

Discovering Friuli Venezia Giulia with the new guided tours

The new season of guided tours dedicated to art and culture starts in March,
featuring classic itineraries and new formats

With a special focus on the cross-border tours of Gorizia,
the European Capital of Culture 2025 together with Nova Gorica

Trieste, March 1 2024 - **Archaeological sunset walks** through ancient excavations and artefacts, or **tours with "the author"** through the streets of the cities of art, retracing the squares and streets of novelist's books; **"thrilling" audio-guided tours** on the trail of a murder mystery to be solved and **cross-border tours**, following the history of the twentieth century and of the borders that shaped Europe: these are just some of the many possibilities for guided tours designed for people who love travelling into culture, launched by PromoTurismoFVG and starting in March. **The high-quality guided tour continues to be one of the most significant and most appreciated tools for tourists** to discover a destination and the Friuli Venezia Giulia Regional Tourist Board has near 1000 proposals to its credit, covering the entire region, with the support of specialised and authorised tour guides.

THE PROPOSALS FROM CITY TO CITY

Trieste

Starting on March 16, the **"Walk through Trieste" tour** will explore the capital city of the Region, boasting its Hapsburg *flair* and the iconic Piazza Unità, one of the most beautiful and biggest squares in Europe, with a spectacular view of the Adriatic Sea. From its Roman origins to the historical and literary cafés, not to mention the typical buffets where you can taste typical Central European dishes, a one-hour *express* itinerary will allow visitors to soak up the beauty of this magical, enchanting, and mysterious city. For people who wish to experience the charm of the city in the evening lights, the **"Lights of Trieste"** tour will be running **from April 19**. Starting from the heart of Borgo Teresiano, one of the oldest districts of Trieste, which is crossed by the Grand Canal, this tour will highlight the landmarks that make Trieste an authentic cultural and religious melting pot of Europe: from the Orthodox Church of San Spiridione to the Evangelical-Lutheran Church in neo-Gothic style to the Roman Theatre and Piazza Unità, while also not forgetting to pay a visit to the statue of James Joyce, who lived and wrote here for many years.

Aquileia

"Welcome to the Domus of Aquileia" is the name of the tour that, starting on **March 17**, will introduce enthusiasts of the Roman world and beyond to one of the most impressive places of the archaeological site of the city of Aquileia: the Domus. Your guide will satisfy your curiosity with detailed information and stories that will take you back to the time of the ancient Romans. You will discover what life was like in the homes of the classical metropolis, imagine how people chose their furniture, what the architecture of the houses in Aquileia was like and how people lived their daily lives inside these walls. If you are looking for an even more inspiring experience, from **the first of July and throughout the summer**, you can choose the very new **"Archaeological walk after sunset"** tour, which includes for the first time a night-time visit to selected archaeological sites: by taking advantage of the cooler and less crowded hours, you can breathe in the soul of the ancient city along illuminated paths in the residential areas, and in the small and evocative necropolis, the Sepolcreto. And walking on the Decumanus road of Aratria Galla, which crossed the Roman city from east to west. Also starting **on March 16**, archaeology lovers can enjoy the **"Join us for a trip into Aquileia's history"** tour to discover the secrets and the splendour of one of the capitals of the Roman Empire: a strategic point for trade with the countries of the Danube and the East, a centre for extensive trade in goods and commodities and a meeting point for many nations and cultures, and today a **UNESCO World Heritage**

Site. The itinerary winds through the most important finds from the excavations of the Roman Forum to the massive Patriarchal Basilica with its impressive mosaic floor, a place that speaks of glory and ancient splendour.

Palmanova

Starting **on March 23**, "**Palmanova, a walking tour of the star-shaped city**" is a journey into the past to discover the history of this **remarkable fortified city in the shape nine-pointed star**, built during the Republic of Venice. The tour begins in the majestic Piazza Grande, the heart of the life of the city, under the watchful eye of the statues of the Provveditori, or District Governors, overlooked by the Duomo with its majestic façade; the itinerary then leads to other landmarks such as the Venetian aqueduct, the Rivellino route, the tunnels and, ultimately, Baluardo Donato, the best preserved bastion of the fortress, along a trail that highlights the impressive engineering genius of the era, of which Palmanova is an undeniable testimony.

Gorizia

The "**Gorizia atmospheres: history, architecture, and the beauty of a city between past and future**" tour, which is available **from March 16**, is the perfect way to discover this city on the border with a rich and unique history and a Habsburg past that still breathes life into its streets, squares, stylish palaces, and monuments. This is the city in the heart of Europe, which **together with its Slovenian neighbour Nova Gorica**, has been chosen to be the **European Capital of Culture 2025**. The tour stops at the most important landmarks, including the hill on which the impressive Borgo Castello stands: from here visitors can enjoy a spectacular view of the entire city of Gorizia as well as the landscape of Collio, the plains of Brda, all the way to the Isonzo River, a symbol of the First World War, and the three hills on which some of the most significant battles of the Great War in Italy were fought: Calvario, Sabotino and San Michele. Beginning **on March 9**, the tour "**Gorizia, history of a border**" will focus specifically on the troubled past of the border, which began in 1947 when Gorizia was divided in two by **a wall that, even before the Berlin Wall, sanctioned the separation of East and West**: Gorizia, therefore, became the symbol of the complexity of the history of the 20th century. With stories and fascinating tales, we will discover what a **prepusnica** was used for, as well as the tricks that smugglers employed to transport goods across the border and also the events of a rather bizarre Sunday in August, the so-called '**broom Sunday**'.

Udine

From March 16, the "**Classic Tour**" will take visitors on a discovery of **Udine, the beating heart of Friuli Venezia Giulia**. This city is elegant and dignified, but also cheerful and welcoming, with its many taverns and typical venues that animate its beautiful and elegant Venetian-style squares, which are authentic open-air "parlours". From Piazza Primo Maggio, along Via Manin, visitors will reach the oldest square of the city, considered the most beautiful Venetian square on mainland: Piazza Libertà, overlooked by the magnificent architecture of the Loggia del Lionello. **From the end of March**, an audio-guided tour to discover Udine will be available, **following the traces of an enigma**: after a heavy thunderstorm, the historic centre of Udine is completely in the dark due to a short-circuit that has knocked out most of the public lighting. It will be necessary to find out what happened, helping the great scientist **Arturo Malignani** to solve the problem. The "**Spring walks with Elena Commessatti**" will begin **on April 20**, ten dates until June for a walk with the writer among books, paintings, women's stories, and museums to discover Udine: from Palazzo Antonini-Stringher, the new headquarters of the Friuli Foundation, to the Astaldi and Friam Collection at Casa Cavazzini, retracing the signs of Arturo Malignani's genius, between the Ethnographic Museum and the Photography Museum in the Castle.

In the province of Pordenone

Spilimbergo

"**Art tiles and medieval atmospheres**" is the name of the guided tour starting **on March 16**. It will guide people who love history and art to an authentic treasure chest of medieval art on the Tagliamento river: the town of **Spilimbergo**, perched

on an imposing rocky ridge overlooking the majestic alpine river. Admire the wonders preserved inside the Cathedral and stroll through the streets of the town, where colourful frescoes and imaginative paintings adorn the façades and palaces. The tour continues with a visit to the **Mosaic School of Friuli**, which, more than one hundred years after its foundation, is an authentic excellence of the region: on a guided tour, you will discover the **secrets of the mosaic art**, an ancient but always relevant art.

Casarsa della Delizia

Beginning on **March 17**, "**The Places of Pier Paolo Pasolini in Casarsa**" guided tour is an opportunity to retrace the history and life of the poet and director during his years in Casarsa della Delizia, a small village in the province of Pordenone, Friuli Venezia Giulia. The itinerary includes some of the most important places for Pier Paolo Pasolini, which had a significant influence on his education: Starting from his mother's house, now the Pasolini Study Centre, the tour continues to the Academia di Lenga Furlana, the Friulian Language Academy founded by the Italian poet and film director, as well as to many of the sites that inspired his literary work and to which he was deeply attached, such as the little church of Santa Croce, the village of Versuta, the hamlet of San Giovanni, and finally to the poet's last resting place in the cemetery of Casarsa.

All the guided tours are free for children under the age of 12 who are accompanied by a paying adult, discounted for families and free with the FVGcard, which is also available as a gift voucher valid for 12 months.

More information is available at: www.turismo.fvg.it/it/arte-e-cultura/visite-guidate