

LAKE COMO FOOD TOURS

by EXPERIENCE ITALY TOURS SRL



LAKE COMO & BEYOND CATALOGUE



lakecomo
& beyond

Lake Como is centrally located in the northern part of Italy, which means that from Lake Como you can easily depart to explore surrounding areas by taking our **DAY TRIPS**.

The Lombardy Region is rich with other beautiful locations which are really **round the corner from Lake Como**, meaning reachable with max a couple of hours drive, mostly less.

And here we are talking of the other northern lakes, like **Lake Maggiore**, **Lake Lugano** and, why not?, **Lake Garda**.

Or beautiful art cities like **Bergamo** or **Monza** and of course **Milan**!

And what about amazing wine districts like **Valtellina valley**, **Franciacorta** and the **Langhe** region?

So.... Did you find your ideal peaceful accommodation at Lake Como you wish to return to every night? Let us start planning how to explore the rest of the region during your stay!

We are locals at Lake Como and of course we know our region by heart... and what about the rest?

We carefully selected **local partners** in other regions, partners sharing our philosophy, taking the same care we do of your needs... so we are now able to accompany you to explore beyond our region for **MULTI DAY TRIPS** and discover

- **Piemonte**, with its amazing wine area and the city of Turin, the first capital of Italy, the city where it all started!
- **Liguria**, with its charming towns, unforgettable views and mouthwatering local food
- **Verona and Venezia... and Valpolicella!** These do not even require an introduction...

We will take care of you and let our partners take you by the hand and explore their local attractions.

Finally, if you are headed further south or simply already know your destination before or after coming to Lake Como, do consider our **TRANSFERS WITH EXPERIENCE**, a unique way of transferring (from Piedmont, Liguria, Trentino, Venice, Tuscany, Rome) while experiencing our territory...

Why not stopping in Modena for a nice Balsamic vinegar tasting on the way from Tuscany? Why not visiting a beautiful Spumante winery in Franciacorta on the way to Venice?

We are here for you!!

Lake Como
& beyond means
exploring further

DAY TRIPS to:

- Lake Lugano
- Lake Maggiore
- Lake Garda
- Bergamo
- Monza
- Milan
- Valtellina
- Bernina / Saint Moritz
- Franciacorta

MULTIDAY TRIPS to:

- Piemonte
- Liguria
- Verona
- Venezia
- Valpolicella

TRANSFERS WITH EXPERIENCE



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LAKE MAGGIORE

DAY TRIP

Let's start exploring Lake Como surroundings with Lake Maggiore, one of the most important Italian lakes with its unique attractions, fantastic views and charming villages where you can discover their traditions.



You will meet our local licensed tour guide in Stresa where a private boat will take you to Isola Bella, a small island that was converted from a simple fishing village to a wonderful villa with gardens.

After the visit you will be brought to Isola dei Pescatori for lunch. Our guide will be ready to suggest you the best restaurants where you can taste typical food and experience Lake Maggiore cuisine.

After lunch you will take a 30 minutes private boat cruise to Eremo di Santa Caterina del Sasso, a church perched on a rocky cliff overlooking the lake. It is for sure the most picturesque spot of all region.

Here the guide will show you all secrets of this place and you can have a short walk all along the Eremo to admire Lake Maggiore's beauty.

At the end of the tour you will be transferred back to Stresa where our driver will be there to take you to your accomodation.

DEPARTS

Any day

THE TOUR IS ONLY OPERATED PRIVATELY

DEPARTURE TIME

08.30-09.00 a.m.
depending on departure location around Lake Como

DURATION

9-10 hours

DEPARTURE LOCATION

Hotel pick up

PRICE

Quotations available upon request

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Mercedes Viano minivan transfers
- Local tour guide at Lake Maggiore
- Tickets to Isola Bella
- Boat transfers at Lake Maggiore

PLEASE NOTE

The visit at Eremo in the afternoon involves the ascent of approx 70 steps. If you do not feel up to it, we will replace it with a nice walk in Stresa.

LAKE LUGANO

DAY TRIP

Spend a day to explore Lake Lugano, beautiful glacial lake situated on the border between Switzerland and Italy. Discover the city of Lugano and learn about its history and modern lifestyle with this full day tour accompanied by a licensed tour guide.



Pick up will be at your Lake Como hotel by a private driver; your tour guide will also meet you there. Once in Lugano, take a stroll in the old town with its elegant boutiques, visit the church of Santa Maria degli Angeli with Luini's fresco and enter a local well known shop of Maitre Chocolatiers for a small tasting and, why not, delicious shopping. Walk along the waterfront and the lush public gardens of Parco Ciani.

Before lunch take the funicular up to Monte Bre, an altitude of about 900 metres will give you the chance for a superb view of the Lake and of the Alps. Here we shall book you à la carte lunch at Ristorante Vetta (not included).

Later in the afternoon your private driver and tour guide will lead you back to Lake Como to relax at your hotel.

DEPARTS

Any day

THE TOUR IS ONLY OPERATED PRIVATELY

DEPARTURE TIME

09.30-10.00 a.m.
depending on departure location around Lake Como

DURATION

7-7.5 hours

DEPARTURE LOCATION

Hotel pick up

PRICE

Quotations available upon request

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Mercedes Viano minivan transfers
- Car ferry tickets if needed at Lake Como
- Licensed tour guide
- Funicular tickets to Mount Bre

LAKE GARDA

DAY TRIP

The beautiful lake region in northern Italy can also count on Lake Garda: so different from Lake Como, it is much wider and smooth, definitely worth a visit!



Our private driver will pick you up at Lake Como to transfer you to Sirmione, Lake Garda, a journey of approx 2 hours from Como.

Here you will take a private cruise along the coast to reach Isola del Garda. Your English speaking captain will be there to explain you the details and enrich the experience.

You will stop at Isola del Garda for approx 1 hour and a half for a private visit and a small aperitivo. Thereafter the cruise will continue along the amazing Costa Romantica and then back to Sirmione.

Here we suggest you stop for a nice walk and maybe a snack.

We chose a cruise program to explore Lake Garda but we can alternatively organize a nice bike tour from Desenzano del Garda through the Lugana vineyards area, including a nice wine tasting!

DEPARTS

Any day

THE TOUR IS ONLY OPERATED PRIVATELY

DEPARTURE TIME

09.00-09.30 a.m.
depending on departure location around Lake Como

DURATION

8.5-9.0 hours

DEPARTURE LOCATION

Hotel pick up

PRICE

Quotations available upon request

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Mercedes Viano minivan transfers
- Cruise at Lake Garda

BERGAMO

DAY TRIP

Meet your licensed tour guide in Bergamo for an amazing guided tour of Citta' Alta, the old town of Bergamo, reachable with the funicular.



Our private driver will transfer you from your accommodation at Lake Como to Bergamo.

Here you will meet your licensed tour guide for an amazing guided tour of Citta' Alta, the old town of Bergamo, reachable with the funicular.

From Piazza Mercato delle Scarpe you will walk through medieval streets with their ancient charm, to the Rocca castle, once a defensive structure and now a spot for a spectacular view on the Lower Town.

You will reach Piazza Vecchia, surrounded by ancient communal palaces and the civic tower. The Piazza Duomo is right behind it with the unique Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore, a jewel of Romanesque art, the Cathedral, the Baptistery and the Colleoni Chapel, outstanding Renaissance buildings.

Strolling along the Corsarola, the main street of the Upper Town, flanked by old and modern shops and coffee-houses, you will reach the the Cittadella built by the Visconti family, with its timeless charm and Colle Aperto.

Before leaving you, your guide will be glad to suggest a restaurant in Bergamo to have lunch, our preference is La Marianna and we will be glad to make an à la carte reservation for you. Your driver will then pick you up and drive you back to Lake Como.

DEPARTS

Any day

THE TOUR IS ONLY OPERATED PRIVATELY

DEPARTURE TIME

08.30-09.00 a.m.
depending on departure location around Lake Como

DURATION

7-8 hours

DEPARTURE LOCATION

Hotel pick up

PRICE

Quotations available upon request

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Mercedes Viano minivan transfers
- Licensed tour guide IN Bergamo (2 hours)
- Tickets to the attractions if needed
- Funicular tickets

MONZA

DAY TRIP

Monza is not only known for its Grand Prix circuit: this town can offer not only a beautiful old center, but also the amazing Royal Villa and its huge park, the largest walled park in Europe with 700 hectares, gardens with ultra-secular plants.



Our private driver will transfer you from Lake Como to Monza, in time to take a private visit of Villa Reale and the royal apartments.

The Villa, with its Versailles style architecture, is lush and grandiose. Built in the neoclassical style in the 18th century under the Austrian Empire, during the Napoleonic period, it was used as a Royal Palace. In 1861, when the new Kingdom of Italy was established, the building became a palace of the Italian Royal House of Savoy. The Royal Villa was abandoned by the royal family in 1900, after the murder of King Umberto I happened in Monza during a public parade.

After the private visit our driver will lead you to a local restaurant for a nice à la carte lunch, after which you will be able to choose between visiting the Monza circuit or the city center.

The Monza National Motor Circuit is among the oldest permanent circuits in the world. The tour will entail the visit to the circuit facilities which normally closed to public: box building, press room, race management and access to the circular podium. Thereafter you will be driven by minivan for a round of the track.

If you choose to visit the old city center, you will take a guided walk to reach the museum at the Cathedral, where some beautiful works of longobard age are preserved. Based on availability you will also be able to enter the Chapel of Theodolinda and see the Iron Crown of Lombardy: made in the Early Middle Ages, tradition holds it to contain a nail of the True Cross.

DEPARTS

Any day

THE TOUR IS ONLY OPERATED PRIVATELY

DEPARTURE TIME

08.30-09.00 a.m.
depending on departure location around Lake Como

DURATION

8-8.5 hours

DEPARTURE LOCATION

Hotel pick up

PRICE

Quotations available upon request

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Mercedes Viano minivan transfers
- Licensed tour guide at Villa Reale and in the city center
- If chosen, Monza Circuit experience

Since the 2015 Expo, Milan has become the capital of tourism in Italy: shopping, culture, art, nightlife... everything is available.



We can organize a day trip to visit the must-sees, from the Duomo to the Galleria, La Scala, the district of Brera and, if available, the Cenacolo (Last Supper).

By partnering with a local expert with deep knowledge of the city, we can include some unique and tailor-made experiences.

You will stroll around the district of Brera and discover the cozy fashion and design shops in the area. Then walk through the beautiful Pinacoteca di Brera to admire the masterpieces by Mantegna, Piero della Francesca, Caravaggio and many others.

This can be coupled with an exclusive moment at an artist's atelier or a fashion designer's showroom...

After a private visit to the Last Supper and Santa Maria delle Grazie, you will enjoy a relaxing aperitivo at a private home nearby... and a lot more.

VALTELLINA

WINE TASTING TOUR

A full day tour to discover the tastes and flavours of Valtellina: visit to an old grocery store dated 1883, wine tasting experience at two historic wineries plus lunch at a Michelin listed restaurant.



Our first stop will be at a famous and old "Bottega" (grocery store) of the valley dated 1883 for a taste of the two typical cheeses of the region, the well-rounded forms of aged Bitto and Casera hidden in back rooms surrounded by an astonishing succession of vaults, columns and beehive cells.

The trip continues along the valley to a small historic Valtellina winery located in the ancient home of the noble Quadrio, in Chiuro for an unforgettable 3 wine tasting experience accompanied by cheese and cold meat specialties like the famous bresaola di Valtellina, air-dried salted beef. This is the only winery at the moment that uses the precious antioxidant active ingredients of grapes to produce anti-aging creams, based on red wine.

Lunch will be served in a Michelin listed restaurant renowned for highlighting the ancient land flavors in its dishes.

The tour continues after lunch to your last stop - a visit to the most historic and largest winery of Valtellina born more than a century ago: Casa Vinicola Nino Negri. You will be guided through a labyrinth of cellars under Palazzo Quadrio, the company's headquarters, where you will be so amazed by the number of barrels and underground rooms while experiencing the tasting of 4 different wines so interesting that you won't notice that you have come out in another part of the village.

DEPARTS

Wednesday
Any day if privately held

DEPARTURE TIME

09.00 a.m. from Varenna
08.00 a.m. from Como

DURATION

8-10 hours

DEPARTURE LOCATION

Varenna
Como available upon request

PRICE

Adult Euro 310
Group discount 4 people
Euro 260 pp

PRIVATE VERSION PRICE

Up to 2 guests € 800
Up to 4 guests € 1200
Up to 6 guests € 1350

ADDITIONAL NOTES

The tour takes place rain, hail or shine.
Cancellation policy 7 days.
Please advise any specific dietary requirements at time of booking.
The tour is not recommended for pregnant women and children due to alcohol consumption.
Comfortable shoes and clothes are advisable. Please bring a light jacket/jumper with you as temperature in the cellars could be cold.
In case one of the wineries is not available, it will be replaced with other local ones.

VALTELLINA & BERNINA

DAY TRIP TO SAINT MORITZ

The Bernina express experience is really a must-do in the region. So we thought: why not coupling it with an amazing wine tasting in Valtellina, an extraordinary wine lovers destination and departure area of the Express?



Our first stop will be at a small historic Valtellina winery located in the ancient home of the noble Quadrio, in Chiuro for an unforgettable 3 wine tasting experience. The winemaker Paolo carries on the family tradition with his sons Luca and Matteo respecting as much as possible the long aging time of Nebbiolo. This is the only winery at the moment that uses the precious antioxidant active ingredients of grapes to produce anti-aging creams, based on red wine.

Lunch will be served in a Michelin listed restaurant renowned for highlighting the ancient land flavors in its dishes. This is the best time to relax and get to know your travelling companions while enjoying the world famous typical dish of "pizzoccheri" (pasta made with buckwheat flour, topped with Casera cheese and melt with butter, potatoes and cabbage) and the "sciatt", delicious cheese-filled buckwheat fritters.

After lunch your driver will leave you at the Tirano train station to hop on the Bernina Express train for an amazing 2 hours trip up the mountains to admire the glacier and reach Saint Moritz. The driver will pick you up upon arrival to take you to the old town for some free time for shopping (maybe chocolate?) and then he will drive you back to Lake Como..

DEPARTS

Wednesday
Any day if privately held

DEPARTURE TIME

09.00 a.m. from
Varenna

DURATION

10 ½ hours

DEPARTURE LOCATION

Varenna

MIN NUMBER

2 adults

PRICE

Adult Euro 430

PRIVATE VERSION PRICE

Up to 2 guests € 950
Up to 4 guests € 1200
Up to 6 guests € 1500

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Passport needed!!!

FRANCIACORTA

DAY TRIP

Franciacorta is in the heart of Lombardy, an area of gently rolling hills dedicated to the winemaking of the local sparkling DOCG Franciacorta, a long lasting tradition.



Our driver will pick you up to drive you to Franciacorta as namely to our favourite winery, Bellavista, one of the historic producers in the area and a beautiful winery full of charm.

Bellavista produces, like all wineries in the area, the DOCG Franciacorta, a sparkling wine produced under the so-called metodo classico, a method used for the production of most Champagne. You will visit the winery and take a private Alma tasting, including an Alma Gran Cuvée Brut and a Brut Teatro alla Scala Vintage 2013.

After the visit you may choose to drive back to Lake Como, ask us to organise a lakefront lunch at the nearby Lake Iseo or couple this tour with an afternoon walking tour in Bergamo.

DEPARTS

Any day

THE TOUR IS ONLY OPERATED PRIVATELY

DEPARTURE TIME

08.30-09.00 a.m.
depending on departure location around Lake Como

DURATION

Flexible, from half day to full day

DEPARTURE LOCATION

Hotel pick up

PRICE

Quotations available upon request

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Mercedes Viano minivan transfers
- Visit to the winery and tasting

Piedmont is the second largest region of Italy after Sicily and offers a variety of experiences from food to wine and also history, being Turin the first capital of Italy in 1861 and the place from where the unification of Italy as a nation started.



Turin is home to the FIAT automobile works, Alba is the home of Ferrero's chocolate factories,, Biella produces tissues and silks, Asti is one of the most important centers of Montferrat, one of the best known Italian wine districts in the world, declared officially on 22 June 2014 a UNESCO World Heritage site together with Langhe and Roero.

Piedmont is one of the great winegrowing regions in Italy, producing prestigious wines as Barolo, Barbaresco, from the Langhe near Alba, and the Moscato d'Asti as well as the sparkling Asti from the vineyards around Asti. Indigenous grape varieties include Nebbiolo, Barbera, Dolcetto, Freisa, Grignolino and Brachetto. Langhe is not only famous for its wines, but also cheeses and truffles—particularly the white truffles of Alba.

Once in Turin, you cannot miss a walk in the "salotto d'Italia", a visit to the local chocolate manufacturers and above all to the second most important museum dedicated to Egyptian Antiquities in the entire world. The Venaria Royal Estate is definitely also a must-see and one of the UNESCO sites in the Turin area.

A day will need to be dedicated to the Langhe region, to discover wines and winemakers who will amaze you with the beauty of their cellars and their vineyards.

Liguria, also known as The Italian Riviera, is a narrow land squeezed between mountains and sea with mild climate, breathtaking views, spectacular cliffs, colorful fishing villages, secluded bays and hidden art treasures.



Immerse yourself in the local culture, art, nature and, of course, food and wine. Start with Genoa, that will charm you with its contrast of noble palaces and medieval alleyways, continue towards Portofino discovering some of the best fishing hamlets of the area. Then, finish your journey exploring the charming Cinque Terre and the hidden gem of Portovenere with our insider touch.

Numberous experiences available along the way, from Pesto sauce cooking classes, to hiking trips along the coast... to olive oli tasting and much more.

Neither Venice nor Verona need an introduction. What we wish to offer together with a local partner is an outstanding quality service and private and unique experiences to live Venice like no one has.



We suggest to experience Venice by watertaxi, walking in the alleys and stopping at local bars for Prosecco and local appetizers. Also explore the hidden Venice visiting an ancient atelier where ancient velvets are produced since the 16th century.

Take a watertaxi to Murano for a private unique glass experience and to Burano, the island of laces and Mazzorbo island, hidden pearl of the Venetian lagoon...

Visit Verona and Valpolicella accompanied by a sommelier to taste the best wines produced in the area...

Enjoy Veneto!