2.6 Treviso–Mestre. From the River Sile to the Lagoon.





The last leg of this itinerary starts in Treviso, a very approachable city. The sixteenth-century walls are perfect for walking along, as are the canals offering stunning views of the homes with frescoed facades, the narrow streets and piazzas, including Piazza dei Signori (2) with its Palazzo dei Trecento. Following the course of the Sile (3), the longest resurgence river in Europe, you will start the descent down to the Venetian Lagoon. The consistent flow of water and moderate current have

always made this river navigable and easily used for water power, as demonstrated by the many mills. Along its banks, you'll find a series of interesting places such as Casier, a centre for trade since ancient times lying between farmland and lagoon, where you can listen to the tolls of a an original water clock (hydrochronometer); and Casale



sul Sile, a strategic point for water traffic control, as demonstrated by the medieval tower built in the 1300s by the noble Carraresi family. The opportunity to try local specialties while admiring the river is reason enough to make a stop in one of these towns. You're in the homeland of the Radicchio Rosso di Treviso, also called "spadone", which has been cultivated in Dosson using a special soaking technique since the mid-1800s. However, radicchio isn't the only product worth talking about. The "Piave Wine Road" invites tourists to visit the flourishing vineyards and estates that once belonged to the Venetian Republic. Once you have reached Quarto d'Altino, you'll be able to smell the scents of the lagoon carried by the sea breeze and you'll see some signs marking the passage of the ancient road of Via Annia. Not far from the modern-day centre of population lie the archaeological ruins of a Roman city built for use

as a port. The city was demolished during the Barbaric invasions and the inhabitants took refuge in the lagoon area, which then led to the founding of Venice (1). The lagoon city makes for a perfect final destination on this loop around the ancient domain of the Serenissima Republic.







