



Trieste and the Habsburg heritage

THREE DAYS OF LITERARY CULTURE, ADRIATIC LANDSCAPES AND THE DISTINCTIVE WINES OF THE CARSO.

Please note: All experiences are subject to availability (some are genuinely irreplaceable). The final itinerary may undergo minor variations depending on live availability and your hotel location.

Trieste's Literary Cafés & Habsburg Elegance

Grand architecture, historic cafés and the cosmopolitan spirit of the Adriatic.





Begin with a guided exploration of **Trieste**, where the city's elegance unfolds between the waterfront, broad squares and streets lined with Habsburg-era buildings. In **Piazza Unità d'Italia**, monumental façades frame an open view of the sea, while the Grand Canal brings the water into the heart of the city.



Pause at **Caffè Tommaseo** or **Antico Caffè San Marco** to discover Trieste's coffeehouse culture and literary life. Writers including James Joyce, Italo Svevo and Umberto Saba frequented Tommaseo, while San Marco retains the atmosphere of an early twentieth-century meeting place, where conversation, books and coffee remain part of everyday life.



Continue with guided visits to **Museo Sartorio**, whose rooms and collections offer a glimpse into the domestic life of a prosperous Triestine family, and **Miramare Castle**, set above the gulf with gardens extending along the coast. A sailing excursion may also be arranged, offering a different perspective on the waterfront and coastline, according to the season and weather conditions.

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Aquileia's Mosaic Art & Coastal Grado

Roman heritage, ancient craftsmanship and the quiet beauty of the lagoon.

Travel to **Aquileia**, once a trading centre and river port that connected the Roman world with northern Europe. Its archaeological remains reveal the scale of the ancient city, while its mosaics invite a closer, more intimate look at the skill of the people who lived and worked here.

Explore the Basilica and archaeological areas with a dedicated guide, taking time to study the mosaic floors. Animals, birds, leaves and interwoven patterns emerge from carefully placed tesserae, their colours and fine details revealing the craftsmanship of **Aquileia's mosaic** makers. A visit to a local mosaic artisan may be added on request, connecting this ancient tradition with contemporary practice.

Continue to **Grado** for a seafood lunch, with local oysters where available, followed by a walk through its old town and time to admire the lagoon.

Alternatively, discover **Palmanova**, whose nine-pointed star was designed for military defence. A guided walk through its streets and fortifications reveals the precision of its geometry and the ambitions of the Venetian Republic.







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Carso Landscapes, Caves & Native Wines

Limestone landscapes, native grapes and a wine culture shaped by the Adriatic.

Explore the **Carso** plateau, where pale limestone, woodland and small vineyards create a landscape closely connected to the Adriatic. From selected viewpoints, the outlook reaches towards the sea and, on clear days, the distant Alps, bringing the region's contrasting landscapes into a single view.

Over time, water has shaped the limestone into caves, fissures and underground passages. A visit to **Grotta Gigante** reveals this hidden dimension before the journey continues to a wine producer such as Zidarich or Kante.

Discover how limestone terrain, shallow soils and exposure to the winds shape local growing conditions. A tasting introduces varieties such as Vitovska and Terrano, exploring their freshness, savoury notes and the mineral character associated with Carso wines.

A regional lunch may feature local cured meats, cheeses and olive oil, at an estate or an osmiza according to seasonal opening.

Alternatively, explore the **Collio hills** through a winery experience at an estate such as Castello di Spessa.










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