Overview of the area

This new base is located in the heart of the Italian countryside, few kilometer far away from some of the most famous coast beaches.

The Region is called Friuli, and is located close to the Veneto, in the north east of the country, close to the Slovenian border. This itinerary will let you breath the real Italian atmosphere, so far away from the stress and the rush of the Venetian itinerary.

The navigation in Friuli is really nice and peaceful, much more similar to the standard French experience, but with really less locks…
Canals are regular and easy to navigate, there is no traffic during the navigation, and the clean environment and the historic towns along the way will guarantee you to feel completely immersed into a real Italian experience.

Differently from the Venetian cruise, in Friuli there is a large presence of public moorings, which allow you to moor your boat without problems during the week, without forcing you to pay a fee into private marinas.

Canal banks along the sides are low and largely provided of cycle paths, so that during the navigation you can range with eyes all the attractions around you and spend time biking in the nature.

The Friuli is also popular, through Germans and English in particular, for the golden beaches and the clean sea of Lignano, which represent a wonderful attraction for millions of tourist every year. You’ll not loose the great chance to have your summer sunbaths during your holiday.

Finally, but not less important, the region is one of the most important areas in Italy for the wine production, with several D.O.C. products, that will delight your palate day after day. Don’t forget to bring home a large selection of bottles of the famous Collio, to be purchased at the wine yard close to your departure base.

The main attraction of the itinerary are:

1. **The history**
2. **The beaches**
3. **The wine**
4. **The weather**
5. **The navigation**

### 1. THE HISTORY

There are so many cultural attractions that you never imagined. The cultural capital of the north east Trieste is just few minutes far away. The millenarian town of Aquileia, founded by the Romans centuries before Venice is now largely visible. You can then moor in the welcoming fisherman towns of Marano completely restored where there is a large fish market where to buy it fresh. Caorle with its natural lagoon and the historical centre with the X century round tower bell and Grado, called the east Venice, a restored city built up to an island in the middle of the homonymous lagoon, are attractions you’ll not miss.

### 2. THE BEACHES

The town of Lignano is largely known in Europe for the gold sand beaches. All the littoral is characterized by the presence of beaches, and you’ll navigate constantly few meters far away from the sea. This is a great opportunity for you to have your daily sunbath and a jump into the open sea.

### 3. THE WINE

The province is home to the **DOCs of the Collio region**. The region is dominated by white wine production, making five times more white than red wine. Collio wine is typically full bodied and rich, made as a varietal or blend of Friulano, Ribolla Gialla, Malvasia Istriana, Chardonnay, Pinot Bianco, Pinot Grigio and Sauvignon blanc. Red wine under the designation Collio Rosso is made from a blend of Merlot, Cabernet franc and Cabernet
Sauvignon. The general Collio Bianco designation can also include the white grapes Müller-Thurgau, Picolit, Riesling, Traminer and Welschriesling as well as the white juice from the red wine grapes of Cabernet Sauvignon and Pinot Nero.

4. The Weather

The season is generally long and the weather is stable. The temperature in the summer is normally around 30°. The fresh air coming from the Alps, few km far away, refresh the air and make the leaving very comfortable. The navigation canals are very close to line coast, and this avoid the interruption of the navigation due to drought or eventual raining periods; indeed, the water level into the canals is regulated by the sea water level, and this normally guarantee stability of the navigation conditions.

5. The Navigation

You’ll fill like home. So far away from the crowded canals of the Veneto, where few mooring places are available and most of them will be under payment, you’ll navigate in total comfort and tranquility. Only 2 locks in the whole week!!!! No time lost during the day and no difficult to find mooring places. If you’ve been in France before, you’ll find this navigation very similar and in line with your expectation of a relaxed holiday.

Please, note...

This is not a Venetian Itinerary. LeBoat already provide 2 bases to navigate to Venice. The distance from Precenicco to Venice is too much. Of course the canals are all connected, but the long distance and the local attractions make it as a single cruising area.

As it happen in France, where you cannot take a boat in Burgundy to Navigate into the Midi, also if they’re connected, the Friuli is the same for the Veneto. 2 different regions for 2 different itineraries. Please, enjoy the large number of options of your itinerary, and you’ll feel completely immersed into a real Italian atmosphere you’ll never forget.

We’ll provide a one way cruise to and from Casale sul Sile to be done in 1 week, but just with few boats for which you should ask to the booking office. The one way itinerary will not give anyway to customers the possibility to visit Venice.
Connection to the base

To reach the base there are several easy options

By flight:
- From Venice Marco Polo Airport: 97km – 1h (motorway A4)
- From Trieste Ronchi dei Legionari: 50km – 30’ (motorwayA4)
- From Treviso Airport:
  We’ll provide taxi transfer with cars and cabs with selected companies to be quoted.

By Car:
- From East European countries and East Austria: Tarvisium access motorway A23 then A4 exit “Latisana”
- From Germany and Austria: Brennero access motorway A22 then A4 exit “Latisana”
- From Switzerland and north France: Gottardo access motorway A8 then A4 exit “Latisana”
- From south France and Spain: Ventimiglia access motorway A26 then A4 exit “Latisana”

By Train
- The closest train station is “Latisana-Lignano” (just 5 km far from the base), and it’s a the middle station on the main line Trieste-Venezia.
1. From the Romans to Hemingway - 2000 years of history

This itinerary will let you discover the deep culture of the region, and bring you in the following towns:

**Aquileia**

Aquileia was founded in 181BC to be a base for Roman power in this part of Europe. The town, strategically located for military and trading purposes, grew to be one of the most important cities in the Roman Italy and the capital of a large area. There is quite a lot to see in Aquileia if you take your history seriously, including two museums, outdoor sites and the famous mosaic in the basilica. There are several outdoor archaeological areas dotted around Aquileia, and various sets of excavations in progress.

Please click on: [http://www.italyheaven.co.uk/friuliveneziagiulia/aquileia.html](http://www.italyheaven.co.uk/friuliveneziagiulia/aquileia.html)

**Grado**

Grado is rightly proud of its centro storico (historic centre). Although it is very tiny compared with the modern town, and both sea and lagoon are invisible, this little medieval quarter is easily the most charming part of Grado. Like Venice, medieval Grado is composed of calli and campielli (lanes and courtyards). The old fishermen's houses cluster together, almost one on top of the other; all winding alleys, pretty little squares and staircases decorated with plants. It's surprisingly easy to lose your sense of direction, although the maze is only a few lanes deep. The whole area has a well-kept and friendly feel, and is peppered with tempting bars and restaurants.

Please click on: [http://www.italyheaven.co.uk/friuliveneziagiulia/grado.html](http://www.italyheaven.co.uk/friuliveneziagiulia/grado.html)

**Attention!!**

You can reach Trieste for a daily excursion in the middle of your vacation using the public transport departing from Grado. Leave your boat moored in the town and use the “Linea Marittima” for a single ticket cost of about 5€ per person in about 1h30’. This is a great chance not to lose.

For precise information click on: [http://www.aptgorizia.it/cms/data/pages/servizi_marittima.aspx](http://www.aptgorizia.it/cms/data/pages/servizi_marittima.aspx)
**Cervignano del Friuli**
The first piece of information we have about Cervignano del Friuli dates back to 912 A.C., when appeared in the documents with the names of Cerveniana and Cirvignanum. However, the place gained importance during the Roman Age, as via Julia Augusta passed from here and went from Aquileia to Norico, and via Annia, that connected Aquileia to Rimini and, through via Flaminia, to Rome.

This place became important also thanks to the river Alsa (today’s Ausa), which was already intensively sailed in that time, by boats that went from Buso Harbour and sailed up the river loaded with the goods addressed to the northern and eastern markets and then sailed down to loaded with the goods to the southern markets.


**Caorle**
The historical and cultural identity of Caorle is symbolized by the millenary cathedral and by the stately cylindrical bell tower, that have always towered over the old village where the "calli" (lanes) and "campielli" intertwine, enabling the tourist to enjoy a pleasant and relaxing walk, perhaps after a day of sun and sea.

Caorle, formerly a city of the "Dogado" (Duchy of Venice) and faithful subject of the Serenissima Republic of Venice, from which it has acquired its architecture, is now one of the most beautiful and visited seaside resorts in Italy.

Today it still includes the typical "casòni" of fishermen, built in wood and common reed, places that up to a few decades ago, were even frequented by the American writer Ernest Hemingway, a guest of the Baron Franchetti.


**Precenico**
The most ancient area of the Municipality of Precenico is the today's village called Titiano. In it during the roman period there was a building for the pilgrims who walked from Aquileia to the area called Norico.

The name Precenico comes from Precenius, a latin word that refers to the roman soldier who owned these lands.

In the 13th century in Precenico a group of the Teutonic Knight was founded. They helped the German pilgrims to sail from Latisana's harbour towards the Holy Land.

In the Patriarchate's period Precenico was owned by the Counts of Gorizia and in 1370 it was given to the Jesuit Order.

Precenico was ruled by the Republic of Venice. Later it was an Austrian possession after the short Napoleon domination.

In 1866 Precenico became part of the Reign of Italy.

2. The taste of the Italian experience

A unique tour in the real heart of the local traditions. Every town will welcome you with its colours and flavours. Not to loose:

**Marano**
The Marano Lagoon, contained between the last coastal point of Lignano and the Grado Lagoon, is a landscape of extraordinary beauty that hosts unique fauna and flora of significant naturalistic importance. Protected from the open sea by a series of islands and islets, like Sant’Andrea, also known as Isola delle Conchiglie, it is characterised by swamp vegetation and the unique temporary fishermen’s lodgings, the typical “casoni”, built with cane and wood, that make Marano Lagoon one of the most interesting places in the Upper Adriatic.

**Grado**
The centre of Grado is absolutely packed with places to eat and drink, most of them priced very reasonably. Even in winter, when many are closed, there is still a respectable choice. Many smart, atmospheric and appealing restaurants are dotted through the lanes of the centro storico.
Please click on: [http://www.italyheaven.co.uk/friuliveneziagiulia/grado.html](http://www.italyheaven.co.uk/friuliveneziagiulia/grado.html)

**Caorle**
Despite the growing development in hotel activity, Caorle has always conserved its characteristic image of a seaside town and fishing still today represents one of the pre-eminent activities of the population.
Fishing in the lagoon of Caorle has an important history. One of the very first and most interesting documents dates back to the 15th century. On the 15th of September 1439, the Doge Francesco Foscari, regarding "the privilege of water", officially entitled the Carle community to the possession and tenure of all of the water including the water from the mouths of the Livenza and Tagliamento rivers with the exclusive rights of fishing or hunting.
Precenicco

Here, in the Marano lagoon, it opens the Regional Nature Reserve of river Stella’s outlets, that in not reachable by ground; the water is, in fact, the only way to arrive to the river’s delta, river that you can up as far as Precenicco.

So you could enter a wonderful microcosm, a real paradise for birdwatching: between the beds of reeds that skirt the river, between the other, marsh harriers, mute swans, red, white and grey herons. In front of you there will be a spectacle of rare beauty: a village of “Casoni” (huts), made in reed and wood, that keep inside of them a typical fireplace and are furnished only with the necessary to survive.

The Friuli Latisana DOC zone (all around the Precenicco town) stretches across the southern part of the province of Udine. The sand and clay soil is difficult to work but rich in minerals that give its wines their distinctive aromatic profiles. The 400 hectares under vine are planted one third to white varieties and two thirds to reds. The nearby sea sends warm breezes that enable growers to produce elegantly fragrant wines.

Please click on: http://www.turismofvg.it/en-US/parks/river_stella_mouth_reserve.html
3. Walking on the golden sand

We’ll drive you to discover the best attractions in term of fun; the best beaches, the glamour and the night life of a region which is famous all over Europe. Don’t miss the chance to stop in:

$jesolo$

The first information about Jesolo as touristic centre go back to the end of the 19th Century when the first bathing establishment was opened on the beach in front of Piazza Marconi. The lido (beach) of Jesolo drew the attention of Venetians and Lombards who had capitals to invest in the new development of tourism, and built hotels, apartments, camp-sites, wet docks and villas, but also shops, restaurants and sports-facilities. Take an evening stroll down the street that radiates fun and entertainment. Enjoy a pleasant stop in new concept wine-bars and cellars in settings that are true design installations. Here you can sip carefully-chosen wines that gratify the palate and accompany an evening of friendship, reflection and pleasant conversation. Jesolo nightlife has an international feel and its pure joy goes on until the first light of dawn. Please click on: http://www.jesolo.it/eng/

$Lignano sabbiadoro$

Located halfway between Venice and Triest, Lignano has always been since its founding in the 1930’s at the avantgarde for its tourist service and structures: in this way it made the 8km long golden beaches one of the most beautiful areas of the northern Adriatic area. Here the sea is clean and safe, and every year Lignano receives a prize for this: the blue flag for excellence. The same excellence you find in its modern beach structures and in its professional tourist reception. Lots of different offers are waiting for you: 6 fun parks, biking roads, riding centres, sport structures, the 18-holes-golf field, many tennis courts and 5000 boat places in highly modern and equipped harbours. Please click on: http://www.aiatlignano.it/content/view/36/55/lang,en/

$Bibione$

Bibione: how many faces! A tranquil place where you can relax, take a walk in the green of the pinewood or soak in a pool at the spa centre. Bibione is a clean town that respects nature; with its clear sea and the almost 8 km long beach of finest sand it offers efficient services and the untouched heritage of its lagoon. Bibione is also a tourist sized seaside resort, where you can shop, eat well and sleep in comfortable holidays flats and hotels. But it is a modern seaside resort as well, that keeps up to date, ideal for the young audience that can enjoy themselves at the funfair, the discos, the many clubs and the sport facilities. Please click on: http://www.bibione.com/en/content/canale/For-the-kids_28.aspx Please click on: http://www.bibione.com/en/index.aspx
Grado

Grado’s beaches are on the Adriatic side of the island, facing the sea with views up to the head of the Adriatic and across to the mountains of Slovenia and Croatia. There are a couple of beaches in Grado: the main beach is wide and sandy (with some grit and shells) and stretches along the length of the modern holiday town, backed by a promenade, pine trees and hotels. There is a smaller beach, the Spiaggia Costa Azzurra, on the other side of the historic centre.

Please click on: [http://www.italyheaven.co.uk/friuliveneziagiulia/grado.html](http://www.italyheaven.co.uk/friuliveneziagiulia/grado.html)
1. Trieste city

Trieste is the capital of the far north-eastern region of Italy, Friuli-Venezia Giulia. For a long time this major port was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and although the town is now part of Italy, it retains a not-quite-Italian feel. The Slovenian border is only a few miles away, curving round to the north and east.

There aren't a huge number of 'must-see' tourist attractions in Trieste, but it's a pleasant place to spend a day or two. It's a good destination for those with children (caves and castles to visit), and there are several scientific-themed museums in the area. The city's many neo-classical buildings and wide, planned road network are reminders of the former importance of the port, and although they're ageing somewhat, the town still has a solid and respectable air.

Please click on:
http://www.italyheaven.co.uk/friuliveneziaiuglia/trieste.html
http://www.trieste.world-guides.com/

How to reach
You can reach Trieste for a daily excursion in the middle of your vacation using the public transport departing from Grado. Leave your boat moored in the town and use the “Linea Marittima” for a single ticket cost of about 5€ per person in about 1h30’. This is a great chance not to lose.

For precise information click on: http://www.aptgorizia.it/cms/data/pages/servizi_marittima.aspx
2. Fortress town of Palmanova

The fortress town of Palmanova, among the more important and better preserved examples of late Renaissance military architecture, was built by order of the Serenissima Repubblica di Venezia in 1593.

The fortress town was classified as a "National Monument" in 1960 by decree of the President of the Republic. All the fortifications and the whole urban area come under the protection of the national legislation concerning cultural heritage.

Please click on: http://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/1154/
3. Palmanova outlet village

90 BRAND SHOPS WITH DISCOUNTS UNTIL 70% ON OUTLET PRICE.

Palmanova Outlet Village is a shopping citadel with plenty of pedestrian areas and vast, free of charge parking areas. Instead of the traditional type of stores, it hosts over 90 outlets selling famous Italian and European brands of clothes and fashion accessories, cosmetics, home decoration products, as well as restaurants, coffee bars and other socializing areas.

Direct sale enables the producers and authorized re-sellers to commercialize the production surplus and unsold merchandise with no additional intermediary costs, at the same time maintaining the quality and the brand image level intact.

All products are therefore sold at lower prices, with a minimum of 30% sale during the whole year and a 70% sale for seasonal clearances or special promotional sales. Various events and animation activities make the visit to the Village even more amusing and render the outlet a safe, outdoor place in which to spend free time with friends and the family.

Please click on: http://www.palmanovaoutlet.it/?refid=27