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TOURIST ITINERARIES IN HISTORICAL RESIDENCES

**ADSI LOMBARDIA** 

































# FROM WEST TO EAST ACROSS THE LAKES

This is a discovery voyage through the historic private homes of northern Lombardy, crossing mountains, lakes, landscapes and centuries of noble family's history, from one end of the region to the other.



### **DAY I: Lake Maggiore**

Visit to the **Rocca d'Angera**, an ancient fortification which has belonged to the Princely Borromeo family since the mid 1400s. It houses a **Doll Museum**, one of the most important in Europe for the number and variety of pieces it contains. Lunch at the lake shore.

Visit to the **Hermitage of Santa Caterina del Sasso**, perched on a sheer rocky wall overlooking the lake, an absolutely suggestive site.

Visit to **Villa Cicogna Mozzoni**, an elegant example of late Lombard Renaissance country residence, surrounded by an impressive Italian-style garden, with terraces and water features.

Transfer to Lake Como and accommodation in the hotel.

# DAY II: Lake Como

Visit of the historical centre of Como.

Visit to **Villa Pizzo**, noble 17th century residence built on the promontory of the Gulf of Cernobbio. It is only entirely visible from the lake. The villa is famous for its elegance, breath-taking views and beautiful garden. Lunch at restaurant.



Visit to **Villa del Balbianello**, an elegant and romantic 18th century residence, standing on a peninsula offering enchanting views of the lake. Now property of the FAI (Fondo Ambiente Italiano).

Dinner at **Villa Sola Cabiati**, an elegant Baroque-style residence, now managed by the **Grand Hotel Tremezzo.** Otherwise dinner at the same Grand Hotel.

# DAY III: Brianza

Arrival at **Villa Medici Giulini**, which houses an important collection of musical instruments (especially fortepianos). Visit of the residence with a small private concert and lunch.

Afternoon visit to **Villa Perego di Cremnago**, a summer residence in late baroque style. Inside, the rooms are richly furnished and decorated. The Italian-style garden is also of outstanding beauty.

Transfer to Bergamo and accommodation at the hotel. Dinner each on his own.



### **DAY IV: Bergamo**

- Visit to the A**ccademia Carrara**, the museum which houses masterpieces by Raphael, Bellini, Mantegna, Pisanello, Lotto, Moroni, Canaletto, etc. One of Italy's most important museums.
- Visit to the **Church of San Bernardino** with its renowned altarpiece by Lorenzo Lotto.
- Visit to the 18<sup>th</sup> century **Palazzo Agliardi**, lunch in the reception rooms, welcomed by the hosts.
- Afternoon, visit to the medieval town of *Città Alta:* Piazza Vecchia, the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore, the Colleoni Chapel and the Cathedral.
- Visit to **Palazzo Terzi**, a splendid private residence near Piazza Vecchia, with richly decorated stately rooms and a breath-taking panoramic terrace.
- Dinner at a restaurant in San Vigilio with a spectacular view over the entire city of Bergamo.

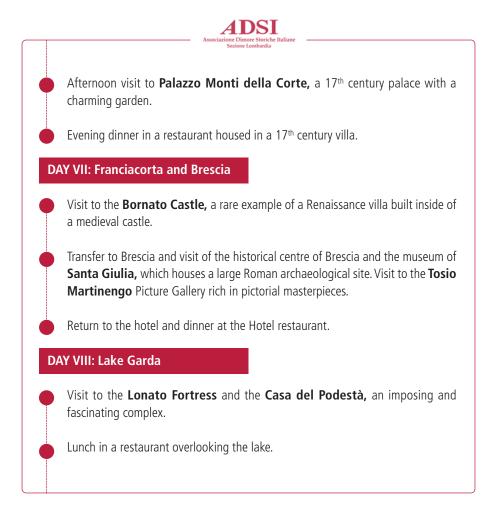


### DAY V: province of Bergamo

- Morning transfer to Almenno San Salvatore: visit to the Romanesque churches of San Tomè and San Nicola. Visit to **Villa Vitalba Lurani Cernuschi** with wine tasting in their cellars.
- Lunch at **Villa Pesenti Agliardi** in Sombreno followed by a visit to the neoclassical villa designed by Leopold Pollack, the same architect of Villa Reale in Milan.
- In the afternoon visit to the Sagrestie d'Alzano, an unexpected baroque masterpiece.
- Transfer to Franciacorta, accommodation in the hotel.
- Transfer to Mont'Isola on Lake Iseo and dinner at a restaurant.

### **DAY VI: Franciacorta**

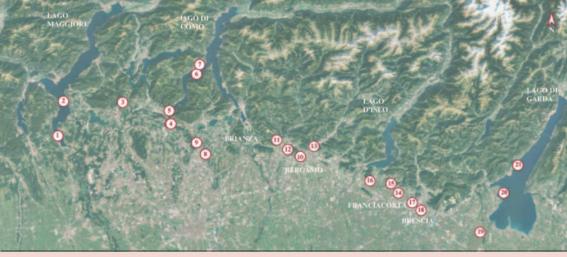
- Visit to the **Abbazia Olivetana** of Rodengo Saiano or the Church of San Pietro in Lamosa and a promenade in the **Torbiere del Sebino** oasis.
- Visit to **Borgo Mosnel** and their wine cellars, that produce excellent Franciacorta DOCG. Wine tasting and picnic in the vineyard in case of good weather or lunch in a farmhouse or restaurant in case of a colder weather.





Transfer by boat to Isola del Garda where you will visit **Villa Borghese Cavazza** and its wonderful gardens.

Transfer to Bogliaco, for a tour of the 18<sup>th</sup> century **Villa Bettoni**. The current sumptuous residence was built by the sixteen children of Gian Domenico Bettoni, founder of a lemon trade company, that sold Gargnano lemons throughout Europe.



#### DAY 1 Lake Maggiore

Rocca of Angera and Doll Mseum Santa Caterina del Sasso Sanctuary Villa Cicogna Mozzoni

#### DAY 6 Franciacorta

Abbazia Olivetana of Rodengo Saiano Promenade in the Torbiere del Sebino park Borgo Mosnel, wine tasting and lunch Palazzo Monti della Corte and dinner at the villa

#### **DAY 7** Franciacorta and Brescia

Bornato Castle Museum of Santa Giulia Tosio Martinengo Picture Gallery

# DAY 2 Lake Como

Como Villa Pizzo Villa del Balbianello Dinner at Villa Sola Cabiati or Grand Hotel Tremezzo

#### DAY 5 Province of Bergamo

Almenno san Salvatore Villa Vitalba Lurani Cernuschi and wine tasting Lunch at Villa Pesenti Agliardi at Sombreno Sagrestie di Alzano Transfer to Franciacorta Dinner at Mont'Isola on Lake Iseo

#### DAY 8 Lake Garda

Lonato Fortress and Casa del Podestà Villa Borghese Cavazza at the Garda Island Villa Bettoni at Gargnano

#### DAY 3 Brianza

Villa Medici Giulini and lunch Villa Perego di Cremnago Transfer to Bergamo

#### **DAY 4 Bergamo**

Accademia Carrara Church of San Bernardino Palazzo Agliardi and lunch *Città Alta:* Duomo, Colleoni Chapel, Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore Palazzo Terzi





















# FROM NORTH TO SOUTH ALONG THE RIVERS

This is a downhill journey to discover the private historic residences of Lombardy, following the main rivers: Adda, Serio, Ticino, Po and Mincio, from north to south. Changing landscapes reflected against the water's surface are united by centuries of aristocratic history, from one end of the region to the other.



# **DAY I: Sondrio**

Visit of **Tirano**, a small town in the heart of the Alps, rich in history thanks to its strategic position and its role as a commercial and religious crossroads. Visit to **Palazzo Salis**, a 16th century residence of the Sertoli Salis Counts. An internal museum and beautiful Italian garden can be visited.

Excursion on the **Bernina Red Train**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, connecting Tirano to St. Moritz.

### DAY II: Lake Lecco

Arrival to **Varenna**, check-in at the hotel and panoramic walk through this small lake town who was originally a fishing village and now a treasure trove of artistic jewels on the lake shore. Visit to the beautiful **Botanical Garden of Villa Monastero**.

Ferry trip to **Bellagio**, walk through the famous town who's colourful buildings are reflected between the lake water and the mountains. Lunch by the lake. Afternoon visit to the wonderful English-style gardens of **Villa Melzi d'Eril**, a place of inspiration for writers, artists and poets thanks to its botanical equilibrium.



### **DAY III: Brianza**

Arrival to Robbiate and visit of Palazzo **Bassi Brugnatelli**, a 17<sup>th</sup> century mansion peculiar for its both neoclassical and baroque features. The complex consists of a residential villa with a private chapel and a large garden.

A pleasant walk along the Adda River with outdoor lunch near **"Traghetto Leonardesco".** Leonardo da Vinci studied the course of the Adda river while working for Ludovico il Moro and designed the ferry (identical to the current one) during his stay in Vaprio d'Adda with Count Girolamo Melzi between 1506 and 1507.

### Transfer to the province of Bergamo

Visit to the **Lurano Castle**, owned by the Secco Suardo family. The castle is home to an important library and study centre with the National Historical Archive of Italian Restorers.

Transfer to **Crema**, dinner and an evening walk through the lively historical centre on the banks of the river Serio. Crema, formerly under the Milanese rule in the 15th century passed under the dominion of the Venetian Republic, serving as an important outpost on the western border. DAY IV: Crema and Pavia's countryside

Visit to the cathedral and the Renaissance Piazza Duomo.

Guided visit to **Palazzo Zurla De Poli**, a treasure trove of Lombard Renaissance architecture, with the main hall and the stately rooms on the piano nobile frescoed by the main masters of the area, including Aurelio Buso and Giovan Battista Castello, known as "il Bergamasco". Lunch in the courtyard.

Sezione Lombardia

Visit to **Palazzo Terni De Gregorj**, a magnificent example of the new local aristocracy's power at the time of Venetian rule, originally built in 1698 and curiously unfinished compared to the original project, it features an elegant curtain wall topped by statues.

Transfer to Pavia's countryside, on the banks of the Po River

Visit to the **Castle of Chignolo Po**, the "Lombard Versailles" guarding the *Via Francigena*. The castle has a millenary history: from the Longobard tower, to the theatre of the *Uccellerie* (mid 18<sup>th</sup> century aviary built in the forms of a small pavilion), to the court of the arts and crafts to the medieval armoury and the Empire-style hall.



### DAY V: Pavia's countryside

Visit to the magnificent **Certosa di Pavia**: a monumental combination of styles, marbles, paintings and decorations that Gian Galeazzo Visconti had built near Pavia in 1396, calling upon the most famous architects and artists of the time.

Lunch in the agrestic setting of the 18<sup>th</sup> century **Villa Botta Adorno.** Transfer to the Oltrepo pavese.

Visit and wine tasting at Tenuta Rocca De Giorgi, founded by Count Augusto Giorgi di Vistarino, who had the intuition to import from France the noble Pinot Noir vine to his vineyard.

### Transfer to Cremona

### **DAY VI: Cremona**

A historical walk through the city centre, between Piazza Duomo, the *ll Torrazzo* Bell Tower (the highest medieval brick bell tower in Europe), the workshops of the lute-makers and the master confectioners of the famous *torrone* (nougat). Visit to the **Violin Museum** and the beautiful **Ala Ponzone Museum** Picture Gallery in the rooms of the 16<sup>th</sup> century Palazzo Affaitati.



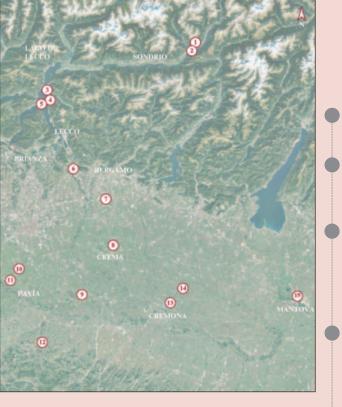
Transfer to Persico Dosimo for a visit to **Villa Calciati Crotti**, an 18<sup>th</sup> century hunting lodge immersed in the soft lights of the Cremona countryside. The Villa was commissioned by the noble Gerenzani family, in 1680 to a design of the Cremonese architect Natali.

# **DAY VII: Mantua**

At the discovery of the Gonzaga's city: bathed by the Mincio river and the Renaissance architecture of buildings such as the Palazzo Ducale and Palazzo Te.

Visit to **Palazzo Ducale**, an imposing building which houses the famous *Camera degli Sposi* ("bridal chamber"), embellished with frescoes by Andrea Mantegna.

Visit to **Palazzo Te**, known for the *Sala dei Giganti* ("giant's chamber"), in which every portion of the surface is covered with frescoes depicting mythological scenes.



### DAY 6 Cremona

Piazza Duomo and bell tower *II Torrazzo* Violin museum and the Ala Ponzone museum Villa Calciati Crotti di Persico Dosimo

DAY 7 Mantua Mantua, Palazzo Ducale and Palazzo Te DAY 1 Sondrio Tirano and Palazzo Salis Excursion on the Bernina Red Train

#### DAY 2 Lake Lecco

Varenna and the Villa Monastero gardens Bellagio, lunch on the lake shore Villa Melzi d'Eril gardens

#### DAY 3 Brianza

Palazzo Bassi Brugnatelli Lunch along the Adda river in proximity of the Traghetto Leonardesco Transfer to the Bergamo Countryside Lurano Castle Transfere to Crema

#### DAY 4 Crema and Pavia's countryside

Piazza del Duomo Palazzo Zurla De Poli Palazzo Terni De Gregorj Transfer to Pavia's countryside Chignolo Po Castle

#### DAY 5 Pavia's countryside

Certosa di Pavia Villa Morelli di Popolo and lunch Transfer to the Oltrepo pavese Rocca De Giorgi estate and wine tasting Transfer to Cremona

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# ADSI LOMBARDY RESIDENCES INVOLVED

# FROM WEST TO EAST ACROSS THE LAKES

Villa Cicogna Mozzoni, Villa Pizzo, Villa Sola Cabiati, Villa Medici Giulini, Villa Perego, Palazzo Agliardi, Palazzo terzi, Villa Vitalba Lurani Cernuschi, Villa Pesenti Agliardi, Borgo Mosnel, Palazzo Monti della Corte, Bornato castle, Casa del Podestà, Villa Borghese Cavazza, Villa Bettoni.

# **Itinerary referent:**

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# FROM NORTH TO SOUTH ALONG THE RIVERS

Palazzo Salis, Palazzo Bassi Brugnatelli, Lurano castle, Palazzo Zurla De Poli, Palazzo Terni de Gregorj, Castello di Chignolo Po, Villa Botta Adorno, Rocca de Giorgi estate, Villa Calciati Crotti.

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# THE PASSPORT OF ADSI LOMBARDIA RESIDENCES

Visitors can apply for the Passport of the Lombardy Residences, to take "on the road" with them and collect the memories of special days discovering all the villas, palaces and castles involved!

