

Road Trip Itinerary A: South Tyrol & Verona

Scooby Travel Planning

June 2026

ITINERARY OPTION A: Lake Como, Innsbruck, South Tyrol & Verona

Milan → Mondsee → Bolzano → Verona → Milan

Dates: June 24-30, 2026 (7 days)

Theme: Alpine Lakes, Mountain Passes, Wine Country & Romance

Pace: Relaxed with time to enjoy scenery and meals

PART 1: INBOUND - Milan to Mondsee

DAY 1: TUESDAY JUNE 24 - Milan to Chiavenna

Theme: Lake Como Beauty & Alpine Approach

Driving: ~140 km, 2.5 hours (with stops)

Morning: Depart Milan (9:00 AM)

- Pick up rental car in Milan
- Quick coffee near rental location
- Head north on A9 toward Lake Como

Late Morning: Lake Como Exploration (10:30 AM - 2:00 PM)

Varenna (10:30 AM - 12:30 PM) - Walk of Lovers (Passeggiata degli Innamorati): 30-minute scenic lakeside stroll - **Villa**

Monastero: Beautiful gardens extending to the lake (€10 entry, allow 45 min) - **Varenna Old Town:** Narrow cobblestone streets, colorful houses - **Photo stops:** Classic Lake Como views with Alps backdrop

Lunch in Varenna (12:30 PM - 2:00 PM) - Restaurant

Recommendation: Il Cavatappi - Lakeside terrace, fresh lake fish (lavarello) - Try: Risotto with perch, local wine - Price: €25-35 per person - Reserve outdoor table

Afternoon: Scenic Drive to Chiavenna (2:00 PM - 5:00 PM)

Route: Varenna → Bellagio (ferry or drive around) → Menaggio → Colico → Chiavenna

Bellagio (Optional - 1 hour) - The Pearl of Lake Como - Walk the stepped streets (Salita Serbelloni) - Gelato at Gelateria del Borgo - Skip if running behind - Chiavenna is the priority

Menaggio to Colico (Scenic Lakeside Drive) - Follow SP72 along Lake Como's northern shore - Stop at **Piona Abbey** (12th century, free entry, 20 min) - Views of Grigne mountains across the lake

Evening: Arrive Chiavenna (5:00 PM)

Chiavenna - Your Italian Alpine Base - Historic town at the foot of Val Bregaglia - Medieval center with porticoed streets - Gateway to Maloja Pass

Late Afternoon Exploration: - **Historic Center:** Piazza Salis, Collegiata di San Lorenzo - **Bregaglia Valley Viewpoint:** Walk to overlook the valley entrance - **Relaxing stroll:** Via Prénugola (main street with shops)

Dinner (8:00 PM) - Restaurant Recommendation: Osteria del Porto - Local Valtellina cuisine - Try: Pizzoccheri (buckwheat pasta), Bresaola - Good wine list from nearby Valtellina valley - Price: €30-40 per person - Outdoor seating available

Alternative: Locanda della Torre Antica (historic building, cozy atmosphere)

Evening: Walk along the Mera River or enjoy a digestif at a café in Piazza

DAY 2: WEDNESDAY JUNE 25 - Chiavenna to Innsbruck

Theme: Spectacular Alpine Passes

Driving: ~280 km, 4-5 hours (with stops)

Morning: Depart Chiavenna (9:00 AM)

- Breakfast at hotel or **Caffè delle Alpi** (good coffee, pastries)
- Fill up with fuel (last Italian gas = cheaper)
- Buy Swiss vignette if entering Switzerland briefly

Late Morning: The Maloja Pass (10:00 AM - 12:00 PM)

Chiavenna → Maloja Pass (45 min) - Val Bregaglia Scenic Drive: Narrow valley with granite peaks - **Soglio:** (Optional detour - 20 min) Gorgeous mountain village with stone houses - **Castasegna:** Border village, last stop in Switzerland if taking shortcut

Maloja Pass Summit (1,815m) - Stop at: Maloja Palace area for photos - **Views:** Engadine Valley opening up - **Lake Sils (Silsersee):** Briefly visible from the pass - **Time:** 20-30 minutes for photos, coffee at pass hotel

Coffee at Maloja: Hotel Maloja Kulm (terrace with panoramic views)

Midday: Through Engadine to Reschen Pass (12:00 PM - 2:00 PM)

Route: Maloja → St. Moritz area → Ofen Pass OR Reschen Pass → Nauders

Option 1: Ofen Pass (Fuorn Pass) - More scenic, through Swiss National Park - Higher elevation (2,149m) - Wilder landscape

Option 2: Reschen Pass (Recommended) - Reschensee with submerged church tower (iconic photo spot) - Easier driving - Passo di Resia (1,504m) - **Stop for 30 min:** Walk to the bell tower in the lake

Lunch at Reschen Pass Area (1:00 PM) - Restaurant: Reschener Stube or Seegasthof (near the submerged church) - South Tyrolean specialties - Try: Schlutzkrapfen (spinach ravioli), Speckknödel - Views of the lake and bell tower - Price: €20-30 per person

Afternoon: Into Austria - Landeck to Innsbruck (3:00 PM - 6:00 PM)

Route: Nauders → Landeck → Innsbruck - Descend into Tyrol via Inn Valley - **Arlberg Pass** alternative if you want more mountain driving - Or take the faster A12 Autobahn through the valley

Optional Stop - Wattens (30 min detour): - Swarovski Crystal Worlds (Kristallwelten) - Giant's garden with crystal installations - Entry: €19, allow 1 hour if interested

Evening: Arrive Innsbruck (5:30-6:00 PM)

Innsbruck - Capital of the Alps - Surrounded by 2,000m+ peaks - Imperial history meets mountain culture

Evening Exploration (6:30 PM): - Old Town Stroll: Herzog-Friedrich-Straße - **Golden Roof (Goldenes Dachl):** Iconic landmark, 2,657 fire-gilded copper tiles - **Imperial Palace (Hofburg):** Exterior view, baroque architecture - **Maria-Theresien-Straße:** Main pedestrian street, mountain backdrop

Dinner (8:00 PM) - Restaurant Recommendation: Stiftskeller - Historic cellar restaurant - Traditional Tyrolean: Gröstl (pan-fried potatoes with meat), Kasspatzen - Good beer selection - Price: €25-35 per person

Alternative: Ottoburg (medieval tower, elegant atmosphere, slightly pricier)

Evening Activity: - Nordkette by Night: Take funicular up for city lights view (runs until 11 PM) - Or stroll along the Inn River

DAY 3: THURSDAY JUNE 26 - Innsbruck to Mondsee

Theme: Morning in Innsbruck, Easy Drive to Wedding
Driving: ~180 km, 2.5 hours

Morning: Explore Innsbruck (9:00 AM - 12:30 PM)

Relaxed Morning with Time to Enjoy:

Option 1: Nordkette Mountain Experience (Recommended) -
Hungerburgbahn Funicular from city center - Seegrube (1,905m) -
panoramic terrace - **Time:** 2-3 hours round trip - **Cost:** ~€40 return -
Views: Inn Valley, Karwendel mountains

Option 2: Old Town Deep Dive - Hofkirche (Court Church): 28
bronze statues (including Maximilian I's cenotaph) - **Cathedral of**
St. James: Baroque masterpiece - **Market Hall (Markthalle):** Local
produce, coffee - **Time:** 2 hours

Option 3: Ambras Castle (Schloss Ambras) - Renaissance castle
with art collections - Spanish Hall is spectacular - 20 min drive from
center - **Time:** 2-3 hours

Brunch/Lunch (12:00 PM) - Café Recommendation: Café
Mundingplatz or Cafe Kröll - Tyrolean breakfast items - Good coffee -
Outdoor seating - Price: €15-20 per person

Afternoon: Drive to Mondsee (1:30 PM - 4:00 PM)

Route: Innsbruck → Wörgl → St. Johann in Tirol → Lofer → Salzburg →
Mondsee

Scenic Option: Via Kufstein (fortress town, 30 min from Innsbruck) -
Kufstein Fortress: Largest fortress in Tyrol, organ concerts - Walk
around old town (1 hour max)

Drive Through: - **Wilder Kaiser mountains** (dramatic limestone
peaks) - **Loferer Alm:** Alpine plateau views - **Salzburg outskirts:**
Brief glimpse of fortress

Arrive Mondsee by 4:00 PM (2 hours before wedding - perfect!)

Evening: Pre-Wedding in Mondsee

- Check into accommodation
- **Relaxing stroll:** Mondsee lakeside promenade
- **Visit:** Mondsee Abbey (Basilika) - Sound of Music wedding church
- **Drink:** Coffee/cake at lakeside café
- **Photos:** Drachenwand (dragon wall) cliffs across the lake
- **Dinner:** Light meal at hotel or nearby restaurant

PART 2: WEDDING WEEKEND - Mondsee

FRIDAY JUNE 27 & SATURDAY JUNE 28

- Wedding events as scheduled
- Enjoy the celebration!

PART 3: OUTBOUND - Mondsee to Milan (Option A)

DAY 5: SUNDAY JUNE 29 - Mondsee to Bolzano

Theme: Salzburg Stop & South Tyrol Entry
Driving: ~280 km, 4 hours (with stops)

Late Morning: Depart Mondsee (11:00 AM)

- Sleep in after wedding
- Brunch at hotel
- Leisurely checkout

Midday: Salzburg Stop (12:00 PM - 3:00 PM)

Quick Salzburg Highlights (3 hours):

Mirabell Gardens (30 min) - Free entry - Sound of Music "Do-Re-Mi" steps - Baroque gardens, fountain

Getreidegasse (1 hour) - Mozart's Birthplace (yellow house) - Historic shopping street - Famous wrought-iron signs - **Lunch here:** Café Tomaselli (historic coffee house, Mozart's favorite)

Hohensalzburg Fortress (Optional - 1.5 hours) - Take funicular up - Views over Salzburg - Skip if short on time

Lunch in Salzburg (1:00 PM) - Restaurant Recommendation:
Café Tomaselli - Historic café since 1703 - Coffee, cake, light lunch - Traditional atmosphere - Price: €15-25 per person

Alternative: Augustiner Bräustübl (beer hall, massive beer garden)

Afternoon: Drive to Bolzano (3:00 PM - 6:00 PM)

Route: Salzburg → Bischofshofen → Pass Gschütt → Golling → Werfen → Radstadt → Altenmarkt → Flachau → Ennstal → Liezen → Admont → Hieflau → Leoben → Bruck an der Mur → Graz → Klagenfurt → Villach → Tarvisio → Udine → Tolmezzo → Ampezzo → **BUT THIS IS TOO LONG**

Better Route: Salzburg → Hallein → Werfen → Pfarrwerfen → Golling → Kuchl → Hallein → Anif → Salzburg → A10 → **Actually, simpler:**

Actual Best Route: Salzburg → Bischofshofen → Zell am See → Mittersill → Felbertauern Tunnel → Lienz → Bruneck → Brixen → Bolzano

OR easier: Salzburg → A10 Autobahn → Villach → Udine → A23 → Bolzano

Via A10 (Easier, Faster): - Salzburg → Tauern Autobahn (A10) - Villach - Udine (Italy) - Tarvisio - Autobahn A23 - Bolzano

Scenic Stops Along the Way: - **Werfen:** Hohenwerfen Fortress (visible from highway) - **Golling:** Waterfall just off highway (15 min detour) - **Villach:** Coffee break, last town before Italy

Evening: Arrive Bolzano (6:00-7:00 PM)

Bolzano (Bozen) - Where Austria Meets Italy - Bilingual German-Italian culture - German efficiency + Italian charm - Gateway to Dolomites

Evening Exploration: - **Piazza Walther:** Central square, cathedral views - **Lauben (Portici):** Arcaded shopping streets - **Fruit Market:** Local produce, speck, cheese - **Victory Monument:** Views over town

Dinner (8:00 PM) - Restaurant Recommendation: Hopfen & Co. - Craft beer + South Tyrolean food - Modern atmosphere - Try: Knödel variations, local beers - Price: €25-35 per person

Alternative: Wirtshaus Athener (traditional, more rustic)

Evening: Walk along Talvera River or enjoy the mountain air

DAY 6: MONDAY JUNE 30 - Bolzano to Verona

Theme: South Tyrol Morning & Romantic Verona

Driving: ~150 km, 2 hours (with long stops)

Morning: Bolzano Exploration (9:00 AM - 1:00 PM)

Relaxed Morning:

Ötzi the Iceman (Optional - 1.5 hours) - South Tyrol Museum of Archaeology - 5,300-year-old mummy from glacier - Incredibly well-preserved - Entry: €10 - **Unique:** Worth seeing if interested in archaeology

OR Just Wander: - **Old Town:** Medieval streets, market square - **Cathedral:** Gothic-Romanesque mix - **Café Culture:** Sit at Piazza Walther - **Shopping:** Local woodwork, wool products, wine

Brunch/Lunch (12:00 PM) - Café Recommendation: Caffè Macchiato or Cafe Buratti - Coffee, pastries, light lunch - People watching - Price: €15-20 per person

Alternative: Market stalls for street food

Afternoon: Drive to Verona (1:30 PM - 4:00 PM)

Route: Bolzano → A22 Autobahn → Trento → Rovereto → Verona

Optional Stop - Trento (45 min): - Cathedral Square: Renaissance architecture - **Buonconsiglio Castle:** Historic fortress - **Moser Tower:** Views over the city - Just off the highway

Arrive Verona (4:00 PM)

Late Afternoon/Evening: Verona Romance (4:30 PM - Evening)

Verona - City of Romeo & Juliet

Piazza delle Erbe (5:00 PM) - Roman forum turned market square - Whimsical fountain (Madonna Verona) - Cafés with outdoor seating -

Aperitivo time: Order Aperol Spritz, get snacks

Juliet's House (Casa di Giulietta) - Famous balcony (actually added in 1936!) - Bronze statue of Juliet (rub breast for luck) - Love letters on walls - **Time:** 30 minutes - **Entry:** Courtyard free, house €6

Arena di Verona (6:30 PM) - Third-largest Roman amphitheater (after Rome, Capua) - Incredibly well-preserved - **Best view:** From Piazza Bra - **Evening:** If opera is playing, consider tickets - **Entry:** €10 to enter, €20-200 for opera

Dinner (8:00 PM) - Restaurant Recommendation: Trattoria al Pompiere - Traditional Veronese cuisine - Try: Amarone risotto, horse meat (local specialty) - Excellent wine list (Valpolicella, Amarone) - Price: €35-50 per person - Reserve ahead

Alternative: Osteria al Duca (near Arena, casual, good value)

Evening Stroll: - **Ponte Pietra:** Roman bridge over Adige River - **Castelvecchio:** Medieval castle (exterior) - **River views:** Sunset colors on the water

DAY 7: TUESDAY JULY 1 - Verona to Milan

Theme: Morning in Verona, Easy Return

Driving: ~160 km, 2 hours

Morning: More Verona or Lake Garda (9:00 AM - 12:00 PM)

Option 1: More Verona (Relaxed) - Sleep in - **Brunch:** Café Carducci or similar - **Slow stroll:** Missed corners of old town - **Shopping:** Corso Porta Borsari (elegant street) - Depart around 11:00 AM

Option 2: Lake Garda Detour (1.5 hours extra) - Drive to **Sirmione** (40 min from Verona) - Peninsula town on Lake Garda - **Scaliger Castle:** Picturesque fortress - **Grotte di Catullo:** Roman ruins - **Thermal springs:** Famous spa town - **Lunch:** Lakeside restaurant - Depart around 12:30 PM

Option 3: Valpolicella Wine Country - Wine tasting: Amarone country (30 min from Verona) - **Villa della Torre:** Renaissance villa, winery - **Lunch:** Winery restaurant with views - Depart around 1:00 PM

Afternoon: Return to Milan (1:00 PM - 3:00 PM)

Drive: Verona → A4 Autobahn → Milan - Straightforward highway drive - **Stop:** Brescia or Bergamo (if time permits)

Arrive Milan (3:00 PM) - Return rental car - Trip complete!

RESTAURANT SUMMARY (Option A)

Location	Restaurant	Cuisine	Price	Must-Try
Varenna	Il Cavatappi	Lake fish	€25-35	Risotto with perch

Chiavenna	Osteria del Porto	Valtellina	€30-40	Pizzoccheri
Maloja Pass	Reschener Stube	South Tyrolean	€20-30	Schlutzkrapfen
Innsbruck	Stiftskeller	Tyrolean	€25-35	Gröstl
Salzburg	Café Tomaselli	Café	€15-25	Coffee & cake
Bolzano	Hopfen & Co.	Modern South Tyrolean	€25-35	Craft beer & knödel
Verona	Trattoria al Pompiere	Veronese	€35-50	Amarone risotto

DRIVING SUMMARY (Option A)

Day	From	To	Distance	Drive Time	Stops
1	Milan	Chiavenna	140 km	2.5 hrs	Varenna, Lake Como
2	Chiavenna	Innsbruck	280 km	4.5 hrs	Maloja Pass, Engadine
3	Innsbruck	Mondsee	180 km	2.5 hrs	Innsbruck morning, Kufstein
5	Mondsee	Bolzano	280 km	4 hrs	Salzburg, Werfen
6	Bolzano	Verona	150 km	2 hrs	Trento (optional)
7	Verona	Milan	160 km	2 hrs	Sirmione (optional)
Total			~1,190 km	~17.5 hrs	Relaxed pace

KEY HIGHLIGHTS (Option A)

- **Lake Como** - Varenna, Bellagio option, scenic lakeside
- **Val Bregaglia** - Dramatic granite valley
- **Maloja Pass** - 1,815m with Engadine views
- **Innsbruck** - Golden Roof, Nordkette mountains
- **Salzburg** - Mozart, fortress, baroque
- **Bolzano** - Italian-German fusion culture
- **Verona** - Roman Arena, Juliet's balcony, romance

Pace: Relaxed with 2-3 hours driving per day maximum

Meals: Proper sit-down lunches and dinners with local cuisine

Scenery: Time to stop, photograph, and enjoy