

APOGEE ADVENTURES

2026 Dolomite Mountains & Croatian Coast

Summarized Itinerary

Trip Begins: Venice, Italy

Trip Ends: Venice, Italy

- Days 1-3:** The group will gather at Venice's Marco Polo airport, only a short bus ride from their first campground. After an evening spent shaking off the jetlag and playing get-to-know-you games, the next morning we will head to the heart of the Dolomites and the mountain town of Cortina d'Ampezzo (one of the hosts of the 2026 Winter Olympics!). Cortina will serve as our basecamp for the next two nights as we prepare for the next leg of our journey along the Alta Via 1 (AV1) trekking route. We'll spend our days in Cortina getting our hiking legs primed with beautiful day hikes to mountain lakes and ridgeline vistas that offer stunning views of the valleys below.
- Days 4-8:** From Cortina d'Ampezzo, we will transit to the northernmost point of the AV1, the stunning turquoise Lago di Braies. Over the course of the next five days and four nights, our group will get the full, epic Dolomites experience. Each day, we'll traverse the expansive and awe-inspiring Dolomite Mountains while spending the nights in the amazing mountain hut (*rifugio*) network along the trail. At these *rifugios*, we'll be rewarded for our hard hiking work as we enjoy authentic, home-cooked Italian meals. On Day 8, we will finish our point-to-point traverse of the AV1, triumphantly hiking back into Cortina d'Ampezzo, where we'll celebrate our hiking accomplishments on our final night in the Dolomites.
- Days 9-11:** With the AV1 behind us, we will transfer to the southern tip of Croatia's Istrian Peninsula to the small town of Premantura, which will serve as our home for the next three nights. Over the course of our five-hour transit southeast, we'll watch the mountains be replaced by palm trees as the air becomes almost tropical in nature – a stunning difference from our time in the Dolomites! Once settled in Premantura, we will spend the next two days exploring Kamenjak National Park by foot and by boat! We'll spend a full day out on the water, kayaking along the coastal cliffs and exploring the sea caves (with the opportunity to snorkel in the caves for those who wish to!). On our second full day on the Istrian Peninsula, we'll hike into the National Park and spend our afternoon at a pristine white rock beach, relaxing and swimming in the crystal clear water.
- Days 12-13:** Wrapping up our time in Croatia, we will set sail across the Adriatic Sea by ferry back to the historic city of Venice. We will spend our last night at a hostel on the water and explore the city by foot and gondola, celebrating our epic journey together with a delicious dinner at an authentic Italian restaurant before saying our goodbyes the final morning.

Please note that all itineraries are subject to change.

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