TRENTINO ALTO ADIGE Il Vino ... a un passo dal Cielo - 3 giorni

TRENTINO ALTO ADIGE The wine... one step closer to heaven - 3 days

**Day 1: Wine Route – Valpusteria**  Arrival on the **Wine Route**, founded in 1964, is one of the oldest wine routes in Italy. With 4250 hectares of vineyards, on a total of 5114 in South Tyrol, the route represents 84% of the vineyards in South Tyrol. Viticulture dominates the landscape, and includes the surrounding valley sides, hills and mountains. About 65% of the cultivated varieties are for red wines, while the remaining 35% are for white wines. The German Wine Route (Südtiroler Weinstraße) runs parallel to the Etsch Valley in the Oltradige from Nalles through the city of Bolzano and then continues south to Cortina on the Wine Route and Salorno. This road is about 70 km long and runs through 15 South Tyrolean municipalities.

A stop between **Termeno** and **Caldaro** where we will have a first guided tour in one of the many famous wine cellars in the area. After the tasting, lunch in a restaurant in the village of Caldaro. Leisure time for a walk in the town center where we also recommend a visit to the Wine Museum or to Lake Caldaro, the biggest and warmest swimming lake in the Alps and well worth a ride in a pedal boat. In the evening accommodation in a hotel in Val Pusteria. Dinner and overnight.

**Day 2: Lake Braies – Brunico** Excursion to Lake Braies, where you can take a 2-hour walk around the lake and enjoy nature. Depending on the season, it is possible to rent small rowing boats for a panoramic tour in the middle of the lake. Lake Braies, considered the Pearl of the Dolomites, belongs to the UNESCO World Heritage Site. On this lake and in a large part of the area we are going to cross, was filmed the successful TV series Rai1 "Un passo dal Cielo". Once the walk along the lake is finished, we leave for Brunico, including lunch in a restaurant. Brunico, the beating heart of the Val Pusteria, is a small medieval jewel that combines the charm of the mountains of South Tyrol with the architecture of its streets and roads, evidence of a history dating back to the Romans who found here a central place to reach, through the Alps, the different areas of the Danube. In Brunico you can visit one of the museums of the internationally renowned alpine climber, Messner Mountain Museum, within the castle of Brunico, which dates back to 1271. In the evening return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

**Day 3: Abbey of Novacella** Departure for the Abbey of **Novacella**, in the town of Varna, in the immediate vicinity of Bressanone, is one of the most prestigious abbeys in northern Italy and the Alpine Arc, as well as a grandiose complex of religious and civil buildings. Since its foundation (1142), the Abbey has been a place of shelter for pilgrims coming from Northern Europe on their way to Rome and the Holy Land after the hard test of crossing the Alpine passes.

A jewel of the abbey is the **library**, a large room in rococo style, containing about 98,000 books. Precious manuscripts, partly embellished with miniatures, counted among the most beautiful in the Tyrol-Bavarian area, **knowledge has been stored in it for centuries.** Visit of the abbey's old wine cellar, its vineyards and conclusion of the tour with a tasting of 4 Novacella wines.

**The South Tyrolean wines recommended by Podium:**

**Whites**

\* Traminer aromatic (Gewürztraminer) \* Müller-Thurgau (Rivaner) \* Riesling

**Rossi**

\* Lagrein \* Pinot Noir \* Schiava (Trollinger) \* Santa Maddalena \* Pink Muscat \* Lago di Caldaro selected (Kalterersee Auslese)