

Dolomites & Stelvio

2023



BikePlusTours

Cycle the dramatic Dolomites and the mighty Stelvio

We are pleased to present our 2023 Dolomites and Passo dello Stelvio tour. This trip is designed around Italy's premier 'Gran Fondo' ride: the 'Maratona dles Dolomites - Enel' which is held on closed roads with 9,000 riders. Entry spots are hard to come by as more than 35,000 people usually apply!

We have been an official travel partner of the Maratona since 2017 and our guests have a guaranteed entry spot.

More info about the event is at www.Maratona.it

The morning after the Maratona, we will transfer to the Alps for three additional rides. The highlight is the famous Passo dello Stelvio. You will be blown away by the spectacular views of glaciers while cycling its 48 numbered switchbacks.

For those looking for a somewhat easier trip, we offer shorter and easier alternative rides as well.

Come and join us on this Italian adventure!



At a glance

Trip dates: June 28th to July 6th, 2023

Duration: 8 nights

Cycling distance/vertical: up to 286 miles / 42,000 ft

Small group: maximum 20 participants

Supported rides with staff in support vehicles and on bikes

Hotel accommodation with all breakfasts and dinners included

Price: \$3,895 per person, single room surcharge: \$395 (note: single rooms only available for 3 out of 8 nights)





Itinerary and Elevation Profiles

Wednesday June 28th: We pick you up in the morning at Hotel Antony Palace in Marcon for our private group transfer to Hotel Ladinia in La Villa.

In the afternoon you can put your bike together and go for a quick test ride.

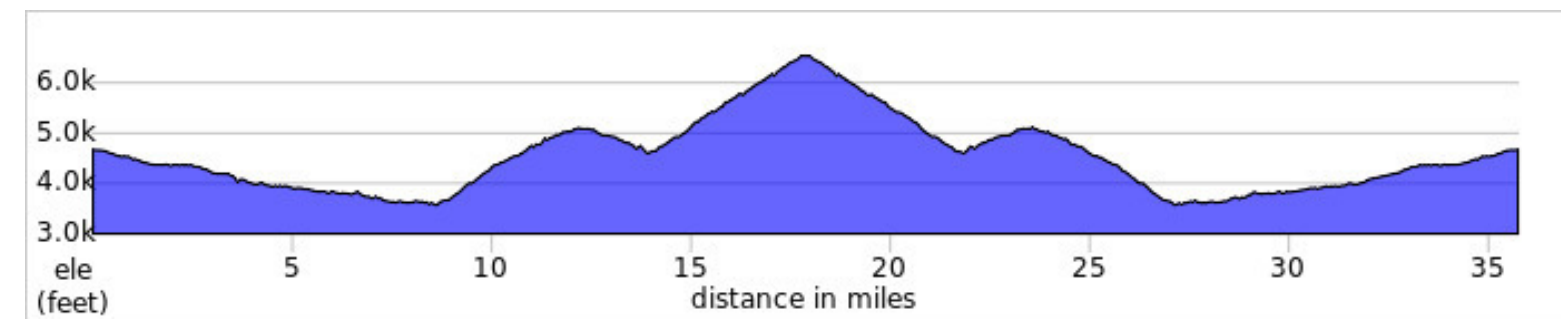
Thursday June 29th: Erbe and Badia Valley (distance: 44 mi / vertical:6,800 ft or 36 mi / 5,500 ft)

After a big breakfast we will set off downhill towards the foot of the Passo Erbe, may be the most scenic of all of the Dolomites passes. The long course takes in an out and back climb onto a quiet side valley which ends at a great lunch spot before rejoining the short route for the uphill return to the hotel via the valley road.

Long route profile:



Short route profile:



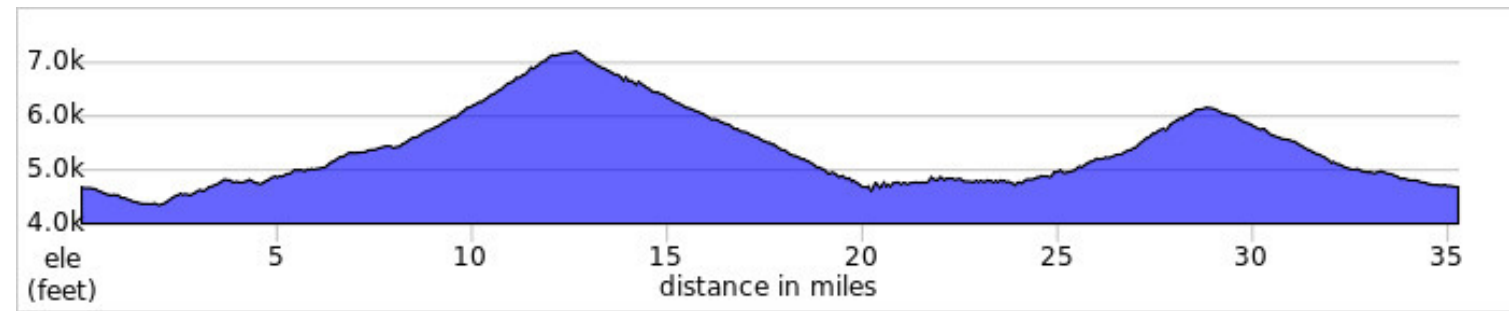
Friday June 30th: Valparola and Campolongo Passes (47 mi / 6,800 ft or 35 mi / 4,800 ft)

Today we will ride a stretch of the Maratona course, albeit in the opposite direction of the race. The first climb is the 'first category' Passo Valparola. We can stop at the top for a cappuccino at a mountain hut. The final climb is the relatively easy Passo Campolongo where we'll have a chance to have lunch before the descent back to the hotel.

Long route profile:



Short route profile:



Saturday July 1st: Rest day

Today you will have time to enjoy the Maratona festival and pick up your race package.

Tip: Take the cable car opposite the hotel to a mountain top restaurant for lunch and great views.

Sunday July 2nd: Maratona dles Dolomites Gran Fondo

The big day! The hotel will put on a special early breakfast for us. Our hotel is near the start so we can line up in time for a good spot. There are three routes offered and you can decide during the race which one to do. All three routes start with the famous Sella Ronda loop. These are your options:

1. The full Maratona course (87 mi / 14,000 ft)

The stats tell the story: this is a beast of a ride! Eternal bragging rides if you finish this one.



2. The 'medium' Maratona (67 mi / 10,300 ft)

This route is not as hard as the full course, but still not to be underestimated, with the 'first category' climb of the Passo Falzarego at the end.





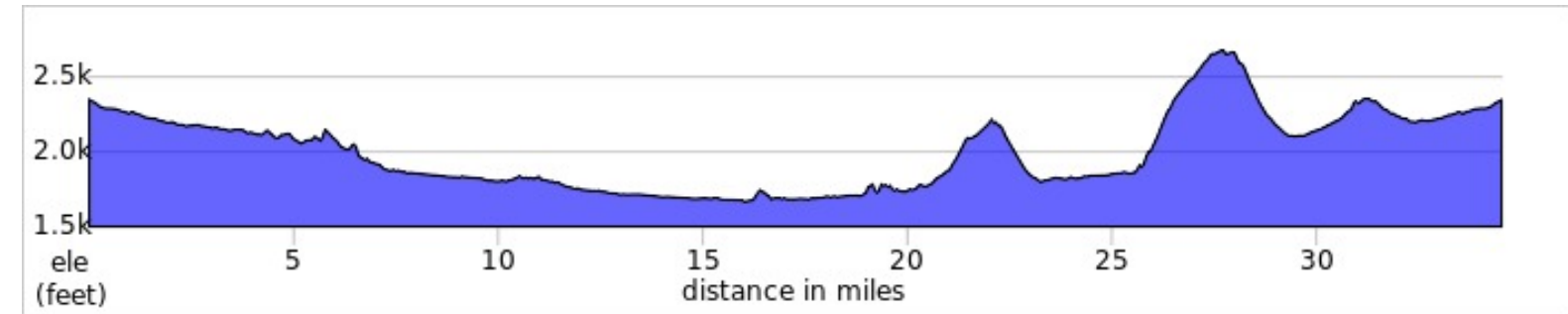
3. The Sella Ronda (38 mi / 5,900 ft)

This is the classic Dolomites loop of four passes with breathtaking panoramic vistas along the way.



Monday July 3rd: Transfer to Schlanders and recovery ride (35 mi / 2,100 ft)

On Monday morning a private bus with bike trailer will take us to our hotel in Schlanders. For the afternoon we have planned a recovery ride through the apple orchards of the Vinschgau valley. There are two steep climbs to keep the legs spinning in preparation for tomorrow's big day.



Tuesday July 4th: Passo dello Stelvio (60 mi / 9,300 ft or 59 mi / 7,200 ft)

Today is the literal high point of the trip: the mighty Passo dello Stelvio. This is probably the most famous of all Alpine passes with 48 numbered switchbacks and 6,000 ft vertical in 15 miles to reach an altitude of 9,045 ft. Bring your passport along, because on the descent we'll cross into Switzerland. Once back in Italy, the long route includes the gorgeous and quiet Tanas climb. Then it is all downhill to our hotel.

Long route profile:



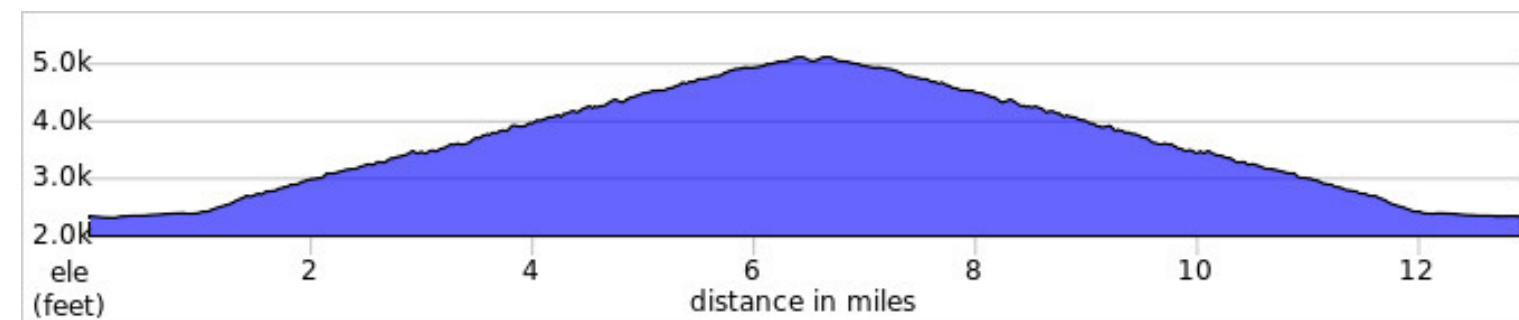
Short route profile:



Wednesday July 5th: Haselhof (13 mi / 2,800 ft) and afternoon transfer to Venice Airport

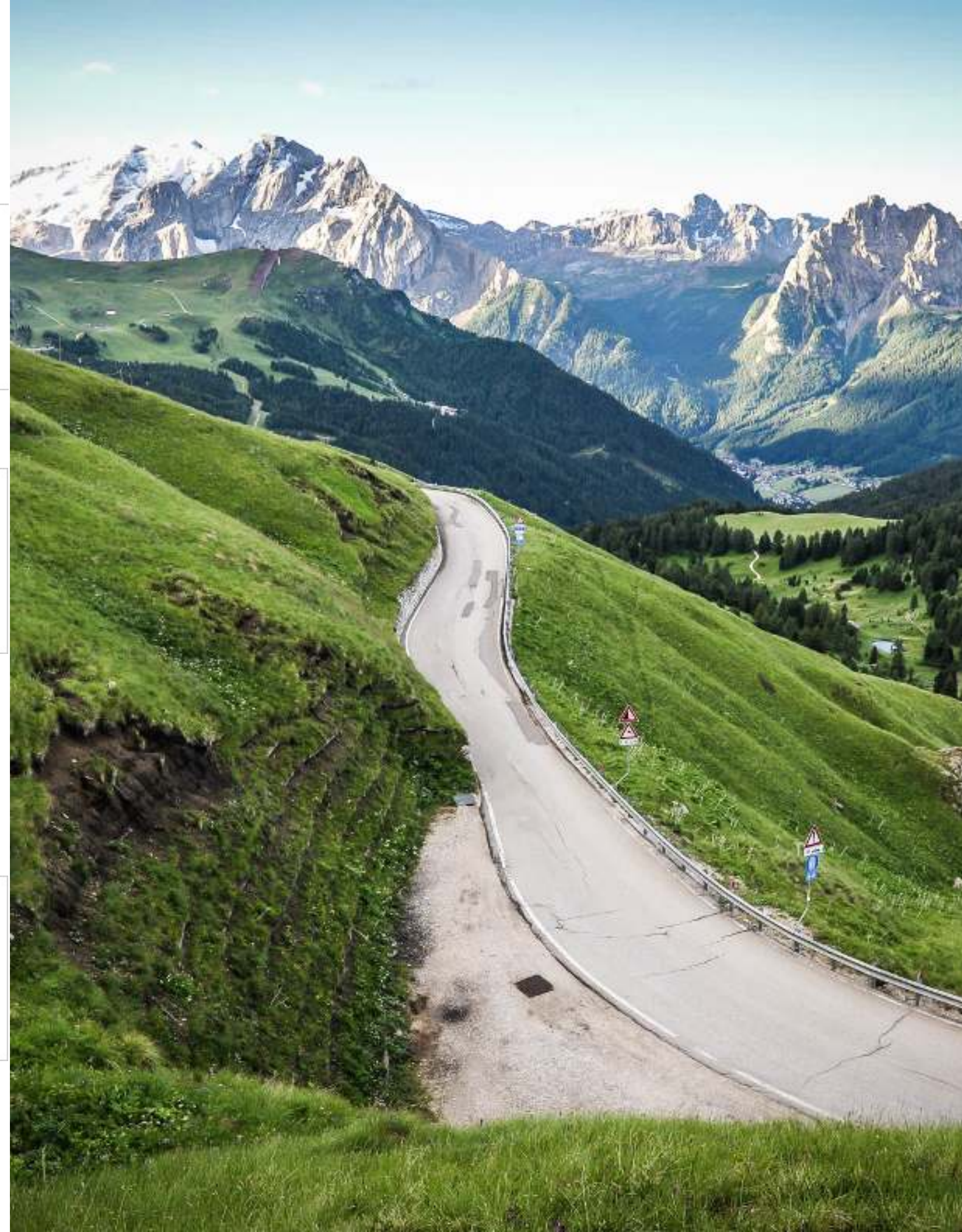
We'll go for a last ride in the morning. It is a short climb up to the Haselhof farm where we can enjoy a cappuccino taking in the spectacular mountain views. The beginning of the climb is steep, but it flattens out further up. It is an out and back route so you can go as far up as you like and turn around at any time.

Once back at the hotel you'll have time to pack your bike. After lunch, a private bus will take us to our hotel at Venice Airport. We'll have a celebratory dinner in the evening to mark the end of our tour.



Thursday July 6th: Flight home

The hotel shuttle will take you to the airport for your flight home.





Why BikePlusTours?

- 20 Years of experience in organizing cycling trips in Europe
- Unique routes that combine famous climbs with beautiful local byways
- Small group size
- Owners Carolyn and Pieter guide every trip
- Great value

Our package includes:

- Group transfers for you, your luggage and your bike
- Support vehicle during the rides and experienced tour guides on bikes
- Eight nights of hotel accommodation
- All breakfasts and dinners
- Water, snacks and fruit on the rides
- GPS files of all rides
- Guaranteed entry spot in the Maratona dles Dolomites Gran Fondo (3rd starting block)
- Maratona entry fee
- The official Maratona 2023 cycling jersey by Castelli

Excluded items:

- Flights to and from Venice Marco Polo Airport
- Travel and medical insurance
- Lunches, drinks, gratuities for guides and personal expenses

Price: \$3,895 per person in a shared double or twin room
single rooms are only available for 3 out of 8 nights at a surcharge of \$395

Please e-mail Carolyn and Pieter for more information and booking:

info@bikeplustours.com



We reserve the right to change this itinerary due to availability of guides, accommodation, activities, road closures, weather or other unexpected circumstances.

Our trips are catered to experienced cyclists with excellent bike handling skills. We ride rain or shine. You will be required to complete all rides by bike. Van transfer is not available except in case of an emergency. Please read the Terms and Conditions on our website before signing up.

Maratona images copyrights: Sportograf, Planinschek,



About BikePlusTours

BikePlusTours is owned and operated by Carolyn and Pieter Maessen.


BikePlusTours was born out of a desire to share our love for cycling on the great mountain roads of Europe with our guests. We have been organizing group cycling trips since 2002 and we feel very lucky that our hobby has become our profession.

Pieter has been a cyclist all his life. He has competed in junior and elite races in his native Netherlands as well as in Belgium, Germany and the USA. Although more of a classics rider than a climber, Pieter has had a passion for cycling in the mountains ever since riding up Passo dello Stelvio at age 16.

Carolyn has had a lot of success as a triathlete. She was a sponsored athlete for seven years and has won races in every distance from sprint to Ironman. She has competed in World Championships in Ironman in Kona (Hawaii), Ironman 70.3 in Las Vegas (Nevada) and Sprint Triathlon in London (UK).

Please get in touch with us if you would like more information about our trips.

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