

The magic of Alps

13 days - 12 nights

13 days around Piedmont and Aosta Valley, with some easy hiking across alpine valleys and passes, to discover the richness of arts, traditions and cultures. With a slow pace, allowing to appreciate and acknowledge in depth the wealth coming from diversity.

1st day. Airport - Fobello

Arrival to airport, pick up and transfer to Fobello, in the Natural Park Alta Valsesia. Check in at the hotel and briefing about the program "Magic of Alps". Free time for relax. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. (D)



2nd day. Cervatto

After breakfast, transfer to Cervatto village, for a short hike downhill, to reach Fobello. Visit to the historic Herbarium of abbot Carestia and to the Museum of Puncetto, a typical embroidery of the region. Relax before dinner at the hotel. Overnight. (B, D)

3rd day. High Valsesia Natural Park



After breakfast, transfer to discover the Natural Park of Alta Valsesia. Guided by a ranger, trekking to reach the Baranca Lake (1820m). Back to the hotel in Fobello, free time for relax. Typical Valsesiane dinner, served by women

dressed in traditional costume. (B, D)

4th day. Lago Maggiore and Borromean Islands

After breakfast, transfer to Stresa, tourist resort on the Lago Maggiore.

By ferry boat you will reach the Borromean Islands, witnessing the glory of the Borromeo family and the fishing tradition of the lake. The visit will start from Isola dei Pescatori, the sole inhabited one, with its characteristic fishers' village.

In the afternoon, visit to Isola Bella, with the Borromeo's Palace and the magnificent gardens dating back to 1632 and to the spectacular botanic garden of the Isola Madre. Drive back to the hotel in Fobello, dinner and overnight. (B, D)



5th day. Valle Otro and Pastore Hut

After breakfast, move to the high Valsesia, trekking in the Otro Valley and one of the most characteristic Walser villages, with its houses based on a typical stone mushroom, the ground floor of stones and the upper floor in wood. The house is surrounded by a large open gallery to dry hay and rye.



Typical lunch at Dorf, the village in Otro Valley, then back to Alagna and transfer to Rifugio Pastore. Time for relax, dinner and overnight at the hut. (B, L, D)

6th day. Pastore Hut

Daily excursion on the glaciological path around Rifugio Pastore, with a stunning view on the Monte Rosa. (B, D)

7th day. Sacro Monte of Varallo, Oropa

After breakfast, transfer to Varallo Sesia, important industrial and touristic resort of Valsesia. Visit to its wonderful Sacro Monte, the oldest and most evocative Sacro Monte in North-western Italy, UNESCO World Heritage site. The tour continues in the Oasi Zegna, a protected area for wildlife and eco-tourism, with a wonderful view of both the Monte Rosa and the Po valley. Through the Rosazza tunnel, you reach Oropa Sanctuary. Check-in in the historic rooms of the sanctuary, dinner and overnight. (B, D)



8th day. Oropa

After breakfast, sightseeing of the Sanctuary, UNESCO World

Heritage Site. Visit of the Museum of Treasury, the Ex Voto Gallery, the library with its antique books. Lunch at a typical Biellese trattoria. After lunch



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the visit continues with the Priest's promenade, the botanic garden with many species of mountain's flowers, the Sacro Monte. Relax before dinner. Overnight at the Sanctuary. (B, L, D)

9th day. Rifugio Coda

After breakfast, you leave Oropa with the cableway that reaches the Mucrone lake. From there in 2 hours walk, you reach the Rifugio Coda (2280m), a wonderful panoramic point both on the Aosta Valley and the Monte Rosa, and the Biellese. Time for relax. Traditional dinner with popular songs, with the warm hospitality of the hut manager and his family. Overnight in the reserved rooms. (B, D)

10th day. Gressoney Valley and Bard fortress

After breakfast, walk down from the hut in the smooth grasslands of Gressoney Valley, reach in rhododendrons and other alpin flowers. With



the reserved minibus transfer to a dairy farming, taste and purchase the cheese of the region. The afternoon is devoted to discover the Bard Fortress, one of the best examples of early 1800 military strongholds. Transfer to Viverone Lake, check in at the hotel. Dinner and overnight (B, D)

11th day. Sacra di San Michele and Venaria Reale

After breakfast, transfer near Turin, and discover another



strongholds, situated at the beginning of the Susa Valley, converted by Benedictine monks into an Abbey. In the afternoon visit at the hunting residence of the Savoy's House, the Venaria Reale.

Back to the hotel in Viverone, farewell dinner. (BL, D)

12th day. Roppolo Castle and luxury shopping

After breakfast, transfer to the close Roppolo Castle, headquarter of the Enoteca Regionale della Serra wine cellar, where all the best region's wines can be tasted and purchased. Lunch in a typical agriturismo on the Serra morainic complex.

In the afternoon, shopping at the first and only luxury outlet in Northern Italy. Back to the hotel in Viverme, farewell dinner. (B, L, D)

1th day. Back home

After breakfast, transfer to the airport and flight back home. (B)

