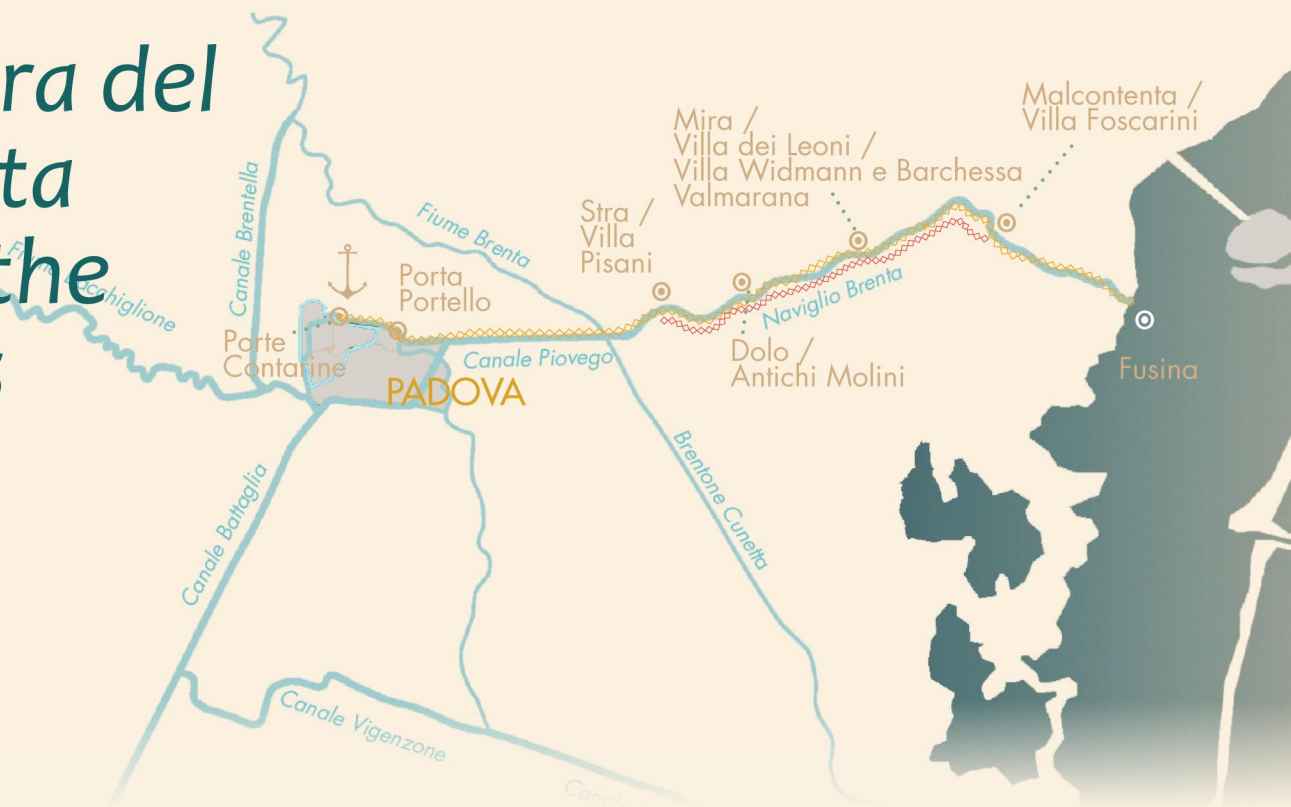


Riviera del Brenta and the villas



FULL DAY

Stra – **Malcontenta** or reverse, with choice of continue the journey from Stra to **Padua** or from Malcontenta to **Venice**.

HALF DAY

1. **Padua** [Porte Contarine or Porta Portello] – **Str**a [Villa Pisani] – **Dolo** [Mills] or reverse
2. **Dolo** [Mills] – **Mira** [Villa Widmann or Barchessa Valmarana] – **Malcontenta** or reverse
3. **Str**a [Villa Pisani] – **Dolo** [Molini] – **Mira** [Villa Widmann or Valmarana Colannade] or reverse

FULL ROUTE - PADOVA AND RIVIERA DEL BRENTA

Porte Contarine – **Porta Portello** – **Conca di Noventa** – **Conca di Stra** – **Str**a [Villa Pisani] – **Dolo** [Ancient Mills] – **Conca di Mira** – **Mira** [Villa Widmann/Valmarana] – **Malcontenta** [Villa Foscari]



from Padua to Malcontenta



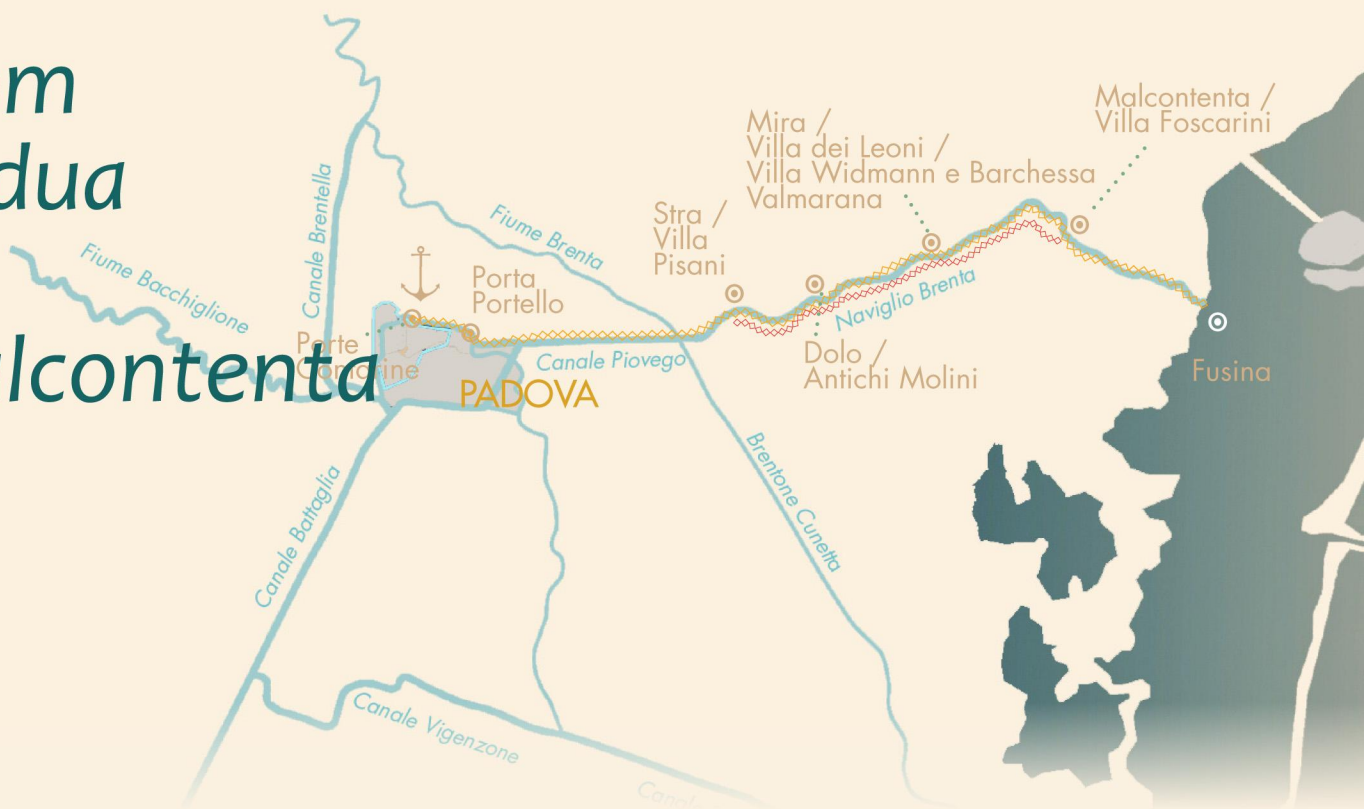
The navigation follows the **historical river track where the ancient venetian Burchielli** (luxurious venetian taxi-boats) **used to sail in the 18th century**; while the boat slowly sails along the green bend of the river Naviglio, ancient hamlets and gorgeous villas exhibit in front of us together with flowery gardens and historical buildings.

The boat embarks at the river-lock in **Porte Contarine** which is in **Padua's** core; it is just few minutes away from the **Arena Gardens**, where the **Scrovegni Chapel** (Giotto's masterpiece) is well preserved for the public. Sailing along Piovego Canal we reach the university area of **Portello**, this is the place where you can see the monumental **Porta Ognissanti**; since few centuries ago, this place used to be a river port for the boats coming from Venice. Next point of interest is **Golena San Massimo**; this floodplain is enclosed by **walls** from the Renaissance and here visitors can walk down to the basements of the rampart called **Bastione del Portello Vecchio**.

[continued]



from Padua to Malcontenta



[continued]

The boat sails with no stops until the solitary **Villa Giovanelli**, in Noventa Padovana; this stop allows the boat to go through the river's lock (**conca** in Italian), which balances out the different heights of the water in the river.

Gently sailing the river, we overtake **Tronco Maestro del Brenta** and we reach another lock. This is where **Stra** and the magnificent **Villa Pisani** are located; this villa is the most famous along Brenta river: it is a national museum that preserves many Tiepolo's masterpieces and a huge beautiful garden.

The trip goes on to the ancient **Dolo Mills** and later to **Mira**; upon request, at this location you can visit **Villa Widmann Foscari** or **Villa Barchessa Valmarana**; these two interesting and beautiful royal holiday houses from the 18th century are facing each other along the river.

After the river's lock in Mira (**Conca di Mira**), the tour ends in **Malcontenta**; here you have a chance to see **Villa Foscari**, ingeniously designed by Palladio, last of the villas of the Riviera before the Venice lagoon.



from Malcontenta to Padua



The navigation follows the **historical river track where the ancient venetian Burchielli** (luxurious venetian taxi-boats) **used to sail in the 18th century**; while the boat slowly sail along the green bend of the river Naviglio, ancient hamlets and gorgeous villas exhibit in front of us together with flowery gardens and historical buildings.

The boat embarks at **Malcontenta**, location of the first of the villas in Riviera del Brenta: **Villa Foscari**, ingeniously designed by Palladio. **Mira** is the next stop; in here you can decide to visit one of the two villas that face each other on the river: on the right **Villa Widmann Foscari**, on the left **Villa Barchessa Valmarana**.

The route brings us to **Dolo**, home of the ancient **Mills**; next point of interest is **Villa Pisani**, in **Stra**; this is the most famous villa on the shore and it is also a National Museum that preserves Tiepolo's masterpieces and a huge garden.

[continued]



from Malcontenta to Padua



[continued]

We keep along the river path and we find one of the river locks, literally a boat lift that balances the different levels of the water. Arriving at Noventa Padovana we find the second of these locks and the last villa along the shore: **Villa Giovanelli**. The journey goes on with no stops until we reach **Golena San Massimo**; this floodplain is encircled by big walls from the 16th century and the **basements** are open to the public.

Piovego Canal is the door to the university area of **Portello**, heart of Padua's education and training and where the monumental **Porta Ognissanti** has proudly stood for centuries; this location used to serve as a **river port** for the boats coming from Venice.

Approaching the end of the trip we sail along the Arena Gardens, where the Scrovegni Chapel (Giotto's most famous paint from the 1300) is well preserved and accessible to public. The boat docks eventually at **Porte Contarine**, in **Padua's** historic core.