

## **Enogastronomical trip to Piemonte, 2-12 October (10 nights: 8 Ca' Rapulin, 2 Milan): Itinerary, ver. 1.2**

### **Monday, 2 October: Pickup at Malpensa Airport**

10:45–11:15am Arrive Malpensa airport. Pickup at Gate 2. Bus ride to Ca' Rapulin, 1:45 minutes.

1:15pm Check in. Welcome wine toast and lunch.

3:00pm Relax, tour the estate, walk the grapevine trail, sit by the panoramic pool.

5:00pm dep. Visit the nearby family-owned Scagliola winery at harvest-time. Check out their grape crusher.

8:00pm Traditional Langhe dinner at Cà Rapulin prepared by Chef Andrea.

### **Tuesday, 3 October: Flour Mill – Canelli – Grappa Distillery**

9:30am Visit the Mulino Marino (flour mill) in Cossano Belbo. Meet Fausto and Fulvio, the new generation "Mugnai." Learn about old and new grinding techniques, local wheat grains, and panification.

11:00am Head to Canelli, Italy's capital of Moscato d'Asti. Visit the Contratto Winery, one of the world-famous underground "wine cathedrals," ancient wineries built to produce sparkling Asti Spumante.

1:30pm Lunch at Canelli's Osteria dei Meravigliati.

3:00pm dep. Tour the Berta grappa distillery, with its amazing maturation vault.

6:30pm Return to Cà Rapulin.

8:00pm Walk up the hill to Calosso, for a locals' trattoria dinner at Il Duca Bianco.

### **Wednesday, 4 October: Free Day**

8:00pm Collegial dinner, prepared by Chef Andrea, with invited guests, including local wine producers who will bring a bottle to discuss from their collection.

### **Thursday, 5 October: La Morra; Barolo**

9:30am Depart for La Morra. Stop at the multicolor chapel and giant red chair, which have become symbols of La Morra, and enjoy the breath-taking view of Nebbiolo vineyards.

10:20am Explore the medieval town, known as the pinnacle of Langhe, with its panoramic Belvedere and classic Baroque cathedral.

1:00pm dep. for Barolo.

1:15pm Light lunch at trattoria Locanda La Gamella, a refreshing traditional-contemporary fusion. Stroll the picturesque town.

4:15pm dep. Visit Claudio Viberti's winery for a tasting and tour. Dinner at their family-owned "Buon Padre" restaurant.

### **Friday, 6 October: Truffle Search; Scaglione / Canelli**

9:30am dep. Wear comfortable walking shoes and loose clothes for truffle hunting, a unique experience that will allow you to uncover some of Langhe's hidden secrets. A ten-minute bus ride will take us to Costigliole to meet brothers Giorgio and Natale, experienced "trufilaus." After a presentation by Giorgio, we will hunt in the woods with Natale and one of their dogs, and then have a special truffle snack on their patio.

11:30am Return to Cà Rapulin for a class demo of Plin ravioli preparation with Chef Andrea.

1:00pm Lunch with freshly-prepared Plin.

6:00pm dep. for Canelli.

6:15pm Visit the Gabriele Scaglione winery.

8:00pm Take Gabriele to dinner in the historic cellars of Casa Crippa.

### **Saturday, 7 October: Alba; Piazza Duomo**

9:30am dep. Head for the city of Alba, the cultural capital of Langhe, known for its hazelnut chocolate (the headquarters of Ferrero is here), white truffles, and great food. Alba is an elegant city, with many civic buildings dating back to Roman, Medieval, and Renaissance periods. Enjoy the gourmet food stores, clothing stores, and colorful squares. You will walk the Corso Vittorio Emanuele and City Hall Square.

12:30pm Lunch at the Michelin \*\*\* Ristorante Piazza Duomo (Chef Crippa). Enjoy a unique enogastronomical experience in an exquisite dining room.

3:00pm Take the guided tour of “Alba sotterranea” (Underground Alba) with an expert archeologist. View artifacts and building foundations dating back over 2000 years.

7:30pm Return to Cà Rapulin for a light dinner.

### **Sunday, 8 October: Venaria Reale; Relais San Maurizio**

8:30am dep.

10:00am Tour the royal castle of Venaria Reale, with its stables and restored carriages and driving harnesses.

12:30pm Light lunch in the town.

1:30pm dep. for Santa Stefano Belbo.

2:45pm Enjoy the delights of Relais San Maurizio, a tastefully restored 17<sup>th</sup> century monastery-spa, with its salt baths, wellness center, organic garden, and tennis.

8:00pm Dine at Guido da Costigliole, a Michelin \* restaurant in the monastery’s vaulted cellars.

### **Monday, 9 October: Bra; Pollentia**

9:30am dep.

10:00–11:00am Visit the Giolito cheese shop; 5-cheese tasting.

11:15 Visit two Baroque churches (Sant Andrea; San Antonino) and Bra’s town square.

12:30pm Lunch at Trattoria Boccondivino, the organizational center of the Slow Food Movement, established in 1986 to protect and defend local cuisine.

2:00pm dep. for nearby Pollentia and visit the University of Gastronomic Sciences.

3:30pm Walk around Pollentia’s Roman amphitheater.

7:30pm Return to Cà Rapulin for a farewell pizza dinner with Chef Andrea.

### **Tuesday, 10 October: Milan – La Scala**

9:30am dep. Bus to Milan.

11:30am Check in at The Square Milano Duomo.

12:00pm Optional lunch at The Square’s rooftop dining room. Explore & shop.

4:00pm dep. hotel foyer. Walk to the Duomo di Milano for a tour of this massive Gothic cathedral.

5:00pm Passeggiata through Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II for aperitivo, en route to La Scala.

7:30pm curtain. La Scala *Marriage of Figaro*. Stroll back for further aperitivo.

### **Wednesday, 11 October: Milan – Last Supper; al Mudec**

9:30am dep. Hotel shuttle to Santa Maria delle Grazie: Leonardo da Vinci’s *Last Supper* fresco.

11:00am Stroll Parco Sempione. Visit Sforzesco Castle and the magnificent Civic Aquarium, Europe’s third oldest.

7:30pm Enrico Bartolini al Mudec \*\*\* Michelin restaurant.

### **Thursday, 12 October: Departure**

9:00am dep. Hotel shuttle to Malpensa Airport for return flights.