

*Discover*  
**VERONA**  
BY THE LOCALS



**TOP 10**  
**THINGS TO DO**



# 1

## ARENA & PIAZZA BRÀ'

### DETAILS

**Arena Amphitheatre**, opening times: Tuesday-Sunday 8.30 am - 7.30 pm  
Monday 8.30 am - 7.30 pm (only June, July and September)

Ticket € 10,00

**Opera Lyric Festival:**

starting at 9.00 pm only during summer (late June to late August)

Everyone knows about Colosseum in Rome, but how many people know about **Arena** in Verona? This Roman theatre is still used, nowadays, for many performances and shows. With a circular shape this Amphitheatre was originally composed by three rings; nowadays only one remained, and from the external circle just the 'Ala' (wing) is the original piece left; in the following centuries the theatre has been renewed many times due to maintenance.

During the Romans domination this monument was setting for games, ship battles and gladiators fights; in modern times, instead, the main purpose became the **Opera Lirica**, which is set almost every night during summer, with shows such as Aida, Tosca, Madame Butterfly and Carmen. If you only wish to visit inside, you could enter during the day for an affordable price, then walk on the big stone steps and have an amazing view on the top, both on the square and the theatre stage; lastly you can find immersed yourself back to the past, passing under the many arcades where lions and beasts used to be kept ready before the games. Very suggestive to see.

Just outside the Arena there is **Piazza Brà**, which is one of the first stop you will certainly take once arrived in the city centre. Verona has been defined a UNESCO world heritage site, because of its preserved urban structure as fortified town. Founded in the I Century b.C. the city was dominated by Scaligeri Family between XIII and XIV centuries and passed under Repubblica Serenissima domination during XV and XVII centuries.

The origin of the name of this square comes from the Longobards' word 'braidà', which means 'large'. Even if nowadays this is a very central place, in the past it was mainly used for building works. On the west side of the square there is the famous 'Liston', which is represented by 700 Palaces with expensive restaurants or bars located under the arcades. This area became used as a square only from 1600 when on the southern side **Teatro Filarmonico** was built, which is the closest indoor theatre of the area, located just next to the big clock walls of **Corso Porta Nuova**. During winter this theatre hosts many classical music concerts, while Arena is setting for music shows, but not for the Opera.

Lastly, on the south-eastern side of Piazza Brà you can also see another old building, La **Gran Guardia**; this Palace shares its border with Cittadella militare viscontea, the nearest Military area. Originally it used to keep army munitions, today this place is location for Conferences, Exhibitions and events.

But Piazza Brà is also the site for the City Town Hall, **Palazzo Barbieri**. Even this building was created for military purpose; built around 1843, it was destroyed during II World War and its restoration works finished in 1950. Very particular to visit is Sala Arazzi, which contains many textile articles. At the moments, this Palace is used for many civil marriages for its neoclassic style and beautiful frescos and paintings.

You can see this during a SIGHTSEEING TOUR like a [WALKING TOUR](#), a [BIKE TOUR](#) or a [VERONA FOOD TOUR](#)

# 2

## THE BALCONY & THE TOMB OF JULIET

Located in the heart of the town, in Via Cappello 23, there is maybe the most famous place ever visited: the **balcony of Juliet Capuleti**. Along the ancient Maximus Romano thistle, an old medieval tower house stands inside a hidden yard; once passed the entrance, many love letters, messages and signatures completely cover the arcade side walls. As soon as you arrived in the little yard you will be in front of the balcony of Juliet and her bronze statue underneath, opera of Nereo Costantini.

Every day thousands of people come from all over the world excited to enter in this magical place to take photos, leave messages or touch the well known breast of Juliet, as a sign of luck. **William Shakespeare**, the English author of the story of Romeo & Juliet made this house and Verona popular, but he might have never been here.

After all, this Mansion house was known for spices trade and it has been renewed in the beginning of '900 century by Musei Civici Antonio Avena; since then the complex became a Museum, except for the souvenir shop and the foyer of Teatro Nuovo. The family symbol is seen in the internal arcade keystone as representing the name: **Dal Cappello**.

### DETAILS

**House of Juliet**, Via Cappello 23 - Verona

**Juliet's Tomb**, Via del Pontiere - Verona

opening times: Monday 1.30 pm - 7.30 pm (last entry 6.30 pm)

Tuesday-Sunday 8.30 am-7.30 pm (last entry 6.30 pm)

Ticket € 6,00

*"I'll bury you in a glorious tomb ... A grave?  
Oh no, unlucky young man! A flower bed awaits you,  
a bright room prepares you, all around illuminating the  
angelic face of Juliet"*

(William Shakespeare: Romeo And Juliet, Act V scene III)

This house is not the only memory of such notorious family. Not so far from Piazza Bra, you can take a short walk along the town walls in Via Pallone and then turn right in Via del Portiere; after another 100 metres, you will arrive into Laconici Giardini dell' Ex Convento di San Francesco in Corso, where you will find the famous **Tomb of Juliet**.

This place has been visited as destination of many pilgrimages, like those taken by George Byron or Charles Dickens. However, since the tomb was described as 'a sarcophagus left in a wide bonded Convent garden with dry leaves', in 1937 the memorial was moved underground adjacent to the cloister.

Once you visited this sacred place, you can also have a walk inside the Convent, in order to appreciate the many frescoes by Cavalcaselle who created them between X and XVI centuries, in addition to many sculptures from '800 or other paintings from '500 or '600 centuries. Nowadays some rooms upstairs are still used for civil marriages.

You can see this during a CITY SIGHTSEEING TOUR like a [VERONA WALKING](#) or [BIKING TOUR](#)



# 3

## PIAZZA ERBE & TORRE DEI LAMBERTI

Not so far from the House of Juliet, there is a 84 metres tower which dominates the historic centre of Verona: **Torre dei Lamberti**.

Even if you can take the lift, it is totally worth to take the steep walk along the spiral staircase with its 368 steps; on the top you will enjoy the beautiful view of the city of Love. Open every day in the year, except for Christmas Day, with the ticket of Torre dei Lamberti you can also enter in the **Modern Art Gallery**, which is located just next door.

The tower was built in 1172 by the Noble Family Lamberti and the Roman style was given by the combination of bricks alternating with tuff, still well visible on the bottom side of it. In 1403 a lightning destroyed the top, and only in 1448 the restoration works started, with the additional octagonal bell cell of bricks and white marble. The famous bells are called *il Rengo e la Marangona*. The first is the biggest one and it was used to call the public for important city events or for emergencies; the second bell, which in dialect means carpenter, was played to sign shift times for artisans or merchants, but also for communication in case of big fire.

Just around this Tower, there are two important squares: **Piazza delle Erbe** and **Piazza dei Signori**. The first one used to be the heart of the town, for trade and social life. In Roman times it even hosted the *Foro (forum)*; then, during the Venetian and Austrian domination, it became a market square. In fact even nowadays this is a very social hub with many shops and bars along the buildings.

### DETAILS

#### Torre dei Lamberti

opening times:

Monday to Friday 10.00 am - 6.00 pm

Saturday and Sunday 11.00 am - 7.00 pm

Ticket € 8,00

Then, it is very suggestive to walk under the big rib hanged just before entering the second square; legends said that this was the rib of the Devil, but it was probably a whalebone used as a sign shop.

These two squares are quiet different from one to another; in fact the first one was used more by the general public, while this second was often attended by aristocrats. Coming from the whalebone rib you will see the '200 **Palazzo della Ragione**, today famous Museum and **Palazzo Cansignorio**. However at the end of the square you can also admire **Palazzo di Cangrande** and on its left **La Loggia di Fra Giocondo**, with its Renaissance style.

But what make people stopped for a memorable photo is the statue of **Dante Alighieri**, which is located in the middle of Piazza dei Signori; in fact, the father of Italian Language and author of Divine Comedy, was exiled from Florence and lived in Verona for a while. The Monument of three metres was built in 1865 as celebration of 600 years from his birth.

Lastly, from a hidden corner of Piazza dei Signori, you can also admire **Chiesa di Santa Maria Antica**, very loved church by Della Scala Family. If you walk in this square in the evening, you can book a nice dinner in one of the most popular Restaurants to taste some local wines from Valpolicella, like the great Amarone.

You can see this during a CITY TOUR like a [WALKING TOUR](#), a [BIKE TOUR](#) or a [VERONA FOOD TOUR](#)

# 4

## PONTE PIETRA, TEATRO ROMANO & CASTEL SAN PIETRO

If you take a further walk from the city centre towards East, you will cross one of the oldest bridge of Verona: **Ponte Pietra**. Built in the I century b. C., it was created for replacing an old wooden bridge and it represented the connection of Via Postumia with the nearest hillside.

Originally, in Roman Ages, there were seven bridges in Verona, and Ponte Pietra used to be called Ponte Marmoreus, because of its composition of stone and marble. Out of its five arcades, just the two on the left side are the original from Roman times; the central and the others were rebuilt in 1520. In fact many devastated earthquakes and floods destroyed this bridge along the times. Then, after a blast given by the Germans during the II World War, as completely destroyed, it was rebuilt by using the stones fell into the river. Its beautiful and elegant structure is still admired by everyone who walks over it, in particular during the night, when a magical illumination is turned on.

Just over the band of river Adige, there is another important ancient Monument: the **Roman Theatre**. This is setting for many shows of Shakespeare dramas; built in the I century b. C as well it stands just under Ponte Pietra hillside. Even this one was ruined by floods or earthquakes, then, after being buried by houses and convents, it was restored in '800 by Andrea Monga who made this place a popular cultural centre.

### DETAILS

Archaeological Museum and Roman Theatre

opening times:

Monday 1.30 am - 7.30 pm

Tuesday - Sunday 9.30 am - 7.30 pm (Cash desk closes at 6.30 pm)

Ticket € 4,50

The particularity of this theatre is certainly its location; in fact, while listening to the show you can admire river Adige and you can even hear the sound of the water. *Magical*. Lastly, in the same place there is also an **Archaeological Museum**. Located in the Ex '400 Convent, the museum was established in 1924 to maintain many archaeological ruins and Roman collections.

From this area, but probably more visible from the bridge, you can see a very long staircase, which leads to an amazing panoramic place: **Castello San Pietro**, also called **Castello di Re Teodorico**. In this building some ruins date to the Bronze Age; in Roman times the place became a temple in defence of Ponte Pietra, while during the '300 a Church was built and then a manor house was added, under the Venetian domination. The Castle remained with defence purpose till 1801, when Napoleon army blew it up, before the town was given to the Austrian. After that the Castle turned into a military fortress.

Most people come to visit here to admire the **panoramic view** on the city of Love, sitting on the edge of the southern yard; at the moment the building is on restoration for becoming a museum site. After you took some photos as memory, you can also choose to go back down the river by using the funicular.

You can visit this on a VERONA SIGHTSEEING TOUR like a [WALKING TOUR](#), or a [VERONA BIKE TOUR](#)



# 5

## CASTELVECCHIO, SAN ZENO

### DETAILS

Castelvecchio

opening times:

Monday 1.30 am - 7.30 pm

Tuesday - Sunday 8.30 am - 7.30 pm

Ticket € 6,00

Coming from the central square of Piazza Bra you can take the road Via Roma, and perhaps stop in one of the local bars for some nice coffee and typical home-made pastry, until you arrive in front of **Castelvecchio**. Erected during the XV century by Cangrande II della Scala, this Castel is the most prosperous monument of the town.

With its military structure, the typical walls crenellations and its seven covered towers, this building was a very strategic location for the Family, as in case of emergency the Nobles could escape by taking the Bridge of the Castle to leave the town.

You can walk along this bridge and enjoy the nice view of the hilly Torricelle on the right side and the tower of Church Chiesa San Zeno on the left. Inside the green rectangular yard there is the **Museum**, where you can admire many works of art, sculptures and the library, open to the public. It is important to know that in 1944 this place hosted the famous Court Case of Processo di Verona when Galeazzo Ciano and his fascists were sentenced to death.

However, before entering into the Castle you can follow the right bank of the river and walk along the Regaste to arrive towards an historic square: **Piazza San Zeno**. The Church, which goes back to the IV century, has been dedicated to the 8th Bishop of Verona, a Saint with African origin. Its Roman style with the beautiful frescoes made this Basilica a pleasant visit outside the crowded centre of the city. Among the works of art you can admire the amazing Trittico of **Mantegna** showing Holy Mary on her altar and the big marble sculpture of San Zeno (Saint Zeno).

Outside, in the square, every first Sunday of the month a typical market of antiques occurs, with old furniture, forgotten photos from the War times, vinyls and interesting crafts games. As the Italian tradition tells, every square is the place for social life. Along the bars you can try some home-made ice cream while sit on the bench or visit some local restaurants with the view towards this quiet square.

You can visit this on a **VERONA SIGHTSEEING TOUR** like a [WALKING TOUR](#), or a [VERONA BIKE TOUR](#)



6

## VERONETTA & GIARDINO GIUSTI

### DETAILS

Palazzo and Giardini Giusti

opening times:

Monday-Sunday 9.00 am - 7.00 pm

Ticket € 7.00

On the left bank of river Adige you might end up into an area called **Veronetta**. Its name goes back to a vulgar word given by Napoleon to call this area as the outside part of the town: *Veronette*. You can end up in this location leaving the Church of San Fermo and by crossing the Bridge called Ponte San Fermo. Here there is a long road, Via XX Settembre which leads you to the University area with its multicultural shops and students walking around.

In addition this is also an artistic centre for small galleries, often located behind the main roads. This place is not very touristic, but some bars under arcades can make you feel surprised how much this town can offer.

If you get hungry a bar called Porteghetti shows a wide variety of local wines, with some finger food and nice fresh home-made panini. But walking a bit inside in via Interrato dell' Aqua Morta, you can find an old typical place: Osteria ai Preti. This renowned local near Piazza Isolo, is a very alternative one, with live music in the night and a funny owner.

Therefore going in Veronetta, will give you the opportunity to enjoy the **local lively atmosphere** and eno-gastronomic tradition of Verona. However, after crossing this neighbourhood the road will end to Porta Vescovo; this is one of the oldest gate to the city, which combines architectural elegance and defence structure. Its creation goes back to the end of XIII Century, but in the Middle Ages it became part of the city walls, as decided by Cangrande della Scala.

Before going back to the town centre you can enter into the parallel road of Via XX Settembre, which is called Via S.Nazaro; at the end of it and on your right side you will arrive in a very hidden place: **Giardino Giusti**.

Bought in '300 by Family Giusti, this heaven was created to install a mill for the dyeing laundry. The lane of cypresses from the courtyard, leading to an artificial cave, is a very pleasant walk to take once entered in these gardens. But the landscape scenario is also very unique; in fact, the harmony of the green is perfectly opposed to the windiness of the mountain in the background.

Lastly, the majesty of **Palazzo Giusti**, can bring you back to the Renaissance time, from the arcade doors to the internal paintings.

You can visit this on a PRIVATE CUSTOMIZED TOUR like a **WALKING TOUR**, or a **BIKE TOUR**



# 7

## A TYPICAL MEAL IN OSTERIA

The name '*osteria*' comes from the old French word 'oste', which goes back to the Latin 'hoste', and it refers to the idea of hospitality. One of the first references to the name 'hostaria' is later found in the Venetian Magistracy of the XIII century. In Roman Times these places used to be called '*enpolium*' and they were mainly used to serve hot meal and drinks. Therefore Osteria is originally the perfect place to rest for travellers and merchants; the wine is a key element and more often these locals are set as a family-business. Since the XV century Osterie have become very popular for debates and social conversations; even if in the beginning they were attended by only men, nowadays they are open for both men and women.

Although the particularity is given by a rustic location with wooden tables, piles of wine bottles and old photos behind, as you enter in someone's private house. The menu is usually per day, seasonal, very local and simple. The price is affordable, except for those that became more popular. Most of Osteria offers you a snack or appetizer, such as local salami, cheese or bread with olive oil. A good glass of wine is always present, and a wide choice is offered, as advised by the Host. Verona shows a good choice of Osteria, in hidden areas such as Sottoriva, between lanes and in the middle of the city centre.

A typical meal in an Osteria could be made with some home-made fresh pasta (*pasta e fasoì*), a stew with meat (*pastisada de caval*), a warm tasty risotto all'Amarone and some sweet apple cake.

But since the dishes are always called with a strange word in *dialect*, the local language, you might need to ask more information to the host, in order to know about your meal.

As mainly family-based businesses the Osterie have indicative opening times, usually around 6.30 pm, perfect time for Aperitif. Once entered you will find benches and tables that are usually shared; it might not be the best if you are a couple but that could be fun. Then, be ready to be entertained by a poetry night or some live music coming now and then. Finally the charismatic personality of the host will make you feel treated like family; although the atmosphere you see is just very local.

In addition, to live your **Osteria Experience** to the top, you will certainly be surrounded by some local people and you probably hear the dialect spoken: the *dialetto veronese*. Every town in Italy has its own dialect, which is a corruption of foreign words used by travelling merchants and foreign rulers of the town. So then, in Verona you will find echoes of German, French and Arabic, among other languages.

Having a lunch in Osteria is not just a deep journey into the eno-gastronomic tradition of Verona and Veneto, but also a unique experience to live like a local, maybe having a chat with a charismatic host or exploring the walls covered with old memories from the past.

You can visit this on a [VERONA FOOD TOUR](#)





# 8

## VALPOLICELLA & AMARONE WINE

If you come to visit Verona you cannot miss the eno-gastronomic journey into the valley of wine: la **Valpolicella**.

This area, mainly agricultural land, is spread over 240 Km on the north-west side of Verona, bounded by Venetian Pre-Alps, river Adige on the south and Valdadige on the west side. The famous villages of Valpolicella you can visit are: Sant'Ambrogio di Valpolicella, San Pietro in Cariana, Fumane, Dolcè, Marano di Valpolicella, Sant' Anna d'Alfaedo, Negrar and Pescantina.

Before the Romans domination this area was lived by a mixed religious population called Arusnati. The culture of wine is a very old tradition, and the presence of wine pips goes back to the Bronze Age, as many of them were found in the village of Castelrotto; while in an old villa of San Pietro in Cariano, a wine production plant has been identified.

As very strategic location between the Alps and the town, this valley became famous during Signoria Scaligera in Verona and in 1311 the emperor Arrigo VII awarded it as 'county Valpolicella'. But what are the typical **wines of Valpolicella**?

**A**marone, Recioto, Valpolicella Classico, Valpolicella Superiore, Ripasso.

**A**marone is considered one of the finest wine, which comes from the old Recioto; in fact the wine can be produced by leaving the Recioto to brew in order to make a new dry and strong one. Its bottles can cost from 20 up to thousands Euro, for the most aged ones. But this wine is used more for big occasions or great meals, while the Valpolicella is more common for simple meals or aperitif. The denomination DOC, which stands for *Demonazione di Origine Controllata*, shows that the typical grapes used are Corvina veronese and Rondinella.

But a very unique one is **Ripasso**; it is considered as the brother of Amarone, which is named from the unique process of production. In fact the grapes come from the maceration of Valpolicella wines with some old and left over grapes of Amarone or Recioto. This last one has its origin with the word 'grappolo' or cluster. It is a very old one and its drying process takes about 100-120 days. Still very used is the phase to make the grapes dry into wooden boxes (plateaux).

Wines are usually kept underground in wine cellar or 'cantine'. There are many in the territory you can visit for a nice taste with some local products, such as cheese from Lessini, the local pre-Alps.

You can visit this area on an [AMARONE WINE TRAIL TOUR](#) or a [PRIVATE CUSTOMIZED WINE TOUR](#)



# 9

## LAKE GARDA, SIRMIONE & BORGHETTO

Once in Verona you cannot miss a trip to **Lake Garda**. This is the widest lake of Italy with the area of 370 km<sup>2</sup>. Known in Roman times as Benaco its celtic name probably refers to the word 'cornuto' which means horned and it might refer to the peninsula of **Sirmione**. Surrounded by three regions, Trentino in the north, Lombardia on the west and Veneto on the east and south sides, it is parallel to river Adige, from which it is divided by **Monte Baldo**. The east side is full of little villages and small towns, such as **Malcesine** with its medieval Castle, **Garda**, **Bardolino** and **Lazise** with their local red wines. In particular it is worth a visit to the Museum of Olive Oil, which is one of the most cultivated product of these hills. Then, further inside the eastern valley, you can immerse yourself into Valpolicella, with its many vineyards and the old traditional methods of wine production. Many are the cellar wines you can visit.

But continuing into the south, if you wish to take a break from nature and eno-gastronomic adventure, you can stop in the popular town of **Peschiera del Garda**, for some shopping. The village walls, with the old city centre and long lake walking paths, lies on river Mincio. The strategic location both in the past and nowadays, made this centre one of the most visited by tourists and travellers. You can do some water sports or take a boat for a little trip to find hidden beaches to rest. About 40 minutes from Peschiera there is **Sirmione**. This is also a very famous place to see. The particularity is the perfect location on a peninsula, where you can admire an amazing view from the top of the tower, as it seems you are in the middle of the lake. This is the only **Castle** with an internal harbour for boats. By stopping in a little shop, called 'botteggha', or tasting some fresh home-made gelato, you can live a local experience immersed in a very historic atmosphere. If you have time you can also visit one of the nearest thermal place.

### DETAILS

#### Castello di Sirmione

Ticket € 5,00

#### Parco Giardino Sigurtà, Valeggio sul Mincio - Verona

opening times: 9.00 am - 7.00 pm (winter 6.00 pm)

Ticket € 12,50

Then, if you are passionate about history a visit to the **Grotte di Catullo** is a must. This Roman caves ruins where the home of the Latin poet Catullus, who described this area as a charming door to the lake.

On the southern outback from Sirmione there is a village called **Valeggio sul Mincio**. It is crossed by the channel Virgilio which comes from river Mincio. Completely immersed in the Moreniche Hills this ancient borgo, or village, it is not very far from Lake Garda either. A traditional food produced in this area is: **Tortellino**. This fresh crust pasta with delicate filling is the typical meal of Verona. Made by hand, one by one, it is passed from generation to generation, and its tradition goes back to an old legend: 'il nodo d'amore' or knotted love.

**Borghetto**, instead, lies on the river Mincio, just 15 minutes walk from Valeggio. Originally built as a military presidium, it is now a small town, with classy restaurants and original bars. Very suggestive to see is the old water Mill, still working and located in one of the first lanes of this tiny village. If you prefer to go out into nature, near the centre of Borghetto, you can walk along the river to arrive into a small wood of gigantic trees.

Not so far from these two old towns, you can also take a ride to visit the beautiful **Parco Sigurtà**. This XV century park with its English style gardens, fountains and open green spaces will give you magical peace to enjoy this enchanting valley. In 2015 this Park was awarded as the second most beautiful Park in Europe.

You can visit this on an **HALF-DAY SIRMIONE & LAKE GARDA TOUR**, a **LAKE GARDA SEMI-PRIVATE DAY TOUR FROM VERONA**



# 10

## THE DOLOMITES

### DETAILS

**Osteria Sottoriva**, Via Sottoriva 9/a - Verona

**Osteria A La Carega**, Via Cadrega 8 - Verona

**Osteria Al Duca**, Via Arche Scaligere 2 - Verona

**Osteria Carroarmato**, Vicolo Gatto 2 - Verona

**Osteria Le Petarine**, Via San Mamaso 6 - Verona

Since 2009 **Dolomites Mountains** have become UNESCO patrimony. This complex of 9 systems of mountains lies between three regions, Trentino, Lombardia and Veneto.

Also called 'monti pallidi' because of the colour of its stones, the origin of the name comes from the naturalist Deodat de Dolomieu and from the mineral rock dolomites, which is a limestone.

Reachable in about two hours from Verona, this is not only a breathtaking journey for amazing panoramic views, but also a destination for sports lovers and family trips. Near Belluno the highest group is called **Marmolada**. Punta Penia is the heights of 3.342mt altitude, while in the nearest Gruppo Sella there is **Passo Pordoi**, famous for Giro d'Italia (the Italian bike Ride Competition), then **Piz Boè** (3.152mt) within the same system; lastly there is Sassolungo (Val Gardena) with Mountain Sassolungo (3.201 mt) and its 5 more heights.

Therefore, these locations are the best choice for climbing, trekking and hiking excursion, that you can take to explore these wild mountains. Spread all over the Alps, there are many 'rifugi', or houses where you can stay overnight, restoring for the next morning adventure.

But these mountains are not just ideal for sportives; you can take some of the long funiculars and enjoy the breathtaking views from them or from some of the terraces, such as Punta Rocca (3.265mt) which is located in front of Punta Penia, the highest point of Marmolada.

Then, if you wish to visit a typical valley town you should enter into **Val di Fassa**, in the town of Canazei. This is not only the highest town in Italy, located at an altitude of 1.465mt, but it is also very representative of the area for its local events and eno-gastronomic traditions. Old crafts and forgotten jobs can be found inside the few Botteghe Shops, where you can admire the artisans working on some wooden board or iron beating. Between original Carnival fairs and colourful dances you can feel immersed into another culture surrounded by spectacular mountains.

Magical is the nature around. You can be completely moved away by the unforgettable sunsets or take part to some original shows, such as **I Suoni delle Dolomiti**. This Festival occurs during summer and it invites to play many International Musicians and some very local, by placing piano or instruments in the middle of grass lands. The natural stage will just complete your journey into a lovely memory to bring home.

You can visit this on a **DOLOMITES SEMI-PRIVATE DAY TRIP FROM VERONA**

# SMALL GROUP TOURS BY THE LOCALS

## VERONA WALKING TOUR

2,5 hours at 10 AM

*"My husband and I did the 2.5 walking tour of Verona with Francesca. The tour was excellent; we really enjoyed it. Francesca was extremely knowledgeable and prepared."*

*"Francesca was our guide, it was just a group of 3. It was the perfect way to walk around Verona and learn about the amazing sites. Verona is such a beautiful city, it is so worth exploring with a guide. We ended the tour in a nice part of town by the river, would have not been able to get there by myself! Highly recommended."*

## VERONA BIKE TOUR

3 hours at 9.30 AM

*"The guide was great. Very knowledgeable and very relaxed with our group. She made sure we had a fun tour for Verona on bikes. Thank you " Jo from England*

*"Fantastic... I recommend this trip highly. The ride was gentle; we covered a lot of ground; and I learned so much about Verona & its history. Our tour guide was great & Matteo was really friendly & helpful. " Penelope from Ankara, Turkey*

*"Our guide was informative and imaginative and tailored our tour to our personal requirements. We were just three including him. The bikes were well kept and efficient. The guide was relaxed and made sure of our safety all the time. We felt safe and the pace was leisurely - Verona is pretty flat. Finally we have been suggested about valuable recommendations for where to eat and drink according to our budget. We made sure we took his advice and consequently our holiday was much the richer for it. "*

## VERONA FOOD TOUR

3,5 hours at 10 AM

*"And the best way to orient yourself is the small group food and wine tour! Only 8 peeps on this tour.... began with coffee and cake, moved onto the deli....yum!....then to wine....brilliant....and finished with the best pasta any of us had ever tasted " Aubryen from Melbourne, Australia*

*"I went on the food tour of Verona, which was fantastic. We tried amazing food at places that I would never have found on my own. The tortelloni was a highlight. Our guide Irene was lovely. She was very personable, knowledgeable about Verona, and generous in sharing her stories. A great way to spend time in Verona!"*

# SMALL GROUP TOURS BY THE LOCALS

## VERONA COOKING CLASS

3,5 hours at 10 AM

*“Cristina was a great teacher and chef. She was friendly and humble but was terrific showing off her culinary skills. It was also interesting listening to her explaining the food history of the region we had no idea that Verona was the birthplace of gnocchi. The class was a little hard to find without Google Maps since it is in a back alleyway off the main drag. Because we made both gnocchi and pasta we were almost uncomfortably full by the end of the class. The recipes we prepared were simple but tasteful traditional gnocchi with cinnamon and butter was our favourite. We made bruschetta, gnocchi, tagliolini, and tiramisu lots of starch! The class lasted about 3 hours, which gave us plenty of time to wander around exploring Verona afterwards. Money well spent!”*

*“This class was superb!! We made the best pasta I had in Italy. The cooking space was great. It was very authentic and the chef gave us excellent tips. If you are after a specific recipe (e.g. Pesto) ask ahead of time and the chef would be happy to add it to her menu.”*

## AMARONE WINE TRAIL TOUR

4 hours at 10 AM

*“This company has their act together, we took a tour to the wine country and it was great! Small private vineyard you felt like you entered their home! Everyone was so nice you never felt rushed! Things went along at your pace not the companies! Loved it will do more! Knowledgeable guides!”*

*“We met up with the tour guide in the city center and were soon off on well maintained bicycles into the wine country. The tour took us around vineyards and kept us out of traffic for a good duration of the ride. It wasn't strenuous by any means, but we covered a good distance. The tour guide was extremely friendly and made the experience a lot of fun. We then ended up at the vineyard and enjoyed a private tour and tasting. This was one of the highlights of our trip.”*

## AMARONE COUNTRYSIDE BIKE TOUR

4 hours at 9 AM

*“Just wonderful! Enough miles to fully stretch one's legs after a long flight - along paved bike paths, scenic country roads and through charming neighbourhoods. Bertani winery and grounds are stunning and offer a very generous tour and tasting. Our guide, Mike, was great - patient, helpful and always willing to assist. This is a must-do activity!”*

# SMALL GROUP TOURS BY THE LOCALS

## VERONA VINTAGE VESPA TOUR

4 hours at 9.30 AM

*"Our Vespa guide took us carefully through the busy city traffic into the amazing mountains north east of Verona. He took us to breathtaking spots we never would have found ourselves. What great places we saw. After a few hours of Vespa driving we had a winery visit..... Just great. Being a world travelling family with experience in many countries, The Wine Vespa tour by Veronality is among our top 5 guided tours."*

## SIRMIONE & LAKE GARDA TOUR

4 hours at 2.30 PM

*"It was a great ride out to Lake Garda and the magical city of Sirmione. We really enjoyed our tour of these spots and our hostess was a passionate and fascinating young girl named Irene who drove us around and showed us the sights of Sirmione. The castle was surely a sight to see and the city itself on this thin peninsula that juts out into Lake Garda was a pretty sight to see."*

*"This trip was great fun, really worth it. We were driven by bus to the lake, then transferred to an old venetian taxi boat for a blast around the lake before being dropped off at Sirmione. Loved it all and highly recommend it, "*

*"A lovely trip out, allowing you the opportunity to see the countryside beyond Verona and the stunning lake Garda. The trip included a water taxi over to Sirmione which was excellent as you could appreciate the splendour of the views on all sides of the lake."*

# TOP 5 OSTERIE BY THE LOCALS

1.

## OSTERIA SOTTORIVA

Via Sottoriva 9/a  
+39 045 801 4323

*"Quiet place and authentic meal in a family atmosphere"*

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2.

## OSTERIA A LA CAREGA

Via Cadrega 8  
+39 045 806 9248

*"Good location. Young local and rustic style. Tasty meatballs. Best for quick meal"*

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3.

## OSTERIA AI OSEI

Via Venti Settembre, 124 b  
+39 045 800 8199

*"Traditional and historic place just outside the city centre. Nice family owned busi-*

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4.

## OSTERIA LA MANDORLA

Via Alberto Mario, 23  
+39 045 597053

*"Very small and intimate place. Just behind Arena. This is perfect for Aperitivo!"*

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5.

## OSTERIA AL CARROARMATO

Vicolo Gatto 2/a  
+39 045 803 0175

*"The inside is just typical and well refurbished. Ver welcome staff and good price deal"*

# TOP 5 TRATTORIE BY THE LOCALS

1.

## AL POMPIERE

Vicolo Regina d'Ungheria, 5  
+39 045 803 0537

*"Very good charcuterie and cheese choice. Intimate atmosphere and prompt service"*

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2.

## AL BERSAGLIERE

Via Dietro Pallone, 1  
+39 045 800 4824

*"Good quality price. Very traditional meals and pleasant staff. Recommended"*

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3.

## ANTICA BOTTEGA DEL VINO

Vicolo Scudi di Francia, 3  
+39 045 800 4535

*"Service and atmosphere of a typical Osteria. Good wine and delicious risotto all'Amarone"*

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4.

## PANE E VINO

Via Giuseppe Garibaldi, 16/a  
+39 045 800 8261

*"They offer really updated Italian cousins with impeccable cooking."*

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5.

## I MASENINI

Piazzetta Pescheria 9/a  
+39 045 929 8015

*"a fish dinner which involves you with light flavours and a relaxed atmosphere"*



# TOP 5 RESTAURANTS BY THE LOCALS

1.

## CASA PERBELLINI

Piazza San Zeno, 16  
+39 045 878 0860

*"Professional and very welcome staff. Amazing food and all explained with great passion"*

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2.

## IL DESCO

Via Dietro San Sebastiano, 5/7  
+39 045 595358

*"Very classy place where delicious meals can be perfectly combined with good wine"*

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3.

## PONTE PIETRA

Via Ponte Pietra 34  
+39 045 804 1929

*"Breathtaking location just in front of Ponte Pietra. Very romantic dinner"*

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4.

## I DODICI APOSTOLI

Corticella San Marco, 3  
+39 045 596999

*"Magical atmosphere from another time. Top quality food with a touch of creativity"*

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5.

## MAFFEI

Piazza delle Erbe, 38  
+39 045 801 0015

*"Fish meals fresh and tasty. Elegant and romantic location. Very good quality food"*

## RECOMMENDED BY



### **VERONALITY** s.r.l.

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