

A personally curated, authentic and inclusive guided trip to visit the former homeland of your travel agent, Laura Gould and experience the “true” Italy and “La Dolce Vita” as she did for 15 Years!



A “Viaggio di Maggio” (Journey in May) 2026

*May 2nd to May 16th 2026 or
May 16th to May 30th
(reverse direction)*

The itineraries presented here are offered up to 4x per year, providing a minimum of 4 guests, with a maximum of 8 guests, are confirmed as a travel group.

“Viaggio Di Maggio” beginning to mid-May (as shown here), and mid-May to end of May and “September to Remember” from beginning of September, and mid September to end of September. The itinerary details/activities can be modified and personalized.

Master Itinerary for Trip

- 5/02: arrive Malpensa airport AM, lunch, to Cerro villa, pizzeria dinner
- 5/03: breakfast, culinary experience, gourmet dinner at Osteria in hills
- 5/04: breakfast, boat ride and visit of Borromean islands (lunch) & Stresa, villa dinner
- 5/05: breakfast, guided tour Milan, lunch Milan, drive to Levanto overnight
- 5/06: breakfast, Cinque Terre train trip or hike, dinner while out, overnight B&B Levanto
- 5/07: breakfast, Cinque Terre train trip or hike, Ligurian dinner in Levanto, overnight
- 5/8 breakfast, drive to Tuscany and farmhouse, check-in, welcome dinner farmhouse
- 5/9: breakfast, market shopping, cantina tour and tasting, culinary experience and meal
- 5/10: breakfast, train to Florence for private guided tour of Florence with museum, farmhouse overnight
- 5/11: breakfast, private grain mill tour, farmhouse relax, culinary experience, meal together
- 5/12: breakfast, drive through Chianti, Siena visit, pizza dinner
- 5/13: breakfast, Tuscan immersive experience, culinary experience, meal together
- 5/14: breakfast, olive oil farm visit and tasting, spa day and thermal baths with lunch
- 5/15: breakfast, vineyard tour and wine pairing lunch, visit San Gimignano
- 5/16: breakfast, drive to Florence train station or airport for departures

Trip Accomodations

- 3 nights in private villa in Cerro or Arolo (on Lago Maggiore) with private bedroom & semi private bathrooms, shared living quarters
- 2 nights in Bed and Breakfast in Levanto (Liguria/Cinque Terre), private bedroom & bathroom, swimming pool (or villa with similar accommodations)
- 8 nights in semi private accommodations in Tuscan Agriturismo (Farmhouse) Peccioli (Tuscany/Province of Pisa) with 3 bedroom and 2 bedroom apartments

Part One 5/2 to 5/6/26



“Gems of Northern Italy”

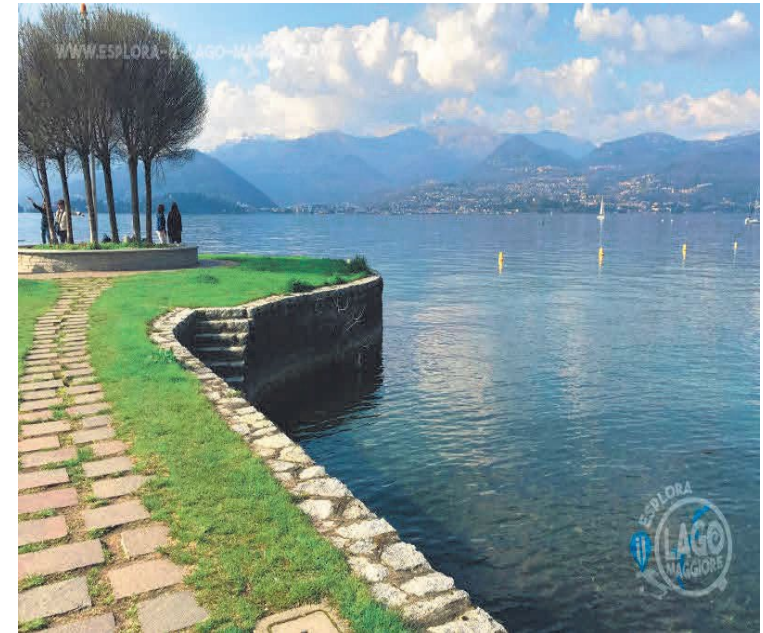
Day 1: Saturday
May 2, 2026

After arriving this morning into the Malpensa airport, north of Milan, we will make our way towards Lake Maggiore via private van, with your personal travel guide and driver, Laura.

Here we will stay at a large private villa in the small lakeside village of Cerro for four nights. Cerro is a subdivision of the quaint town of Leggiuno, Laura's former residence.

From the airport, we will stop at a "Risto" for a quick panino on the way to our villa, located approximately one hour from the airport, as well as a stop at a local market to gather our food for the next few days. Then we will arrive and get settled into our villa where you will be accommodated in your own private bedroom with a private bathroom, and a queen size bed.

Toward the late afternoon, we will gather on the patio for a traditional "brindisi" with an "aperitivo" to start of our trip! Then we will head out this evening, to the local pizzeria for fresh pizza and beer by the lake, on "Reno Beach" of Leggiuno



The lakeside path of Cerro, a village in the town of Leggiuno, on Lago Maggiore

One of our villas in Cerro, for larger groups

This morning we will enjoy breakfast together in the dining room or balcony of our villa, with a "caffe latte" or "cappuccino" accompanied by some pastries, fruit and yogurt.

You will then have this leisurely Sunday free to catch up on sleep, walk around Cerro, lie on the beach or have a swim then we head to the hills for an intimate gourmet meal at a rustic Osteria run by Laura's friend

Day 2: Sunday
May 6, 2026



Day 3: Monday
May 8, 2026



STRESA AND THE BORROMEAN ISLANDS



After a delicious Italian breakfast in our villa, we will drive to Santa Caterina del Sasso to embark on a motorized ferryboat into Lago Maggiore to visit the Borromeo Islands: Isola Madre, Isola Bella and Isola del Pescatore, and then continue on to the western shore of the lake to explore the famous city of Stresa. In the late afternoon, we will return to our villa for dinner and an evening of relaxation.



Day 4: Tuesday
May 9, 2026

Today we leave open for you to experience the area as you like for our last full day on Lago Maggiore!

Some suggestions might be:

- Go to sunbathe and take a dip at Reno Beach
- Go to Laveno Mombello in the afternoon to stroll around the lakeside and browse the shops
- Visit to the Santa Caterina sanctuary
- Help Laura prepare a typical risotto for dinner



*The Hermitage of Santa Caterina Del Sasso
A UNESCO Heritage Site*

“Gems of Northern Italy” Inclusions

4 nights private single or double accommodations at at our private villa in Leggiuno

- Italian Breakfast each morning
- Transportation from Malpensa airport to Leggiuno
- All transportation via ferry and private car while on Lago Maggiore
- Personal attention of bilingual tour guide accompanying the Group
- Personal attention of Travel Planner accompanying the Group
- Interactive culinary experience preparing a Lombardian meal
- Ferry tickets to the Borromean Islands

and Stresa

- Admission to Isola Bella Palace and Museum
- Admission to the Hermitage of Santa Caterina del Sasso
- Private vehicle transport throughout
- Guided 3 hr tour of Milan with visit to Duomo, Castel Sforzesco and Da Vinci’s “Cenacolo” and painting laboratory
- Milan Metro transportation to/from meeting point
- Pizza dinner with beer or wine
- Lunch at Osteria or restaurant on island
- lunch and dinners in villa
- Wine or beer with all meals

This morning, after a quick breakfast, we will check out of our accommodations and say "arrivederci" to the lake district, making our way in our private van to the great city of Milan, with our personal Italian guide, Elisa!

Upon arrival at Milan's "Cadorna" station, we will be guided past the "Sforzesco Castle" and head to visit the majestic, gothic Duomo and marbled Galleria Vittorio Emanuele. Large church where we will have a guided visit to view the famous "Cenacolo", Leonardo da Vinci's masterpiece, "The Last Supper", followed by a small group painting laboratory, guided by a museum expert. We will have a light lunch while exploring Milan.

We then head back to our van, and embark on the 4 hour drive to the Cinque Terre, where we will stay in our Bed and Breakfast at the gateway to the Cinque Terre, Levanto,

MILANO

Day 5: Wednesday
May 20, 2026



Levanto: Gateway to the Cinque Terre

Day 4,
Wednesday
May 10,
2026



Upon our arrival into the seaside town of Levanto, we check in to our comfortable B&B, and get ready to go to town where we will enjoy a Ligurian seafood delicacy: Linguine all'astice!





"The Cinque Terre"

Day 6: Thursday
May 11, 2026



We will have a hearty breakfast at our B&B will, then we head off to ride the train to the "Cinque Terre", where we will ride the train through all 5 "lands". If you are feeling adventurous, you might want to walk the famous "Via Dell'Amore! We will grab lunch along the way, and then head to a local trattoria for a traditional Ligurian dinner of trofie all'pesto!

Itinerary

“Under the Tuscan Sun”

- 5/12: drive from Cinque Terre to Pisa for visit, then on to our Tuscan farmhouse for welcome dinner and overnights for the remainder of our stay in Tuscany!
- 5/13: visit Volterra and its market in the morning, followed by vineyard tour and wine tasting at Podere Marcampo, farmhouse culinary experience preparing dinner.
- 5/14: : early breakfast, drive to Florence for guided tour and Accademia museum visit. Lunch in Florence food court (food market)*, back to villa for dinner
- 5/15: breakfast, tour of family grain mill, followed by farmhouse culinary experience preparing dinner.
- 5/16: drive through Chianti region to visit Siena. Lunch and afternoon on own touring Siena, pizza dinner
- 5/17: : breakfast, visit Lajatico cheese farm, Bocelli house viewing, local wine cantina visit and tasting followed by lunch at local trattoria. Farmhouse culinary experience preparing dinner
- 5/18: breakfast, olive oil experience, Casciana Terme for thermal spas, lunch in the square* and spa treatments. Farmhouse for dinner.
- 5/19: breakfast, vineyard tour with wine pairing lunch, afternoon visit to San Gimignano, light dinner farmhouse
- 5/20: breakfast, check out, drive back to Florence for departures (train station or airport)

Day 7: Friday
May 12, 2026

Pisa

This morning after an early breakfast, we will check out of our B & B, and head out to Pisa! Here we will meet our American friend, Lynn, who has lived in Tuscany and conducted tours in the region for years! Lynn will be staying with us for a few days, and we act as our tour guide for Pisa, San Gimignano and Florence!

We then drive to the center of the walled city, park our van, and begin our tour of Pisa!

We have tickets for you to climb the famous "Leaning Tower of Pisa", from where you can see the Entire city! You will also be able to visit the Cathedral. We will stop for a quick bite to eat while touring, then leave around 2 pm for the drive to our Farmhouse!



“Under the Tuscan Sun”

Tuscan Farmhouse Immersive Experience

Friday, May 12, 2026

Welcome to our Tuscan Farmhouse

We arrive via our private van at our family owned farmhouse late afternoon and settle into our comfortable accommodations where we will enjoy comfortable typical Tuscan style Farmhouse with a communal kitchen, living and dining room, air conditioning, shared bathrooms and swimming pool. The owners of our Agriturismo will greet us when we arrive in the late afternoon, and then we will share a homemade welcome dinner, with farm to table ingredients, getting to know our hosts, Roberta and Giovanni!



Volterra

Day 8: Saturday
May 13, 2026

This morning we head to Volterra early in the morning, so that we can take advantage of the outdoor market there to source our fresh vegetables, meat and fruit for the week!

There is plenty to shop for here, including clothing, souvenirs and fresh items!

After an hour or so at the market, we will head up to visit the medieval walled town of Volterra

After our city visit, we will go to have a Wine tasting and antipasto at a local winery, While our hostess will give us a tour and explanation Of the wine making process, with some antipasti

We then head back to the farmhouse for the afternoon to Prepare an authentic regional meal together!



FLORENCE *(FIRENZE)*

Day 9: Sunday
May 14, 2026

Today we leave after a light breakfast and take a train from Pontedera into Florence, where our native speaking guide and Florence Expert, Lynn, will conduct us on an escorted and guided tour of the most famous landmarks and hidden gems of Florence! We will venture to the Ponte Vecchio, the oldest most iconic bridge in Florence. Before lunch we will visit the Piazza Duomo, the Medici District of San Lorenzo then on to the Accademia Gallery to see Michelangelo's "David" and the Renaissance Cloister! We will have lunch in the large indoor marketplace where you can choose from the local "lamperdotto" specialty, or try a unique pizza with pistachio and mortadella! We will then go back to the train station for our ride to Pontedera, then onto the farmhouse.



Day 10: Monday
May 15th, 2026

Tuscan Experience Immersion Da6

1: Tour an ancient grain mill

We will have a private tour of our host family's ancient grain and cereal mill, which they have owned and operated for centuries. Here you will have the opportunity to watch them make their daily product, bread or pasta, and purchase their products which can only be found here!

2: Visit a cheese maker

We will then take the short drive to Lajatico, Andrea Bocelli's hometown. Here we will pass his childhood home on the way to visit the local cheesemaker who will show us how she makes homemade mozzarella and scamorza by hand! We will visit the stalls where her milkman may be milking the cows, goats or sheep for their daily production. Here we can sample and buy some cheese, and they will vacuum seal it for us to take with.

3: Lunch at Officina Bocelli or local trattoria

4: Visit a local wine cellar for a tour and tasting

We will drive down the road a bit to Terriciola, the "Citta del Vino", where we will have a look around the cantina of a local vintner and a enjoy wine tasting outside on their beautiful grounds. You will have the opportunity to buy wines here for a special price, and even have them shipped!

*Day 11: Tuesday
May 16, 2026*

SIENA

After breakfast, we will depart in our private van to spend the day driving through the Chianti countryside, stopping along the way at a local "cantina" or two to sample some wine and "affettati". This brings us to beautiful Siena, where you will have free time to tour of Siena where you will learn about the Palio and visit the Duomo. You will also have time to explore this renowned city on your own before venturing back to our Farmhouse, stopping on the way for a pizza dinner



Day 12
Wednesday May 17th
2026

Tenuta Torciano and San Gimignano

We drive in our private van after breakfast to tour a famous vineyard about 40 minutes from our Famhouse. We will be guided through the vineyard, and we will then be accommodated into the conservatory garden where we will be served a delicious wine pairing lunch, with each course perfectly paired with a tasting of 15 wines and olive oils! We will begin with an antipasti from their own biological farm with cold cuts, cheeses and olives followed by homemade truffle Lasagne or Tuscan ribollita soup. We will then be served a second course consisting of roasted meat with fresh vegetables, followed by cantucci and homemade dessert wine.

After lunch, we will then drive to visit the infamous antique walled city of San Gimignano, and explore this town on our own for the afternoon.



Day 13: Thursday
May 18th 2026

Olive Oil farm and Casciana Terme



After our Farmhouse breakfast, we will drive our private van through the Tuscan hills to visit an olive oil production farm and learn about the process.

Then onto the beautiful natural hot springs of “Casciana Terme”. Bring your bathing suit as we have arranged for your entrance into the facility where you will have access to their outdoor thermal pool and changing facilities for the day. Spa treatments are optional and may be pre-arranged at an additional cost.

We can have lunch in the quaint square at the spa’s café. After leaving the spa, relaxed and refresh, we drive back to our Farmhouse and enjoy a light dinner.

Day 14: Friday
May 20th, 2026

Arrivederci Toscana!

Today your "Viaggio di Maggio" tour comes to an end, and we say our goodbyes to the beautiful Tuscan region, until next time!

This morning, we checkout of the farmhouse after breakfast and drive back to Florence where you will be dropped off at the airport or train station for your departure to your next destination!

Grazie!

What's included:

- *Transportation to farmhouse from Pisa via our private van*
- *Private accommodations for in 3* Tuscan farmhouse with air conditioning, shared bath and swimming pool*
- *Daily Italian breakfast*
- *3 "Culinary Immersive Experiences" including interactive cooking and Italian language lessons by our bilingual hostess, Laura. Meal prepared together included.*
- *Transportation to Florence with private guided tour, entrance to Accademia Museum and lunch in Florence*
- *Private van transportation to Siena through Chianti*
- *Typical Farmhouse Dinner on arrival night, with wine included, prepared by the Tuscan owners of the Farmhouse*
- *Transportation to San Gimignano and tour of Tenuta Torciano winery with private lunch and wine/olive oil tasting experience*
- *Entrance to Pisa and entrance to Terme di Cascina baths and spa. Spa treatments optional at additional cost*

What's not included:

- *Meals and beverages (other than what is listed above)*
- *Transportation (other than what is listed above)*
- *Private tour guides in towns (other than what is listed above)*
- *Travel Insurance (required)*
- *Anything not specifically mentioned in the inclusions above*
- *Gratuities*

“Viaggio di Maggio”

Pricing and terms 2026

“September to Remember” (as per presentation)	14 days/13nts	\$6585 per person
“September to Remember” (no 5 Terre)	12 days/11 nts	\$5885 pp
Part 1 <i>only</i> : “Under the Tuscan Sun”	7 days/7 nts	\$4385 pp.
Part 3 <i>only</i> : “Gems of Northern Italy”	5 days/4 nts	\$3385 pp

- 30% non-refundable deposit due within 5 days of booking
- 30% non-refundable payment due 90 days prior to travel
- Non-refundable balance due 30 days prior to travel
- Venmo, Zelle or check payable to “Bucket List Travel Center” accepted
- Any credit card payments subject to 3.5% credit card processing fee
- Travel insurance purchase mandatory
- Airfare is additional but can be purchased at tour (consolidator) or bulk fares