



Overpass Travel



NORTH OF ITALY AND FAMOUS LAKES TOUR

9 DAYS

www.overpasstravel.com

Day 1

North of Italy and Famous Lakes Tour

ARRIVAL AT MILANO MALPENSA AIRPORT MXP

Upon arrival at the **Malpensa airport**, we will start our tour by being transported from the Airport to our destination in **Lake Como**. You will enjoy a panoramic tour by bus passing through the towns and villages. Lake Como is often referred to as the most beautiful lake in the north of Italy, positioned in the shadow of the Alps with unbelievable breath-taking views.

After arriving and settling in at your hotel in the **Village of Menaggio**, Lake Como, you can enjoy a welcome cocktail while you meet fellow travellers and learn more about the adventures that await you in a short welcome briefing. Tonight, will be a great opportunity to join a group dinner in the hotel prepared for you to get to know those who will be discovering some of the most famous northern Italian lakes, and visiting all the scheduled picturesque towns/cities alongside you.

2 nights' accommodation at the classic 4* **Grand Hotel Menaggio!**



Milano Duomo



Cascade on the way to Lake Como



Lake Como View

North of Italy and Famous Lakes Tour

LET'S EXPLORE LAKE COMO VILLAGES

All mornings will start around 9, 9:30 am after breakfast.

Today, you will enjoy a guided visit by boat to the charming **Villages of Bellagio and Varenna**. We are going to start this day by doing a boat tour by the lake, passing by the **main city of Como**, followed by a visit to Bellagio and Varenna. Bellagio is located at the tip of the peninsula on the lake, very close to the Village you are staying at. **Bellagio is called The Pearl of the Lake** because of its beauty and charm. You will feel immersed in nature in this unique setting as we explore the area, lush gardens, olive groves, views, and the town overall. You are just going to fall in love with this romantic place. After the tour you will have some free time for lunch at the place of your choice, time to explore on your own, do some shopping or simply take-all in the beauty around you.

Then in the afternoon, we'll take the **ferry to Varenna** to do some more exploring. This is a nearby town founded by local fishermen in 769. It is another magical village at the lake, quieter than Bellagio but equally beautiful, and less crowded with tourists. Here, you will have time to explore and do some more shopping or have an aperitif time before we head back **by ferry to Menaggio**, our Village **across the lake**. By this time, you will be immersed in a blissful feeling of peace by the beauty of the lake, the tranquillity, and relaxing views.

Back to rest, dinner is included in the hotel (drinks not included,) or you can enjoy dinner at a local restaurant, try some traditional dishes at your leisure.



Day 3

North of Italy and Famous Lakes Tour

FROM LAKE COMO TO GARDA LAKE

Today you will leave Como Lake by a private coach bus and drive through different beautiful landscapes on the way to the **largest northern Italian Lake, Lake Garda**. The luminous environment, temperate climate, and the flourishing vegetation - mainly olive and lemon groves, palms, cypresses, oleanders, and orange trees will impress you. Hotel check-in will be at our beautiful **Thermal and Spa Hotel Ocelle, at Sirmione**, on Lake Garda which will be home for the next 4 nights and 5 days. You are in for a treat!

If you think Lake Como is gorgeous, wait for it!!! **Sirmione is referred** to as the **Pearl of Lake Garda** by writers such as **Catullus and Goethe**. Over the centuries, Sirmione has drawn everyone from poets to nobles, including the opera diva, Maria Callas. While walking through the streets of this super **narrow** long peninsula with your guide, you will discover the uniqueness of this magical gem. But first, we as a group will have lunch at a local restaurant in town. This **medieval town** will make you feel like you are back in time.

In the afternoon, you will leave from the **Scaligero Castle** port for a **motorboat tour of the Peninsula**. The boat will take you around the coast and leave you mesmerized by the surroundings. You will see the historic villa of Maria Callas and the famous Grotte di Catullo and **the sulphur hot spring**, from which the beneficial thermal water gushes. All accompanied by a **prosecco flute on board**. Free time for dinner and a chance to keep enjoying Sirmione.

4 nights' accommodation in **4* Superior Hotel Ocelle Thermae & SPA at Sirmione, Lake Garda**.



Garda lake view

Day 3

North of Italy and Famous Lakes Tour

FROM LAKE COMO TO GARDA LAKE

Garda lake view, Castello and port of Sirmione



Sirmione views



North of Italy and Famous Lakes Tour

VISIT MANTUA, PARCO GIARDINO SIGURTÀ AND BORGHETTO SUL MINCIO



Today you'll travel towards **Mantua**, the city of Gonzagas, by a private coach bus. Mantua it's known for the architectural legacy of the Renaissance Gonzaga rulers, who built the Ducal Palace there. Your guide will accompany you in a tour to the heart of the city to see the most famous monuments, admire the squares from the most evocative corners and get closer to the characters who made it famous. During the visit, you can immerse yourself in the atmosphere of the city **tasting an aperitif** with the **traditional mustards** of this area.

We all will have **lunch** in the city centre in a **typical restaurant** with local dishes like **Ristotto alla pilota** and some wine included.

Optional: Tour with motor vessels in the reserve of "Parco del Mincio" (Mincio river park) or enjoy free time to explore on your own.

In the afternoon, you will have a visit to "**Parco Giardino Sigurtà**", a garden park that with its 600,000 m² is one of the most extraordinary Italian landscape gardens. **Renowned for its tulips**, over 300 varieties embellish the lawns of the park, it offers different flowering for each season.

At 5 pm we will learn about "**The Legend of the Love Knot**". You will discover why since the early 1300s the renowned **Tortellino of Valeggio** has had this unique "knot" shape. In the amazing **small village** on the river Mincio, **Borghetto sul Mincio**, the local housewives will show you how they manage, with their expert hands, to make this "jewel" of freshly rolled thin pasta with a delicate filling. The **dinner** of today is obviously based on this specialty, you will taste the **real Tortellino** in a **local restaurant** savouring some local wine as well.

Back to our retreat hotel in Sirmione to have some rest after a day full of local experiences and to re-charge for more adventures tomorrow.



Day 7

North of Italy and Famous Lakes Tour

MILANO, ITALY'S FASHION CAPITAL

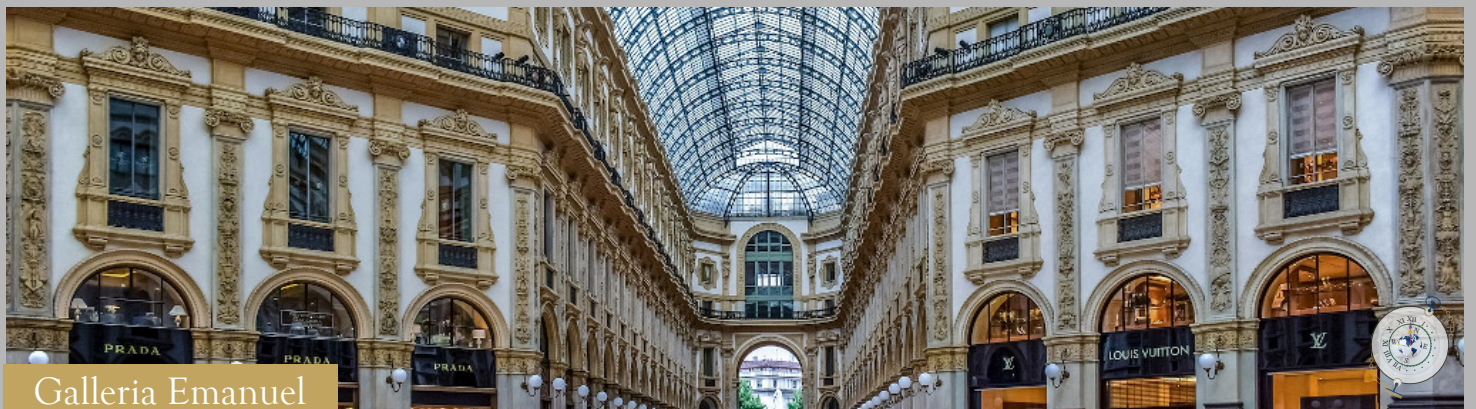
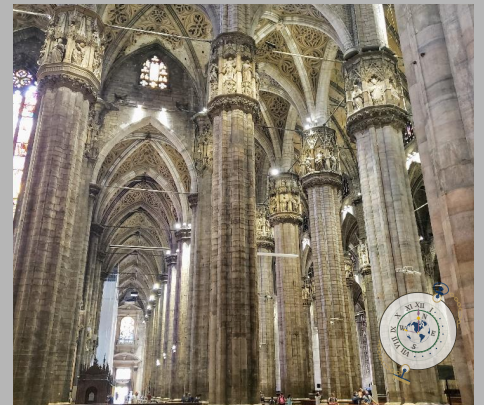


Today we are saying goodbye to these amazing views of Lake Garda and its surroundings. With a heart full of memories, you will be on the road again by a private coach bus to **Milan** to end this trip in the big city. From the stunning **Duomo** to the must-see **Sforzesco Castle**, you will explore **Italy's fashion capital** with your private local city guide. Strategically placed at the gateway to the Italian peninsula, Milan and the surrounding region of **Lombardy** have been the subject of constant disputes over the centuries. Celts, Romans, Goths, Lombards, Spaniards and Austrians have all ruled the city at some stage of its history and leave their imprint.

Free time for lunch and shopping in the astonishing streets of the centre like **Montenapoleone, Via della Spiga...**

For dinner, you will taste a local menu including the famous **Risotto alla Milanese** with saffron in a typical **Milanese Trattoria**. Local wine included.

1 night accommodation in 4 * **Hotel dei Cavalieri Collection** in the heart of Milano city



Galleria Emanuel

Day 6

North of Italy and Famous Lakes Tour

VENICE HERE WE COME!

Today, again, you will be transferred by private coach bus to **Venice**. After reaching **San Marco Square** by boat from **Tronchetto**, a local city tour guide will show you this fascinating city that enchants anyone who visits it. It is a romantic and fairy-tale place. You will learn the **story of the Canal Grande**, with its **gondoliers** who **captivate** passengers with **their singing**, the magnificent **San Marco square**, the **Renaissance palaces**, and the **Gothic churches**. After the tour you will have some free time for lunch at your leisure, shopping or riding a gondola.



In the afternoon, you will visit Squero di San Trovasso, a gondola artisan factory.

To conclude the day, you will live a **real aperitif traditional** evening in Venice, **tasting** all kinds of **Venezian “Cicheti”**. The cicheti consist in small snacks of different types such as fried cod, dried tomatoes in oil, baked cuttlefish, croutons with creamed cod, meatballs, arancini, folpetti, nerves with onion, beans, and even fried prawns or mezzancolle stuck in a toothpick. Tradition includes a short stop, for a small chat with friends.

You indeed are going to have the local experience here.



Basilica di San Marco

Day 6

North of Italy and Famous Lakes Tour

VENICE HERE WE COME!



After all this amazing time, we will return to the Hotel back in Sirmione and will have free time for dinner at your leisure.



Day 5

North of Italy and Famous Lakes Tour

LET'S ROMANCE AND RELAX AT VERONA AND VALPOLICELLA WINERIES

Today, with our private coach bus, you will reach **Verona**. Your city guide will accompany you for a tour of culture, history, and art in this millenary city. In addition to the **Arena di Verona** and **Juliet's balcony**, the city is hosting a great artistic heritage. You will need some free time to stroll and shop in the famous **Via Mazzini**.

Free time for lunch.



Arena de Verona

In the afternoon, you will relax with a panoramic tour in the hilly area of **Valpolicella**, where the territory and climate guarantee the success of excellent wines, famous all over the world. It is therefore a must to stop and visit a **renowned winery to taste Amarone and Recioto**.

Dinner this evening will be with the group in a local restaurant of Valpolicella with a typical menu accompanied by local wines.



Day 8

North of Italy and Famous Lakes Tour



ARRIVEDERCI

Overpass Travel will arrange the transfer from the hotel to Malpensa Airport in the morning. You will be returning home with a lot of wonderful memories! If you wish to spend a few more days exploring the city - and extend your travels let us know in advance, otherwise Buon viaggio!

Trip includes as following:

- Ground transportation to/from all scheduled activities, including Airport transfers from/to Milano Malpensa airport MXP.
- Most meals: daily breakfasts, two lunches, and five dinners. We have prepared a culinary experience for every bite you will be enjoying during the trip, including some grape juice AKA wine.
- Local guide services to truly understand every city and village you will visit, and local and Overpass Travel tour leaders at your service throughout the entire tour.
- Cooking classes, tastings, all activities, and tours as detailed in the itinerary.
- **7 nights' Hotel accommodations**
 - 2 nights stay in Menaggio, Lake Como at Grand Hotel Menaggio (standard rooms).
 - 4 nights in Sirmione, Lake Garda at Hotel Ocelle Thermae & Spa (deluxe rooms).
 - 1 overnight stay in Milan City, at Hotel dei Cavalieri Collection, Milano Duomo.

The price includes:

- **Day 1:** Arrival, pick up and transfer from Malpensa Milano Airport to Lake Como. Please book a flight with arrival no later than 2pm. We will be doing a group pick up leaving the latest by 3:30 pm. Welcome cocktail with the group and dinner to start the feast!
- **Day 2:** Guided Excursion by boat with local guide to Como, Bellagio and Varenna (with stops in the towns) Accompanied by tour leaders.
- **Day 3:** Transfer from Lake Como to Garda Lake, local guide for Sirmione, tour of the peninsula by private boat with prosecco time on board.
- **Day 4:** Transfer from Hotel with tour leaders to Mantua, guided tour in town. Lunch in the center of Mantua, entrance to the Sigurtà Garden. Dinner in Borghetto with demonstration of tortellini preparation.
- **Day 5:** Visit and transfer to Verona with tour leaders, local guided tour when arriving. A visit to the Valpolicella winery with wine tasting and dinner in a Valpolicella restaurant (paired wines included)
- **Day 6:** Visit and transfer to Venice with tour leaders, transfer by boat from Tronchetto to Piazza San Marco, tour with a local guide in Venice. Visit to Squero di San Trovasso to an artesian gondola factory to conclude with an aperitif with Venetian cicchetti in Venice.
- **Day 7:** Transfer from Sirmione to Milano with tour leaders, local guided tour in Milano center, Free time for shopping. Farewell traditional dinner in a local restaurant.
- **Day 8:** Transfer from hotel to Malpensa MXP airport in the morning.
-Tourist tax

The offer does not include:

- Entrance to museums, personal expenses, and gratuities.
- International flights.
- Any required Covid-19 testing or regulations by country.
- Dinners in the restaurants unless detailed.



SIGN UP TODAY!

To register and secure your spot for this
adventurous tour!

\$1,250 Deposit is required upon
registration.

CONTACT US

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Visit Us at **www.overpasstravel.com**