



Lake Como with the Italian & Swiss Alps

Detailed Itinerary

DAY 1, Wednesday, July 16, 2025 - Depart for Milan

DAY 2, Thursday, July 17, 2025 -



Welcome to Milan. Upon arrival, transfer to our hotel to store our luggage until check-in time. Then grab a quick lunch on your own, perhaps at Peck's Deli, an aristocratic deli with a gourmet grocery, a *rosticceria*, and pastry/gelato shop on the main level. After lunch, embark on an enjoyable and highly informative city walking tour with our knowledgeable professional guide. We begin our city tour at the Gothic Duomo di Milano cathedral, one of the most famous cathedrals in the world and the 4th largest. (NOTE: Shoulders and knees must be covered to enter). Next, we visit the Sforza Castle, a grand 15th-century

fortification built on the ruins of a previous medieval fortress, commissioned by Francesco Sforza, Lord of the city at the time. Over the centuries, the Castle had many masters, as rulers that followed one another in the history of Milan before the Unification of Italy such as Emperor Charles V and Napoleon Bonaparte. Finally, we visit Milan's famous Teatro alla Scala, a truly unique opportunity to discover the secrets of a Theater that is more than 240 years old! The tour will end at the Convent of Santa Maria delle Grazie in Milan which houses the artist Leonardo da Vinci's *The Last Supper* dated to 1495–1498. Since tickets are limited for groups, please arrange and purchase your own tickets for 4 pm or later if you are interested in this tour. If you are not interested in this tour, you will have free time to explore the area for approximately an hour, then be escorted back to the hotel for check-in. See information on page 2.

Overnight: Ibis Hotel Milan

DAY 3, Friday, July 18, 2025 – Verona



After breakfast at the hotel, we'll take a scenic train ride to romantic Verona. This medieval village is famous for being the setting of Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet." A 14th-century residence with a tiny balcony overlooking a courtyard is said to be "Juliet's House." Upon arrival, we will have free time for lunch and shopping before meeting our professional guide. Our guide will then take us on a walking tour of some of Verona's notable attractions. First, we visit the Verona Arena, a huge 1st-century Roman amphitheater which currently hosts concerts and large-scale opera performances. Next, we visit the Museo Casa Maffei which houses an impressive collection of authentic masterpieces of modern and contemporary art by the great masters of the twentieth century: from Picasso to de Chirico, from Magritte to Fontana, Burri, Manzoni and Modigliani. We conclude our visit to Verona at the Castel San Pietro Funicular. It takes you in little more than a minute to the viewpoint at the top of Colle San Pietro, offering visitors one of the most wonderful and romantic views over the city. From the panoramic Terrace you can see the Adige River that flows under the Ponte Pietra and the historic center, with its bell towers and its architecture reflecting every era. Then return by rail back to Milan.

Meals: Breakfast

Overnight: Ibis Hotel Milan

DAY 4, Saturday, July 19, 2025 – Varenna and Bellagio



After breakfast take the rail journey from Milan to the coastal town of Varenna on Lake Como marveling at the stunning vistas along the way. The village of Varenna is known for their pastel-colored homes and an old town which has no streets, just stepped lanes. Upon arrival, we will store our luggage for the day at the rail station, then have free time to stroll the town and have lunch on your own. After lunch, take an enjoyable ferry ride to Bellagio, known as the “Pearl of Lake Como.” You’ll have time to explore Bellagio on your own before returning to Varenna to retrieve our luggage and take the short ferry

ride to our luxury accommodations in Menaggio.

Meals: Breakfast

Overnight: Grand Hotel Mennagio

DAY 5, Sunday, July 20, 2025 – Tremezzo and Lenno



After breakfast, take the ferry to Lenno. Upon arrival, we will take a short boat ride to Villa del Balbianella, one of the most notorious villas on Lake Como where scenes from *Star Wars: Attack of the Clones* and *Casino Royale* were filmed. Then take the short boat ride back to Lenno where we will catch the ferry to Tremezzo. Upon arrival, have free time for lunch on your own at one of the many outdoor cafes, then visit Villa Carlotta, one of the most spectacular villas on Lake Como. Villa Carlotta is a late 17th century villa and one of the few on the lake that can be visited. The botanical gardens and outside of the building are just as impressive as the array of sculptures and grand interiors of the inside. After visiting Villa Carlotta, walk the stunning shores of Lake Como before catching the return ferry to Mennagio.

Meals: Breakfast

Overnight: Grand Hotel Mennagio

DAY 6, Monday, July 21, 2025 – Como and Brunate



After breakfast, take the ferry from Mennagio to the town of Como. Upon arrival, store our luggage for the day. Then take the 7-minute Como-Brunate funicular ride to Brunate which offers a spectacular vantage point of Como from above. Then enjoy lunch on your own and free time in Lake Como’s Gateway city. In the late afternoon, take the train to Milan for our overnight stay.

Meals: Breakfast

Overnight: Ibis Hotel Milan

DAY 7, Tuesday, July 22, 2025 – Tirano and St. Moritz



After breakfast board the train from Milan to Tirano where we will embark on the breathtaking Red Bernina rail journey from Tirano to St. Moritz, rated one of the most scenic train rides in the world. Upon arrival in St. Moritz, enjoy some free time for lunch and a visit to some of the most notable sights: Visit the famous Leaning Tower which dates back to the 12th Century, a remanent of the old Church of St. Mauritius which was destroyed in 1893. Then make a photo stop at the St. Mauritius Fountain, built in 1910, it is a memorial of the leader of a

Roman Legion from 300 AD. Next, we visit the St. Moritz Church situated in the center of St. Moritz Dorf. It is a Protestant church that was built in Neo-gothic style between 1785 to 1787. Then we will make our way back to the rail station for our scenic return rail journey from St. Moritz to Tirano and then our train ride back to Milan.

Meals: Breakfast

Overnight: Ibis Hotel Milan

DAY 8, Wednesday, July 23, 2025 – Piedmont Wine region



After breakfast, embark on a memorable wine tasting tour from Milan to the Langhe Piedmont region, famous for its beautiful landscapes, UNESCO heritage sites, and the most renowned Italian wines like Barolo and Nebbiolo. Your guide will share their incredible knowledge of the wines of this region on our relaxing and enjoyable wine tour. The tour includes a tasting of some of the region's most popular wines and a delicious lunch to accompany the wines. Transportation to and from the hotel included.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Overnight: Ibis Hotel Milan

DAY 9, Thursday, July 24, 2025 –

After breakfast, depart Milan for our international flight back to USA with lasting memories of your journey through Lake Como and the Italian and Swiss Alps.

Meals: Breakfast

Optional Tour to Leonardo Da Vinci's *The Last Supper*: Thursday, July 17, 2025 at 4 pm or later.



Reservations are mandatory and should be booked on your own three months in advance, either [online](#) or by phone (from the US dial 011-39-02-9280-0360, office open Mon–Sat 8:00 am–6:30 pm, closed Sun; the number is often busy — once you get through, select 2 for an English-speaking operator).

NOTE: For a 4 pm entry, you will be escorted to the museum and back to the hotel, but must arrange your own transportation to the hotel if you choose a later entry time.

Inclusions:

- 7 nights deluxe and luxury accommodations
- 8 Meals: 7 breakfasts; 1 wine lunch
- Transportation per itinerary on high-speed trains and ferries
- Professionally guided City Tour of Milan
- Admission to Milan's iconic Duomo and Teatro alla Scala
- Professionally guided City Tour of Verona
- Admission to Verona's Arena
- Verona's Funicolare di Castel San Pietro

- Escorted excursions to Varenna, Bellagio and Menaggio
- Admission to Villa Carlotta and Villa del Balbianella
- Como-Brunate funicular ride to Brunate
- World-renowned Red Bernina rail journey from Tirano to St Moritz
- Piedmont Wine Region Tour with wine tastings & lunch
- Airport transfers & more

Not included:

- International airfare
- Travel insurance
- Meals not included in the itinerary
- Personal spending
- Hotel City Taxes: 6.3 euros per person per night to be paid upon check-in (subject to change)
- Gratuities collected in advance: \$16 total
 - Milan Guide – Partial day \$4
 - Verona Guide - Partial day \$4
 - Piedmont Winery Tour Guide – Full day \$8