

DURGAN TRAVEL
LAKE COMO & SWITZERLAND ITINERARY
OCTOBER 5 - 13, 2018

Day 1: Friday, Oct 5th ~ Depart early evening (5:00 PM), from Logan International Airport for your overnight flight to Milan, Italy (via Zurich) to arrive at 8:25 AM on Oct 6th.

Day 2: Saturday, Oct 6th ~ Arrive Milan

"Benvenuti in Italia" Arrival at Malpensa Airport in Milan where we will be met by our Tour Escort who will assist with our transfer. Board our private motorcoach for a scenic drive to Lake Como where we will check in at our hotel. The remainder of the day is at leisure to familiarize ourselves with our surroundings. Dinner and overnight at our hotel. (Dinner)

Your accommodations from 10/6-10/13:

Hotel Sole

Santa Maria Ressonica

22010 San Siro

39 0344 50089

www.hotelsolelagocomo.it

Amenities include: Free Wi-Fi, hairdryer, a/c

Day 3: Sunday, Oct 7th ~ Como - Lake Como - Bellagio

Breakfast at our hotel. Depart our hotel by motorcoach for a guided morning tour of the beautiful town of Como, which has kept much of its ancient Roman street plan, beginning in the lovely Piazza Cavour which is surrounded by quaint cafés, colorful houses, and stately hotels. In the afternoon, we will travel by boat from the town of Como, up the lake past gorgeous villas, to the picturesque town of Bellagio, where we can wander through the peaceful, narrow lanes and covered walkways lined with pastel-colored houses typical of the area. Return by boat and motorcoach to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (Breakfast and dinner)

Day 4: Monday, Oct 8th ~ Bergamo

Breakfast at our hotel. Today's excursion will take us to Bergamo, which against the backdrop of the Bergamese Alps, is one of the most beautifully situated cities in Lombardy. Bergamo's Old Town is perched on a hill above, enclosed by ancient Venetian walls, while the modern city center sprawls across the plains below. Our walking tour begins in the Piazza Vecchia - the heart of the Old Town - and we will have the opportunity to view many of its most significant civic and religious monuments, including the Palazzo del Comune, Palazzo della Ragione, the magnificent Cathedral, St. Maria Maggiore, the Colleoni Chapel, with its frescoed dome by Tiepolo, and the beautiful Baptistery. Late-afternoon return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (Breakfast and dinner)

Day 5: Tuesday, Oct 9th ~ Lake Maggiore & Borromean Islands

Breakfast at our hotel. Today, we will discover wonderful Lake Maggiore and the Borromean Islands. First on our agenda, we will drive to Stresa where we will board the boat for our

cruise to Isola Bella for a tour of the sumptuous Borromeo Palace, and its magnificent and massive Italian-style gardens. We will next cruise to tiny Isola dei Pescatori, once a fisherman's island and Hemingway's favorite of the Borromeo Islands. We will spend the afternoon exploring the island with its narrow alleyways and romantic churches. Return to Stresa by boat, then transfer by motorcoach to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (Breakfast and dinner)

Day 6: Wednesday, Oct 10th ~ Lugano, Switzerland

Breakfast at our hotel. This morning, we will cross the Swiss border for our full-day tour to Lugano, Switzerland. Lugano is nestled in a bay on the northern side of Lake Lugano, surrounded by the nearby Swiss Alps. The town center, with its Mediterranean-style squares and arcades, and numerous parks, invites us to laze around and enjoy the atmosphere. By the lakeside promenade, we find the famous Belvedere Gardens, which boasts not only magnificent camellias and magnolias, but also countless sub-tropical plants and modern works of art. Return to Lake Como for dinner and overnight at our hotel. (Breakfast and dinner)

Day 7: Thursday, Oct 11th ~ Milan

Breakfast at our hotel. Departing our hotel this morning, we will head south to stylish Milan, a city with some of the world's most stunning art and architecture. Our full-day of guided sightseeing includes: the flamboyant 14th century Gothic Duomo ("defended" by the marble statues of 2,224 saints and nearly 100 gargoyles), the legendary Teatro alla Scala opera house, and the beautiful Renaissance Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie and its rectory to view Da Vinci's 15th century masterpiece "Last Supper" mural painting. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (Breakfast and dinner)

Day 8: Friday, Oct 12th ~ Bellinzona - Ascona

After breakfast at our hotel, we will depart on a day-trip to Bellinzona for a short guided walking tour of the town. Then, from one of the main squares we take an elevator up to Castelgrande, one of the three castles located in the town. These three castles are a UNESCO site. Next, onto Ascona for an afternoon stroll on the waterfront promenade where there is the Borgo church, a basilica dating back to the 16th century. The interior of the basilica is defined by columns. Its high bell tower is the landmark of the vacation destination of Ascona. The branching lanes of the Old Town lead to the car-free zone of the lake promenade with its charming street cafés. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight. (Breakfast and dinner)

Day 9: Saturday, Oct 13th ~ Milan - Boston

Following breakfast and hotel check-out, we will be transferred to Milan Airport where we will board our return flight to US! (Breakfast)

PLEASE NOTE: SCHEDULING IS ALWAYS SUBJECT TO CHANGE