

## CLASSIC LANGHE

This tour offers a sensory and intellectual taste of the Piedmont's Langhe, a hilly part of Piemonte in the Cuneo province about 60 km from Turin, world famous for the Barolo wine. The newcomers will discover the cultural history and traditions of the Langhe, will build an historical vision explaining its architecture jewels gracefully dotting the vine covered hills and will enjoy the succulent fruits of the land divinely combined in the well-established Piedmontese cuisine. The group will be staying at the VIGNETO COUNTRY HOUSE, in Roddi a property beautifully located on the top of a hill run by two brothers, Manolo and Rossano. The cuisine is traditional Piedmontese with a hint of creativity that will welcome the group back "home" every night.

The itinerary has been tested in order to enjoy the landscape without driving on the same road twice, the restaurants are selected for their unquestionable quality, comfortable environment and friendliness.

### DAY ONE

Visit the **University of Gastronomic Sciences** run by **Slow Food** in Pollenzo (8km) and the **Wine Bank** – located in 18<sup>th</sup> century cellars - established to create an archive of the best wine production and to promote Italian wine culture.

Visit **Verduno** (5km).

Lunch at the **Verduno Castle**. Disigned by architect Juvarra, in the 18<sup>th</sup> century became King Carlo Alberto's property with a Barolo's wine production unit.

Visit to **Barolo** (6km). This is the heart of the whole wine production area established one thousand years ago. Visit the **Castle**, site fo the **Enoteca Regionale** (Regional collection of vintage wines) and the **Ancient Cellars of the Marquis of Barolo**. Free wine tasting.

Visit the **Corkscrew Museum**.

Back to RODDI (11km).

### DAY TWO

Visit the borgo of **Neive** (16km).

This old hamlet, in its higher side, displays beautiful monuments with great exmples of fine architecture.

Visit the **Castle of Mango** (7km), site of the Enoteca Regionale Colline del Moscato, (Regional collection of vintage Moscato wine) a sweet yet not sticky wine which can be tasted at the price of 6 Euro. This imposing castle, built in the mid of the 13<sup>th</sup> century, hides many mysteries within its secret paths. Visit "The House of Memories", museum of agricultural life and traditions.

**Santo Stefano Belbo** (10km), native town of writer Cesare Pavese, one of the major Italian writers, is also famous because the Benedettine monks of San Gaudenzio introduced the cultivation of the Moscato vine.

Lunch.

Visit to the **Centre of Cesare Pavese studies**. It would be advisable to read some of Pavese's book beforehand (like "The Moon and the Bonfires", set in the Langhe region) .

**Valle Belbo**, a drive along the Belbo river until Rocchetta (10km).

**Lequio Berria** (14km) is a medieval hamlet situated in a stunning panoramic site.

Visit the Sanctuary and the International Collection of Pastel drawings.

Back to Roddi (22km).

## **DAY THREE**

Visit the castle of **Serralunga d'Alba** (11km). Its medieval town centre is almost intact, from the walls of the castle it's possible to see its concentric topography built for defensive reasons. This is a strong Barolo production centre.

Wine tasting at **Cascina Cucco**.

**Monforte** (10km) Another jewel of the Langhe, with the old part perched on the hill.

Lunch.

Visit to the **Castle of Grinzane Cavour** (12km). This medieval castle is named after the famous Italian liberal statesman - Camillo Benso Conte di Cavour - who was major of the town of Grinzane from 1832 till 1849. Here also the best "torrone" is produced.

Visit **La Morra** with its breathtaking Belvedere, a terrace from which the eye explores the whole vastity of the Langhe. Stop for dinner at the restaurant Belvedere.

Back to Roddi (5km).

## **DAY FOUR**

Truffle hunt or Cooking demonstration according to season.

Visit **Barbaresco** (16km), its unmistakable tower symbolises the town which also gives the name to the omonymous wine.

Lunch. Visit **Enoteca Regionale**.

Visit the city of **Alba**, (14km) heart and capital of the Langhe, also known as "the city of a hundred red towers", hosts many wine and food events like the auction of the biggest truffle and prestigious wine festivals.

Back to Roddi/Turin.

**The cost of the tour, excluding car rental, is of 500 per person.** Depending on the season, (the best ones are spring and autumn) availability of hotels and other unpredictable facts the cost may slightly vary..