



Gardens of the Lake District and Northern Italy Hosted by Jana Milbocker

Friday, September 27, 2024 DEPARTURE DAY FROM USA

Saturday, September 28, 2024 | Arrival Day



After clearing customs, transfer to your hotel by taxi (paid individually.) Hotel check-in time is 3:00pm. Meet your Italian tour director and guide who will be available to assist you with check-in and answer your questions. Dinner this evening is on your own. There is a restaurant at your hotel and plenty within walking distance.

Overnight: Verona

Sunday, September 29, 2024 | Gardens of Lake Garda

After breakfast at the hotel, you'll head to the beautiful shores of nearby Lake Garda. The morning will feature a visit to [Giardino di Casa Biasi](#) in Bardolino, after which you'll enjoy a light lunch with wine pairing at a renowned local winery. For the afternoon, you'll travel to the opposite side of the lake for a tour of [Giardino Botanico Andre Heller](#) on Lake Garda's western shore. Then return to Verona for dinner on your own.



Meals: Breakfast, Lunch with wine tasting
Overnight: Verona



Monday, September 30, 2024 | Verona / Optional Venice day trip

Today you have the option to relax and explore Verona on your own **OR** you have the option to enjoy a **day trip** to the legendary city of **Venice**, built on more than 100 small islands in a lagoon in the Adriatic Sea. It has no roads, just canals – including the Grand Canal thoroughfare – lined with Renaissance and Gothic palaces. The central square, Piazza San Marco, contains St. Mark's Basilica, which is tiled with Byzantine

mosaics, and the Campanile bell tower offering views of the city's red roofs.

You'll travel by bus from Verona to the outskirts of Venice. There you'll meet guides and private water taxis to lead you on a 2 hour tour of the city (by foot and water taxi), after which you'll have time to eat lunch (paid individually) and explore a bit on your own before heading back to the bus by water taxi for the drive back to Verona in the afternoon.

Meals: Breakfast

Overnight: Verona

Tuesday, October 1, 2024 | Verona Area Gardens

Following breakfast at the hotel, start your day with a visit to the charming [Parco Giardino Sigurtà](#) in nearby Valeggio sul Mincio. Next, you'll enjoy lunch (with a pasta making demonstration) at a nearby restaurant, after which you'll return to Verona where you'll have the rest of the day at your leisure to relax, explore on your own or possibly add on a cooking class.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Overnight: Verona

Wednesday, October 2, 2024 | Lake Como

Today you'll travel from Verona to your accommodations on Lake Como, with a couple of stops along the way. First, you'll enjoy a tour, tasting, and lunch at a **Franciacorta region winery**. Then it's off to the town of **Bergamo** for a visit to their [Botanical Garden](#). At the end of the day you'll settle into your accommodations on Lake Como and enjoy a dinner together.



Meals: Breakfast, Lunch with wine tasting, Dinner

Overnight: Lake Como

Thursday, October 3, 2024 | Lake Como

Start your day with breakfast at your hotel, and then venture out to tour and visit the **historic Villa Carlotta** right on the shores of Lake Como.



From there, you'll take a boat across the lake to Varenna for a group lunch and then a visit to the lush gardens of Villa **Monastero** where you'll explore on your own.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Overnight: Lake Como

Friday, October 4, 2024 | Lake Maggiore

Following breakfast, you'll say goodbye to Lake Como and start making your way to **Lake Maggiore**. Then it's off to visit the renaissance **Villa Cicogna Mozzoni in Bisuschio** for a garden visit and lunch. At the end of the afternoon you'll arrive in Stresa on Lake Maggiore where you'll settle into your accommodations for the night and enjoy a dinner together as a group.



Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight: Stresa



Saturday, October 5, 2024 - Northern Beauty

Breakfast at the hotel. This morning, journey by bus to visit the botanical gardens of **Villa Taranto**, right on the shores of the lake, to enjoy a tour and lunch. In the afternoon visit **Lake Orta** and the Medieval village of **Orta San Giulio**. Reach this gem on the water with a private boat.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Overnight: Stresa



Sunday, October 6, 2024 - Island Gardens Day

Today's excursion will be a private boat to visit the [Borromean Islands](#) in the middle of Lake Maggiore. First up there's little [Isola Bella](#), with its Baroque palace and gardens to match. Next there's [Isola Madre](#), the largest of the Borromean Islands, which has another palace and gorgeous English style gardens.

Your day on the lake will include a group lunch on [Isola dei Pescatori](#), the only

Borromean Island inhabited year-round. Afterwards, head back to your hotel in Stresa. Tonight a farewell dinner is planned in a local restaurant.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight: Stresa

Monday, October 7, 2024 - Departure day... Arrivederci!

Breakfast at the hotel and check out.

Meet your coach for a private transfer to the Milan (MXP) airport for our flight back home.

Meals: Breakfast

IMPORTANT: Goodspeed Tours reserves the right to alter the order of events or to make changes in the itinerary deemed necessary for the comfort, convenience and safety of the participants. Every effort will be made to adhere to the printed itinerary, but weather conditions and transportation difficulties may arise beyond the control of Goodspeed Tours and local suppliers could force the cancellation or substitution of events or specific services.

PLEASE NOTE: This tour requires high levels of walking, anywhere from 1-6 miles per day on uneven surfaces including pavement and within gardens. Participants must be comfortable walking this distance.

[NORTHERN ITALY TOUR REGISTRATION FORM HERE](#)

Northern Italy Garden Tour Inclusions:

- 9 nights accommodations in listed 4 star hotels (4 nights Verona, 2 nights Lake Como, 3 nights Lake Maggiore)
- Garden Host Jana Milbocker to accompany the group
- Italian bilingual Tour Director and guide to accompany the group
- All listed transports with a luxury air-conditioned bus
- Private boat transfers on Lake Maggiore and Lake Como
- Private guides for all garden and villa visits plus their tips
- Hotel breakfasts every morning
- 5 group lunches **without drinks**
- 2 group lunches with a **wine tasting**
- 3 group dinners **without drinks**
- Admissions to all gardens, palaces, villas and vineyards as listed in the above itinerary

HOTELS

Verona

[Grand Hotel Indigo Des Arts](#)

Corso Porta Nuova, 105
37122 Verona VR, Italy

Lake Como

[Grand Hotel Imperiale](#)

Via Regina, 24/26
22010 Moltrasio
Lago di Como

Lake Maggiore

[Hotel Regina Palace](#)

Corso Umberto I N. 29
Stresa

Tour Cost in a double room share: \$5,269 USD per person

Single room add on supplement fee: \$1,549 USD per person

Tour is limited to 20 participants and subject to increase with fewer than 20 travelers.

NOT INCLUDED:

- Gratuities for local guide and bus driver, recommended 80 Euros per person for the Italian Tour Guide and 60 Euros per person for the bus driver(s).
- (6) Dinners and (2) Lunches
- **Day Trip to Venice** with private boat service and guided visit: **\$269 USD** per person based on 20 travelers
- Passport services
- Flights round trip to Italy, additional travel agency fees apply for booking
- Travel coverage is highly recommended and available from [Allianz Trip Insurance](#).
- Any other items not mentioned above

Tour Payment Policy & Schedule: Payments are per person

\$400 USD deposit is due to confirm your space on the tour, non-refundable after payment

\$1250 USD payment is due: January 15, 2024 non-refundable after payment

\$1250 USD payment is due: March 15, 2024 non-refundable after payment

Balance payment due: June 30, 2024

NO REFUND for cancellations received after June 30, 2024

Flights are NOT included in the package price:

Arrival will be at Verona (**VRN**) and departure from **Milan (MXP)**. **Note: Transfer from Verona airport to hotel is not included.** Goodspeed Tours will send you recommended airlines and schedules. You have the option to make your own reservations or Goodspeed Tours can book your flights for an additional fee with their travel agency.

IMPORTANT NOTE for the return flight only. There is only one bus transfer from Stresa to Milan Airport.

Travel insurance is highly recommended and can be purchased directly with [Allianz Trip Insurance](#). Cancellation charges also apply to additional accommodations reserved prior to and after the tour. Goodspeed Tours cannot assume responsibility for any fees relating to the issuance and/or cancellation of air tickets. Full terms and conditions are also available at [Goodspeed Tours](#).