

The 2017 Croydon Cycleworks Tour of Italy

May 17th to 30th 2017



Croydon Cycleworks are proud to offer another Italian cycling adventure for 2017! We have been taking cycling enthusiasts to the French Alps and Pyrenees for quite a few years now as well as a number of times to Italy. Cycling enthusiasts argue which is the best place to ride, but the legendary Dolomites provide a magnificent backdrop for some epic rides, which are steeped in history and Giro folklore.

We will be running our tour during the 100th edition of the Giro d'Italia, so it is a very special year to see this race. Typically, access to riders is easier than the French tour, and it's not uncommon to hold an umbrella up over a Green edge rider at a stage start, whilst conducting an interesting conversation. Which Aussies are going to star? Adam Hansen? Simon Clarke? Or perhaps Richie Porte will be in the form required for a grand tour victory? You can be there to see it, while riding the roads and climbs made famous by the Giro!

Here are some key features of our 2017 Giro d'Italia Tour:

- **We expect to see 2 race stages up close, one high mountain stage, and one stage start.**
- The cycling routes in our tour will be challenging with multiple HC climbs. This tour is for experienced cyclists.
- Our 13 day tour starts and ends at Venice Marco Polo airport
- We will be cycling the legendary climbs of the Sella Ronde and Marmolada, as well as the Stelvio and Gavia.
- Your guides will be your drivers on transfers, accompany you on the rides, help with mechanical issues, be your interpreter and provide assistance where needed.
- Our schedule is designed to minimize transfers and driving. Most days you will ride from the front door, providing more time to ride and also more time to relax and enjoy the other aspects of holidaying in the Italian countryside.
- All breakfasts, some picnic lunches and snack foods are included. Dinners are at your own cost as are lunches at cafes or restaurants.

Tour Summary

Day 1 Wednesday May 17th Pick up guests from Venice Marco Polo Airport at **Midday sharp Drive to La Villa**



It is recommended guests fly into Venice Marco Airport a day or two before, leave their bikes at the convenient airport left luggage, and spend a night or two in Venice. Regular buses go to and from the airport to Venice.

Day 2 Thursday May 18th Sella Ronde warm up Loop (Passo Gardena, Sella, Pordoi, Campolongo) 70km

Day 3 Friday May 19th David's grand Loop of the Marmolada, including Passo Fedaiia 100km

Day 4 Saturday May 20th The Passo Valparolo /Passo di Giau/Passo Falzarego Epic 90km

Day 5 Sunday May 21st Transfer to Bormio

Day 6 Monday May 22nd Today is a great chance to ride another monster climb (at 2620m above sea level) in this region, the Passo di Gavia. We double up by completing the "day of death" loop (as Italian cyclists call it) via the brutally steep Mortirolo. These are climbs steeped in Giro history. 105km

Day 7 Tuesday May 23rd Valley ride of 60km today with stop for Strudel and coffee will help ease the leg aches and prepare you for tomorrows climb up the Stelvio.

Day 8 Wednesday May 24th Climb the spectacular Stelvio, and watch the Giro come through over the summit. 50km

Day 9 Thursday May 25th Transfer to Valdobbiadene

Day 10 Friday May 26th Daves secret ride today will leave you gasping, both at the scenery, and for air!

Day 11 Saturday May 27th Morning ride and watch the Giro in afternoon. 60km

See the teams set up and chat to the riders, in a far more open and relaxed environment than the Tour de France.

Day 12 Sunday May 28th Start off easy today ride to Bassano to warm up, and then loop over Monte Grappa. 100km

Day 12 Monday May 29th Ride the Passo Croce d'Aune (Campagnolo even named a groupset after this place) in the morning, and pack bikes in the afternoon. 80km

Day 13 Tuesday May 30th Transfer to **Venice Marco Polo**: 1 Hour, arrive airport 10am.



The cost of this tour is \$3800 including GST

- Airfares are not included. You will need to organize your own transport to Venice Marco Polo Airport (we can help with advice).
- Participants will be required to on occasion to assist with tasks such as loading bikes and luggage, preparing snacks etc. Your tour guides will be there to drive you, guide you and assist you where possible and make the tour a great experience.
- Accommodation is comfortable 2 stars or better twin share.
- The level of difficulty of the rides is high. In order to enjoy the cycling, you will want to be well trained for this trip as the climbs are long, steep and at altitude.
- Places are limited, so reserve early to avoid disappointment. A 50% deposit (\$1900) is required to secure your spot. Balance due March 15th 2017.
- Special tour jersey is provided to participants
- For more info email David & Niko sales@croydoncycpleworks.com.au or call 03-97235164

