



LEHIGH UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

VILLAGE LIFE™

ITALIAN LAKE DISTRICT

MAY 16 TO 24, 2009



- ◆ SPECIALLY ARRANGED ITALIAN COOKING DEMONSTRATION
- ◆ PRIVATE CRUISES ON LAKE COMO AND LAKE MAGGIORE
- ◆ EXCLUSIVE VILLAGE FORUM WITH LOCAL RESIDENTS
- ◆ ALL EXCURSIONS INCLUDED FROM \$3065*





LEHIGH

ALUMNI TRAVEL

Dear Alumni & Friends:

We are delighted to offer **VILLAGE LIFE IN THE ITALIAN LAKE DISTRICT**, a unique travel opportunity that captures the true essence of life in a region where dazzling natural beauty has been a source of inspiration for poets, composers, artists and philosophers for centuries. This itinerary, one of the highly successful and innovative programs in the **VILLAGE LIFE** series, is ideal for exploring the Italian Lake District's unsurpassed natural setting, timeless way of life and rich historical and artistic legacies that stretch back to the Roman Empire.

In this dramatically beautiful region, snowcapped Alpine peaks form the backdrop for serene lakes surrounded by palm trees, picturesque villages and grand villas. Here, enjoy in-depth cultural exploration of an area long favored by European royalty and aristocracy and celebrated by Europe's greatest poets from Virgil to Byron. The landscape is dotted with a long list of architectural gems, from the indulgent palaces of Bellagio and the legendary Villa del Balbianello to the magnificent landmarks of Milan, which are included on this itinerary. This wonderful sojourn is complemented by accommodations in the charming *Hotel Regina Olga*, overlooking Lake Como and ideally located in the heart of the ancient town of Cernobbio.

The unique **VILLAGE FORUM**, which arranges personal contact between residents and visitors, is among the many included features of this program. Here, locals share their insights into daily life in northern Italy. This program also features exclusive expert-guided tours, a series of intellectually stimulating lectures and opportunities to savor northern Italy's acclaimed cuisine.

This exceptional value **including accommodations, most meals, all excursions** and the convenience of unpacking only once, in one of the world's most romantic destinations, creates a magical travel program that has sold out the last three years. We encourage you to join fellow alumni and friends and make your reservation today!

Sincerely,

Robert W. Wolfenden
Assistant Vice President for
Alumni Relations



Cover: The stunning beauty and magnificent architecture of the Italian Lake District has made it one of Italy's premier destinations for 2,000 years.

Stroll along Bellagio's narrow cobblestone streets and experience its authentic old-world charm and beauty.

VILLAGE LIFE

A WAY OF LIFE AROUND THE ITALIAN LAKES

This program is designed for travelers who know that the true essence of a region is best found in its provinces, on its backroads and around its local market squares. Our travel program offers you a comprehensive cultural and educational experience like no other. An exceptional value, VILLAGE LIFE IN THE ITALIAN LAKE DISTRICT focuses on the life and cultural heritage of one of Italy's most romantic regions, where Alpine heights descend to glacial lakes, citrus groves and Renaissance palaces. Here, for one full week, come to know the rhythms of life in the charming lakeside towns of Cernobbio, Como, Varenna and Bellagio. See the artistic genius of Leonardo da Vinci in Milan's monumental 14th-century Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie and discover the secrets of Italy's famous cuisine in a special hands-on cooking class.

Join our exclusive VILLAGE FORUM and meet local residents who provide personal insights and candid looks at daily life in the Italian Lake District.



The charming four-star **Hotel Regina Olga** has been specially selected for this program for its ideal location in the peaceful lakeside village of Cernobbio. Overlooking Lake Como, it offers comfortable accommodations and serves authentic regional cuisine and local specialties in its restaurant.

Unpack once upon arrival for this exceptional travel program that includes all accommodations, exclusively arranged excursions and most meals at an incredibly attractive price. Come experience a special way of living: VILLAGE LIFE IN THE ITALIAN LAKE DISTRICT.



Experience Bellagio's magical combination of splendid architecture and panoramic views of Lake Como and the surrounding snowcapped Alps. Inset: Statue at Villa del Balbianello.

CERNOBBIO

Whether you prefer a stroll along the picturesque waterfront of Lake Como, or a glass of Chianti in a streetside *enoteca* (wine bar), the delightful lakeside village of Cernobbio offers the perfect setting for experiencing the timeless charm, mesmerizing beauty and authentic culture of Italy's Lake District. Renowned for its elegant villas, quaint streets and idyllic lakeside setting at the foot of Mount Bisbino, Cernobbio has been a popular destination for European nobility and royalty—including the exiled Queen Caroline of England—since the 19th century, yet has never outgrown its small town character.

COMO

Nestled at the base of 2,000-foot pre-Alpine mountains at the southern tip of Lake Como, this ancient town is known for its silk as well as its Renaissance towers, churches and palaces interspersed with Neoclassical 19th-century villas and small family shops. Particularly striking is the 14th-century marble cathedral. Its harmonious combination of a late Gothic façade with a newer Baroque dome is the main feature of the town's centuries-old skyline. In the center of Como, charming cobblestone passages wind their way to the Piazza Cavour and the peaceful lakeside promenade.

VARENNA

Known for its quiet, pine-shaded streets and splendid lakeside setting, Varenna traces its origins back more than 2,000 years to the Roman Empire. Here, narrow



alleys wind through the village's perfectly preserved medieval center to the waterfront, while up the hill, splendid Renaissance villas offer stunning views of Lake Como and the surrounding mountains. In addition to its lovely setting and priceless medieval charm, Varenna is known for its famous black marble, which can be found in the floors of Milan's Duomo and in villas, palaces and cathedrals throughout the Lake District.

BELLAGIO

Bellagio is one of the Lake District's most famous towns, sitting on a peninsula that stretches into the heart of Lake Como and renowned for its unparalleled views of the lake and surrounding mountain ranges. Beyond its medieval belfries and streetside cafés, the nobility of Lombardy built some of the most elaborate palaces in all of Italy.

VILLA DEL BALBIANELLO

Just across the lake stands Villa del Balbianello, a romantic's dream set on a steep promontory overlooking the bays of



Isola Bella once was nothing more than a small rocky island in Lake Maggiore; visit its opulent 16th-century Borromeo villa and stroll through some of the most beautiful gardens in the world.



Varema's breathtaking lakeside setting, perfectly manicured gardens and elegant villas make it one of the most romantic villages in Italy.

Diana and Venus. Built in 1787 by Cardinal Angelo Maria Durini, the villa was owned by a series of prelates and nobility ending with the great Italian explorer, Count Guido Monzoni. Today, much of the estate is still decorated with his collection of 18th-century French furniture, antique Chinese art and documents from his expeditions. On the exclusive tour of the villa, see how the beauty of this idyllic estate's graceful stonework, formal gardens and unsurpassed setting have made it one of the most famous properties in Italy.

LAKE MAGGIORE

Surrounded by soaring mountains, lush forests and ancient palaces, Lake Maggiore is the most famous and dramatic of all the Italian Lakes. Here, the contrast between Alpine backgrounds and a tropical foreground is especially dramatic as lush groves of lemon trees, palms and other subtropical species congregate around villas of unsurpassed luxury and taste.

STRESA

Splendid mountain views, tropical gardens and the resplendent blue waters of Lake Maggiore have made Stresa a favored holiday destination since the days of the Roman Empire. A young Ernest Hemingway, who spent time recuperating in Stresa during World War I, was so inspired by the town's beauty that he made it an important setting for his romantic masterpiece, *A Farewell to Arms*.

BORROMEAN ISLANDS

Lake Maggiore's Borromean Islands are named for a family of nobility and great wealth, who over the generations developed the islands into a magical retreat. A magnificent ensemble of Baroque palaces, seashell-encrusted grottoes and immaculately terraced gardens complete with Chinese peacocks define the legendary Isola Bella, one of Italy's most famous symbols of romance and the best known of the Borromean Islands. The island was largely undeveloped until the 16th century when Count Carlo Borromeo III commissioned architect Angelo Crivelli to design and build this splendid complex in honor of the count's wife, Isabella.

MILAN

This bustling city is one of Europe's preeminent centers of commerce, culture and fashion. The Duomo and the Teatro alla Scala are splendid medieval landmarks just steps away from the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II, a world famous shopping plaza. Expanded numerous times throughout the Renaissance, the Duomo is one of the largest churches and most striking Gothic structures in the world. It features an incredibly ornate exterior embellished by more than 2,000 sculptures and is topped with a sea of elaborate spires and towers. Milan is host to some of the finest Renaissance art, including Leonardo da Vinci's masterpiece, *The Last Supper*.



Visit Milan's towering Duomo, home to some of Italy's finest religious art.

HOTEL REGINA OLGA

Overlooking Lake Como in the charming village of Cernobbio just outside of Como, the four-star Hotel Regina Olga combines traditional Italian ambiance with modern facilities, exceptional service and comfortable, stylish accommodations. Your room overlooks legendary Lake Como and features a private bath, air conditioning, direct-dial telephone, satellite television, minibar, hair dryer and ample closet space. Public spaces are tastefully appointed in a classic 19th-century Italian style that recalls the golden age of travel when the hotel opened in 1891. Delectable Italian cuisine is served in the elegant Cenobio dining room, and the lounge, coffee lounge and cocktail terrace bar provide ideal settings for conversation and refreshments. The hotel also offers recreational opportunities, including an outdoor swimming pool set amid the property's beautifully landscaped gardens.



VILLAGE LIFE DAY BY DAY....

Day 1

Depart for Milan, Italy.

Day 2

Arrive in Milan. Transfer to Lake Como and check into the charming four-star *Hotel Regina Olga*. Attend the welcome reception, featuring northern Italy's famous Prosecco sparkling wine, followed by dinner.

Day 3

Excursion

Walking tour of Old Como, highlighted by the Duomo, San Fedele Church and Porta Vittoria.

Exclusive Enrichments

"Como: From Roman Ruins to Medieval Walls to the Present," a lecture presented by a local scholar.

VILLAGE FORUM with local residents.

Day 4

Excursion

Private cruise across Lake Como to Varenna, followed by free time in the charming town of Bellagio and by the visit to the magnificent Villa del Balbianello.

Exclusive Enrichment

Specially arranged, guided tour of Villa del Balbianello.

Day 5

Excursion

Visit to the Aldo Galli Academy of Fine Arts in Como, including the private presentation on art restoration and an

Day 5 continued...

opportunity to meet with students and instructors from the academy.

Exclusive Enrichment

Hands-on culinary class in the Centro Studi Alberghiero Casnati cooking school, followed by an authentic Italian meal.

Day 6

Excursion

Spectacular tour of scenic Lake Maggiore, including a boat cruise to Isola Bella. Stop in the picturesque town of Stresa with time to pursue independent interests.

Day 7

Excursion

Tour of Milan's monuments and highlights, featuring a viewing of Leonardo da Vinci's *The Last Supper* in the Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie, and visits to the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II and the Duomo. There is free time in Milan.

Day 8

Enjoy a day at leisure and the opportunity to visit the colorful street markets nearby, which have been a local tradition for centuries. Attend the farewell dinner this evening.

Day 9

Transfer to the Milan airport for your return flight and arrive in the U.S. this afternoon.

THE ROMANTIC ALLURE OF THE ITALIAN LAKE DISTRICT

From the majestic halls of the Villa del Balbianello and the gardens of the Borromean Islands to the deep-blue glacial lakes of Maggiore and Como surrounded by Alpine peaks, tropical palms and grand patrician villas, the Italian Lake District's spectacular beauty will be at your doorstep throughout this special VILLAGE LIFE program. The region's beauty and uniquely temperate climate first attracted the Romans, who colonized it more than 2,000 years ago. Later, Italian Renaissance nobility found it an ideal setting in which to build their most opulent palaces.

The aristocracy of the 18th and 19th centuries regarded the Lake District an essential part of the "Grand Tour" of Europe, considered necessary for a complete education at the time. The region's gorgeous settings and unsurpassed artistic heritage also made it a favorite destination and a source of inspiration for some of Western Civilization's greatest philosophers, writers and musicians from Virgil and Puccini to Byron and Hemingway. All came to love this uniquely beautiful and romantic corner of Italy. So will you, as you explore the Italian Lake District's natural and artistic treasures for yourself during this enchanting travel opportunity.



A stay in the beautiful town of Stresa on Lake Maggiore left an indelible impression on a young Ernest Hemingway.

INCLUDED FEATURES

- ◆ Seven nights in the charming four-star *Hotel Regina Olga* in Cernobbio, which overlooks Lake Como.
- ◆ Continental breakfast each morning.
- ◆ Four dinners, featuring Italian specialties and complimentary house wine.
- ◆ Welcome reception featuring Prosecco, northern Italy's famous variety of sparkling wine.

Tours and excursions led by expert local guides:

- ◆ Walking tour of **Old Como**.
- ◆ Private boat cruise across **Lake Como** to the ancient village of Varenna.
- ◆ Tour of the perfectly preserved medieval quarters of **Varenna**.
- ◆ Visit to romantic **Bellagio**, the most famous town on Lake Como.
- ◆ Specially arranged tour of the legendary **Villa del Balbianello** on Lake Como.
- ◆ Spectacular, full-day scenic tour of **Lake Maggiore**, featuring a boat cruise to the Borromean Islands.
- ◆ Full-day excursion to Milan, highlighted by a viewing of **Leonardo da Vinci's *The Last Supper*** and the **Duomo**, with free time.

Plus a full program of educational and cultural enrichment including:

- ◆ Engaging lectures and presentations by local experts about regional culture and history including: "Survival Italian" language and customs presentation; and "Como: From Roman Ruins to Medieval Walls to the Present," presented by local scholar and Como native, Fabio Cani.
- ◆ A discussion of contemporary cultural, social and political topics led by local residents at the specially arranged **VILLAGE FORUM**.
- ◆ Private visit to Como's **Aldo Galli Academy of Fine Arts**, which specializes in restoration of historic art, with expert presentations, demonstrations and interaction with students.
- ◆ Specially arranged **hands-on culinary class** and dinner in the **Centro Studi Alberghiero Casnati** cooking school.

And to facilitate your travel experience, we will also provide:

- ◆ All transfers and luggage handling abroad for all participants who have purchased their air tickets through Gohagan & Company and whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- ◆ All gratuities for local guides and drivers on included excursions.
- ◆ The services of an experienced Program Director throughout the program.
- ◆ A hospitality desk in the hotel.
- ◆ Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure information for each participant.
- ◆ Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.



Nestled on the shores of Lake Como and surrounded by majestic alpine peaks, the legendary Villa del Balbianello has one of the most beautiful and dramatic settings in all of Italy.

TARIFF	Early Booking Price* through January 15, 2009	Regular price* after January 15, 2009
* Land only, per person, based on double occupancy	\$3065	\$3365
♦ Taxes are an additional \$245 per person and are subject to change.		

VILLAGE LIFE ITALIAN LAKE DISTRICT RESERVATION FORM

Send to:
Lehigh Alumni Tours
27 Memorial Drive West
Bethlehem, PA 18015-3087
Phone: 610-758-4682
Fax: 610-758-3316

*For more information,
please call Gohagan
& Company at
(800) 922-3088.*

Please make my/our reservations for:

- Double occupancy (one queen bed).
- Double occupancy (two twin beds).
- Single accommodations for an additional \$800.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Name(s) (as it appears on passport)

First Initial Last Class Year

First Initial Last Class Year

Address (no P.O. Box number please)

City State Zip Code

Telephone: (Home) (Business)

Email Address (Fax)

Preferred name(s) on name badge(s) Tour No. 068-05/16/09-055

Enclosed is my/our check(s) for \$ _____ as deposit (\$600 per person). Make check(s) payable to 2009 VILLAGE LIFE IN THE ITALIAN LAKE DISTRICT.

Deposits can also be made by credit card; however, all FINAL payments are required to be made in cash, by check or wire transfer by February 10, 2009.

I/we authorize you to charge my/our deposit to: Visa MasterCard

Card No. _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature as it appears on credit card

Program Air:

- Flights New York/Milan with return Milan/New York. Airfare is available at an additional cost. ‡
- Flights from _____
(fill in departure city)
to Milan, Italy, with return from Milan, Italy, at an additional cost to be advised. ‡

Class: Economy Business First

An Air Coordinator will contact you no later than four months prior to departure regarding your selections.

Please contact your travel agent or air carrier directly for any deviations to the above.

‡Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability, and is nonrefundable.

I/we will make my/our own air arrangements.



Crystal clear lakes, Alpine views and grand villas define the beauty and charm of Lake Maggiore.

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Company

CONTRACT: TERMS & CONDITIONS

NOT INCLUDED: Taxes; passport fees; visas and fees for obtaining visas; personal expenses such as laundry and telephone calls; accident/sickness, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; gratuities to hotel personnel; optional sightseeing excursions; excess baggage charges on aircraft; local departure air taxes; airfare and associated local taxes, airport facility taxes and federal inspection fees not listed in the "Included Features" section; transfers and baggage handling to/from airport/hotel on day(s) of arrival and/or departure 1) if you have not purchased your air arrangements through Thomas P. Gohagan & Company, or 2) if you are arriving earlier or later than and/or departing earlier or later than the scheduled group transfer(s); meals and alcoholic beverages not listed in the "Included Features" section; and all other services not specifically mentioned in the "Included Features" section.

AIRFARE: Airfare is subject to change and availability, and is nonrefundable. Your airline ticket constitutes a contract between you and the airline (not Thomas P. Gohagan & Company), even if purchased through Thomas P. Gohagan & Company.

LUGGAGE: Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without prior notice. Please contact your airline(s) for the most current luggage allowance policy.

HEALTH: Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention (for example, the need for a wheelchair) must be reported in writing when you make your reservation.

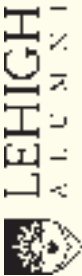
DISCOUNTED RESERVATIONS: Discounts apply only to those reservations received in the offices of Thomas P. Gohagan & Company in writing, accompanied by the required deposit, by January 15, 2009. In the event a "discounted" reservation must be cancelled, no "replacement" reservation can be substituted at the discounted rate. A "replacement" reservation is, in effect, a new reservation and can be substituted only at the full-fare tariff. Change and/or cancellation fees apply as outlined in this "Contract: Terms and Conditions" for the "replacement" reservation and the cancelled reservation.

CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS: Cancellations for all or any part of the trip will not be effective until received in writing in the offices of Thomas P. Gohagan & Company. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellations are subject to a \$200 per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 120 days prior to departure; from 95 through 119 days prior to departure, \$600 per person; from 45 through 94 days prior to departure, 50% of the published full regular tariff; from 22 through 44 days prior to departure, 75% of the published full regular tariff; cancellations 21 days or less prior to departure, a no-show, or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariff. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees and administrative fees will be assessed.

Because these cancellation policies are strictly enforced, we strongly recommend for your protection that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. Trip cancellation insurance is available through Thomas P. Gohagan & Company for comprehensive coverage of such expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident, as well as damaged or lost luggage. We will send you an application after you make your reservation.

RESPONSIBILITY: Thomas P. Gohagan & Company, the sponsoring institution or association, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, agents, and assigns (collectively "Gohagan"), do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, lodging facilities, airline, vessel, or other transportation companies, guides or guide services, local ground operators, providers or organizers of optional excursions, food service providers, etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, Gohagan is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or entity of any third party.

In addition and without limitation, Gohagan is not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God or force majeure, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, animals, strikes or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind, sickness, illness, the lack of availability of or access to appropriate medical attention, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of airplanes or other means of transportation, or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart on time.



Lehigh University Alumni Association
27 Memorial Drive West
Bethlehem, PA 18015-3087

If due to weather, flight schedules or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend an additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner's risk. The right is reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a participant on these trips at any time. Specific room/cabin assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel/cruise line.

Gohagan reserves the right to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Gohagan shall not be liable for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. Gohagan may cancel a trip for any reason whatsoever; if so, its sole responsibility is to refund monies paid by the participant to it. Gohagan is not required to cancel any trip for any reason including without limitation, United States Department of State, World Health Organization or other Warnings or Advisories of any kind. All fares, as well as ship schedules, port calls, hours of arrival and departure, special programs and guest lecture series (if applicable), are subject to change or cancellation without prior notice. Gohagan shall not be required to refund any portion of the fare or make any other compensation under these circumstances. Gohagan is not responsible for penalties assessed by air carriers resulting from operational and/or itinerary changes, even if Gohagan makes the flight arrangements or cancels the trip. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute vessels or hotels of a similar category for those listed in this brochure. Gohagan reserves the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in airfares, currency fluctuations or fuel surcharges and all such increases are to be paid to Gohagan upon notice to the tour participant of such increases.

ARBITRATION AGREEMENT: Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating in any way to these Terms and Conditions, to the Responsibility Clause, to the brochure, or any other information relating in any way to the trip, or to the trip itself, shall be settled solely and exclusively by binding arbitration in Chicago, Illinois, in accordance with the commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association then existent.

RATES: Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change prior to departure.

REGISTRATION: CST#: 2031868-40, WST#: 601 767 666. OST#: TA 0905.

ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts the terms and conditions of this contract.



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