

Chapter 1 : Northern Classics | 7 of the Best Road Cycling Route

Start of the north Italy road trip in Milan. Our road trip through north Italy will include a menu of the country's best northern cities, a serving of beautiful countryside and a big helping of some amazing driving roads, making this one of our favourite road trips you can do in Europe.

Sponsored by Northern Italy is nothing short of a road cycling paradise. Liguria is known around the world as a cycling paradise for both mountain biking and road cycling. The region is actually one of the most popular with long distance cyclists in all of Italy – no doubt thanks to the stunning coastal views, where you can find wonderful cycle tracks like the Pista Ciclabile del Ponente Ligure, a 24 kilometres freewheeling far from the traffic, from Imperia to Ospedaletti, where the old railway has become a wonderful cycle track where it is possible to rent bicycles. The k cycle from Albenga to Genova is a beautiful route that has been used in the Giro before. It takes you inland through the hills of Liguria. If it sounds like a lot of work, there are plenty hotels along the way to break up the route! The Maremonti cycle path in Liguria meanwhile links together the towns of Levanto, Bonassola and Framura and is purpose-built for families. Expect a lot of close-up ocean views, because the path is built along an old railway line just metres above the sea. There are a massive 8,km of routes for cyclists in Emilia Romagna, from roads and paths to dirt. There are also stages of the Giro, and the renowned but challenging Nove Colli sportive in the region drew in 12, participants from almost 50 countries last year. Emilia-Romagna is also home to two national cycle ways. Lombardia grants you access to everything from Alps to Apennines, mountains to rivers and vineyards to rice fields. Families opting for some time outside on the saddle might want to look at following the rolling hills of historic roads such as the Via Claudia Augusta, an ancient Roman road which spans all the way from Germany and Austria to Veneto. The Alpe Adria cycle route runs from Salzburg in Austria to the Adriatic Sea in Grado past some stunning scenery ranging from mountains to the coast. The route takes you out at Grado, a picturesque island with a stunning lagoon, two natural reserves and seemingly endless green scenery for you to stick in your film roll. The dramatic landscape offers huge mountains, enormous valleys and all the outdoor greenery you could ask for. From Turin there are 11 valleys through the province which can all be accessed from one cycle path. This route will take you past an array of ancient fortifications and stunning villages filled with gastronomic delights. Lombardy, Passo dello Stelvio-Bormio. Friuli Venezia Giulia, Alpe Adria route. Fabrice Gallina Liguria, Ponente Ligure cycle track. A Grandfondo in Emilia Romagna. Enrico Romanzi Sponsored by There are 0 comments.

Chapter 2 : BBC - Travel - Cruising around northern Italy

The ultimate road trip around North Italy and Tuscany. Are you thinking about travelling to Italy this summer? Do you want to see as much as you can? Discover 'La Bella Italia' on this amazing day road trip that will take you to Italy's most famous, beautiful and romantic spots. This road trip starts in Milan and ends in Venice, visiting Bergamo, Parma, Pisa, Siena, Florence and Bologna.

This Italian road burrows its way through the mountain in the ravine formed by the river Brasa. A small car with functioning horn is recommended. For the skilled drivers only. The drive is known by motorcyclists from all over Europe, as it is impressive and not exactly without danger in a few narrow and steep spots. In 7km this terrific road includes more than 48 hairpin turns. There are forts along the ridge line in both directions. Passo Torri di Fraele Torri di Fraele is a high mountain pass at an elevation of 1. The 18 harpin turns leads to the Fraele towers, which once were used as strategic point of communication. The track unfolds for over 30 km, almost entirely over 2. The road just opens from June 1st to October 31st, and transit is forbidden to vehicles over 3,5 tons weight and over 2 metres wide. The pass lies near Trento and Lake Garda and the road over the pass was built for strategic reasons during World War I. The pass is traversed by the spectacular Anfo ridge road. Passo di Gavia Gavia Pass is a high mountain pass at an elevation of 2. It is an extremely difficult climb, with a combination of length, average gradients, maximum gradient and elevation gain not matched by any other climb in Europe. Colle del Nivolet Colle del Nivolet is a high mountain pass at an elevation of 2. The pass is traversed by the road SP50 and it was the location of several scenes in The Italian Job, including the final bus crash. Panoramica delle Vette Panoramica delle Vette is one of the most spectacular roads in the world. This high mountain loop road reaches an elevation of 1, m above the sea level Monte Crostis and is located in the province of Udine in the Italian region Friuli-Venezia Giulia. The road is mostly paved but there are some gravel sections. The most challenging part of the climb is a short stretch of m including 7 hairpin turns. It is part of the communal territory of Castelmagno and Demonte. At this elevation the road over the pass is currently the highest paved road in Switzerland, and one of the highest mountain passes of the Alps. Passo dello Spluga The Passo dello Spluga is an international high mountain pass, at an elevation of 2. Hairpins and great views make this one to see and drive. The road continues to the SP3, in the province of Parma. The road has a length of Forcella Lavardet Forcella Lavardet is a high mountain pass in the Dolomites-Alps range, at an elevation of 1. The road has 14 sharp turns that seem to lie on one another, gradually climbing up to the top of the pass. Monte Crostis Monte Crostis is a high mountain pass at an elevation of 1. The road to reach the summit is called Panoramica delle Vette. It includes gravel and asphalted sections and is one of the most spectacular roads in the world.

Chapter 3 : Getting Around in Northern Italy | Frommer's

In planning a 16 day driving tour of Northern Italy, I found this book to be enormously useful. I have driven around Portugal, Norway, Switzerland, etc. but had never been to Italy. Maps in the front show specific stretches of road and areas of particular interest, and give the page number of the chapter that describes each route.

Turin Spend a day in Turin The second major city on our north Italy road trip is a sharp contrast to Milan, despite being so close. The views are stunning and the best way to get to know Turin is by walking around. The air here is fresh and the architecture throughout the center creates an amazing atmosphere. The building that houses the Cinema Museum in the heart of old Turin was originally built to be a Synagogue. The meter-tall Mole Antonelliana tower was part of the design and took over a quarter of a century to complete. Most recently, the Cinema Museum is the occupant and it really is an interesting place to visit. You can get a lift up to a viewing platform for spectacular views over the entire city and the mountains beyond - but beware if you suffer from fear of heights: This relic is claimed to be the very cloth that covered the face of Jesus after his death on the cross. Much debate surrounds this artifact, whose image is much harder to distinguish in real life compared with a photographic negative. Scientific testing suggests that the shroud only came about during the Medieval period, a claim passionately contested by the religious establishment and some historians.

Day 5 miles Driving through the Col de Turini This has got to be our favourite part of the entire road trip. Day 5 brings fantastic sights, a beautiful mountain pass and one of the most picturesque coastlines in the world all in one drive. We are going to cheat a little bit here and suggest popping over to neighbouring France as you weave your way down from Turin. Head south towards Fossano where you need to turn west towards Borgo San Dalmazzo. From here, follow the SS20 up the valley into the mountains. Keep going for half an hour until you see a right turn to Sospel and take it. Sospel is a village at the top of the most famous rally stage in the world - the classic Monaco race. The road leading up and then back down towards Monaco is unbelievably beautiful with waterfalls, pit stops with a view to die for and crazy hairpins. There are a couple of half-decent restaurants in Sospel which can be pretty useful for a spot of lunch. Treat yourself to a french mountain dish of your choosing seeing as you are visiting the country before heading down towards Monaco.

A drive along the Italian riviera The moment you cross back into Italy, the road will begin winding its way through the seaside hills and valleys of the Italian riviera. If you left Turin early enough and time is still on your side, get off the A10 motorway at one of the first junctions and take the SS1 road running right along the coast through Bordighera and Sanremo. The seaside towns are full of colourful houses, piers and family-owned restaurants. The hills to your left are topped with castles or medieval villages and towns making the cruise along the Mediterranean coast unforgettable. Rejoin the main road somewhere near Imperia and keep going all the way to Genoa until you hit the ancient city head on. Find your hotel, park up unlike the previous two places, parking is surprisingly easy here and enjoy the cool breeze at one of a number of fantastic fish restaurants. Try a true local spot and you will have carafe wine served into small ridge glasses and a menu scribbled on a chalkboard with food to die for. Take the motorway towards Spezia and shortly before you get there, you will come across a large national park to your right as the road moves further inland. Here is a quintet of villages making up the Cinque Terre. We recommend visiting two of them so put Vernazza and Manarola in the Satnav. These are seaside spots built on steep cliffs rising from the sea covered in all manner of pastel coloured buildings unlike any place in the world. Wander around the streets and help yourself to a delightful sticky gelato which are a particular treat. Remember to bring that camera because you will want to print those photos out to decorate your house! Once you have appreciated the rocks and the towns, head halfway back to Genoa until you get to Rapallo and turn off towards Portofino onto the Peninsula. At least one of their homes in any case! You can see the opulent mansions gracing the hills around the perimeter from the Marina at the bottom. The natural lagoon has a collection of exuberantly expensive yachts casually parked up against the pier to complete the picture.

Day 7 miles Drive across the North of Italy Your first decision is the route you want to take towards Parma and Modena. The road you past Spezia is the same road you drove yesterday, but is picturesque and involves a good motorway stretch through the mountains. The alternative is

the route up towards Milan and then east past Piacenza which is along bigger roads and hence faster. As you have probably already figured out our obsession with food, the main objective is getting lunch in the home of parma ham and parmezan cheese. It is against the law to eat anything else at this point in your trip, so please oblige and order a selection of cured meats and local cheeses to go with some traditional breads. The cities of Emilia Romagna are famous for two things: Pick any of the main towns along the route for a stop or two as all are worthy of a visit. Modena in particular has some amazing Gothic architecture on the main square. Arriving into Bologna, you will be pleasantly surprised by the city. Generally forgotten by tourists in favour of Venice, Milan or Florence surrounding it, Bologna is right up there in our list of favourite European destinations. Its uncharacteristic medieval architecture gives it a particular charm and the city boasts some of the best restaurants we have come across in Italy - the choice is yours. Day 8 Bologna Italian road trip finish in Bologna All good things come to an end and so does our fantastic north Italy road trip. A last day spent in Bologna is certainly a worthy send off. If you are feeling in the mood for relaxation, we very highly recommend staying at one of the agriturismos in the hills outside the city. Bologna itself is split into four distinct quarters - the business and living parts to the north and east respectively, a shopping district to the south of Piazza Maggiore, and a food zone to the west. Streets to the south have covered arcades full of shops, from the typical high street clothing chains to local vendors. Make sure you find time to visit the wine, cheese and meat stores just off the main square. The locals really do believe in fresh, great quality products. And just to finish off the road trip on a high, here is a recommendation for a restaurant that will leave you drooling for days on end: Al Sangiovese is a fair bit out to the south of the town, about 20 minutes walk. The local dishes here are positively mouthwatering!

Chapter 4 : | Travel + Leisure

Buy a cheap copy of On the Road Around Northern Italy: The book. Includes 80+ detailed maps, sightseeing information, hotel and restaurant recommendations, and more. Free shipping over \$

During our most recent visit, we decided to take a northern Italy road trip. Now, there are some things to really consider before embarking on a road tripping through Italy so be sure to read this post where I talk about tolls, gas prices and everything to prepare you for driving in Italy! There are many ways to get around the country but since we had our one-year-old son with us we thought driving would be the most convenient method of getting around. The really cool thing about this itinerary is that you will never drive more than 4 hours in one day. Nothing against driving but since this was a week-long excursion, we wanted to make sure we spent most of the time at our destinations rather than getting to our destinations. Continue reading for a breakdown of our Italy road trip and how we made the most of every minute. After grabbing your luggage, head to pick up rental car and hit the road! Pisa, Italy First stop is a quick one. Plan to stay about 1. Arrive in Florence After checking in to your hotel and parking your car, wander the streets a bit before dinner. We stayed in Florence 2 nights. Check out this post on 8 things you must know before you visit Florence. The pass to enter the duomo gives you access to other museums. No vehicles are allowed in the historic part of Venice so once you arrive you will need to leave your car at a parking garage. Getting to Venice can be a bit tricky so be sure to read this post on the ins and outs of Venice. Wander the streets before dinner! After checking in to your hotel, walk around the city for a few hours! Wander the alleys and bridges and canals! For a tasty dinner, go to Ponte Monchenigo. And be sure to order the squid pasta! Lunch by a canal! And stop by the Bridge of Sighs! I suggest stopping by Murano first because the glass blowing factories close early. Check out this post to see everything there is to do in these picturesque villages and the best way to get there from Venice! Murano is a fishing village know for glass blowing. Be sure to visit the workshops and watch artisans work their magic. Stop for lunch and a stroll in Verona, home of Romeo and Juliet. Drive to Milan Arrive in Milan. Check in to hotel and explore the city before dinner. Since this will be the day to explore Milan, I recommend booking a late flight out of Milan in order to take advantage of the last day here! Northern Italy Road Trip Summary:

Chapter 5 : Used On the Road Around Northern Italy (Thomas Cook Touring Handbooks) on OnBuy

The region has a well-mapped out road network, and is great for drivers who are looking to discover the heart of Italy for www.nxgvision.com Italy is, in fact, so popular for visitors that it is known for having some of the best European road trip routes in the world, as well as some of the most famous cities and towns.

Two days in the Italian Lakes Our journey would take us northwest, through the Italian lakes and into the mountains for our Stelvio rendezvous. Finding out, in other words, if the FF is truly a family supercar. Best not to dwell on what sort of hideous circumstances could create a family of three dads in various states of disrepair, and a child made of tripods and lenses. Like that, only the baby has bhp and the dimensions of a small cruise ship. Boutros Boutros-Ghali would be proud. But, squeezing between lumbering delivery trucks and hornet-like scooters in the familiar pandemonium of an Italian town, the FF was barely more intimidating than a Toyota Yaris: God bless unstallable double-clutch transmissions, too. Urban chaos negotiated, we joined the autostrada: This is Italy, after all – a country where three-hour jams are less an occupational hazard and more a national sport. But the FF, inching through the stultifying heat for hour after hour, behaved impeccably: As Marriage, snoozing like a Calpol-drugged toddler on a rear seat, will attest, it even rides respectably on inch rims. Splitfold seats and rear-seat telly screens as standard. Some weeks later, the traffic cleared, and we veered off the autostrada onto an arrow-straight, deserted dual carriageway. Well, after a morning of frustration, what would you do? Under a cornflower sky, up through the gears, and Italy fell away around us. And then a police van came screaming down on us, blue lights flashing, horn honking. Carabinieri cavity searches are renowned as especially intrusive. Six armed policemen hung out the windows, whooping and waving their arms like MDMA-addled cricket umpires. Three fat, satisfying clicks on the left-hand paddle, and floor it. No wheel spin, no hesitation, the FF fired up the motorway like a bolt from a crossbow, the police car honking and flashing in celebration behind. But, he added, he knew a bloke called Christopher who lived nearby and might be able to give us a hand. This is lucky, as it gives us the chance to say a proper goodbye to the Zonda, production of which ends this year as Pagani gears up to build the all-new Huayra. The Zonda deserves a sturdy salute to send it on its way to automotive Valhalla. But only Pagani has ever truly succeeded, thanks to immaculate execution of some clinically insane ideas. With bhp, a race-grade manual transmission and a seating position some way below sea level, the Zonda F should be a nightmare to thread through the ribbon-wide streets of Menaggio. The big, naturally aspirated Merc V12 is unstressed and tractable; the steering, easy. It helps that, driving one in Italy, everyone veers out your way and salutes appreciatively. Is there a lovelier part of the world than the Italian lakes? Black-green mountains rising from shimmering lakes, waterfronts fringed with sun-beaten terracotta terraces and white-marble villas, the chewy scent of eucalyptus on the breeze George Clooney has a villa in Bellagio. Neither returned our calls. Fifty boys, 13 or thereabouts, stream round the corner. Our gaggle of schoolboys turn it into a synchronised dance. Spotting a Pagani in even a resort as exclusive as Bellagio is like stumbling on a Siberian tiger in Chipping Norton. Bees in my eyes. We might be late We head north, into the Alps, onto some of our very favourite roads. The previous day, the papers reported Italy could be the next Eurozone country to require a bailout. The weather is fine, and the mountain passes are clear. Ollie in the Zonda, me in the FF, high up in the hills, diving from hairpin to hairpin, V12 duet recoiling off the cliffs. Credit to the FF: The FF is far more lithe than its SUV footprint and kerb weight suggest, with a taut chassis and bemusing agility for a big four-seater. It is late in the day, and the mountaintops shimmer coral-pink as we plunge into a mile-long tunnel: We line up our two masterpieces of Italian V12 engineering for a rolling start. Ease down to 30mph, three-two-one. Ollie boots the Zonda. I do the same in the Ferrari, and as one the two Italians surge forward beneath the mountain, and the tunnel is filled with glorious, incandescent white noise. For a moment it is impossible to tell if we are launching forward or the whole world is surging backwards behind us. See you on the other side

Chapter 6 : Italy Road Trip - The Best Italian Road Trip Itinerary For Your Next Holiday

Boomer road trip to Northern Italy Road Trip to Northern Italy. Is an Italy road trip calling your name? If you've visited the biggies like Rome, Venice and Florence, it's time to travel on a boomer road trip to Northern Italy that's slightly off-the-beaten-path.

The busy streets of Venice Venice.. This beautiful municipality is divided by small islands and is definitely a must-see when you are doing a Italy road trip. It gets so busy that it will be impossible for you to get even close to the city by car. San Marco Church in Venice. A must-see on your Italian road trip! Ferry Services in Venice Buy a one-way ferry ticket from this point to San Marco Church 30 minutes for just 12 Euro and you are good to go. This ferry will show you the most amazing buildings in Venice and is cheaper compared to the gondola tours. Private Gondola tours The private Gondola tours start at 80 Euro daytime to Euro nighttime for 2 persons for minutes. Just do not expect any romantic privacy, as the channels are absolutely flooded with them. If you do want so privacy, make sure you pay some extra cash and for sure he will take you to more non-touristic route. I also recommend you make a reservation beforehand, because the prices are much more expensive when you buy a ticket on the spot. Gondola tour in Venice. Free Walking Tour Venice The Venice free walking tour team will walk you through the history of Venice, from its legendary foundation on several muddy islands of the lagoon to becoming the most important trading city in Europe. I took my tour at 4. The guide was amazing and showed us all the hidden gems of the north part of the city. I highly recommend booking a free tour and afterwards you can always leave a donation if you are happy with guide and quality of the tour. Relaxing in Rimini After several busy days in the big city it was time to relax in the beach-town of Rimini. I did not stay down-town as I knew it would be busy, but the beach of Rimini stretches all the way into the suburbs. Here I found a small little family guesthouse for just 25 Euro per night including breakfast and free parking. It was located just meter from the beach. Just the way I like it! And my neighbour and I had something in common. Our passion for Volkswagen! One of the smallest countries in the world: San Marino After spending several days working on my tan it was time to hit the road and visit one of the smallest countries in the world: This little country is located nearby Rimini and it will take you less than an hour to get there. It inhabits 33, people and has the smallest population in Europe. This famous attraction can be visited for free, but you do pay a small fee to get in to each tower. Parking the car is very cheap and I paid 1,50 Euro per hour. One of the three towers of San Marino Back in time in Rome Rome is a whole different story when it comes to driving your car. It is absolutely true that Italians drive like crazy people, but in Rome they seem to take it to whole new level. Thankfully, I was prepared and decided to park my car at a small family owned parking business called: This parking location is the best I have encountered. The owner and his son are very friendly and they explained all about how we should visit Rome and what tourist traps we should avoid. There you can buy a one-way ticket for 3 Euro per person to the city center. The walk is about 25 minutes. Altare della Patria, Colosseum and the metro again to the Trevi fountain and ended the day with a visit to Vatican City. The entrance is for free, but there are some rules you need to follow. You are not allowed to sit on the big stairs or any other section and of course it is not allowed to climb on any of the moments. Colosseum The next stop is the famous Colosseum. There is no introduction needed for this beauty and you can literally buy your tickets at any place. Ticket prices range from 20 Euro for groups tours to 55 Euro for small private tours. All prices are per person and a tour takes about 3 hours. Check out this amazing blog post: It is the largest Baroque fountain in the city and the most beautiful in the world. A traditional legend holds that if visitors throw a coin into the fountain, they are ensured a return to Rome. The fountain is worldwide famous but many people do not know the history and the secrets hidden behind its construction. It is time to do justice to this extraordinary masterpiece of Italian art. Amazing Tours in Rome â€” Book Today! I made a short visit to the Teatro di San Carlo and even though there was no performance I still got a sneak peek in this beautiful place. It helps having a travel blog and one the managers was a big fan. The catacombs were built with three different types of tombs. Based on your wealth and social class you could decide in which section you would be buried. Basically, if you were poor you would be buried at the floor tombs, whilst the middle classes were a

level above that. The beautiful chambers were very the rich and important political figures. In the evening I finally enjoyed a real pizza from Naples. It tastes really amazing, but you will have to find a good restaurant outside of the city centre. In the centre you will notice that most restaurants are not traditional ones, but run and operated by Indian and Chinese managers. Of course, there is nothing wrong with that, but if you want a real Italian chef you need to look around a bit outside of old-town. On the movie-set of *Gladiator*! Visiting two large cities really take a lot of energy from you and it was time to enjoy the country-side of Italy. What better way to do this than a visit to the beautiful Tuscany region. I wrote a separate blog post about my road trip in Tuscany as it was just too much fun. [Adventure Road Trip Tours in Tuscany!](#) The Tower of Pisa My road trip in Italy had come to an end. My final stop would be at the famous leaning tower of Pisa. Thankfully, I bought my ticket beforehand as it was already so busy that I even had to wait 45 minutes in line to use the restroom! The square itself is not very big and if you are not interested to wait for 2 hours in line, you can actually see the whole square in under an hour. But if you are planning to go inside like I did, buy that ticket beforehand! Trust me, you do not want to wait that long outside. I just kept it with a big smile, because I was very happy I had such an amazing Italian road trip. I planned a hike using this amazing guide: [Hiking the Cinque Terre paths](#). Unfortunately, I had 3 days of very bad-weather and decided to continue my journey to Monaco, France. My Italy Road trip was an amazing experience and I highly recommend traveling through this amazing country by car!

Chapter 7 : Cycling holidays Italy | Lakes of Northern Italy Bike Tours

Much of northern Italy is accessible by public transportation, but to explore remote vineyards, ski resorts, and smaller towns on the lakes, a car will be very useful.

Getting Around in Northern Italy advertisement By Car Much of northern Italy is accessible by public transportation, but to explore remote vineyards, ski resorts, and smaller towns on the lakes, a car will be very useful. In fact, one of the most common and convenient ways to take a tour of this area is to fly or take a train into, say, Milan, see the city, and then pick up a rental car to wend your way through whichever bit takes your fancy before ending up in Genoa, Venice, or Bologna or Florence or Rome to the south, where you can drop off the car and fly home. That said, driving in Italy is also notoriously nerve-racking -- for both the winding roads and the Italian penchant for driving a Fiat like a Ferrari. Both rental-car and gas prices are as high as they get in all of Europe. Take all three along, to be safe. You can also join online at www.italy.com. Actually, they tend to be very safe and alert drivers -- if much more aggressive than Americans are used to. Stay in the right lane on highways; the left is only for passing and for cars with large engines and the pedal to the metal. If you see someone in your rearview mirror speeding up with his hazard lights blinking, get out of the way because it means his Mercedes is opened up full throttle. On a two-lane road, the idiot passing someone in the opposing traffic who has swerved into your lane expects you to veer obligingly over into the shoulder so three lanes of traffic can fit -- he would do the same for you. Plus, the alternative is not pretty. Autostrade are superhighways, denoted by green signs and a number prefaced with an A, like the A1 from Rome to Florence. On longer stretches, autostrade often become toll roads. Strade Statali are state roads, usually two lanes wide, indicated by blue signs. On signs, however, these official route numbers are used infrequently. It pays to study the map before coming to an intersection. The speed limit on roads in built-up areas around towns and cities is 50kmph 31 mph. Italians have an astounding disregard for these limits, mostly because the limits are enforced only if the offense is egregious. However, police can ticket you and collect the fine on the spot. The blood-alcohol limit in Italy is 0. Clearly drunk drivers, however, can expect to be arrested. As far as parcheggio parking is concerned, on streets, white lines indicate free public spaces and blue lines indicate pay public spaces. The machine spits out a ticket that you leave on your dashboard. Parking lots have ticket dispensers, but booths are not usually manned as you exit. Take your ticket with you when you park; when you return to the lot to get your car and leave, first visit the office or automated payment machine to exchange your ticket for a paid receipt that you then use to get through the automated exit. A speed limit sign is a black number inside a red circle on a white background. The end of a speed zone is just black and white, with a black slash through the number. A red circle with a white background, a black arrow pointing down, and a red arrow pointing up means yield to oncoming traffic, while a point-down red-and-white triangle means yield ahead. Any image in black on a white background surrounded by a red circle means that image is not allowed for instance, if the image is two cars next to each other, it means no passing; a motorcycle means no Harleys permitted, and so on. A circular sign in blue with a red circle-slash means no parking. Gasoline -- Benzina gas or petrol is even more expensive in Italy than in the rest of Europe. There are many pull-in gas stations along major roads and on the outskirts of town, as well as hour rest stops along the autostrada highways, but in towns most stations are small sidewalk gas stands where you parallel park to fill up. Almost all stations are closed for riposo and on Sundays, but the majority of them now have a pump fitted with a machine that accepts bills so you can self-service your tank at 3am. Unleaded gas is senza piombo. Most lines are administered by the state-run Ferrovie dello Stato, or FS tel. Italian trains are about as clean and comfortable as commuter trains in the United States, which is to say, it really depends. First class prima classe is usually only a shade better than second class seconda classe, with four to six seats per couchette instead of six to eight. An Italian train is full only when the corridors are packed solid and there are more than eight people sitting on their luggage in the little vestibules by the doors. Overcrowding is often a problem on Friday evenings, weekends, and holidays, especially in and out of big cities, or just after a strike. In summer the crowding escalates, and any train going toward a beach in August all but bulges like an overstuffed sausage.

Italian trains come in six varieties based on how often they stop. The Eurostar ES is the "pendulum" train that zips back and forth between Naples and Milan, stopping at Rome, Florence, and Bologna along the way, and there is also one that crosses northern Italy described earlier. When buying a regular ticket, ask for either *andata* one-way or *andata e ritorno* round-trip. On a trip under 100 km miles, your ticket is good to leave within the next 6 hours; over 100 km, you have a full day. On round-trip journeys of less than 100 km miles, the return ticket is valid only for 3 days. This distance-time correlation continues, with an extra day added to your limit for each 100 km above 100 km the maximum is 6 days. Most conductors also get extremely crabby if you forget to stamp your ticket in the little yellow box on the platform before boarding the train. Schedules for all lines running through a given station are printed on posters tacked up on the station wall. *Binario* bin means "track. Stations tend to be well run, with luggage storage facilities at all but the smallest and usually a good bar attached that serves surprisingly palatable food. If you pull into a dinky town with a shed-size or nonexistent station, find the nearest bar or *tabacchi*, and the man behind the counter will most likely sell you tickets. You have 2 months in which to use the train a set number of days; the base number of days is 3, and you can add up to 7 more. This is valid for 2 months, during which you can use 3 rail days and 2 car days and add more car or rail days cheaply. Fares vary depending on type of car. Present it each time you go to buy a ticket. Children 11 and under always ride half-price and can get the passes mentioned above at half-price, and kids under 4 ride free. Schedules in cities are posted in a little box on the pole of the large orange or yellow signs that demarcate the stops. Keep in mind that in smaller towns buses exist mainly to shuttle workers and schoolchildren, so the most runs are on weekdays, early in the morning, and usually again around lunchtime. You can also flag a bus down as it passes on a country road, but try to find an official stop a small sign tacked onto a telephone pole. When he says "E la prossima fermata," that means yours is the next stop. Popular destinations for buses include hard-to-reach ski areas in the Alps and Dolomites, isolated towns in the Veneto, the Lakes Region although it is a much prettier ride by boat, and beach resorts along the Ligurian coast. *Austostradale*, with an office in Piazza Castello, Milan tel. To move around the Dolomites, you can catch a bus from the unfortunately acronymed SAD company tel. The Lakes Region is also best navigated by bus if you find the ferry schedule inconvenient. There is no shortage of local trains along the Ligurian coast in fact, most trains stop in every small town, like it or not, but still a handful of companies operate bus service to popular destinations. One of them is *Riviera Trasporti* tel. San Remo, Imperia, Bordighera, and Ventimiglia. In the Veneto, neither Bassano del Grappa nor Asolo is reachable by train. This information was accurate when it was published, but can change without notice. Please be sure to confirm all rates and details directly with the companies in question before planning your trip.

Chapter 8 : www.nxgvision.com: Customer reviews: On the Road Around Northern Italy : The Definitive Fly

On the road around northern Italy: driving holidays and tours in Tuscany, Umbria, the Italian lakes and Riviera, Veneto and the South Tyrol.

Shares 0 shares Views This post was originally published on January 13, and was updated on October 4, Start your drive in Naples and enjoy a scenic cruise around Mt. Vesuvio as you tour Sorrento, Positano, and Salerno. Click here for the full itinerary. This itinerary includes stops in Bolzano, Stelvio, Bormio and Livigno. Northern Italy offers travelers unique cuisine and the opportunity to explore the stunning Ortler Alps. This might be our favorite road trip for nature lovers, as it offers you the chance to take one-of-a-kind alpine photos which will amaze your friends and family when you return from Italy. Tuscany Food and wine lovers will do well to enjoy a leisurely drive through the rolling landscape of Casentino Valley. Travel at your own pace while enjoying plenty of inspiring views of the iconic Tuscan countryside. While in Tuscany, why not make a short detour to Florence to enjoy a food tour? Sicily The famous island of Sicily offers travelers gorgeous vistas of the Mediterranean, a unique and storied history and some of the most delicious and interesting seafood cuisine in the world. This 3-day tour of Sicily offers travelers the opportunity to stop and explore roadside shops and cafes, pausing to enjoy your new favorite restaurants and classic monuments and ruins – a truly great part of the island to explore by car. Begin in fabulous Verona and leave room in your itinerary for scenic detours. Driving this route is sure to deepen your Italian experience and enhancing your understanding of Italian culture. Scenic detours include driving around Lake Albano among other beautiful areas. This route will take you through the Marcigliani Natural Reserve as you follow the banks of the Tevere River, and we recommend pausing at a roadside stand to sample high-quality olive oils from any of the impressive olive groves in this region. Drive to the summit of Mount Terminillo on your way to Amatrice before enjoying a drive through Lago di Campotosto State Reserve on your way to beautiful Terni. While in Rome, why not join a food tour or culinary class and get to know the region through its cuisine? Of course, these 6 fantastic Italian drives are only the beginning. Do you have a favorite drive in Italy not listed here? Inspired to rent a car and enjoy one of these trips? Let us know in the comments! Check out Eating Europe on social media!

Chapter 9 : The 6 Best Road Trips in Italy - Eating Europe

From the winding streets along the shores of Lake Como to the mountain byways of the snowcapped Alps, this three-day driving itinerary takes you down northern Italy's most scenic roads.