

IALCCE'08

First International Symposium on Life-Cycle Civil Engineering

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

Tours for Accompanying Persons

June 12th, 2008

Bellagio and the most magnificent Villas of Lake Como

1. Tour Description

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

points of the lake overlooking the gulfs of Venere and Diana, as well as the village of Bellagio and the Comacina Island. Managed by the 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 personal 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.



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.

2. Tour Scheduling (Tentative)

8,30-9,00	Boat trip from Varenna to Tremezzo
9,00-10,00	Guided visit of Villa Carlotta
10,00-10,30	Boat trip from Tremezzo to Lenno
10,30-12,30	Guided visit of Villa Balbianello
12,30-13,00	Boat trip from Lenno to Bellagio
13,00-14,30	Free time for lunch
14,30-16,00	Guided visit of the garden of Villa Melzi or, alternatively, free time for shopping
16,00-16,30	Boat trip from Bellagio to Varenna

3. Booking and Payment

The tour is managed by Promoest Agency.

The ticket cost is 45,00 Euros per person. This includes the cost of transfers by ferry boat from/to Varenna, the entrance to the visited sites, and the guided visits described in the program.

Lunch is not included in the ticket cost. Accompanying persons registered at the Symposium are entitled to receive a packet lunch at the Hotel Villa Cipressi without additional costs. The packet lunch must be required one day in advance and personally taken before leaving for the tour.

The tour is intended for a minimum of 10 participants. In case this minimum number is not reached, registered participants will be refunded.

To join the tour please complete the registration process at the following Promoest website:
<http://www.ialcce08tour.promoest.com>

Deadline for booking is May 30th, 2008. After this date tickets will be subjected to availability.

Should you have any inquiry about this tour please contact Ms. Nicoletta Ceriani at:
ialcce08@promoest.com