

## Casalbeltrame, Novara, Ghemme Visit and Tasting Code B 025 – 1 day excursion

---

Meet your guide and transfer by private coach to **Casalbeltrame**, a small “**Slow Food**” town in the province of Novara, about halfway between **Turin (70 Km)** and **Milan (50 Km)**, and famous for the cultivation of rice since the end of the 1600s. This is the only area in Europe that produces the small-grained and very fragrant **Venere (Venus) Black Rice**, a hybrid of an Asian and a local variety that was developed in 1997 following years of research and experimentation. Continue on to **Desana** to visit a well-known rice producer for a guided tour: walk along the rice fields and around the farm to learn all about this important agricultural product. At the end of the tour enjoy a tasting lunch, starring the traditional rice-based “**Panissa**”. Departure after the meal to meet a producer of the famous gorgonzola cheese and taste local wines at Ghemme, (about a 45-min drive), well-known for the production of the famous **Nebbiolo-based DOCG** wines: **Ghemme, Gattinara, Sizzano, Fara and Boca**. Guided walk around the Castello/Ricetto and explanation of the winemaking process followed by tasting of local wines paired with specialties of the area. Return to the hotel by coach.

