



Randonnée Tours

Cinque Terre Hiking 9 Days

Summary

Length

9 days/8 nights, with 7½ days of walking

Dates

Any start date from April to November

Level

3 to 6 hours of hiking each day

There are hard climbs on most days

Welcome to the Ligurian Coast — the jewel of the Mediterranean! Become entranced by the seductive charms of this stunning coastline. Feel the heat of the sun as you walk through terraced citrus orchards and vineyards high-above the sparkling blue waters of the sea. Breathe the aroma of freshly baked foccaccia while meandering the cobbled streets of tiny cliffside villages. Embrace the contrast between Santa Margherita's stately villas and chic boutiques with the tranquility of Mediterranean oak forests teeming with butterflies, birds and wild flowers. Delight your palate each night with traditional pastas and fresh seafood while sipping a crisp Ligurian white. Discover this most exquisite.

Itinerary



Day 1

Arrive in Santa Margherita a beautiful seaside town with palm-lined harbour and boulevards. Spend some time getting

acclimatized by exploring the many sites in town - the Villa Durazzo, the churches and the many shops. Perhaps go for a short warm-up walk to Portofino.

Day 2

Dramatic landscapes is the watchword of the day as you explore the protected area of Parco di Portofino (location of some of the best hiking in Italy!). Your route follows the contour of the peninsula, beginning in Camogli and heading toward the sanctuary in San Rocco. Stop for lunch in the small village of San Fruttuoso - accessible only on foot or by boat, ending the day in the elite resort town of Portofino, before heading back to Santa Margherita. Basic Walk 18km - 4h30 - elevation gain 755m. Shortcut Possible reducing your walking time to 3h30 and elevation only 530m.

Day 3

A short train ride will take you to the trailhead for your walk to the Cinque Terre region. Beginning in the village of Framura follow the

path past a 15th century guard tower and a delightful Romanesque chapelle, through the picturesque village of Bonassola - famous in antiquity for its baths (perhaps stop in for a dip). Another day of stellar views and sensational walking. Night in Monterosso. Walk is 3 1/2 hours long with 520m of elevation.

Day 4

Explore the hills above Monterosso today - stopping in at the Sanctuary of Soviore and at the top of Colla Bagari for great views. You'll also have time to explore the historic sites in Monterosso—like the 13th century church of St. John and the castle ruins. Night in Monterosso. The walk is approximately 4 1/4 hours long with 650m of elevation gain - leaving lots of time to explore Monterosso.





How to get there?

You start in Santa Margherita.

The closest airports are in Genoa, Milan and Pisa. All of these are international airports with flights from European capitals as well as from Rome.

From all of these locations it is possible to take a train to Santa Margherita (Genoa 30-60 min; Milan 4-5 hrs — via Genoa; Pisa 2-3 hrs — via La Spezia).

Your information package will provide information about getting to the tour start.

Itinerary

Day 5

The classic Cinque Terre walking trail awaits you today. Begin in Monterosso, the northernmost of the five famous perched villages and make your way to the southernmost - Riomaggiore. See for yourself what makes this region so famous! Be sure to stop in at one or more of the enotecas that can be found in these villages, to sample some local fare. Night in Riomaggiore. The walk is 4 1/2 hours long with 550m of elevation gain.

Day 6

Start your day in Riomaggiore and walk the last section of trail in the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the Cinque Terre. Your destination is the charming village of Portovenere. Time is 5:15 with 680m of elevation.

Day 7

Today is an island walk around Isola Palmaria, a short ferry from Portovenere. An island noted for its natural beauty, the scent of sage, myrtle, broom, acacias and strawberry-trees will follow you all day long.

On this walk you will encounter panoramic views, evocative grottoes, and remnants of a ferocious past. Night in Lerici. Total walking time is approximately 3 hours with 305m of elevation gain.

Day 8

Explore the area along the coast of the Golfo dei Poeti - so named because this was the area that Byron, Shelley, Sand, and others, came to be inspired. Your walk will take you to the old European seaside village of Tellaro. Spend some time at one of the many beaches along your route, before returning to Lerici. Total walking time is 4 hours and 45 minutes with 680m of elevation gain.

Day 9

Enjoy a final stroll around Lerici, before heading off on your next adventure.

Accommodation

Classic



Hotel Jolanda, Santa Margherita

This inn represents everything we like in a hotel. Intimate, charming, distinctive with superb service. and a casual elegance that finds just the right balance. This hotel should be given an extra star to add to the 3 they have.



Hotel La Colonnina, Monterosso

Family owned and operated, this 3 star hotel offers a warm welcome and excellent service. The hotel is located in the historic centre of Monterosso al Mare within easy reach of the beach, the small port and the walking trails that connect the five villages of the Cinque Terre.



Randonnée Tours

The Price includes:

- 8 nights hotels
- All breakfasts and 2 dinners
- Detailed route instructions and map
- Luggage transfers

Accommodation

Classic



Locanda Del Sole, Riomaggiore

The Locanda del Sole is the most modern hotel in Riomaggiore. It is located on a hill just on the edge of town, near the hiking trail. Rooms are bright and spacious with large windows. They serve a wonderful homemade breakfast each morning.



Hotel Belvedere, Portovenere

Situated directly on the sea, this hotel dates from the 19th century, has been completely renovated and is a fine 3-star hotel. All rooms have sea views.



Hotel Doria Park, Lerici

Overlooking the Gulf of Poets, and just 2 minutes from the historical center of Lerici, this 3-star hotel has earned accolades for service. Breakfast is served on the terrace with a view of the harbour.

Luxe



Hotel Metropole, Santa Margherita

This 4-star hotel was built by the great-grandfather of the current owner and sits in an idyllic location with superb sea views. There is a swimming pool on the property (unusual in the Cinque Terre) and the restaurant here is excellent.



Hotel Porta Roca, Monterosso

This 4 star is one of the most beautiful hotels of Italy and is located only 200 meters from the historic centre of Monterosso. Its extraordinary position on the Mediterranean sea offers a relaxing oasis and the rooms are furnished with beautiful antique pieces.

Accommodation

Luxe



Locanda Del Sole,

Riomaggiore

The Locanda del Sole is the most modern hotel in Riomaggiore. It is located on a hill just on the edge of town, near the hiking trail. Rooms are bright and spacious with large windows. They serve a wonderful homemade breakfast each morning.



Grand Hotel Porto Venere,

Portovenere

This 4-star hotel was a monastery in the 13th century and today welcomes discriminating guests. Enjoy the on-site spa facilities including a Turkish bath and massage services.



Hotel Doria Park, Premium room

Lerici

Overlooking the Gulf of Poets, and just 2 minutes from the historical center of Lerici, this 3-star hotel has earned accolades for service. For the luxe option, we'll book a Deluxe or Premium room if possible. Breakfast is served on the terrace with a view of the harbour.

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