

THE ART OF INTELLIGENT TRAVEL ORGANISING

# Expressions Holidays Italy

## Holidays to Piemonte

Short breaks, wine tours, truffle-hunting,  
touring holidays

THE ART OF INTELLIGENT

*Expressions*

TRAVEL ORGANISING



# Hotels and short breaks in Piemonte

Piemonte is a country region of alpine peaks in the north, flat rice-producing river valleys further south, rolling vineyards with attractive villages, forested hills dotted with mediaeval castles and almost at its centre the city of Turin, known throughout the world as a great industrial centre but in fact, outstandingly rich in architectural gems, both modern and in particular, Baroque. North of Turin is the Parco Nazionale del Gran Paradiso, with miles of unspoiled natural scenery of mountain peaks and meadows, of rare wildlife and flowers. The splendid palaces, parks and hunting lodges of the Princes of Savoy can be visited in the countryside near Turin. Our hotels are situated in the remarkable wine-producing regions of the Langhe and Asti, renowned for their beautiful scenery, magnificent wines and fine gastronomy, as well as in the capital, Turin. Piemonte beckons lovers of wine and food, art and architecture and dramatic, natural but also gloriously cultivated landscapes.

## Grand Hotel Sitea, Turin

In the centre of Turin, near the Piazza Castello, the Grand Hotel Sitea is a five-star, traditional, grand hotel, dating from the beginning of the 1900s. Perfectly situated for exploration of the historic centre of the city, shopping, and leisurely strolls, the hotel is very convenient. The refined style of the lobby introduces guests to the signature class of the hotel, with marble floors, half pillars, a grandfather clock, and tastefully upholstered wooden chairs. An extensive menu of exclusive dishes is served in the gourmet Carignano restaurant, alongside a specially-designed Piedmont tasting menu. 'Empire' decoration blends the sense of tradition with the innovative flavours of the food. While you dine, you can admire the views over the pretty courtyard garden. After dinner, enjoy a drink in the relaxed ambience of the American Bar, in one of the leather armchairs, or on a stool beside the wooden bar. Guestrooms are comfortable, richly-furnished and spacious. Deep reds and blues complement the crisp white bedlinens, and the tall windows. Double-layered curtains and antique writing desks add sophistication, while thick rugs add cosiness.



Piazza Castello, Turin



Courtyard at the Grand Hotel Sitea, Turin

**Official category** 5-star

**Open** All year

**Location** Central Turin

**Distances in miles** Asti 35, Alba 39, Casale Monferrato 64

**Nearest airport** Turin, 12 miles away

**At hotel** Carignano Gourmet Restaurant (Mon-Sat), 'Carlo e Camillo' Restaurant, bar, breakfast buffet, valet garage parking, fitness area, and WiFi.

**Bedrooms** 120 rooms with air-conditioning, satellite television, telephone, wifi, radio, hairdryer, and minibar.

**Local interest** Historic monuments of Turin, such as the Piazza Castello, the Royal Palace, Palazzo Carignano, Church of San Lorenzo, Mole Antonelliana, the Turin Shroud, galleries and museums, and the Cathedral.

**We include** Bed and buffet breakfast

**Holiday prices** From £740 per person for 3 nights in a standard classic room including scheduled flights and private transfers.



Landscape of the Langhe wine region

## Relais Villa D'Amelia, Benevello, near Alba

Nestling amongst 7 acres of hazelnut groves and parkland, the 4-star Relais Villa d'Amelia is a charming renovation of an 18th century estate in the Langhe which offers seclusion and breath-taking views of the Monviso Alps. In its transformation from estate to hotel, Villa d'Amelia has not lost its traditional features, so communal areas have exposed beams and tiled floors, offset by contemporary furnishings and comforts. The hotel's 37 rooms and suites are individually decorated in warm, yet neutral colours but with striking charcoal accents. Four poster beds in most suites add an extra element of luxury and romance, while families may be best-suited to the interconnecting superior rooms. The hotel's Wellness Centre has a fitness area, Turkish bath, Finnish sauna, whirlpool, and heated outdoor swimming pool. Guests will find gastronomic finesse in the hotel's Michelin-starred restaurant, which serves modern interpretations of local cuisine. The bar offers a taste of the region through its selection of delicious wines and cocktails. The white truffle town of Alba is about 20 minutes' drive away and the vineyards of Barolo are about 30 minutes' in one direction and those of Barbaresco about 20 minutes' in the other direction. In the autumn, search for truffles in the wooded landscape, or, all year round, wander through Piemonte's wine cellars.



Villa d'Amelia, courtyard



Villa d'Amelia, swimming pool in summer

**Official category** 4 star

**Open** 12 April to 31 December

**Location** Benevello, near Alba

**Distances in miles** Alba 9, Turin 54

**Nearest airport** Turin

**At hotel** Michelin-starred restaurant, bistro restaurant, bar, bounge, wellness area, outdoor swimming pool for use in summer, courtyard with seating.

**Bedrooms** 37 rooms and suites, each with bath or shower. Rooms offer a king or twin bed and most suites offer a king four-poster bed. Superior rooms may interconnect.

**Local interest** Alba hosts local events such as music festivals throughout the year, a cheese festival in September, and a white truffle festival during October and November. Barolo village is about 16 miles away and is home to many local wine merchants and tasting cellars. Truffle hunting is possible, as well as excursions around the countryside in classic cars. The Serravalle Designer Outlet is about an hour's drive from the hotel.

**Sports nearby** Mountain biking, trekking, and horse riding.

**Italian Expressions include** Bed and buffet breakfast.

**Holiday prices** From about £1,460 per person for 5 nights, including scheduled flights and car-hire.

# Truffle hunting holiday in Piemonte

4 nights/5 days

- A half-day truffle hunt with truffle hunter and his dog
- One 3-course meal with truffles in one course
- Tasting of three different local wines

This is a four-night truffle hunting holiday in the famous truffle region of Piemonte, known for its white truffle and some of the most renowned wines in Italy, Barolo and Barbaresco. You stay near Alba in a hotel with a Michelin-starred restaurant and have a hire-car to explore the region.



Piemonte countryside



White truffles of Alba



Restaurant at the Villa d'Amelia

## Holiday in brief

This four-night luxury food holiday includes a truffle hunt and is a must for all discerning gastronomists! To go in search of the truffle, perhaps the world's most elusive edible fungi, is an experience to savour and enjoy. And where better to go truffle hunting than in the magical Piemonte region of Italy at the foot of the Alps – home to the world's most famous truffle, the 'tartufo bianco.' The position of the Villa d'Amelia in the Langhe wine region near Alba, makes this holiday perfect for those looking also to sample some of Piemonte's finest wines.

## Included in your holiday

- Accommodation in a double or twin room on bed and breakfast at the Villa d'Amelia near Alba
- Scheduled flights with British Airways London to Turin return, economy
- Hire of a Group B car for the duration of your stay
- Half-day truffle hunt
- Concierge service and Expressions Holidays regional helpful hints

## Holiday price guide

Sample prices are per person based on two people sharing a double or twin room for 4 nights. **£1,370**

Each holiday price will be tailor-made at the time of booking to reflect all actual costs including up-to-date special offers.

# Wine tour of Piemonte

4 nights/5 days

Barolo • Visit G D Vajara • Alba • Cherasco • Barbaresco • Visit Sottimano • Visit Giolito cheese producer • Bra • Visit Castle of Grinzane Cavour • Visit Marchesi d'Alfieri estate

*"Superb holiday. Our guide, Cindy-Marie, was excellent. Hotel was also superb."*

This is a 4-night wine tour of Piemonte for up to 14 people accompanied by an experienced wine and food expert, discovering the land and the variety of the wines of Piemonte, including the renowned Barolo and Barbaresco.

A tour of is a fascinating and amazing journey into an attractive landscape that bursts with distinctive flavours of its produce, from wine to hazelnuts, from chestnuts to truffles, from cheese to breadsticks. The focus of this four-night tour is to discover the wines of Barolo and Barbaresco, two of the most revered red wines in the world, as well as other top-quality wines to tempt your palate including Barbera, Dolcetto and Moscato. One of the most fascinating points about this region is how a tremendous variety of wine exists within a very small geographic area. The estates we visit in this tour will demonstrate how many factors contribute to the subtle difference in the wines, from multiple award winning, small boutique family-run wineries, through to one of Italy's leading wine co-operatives. The tastings we include will show you a range of wines including some of the Reserve and Cru wines as well as the intriguing Barbera, the early ripening Dolcetto, considered less complex and easy drinking and Freisa and Grignolino. It is not only these classic red wines that are produced in Piemonte but Arneis is a herby white with notes of almonds, the classic Gavi di Gavi, Timorasso with its peach and apricot notes and of course the frothy Moscato d'Asti, a wine that actually smells of grapes but also elderflower and with its fizz and naturally low alcohol is the ideal wine to liven your palate at the end of a meal.



Barolo vineyards



Castle of Grinzane Cavour

## Our wine and food expert

Cindy-Marie Harvey tells us that having discovered a love of Pinot Noir at an early age, she seemed destined for a life in the wine trade. However, her love of languages led her to work in Italy. After living in Piemonte for five years, discovering the delights of Nebbiolo and white truffles, she returned to the wine trade in the UK. She has spent the last 20 years planning and escorting wine tours to all the main wine regions of the world, from South America to Burgundy and Bordeaux. She now shares her passion for food and wine on her own website, Love Wine Food Ltd as well as in her own kitchen where she is often found surrounded by recipe books in Italian, French or Spanish. She looks forward to sharing her passion for the region of Piemonte with you.

## We include

- Flight with British Airways London Gatwick to Turin return, Euro traveller. Club upgrade available on request at a supplement.
- Transport from Turin airport in a small luxury coach for a maximum of 14 people, with one piece of luggage per person.
- English-speaking tour guide with knowledge of the wine and food of Piemonte.
- Four nights' bed and buffet breakfast in deluxe double or twin rooms at the Relais Villa d'Amelia, about 20 minutes' drive from Alba and about 35 minutes' drive from Barolo.
- One 4-course dinner at the Villa d'Amelia on day 1 in the gourmet restaurant with wine
- One simple supper at the Villa d'Amelia on day 2 in the gourmet restaurant with wine
- Other meals included as follows: Lunch with wine on day 2, lunch with wine on day 3, dinner with wine in Alba on day 3, dinner with wine on day 4, lunch with wine on day 5.
- Entrances and wine tastings as mentioned in the full itinerary

## Holiday prices and dates

Prices per person

25 October 2020 **£3,280**

The full day-by-day itinerary is available on our website and in a leaflet, available on request.

# Liguria, Piemonte and the Italian Alps fly-drive touring holiday

12 nights/13 days

Santa Margherita • Piemonte vineyards • Cogne in the Gran Paradiso  
National Park

This 12-night fly-drive touring holiday of northern Italy takes you from the sophisticated waters of the Mediterranean on the Ligurian Riviera, through the noble vineyards of Barolo and Barbaresco and on to the serenity of the Italian Alps and Cogne in the shadow of the Gran Paradiso National Park. This touring holiday effortlessly combines stylish and tasteful spots for rest and relaxation by the sea, with the chance to explore world-famous vineyards in Piemonte and to be active in the mountains.

Begin your touring holiday by flying into Pisa, where you collect a hire car and drive for just over one and a half hours north along the coast. Your first stop is in the charming seaside resort of Santa Margherita, which overlooks the waters of the Tigullian Gulf. Take a few days to explore the Ligurian Riviera, which has long been famed for its mild climate, luxuriant vegetation and colourful fishing villages. After five nights in Santa Margherita, continue further around the coast then head inland to Piemonte, a region of best known for its outstanding wine, Barolo. Other foodie things are famous here too including the prized, white truffles which feature on the menus of all the best restaurants. Spend two nights in Piemonte before driving two and a half hours northwards, past Turin, and into the Italian Alps. Your journey takes you to Cogne, a delightful mountain town nestling in a valley in the shadow of the Gran Paradiso Mountain not far from the Swiss and French borders. Relax and admire the mountain views, enjoy hiking in stunning surroundings and enjoy the superb hospitality and leisure facilities at your hotel. After spending five nights in the Italian Alps, end your touring holiday by driving two hours south to Turin airport where you return your hire-car and fly back to London.



Santa Margherita



Piemonte village and vineyards



Cogne in the Gran Paradiso National Park

## What's included

- Scheduled flight with British Airways from London to Pisa, returning from Turin to London
- Group B hire-car for the duration of your holiday
- Five nights' bed and breakfast at the Grand Hotel Miramare in Santa Margherita on the Ligurian Riviera
- Two nights' bed and breakfast at the Villa d'Amelia near Alba in Piemonte
- Five nights' bed and breakfast at the Hotel Bellevue in Cogne in the Italian Alps
- Concierge service and Expressions Holidays regional helpful hints

## Holiday price guide

Prices from **£2,390** per person based on two people sharing a double room.

# Piemonte and the Barolo vineyards by train holiday

7 nights/8 days

Daytime journey through France into Italy • Turin • Visit the Mole Antonelliana • Visit the Royal Palace in Turin • Visit the Madama Palace • Piemonte • Visit Alba • Wine-tastings • Visit Cherasco • Visit Bra • Optional truffle-hunting

This holiday by train to Piemonte and the Barolo vineyards includes day-time rail journeys from London to Turin via Paris, with one night in Turin upon arrival in Italy, with time for sightseeing of the city the next morning. Then you collect a hire-car and travel to the Barolo region for a stay of six nights. The return is also a day-time journey from Turin to London via Paris. Enjoy the Slow Food artisan producers of the region, the world-famous wines and the glorious landscape of the vineyards. Depending on the season, let us organise a truffle-hunt for you and we can recommend places to taste the locally produced cheeses and chocolate.

This holiday by train to Piemonte and the vineyards of Barolo, with a stay of six nights in the region, provides not just a glorious insight into the depth and variety of world-class wines the region produces (not just Barolo but Barbaresco, Dolcetto d'Alba, Barbera, Grignolino, Moscato d'Asti, Arneis and Gavi di Gavi), but stunning scenery, cultural traditions (Asti has its own palio), and a history of artisan food, from chocolates to cheese, from truffles to olive oil. Piemonte is of course famous for its truffles and we can arrange for you to go on a truffle hunt. We can also arrange for you to be accompanied by a local guide for personalised visits to local wineries and wine-tastings. Additionally, you have a night in the regional capital, Turin, and chance to explore the palaces and museums, including the Royal Palace, the Egyptian museum, the Madama Palace and the Mole Antonelliana, of this historic city that sits at the foot of the Alps. The rail travel for this holiday is very straightforward with a Eurostar to Paris and then an afternoon departure from Paris to Turin. The return journey is also in the day-time and by leaving Turin at about 10 am you reach London mid-evening.



Langhe wine cellar



Giolto cheese shop in Bra



Village of Barolo and vineyards

## What's included

- Second-class travel on all trains, with standard class on Eurostar (first and standard premier can be booked at a supplement)
- Hire of a Group B car from day 2 to day 8
- 1 night's bed and breakfast in a Classic double room at the Grand Hotel Sitea, in Turin
- 6 nights' bed and breakfast in a Superior double room at the Villa d'Amelia, near Alba
- Concierge service and Expressions Holidays regional helpful hints

## Holiday price guide

Prices from **£1,395** per person based on two people sharing a double room including second class rail travel. Supplement for first class from about £200 per person.

Expressions Holidays

Lynx House, Pynes Hill, Exeter EX2 5JL



THE ART OF INTELLIGENT

*Expressions*

TRAVEL ORGANISING

[www.expressionsholidays.co.uk](http://www.expressionsholidays.co.uk)