

Italian Inspiration with A&K

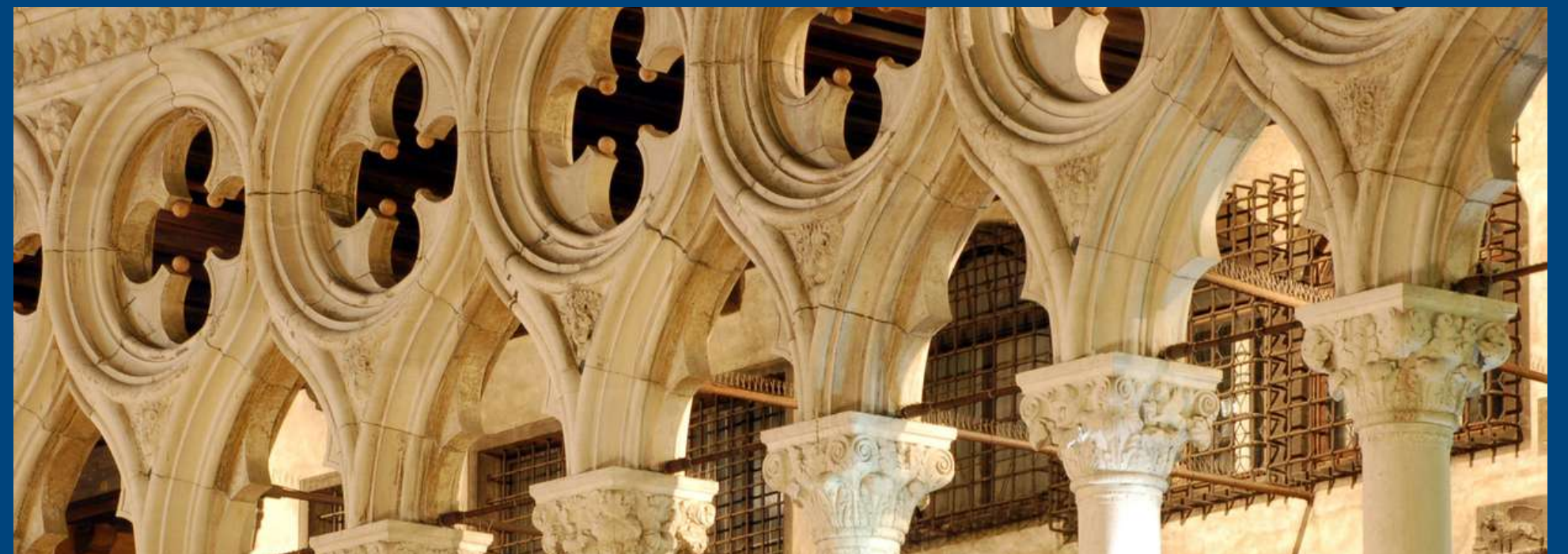




NORTHERN ITALY



With glorious food regions of Emilia Romagna and Liguria, sample award-winning balsamic vinegar near Modena and discover the art of pesto-making alongside visiting local vineyards. Our A&K Guardian Angels will provide local expertise on a private tour of Duomo in Milan & take a tailored shopping experience in this fashion capital. Explore the timeless postcard scenes of Venice, understand the tradition of mask-making & enjoy twilight access to the city's landmark buildings. Admire natural wonder of the Italian lakes, the protected area of Cinque Terre and the mountainous region of the Dolomites.

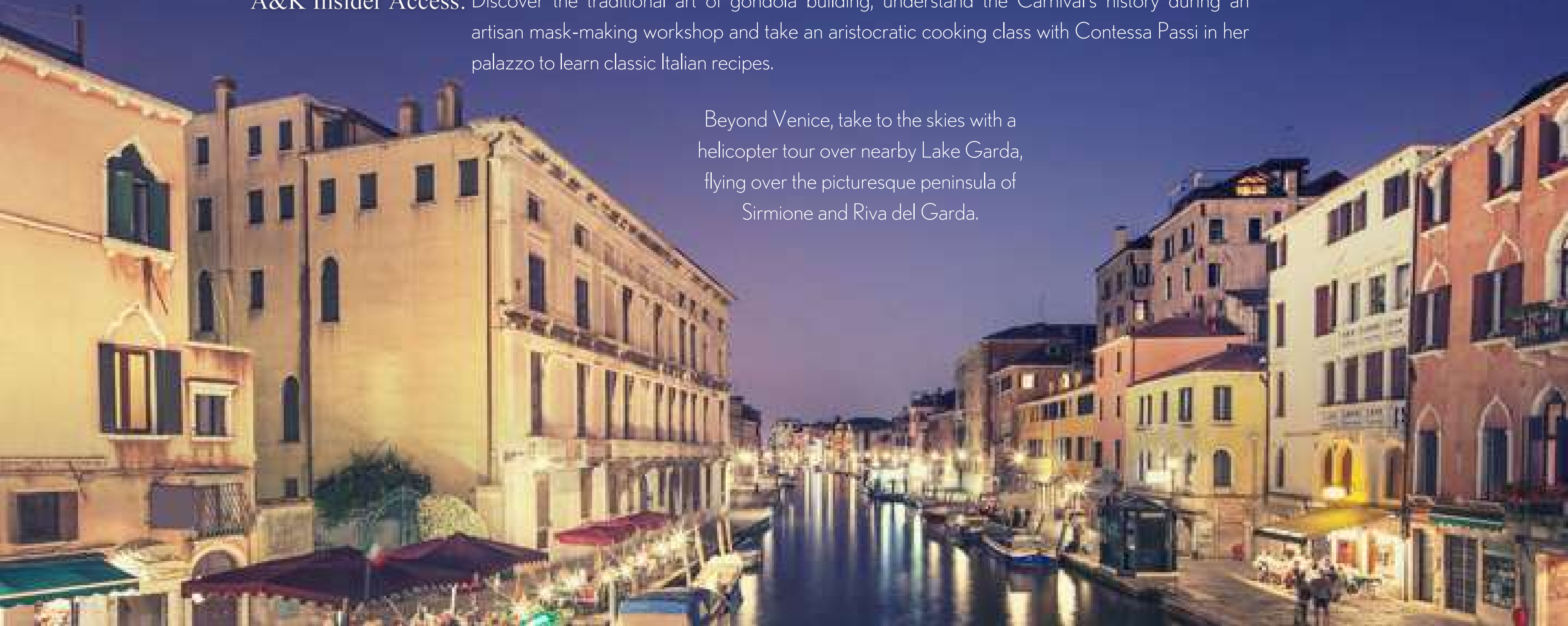


VENICE & LAKE GARDA

Italy captivates travellers with its distinctive cultural provinces; Northern Italy offers a setting of romantic elegance, regional artisan foods and beautiful natural scenery. Inspiration lies within the celebrated Venetian architecture of St Mark's Basilica, the gothic triumph of Doge's Palace and the enchantment of a classic gondola taking in the winding passages of canals.

A&K Insider Access: Discover the traditional art of gondola building, understand the Carnival's history during an artisan mask-making workshop and take an aristocratic cooking class with Contessa Passi in her palazzo to learn classic Italian recipes.

Beyond Venice, take to the skies with a helicopter tour over nearby Lake Garda, flying over the picturesque peninsula of Sirmione and Riva del Garda.





EMILIA ROMAGNA

Venture into a culinary exploration of the regional delicacies on offer, with a tour of a cheese factory producing Parmigiano-Reggiano, visiting Modena to witness the famed process of its production of traditional balsamic vinegar and learning the various stages of making Prosciutto di Parma ham, all whilst enjoying tastings of these Italian specialities.

A&K Insider Access:

Live the local lifestyle learning how to cook traditional Italian pasta in the cosy atmosphere of a private home, discovering delicious home-cooking recipes in an intimate setting.

An aerial photograph of Lake Como, Italy. The lake is a deep, vibrant blue, surrounded by steep, forested mountains. On the left, a small village with red-tiled roofs is nestled on a peninsula. In the distance, more mountains are visible under a clear blue sky with a few wispy clouds. The water's surface shows gentle ripples and a few small boats.

LAKE COMO

Explore Lake Como with a relaxing private cruise, taking in classic lakeside villages including the picturesque peninsula of Bellagio and admire spectacular alpine views. Stopping by the stunning 17th century Villa Carlotta, a highlight across each season with its extensive botanical gardens and historical value.

A&K Insider Access:

Enjoy an exclusive visit to the magnificent gardens of Villa Balbianello or take a unique wellness experience with a private yoga class at the lakeside waters of Como.

MILAN

Contemporary and stylish, Milan provides a host of interesting museums, fabulous designer shopping and the relaxing green retreat of Parco Sempione with its ornamental statues and winding paths.

A&K Insider Access:

A truly memorable experience awaits with a private after-hours visit to the Duomo and its terraces, accompanied by your expert local guide. Known as one of the fashion capital's of the world, take a walking tour of Milan's garment district and visit the city's most exclusive boutiques.





CINQUE TERRE

Comprising of five charming fishing villages - Riomaggiore, Manarola, Corniglia, Vernazza and Monterosso - perched high on the Italian Riviera, with preserved architecture, delightful harbours and local delicacies including sweet Sclacchetrà wine. Explore the Ligurian coastline, visiting the nearby hidden gem of Camogli, sampling locally made focaccia and enjoy fresh fish specialities.

A&K Insider Access:

Take to the waters of the Ligurian sea on a unique boating excursion with local fishermen followed by a seafood dinner paired with wine tastings from nearby vineyards set in the hills of Cinque Terre. Discover the region with a private yachting trip to Portofino, heading to Punta Mesco for a refreshing snorkelling experience.



PIEDMONT

A hidden find in the scenic Italian lakes region is charming Lake Orta, with this glorious spot rivalling the famed nearby lakes of Como and Maggiore. Experience gastronomic delight of this region with the International Alba White Truffle Fair, learning about the renowned truffles and other local delicacies at cooking demonstrations and tasting workshops.

A&K Insider Access:

Take a guided truffle hunting tour in Alba to experience wild authentic Piedmont culture, followed by wine tasting in local vineyards of Langhe and Barbaresco. Savour regional delights with an exclusive chocolate making lesson in Turin.

DOLOMITES

Life in the Dolomites, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is linked to its dramatic natural environment with a seasonal focus on outdoor adventure and wellness. A Winter wonderland classically awakens ski resorts in the alpine region, experiences include off-piste ski safaris and snowboarding the slopes of the glacier.

Springtime offers verdant beauty to the Dolomites; as snow melts from its peaks, rivers entice active enthusiasts with pursuits of kayaking and rafting. Scenic splendour awaits amid picturesque trails of the region's National Parks taking in wildlife, waterfalls and glaciers. One of the most majestic landscapes lies within the turquoise waters of Lake Braies, a natural wonder in the South Tyrol region.

A&K Insider Access:

Take a private hiking excursion to the enchanting peaks of Tre Cime di Lavaredo, learning from your expert guide about local flora & fauna.

Tucked into the valley of the Dolomites, enjoy a private vineyard tour at the Prosecco region of Valdobbiadene tasting some of the finest fizz within Italian produce.

CENTRAL ITALY



Experience Rome the local way with a Vespa tour winding through the stunning sights of the Colosseum, Roman Forum and find fascination in a private viewing of the Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel. Create a bespoke scent learning the expertise of designer perfumery in Florence & see the renowned Ponte Vecchio Bridge. Venture near Pisa and journey into the cypress-lined countryside of the Tuscany hills, with a sampling at Andrea Bocelli's winery in Lajatico.



The image shows the interior of a large, ancient dome, likely the Pantheon in Rome. The ceiling is a complex grid of square coffers, with a large circular skylight (oculus) at the top. The walls are decorated with classical architectural elements, including columns and arches. The lighting is dramatic, with light streaming in from the skylight, creating a sense of depth and grandeur.

ROME

With unparalleled history and as the capital of Italy, Rome offers impressive architecture with romantic ruins including the Colosseum, Pantheon and the Roman Forum. Explore the city's inspiring piazzas and make a wish at the beautiful Trevi Fountain which, as legend dictates, throwing in one coin signals a return to the Eternal City.

A&K Insider Access:

Embark on an exhilarating Vespa tour through the streets of Rome, as your local guide introduces stops to explore the city's food culture. See the Colosseum by moonlight during a special evening tour leading you through the highlights of this impressive monument and take a sunset bike tour on a leisurely exploration of sights of the Eternal City.

FLORENCE

Embrace the Renaissance of artistic Florence, visit a myriad of world-class museums, enjoy gourmet Tuscan cuisine and climb to the top of Duomo to admire extraordinary views of the city. Admire sights of the Basilica of Santa Croce and the Uffizi Gallery, home to some of the world's most significant artworks.

A&K Insider Access:

Explore the fascinating origins of traditional Florentine perfumery before being guided through creating your own bespoke fragrance. Learn how each unique scent is carefully made with the use of natural materials before finally bottling your personalised scent to take home.

Experience an evening of fine dining on the open terrace atop Florence's Ponte Vecchio bridge. For a unique opportunity try your hand at Tuscan Cantuccini baking, learning how to prepare the biscuits by hand, a special type of almond biscotti with their heritage traced back to Ancient Rome.



TUSCANY

Escape into the charming Italian countryside; the UNESCO World Heritage site of Tuscany hills captivate with its romantic landscape of untouched Renaissance scenery and inspiring wineries of Montepulciano and Chianti.

A&K Insider Access:

Admire sprawling views and famed vineyards with a hot air balloon experience over Chianti, offering far-stretching vistas on clear days to Florence in the north. A sunrise welcome to the day followed by a champagne breakfast with delicious local produce on offer.



UMBRIA

Bordering Tuscany, the peaceful Umbrian region offers exploration of hidden Italian Renaissance with historical towns of Assisi and Orvieto, for walking tours including the beautiful Basilica di San Francesco and picturesque views overlooking local vineyards.

A&K Insider Access:

Famed for its ceramic production dating back to the 15th century, partake in a private workshop tour in Deruta. Experience culinary tradition in Umbria with a truffle hunting excursion in Orvieto, sampling the decadent truffles in a private cooking lesson of authentic regional recipes.





SOUTHERN ITALY

Mediterranean landscape at its finest, the Amalfi coast offers inspiring scenes, enjoy a private yachting excursion for dramatic views of Positano. Delight in the panoramic vistas from the beautifully designed gardens of Villa Rufolo in Ravello. Explore Sorrento & stroll amid lemon groves with a private viewing in the process of limoncello production. Further South, take a guided cycling tour through coastal paths and Nature Reserves in the Puglia region. Island discovery of Sicily and Sardinia inspire as unique destinations of varied terrain, art and cultural heritage.





AMALFI COAST

Birthplace to pizza, visit a Napoli farmhouse for an authentic masterclass in making this famed food. Experience majestic views of Positano & the Amalfi Coast on a private yachting trip or guided kayaking tour, exploring areas only accessible by water. Follow the 'Path of the Gods' trail admiring vistas of the Sorrentine Peninsula and indulging in regional cuisine.

A&K Insider Access:

Take an exclusive experience at an Amalfi farmhouse in the art of making limoncello and enjoy a private candlelight dinner amongst the citrus groves of Sorrento.

MATERA

Considered the most ancient city in the world, take a walking tour discovering Matera's blend of cultural stone churches and prehistoric caves that merge into shadows of the hills. Explore the Basilicata region and view the scenic winding streets within James Bond 'No Time to Die'. Stop in a local winery for tastings of the Aglianico wine, olive oil and speciality cheeses of the area.

A&K Insider Access:

Learn authentic techniques of traditional pasta making in a private cooking class, learning the history of this Italian art and creating a delicious sauce to accompany your homemade pasta.





SICILY

Island exploration of Sicily offers Mediterranean beaches, unique landscapes & cultural sites including the UNESCO World Heritage site of Valley of the Temples in Agrigento. Relax in the Italian sun of Taormina, with visits to historical attractions including the inspiring Greek Theatre and Corvaja Palace. Venture aboard a yachting excursion around Syracuse and Ortigia island seeing Sicily from its turquoise waters.

A&K Insider Access:

Venture into the clouds with a private helicopter tour over Mount Etna for panoramic vistas of the summit. Entertainment awaits with an opera performance combining music and history at a private palazzo.



PUGLIA

Affectionately referred to as 'the heel of Italy', Puglia provides a coastline dotted with inspiring towns and a myriad of ancient olive groves. Wander through the baroque architecture of Lecce and admire Alberobello's 15th-century trulli, the traditional beehive-style dwellings unique to Puglia.

A&K Insider Access:

Explore classic whitewashed scenes of Valle d'Itria including a private tour of ancient olive groves in Ostuni and wine tasting experience near Alberobello. Take in highlights of coastal Puglia with a guided cycling excursion of Otranto and dine in the exclusive surroundings of a natural cave in Polignano a Mare.

SARDINIA

An alluring island offering sweeping white sand beaches and a kaleidoscope of turquoise blue waters. Indulge in a high-end shopping experience in prestigious stores of Porto Cervo and delight in fresh Mediterranean cuisine overlooking the glamorous marina. Discover family-orientated activities from the stalactite caves of Neptune's Grotto near Alghero to visiting the Regional Park of Molentargius with its pink flamingos in their natural habitat among the lagoons in Cagliari.

A&K Insider Access:

Set sail along the Emerald Coast on a private yachting trip to La Maddalena archipelago, exploring this secluded gem and admiring the pristine coastline. Immerse yourself in island discovery, with a guided hiking tour of the beautiful Lanaittu Valley and indulge in wine tasting at sunset from the Siniscola hills.



A&K Italy & Croatia is here to support you and will be delighted to assist with any queries relating to these regions and experiences.

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