ITALY - NOVE COLLI & APENNINES - £725

19th May 2020 - 26th May 2020 (8 days)

The stunning scenery and challenging terrain of the Adriatic coastal region of the Emilia-Romagna Province of Italy has proved an irresistible draw for cyclists of all standards, and this specially tailored tour is your chance to sample its many delights. The stylish Hotel Fedora in the chic holiday resort of Riccione is the ideal base for an unforgettable experience. Riccione is a beach resort that many cyclists go to as it is located near to the stunning Apennine mountains. A short ride from the hotel and you access this cyclists’ playground and the fantastic hills of the Apennines. The famous Nove Colli Grandfondo sportive event runs from nearby and climbs over an iconic Nine Hills. Free entry is included to this incredible event. The Giro d'Italia also passes through the area over the weekend of 23rd - 24th May 2020.

HOLIDAY TYPE: Guided
TOUR MANAGER: Greg Woodford
GRADE: Challenging
BOOKING STATUS: Places Available
ACCOMMODATION: Hotel
BOARD BASIS: Half Board
TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS: Land Only
ROAD / OFF ROAD: Road
HOLIDAY STYLE: Centre-based
HOLIDAY REF NO: 03470

Holiday Itinerary

Tuesday 19th May
Arrive at the hotel in Riccione. If arriving at Rimini airport, vehicle transfer to the hotel is available. Optional coastal ride to Cattolica. 30kms. Stay 7 nights. Meals: D

Wednesday 20th May
Today we ascend the Monte Carpegna where the legendary climber, Marco Pantani, trained for his victories in the biggest races in the world. It’s generally uphill all of the way to the village of Carpegna where we’ll have lunch. From the village at 720m the main climb begins on a largely traffic free road with stunning views to reach the summit at 1,300m before returning back down to the village and our hotel. 120km (2,100m total ascent). Meals: B D

Thursday 21st May
A superb ride through the Apennines to the World Heritage town of Urbino, an amazing walled medieval town. Lunch stop in the town with time to explore the old town. Medieval towns are often on hilltops and Urbino is no exception (470m). The ride goes via the walled village of Mondaino, also on top of a hill, for a coffee stop and time to explore. There is a renowned artisan cheesemaker in the village. 95km (1,250m total ascent). Meals: B D

Friday 22nd May
We ride to the ancient independent city state of San Marino for lunch (no need for passports). San Marino is another hilltop walled town (680m). Time to visit and send a postcard home with an unusual postal mark. Choice of route, 100km (1,800m total ascent) or 55km (900m total ascent). Meals: B D
Saturday 23rd May
We have two options today depending on the Giro d'Italia route (still to be released). A gentle ride to watch the Giro stage or if this isn't feasible, a ride to the medieval walled town of Gradara, at the top of a small hill (125m), for lunch. This is a recovery day in preparation for the sportive tomorrow. 40km (250m total ascent). Meals: B D

Sunday 24th May
The day of the Nove Colli Grandfondo sportive. An early cyclists' breakfast will be provided, followed by free transport to and from the event (see Rides & Rest Days). Alternative rides are available for those who do not wish to participate. Meals: B D

Monday 25th May
An easy ride to loosen the legs after the sportive yesterday. Ride along the panoramic coast road, La Panoramica. This road is deservedly popular amongst cyclists and, along with the stunning coastal views, goes through a variety of pretty medieval villages. Lunch in one of the villages then on to Pesaro, with a descent into the town. Pesaro has an historic centre which we can visit. 60km (1,000m total ascent). Meals: B D

Tuesday 26th May
The tour ends after breakfast, unless you are taking the vehicle transfer to Rimini airport. Meals: B

Meals: B = Breakfast  D = Dinner

Holiday Summary

Accommodation & Meals
Based at the Hotel Fedora, a stylish 3-star cyclists hotel, two people sharing a room with breakfast and dinner included. Single occupancy is available for a supplement. Vegetarian or other dietary requirements are available if indicated on the Booking Form. A small buffet/nibbles is also provided at the end of each day's ride.

Passports, Visa & Health
EU citizens must hold a passport that is still valid on the date of their return to their home country. Holders of non-EU passports are advised to check whether they require a visa. There are no compulsory health related requirements for UK residents, but you are strongly advised to check that your tetanus protection has not expired. You must also carry your European Health Insurance Card.

Travel Insurance
Our Booking Conditions stipulate that, for holidays outside the UK, travel Insurance is mandatory. Details of the level of cover needed and other conditions you should check are stated in the Booking Conditions. CTC Cycling Holidays & Tours Ltd cannot accept responsibility for any costs that may be incurred due to insufficient insurance cover.

Price
The price of £725 is based on a minimum number of 8 people taking part in the holiday; please note Booking Conditions, clause 3. If there are insufficient bookings by 10th March 2020, we will contact you and return all monies paid, although in certain circumstances the holiday may still run at below minimum numbers but at the same price.

Price Includes
- Vehicle transfer from and to Rimini airport
- 7 nights hotel, sharing room
- 7 breakfasts, 7 dinners
- Drinks with dinner
- Small buffet at the end of each day's ride
- Entry to the Nove Colli Grandfondo sportive
- CTC Cycling Holidays & Tours costs

Price Does Not Include
- Travel to and from Riccione
- Lunches or refreshments during the day
- Entry fees at any attractions visited
- Any other personal expenses
- Travel Insurance
- Single occupancy supplement (£140, subject to availability)

Payment Schedule
A deposit of £75 per person is payable upon booking, with the final balance of £650 per person to be paid ten weeks prior to departure, by 10th March 2020.

Cancellations
Should you be forced to cancel your booking for any reason you must notify us in writing. Cancellation charges are as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Written notice received</th>
<th>Cancellation charge:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Before 10th March 2020</td>
<td>Deposit (£75)</td>
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<tr>
<td>From 10th March 2020 through to departure</td>
<td>100% (£725)</td>
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Additional Information

Area Covered By The Holiday
The area in which we will be riding varies from sweeping coastal views to the stunning Apennines. The daily guided rides will take in the history and splendour of the World Heritage Site of Urbino, the medieval walled town of Gradara and the independent city state of San Marino, perched high above the Adriatic Riviera. The route along La Panoramica provides stunning coastal views as it winds its way through a regional park and ends in a winding descent to Pasaro.

Rides & Rest Days
As well as the daily guided rides, other routes of varying distances will be available, with the option of taking rest days and beach days whenever you like. Free entry is included to the Nove Colli Granfondo sportive. This is a spectacular mass participation event and nearly 15,000 participants tackle either 140km or 200km challenges through some of the best cycling country in Italy. It starts and finishes in Cesenatico with free return transport from the hotel included. The Giro d'Italia also goes through Cesenatico that weekend, although the route has still to be released, but we should be able to watch that too.

Accommodation & Meals
We will have free access to the Wellness Centre at the hotel which has a sauna, steam room and hydromassage, with the possibility of massages. The hotel provides fantastic dinners of local dishes and seafood and a different local delicacy is offered each day. Emiglia Romagna is the food and drink centre of Italy and many of the foods provided come from this area - Parmesan, Parma ham and spaghetti bolognese. Local food stores are common and a wonderful sight.

Travel
Rimini is the nearest airport and there is one flight per day from the UK. Bologna and Ancona airports are further away, but vehicle transfers may be available for a small charge. Many airlines fly there from different UK airports. There is no travel included in this holiday, thus it is very important that you note that neither your Tour Manager nor CTC Cycling Holidays & Tours Ltd are responsible for you in any way until the appointed time at the designated meeting point. Should you fail to arrive at the appointed time for whatever reason, we will not be responsible for any additional expenses you may incur in order to meet up with the tour group. Before finalising travel arrangements to meet the tour, you should ensure that you have read and understood our booking conditions. Should this tour not attract sufficient bookings to reach the minimum operating size, we may cancel the tour at any time up to 10 weeks before departure. It is therefore recommended that you book fully flexible and refundable transport and accommodation, or wait until you have been informed that the tour is going ahead, as in the event of the tour being cancelled, we will not be responsible for any losses incurred.

Group Information
The maximum number of participants will be 16 excluding the Tour Manager.

Weather & Clothing
The weather should be good at the end of May and central Italy is usually very warm but rain can be expected, especially in the mountains. Please bring clothing to cope with both types of weather.

Cycles & Equipment
A touring cycle or lightweight road bike is suitable for this tour. You should ensure your cycle is well maintained, paying particular attention to wheels, tyres and brakes. A low bottom gear (e.g. small chainring the same size or smaller than the largest cog on your rear wheel) is recommended. If you are unsure about gears, please discuss with the Tour Manager. Mudguards are optional but show courtesy to those who are following you in wet weather. Lights are a legal requirement at night but we should not be riding at night. New tyres are recommended to minimise punctures. Participants will be expected to carry each day sufficient spares and tools to deal with punctures and minor repairs. The hotel also has a work bench and tools. You will not need to carry luggage but a rack top pack or bar bag may be useful for carrying wet weather gear, spare clothing needed for the day, a camera, snacks and your map. Helmets are your personal choice. There is no legal requirement for adults to wear helmets in Italy. Bikes may be available for hire - please contact the Tour Manager.

Maps & Guides
Route sheets and GPX files will be provided before the tour starts. The TCI map of Emiglia Romagna is also recommended. Marco Polo also do good maps at 1:200,000.

Travel Insurance & Advice
In addition to travel insurance, EU nationals should carry a European Health Insurance Card, obtainable from www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/Healthcareabroad/EHIC/. This enables you to take advantage of emergency medical services free or at a discount under a reciprocal provision that exists between EU member states. Your travel insurer may refuse to meet the extra costs of medical treatment if you do not carry this card.

Before booking you should check the latest travel advice from the Foreign & Commonwealth Office including security and local laws, plus passport and visa information, at www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice or on 0845 850 2829.

Tour Manager's Contact Details
If you require any assistance, or have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact the Tour Manager using the information provided below.

Greg Woodford