

# Rail holidays of Italy

*Expressions*



## Rail holiday to Piemonte and the Barolo vineyards



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7 NIGHTS / 8 DAYS

Turin

Langhe region

Benevello

Barolo vineyards



Relax and enjoy stunning scenery as you journey through Europe by train to Piemonte in northern Italy. This is a region of alpine peaks in the north, flat river valleys further south, rolling vineyards with attractive villages and forested hills dotted with mediaeval castles. The city of Turin is known as a great industrial centre but is in fact, outstandingly rich in architectural gems. A rail holiday to the Piemonte region, home to the magnificent Barolo vineyards, typically appeals to lovers of wine and food, art and architecture and dramatic, natural but also gloriously cultivated landscapes. Leave London just before 8am, change in Paris then continue on to Turin where you arrive just after 6pm before continuing to the Villa d'Amelia. An excellent alternative to the suggested rail holiday is to take a later Eurostar from London and stay overnight in Paris, allowing you to take an early morning train which arrives into Turin just after lunch. Another option is to return through the stunning scenery of Switzerland, staying overnight in Lausanne or Geneva before returning to London via Paris.

### PRICES

**From £1,395 per person**

Price based on two sharing a double or twin room.

1st class rail travel can be added for a supplement.

### DATES

This rail holiday can be arranged throughout the year. Timings can vary depending on the month and day of the week. Please note that for travel on some days of the week it is necessary to stop over in Paris. For more information regarding rail services to and within Italy, view our train guide.

### WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Train travel on all trains including the Eurostar (first class can be booked at a supplement)
- 7 nights' bed and breakfast at the Villa d'Amelia in Piemonte
- Category B hire car for the duration of your stay in Piemonte (we can arrange a larger car for you on request)

### WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Optional extra nights
- Transfers in Paris
- Meals other than breakfast at the hotels
- Early check in or late check out at hotels - though we can arrange this on request
- Supplements for alternative route options
- Any services not mentioned

## **DAY ONE: London to Turin by rail**

Begin your rail holiday by leaving the UK at about 8am, travelling on the Eurostar to Paris Nord. Change stations and board a high-speed train to Turin. Watch the scenery change as you travel south, passing through Lyon and Chambéry before climbing into the Alps and crossing the border to Italy. You arrive in Turin just after 6pm, and collect a hire-car to drive to the Villa d'Amelia where you stay for seven nights.

## **DAYS TWO TO SEVEN: Piemonte**

Explore Piemonte at leisure from your base in the heart of Piemonte's Langhe region. Piemonte beckons lovers of wine and food, art and architecture and dramatic, natural landscapes. Spend your time here enjoying the sights, food and wine that this beautiful region has to offer.

## **OPTION 1 - DIRECT TRAINS**

### **DAY EIGHT: Turin to London by rail**

Check out of your hotel and return to Turin at about 10am, where you catch a train to Paris before changing to a Eurostar to London. Arrive back in the UK just before 8pm.

## **OPTION 2 - VIA LAUSANNE**

### **DAY EIGHT: Turin to Lausanne**

Check out of your hotel and return to Turin for your train that leaves around 4pm. Change at Milan's Rho Fiera station and continue your journey to Lausanne. This part of the journey takes you along the shore of Lake Maggiore before travelling through the spectacular Simplon pass and following the course of the Rhone to Lake Geneva. Arrive in Lausanne just after 8.30pm. Stay overnight at the Hotel Angleterre et Residence.

### **DAY NINE: Lausanne to London**

Leave Lausanne around midday on the high speed TGV train to Paris. Change stations here and board the Eurostar to London, where you finish your rail holiday around 7.30pm.

## **OPTIONAL**

It is possible to add extra nights in any of these destinations if you would like to spend more time there.



*Swimming pool at Villa d'Amelia*

# HOTELS

Details of the hotels in Italy and Switzerland can be found below.



## PIEMONTE

### Villa d'Amelia 4 star

The Villa d'Amelia is a charming renovation of an 18th Century estate, well situated in a tranquil location with striking views over the surrounding parkland and the Monviso Alps. The many traditional features in the communal areas, such as exposed beams and tiled floors, compliment the more contemporary furnishings of the 37 bedrooms. A highlight of the hotel is the excellent well-being facilities, including a Turkish bath and Finnish sauna as well as a heated outdoor swimming pool where guests can enjoy the magnificent views. In the evenings the hotel's Michelin-starred restaurant offers an array of modern interpretations of local specialties, paired with regional wines.

## LAUSANNE (OPTION)

### Hotel Angleterre et Residence 4 star

On the shores of Lake Geneva with stunning views of the Alps, this hotel comprises of five different buildings surrounding the main Reception. The hotel offers contemporary style in a historic setting with parts of the buildings dating back to the 18th century. The 75 bedrooms and Junior Suites are scattered between four buildings, each with their own distinct styles, but all guests will benefit from the same high standards of care from the friendly, professional staff.



Terrace at Villa d'Amelia



Deluxe room at Villa d'Amelia



Hotel Angleterre et Residence

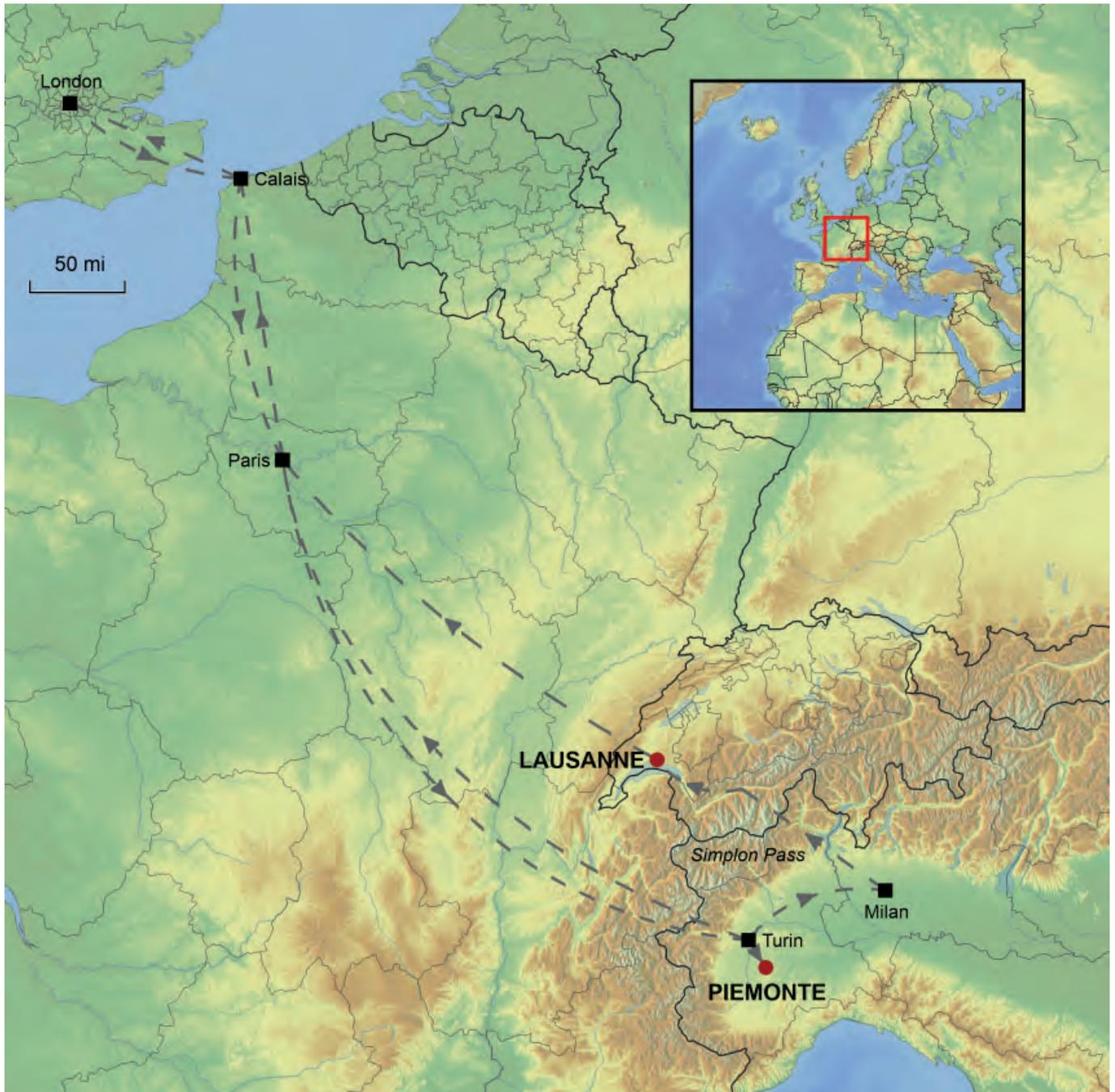


Superior lake view room at Hotel Angleterre et Residence

# MAP OF TOUR RAIL HOLIDAY TO PIEMONTE AND THE BAROLO VINEYARDS



The map below illustrates the route outlined in this touring itinerary, with overnight stops and places of interest highlighted.



## GENERAL INFORMATION

This tailor-made touring holiday is one of several suggested touring holidays we can offer you exactly as it is but also with any alterations you might want including extra nights in one or more places or adding in extra places. All our tours can be extended so that you can include a longer stay in one mountain or lake resort too, perhaps at the end of the itinerary. Do call to discuss the options with our travel consultants.

### OUR TOURS

**Our rail tours are for individuals travelling on their own or in their own family group. You do not join a group and you are not escorted.**

### FLEXIBLE ARRANGEMENTS

Our arrangements are very flexible in that you choose to travel on any day you want, subject to availability of trains and hotels. As mentioned above, additional nights can be added at any point.

### EUROSTAR

A rail holiday to Italy starts with a journey by Eurostar from London St Pancras, Ebbsfleet or Ashford stations in the UK to either Paris Gare du Nord or Lille Europe. In summer months there are direct trains on Saturdays from London St Pancras to Avignon with no change required.

Eurostar offers almost hourly departures every day, allowing you to travel from the centre of London to the centre of Paris on the same train in three hours. Not all trains stop at the Ebbsfleet and Ashford stations in Kent, but parking is plentiful at both stations and it allows you to avoid London.

Check-in is 30 minutes prior to departure, customs formalities are completed before boarding and there is no limit to the amount of baggage that can be taken on board. The Eurostar trains themselves have 8 coaches which are split into Standard Class, Standard Premier and Business Premier as well as 2 cafeterias. Standard Premier customers are served a light cold meal and enjoy a more spacious environment than Standard Class, while Business Premier customers receive a hot meal and unlimited beverages as well as lounge access.

### TRAIN TIMES

We have planned our itineraries based on train times that work day by day at the time of planning which can be up to a year before you travel. Usually train times stay more or less the same every day, season by season. The times we have planned will be discussed with you at the time you enquire about the holiday and they are detailed to you in your written holiday quotation. It may be that the timetable changes between the planning of the itinerary and when you come to book but we can always adjust the itinerary to suit the actual train times and any requirements you have for particular times of travel.

### FIRST OR SECOND CLASS

We will automatically include travel in second class but lots of our clients do upgrade to first class service. On Eurostar this is called Premier Standard for leisure travellers as it gives you an upgraded on-board service and more spacious seating but without paying for the fully-flexible business tickets. On the Inter-city trains, upgrading to first class gives you more spacious seating with increased legroom. The price of upgrading varies from route to route but is something that is not always proportionately a lot more on the price of the overall holiday, so well-worth considering.

### TRANSFERS

Transfers in Paris between stations and from the station to each hotel are not automatically included in the price of the holiday. In Paris most clients choose to take a taxi between the stations rather than go on the Metro but we can arrange a private car with driver to take you in between. This is quite useful if you are a family group that can't fit into one Paris taxi.

## PRICE INFORMATION

This tailor-made touring holiday is one of several suggested touring holidays we can offer you exactly as it is but also with any alterations you might want including extra nights in one or more places or adding in extra places. All our tours can be extended so that you can include a longer stay in one mountain or lake resort too, perhaps at the end of the itinerary. Do call to discuss the options with our travel consultants.

### OUR PRICES

The sample prices mentioned in this leaflet are generally a 'from' price based on the cheapest season of travel. However, train fares and hotel rates can change (up and down depending on offers), so we give you an accurate price for your holiday when we provide you with a quotation. Our sample prices should be used as an indication of how much a particular combination will cost and to show the differences on average between the hotel categories on offer.

### PRICE INFORMATION IN MORE DETAIL

**From £1,530 per person** for first class rail travel.

**From £1,395 per person** for second class rail travel.

Prices based on two sharing a double or twin room with direct return.

#### What's included?

7 nights' bed and breakfast in a Garden Room at Villa d'Amelia in Piemonte

First or second class travel on all trains (as above) including Eurostar

Category B car hire for the duration of your stay in Piemonte

#### What's not included?

Meals other than breakfast

Early check in or late check outs at hotels – though we can arrange this on request.

Supplements for alternative route options

Any services not mentioned above



### BOOKING CONDITIONS

Our booking conditions apply to all holidays. A copy can be found on our website and a copy is also sent to you with a written quotation and when you make a booking.

### FINANCIAL PROTECTION

Expressions Holidays offers full financial protection for all holidays you book with us. If your holiday includes a flight, the ATOL (3076) covers the costs of the holiday. If the holiday does not include a flight, it is the ABTOT bond that protects the cost of the holiday. We are also members of AITO (the Association of Independent Tour Operators) and ABTA.



Expressions Holidays  
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## HOW TO BOOK

To make a booking, just phone us on

**01392 441275**

and we can take you through the details we need and start the booking process. A deposit is required to confirm the arrangements and this can be paid by debit or credit card over the phone. The level of the deposit will be confirmed at the point of booking and will depend on the ticketing deadlines of the rail tickets involved in your booking.