

ALPS EXTREME

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Motorcycle touring on small, hidden roads through the heart of the Alps!

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RIDING DAY 1 : MIEMING - FISS

Standard Route (205 km / 127 miles)

Hotel Change "Route" (210 km / 130 miles)

MIEMING - MÖTZ - SILZ - KÜHTAI (2017 M) - OCHSENGARTEN - IMST - HOCH IMST - ARZL - WENNS - PILLER - KAUNS - KAUNERTAL GLACIER ROAD - PRUTZ - PFUNDS

Our first stop in the morning is Kühtai, a ski resort and a mountain pass with the same name. It introduces us to alpine riding through the beautiful Tyrolian countryside. Down a few hairpins and we reach Imst, where we can try Europe's longest luge ride by buying a ticket for the "Alpine Coaster". A unique experience is guaranteed! After that, we arrive at our riding highlight of the day: the road along the Kauner valley with its perfect mixture of great curves and breathtaking scenery. It leads us all the way up to the glacier. Our destination for the night is a picturesque mountain village in the Upper Inn valley.

Highlights:

#1: Kühtai (2017 m)



This is one of the many good motorcycle roads around the area of Innsbruck. It takes you up to 6,561 ft. above sea level and offers spectacular views of the Stubai Alps. The skiing area is well-known, but the name indicates that the area was and still is used to take the cattle to the alpine pastures during summer time. Watch out for their presence, and their "presents," on the road. Another interesting place to see here is the Kühtai power station.

Divided into two different stations, the upper one is located on 6,233 ft. above sea level. The second one lies approx. 270 ft. below the main plant. Electricity is transferred via power lines down to the valley and fed in the Austrian electricity network as well as into the Central European network.



#2: Kaunertal Glacier Road



The Kaunertaler Glacier Road serves as an access road to the glacier ski region at 2,750 m (9,922 ft). The 26 km (16 mi) road, passing by the Gepatsch reservoir, offers a splendid ride over 29 switchbacks up to the glacier, covering a difference in altitude of 1,500 m (4,921 ft). During the warmer season, the ride up to the Kaunertaler Glacier might give you the impression of being catapulted

back and forth between summer and winter – we are sure you will have an incredible riding experience.

#3: Kaunertal Glacier



The glacier's ski area, opened in 1982, offers 21.8 miles of slopes and 10 lifts. Due to the glacier and the high elevation of the ski area (7,220-10,000 ft.) skiing is possible from mid-October until June. A toll road with 29 hairpin curves leads to a parking lot at 9,350 ft. altitude, the base for the ski area. The 3.8-mile-long Lake Gepatsch is located at the south end of the Kaunertal. The man-made lake is a reservoir generating electricity through an 8-mile-long pipe

system. The lake is at an altitude of 5,970 ft.

ALPS EXTREME



RIDING DAY 2 : FISS - PENEGAL

Standard Route (268 km / 166 miles)

Hotel Change "Route" (246 km / 153 miles)

PFUNDS - SPISS - VINADI - MARTINA - NORBERTHÖHE - PASSO DI RESIA (RESCHEN PASS) (1504 M) - MALLES VENOSTA (MALS) - GLORENZA (GLURNS) - PRATO ALLO STELVIO (PRAD AM STILFSERJOCH) - PASSO DELLO STELVIO (STELVIO PASS) (2758 M) - BORMIO -SANTA CATERINA VALFURVA - PASSO DI GAVIA (GAVIA PASS) (2618 M) - PONTE DI LEGNO - PASSO DEL TONALE (TONALE PASS) (1884 M) - BORDIANA - REVÒ - RONZONE -PENEGAL

After a cool night in the high mountains, we are ready for our next riding day. Stelvio awaits us today, the second-highest pass in the Alps. The 48 hairpin bends on the north ramp of the pass demand all your riding skills and full concentration. An absolute highlight for every motorcyclist! After the successful conquest of the Stelvio Pass, the no less impressive Passo di Gavia awaits us before we slowly ease off. On small roads, we pass through the Val di Non with its apple orchards and finally reach the Mendola Pass. From there, a tiny road leads a little further up to Monte Penegal, where we can enjoy a magnificent view and also spend the night.

Highlights:

#1: Glorenza (Glurns)



With 924 inhabitants, Glurns is Italy's smallest city. Located on the old salt trade route, the town was very important during the 14th and 15th centuries. During the Engadin War between the Habsburg army and the Swiss farmers in 1499, the town was destroyed. The inhabitants rebuilt their hometown in the 16th century surrounding it with a new 10 m (30 ft.) high wall. It seems Glurns has been sleeping since that time and, hence, preserved its medieval character.



#2: Passo dello Stelvio (Stelvio Pass) (2758 m)



Planned in 1818, this pass road was built within 5 years (1820-1825) by about 2,000 workers. Because of the horsedrawn vehicles of the time, the gradient was limited to a maximum of 11%. At an altitude of 2,758 m (9,048 ft), Passo dello Stelvio is the highest pass in Italy and the second-highest paved pass of the Alps. With its 48 tight switchbacks on the northern side, it is a tourist attraction

famous all over Europe and a first-class attraction for European riders. You will love it, too!

#3: Passo di Gavia (Gavia Pass) (2618 m)



Gavia Pass, 2,618 m (8,589 ft) high and 43 km (27 mi) long, is located in Italy's Lombardy region and divides the province of Sondrio in the north from the province of Brescia in the south. The road over the pass connects Bormio in the northwest with Ponte di Legno in the south and is a single lane for most of its southern section. Gavia Pass is often part of the route of the Giro d'Italia road

bicycle race and is sometimes designated the Cima Coppi, the highest point of the race. Same as Stelvio, this pass is a first-class attraction for European riders!

#4: Penegal



From the top of Mendel Pass a narrow, twisty, and badly maintained road leads to the summit of Monte Penegal. Spectacular views are almost normal on this tour - but this is phenomenal even for this area. The difference in Elevation from here to Caldaro Lake, deep down in the Adige valley, is a whopping 1,500 meters (5,000 ft)! The sweeping views include Bolzano deep down towards the

north, the Dolomites in the east, the Brenta Mountains in the southwest, and the Ortler (South Tyrol's highest peak) in the west. Penegal is an outstanding viewpoint, even in South Tyrol, and it is best enjoyed with a fresh Cappuccino.



RIDING DAY 3 : PENEGAL - LEVICO TERME

Standard Route (303 km / 188 miles)

From Monte Penegal, we have a view all the way down to Bolzano, and we're about to ride there, into the capital of South Tyrol. However, not quite into it, after all, we are not here to do city tourism, but to ride our motorcycles. Therefore, we take a tiny road over to Merano and up to the first pass, the Gampenjoch.

We already know the Nonstal, we ride into it, leave South Tyrol, and enter Trentino. From now on there is only pure Italy! No more German signs and the number of Fiats increases noticeably. Winding roads through vineyards and apple orchards lead us to a beautiful mountain lake and then to one of the deepest gorges in the Alps, the Sarche Gorge, which we cross on a bridge.

The beautiful ride to Monte Bondone proves the passion with which Italians build roads. 40 newly asphalted hairpin bends offer the motorcyclist the highest riding pleasure, which could at most be diminished by the freshly introduced speed limit. But the view down into the Adige Valley is fabulous, so it's best to just relax and enjoy.

Only a little later we reach our destination for the day, the picturesque Lago di Caldonazzo and its smaller neighbor, Lago di Levico. If you now have a bathing suit in your luggage, you're in for a treat...

Highlights:

#1: Passo della Mendola (Mendel Pass) (1363 m)



The Mendel Pass, or Passo della Mendola in Italian, is located southwest of Bolzano between the two provinces of South Tyrol and Trentino and has always formed the language border between the German-speaking and Italianspeaking Tyrol. From its highest point at 1,363 m, a small and often dirty cul-de-sac leads to the Penegal (1737 m), from which a breathtaking view opens up over the entire

Adige Valley.

The Mendel Pass is one of the most frequented passes since ancient times. The Tonale road, completed in 1856 for the military, was supplemented by the Mendel Pass in 1879 and opened up South Tyrol as a vacation destination for the high society from Milan and Turin. Today, the Mendel Pass is an absolute highlight among the Alpine passes, especially for motorcyclists.



#2: Bolzano (Bozen)



This area was settled by the Romans in 15 BC. General Nero Claudius Drusus, to whom the name of the first settlement in the area refers to, set up this army camp by the River Isarco. The village founded nearby was called Bauzanum. Since its foundation and elevation to a town over 800 years ago, Bolzano has been a trading point. The main reason for this was its location in between the two major cities of

Venice and Augsburg. Four times a year a market was held, and traders came from the south and the north. Therefore, a mercantile magistrate was founded in 1635. Every market season, two Italian and two German officers (appointed from the traders who operated there) worked in this office. The city was a cultural cross point at that time. The city's Italian-Austrian character, enhanced by the narrow cobblestone streets, Habsburgera churches and pervasive bilingual signage, provide for the unique charm of a city halfway between Italian and Austrian cultures. Together with its natural and cultural attractions, this makes Bolzano a renowned tourist destination. Enjoy the great mixture of the Italian-Austrian lifestyle and cuisine in the wonderful historic centre of Bozen. In the archaeological museum in Bozen lies the more than 5000 years old Ice Man. The "Oetzi" or "Frozen Fritz", as he is called, was found in the mountains right on the Italian-Austrian border. Thanks to his discovery, many secrets of the way of life during his time in history were able to be revealed.

#3: Monte Bondone



This mountain is a popular recreation spot for the citizens of Trento. In wintertime, it is a lovely ski resort, and in summer the Italians spend their free time picnicking in the meadows. Motorcyclists prefer to "climb" the mountain from the northeast, where the road features 40 switchbacks and covers a difference in elevation of almost 1,450 m (4,750 ft). And those switchbacks are not tight but

very nice and "round", promoting a smooth riding style. Have fun but please observe the speed limit!



RIDING DAY 4 : LEVICO TERME

Standard Route (304 km / 189 miles)

This rest day loop is something very special. We ride south to Lake Garda into a completely different world. It will seem to you as if you were at the Mediterranean Sea instead of in the Alps. The many palm trees, in general, the whole vegetation and the villages look so completely different than in the last days. A cappuccino at the lake in Riva and many endless curves in the mountains and you know: today you experienced a new motorcycle paradise.

The route first follows the shore to Limone, before it climbs steeply up into the mountains for the first time. We ride through a magnificent narrow gorge. At the highest point, we enjoy the view over the lake. In Gargnano we turn into the Valvestino valley. When you take off your helmet after the next 800 curves at Lake Idro, you will hardly find a fellow rider without a satisfied grin on his face. Our way back to Lake Garda leads over Lake Ledro.

Then it's back to our quarters in Levico Therme, where we can cool off in the lake after a hot day of riding.

Highlights:

#1: Kaiserjäger road



The "Kaiserjäger", an infantry regiment within the Austrian army, did much of the fighting on the Austrian-Italian front line during WWI and constructed infrastructure to supply the troops. One of these infrastructure projects was the Kaiserjäger road, built in 1911, that connects the town of Levico Terme with the Lavarone Plateau 800 m (2,600 ft) up. The road follows an old mule track that had been around for ages, is very narrow and features eight tight

hairpin turns as well as amazing views. To tackle this road you should be well-versed in handling your bike and navigating it around the tightest of corners. A tricky ride, but very rewarding. Don't miss the viewpoint right after hairpin number 6!



#2: Riva del Garda



Riva del Garda is located at the north-western corner of Lake Garda. Mount Rocchetta rises steeply to the west, with Mount Baldo to the east. This location makes Riva del Garda one of the most spectacular spots around the lake. The town belonged to the republic of Venice and later to the Austro-Hungarian empire until 1918. Since the end of World War I, Riva del Garda has been a part of Italy. Today

it is one of the favorite vacation spots on Lake Garda, a base for hikers, windsurfers and mountain bikers, and a weekend getaway for visitors from southern Germany and Austria!

#3: Lago di Garda (Lake Garda)



At 51 km (32 miles) long, up to 18 km (11 miles) wide and with a surface area of 143 square miles, Lake Garda is Italy's largest lake. This remnant of the last ice Age measures up to 350 m (1,150 ft) in depth. During WWI, even warships were patrolling the lake, bullet holes in the city walls of Limone are testimony to this chapter of history. The northern coast is rocky and rugged while in the south it is

flat and smooth. The entire region is famous for its beauty and mild climate, making it possible to grow top-quality lemons, figs and olives. In the 19th century, Lake Garda was a popular destination for the rich and beautiful from all over northern Italy. Magnificent villas and other beautiful historic buildings date from that period.



RIDING DAY 5 : LEVICO TERME - DOBBIACO (TOBLACH)

Standard Route (278 km / 173 miles)

Hotel Change "Route" (270 km / 168 miles)

LEVICO TERME - RONCEGNO TERME - TORCEGNO - PASSO MANGHEN (2047 M) -MOLINA DI FIEMME - PREDAZZO - BELLAMONTE - PANEVEGGIO - PASSO ROLLE (1,989 M) - SAN MARTINO IN BADIA - FIERA DI PRIMIERO - PASSO CEREDA (1369 M) - MIS -GOSALDO - VOLTAGO AGORDINO - AGORDO - LA VALLE AGORDINA - PASSO DURAN (1,605 M) - CHIESA - DONT - ZOLDO ALTO - MARESON - FORCELLA STAULANZA (1773 M) - PESCUL - SELVA DI CADORE - PASSO DI GIAU (GIAU PASS) (2236 M) - CORTINA D'AMPEZZO - PASSO TRE CROCI (1,809 M) - CARBONIN (SCHLUDERBACH) - LAKE MISURINA - DOBBIACO NUOVO (NEU-TOBLACH) - DOBBIACO (TOBLACH) - WELSBERG -OBERRASEN - RASUN-ANTERSELVA (RASEN-ANTHOLZ)

Today's route offers a special motorcycling challenge: on seven passes with countless hairpin bends and curves you will ride yourself literally dizzy. There are rather unknown passes like Passo Duran and Passo Cereda on the program, but also the rather well-known Passo di Giau. The unbeatable advantage: there is hardly any traffic. And on top of that a picture-book landscape. Without question a fantastic riding day!

Highlights:

#1: Passo Manghen (2047 m)



The 2.047 m (6716 ft) Passo Manghen is on the bucket list of every motorcyclist in the Alps. It is the only crossing for cars between Molina (North) and Castelnuovo (South). The distance between the two Valleys is about 40 km. The inclination is up to 16 %! The northern ramp has 13, the southern one 10, partly narrow switchbacks. Trucks and busses are not allowed on this pass.



#2: Dolomites



The name Dolomites is derived from the name of the French geologist, Déodat de Dolomieu. He discovered that the limestone in this area is different in its chemical composition compared to that of the northern limestone area. Special sedimentary rocks form incredibly rough and beautiful formations like Marmolada, Sella, and the Tre Cime de Lavaredo. They are the most photographed mountains of the Dolomites. Historically, it is an interesting

place. Belonging to the Austrian Monarchy during World War I, the frontline led right through the mountains. Fighting from 1916 to 1919, the soldiers had to stay in the mountains through summer as well as winter. A really tough life! Austria was one of the losers of the war. At the peace treaty of St. Germain in 1919, they agreed to hand Southern Tyrol over to Italy. That leads us to the explanation of the bilingual road signs and village names. You can very easily pick out the former border between Italy and Austria by looking at your map or by reading the signs. Don't be confused if you see village signs in three languages. The third one is Ladinish, spoken by a few people in a small area. Be prepared for an unbelievable ride in an incredible area!

#3: Passo Rolle (1,989 m)



Climbing up to 1,989 m (almost 6,000 ft), Rolle Pass is one of the classic mountain roads of the Dolomites. Constructed between 1863 and 1874, when the area still belonged to Austria, the pass connects the valleys of Fiemme and Primeiro. Often closed in winter due to heavy snow fall it's a good thing we ride it in summer. The pass road offers grippy tarmac and some of the best curves in the area!

#4: Passo di Giau (Giau Pass) (2236 m)



When riding through the Dolomite mountains you get the impression of being in a rider's paradise. Passo di Giau, however, is the icing on the cake. The 55 perfectly carved and challenging hairpin turns, as well as its mind-blowing mountain landscape, are among the greatest highlights in this region. But mind the speed traps along the way. They are no decoration. Take your time on top of the pass at

2,233 m (7,326 ft) to take in and enjoy the fantastic panoramic view.



#5: Cortina d'Ampezzo



Cortina d'Ampezzo counts only 6,000 people but it feels big, important and sophisticated. Surrounded by tall mountains Cortina recognized its potential early on and in the late 19th century tourism emerged, quickly becoming the region's most important industry. Today the town welcomes about a quarter of a million tourists a year! In 1956 it hosted the Winter Olympics and the event helped

greatly to build Cortina's Reputation as a famous, fashionable and expensive ski resort. In the 1960s the town lent its name to a car (Ford Cortina) and its career as a film location turned international. More than 100 films were made here, most notably The Pink Panther (with Peter Sellers, 1963), The Great Silence (1968) with Klaus Kinski, For Your Eyes Only (Roger Moore as James Bond, 1981), and Cliffhanger (1993) with Sylvester Stallone.

If you don't get to see any international superstars walking around you can just stroll up and down the pretty pedestrian zone and marvel at the grand old buildings and the stunning surroundings.



RIDING DAY 6 : DOBBIACO (TOBLACH) - EDELWEISS BIKE TRAVEL

Standard Route (267 km / 166 miles)

Hotel Change "Route" (249 km / 155 miles)

RASUN-ANTERSELVA (RASEN-ANTHOLZ) - PASSO FURCIA (FURKEL PASS) - SAN VIGILIO (ST. VIGIL) - PASSO DELLE ERBE (WÜRZJOCH) (1994 M) - BRESSANONE (BRIXEN) -VIPITENO (STERZING) - BERGGASTHOF JAUFENHAUS - PASSO DI MONTE GIOVO (JAUFEN PASS) (2094 M) - SAN LEONARDO IN PASSIRIA (ST. LEONHARD IN PASSEIER) - MOSO IN PASSIRIA (MOOS IN PASSEIER) - PASSO DEL ROMBO (TIMMELSJOCH) (2509 M) - SÖLDEN - LÄNGENFELD - OETZ - OCHSENGARTEN - SILZ - MÖTZ - MIEMING

For the really tough riders, this route offers everything your heart desires. After a few kilometers on well-maintained roads, we turn onto the Würzjoch, an unknown single-track pass with great views. Then we continue over the Jaufenpass to the Timmelsjoch, where the world's highest motorcycle museum unfortunately burned down in January 2021 and is currently being rebuilt. But even without the museum, the Timmeljoch, our last pass on the way back to Mieming, is a highlight, both in terms of riding and scenery. From there, we head downhill towards the "Farewell Dinner".

Our fantastic tour through the Alps and the Dolomites will definitely give us plenty to talk about at the Farewell Dinner. However, one thing is already certain: No one will be able to complain about a lack of kilometers or curves.

Highlights:

#1: Passo delle Erbe (Würzjoch) (1994 m)



The Würzjoch, or Italian - Passo delle Erbe, is counted among the most narrow passes of the Dolomites and, strange enough, not many motorcyclists find their way over this winding road through the colourful mix of green alpine meadows and steep rugged rocks. At some points on Passo delle Erbe you will be so close to the mountains that you think you just need to reach out to touch them.



#2: Passo di Monte Giovo (Jaufen Pass) (2094 m)



The 31 km long Jaufenpass (Passo di Monte Giovo in Italian) is very smooth to ride and always offers magnificent views of the South Tyrolean mountains. The pass summit at 2,094 meters is crowned by a tiny wooden hut called "Edelweisshütte". The small car park in front of it is often crowded with motorcycles from all over Europe.

#3: Passo del Rombo (Timmelsjoch) (2509 m)



Long before the road was completed in 1969, people used the Timmelsjoch to cross the mountain range known as the Ötztaler Alps. At 2,509 m (8,231 ft), it is the second-highest pass in the eastern Alps (after Stelvio) and covers a vertical distance of more than 1,800 m (6,000 ft). Especially the Italian (southern) side is quite spectacular to ride, the views are breathtaking. In 1991, Ötzi the Ice Man was found on a slope about 20 km (14 mi) from the top of the pass. In April

2016, Europe's highest motorcycle museum opened its doors to the public, displaying a collection of 190 vintage bikes. Unfortunately, it burned to the ground in January 2021 and all bikes were lost. What a pity! The owners, however, went out of their lines and built up a new museum, which has been opened up again for visitors in the autumn of 2021.

We wish you a wonderful tour.



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