

Italy - Transitalia (M-ID: 2353)

<https://www.motourismo.com/en/listings/2353-italy-transitalia>



from €3,239.00

Dates and duration (days)

Experience the breathtaking beauty of Italy on a scenic journey from Genoa to Palermo along the country's most picturesque winding roads. Then unwind on the return trip to Genoa by ferry.

Perfect cornering fun between Genoa and Palermo. A boot full of happiness, at least for motorcyclists, that is Italy, crossed by the Apennines. A mountain range that stretches from the Italian shaft to its sole. From the hills of Piedmont to the high mountains of Abruzzo to the Strait of Messina, which separates the Tyrrhenian Sea from the Ionian and Italy from Sicily. This Apennine is wonderfully diverse, which is reflected in its different names: Apennino Piemontese, Ligure, Abruzzese, Napoletano, and so on. It provides the fantastic folds of Abruzzo and culminates in the Gran Sasso, at 2,914 meters the highest mountain in the boot. It is clear that on this tour it rarely goes straight, but always curvy up and down. If you want to be part of it, you should not only ride well but also be able to handle a decent boot - a boot full of great curves.

The curves that wind around the rather round mountains invite endless riding parties, the likes of which only existed in ancient Rome. And because there are so many of these charming asphalt ribbons from north to south, the capital is unfortunately left behind.

Instead, the Abruzzo and Gargano, the spur of the boot, with fragrant forests and magnificent stretches on the Adriatic Sea, and the Costiera Amalfitana with even better views of the sea - this time the Riviera - are enticing. A visit to Mount Vesuvius, as well as an extensive tour of Pompeii, finally pay due respect to the time-honored history and Roman culture.

Basilicata and Calabria, far to the south, will then do the honors with untouched mountain scenery and lush nature at the foot of the boot - free of disturbing traffic. Here it is worthwhile to cruise as often and as long as you like between the nearby seas until the sun sets - also a spectacle beyond compare. At the sweet end of an

exceptionally eventful tour, the well-traveled Italy fan is finally treated to the island where the gods live. To make it this far, you'll need a good pair of boots. Boots full of curves.

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Tour itinerary:

Day 1: Individual arrival at the meeting point southeast of Alessandria.

Our meeting point hotel is a small, idyllic, and pastoral place in the middle of the Apennines, high up on a hilltop. This guarantees magnificent views, but also means that it is better to arrive during the day and in the light than in the dark. For here there is not only a lack of streetlights but also of markings on the same, which then also crawl curvaceously up the mountain. At the first dinner, we look forward to the rustic specialties of Italian cuisine.

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Day 2: Through the wild Apennines

On the eastern side of the Scrivia Valley begins the wild Apennines with stately mountains and dense green forests. Monte Lésima, 1,724 meters high, is the flagship of the region. Over many small passes and through countless sweeping curves, we ride further and further through the Apennines until we reach our quarters near the mountain pass of Abetone, which is widely known for its mountain race track. take up our quarters.

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Day 3: From the evergreen Apennines to romantic Tuscany

Over the famous, notorious Passo Abetone we swing down into Tuscany, more precisely into the Maremma. The southernmost part of Tuscany fascinates with a winding entrance. Past Volterra along the Colline Metallifere, the iron hills, to Roccastrada. From there, small roads lead us to ancient cultures and right into the heart of southern Tuscany. We spend the night near Montepulciano.

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Day 4: From the hills of Tuscany to the mountains of Abruzzo

Right outside the front gate, the curve dance begins. Passing Chiusi, the road curves through Todi and Spoleto towards Abruzzo. We will hardly notice where the Umbrian Apennines end and the high Abruzzi begin. But the colorful, approximately two-meter-high sticks to the right and left of the roadside make it clear that these mountains are among the higher of their kind. Yes, in winter there is snow here, and meters high! Time permitting, we will explore on foot the mountain town of Norcia, which appears to still be in the Middle Ages, before the final stage takes us along exciting mountain roads to Ascoli-Piceno, a beautiful old town with its charming Mediterranean atmosphere we will spend the night.

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Day 5: A round of the Gran Sasso and the southern Abruzzi

It is the king of Abruzzo: the Gran Sasso, with its 2,914 meters, towers above all the mountains on the boot south of the Po Valley. And its surroundings are guaranteed to take anyone's breath away. A high mountain range in the middle of Italy, garnished by the Campo Imperatore plateau, the Emperor's field, reminiscent of the vast steppes of Mongolia. Just a few kilometers in the direction of Santo Stefano, you suddenly think you are in the middle of Scotland. The Abruzzo can hardly be surpassed in variety. Beyond the plain of L'Aquila, the capital of Abruzzo, which was unfortunately destroyed by an earthquake in 2009, we head straight back up into the Parco Nazionale d'Abruzzo, where brown cows and shaggy horses graze in vast pastures. The heraldic animal of this national park, however, is the bear. In Castel di Sangro we spend the night in a small family-run hotel and taste the specialties of the hearty "Abruzzese" mountain cuisine.

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Day 6: The National Parks of Abruzzo

Because of its lush nature and the originality of its mountains, Abruzzo has many national parks. It is nice that through them there are small asphalt roads to ride on. Towards the southeast, still in Abruzzo, there are miles and miles of exciting landscapes and beautiful mountain valleys. The Maiella group, for example, is a wild national park which, with a wolf's head, indicates that there are still wolves living in the wild here. Along the Monti del Matese with its two small romantic lakes and past its highest elevation, Monte Miletto at 2,050 meters, we ride along the eastern flank of the Neapolitan Apennines.

After it becomes flatter and flatter, the roads straighter and straighter (it's nice for a change), so that there it goes

directly and hardly braked through the fertile plain around Foggia. Already the Romans knew how to use this area for agriculture. Behind this strip of land, which in places is reminiscent of the Po plain and Tuscany, the "Promontorio del Gargano" already rises in the distance with its gently drawn mountain peaks that are a good 1,000 meters high. The dark and humid forest, the Foresta Umbra, welcomes us with coolness and reserve. It accompanies us to the coast, where we will spend the night near the warm waves of the Adriatic Sea.

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Day 7: Gargano, the spur of the boot

It is considered the most beautiful coast of the entire Adriatic: Gargano. For this reason alone, this peninsula is worth a trip. How better to experience the beauty of the coastline than in a boat that will take you to the most beautiful beaches and sea caverns? During a two-hour sea expedition, we explore Italy once from the water.

If you still feel like riding two wheels after the boat tour starting at lunchtime, the tour guide will take you for a good three-hour tour along the wonderful coastal road. Or, a much better way for the photographers among us - ride individually completely without constraint and the group. Until dinner, you have some time to arrange any way you want - if that's not a good enough reason to be back on the road independently. With the sun behind you, it's not only good to ride, but it's also better to take pictures. We stay one more night in our hotel.

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Day 8: From the Adriatic to the Riviera on the Costiera Amalfitana

Admittedly, it is a long way from one coast to the other. But that's the goal - and in a country as big as Italy the distances are sometimes a bit longer. But what the heck, we're here to ride our motorcycles - and besides, it helps a little that the roads around Foggia run rather straight through the plain. You can make distance there.

Via Troia, the road leads back to the Neapolitan Apennines - and over them. The road is full of curves in the direction of Napoli. Shortly before the coast, the Monti Picentini rise once again to 1809 meters and shelter in their well-protected center the "Pian Laceno" plateau, which with its green alpine pastures and brown pied cows would be more likely to be found in the Tyrol than south of Naples. On the slopes of the Monti Picentini, it is possible to surf down to the shores of the Tyrrhenian Sea and then, behind Salerno, to admire the beautiful coast of Amalfi.

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Day 9: From the Amalfitana to Vesuvius and Pompeii

First thing in the morning we set out on one of the most beautiful coastal roads in all of Italy, the Costiera Amalfitana. The mountains plunge steeply into the turquoise-green sea, while the road climbs up the cliffs. The whitewashed houses of the world-famous town of Positano cling to the steep slopes so closely together that you can't get enough of them.

First, there are a few other highlights just outside Napoli. A short stretch on the highway brings us quickly to the flanks of Mount Vesuvius, which we climb on two wheels to the last parking lot. Only the last 1,000 meters or so have to be done on foot, to look over the edge directly into the maw of the volcano. From here, Pompeii is not far away, and we lead for the highway to avoid the traffic chaos in the south of Italy as much as possible.

After an extended visit (it can easily be three hours) we ride back to our hotel on the Amalfitana and crown the end of an eventful day on one of the most beautiful coasts in the world in the warm twilight of a balmy summer night on the terrace of our hotel.

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Day 10: Across the bootstrap "Cilento" to the coasts of Calabria

We say goodbye to the "Costiera Amalfitana" and set off for the far south. To avoid the hectic traffic in Salerno, we take the highway only very briefly to Campagna. At the latest one hour later we fall on the "old" SS 18 in a never-ending curve of dizziness. From Sapri we can continue on the SS 19 at will. Once again we stop and look at the beautiful coast from a wonderful vantage point before we reach our hotel.

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Day 11: Criss-cross through Calabria

So to speak, from the instep of the foot to the lowest ball of the foot, we zigzag from the Adriatic Sea until we catch a glimpse of the Ionian Sea shimmering in the distance. The region of "La Sila", covered with fir forests, plays the main role today. This mountain range dominates the entire region between the coasts and enchants with deep green forested mountains that rise to 1,928 meters into the blue sky and between which beautiful lakes shine in the sunlight. In one of the small villages hidden in the forest, we will stay overnight.

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Day 12: The Calabrian Apennines or the big toe of Italy

Depending on our mood and how Peter likes it, the foothills of the "Sila" invite us again to slope surf. Often enough, on the flanks of the wooded heights, we have a clear view of the Mediterranean Sea. The Apennino Calabrese, so to speak the big toe, enchants with its untamed wildness and with sea views on both sides. Along its ridges, we move steadily south towards Sicily. But before that, we spend the night once again on the boot on the coast of the Tyrrhenian Sea...

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Day 13: Across the beautiful Aspromonte to Sicily

Today is the day of the short crossing. It takes only 15 minutes on the ferry to get to Sicilian soil under the wheels. But before that, the mainland shows us once again what it has to offer in terms of landscape, views, and road construction. The latter refers more to the road layout than to the road surface. Unfortunately, the condition of the

asphalt also shows that the country doesn't only have hot summers. Between the coasts, we ride to Villa San Giovanni with wonderful curves and just as little traffic - and in no time at all, we are on the island where the gods live. And not only them, but we also live here, at least for one night.

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Day 14: Smooth passage in Sicilian

Without wasting much time, we go straight to the big furnace - Etna.

In contrast to Vesuvius, here it can be quite warm around the heart and under the feet because Etna is still active. If time permits, we will ride to the crater rim under the guidance of local experts. However, with special vehicles, which can not melt away the tires - a truly hot ride.

All of Sicily in one day? Sure, that's not possible, but it gives a good overview and a great incentive to discover this island for yourself once again.

Even though we will most likely have to use the highway to reach the ferry in Palermo in time. After moving into our cabins, we meet for a beer and to say goodbye to Sicily on the quarterdeck.

And as the lights of Palermo slowly fade into darkness, the ship's diesel, vibrating at a steady pace, hums us into a well-deserved sleep.

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Day 15: On board - from Palermo to Genoa

We spend another full day on board. There are no commitments since no catering services are booked. Thus it is guaranteed that everyone can arrange their day just the way they like. If you want to skip breakfast, you sleep a little longer; if you skip lunch, you can look forward to dinner ashore. Around 6 p.m. the ferry docks in Genoa, and then it's time to say goodbye.

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The tour itinerary is subject to change.

Countries	Italy
Category	Motorcycle Tour
Terrain	Onroad
Vehicle	your own motorcycle
Tourguide / Coach	yes (guided)
Accommodation	Hotel / B&B or similar
Flight to / from	no, not incl.
Ferry	yes, incl.
Support vehicle (luggage/service)	no
Customer payment protection	yes
* PRICING	Minimal without optional extras, see pricing

Pricing

per rider in shared/double room (Only available for a booking of two persons. Single travelers need to choose the single room surcharge.)	€3,239.00
per pillion passenger in shared twin/double room (pillion passengers cannot book without an accompanying rider)	€2,649.00
per person single room (surcharge - only available with an additional selection of the basic price "per rider in shared twin/double room")	€690.00

Included

13 nights in a double room with bath/WC

1 night on the ferry from Palermo to Genoa, accommodation in a double cabin with shower and WC

Half board (breakfast and dinner) to Palermo

Tour guide on the motorcycle

Entrance fees for various joint visits

All parking fees

Ferry to Sicily

Not included

Everything that is not specified under services

Motorcycle

Petrol

Lunch

Catering on the ferry Palermo - Genoa

Drinks/ coffee breaks

Possible tolls

Travel cancellation and repatriation insurance

personal expenses

Entrance fees or ferry fees for individual activities

More details

Total distance: approx. 3400 km (without arrival/departure)

Daily stages: 250 to 380 km

Group size: maximum 10 motorcycles per tour guide, the minimum number of participants: 6 riders. If the minimum number of participants is not reached, we reserve the right to cancel the tour up to 28 days before the tour start.

Motorcycles: You travel with your own motorcycle. Please make sure that you still have enough tire tread for the duration of the trip including arrival/departure. Given the mileage, a fresh set of tires is worthwhile, especially as the Italian tarmac eats up a fair amount of tires.

Road condition: The condition of the roads is mostly good, but in remote areas, there can of course also be asphalt surfaces rutted by potholes. Wherever there are beautifully curved asphalt ribbons with an appropriate surface (and if there are, then we'll ride them!), you can of course swing. It goes without saying that the rider should be able to handle his motorcycle safely on such a demanding trip.

Daily routine: Normally, a travel day starts at 8 am with breakfast. At about 9 am, after the briefing by the tour guide, it's off to the next stage destination. Lunch and coffee breaks will of course not be missing. We usually reach our hotel by 7 pm at the latest. Should it be exceptionally later, then there is certainly a good reason for it.

Incidental costs: Italy has become relatively expensive with the euro. A beer (0.5 l) costs about five euros, a quarter of wine can be had for as little as three euros.

The accommodations: We have selected for you a typical cross-section of the Italian hotel industry. As a rule, these are hotels in the 3-star category, but there can also be four. Each accommodation is distinguished either by its distinctive location, history, cuisine, or atmosphere. Of course, the rooms are always equipped with bathrooms.

Food: The further south you go, the more typical Italian breakfast becomes. A cappuccino, a croissant, if you are lucky fresh from the bakery (instead of airtight packed), or a few slices of rusk with jam - done. Where possible, we try to have the breakfast spiced up - but unfortunately, this is not possible in every hotel. For lunch, there are always plenty of starters with ham and salami or vegetables and fish or delicious pasta dishes. But pizza is rather unusual in Italy for lunch and therefore rare to find. In the evening, however, the sumptuous three to four-course menus guarantee that everyone gets their money's worth - especially the fish lovers among us. But also for all others, the table is richly covered.

Climate: Except at higher altitudes always in the Mediterranean, temperatures during the day are between 15 and 30 degrees. In northern Italy, but also in the high altitudes of the Abruzzo, it can sometimes be cooler, in southern Italy, however, sometimes warmer. May is one of the months with little rain and is already (or still) very mild.

Entry: Swiss citizens and citizens of EU countries only need an identity card for entry. Participants of other nationalities are kindly requested to enquire themselves at the relevant national representation.

Important tour notes: During the ferry crossing no meals are included. Half board ends with lunch at Etna, which we take instead of dinner in Palermo. (Reasons for this: the catering on board is not really good, except in the à la carte restaurant, where unfortunately one cannot pre-book for large groups, because there is not enough space. Unfortunately, you can't sit together there either because of the fixed round tables. Moreover, the dinner is only offered from 10.30 p.m. onwards. Too late, as we think. Without pre-booked and paid catering services, so everyone can also freely arrange the day onboard without constraint and does not have to eat a lot and late or get up early in the morning for breakfast and push in the queue to the bar.