4 Nights Ski Safari in the Dolomites (2 Rifugio nights)



DATE: Winter 2019 - 2020 BESPOKE TRIP FOR: TravelPlan Australia



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Combine some of the most fantastic skiing in the world, with fine dining on incredible Italian cuisine... What could possibly be better? Skiing hut-to-hut on the world-renowned pistes of the Dolomite Mountains, of course!

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▷ Overview

On your ski safari traverse you'll enjoy different ski areas featuring kilometers of prepared pistes (all on one ski pass!) that will lead you to discover the breathtaking beauty of the Dolomites. With such expansive skiable terrain, this is truly a vacation in paradise: we'll move from valley to valley on skis, enjoy the welcoming atmosphere of the rifugios, explore the fascinating culture and history of these mountains, all while dining on incredible cuisine and sampling fine wines found in the region. The traditions and history of these places, all while engaging in the beautiful sport of skiing. The imposing peaks of the Dolomites emerged from primordial marine expanses, created by microorganisms that were embraced and molded by the glaciers during the ice age. Providing extraordinary terrain, these incredible mountains have become famous the world over as one of the most beloved areas for winter sports. Boasting the number one ski resort in the world, the Dolomites are a winter sports paradise for families, beginners, and champions alike.

This ski tour offers you the opportunity to explore the Ladin valleys of the Dolomites and their people, as well as discover the traditions and history of these places, all while engaging in the beautiful sport of skiing. You'll explore Alta Badia and Cortina d'Ampezzo, known for their Ladin culture and cuisine.



⊳ Trip Highlights

- Experience the unique, charming atmosphere of the rifugios – alpine mountain huts – the best in the Alps
- Experience the Dolomiti Superski a "carousel" of 12 inter-connected resorts with 1,200 kilometers (746 miles) of prepared pistes!
- Get a true taste of the Dolomites as you savor hearty traditional fare at charming mountain inns
- Enjoy the advantage of lift-service pistes to help you move from resort to resort each day – you may never ski the same run twice!

▷ Day by Day



Day 1

Arrive in Cortina D'Ampezzo

Arrive in Cortina d'Ampezzo on your own (private transfers available on request) and check in your hotel. Cortina d'Ampezzo is a charming alpine resort town surrounded by stunning peaks, uniquely sheltered from the cold winds of the north, giving it a pleasantly mild climate that tourists can enjoy year-round. Host to the 1956 Winter Olympics, Cortina enjoys a reputation for great skiing in winter, and in the summer attracts hikers and climbers who challenge the rocky faces of the nearby mountains. This chic Venetian town also caters to the high society crowd, offering many year-round social activities, shopping, and fine dining. A delicious 3-course dinner is included in a typical restaurant in the area.

Summary of services included

Hotel in Cortina d'Ampezzo 4 Stars Dinner

⊳ Day 2

Ski in Cortina D'Ampezzo – Tofana area, Mount Lagazuoi, Cinque Torri In the morning meet your local English speaking UIAGM/IFMGA professional mountain guide for a trip briefing and enjoy your first ski day in the area.

Begin your ski day in the Tofane area. 30 pistes (6 black runs, 12 red runs, 13 blue runs and 6 green runs) with a total of 47km / 29,2 miles. From the beginners' slopes of the lower area you can quickly reach the technically very demanding pistes such as the 'Canalone' and the famous Schuss.

The Freccia nel Cielo cable-car takes you up to a height of 2,500m / 8,202' to the Ra Valles area. If you take the Skitour Olympia route, you can venture onto the unforgettable peaks of the 1956 Olympic races, which today host the Women's Skiing World Cup. But if you're an expert skier and looking for an adrenaline rush, try the black run 'Vertigine Bianca': because of its steepness, it's one of the two slopes in Cortina that never get bashed.

In the afternoon take a private transfer to enjoy the slopes at Mount Lagazuoi and Cinque Torri (Five Towers) area, whose characteristic profile isn't comprised of just 5 towers, but by a mass of secondary boulders, fractured towers and peaks sprinkled liberally across the entire area. These peaks are located to the west of Cortina on a grassy hillock just above the tree line at circa 2,200m / 7,218'.

Summary of services included

Rifugio

Breakfast, Dinner



⊳Day 3

Civetta and Passo San Pellegrino In the morning take a private transfer to the Civetta ski area.

Surrounded by plenty of uncontaminated views and majestic peaks, the valleys of Alleghe, Selva di Cadore, Zoldo, and Palafavera of Monte Civetta are rich in history and tradition. This area became famous during the 19th century, during the final century of the Venetian Doges, when the first winter guests discovered the imposing beauty and timeless charm of Monte Civetta and in particular Monte Pelmo – known as "God's Throne." On the slopes of these two giants surrounded by the Sella Group, the Tofane Massifs and the imposing Marmolada, you will find the largest ski district in the Veneto region.

The Ski Civetta area offers a wide range of slopes and attracts skiers of all levels, for a total of 80km / 49,7 miles and 23 lifts

In the afternoon, for the second part of your day, take a private transfer to Falcade and ski the area of Passo San Pellegrino: more than 60 kilometers (37 miles) of slopes spread out at altitudes between 1,918 and 2,513 meters (6,293-8,245'), all equipped with 26 cutting edge lift systems.

At the end of your skiing day, a snowmobile will pick you up from the main road and take you to your rifugio (1,980m / 6,496') for the night. Set in a magnificent group of isolated old huts, this rifugio is immersed in the complete silence of a wide valley with a view of the Pale di San Martino peaks. Get ready to taste delicious dishes at the Rifugio's renowned and traditional restaurant, mentioned in several culinary guides, appreciated not only for the quality of the food, but also for its warmth and welcoming hospitality.

Summary of services included

Rifugio Breakfast, Dinner

⊳Day 4

Ski in the area of Val di Fassa – Alta Badia The time has come to ski a portion of the Sellaronda circuit, one of the most spectacular circuits of the world, circumnavigating the Sella Massif. Considered somewhat of a "merry-go-round" for intermediate level skiers, this unique circular connection of lifts and runs was once the only way the ancient inhabitants of the Ladin villages could maintain a connection with each other. Nowadays it's a modern day carousel that connects four Dolomite passes, four Ladin valleys (Val Gardena, Alta Badia, Val di Fassa, and Livinallongo), and three districts – you'll have the opportunity to see more of the Dolomites in one day than many see on an entire trip! Although the Sellaronda is a relatively short tour that can be easily done in one day, with a

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length of just under 40 kilometers (25 miles), 26 of which are ski slopes (16 miles), but requiring approximately 2 hours of ski lift travel time and high elevations, you will begin the tour in the morning to ensure ample time for completion before lift service closes for the day.

Located in a large valley surrounded all around by the gorgeous peaks of the Dolomites, Alta Badia is truly the "heart of the Dolomites." Geographically in the South Tyrol (Südtirol), this area was part of Austria prior to the First World War. Here you'll find unique mountain scenery with villages rich in natural beauties and ancient traditions, witness the simple everyday life of the local people (the "Ladini"), as well as the customs and traditions of the ancient Ladin culture.

In the afternoon check-in into your Hotel followed by dinner at the hotel's restaurant.

Summary of services included

Hotel in Alta Badia 4 Stars Breakfast, Dinner

▷ Day 5

Departure Breakfast and departure on your own (private transfers available on request).



▷ Costs

Please contact us to request a quote

Cost includes

- Trip briefing
- 1 night accommodation in 4-Star Hotel in Cortina d'Ampezzo
- 2 night accommodation in charming rifugios
- 1 night accommodation in 4-star Hotel in Alta Badia
- All breakfasts
- All dinners
- Local English speaking UIAGM/IFMGA ski guide for 3 days
- Dolomiti Super Ski lift pass for 3 days
- Duffel bag transfer to rifugios
- Luggage transfer from Cortina to Alta Badia
- Private transfers in the area when needed (waiting time up to 20min free, €35 per hour thereafter)
- Tourist tax
- 22% Italian VAT

Cost does not include

- Air fare
- In/out airport transfer
- Drinks
- Lunches
- Items not on set dinner menu
- Extra charges due to changes in itinerary
- Items of personal nature (phone calls, laundry, excess baggage charge, etc.)
- Insurances
- Ski equipment (on request)
- Trip cancellation coverage

- Tips and gratuities
- Everything not mentioned in cost includes

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⊳ Ski – Moderate

Moderate trips are active, with full days of activities. These trips are perfect for people who want to be active, yet still have some time to explore the cultural aspects and opportunities for relaxation available in the area in the afternoon. You can expect to ski 4 to 6 hours per day, with a stop for lunch.

Classic ski trips include groomed, lift service skiing on red and black (intermediate and expert) pistes, and the option for an introduction to easier off-piste runs. Ski safaris also feature lift service skiing on red and black pistes, moving from valley to valley, skiing different resort areas, and changing accommodations one or more times during the trip.

▷ Our Guides

Our guides are experienced, mountain professionals who work year round in the outdoor industry, love sharing their passion for the mountains, and are dedicated to providing our guests an exceptional experience. We offer a range of guides, from professional hiking and biking guides, to UIAGM/IFMGA Guides – professionals in their field who are certified for climbing, mountaineering, and skiing activities.

In order to ensure the safety and enjoyment of your trip, your guide may decide to alter the scheduled itinerary or activity, based on weather conditions and/or fitness levels and abilities of participants. At his or her discretion, your guide may also exclude one or more participants if they do not comply with the requirements indicated above.

UIAGM/IFMGA Guides

UIAGM/IFMGA certification is the highest mountain guide qualification in the world. In order to become a certified IFMGA mountain guide, a vast amount of training and demonstration of skills during rigorous performance exams is required in four different disciplines: rock climbing, ice climbing, mountaineering, and ski mountaineering. Ensuring client safety is a primary objective of the association. Proper guide training guarantees an international standard of mountain guides. Guides develop and are certified with a skill level that prepares them to work on any mountain range, whether they already know the mountain or not.

The IFMGA is a world wide association – founded in 1965 by guides from Austria, France, Switzerland, and Italy – and currently includes mountain guide associations from more than 20 countries in Europe, Asia, the Americas and Oceania, representing a total of almost 6,000 guides.

To learn more about our guides, visit:

 $http://www.dolomitemountains.com/en/dolomite_mountains/dolomite_mountains_guides.htm$

▷ Safety awareness and training

Adventurous outdoor activities, particularly in the mountains, have inherent risks. While these risks can never be removed entirely, they can be minimized. At Dolomite Mountains, our aim is to provide you with a thrilling holiday, directed with maximum attention to your safety and the safety of others. We don't want you to just blindly follow our indications; we take pride in providing you the opportunity to learn mountain skills, and to understand potential

hazards, how to minimize risk, and how to cope with an incident should it occur.

All mountain activities require appropriate clothing and equipment. This is to ensure preparedness for quickly changing weather conditions, varying activities, and to take into consideration the different ability levels of each participant. Each trip participant should carry a small personal backpack containing a lightweight waterproof jacket, and the appropriate amount of water and food for the length and difficulty of the activity. Each trip member must wear appropriate footwear for the activity they are engaging in.

▷ Travel Insurance

Dolomite Mountains recommends Global Rescue to provide evacuation and advisory services to our clients when traveling. We strongly suggest purchasing a travel membership anytime you will be more than 100 miles from home. Both short term as well as annual memberships are available. Please use this link or call Global Rescue directly and mention you are traveling with Dolomite Mountains. There are no restrictions on activities with a Global Rescue memberships.

It is important to note that Global Rescue is a membership organization and not an insurance company. While Global Rescue provides the industry's best evacuation and advisory services, for complete protection while traveling, a membership should be combined with a travel insurance policy.

Global Rescue also offers IMG Signature Travel InsuranceSM, which is a great option to protect you from financial loss due to trip cancellation, trip interruption, emergency medical care, lost luggage, etc*. Trekking, climbing, biking, and off-piste skiing are covered with this insurance. To add a Signature Travel Insurance policy to an existing Global Rescue membership, please click here.

For specific questions, please contact the member services department 24 hours a day by calling +1-617-459-4200 or emailing memberservices@globalrescue.com. Be sure to mention that you are traveling with Dolomite Mountains so they can provide you with the best travel advice for your upcoming travels.

We look forward to welcoming you... Thank you