

IALCCE'08

First International Symposium on Life-Cycle Civil Engineering

Varenna, Lake Como, Italy
June 10-14, 2008

<http://www.ialcce08.org>

Social Program for Delegates and Accompanying Persons



IALCCE'08 SOCIAL PROGRAM

The Social Program of the First International Symposium on Life-Cycle Civil Engineering (IALCCE'08) includes a Welcome Reception, a Concert, and a Gala Dinner. These events will be offered to all registered Symposium Delegates and Accompanying Persons. An optional Post-Symposium Tour for Delegates and Accompanying Persons, as well as a series of optional Tours for Accompanying Persons only, are also organized. The optional tours are managed by the Promoest Agency and require a separate registration. For booking please refer to: <http://www.ialcce08tour.promoest.com>

June 10th, 2008 Welcome Reception

The Welcome Reception of the Symposium will be held at the Hotel Villa Cipressi on June 10, 2008. Villa Cipressi is a complex of buildings and gardens, rich in history, built mainly between 1400 and 1800 and now managed as a Hotel. The botanical garden surrounding Villa Cipressi offers a unique perspective for admiring Lake Como.



June 11th, 2008 Concert

A jazz concert by an accordion and sax Duo will be presented in the beautiful context of the gardens of Villa Monastero on June 11.

June 12th, 2008 Gala Dinner



The Gala Dinner will be held at Grand Hotel Tremezzo Palace on June 12. Grand Hotel Tremezzo Palace is a five-stars Hotel built in Liberty style. This prestigious Hotel overlooks the centre of Lake Como where the landscape is enchanting. The transfer to Tremezzo by ferry boat will offer a panoramic view of Lake Como at the sunset.

June 11th-12th, 2008 Guided Visit of Villa Monastero

The Symposium venue is **Villa Monastero**, an ancient patrician abode directly located on the lake shore, and surrounded by a beautiful botanical garden decorated with architectural elements like tortile columns and balustrades. The Villa harmoniously includes museum apartments preserving the beautiful residential rooms with precious pieces of art and the original furnishings. Guided tours of the Villa and of its museum apartments will be organized on June 11th and 12th.



June 14th, 2008 Post-Symposium Tour The Best of Milan



This tour will introduce you to the most beautiful treasures of the historical centre of Milan. The morning is dedicated to discover the monumental symbols of the city: the Cathedral, one of the

most famous and complex Gothic constructions of the world, and the La Scala theatre, one of the world's best known Opera Houses, where conductors and composers have been performed since 1778. After free time for lunch and shopping, the afternoon will be dedicated to visit the



majestic complex of Sforzesco Castle and its art and history museums, in which some unique pieces of art like the Rondanini Pietà by Michelangelo and works by Mantegna, Bellotto and Canaletto, are exposed. After a short walk along one of the most lively street of the city, the tour will propose the visit of the Convent of Santa Maria delle Grazie, tied up to the name of Leonardo da Vinci



and Donato Bramante. The tour will also offer you the unique opportunity to admire, in the ancient Dominican convent refectory, the famous Leonardo da Vinci's masterpiece "The Last Supper", also known as "The Cenacle", initiated in 1495 and finished in 1498. The difficult restoration works, made in 1999, confirmed all the expressive strength of this extraordinary masterpiece of the Christian art.



OPTIONAL TOURS FOR ACCOMPANYING PERSONS

The Social Program for Accompanying Persons includes the attendance of Welcome Reception, Concert, and Gala Dinner. Moreover, optional tours on Lake Como and nearby attractions are organized. The optional tours are managed by the Promoest Agency and require a separate registration. For booking and detailed information about the schedule of the tours please refer to: <http://www.ialce08tour.promoest.com>

June 11th, 2008 Boat trip to Como, the city of the silk

Lake Como, the third largest lake in Italy, attracts visitors from all around the world thanks to the beauty of its environment, so poetically described by Alessandro Manzoni in his masterpiece "I Promessi Sposi" ("The Betrothed"). A unique perspective able to join the picturesque and colorful villages, the magnificent ancient villas and their flowering gardens located on the shores, is assured moving by boat. Proceeding toward Como city, the west branch of Lake Como offers the view of its most precious treasures consisting of aristocratic residences.

The boat trip finishes by arriving in the city of **Como**, situated directly on the shores of the lake and encircled by enchanting hills. The city tour consists of visiting the historic centre, located inside the ancient medieval walls, an area of great historical and



artistic interest dated back to the centuries from the XII to the XV. At the entrance of the central district the suggestive **Cathedral square** offers to the visitors its treasures represented by the **Civic Tower**, realized in ashlar stones, the medieval town hall of **Broleto**, with its gothic-renaissance facade opened in a double porch, and the beautiful **Cathedral** with white, grey and red marble belts. After a pleasant walk along the lively

streets of the centre, rich of elegant boutiques and café, and characterized by singular courtyards and flowered gardens, **Saint Fedele square**, the ancient seat of the market of the grain, offers a unique view on houses of the XVI century having overhanging porches, wooden and bricken structures disposed like fishbone, according to a constructive technique of Nordic origin. The complex of the **Saint Fedele church** looks on the homonymous square. Following the Roman Cardus, the main North-South street of the ancient Roman settlement, the powerful circle of walls,



which Federico Barbarossa raised in the twelfth century to protect the city, appears with the majestic **Tower Gate**. Outside the medieval walls, the modern part of the city is taken place. Today Como is a dynamic, business city with an important history in textile manufacturing and trading. Due to its long history of high quality silk production, the city is commonly known as the Silk Capital. One of the most representative firm of Como's silk creative tradition, the Mantero Factory, founded in 1902, offers the opportunity of following the various processing stages of the silk filament enable to transform the natural fibre into fabrics and accessories for the worlds of haute couture and prêt-à-porter. After the guided tour of the **Mantero Factory**, a visit of the Mantero's Concept Store, called La Tessitura, is scheduled.

June 12th, 2008 Bellagio and the most magnificent Villas of Lake Como

The fascination of Lake Como mainly arises from the small characteristic villages and the ancient magnificent residences situated along the shores, each one having its own peculiarities. This tour offers the opportunity of discovering some of the most famous villas of Lake Como, and the village of Bellagio, called "the pearl of the lake", by means of a pleasant boat trip. The first place to visit is the neoclassical residence **Villa Carlotta**. Located on the lake shore in front of Varenna, Villa Carlotta is a unique place for the extraordinary value of the pieces of art hosted in its museum, such as statues by Canova, paintings by Appiani and Hayez, and gobelins tapestries, as well as for its colorful gardens flowering of rare examples of azaleas and camellias.



Moving by boat toward the splendid **Villa Balbianello**, located at the top of the rocky promontory of Lenno, it is possible to admire one of the most charming panoramic point of the lake overlooking the gulfs of Venere and Diana, as well as the village of Bellagio and the Comacina Island. Managed by FAI (Fondo per l'Ambiente Italiano), actually villa Balbianello houses one of the most complete libraries dedicated to mountain and polar



exploration and the museum of Monzino's collections, including the sledge on which he arrived at the North Pole in 1971. The gardens are characterized by climbing plants which have been trained so as to dress the villa itself.

After this visit, a boat transfer is provided to reach **Bellagio**, characterized by its unique position at the top of a flourishing promontory with one of the best view of Lake Como. Here, after free time for lunch, the visitors will have the possibility to choose if spend the afternoon freely walking around Bellagio, or

alternatively if have a guided visit of the garden of **Villa Melzi**, a typical English style garden with Egyptian sculptures and Roman statues among exotic trees.

June 13th, 2008 Bergamo Alta and the Franciacorta Region

This tour will offer you the opportunity to discover one of the charming treasure of Lombardy region, the historical center of Bergamo, as well as to taste the flavour of a unique eno-gastronomic itinerary in the Franciacorta region.



After a transfer by private bus, the morning will be dedicated to the city of **Bergamo**, founded on a hill by a first very old settlement in the protohistoric age, which gave it its peculiar configuration. The oldest part of the town, called "**Città Alta**" (Upper City),

consists of the historic centre characterized by an extraordinary heritage of art and architecture, while the modern part, called "**Città Bassa**" (Lower City), has developed in the valley below. Celts, Goths, Romans, and Lombards succeeded on the hill, but the four centuries under the Venetian domination were probably the most significant period, when Venice and Bergamo were very close both from historical and cultural point of view. The heart of

the old town is **Piazza Vecchia**, enriched by remarkable historical monuments as the Palazzo del Comune or Palazzo della Ragione, the Comune Tower, the Venetian Mayor's House and the Library Angelo Mai, formerly the town hall. All around the **Cathedral Square**, some buildings of unique architectural and artistic value are the **Cathedral**, S. Maria Maggiore church, the **Baptistery** and the **Colleoni Chapel**, one of the most significant examples of the Lombard Renaissance.



At the end of the visit of Bergamo Alta, a bus transfer will offer you a panoramic view of the enchanting hills of **Franciacorta region**, a beautiful area in the heart of Lombardy, south of Lake Iseo. Its hills covered with vineyards hide a precious treasure: the Franciacorta wine. The history of viticulture in the area of Franciacorta is centuries old and the quality of the produced wines is so high that the region received in the 1967 the DOC classification and in the 1995 also the DOCG classification for its sparkling wine, the first Italian sparkling wine to receive this honor. This visit will include at lunchtime an eno-gastronomic tasting in one of the most well-known producer of sparkling wines in Franciacorta. A unique eno-gastronomic itinerary will also be offered during the guided visit of the wine production area. A visit to ancient ruins of the area will close the tour.