

The LaCrosse Wine club has invited those interested in joining them in their tour of Italy (August 2024)! This is their 8th trip as a club. Please contact Bill Trussoni at trisspmo@mwt.net if interested. Sign Up details are below:

GENOA & BEYOND TO VAL DI GIUST ITALY 8th GROUP TRIP AUGUST 2024

From Bill Trussoni Everyone – welcome! You do not have to be Italian!!!

2024 August: Depart USA Thursday 8/8 & return USA Sunday 8/25: 16 overnights

- This schedule only requires 12 weekdays because it includes 2 weekends
- August is absolutely the best time to visit the Val di Giust area (Festivals etc.)
- Some of our friends live/work elsewhere but also have long time family homes in the Campodolcino area
- They return for rest and festivals in August & now they look forward to meeting us every visit.
- Campodolcino is one of the most beautiful places in the Alps, people from all over the world vacation there
- Early & thorough planning allows us to maximize the benefits to “the group” plus aids our Italian friends
- Agenda items that we want to do, where we want to stay, buses etc. are also in demand by others.
- This means we **MUST** begin our plans **very** early to arrange all the best for you and all, “The Group”

Flight info:

- Never flown before? No worries, before departure a highly detailed information packet provided.
- Every step, every “rule” is in place as it is because it has already been proven to be best for “the group”
- Beginning towards the end of **September of 2023**, I can and will begin checking flights/rates etc.
- Your flights can originate out of and return from **any airport** and on **any date** of your choosing.
- You can choose to leave earlier and/or stay later to visit other cities and or other countries – no problem
- No matter, your arrangements will still include bus transportation with the group from Milan airport to Campodolcino and from Campodolcino to Milan airport at the conclusion of the group visit
- **Important note:** Group participants **must not** arrive into Campodolcino before the main group
 - Our Italian friends **MUST** have the time until “**The Group**” arrives free for the group preparations
- You will be asked to always “think group” & if you do, you and all will benefit the most
- As was the same for all previous trips I must make and pay for all flight reservations, no exceptions please

- No airline miles can be used for this group trip flights – you will need to use them for another flight
- As in all previous trips I must be aware of everyone’s flight details from start to finish. Why?
- You pay me, I pay for flights, any changes must go through me. I am protected thus the group is protected
- I have already experienced a person attempting to “play games – deceive” and this policy prevents that
- Everything must continue to be designed to safeguard “The Group”
- The 402 plus 70 more scheduled for 2023 travelers understanding & accepting “the rules” has contributed greatly to the very fact that this 8th group trip is even available for your consideration. Think group.
- Everything: Admissions, transportation, reservations, lodging, meals etc. etc. are number sensitive
- **All airline miles will be yours**, trip insurance is an **option** you can choose
- If one is forced to cancel for any reason after any expense money has been paid, sincere efforts will be made to reimburse what can be fairly reimbursed which also has been the policy for the 6 previous trips.
 - Example: In 2015 a traveler canceled just a few days before departure. She had flight insurance.
 - PLUS, we reimbursed her \$950.00 at the conclusion of the 2015 trip – she was thrilled.
 - In 2017 she & 9 of her friends & relatives signed up & joined the 2017 group trip – success!!!
 - In 2017 a person making his 4th trip had a medical emergency just a couple days prior to departure
 - He was very happy with what we were able to refund – we will always do what we can to help.
 - It may not be possible to refund all money for all agenda items after a cancellation – for example:
 - If you pay for a bus ride and then cancel – the bus expense does not go down if your seat is empty
 - Please understand that I can’t in all fairness go back and require the others to pay a little more
 - Once agenda items are calculated, at a certain point a cancellation does not always lessen some costs

Special 2024 Trip Bonus: The 2024 trip will easily surpass the 500 – traveler count total and so we are going to plan a Val di Giust wide celebration in all of the local villages possible!! Hope to see you there!!

Who is welcome to join us? EVERYONE! We want to welcome everyone willing to contribute to the success.

- If anyone has any “conditions” that may adversely affect them or others, PLEASE talk to me about it before committing to the trip so we can decide the best course to take. Go or no go.

- There will be lots of steps but travelers even in their middle 80's have thoroughly enjoyed this experience.
- Just need to be aware of any limitations and choose what you do & take the time you need

Trip commitment policy:

- Trip commitment deposits were required in all 7 previous group trips & will continue for 2024
- We must require a “genuinely demonstrated” commitment before we can hold a spot for anyone
- Crucial reasons why trip commitments amounts must increase as traveler count goes up:
- Some will choose to “react” sooner, commit and take a shared “risk” some may not
- There are many planning benefits for “the group” when good people are willing to commit early
- **If everyone waited to commit as some will do, none of these trips could have been possible**
- **Also, all who have & or will enjoy these trips are thankful to those willing to commit early**
- Understandably, ongoing trip info and updates are sent **ONLY** to those who commit when they commit
- Trip commitment \$'s will as always remain to be used at the discretion of trip coordinator/coordinators
 - Examples: Expenses like meals, admissions, travel etc. for our many Italian volunteers etc. etc.

Trip Commitment policy:

- From 1 to 49 count: \$100.00 trip commitment (Under age 21: Maximum \$100.00 at any count)
- **NOTE: For the 2023 trip we were at 90 count Trip Commitment paid 1 ½ years before trip!!**
- From 50 - 59 count: \$150.00, 60 - 69: \$200.00, 70 & thereafter: \$250.00 & will be the maximum
- Trip commitment count levels of increase will again as always include any trip cancelations
- This is designed to “compliment” those willing to commit early which makes this all possible for all
- Group size: Currently will be limited to a maximum of 55 people
- \$100.00 trip commitment is 100% NON-REFUNDABLE except for exceptions listed below.
- Any trip commitment money paid **OVER \$100.00** per person will remain **100% REFUNDABLE** upon cancellation for **ANY** reason with notification and refund request prior to group departure.
- **If on the “waiting list” & you do not get “in” because of space, Trip Commitment 100% refunded.**
- If you or anyone in **your group** who paid their trip commitment in one group payment must be on a “waiting list” and then later one or all can't be accommodated because of the group

size limit, everyone in that group who does not want to go will have their Trip Commitment 100% refunded.

- All previous trips had cancellations almost always due to one's personal, a friends or relatives health
 - In fact, the last group trips have averaged more than 15 cancelations per trip before actual departure
- I will do all I can to make this trip the best, I will spend countless hours on it – self-inflicted!!
- But, who knows, something can happen to me!! **All must share in the “risk” to make this possible.**

What will it cost?: Historically considering the past group trips:

- Even 2021 – Total costs for some started around \$3,000.00. Your costs will depend some on your choices. For example: Flights, flight seating class, trip Insurance, lodging choice, etc. etc.
- To my knowledge NOT ONE of the past almost 500 travelers were disappointed in the final cost.

Please put the costs/benefits into proper perspective. You will see why people return time after time!

- **Included:** Approximately 17 days, 2 all you can eat meals almost every day, wine, beer and other beverages that never stops at most meals & in the hotel party room that is always open!! Transportation required for agenda, unlimited access to local museums, 3 reunion logoed shirts, large group photo. Transportation to & from local festivals; Boee @ Prestone, San Rocco @ Fraciscio etc., Bernina Express Train through the Alps from St. Moritz, Switzerland to Tirano Italy, boat ride on Lake Como, visiting Bellagio. Many other places you may choose to visit: Chiavenna, Bondeno, Avero, Isola, Gallivaggio, Lirone, Cardinello Trail etc., and as much wonderful hiking you desire, etc. Plus, something that has been a really big “hit” these past 2 trips: The Multi Country Trip (5 countries in 1 day): Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Austria & Liechtenstein. Most of all what really brings people back, you will enjoy the “true” Italian culture & make many new friends.
- If only you knew now what those who have gone before you know, you would not require any convincing.

Above info is best plan when written, if something changes, something changes. Again, **All, must share in the “risk” to make this possible.** As always, if you decide to join our group, please understand no one person sustains any more liability for anything than you do. If you want the guaranteed 1st Class trip version, no problem, just make the request and mail an additional \$3,000.00 for your trip. If you do, you will be the 1st! Bill

If interested and ready to commit: See below

8th Italy Group Trip August 2024 – Sign-up info required:

Must do this: Get your Delta Skymiles Number if you do not have one and provide, see below:

- Very simple to do & only takes about 5 minutes
- To get your Skymiles number: Either go on-line or call 800.323.2323
- On-line: Enter Delta.com, then click on SIGN UP and complete what is required.

- Having this number helps me when I purchase your Delta flight ticket
- Helps me by allowing me to just enter your Skymiles # instead of your DOB & address etc.
- You having your Skymiles # makes you a “known traveler” with Delta
- By me entering your Skymiles # also guarantees you will get credit for your flight miles
- **This is not a credit card.** Your Skymiles number will only connect you with your name etc.

Please e-mail answers to ALL questions etc. – so as to help me get all info the first time – Thank you.:

1. Full legal name exactly as is **OR** will be on your passport:
2. Date of birth:
3. City & State born in (Required for no-line quick check in hotel reservations):
4. Passport number (Required for no-line quick check in hotel reservations):
5. Passport Issue date (Required for no-line quick check in hotel reservations):
6. Delta Airlines Skymiles number: By me entering your Skymiles #, you get credit for your flight miles
7. Home & cell phone numbers:
8. Age you will be **August 1, 2024**:
9. Mailing Address (No just P.O. Box addresses, also include actual address):
10. Name preferred to be addressed as if different than legal name:
11. Reunion logoed shirts: Specify: Women’s or men’s style and size prefer:
 - Will receive 2 T-shirts & 1 Long sleeve_
12. E-mail address or addresses:
13. If “family” please write a brief explanation of your heritage connection
14. If not “family” (No problem) please explain if you are associated with any “family” or friend
15. Current occupation or if retired previous occupation, profession, hobbies, interests etc.:
16. Please list the names of the people you plan to room with if any (If single: No problem):
17. List details of any special needs or special expectations you have. If NONE – must also tell me None.
 - Rates for much of what we do and enjoy are quoted as low as possible based partially on the fact we are a large group & without “special needs or expectations” requiring special considerations
 - Hence we can be accommodated, fed etc. at least cost, most easily, efficiently etc.
 - So “special needs & or expectations” could require additional funds for special services – considerations
 - With up-front notification, if possible and reasonable, we want to properly prepare and deal with any special needs or expectations in advance or to be able to inform you otherwise if not possible
18. Preferred airport departure:

Important: Must E-mail (Not mail) info above to Bill Trussoni at trussoni@mwt.net,

Make your Trip Commitment check out to: Bill Trussoni

- **Mail your Trip Commitment to: W1023 PROKSCH COULEE ROAD STODDARD WI 54658**

Questions: Please e-mail or phone anytime: 608-457-3355, Cell: 563.329.0707.

PASSPORT: Check your passport and be sure it does not **expire before **March 01 of 2025****

- If it expires before **March 01 of 2025** you **MUST** renew your passport before this trip.
- Best to do it now – why wait?
- **However, please send me the above questions answers now, then passport info when you have it**

Please pass on this information to all your friends and relatives