

27 - Idro Lake, Mountains and Narrow Roads | Easy Italian Vlog [Free Transcripts] | A1/B1

Welcome, everyone! In this new video, I'll show you how an Italian who lives in a very, very boring valley spends the afternoon on a scorching hot summer day.

And here's a little secret: when you live in a valley, you have to go in the opposite direction from where everyone else is heading. What does that mean? I'll show you.

It's very simple. Since almost everyone heads toward that mountain in the morning, we head toward that mountain in the afternoon when everyone else is heading home. That way, we avoid traffic twice over, and I think it's brilliant.

For some strange reason, with my car, when you're supposed to open it, you have to close it, and when you're supposed to close it, you have to open it. Maybe the folks at Toyota need to explain this to me.

Since the car has been sitting in the sun, I'll turn on the ignition and roll down the windows so it cools off a bit and some air can circulate.

After the windows have been open for a minute, we get in the car. Now the road is very empty, as you can see, and traffic is only coming down—that is, heading south.

One characteristic of these villages in the valley where I live is that the roads are very narrow, so only one car can pass at a time. And often, foreign tourists in particular have trouble driving through these roads because they're not used to them.

To my left, you can see the lake.

Now we're getting ready to take the Vesta road, which is very unique because it's narrow, dark in some parts, and there are lots of tourists here—especially Dutch and German ones—because they come to the campgrounds. There are a few here: for example, there's Camping Rio Vantone, which is this one, but there are many others.

And what's the best kind of vacation for you? Hotel, apartment, campground, van, tent? Which vacation do you prefer? Write it in the comments—I'm curious!

And what do you think is my favorite vacation?

Once again, in a moment, the lake will be on my left, and this time the view will be absolutely stunning. And look how the lake opens up—it's so beautiful!

On the other side is Anfo. That's the Rocca d'Anfo, a Napoleonic-era fortification.

This is another tunnel—very narrow, as you can see—and the scenery must look quite striking even through a camera lens. Of course, it's even better in person.

We're almost there, and I can't wait to go for a swim—and I hope we can find parking, too.

Where do you go on vacation? Is it easy to find parking there? Are there paid parking lots or even free ones? Or do you skip driving and take public transportation, like the train or bus? Let me know.

Look at where the cars are parked: wherever they can find a spot, because there aren't many. And by the way, all the parking here is free.

Behind me is this bar they built recently—before, there was nothing here, and we were in the middle of the forest, as you can see. And, as you can see, there are mountains above me, too.

This is one of the wildest spots on Lake Idro, called Paröle. Now I'll take you to the lake.

This is an area with picnic tables. Do you like having picnics, or do you prefer going to a restaurant? I really like it, because I can choose when to eat and what to eat. It's very convenient.

See? These public beaches are very popular, because people bring their own food and lounge chairs. And the vegetation is really beautiful.

Well, the only downside is that if you're not used to walking in sandals on these mountain roads and trails, you'd better bring two pairs of shoes.

Here it is—this is the little beach I'd been longing for today when it was hot. I'd close my eyes and picture the water, the mountains, and imagine the coolness, even though, to be honest, it's still hot.

It's almost five o'clock—in fact, the sun is still high—and now I'll probably go for a swim and take you with me into the water before I start swimming, so you can see what it's like.

This lake is pretty deep. I mean, at first the water is shallow, but after two or three meters it gets much deeper. And it's dangerous if you're not used to it. But the water is really refreshing, guys.

I feel really good. Are there lakes where you live, or just the ocean? Or, like many people, do you have to get in the car and drive many kilometers to get to a lake or the ocean?

Recently, in Italy, some municipalities—that is, local governments like cities—have started promoting river tourism. But, unfortunately, many rivers are still polluted—that is, they're dirty.

A lot of people don't like beaches with rocks like this. They prefer beaches on the Riviera—sandy beaches, right? They're soft and easier to walk on. But I think you'll get used to it here after a while. It's not that painful or difficult.

Unfortunately, the heat is so intense that I need to drink something cold. And I'm taking you with me to the bar.

Let's play a game. Before we order, I'll give you five seconds, and you have to think about how to order a drink. Okay? Then I'll place the order. Of course, if you managed to do it, write it in the comments.

So, I'm showing you the menu now, so you have a few seconds to think about what to order and, most importantly, how to order it. You can use "I'd like," "Could I have...", or simply say what you want and add "please." It's up to you.

Here's the menu. Now you can pause the video and decide what to get.

— Hi, could I have a Coke Zero, please?

— Sure.

— With lemon, if possible.

— Yes.

No alcohol today! Were you able to place your order? Let me know in the comments.

I just sat down and decided to relax here for a bit. I'll use my computer for a while and sip my cold Coke with lemon, because it's just what I need in this heat.

I hope you enjoyed the video and found it helpful. Don't forget to write to me, and if you want to learn Italian, send me an email or contact me on WhatsApp. Bye!

I met some German tourists at Lake Idro, and one of them agreed to tell me his name and the Italian words he knows. Now let's get to know him.