

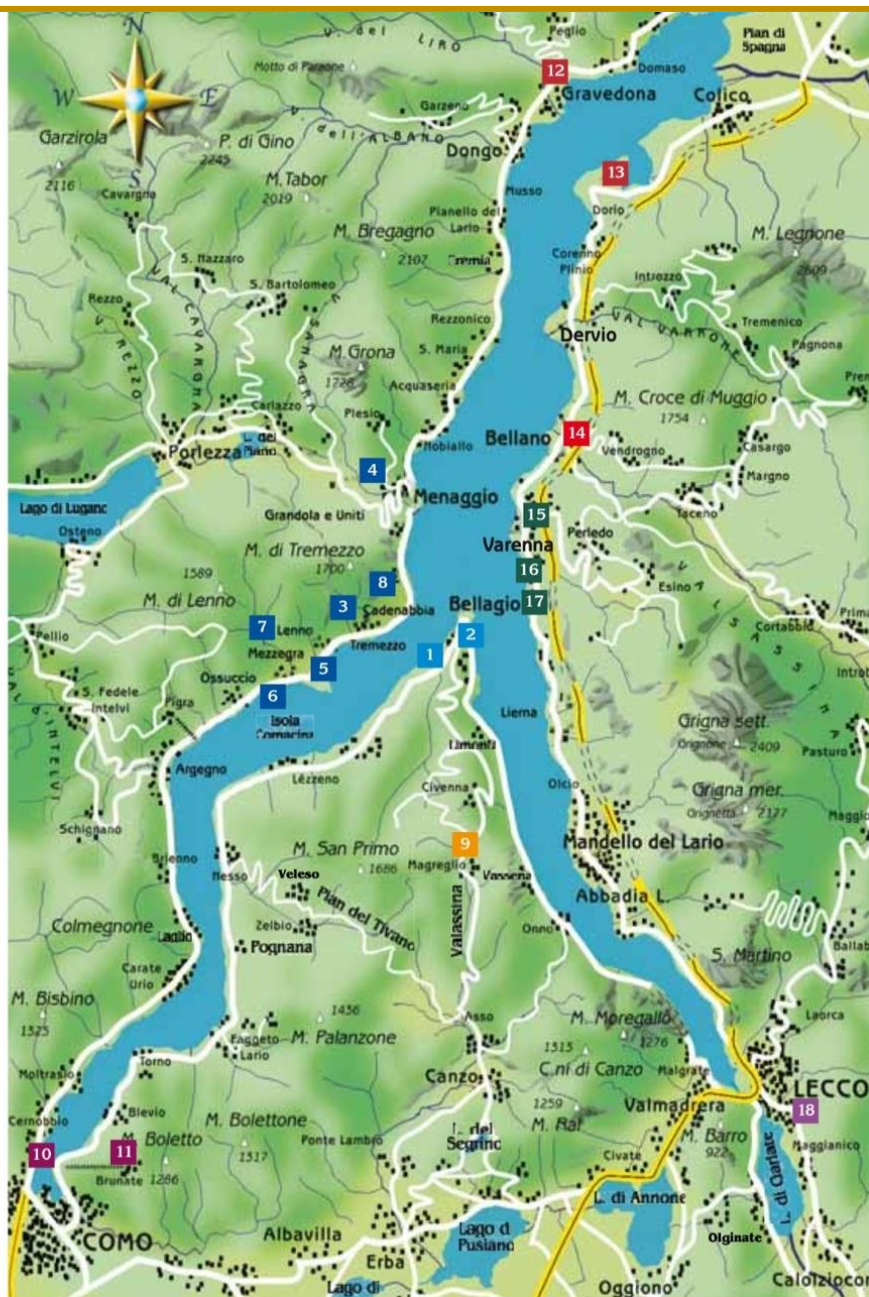
# WHAT TO SEE AND DO IN AND AROUND BELLAGIO





## GEMME DEL LAGO DI COMO GEMS OF LAKE COMO

- 1 VILLA MELZI - Bellagio
- 2 VILLA SERBELLONI - Bellagio
- 3 VILLA CARLOTTA - Tremezzo
- 4 VILLA MYLIUS VIGONI - Menaggio
- 5 VILLA DEL BALBIANELLO - Lenno
- 6 ISOLA COMACINA - Ossuccio
- 7 SANTUARIO DELLA MADONNA DEL SOCCORSO - Ossuccio
- 8 CHIESA DI SAN MARTINO Cadenabbia
- 9 SANTUARIO DELLA MADONNA DEL GHISALLO E MUSEO DEL CICLISMO - Magreglio
- 10 VILLA OLMO - Como
- 11 FUNICOLARE E FARO DI BRUNATE
- 12 PALAZZO GALLIO - Gravedona
- 13 ABBAZIA DI PIONA - Piona
- 14 ORRIDO DI BELLANO
- 15 CASTELLO DI VEZIO - Varenna
- 16 VILLA CIPRESSI - Varenna
- 17 VILLA MONASTERO - Varenna
- 18 ITINERARIO MANZONIANO - Lecco







## BELLAGIO:

---

Few places are as romantic as Lake Como, and even less resorts are as beautiful as Bellagio. Called the "Pearl of the Lake", Bellagio's world class hotels and restaurants provide the perfect place to soak up the lake's famous panorama. The village is characterised by century-old buildings, stone lanes and picturesque cobbled stairways filled with shops showcasing the finest Italian wares.

Follow one of our historic walking tours for an insight into days gone by, or treat your taste buds to the fresh fruit flavours of gelato – or the wonderful aromas of café - of the kind found only in Italy. A wonderful climate to relax, take part in sports or lake activities against the backdrop of this stunning lake and its magnificent villas.

### 1-VILLA MELZI



Magnificent summer residence built for Francesco Melzi d'Eril, friend and political associate of Napoleon Bonaparte, at the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Its English style gardens are full of azaleas and rhododendrons. The villa is closed to the public.

Visit includes the garden, the family chapel, the small museum and the Moorish outlook on the lakeside.

Open to the end of October daily from as following:

Monday-Friday 12 noon - 6.30pm.

Saturday and Sunday 10.30am -6.30 pm. Ticket office closes at 6pm.

Entrance fee: €6,50 per person – Group (min. 15): €5,00 – School group: €4,00 – Children under 12 years free.

For further information: +39 333.48.77.427

[www.giardinidivillamelzi.it](http://www.giardinidivillamelzi.it) E-mail: [info@giardinidivillamelzi.it](mailto:info@giardinidivillamelzi.it)



## 2-VILLA SERBELLONI

Property of the Rockefeller Foundation since 1959, the spectacular views from the 18<sup>th</sup> century garden are the highlight of the visit.

The park is open every day till 1st November except Mondays and in case of bad weather.

Can only be visited on a guided tour as following:

Tuesday- Wednesday and Thursday at 11am

Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 11am and 3.30pm.

Tours run for a maximum of 15 and last approx. 1 hour and 30 minutes.

Meeting point: Promobellagio office, ground floor of the medieval tower in the church square in the upper part of the historic centre of Bellagio.

Group visits must be booked in advance.

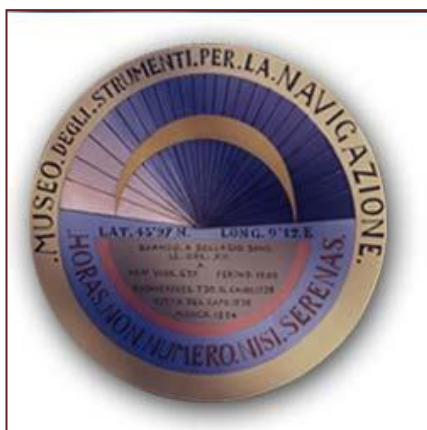
Entrance fee: €9,00 per person. Groups of more than 20 pax €7,00 per person.

School groups and children between 7 and 13 years €5,00 per pax. - Children under 7 years old free.

[Online booking](#)

For further information contact Promobellagio: Tel +39.031.951.555 E-mail: [info@promobellagio.it](mailto:info@promobellagio.it)

## - MUSEUM OF NAVIGATIONAL INSTRUMENTS



A private collection of over 200 nautical objects from 18<sup>th</sup> century Venetian telescopes to compasses and solar clocks, a collection of marine chronometers and a brass planetarium.

Opening times till July 13<sup>th</sup> Thursday –Sunday 10am-1pm

From July 14<sup>th</sup>: everyday except Monday 10-1pm

Location: In the hamlet of San Giovanni, Piazza Don Miotti (30 minutes' walk from historic centre). Cost of the ticket: 5,00 euro per person. Children under 10 years free

In summer it's possible to reach the museum by boat or comfortably seated on board the little tourist train Bellagio Express.

For further information contact: Tel. +39.031.950.309 [www.bellagiomuseo.com](http://www.bellagiomuseo.com)

E-mail: [info@bellagiomuseo.com](mailto:info@bellagiomuseo.com)



## - EXHIBITION CENTRE TORRE DELLE ARTI



Exhibition centre located in the medieval tower on Piazza della Chiesa.

For further information and exhibition schedule please contact [info@torredelleartibellagio.com](mailto:info@torredelleartibellagio.com) or visit [www.torredelleartibellagio.com](http://www.torredelleartibellagio.com)

## - ST. JAMES CHURCH

Situated in the square at the top of the town is a stupendous example of the Roman-Lombard art (XII cent.) built between 1075 and 1125 by the Masters of Como.

Inside mosaics of the early '900, rich altar of the end of '500, a "Deposition of Christ" by the Perugino School, a archaic cross (XII cent.), a triptych by Foppa (1432) a polychrome wooden sculpture of the "Buried Christ" of the Spanish-Baroque school.

Inside the Church is available a brief description of the history and the most important paintings.





## *WALKS & HIKES*

Three different self-guided walking itineraries are available at the Tourist Information office (by the lake), at the Promobellagio office (in the medieval tower on the main church square in the upper part of town) and on our web site [www.bellagiolakecomo.com](http://www.bellagiolakecomo.com) => ROUTES:

- Historical tour & Itinerary of the central part of the town: duration 1 hour.
- Walk around the suburbs of Bellagio: duration 2 hours.
- Tour of the hamlets on the eastern side of Bellagio: duration 2 hours and 30 minutes.

We suggest you to visit Monte San Primo, just a few km from Bellagio. It is the highest mountain of Triangolo Lariano and thanks to its central position it offers a wonderful view on the Pre-alps. Starting from Pian delle Ville you can easily reach the top in 2 hours; from June to September there is a bus that takes you to the bottom of the mountain.

## *SPORTS AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES*

Amongst the various things you can do in Bellagio, you can try various sporting activities, water-sports. Let these sports entice you so that you can have an enjoyable time in our town.

Canyoning, Kayak (1 or 2-seaters), Motorboats and sailing boats for hire, Mountain bike hire, downhill mountain bike rides & trekking, Electric bikes, Mountain hikes with alpine guides, Rock climbing.

And more: Swimming pool, beach, Tennis, mini beach volley, Turkish bath, water ski and two seater paraglide flights :

Contact details: [www.bellagiolakecomo.com](http://www.bellagiolakecomo.com) section BEAUTY and SPORT

**Golf:** The nearest golf club to Bellagio is in Grandola ed Uniti in the hills above Menaggio across the lake. 18-hole golf course set in spectacular surroundings. 20 minutes from Bellagio. For information: [www.menaggio.it](http://www.menaggio.it) E-mail: [segreteria@golfclubmenaggio](mailto:segreteria@golfclubmenaggio) Tel. 0344.32103

## *SHOPPING & RELAX*

Bellagio, with its numerous and varied shops is a great destination for shoppers. In the shops, scattered throughout the historic center of Bellagio, you can find, besides the renowned handicrafts other items such as jewelry, souvenirs, gifts, clothing and accessories .. High-quality merchandise carefully exposed in stylish showcases and contemporary craft products produced in the laboratories attached to shops, jewelers and antique shops of class. There is also the undisputed charm of being able to go shopping around in a medieval town full of history and culture, with splendid views of the lake.



## TREMEZZO:

---

### 3-VILLA CARLOTTA

Late 17<sup>th</sup>-century villa originally built as a summer residence and Italian State's property. Splendid park with rare plants, particularly well known for its azaleas and rhododendrons.

Interesting works of art inside the villa. Bar facilities in the gardens.

Open to 8<sup>th</sup> November as following:

- to 9<sup>th</sup> July :

Monday through Friday Opening: 2pm – 5.30pm last ticket 4.30pm, museum closes at 5pm  
Saturday and Sunday Opening: 10am– 6.30 pm last ticket 5.30pm, museum's closing 6 pm

- From July 10<sup>th</sup> :

Monday through Friday Opening: 11am – 6pm last ticket 5 pm, museum's closing 5.30pm  
Saturday and Sunday Opening: 10am– 7pm last ticket 6 pm, museum's closing 6.30pm

Entrance fee: €12,00 per person; €6,00 senior (+65) €10,00 and students.

Free children under 5 years.

€24,00 family 2 adults and children from 6 to 18.

For further information: Tel. +39.0344.40.405 - Fax. 0344.43.689 [www.villacarlotta.it](http://www.villacarlotta.it)

E-mail [info@villacarlotta.it](mailto:info@villacarlotta.it):

## MENAGGIO:

---

### 4-VILLA MYLIUS VIGONI



19<sup>th</sup> century villa now seat of the Italo-German centre for seminars and congresses. Beautiful views from its spectacular park of the central part of the lake, which can be visited only on guided tours at 2.30pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Reservation required. The tour lasts about 1h30. Group visits of the park can be requested for any day of the week. The park is closed during seminars and in August.

Entrance fee: €10,00 per person – School groups: €3,00 . For further details: Tel. 0344.36.111 or 0344.36.12.32





## LENNO:

---

### 5-VILLA BALBIANELLO



Italian National Trust property since 1988, the villa was originally built at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century for a Cardinal. Inside, a great collection of art works, antique furniture and carpets.

Gardens and Wood open every day except Mondays and Wednesdays

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 10.30am - 6.30pm

Saturday, Sunday and holidays: 10.30am - 7.30pm

Last entrance to the Garden: 5.30pm

Last entrance to the wood: 5.00 pm

Entrance fee to the gardens:

Free: FAI associates; €15,00 for adults; €8,00 for children (6-18 years); €10,00 National Trust associates and students.

Family (2 adults and 2 children) €40,00

Entrance fee to the wood:

Free: FAI associates; €3,00 for adults; €1,00 for children (6-18 years); €1,00 National Trust associates and students.

Family (2 adults and 2 children) €7,00

Free for children (-5 years), people with disabilities and accompanying person.

Admittance: Every opening day by motorboat shuttle from Lido di Lenno. Ticket 7,00€ per person round trip not included in the ticket of the Villa (one way same price). On foot 1km.

For further information: Tel. +39. 0344.56.110

[Booking required](#)

[www.fondoambiente.it](http://www.fondoambiente.it) E-mail: [faibalbianello@fondoambiente.it](mailto:faibalbianello@fondoambiente.it)





## OSSUCCIO:

### 6- ISOLA COMACINA AND ANTIQUARIUM OF OSSUCCIO

Lake Como's only island, in bygone times a fortress and the wealthiest area on the lake before being completely destroyed in 1169. Now no longer inhabited. There are some ruins and remains of an old basilica from ancient times.



Opening times: **TEMPORARY CLOSED**

March, April and May: from Wednesday to Sunday from 10am to 5pm

June –September – October (until 14<sup>th</sup>): everyday from 10am to 5pm

July and August: everyday from 10am to 6pm

From 15<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> October: open during weekends from 10am to 5pm

There is also the chance to visit the new museum Antiquarium in Ossuccio. Opening times: from March to October: from 10am to 5pm.

Price for ticket to Isola Comacina and Museum: €6,00 per person – Senior (+65) : €5,00 – children ( 6-14) €3,50 – Children under 5 year free.

Only museum: €2 adult, €1,50 children.

For further information, contact +39 0344 56369 [www.isola-comacina.it](http://www.isola-comacina.it) E-mail [info@isola-comacina.it](mailto:info@isola-comacina.it)

### 7-SANCTUARY OF MADONNA DEL SOCCORSO



This Sanctuary is located on the western shore of Lake Como, 25 km from Como, in the municipality of Ossuccio. It lies on a cliff 419 meters above sea level, facing the island Comacina.

The Sanctuary of Madonna del Soccorso is open every day from 7am to 7pm.

The Sanctuary can only be accessed on foot, along the avenue of the chapels; elderly, sick or disabled people, on request can be transported by car to the Sanctuary starting from the fourth chapel.



## GRIANTE – CADENABBIA:

---

### 8-SANCTUARY OF MADONNA DELLE GRAZIE DI SAN MARTINO



XVII century church situated in S. Martino above Griante. Can be reached by ca. 75 minutes walk through lawns and woods. From San Martino there is one of the most beautiful views of Lake Como and mountains around. The church is usually closed.

## MAGREGLIO:

---

### 9-GHISALLO SANCTUARY AND CYCLING MUSEUM

Place known by cycling fans from around the world. Inside the church there are bikes, jerseys and memorabilia of cyclists who have made this sport famous. Beside the church, there is an interesting Cycling Museum which can be reached by car or bus from Bellagio.



Open from 1<sup>st</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> November every day from 9.30 am to 5.30pm

Entrance fee: €6,00 for adults; €5,00 for senior (+60 years), students (-25 years) and groups (min 10 pax); €3,00 children (9 – 17 years) for schools (guided tour); Children up to 8 years free.

“Scalatore” ticket: €5 for cyclist arriving by bicycles.

For further information: [info@museodelghisallo.it](mailto:info@museodelghisallo.it) [www.museodelghisallo.it](http://www.museodelghisallo.it)

How to reach with public transport: by Bus C36 Bellagio-Civenna-Asso (it is not frequent, doesn't run on Sunday)



## COMO:

Capital town of the lake – Particularly interesting Cathedral from the end of the 14<sup>th</sup> century, the Romanesque church of San Fedele, the Voltian Temple (replicas of apparatus used by Alessandro Volta, inventor of the battery and pioneer of electricity), Civic Museum of Archaeology and the magnificent Villa Olmo on the lakeside.

Funicular railway to Brunate for breathtaking views over the town.



### 10-VILLA OLMO



The villa is a fine example of imposing neoclassical architecture. Started at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and concluded in 1812 by the Marquises Odescalchi, it passed to the Raimondi family, then to the Visconti di Modrone and in 1925 to the Municipality that used it as a venue for cultural events and art exhibitions. Villa Olmo is certainly the most impressive among the villas of Lake Como. It consists of a vast complex that in addition to a large park includes several buildings. These include the central body of the villa, currently used for exhibitions, the northern side wing, the southern and northern casinos, the greenhouses, the Tennis Como complex that occupies the southern side wing of the villa, the international hostel and the beach.

Opening: From Tuesday to Sunday, from 10.00am to 6.00pm - Free admission.

Sala del Duca on the first floor can be visited during the above times with the accompaniment of the cultural operators. Foreclosed access in conjunction with temporary exhibitions and events.

The park is open to public as following:

- from October 1st to April 4th - every day - from 7 am to 7 pm
- from 5th April to 30th September - every day - from 7 am to 11 pm





## 11-FUNICULAR AND BRUNATE LIGHTHOUSE

Brunate on Lake Como is a very popular small holiday resort, entering the town you immediately notice the indication for the funicular station, on the left an incredible view of Lake Como, while from the square behind the station you can admire the alpine arch and Brianza with its lakes.

Numerous walking tours depart from Brunate, 2 KM away. You can reach S. Maurizio, where in 1927 the Voltiano lighthouse (octagonal tower 29 M. high) was built, visible from most of Lake Como and from where a vast panorama of the Alps and Monte Rosa opens up.

The funicular railway is an evocative route, drawn in a straight line on a hilly slope with a maximum slope of 55% on a rail of 1084 meters, currently covered in 6 minutes and 30 seconds with the possibility of two intermediate stops: Como Alta and Carescione at the request of travelers.



## GRAVEDONA:

---

### 12- PALAZZO GALLIO



The Palazzo Gallio, located in Gravedona was the noble residence of Bartolomeo Gallio, cardinal born in Como, Count and Lord of the Tre Pievi of Gravedona, Sorico and Dongo, who attracted by the mildness of the place, probably towards the 1583-84 built his mansion, completed in 1586. Now home to the Mountain Community Alto Lario Occidentale, in its halls are held cultural events, shows and exhibitions. On the right side of Palazzo Gallio there was a garden mentioned since 1500 for the rare essences, the current one, extensively remodeled, extends towards the mountain.

Opening: from Monday to Friday from 9.30 am till 4.30 pm. Free entrance



## PIONA:

---

### 13-PIONA ABBEY

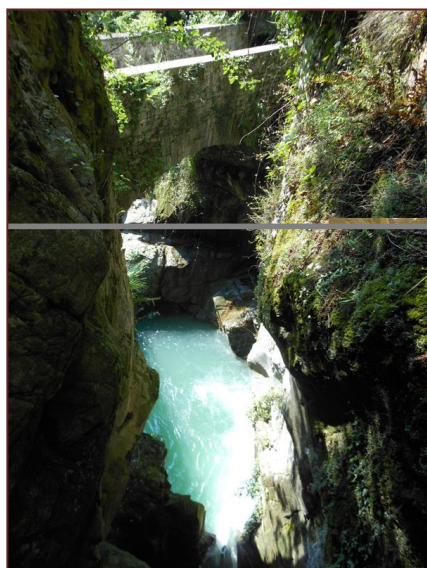
13<sup>th</sup> century Cistercian Abbey – an oasis of peace. Bar facilities and shop selling monks' goods amongst which the "Gocce Imperiali" – at 90° proof, the remedy to all ailments! 11<sup>th</sup> century church and beautiful cloister.



## BELLANO:

---

### 14- ORRIDO DI BELLANO



It is a natural gorge created by the river Pioverna whose waters, over the centuries, have shaped gigantic potholes and evocative caverns. The gloomy ravines, the dark rumble of the tumultuous waters that have inspired many writers, have made Orrido the most famous tourist resort of the Lario. The Cà del Diavol evokes in the collective imagination fears and satanic rituals, making the mysterious charm of the place palpable. A concrete walkway allows visitors to admire the beauty of a truly unique place.

Opening time:

#### **TEMPORARY CLOSED**

Entrance fee: €4.00 for adults - Children (up to 12 years old) and over65: €3.50 - Groups over 25 members: €3.00 each - Residents and children up to 5 years free.



## VARENNA:

### 15-CASTELLO DI VEZIO



A medieval tower in Vezio above Varenna. 40 minutes ca. from the lake side – steep walk.

Opening times:

May and September: from Monday to Friday: from 10am to 6pm; Saturdays, Sundays and holidays: from 10am to 7pm

June, July and August: from Monday to Friday: from 10am to 7pm; Saturdays, Sundays and holidays: from 10am to 8pm.

October: from Monday to Friday: from 10am to 5pm; Saturdays, Sundays and holidays: from 10am to 6pm

Entrance fee: €4,00 per person, € 3,00 over 65 years and for Group (+ 12 pax), € 2,00 children 7-12 years. Free for children under 6 years.

For further information, contact: +39.0341.814.011 [www.castellodivezio.it](http://www.castellodivezio.it) E-mail: [info@castellodivezio.it](mailto:info@castellodivezio.it)

CLOSED in case of bad weather. Last entrance: 20 min before the closure time. Pets not allowed

### 16-VILLA CIPRESSI

A neoclassical villa now used as a hotel.

The gardens can be visited from 1<sup>st</sup> March:

July, August, September: open every day 10.00am/07.00pm

October: open every day 10.00am/06.00pm

November: 8 - 15 - 22 - 29 10.00am/05.00pm

December: 6 - 7 - 8 - 13 - 20 - 26 - 27 - 28 - 29 - 30 - 31  
10.00am/05.00pm

Entrance fee: €8 per person; €5 over 65 years and for groups (+10); €3 Children 12-18 years and students 18-24 years.  
Free Children under 11years.

For further information, contact: +39.0341.830.113

[www.hotelvillacipressi.it](http://www.hotelvillacipressi.it) E-mail: [info@hotelvillacipressi.it](mailto:info@hotelvillacipressi.it)







## 17-VILLA MONASTERO



Ex Cistercian monastery built in the 13<sup>th</sup> century and transformed to a noble residence in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Since 1936 it is an international scientific and cultural study centre set in magnificent gardens which can be visited from March to November.

Opening times:

- June- July: from 10am to 7.30pm (Museum closed on Mondays)
- August: from 10am to 7.30pm (Museum open every day)
- September: from 10am to 6.30pm (Museum closed on Mondays)
- October and 1<sup>st</sup> November: from 10am to 6pm (Museum open just on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays)
- November: 8th-15th-22nd-29th from 10.30am to 5pm
- December: 6th-7th-8th-13th-20th-26th-27th-28th-29th-30th-31st from 10am to 5pm from 10.30am to 5pm.

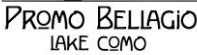
Tickets office closes 30 minutes before the above closing time

Tickets Botanical Garden: € 8,00 for adults; € 5,00 for senior (+65 years), groups (+10 people), Italian Touring Club members, residents in the province of Lecco; € 3,50 for young people (12-18 years) and students (18-24 years); €1,00 for foreign students in the occasion of international exchanges with local schools.

Tickets Botanical Garden and House Museum: € 10,00 for adults; € 7,00 for senior (+65 years), groups (+10 people), Italian Touring Club members, residents in the province of Lecco; € 5,00 for young people (12-18 years) and students (18-24 years); €2,00 for foreign students in the occasion of international exchanges with local schools.

For further information: Tel: +39. 0341.295.450

[www.villamonastero.it](http://www.villamonastero.it) E-mail: [villa.monastero@provincia.lecco.it](mailto:villa.monastero@provincia.lecco.it)



## LECCO:

## 18-MANZONIAN ITINERARY

Alessandro Manzoni, one of the greatest writers of Italian literature, will always be remembered as the author of the *Promessi Sposi*, (the *Betrothed*) set in the areas of Lecco and its surroundings. Arriving in Lecco, you can't fail to be accompanied by a guide to discover the places where the writer was inspired and where he spent his days. An itinerary suitable for all ages, like his books.





## TOUR GUIDES

You may wish to enhance your visit and find out more about the history of the places you see and "bring them to life" by engaging the services of a qualified local guide.

Contact details: [www.bellagiolakecomo.com](http://www.bellagiolakecomo.com)

## USEFUL LINKS IN ORDER TO VISIT THE AREA

Boats and ferries: [www.navigazioneinlaghi.it](http://www.navigazioneinlaghi.it)

Bus to Como and Magreglio: [www.asfautolinee.it](http://www.asfautolinee.it)

Bus to Lecco: <http://www.lineelecco.it>

## LAKE TOURS AND WATER TAXIS

An alternative to the public boats is to hire a water taxi with a driver. They can be hired by the hour, for half day or a full day depending on what you want to see. Since a private tour is a tailor-made one, for specific itineraries, contact private boat companies directly.

Contact details: [www.bellagiolakecomo.com](http://www.bellagiolakecomo.com)

## TRAVEL AGENCY

Private tours, guides and/or cars with driver, hotel reservations and more can be booked through a local travel Agency.

Contact details: [www.bellagiolakecomo.com](http://www.bellagiolakecomo.com)

**THE ABOVE REPORTED INFORMATION HAS BEEN UPDATED AND VERIFIED BUT MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGES FOR WHICH PROMOBELLAGIO CANNOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE; OUR TIP IS TO CHECK THE AVAILABILITY FOR EVERY SINGLE VISIT BY PHONE OR ONLINE.**