



Italy's Magnificent Lake District

Inspiring Moments

- Indulge in glorious views of cobalt lakes, mountains and opulent villas while cruising on **Italy's spectacular lakes.**
- Explore **Lake Orta** and experience the enchantment of the legendary Isola San Giulio.
- Admire the stunning **Borromean Islands** and enjoy a special private reception on Isola Bella.
- Learn the finer points of preparing Italian cuisine during a **private cooking class.**
- Embrace the ambience of the lake region, a haven of **serenity and tranquility.**
- Sip bubbly Prosecco while mingling with locals and admiring views from your **hotel's rooftop lounge.**
- Witness **"The Last Supper,"** da Vinci's brilliant fresco-style painting, a **UNESCO World Heritage site.**



Bellagio

Experience northern Italy's unforgettable lake district, where sparkling lakes mirror evergreens and Alpine foothills. Here, the shores are strung with medieval churches, sleepy villages and postcard vistas — an inviting region to experience *la dolce vita!* From your base in Stresa, venture out to picturesque islands and follow romantic cobblestones. See opulent villas and explore gardens, fragrant with sweet flowers. Learn the secrets of Italian cuisine during a cooking lesson and marvel at da Vinci's masterpiece, "The Last Supper." Italy awaits to delight and indulge you!

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day 1 | In Transit

Depart for Milan, Italy 🌐.

Day 2 | Milan, Italy | Stresa

Arrive in Milan and transfer 🚗 to the Hotel La Palma. This evening, join your fellow travelers for a Welcome Reception and Dinner at the hotel.

Day 3 | Stresa | Borromean Islands

Enrichment: *The Gardens of Lake Maggiore.*

Learn about the powerful Borromeo family and how they transformed the tranquil islands — that now are named after them — into splendid retreats featuring palaces and landscaped gardens.

Free Time: Take some time to get to know the town.

Enrichment: *Golden Age of the Renaissance.*

Delve into the true genius of Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci while tracing their profound influences on sculpture and painting.

Discovery: *Borromean Islands.* Begin your outing on Lake Maggiore aboard a private motorboat. Cruise to Isola Madre where you'll enjoy a guided tour of the extensive botanical gardens. Embrace the rustic charm of Isola dei Pescatori, a peaceful fishing village. Continue to Isola Bella, "The Beautiful Island," and enjoy an exclusive visit. These stunning grounds feature a baroque palace and gardens with fragrant citrus trees, water-wheel towers, statues and peacocks. Delight in a private reception in the hanging gardens.

Day 4 | Milan

Discovery: *A Cultural Visit to Milan.* Travel to Milan, Italy's economic powerhouse. The city's wealth of cultural heritage is showcased in its architecture, splendid art and prestigious museums. Visit the beautiful Renaissance Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie to see Leonardo's remarkable "The Last Supper," hailed as one of the world's greatest paintings. Continue to the



museum at the legendary La Scala, Italy's opulent, premier opera house. See the flamboyant 14th-century Duomo, a masterpiece defended by 2,244 marble saints and nearly 100 scowling gargoyles. The Duomo's impressive interior houses Europe's largest sundial, a brass strip decorated with signs of the zodiac embedded in its floor. The property's exquisite treasury features some of the Duomo's prized possessions.

Free Time: Spend time at leisure having lunch and getting to know cosmopolitan Milan.

Day 5 | **Lake Orta**

Enrichment: The Development of the Lake District.

Learn about Italy's captivating Lake District, a haven of Alpine peaks, gardens and lakes.

Discovery: Lake Orta. Enjoy a scenic drive to Orta San Giulio, built on a promontory that juts into the lake. During a walking tour, see the central piazza and soak up the charms of idyllic lakeside life. Board a boat to visit Isola San Giulio, the enchanted island in the lake, and appreciate the beauty of the Romanesque basilica, the island's landmark attraction.

Free Time: Craft your own path in San Giulio. Follow narrow lanes to marvel at the village's colorful houses and small chapels.

Gather for dinner at a restaurant in Stresa.

Day 6 | **Stresa**

Free Time: There are endless opportunities to pursue your own interests during a day at leisure.

Enrichment: Contemporary Italy. Discuss Italy's economy, politics and role in the European Union.

Day 7 | **Bellagio | Como**

Discovery: Bellagio. Enjoy a boat ride on Lake Como to Bellagio, which flaunts a promenade lined with lime trees and oleanders, a quaint city center of cobblestone streets and picturesque alleyways, and charming buildings painted in shades of cream and butterscotch. Explore this enchanting little village, then relax over lunch at a lakeside restaurant.

Free Time: Discover Bellagio on your own during leisure time. Take a romantic stroll along the waterfront or pause for a treat at a requisite gelato stand.



Discovery: Cruising Lake Como. Travel by private boat from Bellagio to Como, a sensational way to experience this lauded region. Glide on blue waters gloriously bathed in sunlight while viewing the elegant villas and villages nestled along the shores. Vistas of stunning gardens, hidden waterfalls and cypress groves will captivate your senses while the majestic Alps stand sentry in the background. This poetic boat ride is sure to be among your treasured memories! In Como, take a short walking tour.

Day 8 | **Stresa**

AHI Connects: Flavors of Italy. Learn the secrets of traditional Italian cuisine during an interactive cooking lesson. After, sit down with your fellow travelers to delight in a delicious lunch.

Free Time: Spend the remainder of the day at leisure. Soak up final moments by the harbor or settle in at a local café for a light snack or cocktail. Raise a toast to your Italian adventure during a festive Farewell Reception and Farewell Dinner.

Day 9 | **In Transit**

Transfer to the Milan airport for the return flight to your gateway city.

Included Features

Accommodations {with baggage handling}

- 7 nights in Stresa, Italy, at the first-class Hotel La Palma.

Extensive Meal Program

- 7 breakfasts, 2 lunches and 3 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
- Opportunities to sample authentic, local cuisine.

Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- **Small group:** Sized just right at 24 guests.
- **AHI Travel Assurance** plan covers Accident and Sickness Medical Expense, Trip Delay and Emergency Evacuation for U.S. residents.
- **Discovery excursions** highlight the local culture, heritage and history.
- Expert-led **Enrichment programs** enhance your insight into the region.
- **AHI Sustainability Promise:** We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.
- **AHI Connects:** Local immersion.
- Free time to pursue your individual interests.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.



2023 Departures & Pricing

July 11-19, 2023

Garden View Price	\$4,345
Special Savings	\$250
Special Garden View Price	\$4,095*

*Special price available for a limited time. Call for details.
VAT & port tax supplement are an additional \$295 per person.
The Lake View category is an additional \$300 per person.
All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).
Single prices are available upon request (limited availability).
Program-specific terms and conditions are available at <https://ucla.ahitravel.com/destinations/1726A?schoold=170>. You can also request a copy from our travel experts.
Note: Itinerary sequence and/or scheduled events may change. Walking is required on many excursions.
Flights and transfers provided for AHI FlexAir participants.