

THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO MOTORCYCLING IN ITALY

High mountain passes, spectacular coastal roads, twisty country single tracks, history, culture, superb food and drink, and then there's the unrivalled magnificence of the Dolomites. Is Italy Europe's finest motorcycle touring destination? You bet!

Adventure Bike Rider and its sister title *Adventure Travel* (AT) magazine have a long history when it comes to touring the roads and trails of Italy.

Back in the days when I was editor of *AT* and mountaineering and hiking were as important to me as riding motorcycles, I'd spend whole summers driving and sometimes riding the more remote and mountainous areas with outdoor gear strapped to the pillion looking for interesting lumps of rock to climb and trails to hike.

I'd spend my evenings writing up reports and emailing them back to the office. Then, once every six weeks, I'd park the van or bike at an Italian airport, fly back to the UK and add the finishing touches to the magazine before sending it to print. And then I'd fly back and do it all again.

I followed this way of life for three consecutive summers which resulted in outdoor guides, regional hiking guides and the first ever documented report of all the via ferrata climbing routes in the Dolomites. To say I was in awe of the country would be an understatement and I would have happily moved to and settled in Italy for the rest of my life.

Since the launch of *ABR* magazine and an accident which curbed my climbing career, I've been back to Italy as much as possible to enjoy the spectacular roads, trails, scenery, history and culture by motorcycle. These more recent trips, added to my prior knowledge, have helped shape this touring guide to bring you the best of what we at *ABR* consider Italy has to offer.

There's not enough space in these pages to detail everything I'd have liked to, but what we have done is divided the country into six areas which could be toured independently or combined into a longer trip. Then we've provided ideas and information and focused on one or two highlights in each region with a view to inspiring you to go and have the motorcycle tour of your life.

We documented a trip around Italy visiting all six of these areas, creating a mini series of videos along the way, so head on over to our YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/ABRmagazine) to check them out.

Addio, and safe riding



Alun Davies
 Founder of *Adventure Bike Rider* and *Adventure Travel* magazines.

Words and Pictures:
 Alun Davies
 Bryn Davies

