

OUR PROPOSALS FOR DAILY TRIPS by Coach In Lombardy

COMO

Departure from the hotel by coach to Como, the city was already prosperous under the Romans but reached its zenith in the 11C. It was destroyed by the Milanese in 1127, rebuilt by the Emperor Frederick Barbarossa and from 1355 onwards followed the fortunes of Milan. The “Maestri Comacini” known as early as the 7C, were masons, builders and sculptors who spread the Lombard style throughout Italy and Europe. The most important monument to visit are: the Cathedral, the San Fedele’s Church, the Sant’Abbondio’s Basilica, Villa Olmo, Museum of Science, Museum of Silk. Free time all day until when you will go back by coach to the hotel.



COMO LAKE

In the morning departure by deluxe motorcoach for a full-day guided tour starting with Villa Carlotta, the building, erected during the first years of the 1700’s, by the Marquis Giorgio Clerici, is formed by one large body with a typical 1800 clock in the centre of the front facade, which is structured with one central terrace and two side ones; inside you can admire the homonymous neo-classic museum. The trip will continue by ferry-boat to Bellagio (a well-known tourist resort on the promontory that divides the lake in the two arms of Como and Lecco) for visiting Villa Melzi d’Eril which was designed by the architect Giocondo Albertolli and it was built between 1808 and 1810. The outside of the villa is almost without decorative architectural elements, only the windows, with their regular sequences, along the cornice, make simple decorative patterns; inside, on the contrary, Albertolli showed all his artistic qualities, furnishing the rooms in the lombard neo-classic style. If there will be enough time left one can visit the gardens of Villa Serbelloni; it was built in 1605 by the owners of the promontory, the Sfondrati family and in 1788, it was bought by Alessandro Serbelloni, who enriched the inside of the building and also the large garden. At the end back to Tremezzo by ferry-boat and then by coach to the hotel.



Informazioni e prenotazioni presso le nostre agenzie di:

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MILAN

In the morning departure from the hotel by coach to Milan, the lively capital of Lombardy, it is the second city in Italy as regards population, politics and cultural affairs and first in the field of commerce, industry and banking. Set in the heart of Northern Italy at the foot of the Alps, the enterprising spirit of its people has combined with certain historic circumstances to make this the country's most dynamic town which is even today in full expansion. The town is bounded by two concentric boulevards: the shorter, enclosing the medieval centre, has taken the place of the 14C ramparts, of which traces remain, among them the Porta Ticinese and the Porto Nuovo. The outer wall marks the town expansion during the Renaissance. After 1870 Milan expanded rapidly beyond its fortifications, particularly along the main communication axes. Meeting with the guide for an half-day guided tour. Lunch free. Afternoon at disposal for shopping until when you will go back by coach to the hotel.



MAGGIORE LAKE

In the morning departure by coach for Stresa. Arrival and excursion by private boat to the Borromean Islands: Isola Bella, Isola Madre and Isola Pescatori. On Isola Bella you can find the palace built in the Lombard Baroque style; it has a large number of state rooms - medals room, state hall, music room, Napoleon's room, ballroom and Hall of Mirrors. The most unusual feature is the caves where those living in the palace could find cooler air on very hot days. The decoration of light and dark coloured stones and shells is designed to represent an underwater world. The gardens, filled with countless heavily-perfumed plants, form an amazing baroque composition, an architectural perspectives simulating stage sets. At the top of the garden is the shell-shaped "amphitheatre" providing an extraordinary scenic effect. The boat trip will continue on to Isola dei Pescatori which has retained its original charm and Isola Madre, an island totally covered with a splendid garden of flowers and rare or exotic plants, in the palace, note the Puppet Theatre that once belonged to the House of Borromeo. In the afternoon possibility of visiting Villa Taranto with its gardens. These, landscaped in the English manner, include azaleas, heathers, rhododendrons, camelias, dahlias, maples etc.. At the end return to the hotel.



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ORTA LAKE

In the morning departure by coach for enjoying a day in Orta San Giulio, located on the lush shores of Lake Orta, the undiscovered cousin to the much larger Lake Maggiore, where palms, azaleas and oleanders burst incongruously from the snowy backdrop of the Italian Alps. Balzac reveled in Lake Orta's "poetic and melodies fascination" and Nietzsche composed his ode to *Übermensch* gazing at the mountain landscape. Stroll through Orta's narrow, cobbled streets, past Baroque palaces and enjoy a Campari sitting at one of the many outdoor tables in the main square. Follow the trail of celestial hues, in Varallo, where you can visit Sacro Monte, a village of about 30 tiny chapels inhabited by striking life-size Renaissance sculptures. The fall is the season of the *tartufo bianco*, one of the rarest, most prized and expensive foodstuffs in the world. Every October, a month long truffle fair takes place in the region, when gastronomes from all over the world descend on the region to enjoy this great delicacy at the source. Tonight you may choose to indulge your curiosity in one of the many restaurants serving delicious local food liberally garnished with shavings of fresh white truffles. Return to the hotel in the evening.



GARDA LAKE

In the morning departure by coach for Sirmione, this important resort has been well-known since the beginning of the century as a spa. The houses cluster around the 13C Scaligers' Castle at the tip of the narrow Sirmione peninsula, as it stretches out into the lake. Since the beginning of the 20C it has become known as a spa for the treatment of respiratory disorders. The small 15C Church of Santa Maria has interesting 15C and 16C frescoes. On the rocky tip of the peninsula are the remains of a Roma villa which belonged to the poet Catullus. The excavation site is known as the Grottoes of Catullus and it is possible to distinguish the remains of buildings in this attractive site. Then transfer to Verona. It stands on the banks of the Adige in a hilly setting and is, after Venice, the finest art centre in Venetia. The fashionable Piazza Bra is linked by the Via Mazzini to the heart of the old town. This Roman colony under the Empire was covered by the Ostrogoths, Lombards and Franks. The town reached its zenith under the Scaliger. Sights: Piazza delle Erbe, Piazza dei Signori, Scaliger Tombs, Roman Arena, Old Castle and Bridge of the Scaliger, Church of St. Zeno Major, Cathedral, Roman Theatre, and so on. In the afternoon beginning of the returning to the hotel.



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FARMHOUSE: LA FIORIDA

In the morning departure by coach for Mantello (SO), where there is La Fiorida Farmhouse, open all year round, it is located in Lower Valtellina Mountains along the banks of the Adda, embraced by the Rhaetian and Orobian Alps. La Fiorida is one of a kind: a place where elegance and tradition coexist in a perfect union and harmony with the surrounding nature. Born as a small farm, over the years, thanks to the hard work of its founder Plinio Vanini and his collaborators, La Fiorida has grown and developed over an area of 10 hectares and we are now comprised of the stables, the farm crops, the store, "calech" outdoor dining and the heart of the farmhouse with 29 rooms, the Four Seasons Restaurant, Ristorante La Présef and the wellness center. Here you will find all the essential ingredients for an unforgettable stay. Nestled in a scenic mountain panorama is the spa area over 400 square meters where you can find a swimming pool, whirlpool, sauna, vitarium, Turkish bath, aromatic showers and emotional tea area, relaxation area, fitness room, outdoor solarium on the lawn and wood paddock to spend hours of relaxation. In the shop you will find products such as cured hams (from their own pigs) and cheeses, ice cream made from their fresh milk, yoghurts of various flavours, homemade cakes, a line of cosmetic products made with their own milk from their cows and goats. The milk is poured into copper pot boilers with the capacity of 1600 liters and, with addition of rennet, worked up to form the curd. Once ready, the cheese is flavored in a stainless steel tank containing salt and water, called brine. The cheese is then put to rest in an aging cellar where it is seasoned in rotation in an environment with 80% humidity and with a temperature of 10°. For the Valtellina Casera DOP, follow the branding. A large window outside that allows you to see the every day workings of the dairy processing milk into cheese and the window inside of the store lets you see the cheese during its aging. Free time until afternoon when returning by coach to the hotel.



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TIRANO AND RED TRAIN

In the morning departure by coach for Tirano, famous for the Sanctuary of the Madonna, located in the northern part of the town, it is considered the most important religious monument of Valtellina. The miraculous event at the base of the sanctuary construction took place on 29th September 1504, in a field of figs, when the Madonna appeared to Mario Omodei and blessing him asked to build a temple in his honor. He was therefore the first promoter of the construction of the Sanctuary, which began on March 25 (the Annunciation Day of the Virgin Mary) of 1505 and ended on its external part in 1513. For the consecration of the church, it was necessary to wait until 14 May 1528 when, completed the interiors, the sanctuary was blessed by the bishop of Como Cesare Trivulzio. At the end of the visit transfer to the train station for departing by Bernina Express or Red Train which is connecting Chur to Poschiavo in Switzerland and Tirano in Italy by crossing the Swiss Engadin Alps. For most of its journey, the train also runs along the World Heritage Site known as the Rhaetian Railway in the Albula/Bernina Landscapes. The arrival will be in St. Moritz which is a high Alpine resort in the Engadine in Switzerland, at an elevation of about 1,800 metres. In the afternoon beginning of the return to the hotel by coach passing through the Maloja Pass.



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