

FINALBORGO – NOLI (BY CAR)

This half-day excursion takes you to one of the most beautiful hamlets of Italy and then, driving along the coast, to one of the ancient maritime republics of the Mediterranean Basin.

By leaving the parking space of CROSA, drive uphill towards GORRA and then make a U-turn and drive down in the direction of FINALE LIGURE. At the second roundabout, turn left and follow the road signs for FINALBORGO. Leave your car at the parking space, before entering the village walls, through *Porta Testa*.

The historic centre of **FINALBORGO** was for many centuries the capital of the Marquisate and the administrative centre of Finale. It is situated in a strategic position on an alluvial plain at the confluence of the Pora and Aquila rivers. It is a walled town characterized by its 15th century structure established following the war with Genoa.



You will appreciate the gates that still remains, such as **Porta Reale** (Royal Gate), built in 1702, near which there is a big Del Carretto coat of arms in high relief, and **Porta Romana** (Roman Gate), **Porta Testa** (built in 1452), **Porta Mezzaluna** (on the way up to the castle – *Castel Gavone*) and finally the **semi-circular towers** (the finest is located south) which make FINALBORGO a walled town, characterized by its 15th century structure, after the destruction following the war with Genoa (1448).



The 15th century and Renaissance Palaces, transformed under the Spanish domination, embellish the town. Take a stroll through the cobbled streets and admire the little squares and typical handicraft shops. We recommend you stop for a comforting ice-cream at BAR CENTRALE, located in the main square or, depending on the time, sit in one of the several bars to sip an aperitif and taste the local products.

Continue your trip driving towards FINALE LIGURE and from here, following the coast, in the direction of SAVONA, for about 10 kms, until you get to **NOLI**. Leave your car in one of the free spaces along the main road or use the available toll blue spaces.



The medieval village is considered to be one of the most beautiful Ligurian villages in Italy and it is a traditionally important maritime centre with its narrow alleys and typical lanes.

Your visit will most likely start with a walk along the beach and seafront. The beach is mostly sandy with some strips of pebbles and rock and has frequently been awarded the Blue Flag for its cleanliness and facilities, and the promenade is attractively lined with palm trees.

Behind the promenade, the buildings are bright and colourful and include several sights, such as the ancient bridge, a clocktower, and a street of arcades, medieval towers and gateways and narrow streets of colourful houses to further enhance the town centre of NOLI by giving it the feeling of being an 'authentic Italian village' and not just a tourist resort.



From here you can stroll into the historic centre which is very pleasant to explore and just a few metres behind the beach. Here, in the old town, there are small squares with cafes and bars and lively shopping streets to explore, typically lined by attractive properties painted in faded pastel colours and featuring ironwork balconies.