

... our tips to enjoy a full day in 5 Terre ...

5 Terre is one of the most beautiful place to see once in a life... it means that are really fantastic but also always very crowded...

From La Spezia, the 5 villages are Riomaggiore, Manarola, Corniglia, Vernazza and Monterosso...

We well understand that most of people, in particular who comes from the other side of the world, would like to visit 5 Terre... and so here some tips that, in our opinion, you should consider in your holiday planning...

1. **Forget the car**... it would be a real problem in any season... most of time it is really impossible to find a parking place and anyway, if you are lucky to find one, it will cost you a fortune...
2. During the spring and summer season **avoid Saturday and Sunday**... when, in addition to tourists on vacation, you will find Italians from the cities who spend the weekend or just a one day trip at the seaside...

Our suggestion is to **get to La Spezia by car** (there is a convenient parking at Porto Mirabello, near the boat departure) **take the boat to 5 Terre** that allows you to see the beautiful cost from the sea and specially to **visit Portovenere** that is not one of the five famous sailor villages but anyway a pearl that it is worth visiting (the train not arrives) and **return to La Spezia by train**.

Program recommended (pls check timetable in according to the period chosen)

- Leaving from Encanto not later than 10 am in order to arrive in La Spezia in time to catch the 11.15 boat
- Stop in **Portovenere** (about 50 min) - boat to Riomaggiore at 12.50
- Stop in **Riomaggiore** (about 1 h) – boat to Manarola at 14.25
- Stop in **Manarola** (about 1 h) – boat to Vernazza at 15.40
- Stop in **Vernazza** (about 1 h) – boat to Monterosso at 17.05
- Stop in **Monterosso**, visit the village... the biggest of the 5 and the only one with a sandy beach
- The trains from Monterosso to La Spezia are every 20 min and take about 30 min
- From the La Spezia train station to Porto Mirabello parking is a 20 min pleasant walk through the main street of the city center

Note 1: the boats do not stop in Corniglia, where stops the train! You could consider to visit it on your return way to La Spezia

Note 2: the boats operate from April to October and with good sea condition

Note 3: during the high season, could be that the boats do not stop in Riomaggiore, Manarola and Vernazza and from Portovenere arrive directly in Monterosso

There is also the opportunity to take train from/to Aulla where there is a big free parking (about 30 min from Arlia).

In addition to the above mentioned program you could consider:

- Train from Aulla to La Spezia 10.10 - 10.33
- Train from La Spezia to Aulla 19.27 - 19.49

... for those who want to have dinner in La Spezia the last train to Aulla is at 21.14 and arrives at 21.31

**... and if you want to enjoy the most wild area of the Parco Nazionale 5 Terre,
we suggest you...**

TRAMONTI

Tramonti it's a breathtaking, wild area between Riomaggiore and Portovenere with clusters of houses along the coast where there are several "off the beaten track" hiking trails offering you amazing views: **Campiglia, Schiara, Monesteroli, and Fossola** (from east to west).

You can drive to Campiglia (on the way from La Spezia to Portovenere) and park the car here, hike along the low path that overlooks the sea where you will meet Schiara first than Monesteroli and Fossola, follow the path till Sant'Antonio (on the top of the mountain) and return to Campiglia via the high path.



It is possible to arrive to the sea and take a bath beautiful crystal clear waters... you can choose between **Persico** (from Campiglia), **Schiara** and **Monesteroli**... it will be a really wonderful experience, but expect thousand steps taking you down to the sea, and don't forget, you'll also have to walk up... not recommend if you are suffering from vertigo, in particular down to Monesteroli.



For the whole tour consider about 4 hours (about 3 if you have a fast walk) and at least one hour for each access to the sea.

You can also consider to drive to Fossola and park the car just after the first tunnel on the road to Riomaggiore and making the rounds on the contrary.

You will find food and water in

Campiglia, Sant'Antonio or Fossola (on the road to Riomaggiore where there is the parking that is 5 min walking from the path – closed in winter season)

Let's forget the crowded villages full of tourists and enjoy the Patagonia of 5 Terre... unforgettable!!

