



CI Destinations

"The difference is in the details"

*For pricing from your preferred
gateway please call
Oliver Bergeron at (888) 660-7397.*

The Chamber of Commerce presents
Northern Italy and the Beautiful Italian Lakes
April 1, 2019
October 9, 2019



**For more information or to sign up please contact the Chamber.
SPACE IS LIMITED. SIGN UP EARLY TO SECURE YOUR SEAT!**

Experience firsthand the authentic character of Italy's romantic Northern Lakes, one of the world's most exquisite landscapes. This area has been beloved by poets, writers, and artists since the days of the Roman Empire. Our journey in this incredibly scenic setting brings us to verdant mountains sheltering gleaming deep blue lakes, captivating towns like Stresa spilling down the hillsides, and to Bellagio's opulent villas and gardens with rose-laden promenades. We explore these four magical lakes - Como, Lugano, Maggiore, and Garda - as we travel to hidden stone villages with tiny chapels and boat to Isola Bella, with its magnificent palatial villa.

ITINERARY



HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Lake Maggiore
- ◆ Stresa
- ◆ Lake Como
- ◆ Villa Taranto Gardens
- ◆ Lake Garda
- ◆ Verona (optional)
- ◆ Milan

INCLUSIONS

- ◆ Round trip airfare
- ◆ Airline fuel surcharges and taxes and fees
- ◆ 7 Nights First Class Hotel accommodations
- ◆ 10 Meals (7B, 3D)
- ◆ Sightseeing per itinerary
- ◆ Admissions per itinerary
- ◆ Professional tour manager
- ◆ Baggage handling
- ◆ Hotel transfers

Day 1&2: USA to Milan - Depart from the U.S. on an overnight flight to Milan. Upon arrival you will be met by your local tour manager and transfer to your hotel in the beautiful lakeside city of Stresa. From your hotel you will experience the spectacular mountain views, tropical gardens and the resplendent glistening waters of Lake Maggiore, Italy's second largest lake. Here you will spend the first days of your wonderful escorted tour through the Lake District of Northern Italy. (D)

Day 3: Today you can enjoy all that Stresa has to offer or participate in an optional cruise on the Lake Maggiore. You will enjoy the beautiful landscapes of deep blue waters and high mountains with a full day cruise to the three Borromean Islands: Isola Bella, Isola dei Pescatori, and Isola Madre. First stop on the main island: Isola Madre, which features exotics such as carob trees, a colony of parrots and the largest Kashmir Cypress in Europe, 200 years old. Second destination is the Isola dei Pescatori, the only inhabited island of Lake Maggiore. You will have free time to discover the village and enjoy lunch on your own. This afternoon the last visit will be dedicated to Isola Bella, which is occupied by an ornate baroque palazzo, built for the Borromeo family in the 17th century. Its formal, terraced gardens are dotted with fountains, statues, and flora ranging from oranges and lemons to camellias and magnolias. This afternoon we return to Stresa and enjoy some free time in this amazing lakeside city. Perhaps walk in the historic centre and have dinner in one of the local restaurants facing the lake. (B)

Day 4: After breakfast you will depart for the world famous Lake Como. We reach the town of Como, the main city, and will enjoy a walking tour. Como's atmospheric medieval quarter has its centre in the Duomo renowned for its elegant melding of Gothic and Renaissance styles. Following our tour we will enjoy a cruise along the shore of the lake until we reach Bellagio. Here we will enjoy a tour, getting the chance to admire luxurious hotels (Villa d'Este) and private villas (Clooney's one in Laglio) surrounded by wonderful gardens. Bellagio has been called the most beautiful town in Italy. Tonight we enjoy dinner at our hotel. (B,D)

Day 5: After breakfast, the morning will be dedicated to touring the Villa Taranto gardens, which is one of the most important botanic gardens in the world, with thousands of species of trees and flowers from all over, planted harmoniously over an area of over **16 hectares**, crossed by 7 km of paths and avenue. This afternoon is yours to enjoy and take in the history, culture and beauty that Stresa has to offer. (B)

Day 6: After breakfast you will travel to Lake Garda, the largest lake in the lakes district. It is perhaps the most famous and popular of Italy's Northern Lakes. Nestled between high mountains covered with olive groves, pine-woods, and vineyards, it provides a great place for relaxation. You will visit the most renowned lake resort Sirmione it is often referred to as the pearl of the lake. The ancient town of Sirmione is known to have been a popular resort town since the 1st century B.C., largely because of its thermal hot springs. You will proceed along the eastern coast up to Garda, a little village on the shores. You will have some free time and then continue on to the winery in Bardolino to taste the delicious local wines. (B)

Day 7: Today is for your leisure or you may take the optional tour to Verona. The city of Romeo and Juliet lies a short distance from the lake. Verona has preserved a remarkable number of monuments from antiquity; it is one of the richest cities in Roman remains in Northern Italy. The Arena Di Verona Amphitheater is the second largest after the Colosseum in Rome. In the guided visit you will see Juliet's balcony. You will also have free time to explore on your own. This evening enjoy dinner back at your hotel. (B,D)

Day 8: Following breakfast you will take a tour on the Western side of the lake with stops at Gardone Riviera where the "Vittoriale" lies, the final home of Gabriele D'Annunzio, the Italian daredevil "poet-soldier", philander, and proto-Fascist who created this lakeside fantasy inspiring Mussolini since. Drive to the mountainous Northern end of the lake where rocky cliffs rise up behind the waterfront of the town centre of Limone Sul Garda. It owes its name to the once renowned activity of lemon and citrus fruit growing. Free time to wander along the narrow lanes of the centre and to have a coffee and lunch in one of the cosy bars overlooking the lake. In the afternoon transfer to Milan, considered the capital city of Northern Italy. Most renowned for its business and industrial importance, Milan has also a rich historical centre showing ancient Palazzi and artistic sites such as the Cathedral, Santa Maria delle Grazie, Palazzo Reale, and the Sforza Castle, the city symbol. (B)

Day 9: Transfer to the airport after breakfast for your return flight home, taking with you many wonderful memories of Italy. (B)