

2023 Vacation - Italy



Rome



Video: [Trevi Fountain, Favourite Landmark](#)



The Pantheon



Also, Rhonda by the Tiber River, the Colosseum, the Baths of Caracalla, and Mike playing Caesar, overlooking the Circus Maximus.

Trastevere – Our Neighbourhood While in Rome





The Vatican





Mosaics in St. Peter's Basilica, and the view of St. Peter's Square from on top of the Basilica.

The Vatican Museums



The Round Room with Porphyry Basin, Laocöon and Sons with Serpents, marble table, sarcophagus, Gallery of Maps ceiling.

Sale Marasino



Video: [Trenord Train Out Our Window](#)



We were very fortunate to find a wonderful AirBnB with the loveliest hosts and a fabulous view.

Cycling Around Sale Marasino



Video: [Coasting Down the Mountain](#)
(warning, long video!)



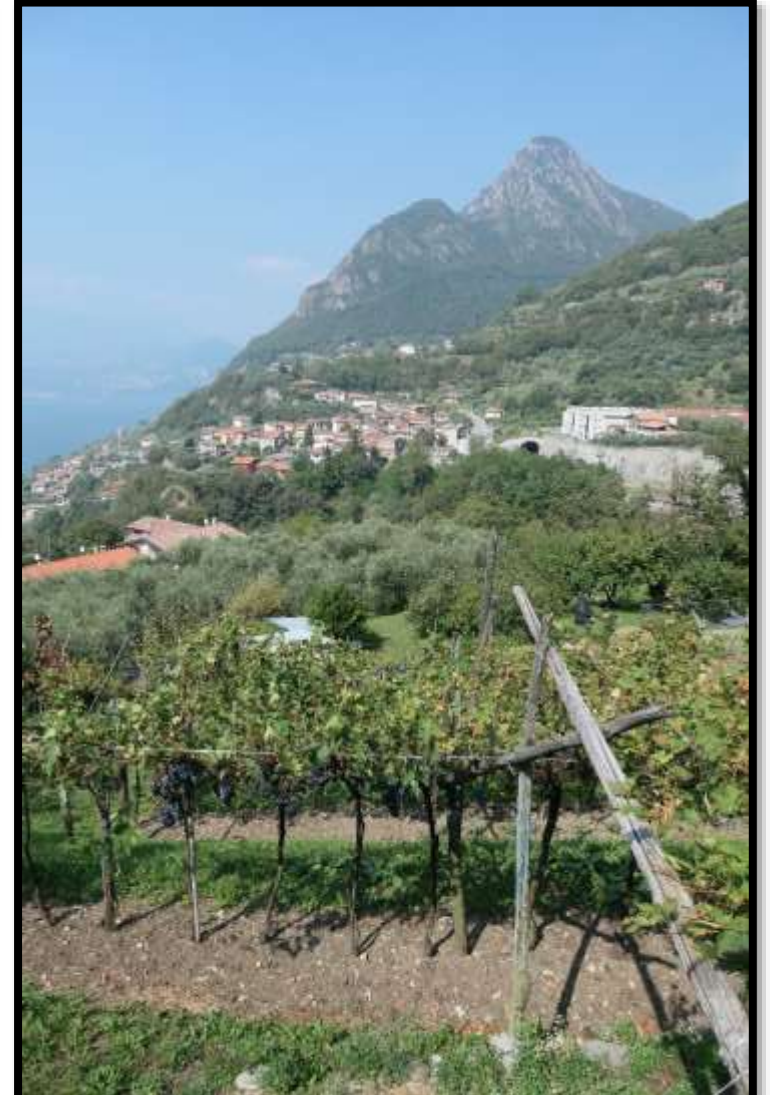
Video: [Cycling Sale Marasino to Sarnico with a scary tunnel](#)
(warning - very long video!)



Video: [Cycling the Scenic Vello-Toline Trail](#)
(warning – very long video!)



Hiking



Sights and scenery from the hike north to Marone, via the Antica Strada Valeriana (ancient road).



Videos: [Friendly cow on our hike](#)
and [Friendly donkeys on our hike](#)



Our destination - the old church on a hill, Chiesa San Pietro in Vinculisis.



Hiking south to Tassano: view of Monte Isola, Lake Iseo, and surrounding villages.



Maspiiano village and its church – Chiesa di San Giacomo



Panorama showing Monte Isola (the “mountain island”), and scenery along the Antica Strada Valeriana trail.

Marone and Loreto Island



Lovere



Iseo



Video: [Watching a Storm Come In](#)

A visit to one of the largest local markets, treats, and watching a storm come over the lake.

Monte Isola

Video: [Ferry on Lake Iseo](#)



Monte Isola is the main feature of Lake Iseo – an island with a mountain to climb. Here we saw medieval villages, farms, and many chestnut and olive groves...



... and at the summit, more spectacular views.

Around Sale Marasino



Street scenery, our local grocery, buying cheese on market day, a view of the lake, and samplings from the local bakery.

Sale Marasino – Chiesa di San Zenone



Video: [Inside the Chiesa](#)

Sale Marasino – Town of Festivals



Sale Marasino is home to the national “zucca” (i.e., pumpkin/squash) festival. We missed it by one day. But we did get to see the town decorated for other festivals.... so many festivals!

Paragliding



Video: [Paragliding](#) (warning, very long video)

Train Travel



We didn't have a car so we relied on trains for longer trips. Above is our platform at Sale Marasino, and a rainbow over Iseo station.

Train Trip to Breno



The old castle was a highlight!

Naquane National Park - Petroglyphs



Video: [Wall Lizards](#)

Not far from Lake Iseo, Naquane is part of Italy's first World Heritage site, the world's largest collection of prehistoric petroglyphs.

Brescia



Brescia is very nice city not far from Lake Iseo. Most of these photos were taken at the Brescia Castle.

Venice

Video: [Boats of Venice](#)



As it wasn't too far away, we made a brief stopover to Venice. Above is Rhonda enjoying a cappuccino at the coffee bar.

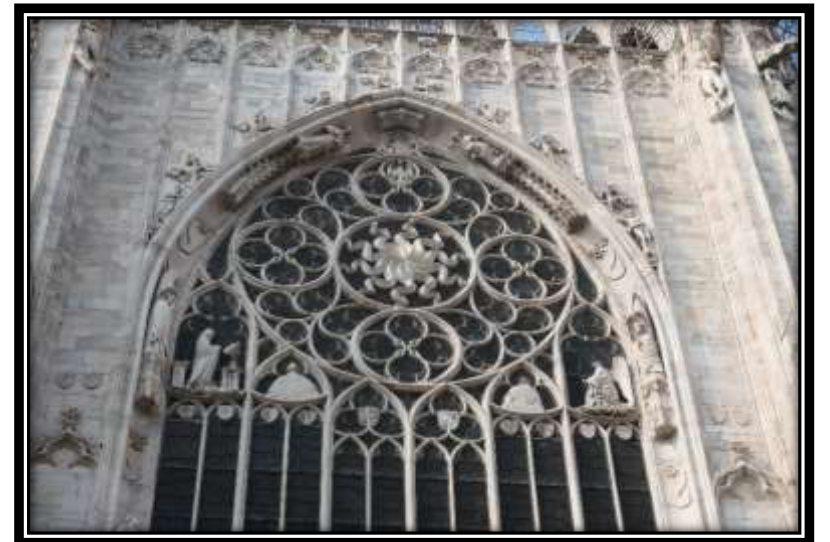


Burano



A pretty island of Venice, known for its tradition of lace making.

Milan – Our Final Stop



The Milan Cathedral, Emmanuel II Shopping Centre, Arco della Pace, and the Leonardo Da Vinci Experience Museum.



FOOD IN ITALY
(MANY PAGES, VIEW AT OWN RISK)

Food We Cooked (and ate)









Pizza



The best pizza in Rome was at Bonci Pizzarium. We actually waited around uncomfortably by garbage and recycling bins for over an hour. But definitely worth it as it was light, airy, yet substantial enough and great ingredients.







Local alpine delicacy
– würstel pizza!



Dinners













Desserts



Our favourite bakery in Sale Marasino was Bakery Briola 1955. Amazing assortment of fresh and delicious cakes, pastries and bread.

Video: [Bakery Briola 1955 treats.](#)





SFOGLIETTA
DOLCE ALLE MELE
€ 2,50

FAGOTTINO
DI SFOGLIA
€ 2,50

SPONGADA
€ 1,50

GIRELLA
UVEITA
e CREMA







ME POUR
NIFI

LIQUOR
€ 30,00

LIQUOR
€ 30,00

LIQUOR
€ 30,00

LIQUOR
€ 30,00

BIZERBA

CAKE
ALLA BANANA
€ 2,500 kg

TORTA
4,50

CROSTATA
MELE GRE

FLOTTA RICOTA
E VINO

PISTACCHIO
€ 28,00

PA NDOLCE
NOCI E
ALBI COCCA
€ 1



