small islands and five main ones, the largest being Isola del Garda. The centre of Peschiera is walled-in and there is a fortress to visit.

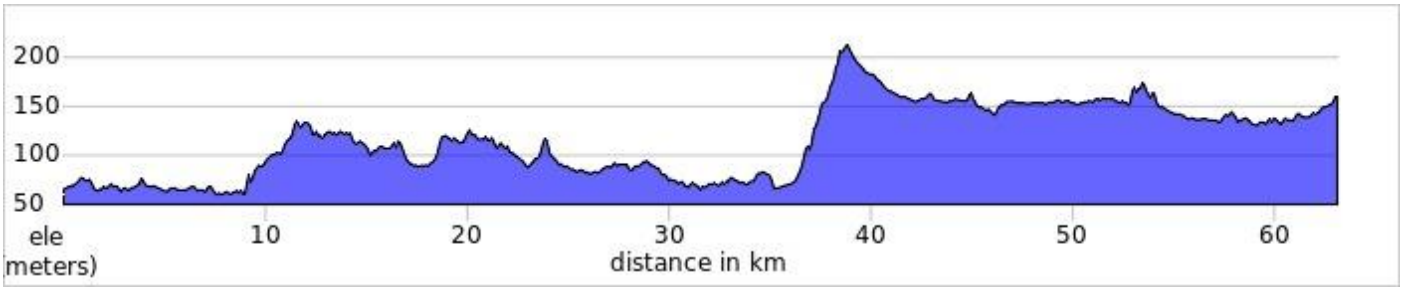
Overnight with breakfast in Peschiera

**Day 2 Peschiera del Garda - Brescia**
The first cycle day of this holiday dedicated to the lakes of Lombardy follows the river Mincio. Crossing the morenic hills, you will reach the medieval castle of Monzambano, a little village set in the Mincio Park surrounded by a picturesque landscape. The next stop is Castellano Lagusello on the shores of a heart-shaped lake. The medieval centre is walled. In Pozzolengo is another castle to visit. You can shorten the route by going directly to San Martino della Battaglia. From afar, you will see the characteristic neo-gothic tower from 1878. Final destination of today is Brescia, a custodian of a rich heritage of art and history from prehistoric times to the modern day. Worth visiting is the museum of Santa Giulia, which houses the City Museum of the town having more than 11,000 finds. It takes the visitor from the prehistoric Age, the Roman, the Lombard and the Carolingian Age and the period of the medieval Comuni and Signorie up to the Venetian Age.

<u>Short route:</u>
Overnight with breakfast in Brescia
Distance: about 53 km / 33 miles
Ascent & Descent: + 346m -256m




<u>Long route</u>:
Overnight with breakfast in Brescia
Distance: 63,1 km /39,2 miles
Ascent & Descent: + 534m -440m



**Day 3 Brescia –Iseo Lake**
Today a short and relaxing itinerary that leads us to ride in Franciacorta, a land of wines of excellence. The route take us to Rodengo Saiano, home to a Benedictine abbey where the monks still lives, passes near the castles of Passirano and Clusane and at the Sebino Nature Reserve, a protected area rich in whater birds, and then ends on the banks of the lovely Lake Iseo.

Overnight with breakfast in Iseo Lake
Distance: 35 km / 21,7 miles
Ascent & Descent: + 266m -237m




**Day 4 Iseo lake – Montello – Bergamo**
Today is full of green rolling hills, vineyards, small villages and castles. You will pass the castle of Grumello and Montello. Bergamo is divided in a upper medieval town centre and a modern lower part, which are connected by a cable train. The most known part of Bergamo is the cosy square, Piazza Vecchia with many terraces and the tower 'Torre Civica'. Here we found also the Duomo and famous Colleoni Chapel.

Overnight with breakfast in Bergamo
Distance: 35 km /21,7 miles
Ascent & Descent: + 312m -246m




**Day 5 Bergamo-Garlate and surroundings**
After breakfast in the saddle and after a nice ride you come to the sanctuary of Mapello, located at the foot of Monte Giovanni XXIII where a big part of the monuments are connected with the life of Pope John XXIII. Very interesting is the 'Leonardo' ferryboat of Olginate –a kind of ferry invented by Leonardo da Vinci-. Your overnight stay will be at the lake or in Lecco, a town which was rewarded in 2013 as Alpine town. Lake Garlate is formed by the river Adda. On the left side are situated the towns of Lecco and Vercurago while on the right side the towns of Pescate and Garlate.

Overnight with breakfast in Garlate
Distance: 45 km /28 miles
Ascent & Descent: + 296m -347m




**Day 6 Garlate/surrounding – Lakes of Annone & Pusiano & Alserio – Como Lake**
A new day dedicated to many lakes, beautiful views, stunning nature and the small church of Albavilla. The end of today is Lake Como, a lake of Glacial origin and the third lake of Italy. This pre-alpine lake surrounded by a crown of mountains with peaks up to 2700 m high, is not only spectacular but also rich in history and tradition. In the 17th and 18th century it became a popular retreat for aristocratic and famous writers like Stendhal and Flaubert, but also nowadays it is considered as one of the most beautiful lakes in Europe. The most important river is the Adda which is also the lake's only outlet. It leaves the lake at Lecco, at the far tip of the southeastern branch of the lake, flowing into the smaller lakes of Garlate and Olginate before heading south of Milan to join the River Po

Overnight with breakfast in Como or nearby
Distance: 40 km / 24,8 miles
Ascent & Descent: + 457m -449m




**Day 7 Lake Como - the lakes of Varese & Monate – Ranco (Lake Maggiore)**
Today's ride take you to the Romanesque oratory o San Martino at Albiolo (12th century). In the interior, there are nice frescoes of the 14th and 15th century. Also today, there is no lack of water because you pass the lakes of Varese, Monate and you cycle along the river Ticino. The grand final is Lake Maggiore, the most western of the prealpine lakes, and the town of Sesto Calende with its abbey dedicated to San Donato (9th-10th century) Lake Maggiore was featured in Ernest Hemingway's infamous novel, A Farewell to Arms. You could make a relaxed boot trip on the lake!

Overnight with breakfast in Ranco
Distance: 59,3 km /36,8 miles
Ascent & Descent: + 749m -742m




**Day 8 After breakfast end of tour**

**Hotels:**
*** and **** stars

**Prices per person 2026:**
In double room € 1.545
In single room € 2.090
Bike rental (21 speed, 1 pannier, 1 tool kit) € 140
E-bike rental (1 pannier, 1 tool kit) € 290
Helmet included on bike rental

**Included in the price:**

- Overnight stays in good *** and **** star deluxe hotels
- Breakfast
- Luggage transportation (1 piece per person)
- Route descriptions and maps (1 set per room) are available at extra cost of 20 euro; to be ordered in advance (Italian or English)
- Access to the Ride with GPS app with GPS tracks of the route
- Back-up service

**Not included in the price**:

- Tourist tax (To be paid at the hotel)
- Anything not mentioned under "Included in the price"

**Cancellation policy:**
In the event of withdrawal from the travel contract, the traveller is still required to pay the administration fee of €30 per person.

- 15% of the entire participation fee from the time of booking up to 45 working days before departure, with a minimum of €50
- 35% of the full participation fee from 44 to 28 working days prior to departure
- 50% of the full participation fee from 27 to 11 working days prior to departure
- 80% of the full participation fee from 10 to 3 working days before departure
- 100% of the full participation fee within 2 working days prior to departure

**How to arrive:**
Start / End of tour: Peschiera/Ranco




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