



ITALY

SELF-DRIVE EMILIA ROMAGNA (TOUR CODE: 11600)

STARTS AND ENDS

in Bologna

TRAVEL PERIODS

01 Apr 23 - 31 Oct 2023

EXPERIENCE

Food & Wine
Self-Drive

TRAVEL STYLE

Independent Holiday Packages

A trip through Emilia Romagna, which has flourished since the middle ages thanks to the region's monasteries and the University of Bologna.

Highlights

- Chance of sampling several **Slow Food Presidia products** - high-quality, traditional foods and beverages at risk of "extinction" such as *Parmigiano Reggiano*, *Romagnola piadina*, *Culatello di Zibello* and many more!
- Discover gorgeous cities such as **Parma, Ferrara, Ravenna and Dozza** while tasting delightful food and wines of the Emilia Romagna Region!
- Taste the **Modena Traditional Balsamic Vinegar**, hand-made from boiled grape must and then aged for a long period in wooden kegs
- Guided visit to the breathtaking **Castle of Torrechiara**

Emilia Romagna is home to delightful towns of great artistic importance, with cathedrals and ancient castles, Renaissance arcades and galleries with masterpieces by Raphael and Guido Reni. It is also famous for many delicacies such as the Prosciutto Crudo ham, the Parmigiano Reggiano cheese, the Culatello di Zibello, the Balsamic Vinegar of Modena and many other traditional delicacies!

Additionally, participants will have the unique chance of sampling several **Slow Food Presidia** products (high-quality, traditional food and beverages at "risk of extinction") and will taste authentic regional dishes at restaurants selected among those recommended by the Slow Food association in their "**Osterie d'Italia**" guide: small "trattorie" that still use fresh, local produce for traditional recipes.

Slow Food is an organisation that promotes local food and traditional cooking. It was founded by Carlo Petrini in Italy in 1986 and has since spread worldwide. Promoted as an alternative to fast food, it strives to preserve traditional and regional cuisine and encourages farming of plants, seeds, and livestock characteristic of the local ecosystem. It promotes local small businesses and sustainable foods. It also focuses on

food quality, rather than quantity. It was the first established part of the broader slow movement. It speaks out against overproduction and food waste. It sees globalisation as a process in which small and local farmers and food producers should be simultaneously protected from and included in the global food system.



- ✓ ENTIRE Cooling-Off Period
- ✓ ENTIRE Change of Mind
- ✓ ENTIRE On Ground Support
- ✓ ENTIRE AUD Prices
- ✓ ENTIRE Industry Accredited
- ✓ ENTIRE Australian Owned

INCLUSIONS

- 2 nights in Parma at Albergo della Roccia - 4*
- 3 nights in Bologna at Art Hotel Commercianti - 4*
- Car Hire Credit of \$600
- Daily Buffet Breakfast
- 1 Slow Food welcome dinner at an "Osterie d'Italia" typical restaurant
- 2 guided tastings of Slow Food and/or Presidia products from the Emilia Romagna region
- 1 cooking lesson followed by dinner with the dishes prepared
- 1 visit to a Balsamic Vinegar producer
- Guided visit to Castello di Torrechiara

ITINERARY

Day

1

Bologna

Arrival at the hotel and check-in. Time to relax, followed by a **traditional dinner** based on local seasonal produce in an "Osterie d'Italia" typical trattoria (*Slow Food is an organisation that promotes local food and traditional cooking*).

Overnight stay in Bologna at **Art Hotel Commercianti**.

Dinner



Day **2**

Bologna

After breakfast, enjoy some free time in the morning.

We recommend a gourmet stroll around Bologna's historical market, called "il Quadrilatero", and some shopping under the arches of the Piazza Maggiore Arcade. You will then take part to **an afternoon cookery lesson** dedicated to traditional Bolognese cuisine, followed by dinner with the prepared dishes.

Overnight stay in Bologna at **Art Hotel Commercianti**.

Breakfast, Dinner



Day **3**

Bologna Parma area

After breakfast and the check-out, you will have some free time in the morning.

Then, proceed towards the wonderful **Torrechiara Castle for a guided walking tour**. In the afternoon, stop at a local

“Cantina”, situated in one of the most beautiful spots in the Parma hills for a tasting of four wines, accompanied by local produce.

Overnight stay in Parma area at **Albergo della Roccia**.

Breakfast



Day 4

Parma area

After breakfast, arrive at Castel Antica Corte Pallavicina in Polesine Parmense in “Verdi country”, in honour of Giuseppe Verdi who used to live here. Walk around the structure, visit the museum and **taste the famous Culatello di Zibello**. Some free time to relax.

Overnight stay in Parma area at **Albergo della Roccia**.

Breakfast



Day 5

Parma area Modena Bologna

After breakfast, departure back to **Bologna**.

Stop en-route to learn about the secret and the production techniques of the Traditional Balsamic Vinegar of Modena by stopping at a local producer of this renowned product. We suggest to stroll around **Modena's** historical centre. Proceed to Bologna and check-in.

Overnight stay in Bologna at **Art Hotel Commercianti**.

Breakfast



Day **6**

Bologna

Your itinerary has come to an end! After breakfast, check-out of your hotel.

Breakfast

ACCOMMODATION

Albergo della Roccia

Varano de Melegari (Parma)

This lovely hotel is situated in Varano de Melegari, ancient pre-historic site and very close to Parma. Its strategic location at the entrance of the Ceno valley makes it the perfect choice to spend a pleasant, comfortable and peaceful journey.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Italian

LOCAL CURRENCY

EURO

- **FLEXI CAR HIRE CREDIT:** This self-drive package includes a \$600 (\$100/day) Flexi Car Hire Credit. This provides the flexibility of selecting a vehicle based on your own preferences and requirements. As each location has vehicle limitations, please speak to our team for options.
- We work with a selection of hotels in each location. All bookings are subject to availability, which means our team will confirm your specific hotels upon confirmation and payment of deposit. The package price is based on 4-star accommodation.

Blackout dates may apply during festive season.

Excluded

- International airfares and taxes
- Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- Visa expenses, processing and issuance fees
- Meals other than as specified in our holiday package
- Travel Insurance or expenses of a personal nature (mini-bar, phone call, laundry, etc.),
- Tips or gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, hotel, restaurant or boat staff, etc.
- Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package