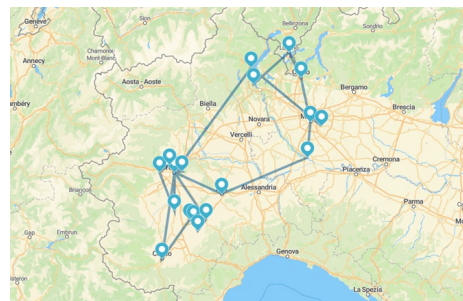




Italy, 8 Days · Tailor-made by car

Route through the House of Savoy's Piedmont Region

Set out on this incredible road trip to explore the picture-postcard landscapes of northern Italy, from the ever-vibrant Milan and the idyllic surroundings of Lakes Como and Maggiore to the elegant city of Turin and its breathtaking surroundings, dotted with villages famous for magnificent House of Savoy palaces, fascinating mausoleums, hunting lodges and characterful historic quarters. It's also a tour for lovers of great food, as this area of Piedmont is famous around the world for being the birthplace of the "slow food" movement. What's more, Piedmont cuisine and its array of premium-quality products has been wowing gourmands outside Italy for decades now. En route, you'll get to savour the delicious chocolate of Turin, the famous truffles of Alba and the excellent wines of Barolo. And work off excellent meals at renowned restaurants with relaxing walks and bike rides.



Departure date: Departures from July 2026 till June 2027

From: London

Travel details

● DAY 1 · CITY OF ORIGIN - MILAN - COMO

Flight departure from the city of origin to Milan.

Arrival and rental car pick-up.

Your adventure begins here! This fascinating road trip kicks off in the ever-mighty and attractive city of Milan. Capital of fashion and design, and many other things, visiting it always is a great idea. From Charlemagne to Napoleon, many historical figures set their eyes on this vibrant city that masterfully combines a turbulent past with a modern and creative present. A gentle stroll along the city centre streets will reveal an important architectural and artistic heritage. Must-sees include the Piazza del Duomo, with the incredible Cathedral; the Royal Palace and the entrance arch to the Vittorio Emanuele II Gallery; the Basilica of Santa Maria delle Grazie, which houses the priceless "The Last Supper" by Leonardo da Vinci; the Teatro de La Scala, one of the most important opera houses in the world; and the bohemian and artistic Navigli, a buzzing waterfront area where great food, art, nightlife and a fantastic atmosphere are guaranteed... In the beautiful Sempione Park, one of the main green areas of the city, you can admire the Sforzesco Castle (which houses interesting art galleries) and the Peace Arch. But Milan is much more. The city is a true paradise for shopping lovers, who flock here from all corners of the world attracted by its infinite range of stores, artisan workshops, avant-garde outlets, showrooms and high-end boutiques... Make sure you take a leisurely stroll around the glamorous Quadrilatero d'Oro! For art lovers, we recommend the Brera district, with its must-visit Pinacoteca. Dotted with cosy cafés and terraces, Brera is perfect for savouring the delicious typical Milanese antipasti, as famous as they are delicious. Our final recommendation takes us to the City, where you can discover the most modern face of the city. And Milan is also an excellent starting point for exploring the idyllic Italian lakes by car. A famous summer hideaway since Roman times, these magnificent lakes formed at the end of the Ice Age captivate the most experienced traveller for their exuberant natural beauty, artistic heritage, luxurious villas and palaces, beautiful gardens and attractive harbours dotted with boats, resorts and elegant Belle Époque hotels. Get ready to discover one of the most hypnotising routes in Europe! It weaves its way through picture-postcard towns and cities on the shores of beautiful lakes and at the foot of the snow-capped peaks of the Alps. From Milan, set off for the town of Como, located about an hour and twenty minutes away.

Overnight stay in Como.

● DAY 2 · COMO - LAKE COMO - LUGANO - LAKE MAGGIORE (ARONA - STRESA)

More time to enjoy the town of Como, perched on the shores of the lake, with a stroll around its twelfth-century walls, the Porta Torre, the popular Piazza San Fedele, where you can visit its magnificent three-nave basilica, the Gothic Cathedral, and its medieval alleys dotted with charming attractions... (Note: Como became one of the leading exporters of silk from Europe, a story that you can see at the Museum della Seta. We recommend visiting the Passegiata Lino Gelpi, the Vila Olmo and taking the funicular that links Como with the small town of Brunate, located about 720 metres above sea level. From there, the views over the lake are magnificent. The journey takes about 7 minutes). Onward to the stunning Lake Como, the third largest in Italy, carved out over the centuries by glacial action. With timeless glamour and a romantic spirit, its magnificent mountainous amphitheatre - with the Eastern Alps as its backdrop - and its laid-back atmosphere have been seducing famous Hollywood stars and A-listers for decades. Its rural landscapes have inspired leading artists and been the stage of numerous films. So what are you waiting for? (Note: The roads surrounding the lake are simply breathtaking. At the local Tourist Office, you can consult the hiking trails available in the area). The next stop today will take you to the spectacular Lake Maggiore. On the way, and if you have time, you can take a slight detour to the Swiss city of Lugano, where we recommend a stroll along the lakefront to admire the Parco Civico and the Church of Santa Maria degli Angioli, with its famous frescoes. After visiting the historic quarter, we'll drive to Lake Maggiore, the westernmost of the three Alpine lakes and the second largest in Italy. Packed with walking trails and viewpoints, on its shores you can visit Arona and Stresa.

Overnight stay in Stresa.

● DAY 3 · LAKE MAGGIORE (OPTIONAL VISIT TO THE BORROMEAN ISLANDS)

A full day today to soak up the charms of Lake Maggiore. We recommend taking a boat over to the Borromean Islands (Bella, Pescatori and Madre). (Note: Stresa is the best place to take a boat over to the nearby Borromean Islands and discover the impressive palaces found there. Don't miss the Palazzo Borromeo, built in 1670, the Galleria dei Quadri (located on Isola Bella) and its picturesque wooden houses with granite doors, and the Palazzo Madre (on Isola Madre). There's a public boat service over to the islands. You can't take the car. Crossing not included).

Overnight stay in Stresa.

● DAY 4 · LAKE MAGGIORE - TURIN

Departure to Turin, capital of Piedmont. Known as the capital of film and cars, this is a city where the reign of the House of Savoy has left an amazing footprint. Turin is nestled at the foot of the Alps, surrounded by mountains. It's a city that has managed to combine tradition with modernity, and industry with historic buildings, elegant palaces and refined boulevards. There are lots of things to do in Turin, but we particularly recommend the following places so you can plan out your trip. Head to Piazza San Carlo, where you can see elegant buildings and the picturesque churches of San Carlo and Santa Cristina, looking onto the famous "bronze horse" by Carlo Marocchetti in the middle of the square. Ask the locals about the horseman and his connection to the battle of San Quintino! Also visit also the beautiful Palazzo Carignano, where King Victor Emmanuel II was born. After marvelling at this splendid Baroque building, head over to Piazza Castello, the true heart of the city and where Turin's main streets start out. In the middle of this majestic plaza is the imposing Palazzo Madama. Feeling hungry? You can have a bite to eat at one of the bars in town before visiting the Cathedral and the Cappella della Sacra Sindone (Chapel of the Holy Shroud), which houses a religious relic believed by many to be the burial shroud of Jesus Christ after he was taken down from the cross. Art and culture lovers will also love Turin. The city boasts some fascinating museums and a packed cultural agenda. The Egyptian Museum, one of the best in the world, and the Galleria Sabauda, which houses collections from the House of Savoy from different eras, are two must-sees. The Museum of Cinema and the Automobile Museum are also famous.

Overnight stay in Turin.

● DAY 5 · TURIN - TOUR OF THE SAVOY PALACES (MONCALIERI - RACCONIGI - STUPINIGI RIVOLI - VENARIA - BASILICA DI SUPERGA) - TURIN

Today we recommend discovering the priceless legacy of the House of Savoy on a fascinating round trip from Turin. It's the famous "Route of the Savoy Palaces". But before you hit the road, a little bit of history. The House of Savoy left Chambéry in the sixteenth century and settled in Turin. And to feel at home, they spent the next three hundred years building magnificent palaces, an imposing mausoleum and luxurious country residences. In Turin, the bustling Piazza Castello was one of the epicentres of the Savoy's power and influence. Among the palaces that you can visit in this central area of Turin are the Palazzo Reale, where you can see a striking collection of furniture and the Armeria Reale; the Palazzo dell'Accademia delle Scienze, which houses the Egyptian Museum and the Sabauda Gallery; the Palazzo Carignano, the seat of the first Italian parliament and which currently houses the Museo Nazionale del Risorgimento Italiano... After seeing these royal palaces, head back on the road to further discover the power and might of the House of Savoy. We've prepared a circular route for you, so you can choose the locations you prefer. If you want to know more about the famous legacy of the House of Savoy, you can extend your stay in Turin by one night. The first stop could be the twelfth-century Castello di Moncalieri, which was the first fortress designed by Thomas I of Savoy. Since 1921, it has been the headquarters of the carabinieri. The gardens and royal rooms are open to visitors. Half an hour away is the magnificent Castello di Racconigi, built to protect the city limits of Turin. Although it was constructed by the Marquess of Saluzzo, it passed into the hands of the House of Savoy through matrimonial inheritances. This magnificent castle used to be the summer residence of royalty and witnessed events as prominent as the birth of the Italy's King Umberto II or the huge wedding of Philipp of Hesse and Princess Mafalda of Savoy. We recommend visiting the elegant royal rooms and taking a pleasant carriage ride through the gardens. On with our journey. Next stop is Stupinigi, a pocket-sized town famous for the Rococo-style Palazzina di Caccia, with its beautiful gardens reflecting its time as the most magnificent hunting residence of the House of Savoy. Today, the palace houses the Museum of Art and Furnishings. Once you've visited its elegant halls, head back on the road to discover another of the jewels of today's route, the Castello di Rivoli, an elegant country complex that now houses the renowned Museum of Contemporary Art, creating unique contrasts between the classic and the contemporary. And then it's time to stop off in Venaria Reale, a characterful town some fifteen kilometres from Turin home to two House of Savoy residences declared World Heritage Sites by UNESCO and located in a unique natural context, the idyllic Mandria Park. Strolling through the halls and gardens of the Castle of Venaria will give you an insight into the House of Savoy in all its splendour. This is one of the largest royal residences in the whole world! Don't miss the kaleidoscopic Rose and Herb Gardens. And if you have time, the last stop could be the beautiful Basilica di Superga, built in honour of the Virgin Mary. You'll be captivated by its magnificent location and its 65-metre-high dome. This venerated basilica houses majestic royal tombs and a memorial in honour of the football team Grande Torino, whose players died in 1949 after their plane crashed into the basilica. (Note: Check the opening and closing hours of the palaces before setting out today. Admission not included).

Return and overnight stay in Turin.

● DAY 6 · TURIN - CULINARY ROUTE (CUNEO - BRA - POLLENZO - BAROLO - ALBA) - TURIN

Today we want you to enjoy Piedmont through its food and wines. Gourmands will love the stops on the route. That's because the traditional cuisine of Piedmont and its approach to "slow food" is revered all over the world. The stunning valleys and villages of the area play host to an array of excellent delicacies. Did you know that Turin surprised the world with one of the first bars of chocolate ever to go on sale? The city still pays tribute to chocolate today with its annual "Cioccolato" festival and cafes such as Al Bicerin and Peyrano. Another must-visit is the famous Eataly Food Market. Considered a benchmark for the "slow food" trend, it sells all kinds of sustainable beverages and foods. Located in a perfectly refurbished factory, it often stages tasting sessions and cooking classes. (Note: "Slow food" was a concept coined in the 1980s by a group of journalists from the town of Bra, who wanted to reclaim the area's culinary heritage against the invasion of fast food. They championed local production, sustainability, flavour and preservation of the culinary heritage. Slow food today is a movement with partners in more than 150 countries). Start the tour heading through the vineyards of Le Langhe and Monferrato, which produce excellent wines such as "barolo" and "nebbiolo". In fact, UNESCO declared this wine-producing landscape a World Heritage Site. Located in the province of Cuneo, the fertile lands here stretch to the beginning of the Ligurian Alps. Enjoy an amazing itinerary of culinary and cultural experiences in just a ninety-kilometre stretch of road that winds through picturesque towns renowned for quality wines and the most exquisite cuisine. Start off in the well-kept town of Cuneo, which hosts the famous cheese and chestnut fairs every year. It's also renowned for its rum-filled chocolates and its market held every Tuesday. Cuneo is home to outstanding sights such as the Piazza Galimberti and the Church of San Francesco. Once in the picture-postcard village of Bra, a must-visit is the "Osteria del Bucondivino", which is the first ever "slow food" restaurant. The headquarters of the organisation are found in its courtyard, where you can look up all the restaurants and producers forming part of this brand. Throughout the area, the cuisine and local wines are excellent. As well as savouring a delicious meal, in Bra you can also admire Baroque churches such as Sant'Andrea, or palaces such as the Traversa and the Mathis. On the outskirts, some four kilometres away, is Pollenzo, a town famous for being home to the world's only University of Gastronomic Sciences. (Note: The Università di Scienze Gastronomiche, in its Italian name, provides courses in gastronomy and food handling). During your time here, we recommend checking out the beautiful Church of San Vittore and popping into the Banca del Vino, a renowned winery that lays on wine-tasting sessions upon request. (Not included. Advance booking is recommended). And to continue discovering the excellent wines of the area, simply head over to Barolo, just a few kilometres away from Pollenzo. This town is home to the wine that bears its name, one of the best in the whole of Italy. In this small village, with just over 700 inhabitants, you'll discover its medieval atmosphere and the imposing Castellet Falletti, which houses the Wine Museum and the Enoteca Regionale del Barolo. (Note: The Castello also offers tastings. Not included). Last stop today is in Alba, also known as the "City of Towers" and famous for its excellent white truffles. The journey of just sixteen kilometres is dotted with breathtaking vineyards. Stroll through its vibrant historic quarter, where you'll find the perfect setting for an invigorating coffee or some excellent Italian cuisine. Surrounded by fertile hills, orchards, vineyards and history-laden wineries, this town lays on activities such as visits to the wineries and truffle-hunting excursions, all set in the stunning surroundings of the Langhe and Roero valleys.

Return and overnight stay in Turin.

● DAY 7 · TURIN - ASTI - PAVIA - MILAN

Say ciao to Turin today to head towards the charming medieval town of Asti, famous for its asti spumante sparkling wine and its black and white truffles. You can also visit the town church, the baptistery and the cloister of San Pietro in Consavia. A short stroll around the Trojan Tower or the Piazza Roma, as well as the Cathedral dedicated to the Assumption of the Virgin, will let you soak up the captivating atmosphere of this town. (Note: Governed by major feudal families, Alba and Asti were enemies in the past. This rivalry is commemorated annually in the Palio d'Asti horse race, which takes place in September).

And after this fascinating visit, you can make a last stop in the medieval city of Pavia, with its spectacular charterhouse. Another must-see is the beautiful Basilica of San Michele Maggiore, an authentic jewel in the crown of Lombard-Romanesque architecture. And finish the tour in the lively and cosmopolitan city of Milan, where you can make some final purchases before heading home. Its array of national and international stores will definitely provide you with a souvenir or two.

Overnight stay in Milan.

● DAY 8 · MILAN - CITY OF ORIGIN

Arrival at the airport with enough time to drop off your rental car and flight back to the city of origin.

Arrival. End of the trip and our services.

Your trip includes

Your trip includes

- ✓ Return flight.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Como.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Como.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Stresa.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Stresa.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Turin.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Turin.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Milan.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Milan.
- ✓ Rent-a-car.
- ✓ Insolvency protection.

Your trip doesn't include

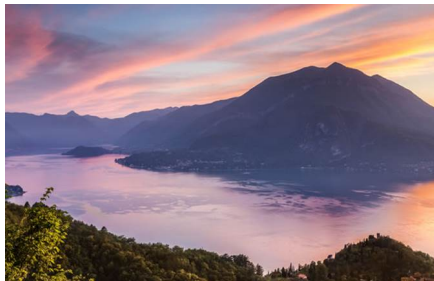
- ✗ Accommodation taxes in Milan direct payment in facility.
- ✗ Possible toll charges.

Destinations Visited

Milan



Como



Lugano



Arona



Stresa



Peschiera Borromeo



Turin



Racconigi Cuneo



Rivoli



Venaria

Superga

Cuneo

Venaria



Superga



Cuneo



Bra



Pollenzo Cuneo



Barolo Cuneo



Alba



Asti



Pavia



Important remarks

- Triple rooms in Europe are generally rooms with twin beds or a double, in which a folding bed is installed to accommodate the third person. Due to the inconvenience this causes, we advise against using this option as far the possible.
- Check-in time at the hotel on the day of arrival depends on each establishment, but in no case will it be before 3:00 p.m., unless otherwise indicated.
- The proposed excursions and tours for each day are purely suggestions, as you can tailor the trip to suit your times, tastes and needs.
- A credit card is considered a guarantee, so sometimes you will need one for check-in at hotels.
- Hotels usually have cots available. Otherwise, babies will have to share a bed with an adult.
- To pick up your rental car, you'll need a credit (not debit) card in the name of the person who made the booking, who must also be the named driver of the vehicle.
- Consult the necessary documentation to enter the destinations visited and for transit in the countries where air stopovers are made.

