Ohio University Alumni Association

Village Life®
around the
Italian Lakes

September 9 to 17, 2023

Early Booking Savings
Up to $1,200 Per Couple!
Book by January 15, 2023

Book with Confidence!
No cancellation fees for new bookings.*
Call (800) 922-3088 or visit gohagantravel.com
9 Day Itinerary

1. Depart home city
2. Milan, Italy/Como
3. Como
4. Lake Maggiore/ Borromean Islands/Stresa
5. Milan
6. Lake Como/ Villa del Balbianello/Bellagio
7. Lake Orta/Orta San Giulio/ Sacro Monte di Orta
8. Como
9. Como/Milan/Return to home city

Highlights include:

♦ Visit the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Santa Maria delle Grazie in Milan, featuring a specially arranged viewing of Leonardo Da Vinci’s The Last Supper.
♦ Meet locals and learn about daily life in the Italian Lake District during the VILLAGE LIFE® forum in Como.
♦ Enjoy private boat tours on Lake Como, Lake Maggiore, and Lake Orta, an undiscovered gem.
♦ Attend a lecture by Fabio Cani, a local Como resident and art historian.
Piazza del Duomo, Milan

Dear Alumni and Friends,

One of the world’s most captivating destinations, northern Italy’s fabled Lake District beckons with its sublime landscapes of shimmering glacial waters, soaring Alpine peaks, charming waterfron.ts, and bijou towns. The Mediterranean region’s ancient history echoes through towns embellished with lavish Renaissance and Gothic architecture and imbued with the distinct bella figura Italian style that has inspired poets, composers, musicians, artists, and philosophers for centuries.

Join our small group of travelers in the Italian città di Como—your picturesque “home” for a full week—during this one-of-a-kind VILLAGE LIFE® around the Italian Lakes soggiorno, an exceptional way to experience the genteel ambiance and authentic delights that have lured visitors to the storied regions of Lombardy and Piedmont since the days of the “Grand Tour.”

Our carefully curated, expert-guided excursions explore the artistic and architectural treasures commissioned by Roman aristocrats, medieval lords, and Renaissance princes—including a specially arranged viewing of Leonardo da Vinci’s renowned masterpiece, The Last Supper, in the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Santa Maria delle Grazie. Trace the legacy of Milan’s outstanding artistic heritage, visit the enchanting town of Bellagio, and the romantic Borromean Island of Isola Bella—crowned by the Baroque Palazzo Borromeo, famed for its lavish ornamentation, priceless artworks, and terraced Italianate gardens.

Enriching presentations and the exclusive VILLAGE LIFE® forum featuring local residents offer you personal perspectives on Lombardy’s cultural heritage and contemporary life. Your accommodations are in the heart of charismatic Como in the ideally located, lakeside PALACE HOTEL. Indulge in the refined traditions of the Italian Lake District on this unique program, where you unpack only once in one of Italy’s loveliest settings. It has sold out every time it has been offered, so I encourage you to book now while early booking savings and space are still available.

Sincerely,

Your Ohio University Alumni Travel Team
Through the centuries, the Lake District of Italy has seduced the hearts, minds, and souls of artists and writers, including Lord Byron, William Wordsworth, Edith Wharton, and Ernest Hemingway. Long before the Romans annexed the region 2,000 years ago, it was settled by Etruscans and invaded by Celts. Following the Romans through the Renaissance, nobility built palatial villas, filled them with priceless art, and laid out extraordinary gardens. European aristocrats of the 18th and 19th centuries considered the Italian Lake District an essential stop on their “Grand Tour” of Europe, as chronicled in E.M. Forster’s A Room With a View. To this day, the mild climate and snowcapped Alpine peaks descending to lake shores continue to lure the wealthy, as well as celebrities and elite travelers from around the world. From the deep-blue glacial lakes of Como, Maggiore, and picturesque Orta to the enchanting Villa del Balbianello, and from colorful Bellagio—the “Pearl of Lake Como”—to the sophistication of Milan, discover the exquisite gem that is the Italian Lake District.
Day by Day Itinerary

Depart Home City

Day 1

Milan, Italy/Como

Arrive in Milan, Italy, and transfer to Como, the perfect “home” for our soggiorno in the spectacular mountainous Italian countryside. Check into the charming Palace Hotel on the shore of Lake Como. Join your traveling companions for a welcome reception.

Como

Day 3

Stroll along medieval towers and walls, Renaissance palaces and churches, neoclassical 19th century villas, and small family-owned negozi, or shops, leading to the Piazza Cavour and the tranquil lakeside promenade. See the magnificent Duomo di Como and the 12th-century Romanesque Basilica di San Fedele.

Lake Maggiore/ Borromean Islands/ Stresa

Day 4

Enjoy a private boat cruise amid charming Lake Maggiore islands graced with elegant villas and striking natural beauty. Visit the crown jewel of the Borromean archipelago, Isola Bella, occupied by the 17th-century Palazzo Borromeo. Enjoy spectacular mountain views from Stresa, a must for any “Grand Tour” that was also the setting for Ernest Hemingway’s iconic novel A Farewell to Arms.

Milan

Day 5

Visit Milan’s late-Gothic Duomo and the world-famous Teatro alla Scala opera house, a Neoclassical jewel of gilt boxes and glittering chandeliers. By special arrangement, visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Santa Maria delle Grazie to experience the genius of Leonardo da Vinci’s masterpiece, The Last Supper.

Lake Como/Villa del Balbianello/Bellagio

Day 6

Cruise by private boat across the sparkling waters of Italy’s deepest—and perhaps most spectacular—lake while learning about its fascinating history and allure. Enjoy time to explore Bellagio at your own pace. Across Lake Como from Bellagio, visit the magnificent Villa del Balbianello and its unique terraced gardens.
Savor the delights of a northern Italian dinner in a local ristorante.

Lake Orta/Orta San Giulio/Sacro Monte di Orta
Day 7
Enjoy a tour to the heart of Orta San Giulio’s medieval village center to admire Baroque palazzos built by Italian nobility. Visit chapels dedicated to St. Francis of Assisi atop the summit of UNESCO-inscribed Sacro Monte di Orta. Cruise across the cobalt-blue water in a private boat to Isola San Giulio, taking in views of Italian villas and gardens along the way. Visit the 12th-century Romanesque-style Basilica San Giulio and return to Orta San Giulio for time at leisure.

Como
Day 8
The day is free for independent pursuits. This evening, join your travel companions for the farewell dinner in the hotel.

Como/Milan/Return to Home City
Day 9

Always Included with Gohagan & Company

- Transfers and luggage handling abroad if your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- Complimentary bottled water in your room and on excursions.
- Hospitality desk at the hotel.
- Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
- Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
- Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.

BOOK WITH CONFIDENCE!
No cancellation fees for new bookings until 95 days prior to trip departure.
The Palace Hotel

The classic Belle Époque PALACE HOTEL is ideally located on the lungolago—the lakefront promenade—overlooking Lake Como, just steps away from Como’s beautiful marble Duomo and the medieval, pedestrian-only town center. Venetian stucco artistry, Italian marble, and antique furniture provide subtle touches of 19th-century elegance throughout the hotel. Its expertly landscaped gardens are the perfect setting to admire enchanting views across Lake Como. The Garden Bar Ceccato, with its terrace overlooking the lake, is an excellent place to enjoy the hotel’s renowned homemade ice cream or a cappuccino. Each of the hotel’s 94 renovated guest rooms is tastefully appointed with a private bathroom, air conditioning, satellite television, minibar, and hair dryer. Meals feature fresh seasonal Italian ingredients, local specialties, and international cuisine. Regional wine selections accompany dinner. The hotel staff provides exceptional service.

Land Rates

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<tr>
<th>Includes Accommodations</th>
<th>Early Booking Savings Jan. 15, 2023</th>
<th>Rate after Jan. 15, 2023</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$3,295</td>
<td>$3,895</td>
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Singles are available upon request for an additional $1,000 from early booking savings price.

The Post-Program Option is available at an additional cost.
Post-Program Option

Treasures of Bologna & Florence
September 17 to 21, 2023

Conclude your tour with a four-night extension featuring Bologna and Florence, both UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Enjoy a walking tour of Bologna’s storied medieval square, from Piazza Malpighi through the heart of the city to Piazza Maggiore. Visit the legendary Basilica of San Petronio with its 15th century frescoes. Discover the glory of Florence’s historical center, the birthplace of the Renaissance and home to masterpieces of unparalleled art, architecture, and literature. See Filippo Brunelleschi’s iconic dome on the Duomo and Lorenzo Ghiberti’s bronze-cast “Doors of Paradise”—created for the Baptistry of San Giovanni to depict scenes from the Old Testament. Savor an afternoon at the world-famous Uffizi Gallery to see works by Botticelli, Giotto, Michelangelo, and Leonardo da Vinci. Conclude your sojourn with a tour of Ravenna’s historical center to see the stunning Ravenna Cathedral and the majestic Basilica of Sant’Apollinare Nuovo. Accommodations are in the historic Hotel Corona D’oro Bologna in the heart of Bologna.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: $2,395
Price per person, based on single occupancy: $2,995

Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.
Reservation Form

Please make my/our reservation(s):

- Double (two twin beds).
- Double (one queen bed).
- Single accommodations.
- Single but prefer to share and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Treasures of Bologna & Florence Post-Program Option
September 17 to 21, 2023

- Double $2,395 per person.
- Single $2,995 per person.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations.

If I/We want you to book my/our air from:
________________________________________________________
(fill in departure city)

If I/We make my/our own air arrangements.

_________________  ______________________________________________________________________________
Title                 Full Name

_________________  ______________________________________________________________________________
Title                 Full Name

__________________________________________________________________________________________________
Street Mailing Address (no P.O. Box number please)

______________________________________________________  __________________  ______________-___________
City                                                                                        State       ZIP Code

_________________________________________________  ________________________________________________
Home Telephone                                                           Cell Phone

_________________________________________________  ________________________________________________
Email Address                                                                 Business Telephone

Program reservations require a deposit of $800 per person.

- Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $__________.
  Make check(s) payable to Gohagan & Company.
- I/We authorize you to charge a deposit of $_________ to:
  - American Express
  - Discover
  - MasterCard
  - Visa
- I/We request that you contact me/us via telephone or email for payment by ACH.

Card Number           Exp. Date

_____________________________________________________________________________________________
Signature as it appears on credit card

Please note: Terms & Conditions are available at gohagantravel.com/terms/

_________________________________________________________________________   _______________________
First participant’s signature         Date

_________________________________________________________________________   _______________________
Second participant’s signature         Date

FINAL PAYMENT due June 6, 2023; make by check, ACH, or credit card. Reservations made after June 6, 2023, require payment in full at time of booking. No cancellation fees until 95 days prior to September 9, 2023!

Send to: Ohio University Alumni Association
52 University Terrace
Athens, OH 45701
Tel: (740) 593-4300

068-09-09-23-082
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