



# BERGAMO, BRESCIA & CREMONA

## 3 PERFECT DAYS

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### ♥ DAY 1 // MAKE A NEST IN MEDIEVAL BERGAMO

Like an eagle's eyrie, the Città Alta (Upper Town) of Bergamo (p146) sits a world apart, looking down almost with condescension on the great Lombard plains to the south. Discover its lanes, the Renaissance Piazza Vecchia (p146), the medieval Basilica di Santa Maria Maggiore (p148), the Venetian defensive walls and La Rocca fortress (p149). The Città Alta is jammed with fine eateries (p149) and several romantic places to sleep over (p297).

### ♥ DAY 2 // A GRAND PLAINS TOUR

There are plenty of options in the Lombard plains south of Bergamo. You could make a whistle-stop tour of Brescia (p164) for its old centre and Roman ruins, then shoot south to Cremona (p169) to enjoy the magnificent Piazza del Comune and its monuments and search out some of the city's violin-makers. On the return leg to Bergamo, scoot by Pizzighettone (p173) for its impressive fortress walls and then make for either Lodi (p174) or Crema (p174), both with pleasing old centres and outstanding churches.

### ♥ DAY 3 // HEAD FOR THE HILLS

North of Bergamo, various valleys lead into the pre-Alpine hills and mountains of the Alpi Orobie, while routes east head to Lake Iseo (p158), whose jewel is the island of Monte Isola. Hill valley highlights include San Pellegrino Terme (p156), of mineral water fame; Ardesio (p156) and its pretty centre; Branzi (p156) and its hill walks to glacial lakes; Valbondione (p156) and the nearby Serio waterfalls; and, simply, the chance to admire some beautiful mountain country.

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0 10 miles  
0 20 km



## SAN PELLEGRINO p156

Take the waters and admire the *stile liberty* (Italian art nouveau) architecture at San Pellegrino Terme

## LAKE ISEO p158

Potter about the lake and its island, Monte Isola

## BERGAMO p146

Thread your way through the narrow medieval lanes of the Città Alta (Upper Town)

## BRESCIA p164

Clamber into the ancient past amid the city's Roman ruins

