

# Moretti

WINE & FOOD TRAVEL

## **Wine and Wellness – Alto Adige + Verona** **May 24 – May 30, 2026** **Limited to 12 participants**

### **Overview**

Alto Adige is one of the most stunning regions in Italy with the steep Alps rising above verdant valleys full of vineyards and charming villages. It is a UNESCO protected area for its beauty and has a distinct Alpine influence in its buildings, food, and wine. The Alps, called Dolomites here, border Austria and both German and Italian are spoken there.

Our base will be a tranquil yet stunning, 4-Star superior, award-winning design and Eco-hotel boasting modern, clean lines and beautiful views of the mountains and forest. The family owners – mother and two daughters – are present and very involved in the guests' needs. This is one of the Leading Spa Hotels of the World, so of course its wellness offerings are a huge draw: indoor and outdoor heated pools, saunas, gym, yoga, other classes, and plenty of trails for walking (all included in the cost.) You will have time every day to luxuriate in the hotel's offerings that will refresh and rejuvenate you before and after our day trips. There are also optional spa treatments like massages and facials which are available at your own cost. Typical of hotels in remote areas, they have an excellent restaurant that is open for dinner, and we have included sumptuous dinners as part of the itinerary to make it easy for you.

The wineries we will visit are the stars of Alto Adige and several are well known for their commitment to organic and biodynamic farming. All group meals include wine, water, and coffee, and we promise, you will not go hungry! The restaurants, even if some may be humble, have all been chosen for their high quality. Expect photo opportunities galore, time to explore towns on your own outside of our group activities, and time to take care of yourselves – inside and out.

The first afternoon and evening will be spent in charming Verona. (Everybody falls in love with Verona!)

Why travel with us? We have been leading tours for over 17 years and pride ourselves on giving you a unique and superior experience. We are perhaps the only Italian travel company owned by two Italian wine experts with each over 30 years in the wine business. We are both Italian and American citizens who understand the needs of Americans while traveling in Italy. We also have a lengthy history of eating and drinking our way all over Italy! So, let us take the worry away of planning and details so that you can just sit back, relax and have fun!

### **Itinerary**

*Subject to change*

***Noted on each day are which meals are included as part of the program.***

#### **Day 1: Sunday, May 24 (dinner)**



Everyone arrives at our 4-star hotel in the center of Verona in the afternoon. We meet in lobby at 5:00 pm for a welcome drink followed by an easy walking tour taking in the history, main sites, and an inside look at its famous Roman arena. Following our stroll, we will enjoy a welcome dinner at delicious restaurant not far from our hotel. (Dinner.)



### **Day 2: Monday, May 25 (breakfast, lunch, dinner)**

Our comfortable bus picks us up in Verona in the morning and we head north from the Veneto into Alto Adige. The first stop will be the gorgeous San Leonardo winery, one of the most southernmost wineries in Alto Adige. The family-run winery makes world-renowned, top-rated, and highly regarded wines.

#### ***San Leonardo Winery***

*This is the southernmost and lowest altitude winery on our agenda which means the vineyards get more heat. The warmer the vineyard, the richer the wines. So, these will be the fullest bodied wines on the whole trip. It is a stunning and historic estate founded in 1724, and still the home of a Marquis.*



After our tour and tasting we stop for lunch at a local, super-authentic trattoria then head further north to our hotel. After a welcome aperitivo, we have some time to enjoy the spa facilities and/or pool, unpack, and unwind before we gather for dinner together in the hotel restaurant.

### **Day 3: Tuesday, May 26 (breakfast, dinner)**

In the late morning the bus takes us on a short drive to Bolzano for free time for exploring, visiting the museum, church or other landmarks, and lunch on your own.



#### ***Bolzano (aka Bozen)***

*Bolzano has a lovely historic center with typical Tyrolean architecture. It started as a Bavarian settlement, then eventually became part of the Austria-Hungarian empire for many centuries before Italy declared war on Austria-Hungary and fought for many years to acquire Bolzano which eventually happened in 1919. There is a beautiful Franciscan Friary, Bolzano's grand, main, gothic cathedral, and a lively, daily market in the Piazza dell Erbe. In recent years, one of the most famous sights is Otzi "the iceman" who is featured in the Museum of Archeology in the center of town – highly recommended.*

In the mid-afternoon we return to the bus for a short ride to Cantina Tramin for a tour and tasting at this winery whose architecture is as stunning as its wines.

#### ***Cantina Tramin***

*The winery's modern design is an icon in the region. Despite its modern image, its roots go back to 1898. It is a cooperative, which used to be typical throughout Italy, and still is very common in Alto Adige. This means that it has 160 family winery members that grow the grapes, under strict control of the cantina. Given the number of vineyards they have access to, they make a wide range of excellent wines.*



We return to our hotel with some time to refresh and have dinner at your own desired time at the hotel.

### **Day 4: Wednesday, May 27 (breakfast, lunch, dinner)**

This morning, we head to the far north end of Alto Adige to taste wines from one of the oldest wineries in the world – Abbazia di Novacella (Abbazia means abbey.) The high altitude lends itself to complex white wines and aromatic red wines. We tour the beautiful 12<sup>th</sup> century abbey with its famous library, a prime example of medieval architecture. We round out our visit with a light lunch in their osteria paired with their wines.



vineyards further south near Bolzano produce their red wines.

### ***Abbazia di Novacella aka Kloster Neustift***

*Abbazia in Italian means abbey and this is still a working cloister and busy abbey. This ancient abbey, founded in 1142, is both a historic site and one of the oldest operating wineries in the world. While there were grapes planted there since the beginning, in 1630 the abbey took their first steps toward making higher quality wines. Later they contracted with 60 different growers as cooperative members to expand their production, much like at Cantina Tramin. This is the northernmost and highest altitude vineyard we will be visiting. Their vineyards by the abbey produce very minerally and complex whites, while their*



After lunch we take a walk back in time at one of the best, local medieval castles that are open to the public.

Dinner at your own desired time at the hotel.

### **Day 5: Thursday, May 28 (breakfast, lunch, dinner)**

This morning there will be an optional hike with a guide, or just time for enjoying yoga, the pool or spa.



followed by a lunch in their own bistrot with their elegant wines.

### ***Elena Walch***

*At Elena Walch, a combination of sustainable manual practices and precise lot selection has always been a priority – setting benchmarks for the future. For decades, Elena Walch has been regarded as the "Grande Dame" of Alto Adige and Italian winemaking, and her family estate, now managed by her daughters – the fifth generation of winery owners – Julia and Karoline, counts among the elite of Italian wine production – with international success*

We return to our hotel in the late afternoon. Dinner at your own desired time at the hotel.

We leave around noon, driving down the picturesque Sud Tirol wine route which takes us by Lake Caldaro. We are hosted today at the prestigious Elena Walch winery at their historic Castel Ringberg Vineyard. This estate is managed by Elena and her two daughters, and their wines have a long, stellar reputation. Our tasting will be conducted inside their Hapsburg dynasty castle and will be



### Day 6: Friday, May 29 (breakfast, lunch, dinner)



We leave in the late morning for yet another very famous winery – Alois Lageder – also a pioneer in organic and biodynamic winegrowing. Not only is he known for his wines, but the family also has an extensive organic garden and raises their own meat. After a tour of the beautiful property and villa, we enjoy their wines over a lunch in their trattoria.

We return to our hotel with plenty of time to enjoy all the hotel's offerings and to pack.

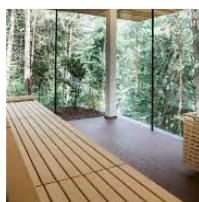
We meet up for our farewell dinner.



### Day 7: Saturday, May 30 (breakfast)

Our bus takes us in the morning back to Verona and drops everyone at the Verona train station or the Verona airport.

## Your Hotel



## Costs

\$5,900 per person (double occupancy)      \$7,800 (single occupancy)  
5% discount per person for returning customers

*See registration form for the details on deposits and payment schedule.*

**Included:**

Ground transportation per itinerary, all breakfasts, all dinners, 4 lunches, all wine tastings, cheese tasting, hotel activities as listed in the itinerary, and gratuity for the bus driver. **THIS IS ALMOST AN ALL-INCLUSIVE TRIP!**

**Not included**

1 lunch, air transportation, additional beverages, gratuities for luggage handler and tour guides, and anything else not listed on itinerary.

**Note**

All group lunches and dinners include water, wine, and coffee, however the hotel dinners that are part of the itinerary do not include wine except for the first and last night. There is an extensive wine list as well as a bar for you to make your own selections on the other nights. If you want a change from the hotel restaurant, there are a few good local restaurants about a 10-minute walk away, or there are local taxis for rides further away. If you chose to go out of the hotel for dinner, you are responsible for the costs.

**Recommended Airport**

We recommend flying in and out of Verona airport, unless you are exploring other areas of Italy before or after the trip.