



ITALY

SELF-DRIVE HIGHLIGHTS OF EMILIA ROMAGNA & CINQUE TERRE

(TOUR CODE: 17033)

STARTS AND ENDS

Bologna to
Genova

TRAVEL PERIODS

until 15 October 2027

EXPERIENCE

[Walk & Hike](#)
[Self-Drive](#)

TRAVEL STYLE

Independent Holiday Packages

Discover two of Italy's most rewarding regions on this relaxed self-drive journey from Bologna to Genoa. Combining the rich culinary traditions of Emilia Romagna with the colourful coastal beauty of Cinque Terre and the Italian Riviera, this itinerary is perfect for travellers who enjoy exploring at their own pace.

Highlights

- Self-drive through the landscapes of **Emilia Romagna and Cinque Terre** at your own pace
- Discover **Modena and Parma**, two of Italy's great food destinations
- Visit beautiful **Portovenere on the Gulf of Poets**
- Explore the **UNESCO-listed villages of Cinque Terre**
- Enjoy **local flavours including Parmigiano Reggiano, pesto and Ligurian specialties**

Begin in Emilia Romagna, Italy's celebrated Food Valley, where historic cities, grand piazzas and world-famous produce come together. Explore Modena and Parma, home to Parmigiano Reggiano, traditional balsamic vinegar and some of Italy's finest culinary traditions, while enjoying time to wander elegant streets and discover the region's cultural treasures.

Continue west to the Ligurian coast, where picturesque seaside villages, colourful harbours and spectacular coastal scenery await. Explore the UNESCO-listed villages of Cinque Terre, discover the charm of Portovenere and enjoy the Riviera atmosphere of Santa Margherita Ligure, Portofino and Rapallo.

INCLUSIONS

- 2 nights in the Parma at Starhotels Du Parc ★ ★ ★ ★ or similar
- 2 nights in the La Spezia at Hotel The Poet ★ ★ ★ ★ or similar
- 1 night in Genoa at NH Genova Centro ★ ★ ★ ★ or similar
- 6 days Intermediate automatic rental car
- Daily breakfast
- 24-hour Cinque Terre Card
- Private pesto-making experience in Cinque Terre
- Choose 2 included local experiences to personalise your journey (full experience list available in the Important Notes).

ITINERARY

Day 1	Bologna Modena Parma Collect your rental car in Bologna and make your way to Modena. Modena is one of Italy's most celebrated food and cultural destinations. Explore the historic centre, admire the UNESCO-listed Cathedral and enjoy the atmosphere of this elegant city before continuing into Emilia Romagna's renowned Food Valley. Later, drive to Parma (approximately 1 hour), a city famous for its gastronomy, refined architecture and relaxed pace of life. Included experience options available today: • Museo Ferrari entrance ticket • Parmigiano Reggiano tasting <i>Choose any 2 included experiences throughout your journey.</i> Overnight in Parma at Starhotels Du Parc 4★ or similar.
Day 2	Parma Discover Parma, renowned for its gastronomy, art and elegant historic centre. Visit Piazza Duomo, the Cathedral and Baptistry, before enjoying time to explore local delicatessens and gourmet shops. In the afternoon, you can choose to visit the elegant Reggia di Colorno, often referred to as the "Little Versailles of Parma". Explore its richly decorated royal apartments, grand ceremonial halls and formal gardens, while learning about the fascinating history of the Duchy of Parma. Included experience options available today: • Parma Cathedral & Baptistry entrance ticket • Colorno Royal Palace entrance ticket <i>Choose any 2 included experiences throughout your journey.</i> Overnight in Parma at Starhotels Du Parc 4★ or similar

Breakfast

Day **3**

Parma Lerici Portovenere La Spezia

This morning, depart Parma and drive towards the Ligurian coast (approximately 2 hours to Lerici).

Before reaching La Spezia, stop in **Lerici**, a charming seaside town on the Gulf of Poets that inspired famous writers including Percy Bysshe Shelley. Explore the waterfront, visit the castle and enjoy lunch overlooking the sea.

Continue to **Portovenere** (approximately 30 minutes), one of Liguria's most picturesque coastal villages and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Wander through the colourful harbour, explore the medieval lanes and admire the dramatic views from the Church of San Pietro and Doria Castle.

Spend time soaking up the atmosphere before continuing to nearby La Spezia (approximately 20 minutes).

Overnight in La Spezia at **Hotel The Poet 4★** or similar.

Breakfast

Day **4**

La Spezia Cinque Terre La Spezia

Today is dedicated to discovering the spectacular **Cinque Terre**, one of Italy's most iconic coastal regions. Using your included **Cinque Terre Card**, **travel independently** between the five picturesque villages by train or ferry.

Visit **Riomaggiore**, with its colourful houses and small harbour; **Manarola**, perched on a rocky headland overlooking the sea; **Corniglia**, dramatically positioned above the coastline; **Vernazza**, often regarded as the prettiest village of the five; and **Monterosso al Mare**, known for its historic centre and sandy beach. Along the way, enjoy spectacular coastal scenery, local food and the relaxed atmosphere of the Ligurian Riviera.

Enjoy a **private pesto-making experience** offering the chance to learn one of Liguria's most famous culinary traditions.

Overnight in La Spezia Area at **Hotel The Poet 4★** or similar

Breakfast

Day **5**

La Spezia Santa Margherita Ligure & Portofino Genoa

Depart La Spezia and follow the stunning Ligurian coastline north towards **Santa Margherita Ligure**, known for its palm-lined promenade, colourful villas, harbour and relaxed Riviera atmosphere.

Continue to glamorous **Portofino** (approximately 15 minutes), famous for its iconic Piazzetta, luxury boutiques and picturesque harbour framed by colourful buildings and fishing boats. Enjoy time to explore the village and perhaps stop for lunch overlooking the waterfront.

In the afternoon, travel to nearby **Rapallo** (approximately 15 minutes), where you can stroll along the Lungomare promenade, browse the shopping streets and admire the historic seaside castle before continuing to **Genoa** (approximately 40 minutes).

Included experience options available today:

- Aperitif in Santa Margherita Ligure
- Gelato tasting in Portofino

Choose any 2 included experiences throughout your journey.

Overnight in Genoa at **NH Genova Centro 4★** or similar.

Breakfast

Day

6

Genoa

After breakfast, return your rental car in Genoa and explore Genoa's historic centre, including the UNESCO-listed Palazzi dei Rolli, atmospheric laneways and local food scene.

Included experience option available today:

- Focaccia and pesto tasting in Genoa

Choose any 2 included experiences throughout your journey.

End of our services.

Breakfast

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Italian

LOCAL CURRENCY

EURO

FROM price reflects the lowest available price within the advertised travel period (e.g. April to October). Pricing varies depending on travel dates, availability and demand, and may not be available on all departures. Higher pricing applies during peak and shoulder periods. Final pricing is confirmed at the time of enquiry or booking. Please refer to [Pricing & Price Conditions](#) for full details, including inclusions, exclusions and other conditions.

Choose 2 included local experiences:

- Museo Ferrari entrance ticket
- Parmigiano Reggiano tasting
- Parma Cathedral and Baptistry entrance ticket
- Colorno Royal Palace entrance ticket
- Aperitif in Santa Margherita Ligure
- Gelato tasting in Portofino
- Focaccia and pesto tasting in Genoa

Experience selections are subject to availability and must be requested at the time of booking.

Car Rental Includes: A 6-day intermediate automatic rental car (MG ZS or similar), featuring automatic transmission, air conditioning, seating for up to five passengers and space for three bags. The rental includes unlimited mileage, SCDW (Super Collision Damage Waiver), STP (Theft Protection), airport surcharge, taxes and applicable fees, giving you the freedom to explore Tuscany at your own pace. **Vehicle upgrades are available for a supplement, subject to availability at the time of booking.**