

# Italian Lakes & Swiss Mountains

9 DAYS

A scenic, nature-inspired journey delivering the best of Italy and Switzerland's stunning lakes, intimate lakeside villages and beautiful mountains. Experience the crystal-clear waters of glacial lakes framed by green mountains and snow-capped peaks that have lured the elite over the last millennia. This unique tour covers 6 panoramic Lugano; and beautiful Lake Maggiore from the shores of both Italy and Switzerland. With deluxe transport including by train on the iconic Bernina Express and boasting the finest 5-star lakeside hotels, a comfortable, special and relaxing experience is assured.



# Ormina Highlights & Inclusions

- > Visit Italy and Switzerland's 'must see' lakes, lakeside villages and Alpine peaks.
- > 8 nights in exquisite 5-star hotels.
- > 8 breakfasts (B), 3 lunches (L).
- > Guided sightseeing in Lake Como, St Moritz and Lake Maggiore.
- > Lunch and wine tasting in Franciacorta.
- > Lunch in Bellagio served with magnificent views.
- > Train journey on the iconic Bernina Express.
- > Entrance to Villa Carlotta and Palais Borromée.
- > Visit 6 panoramic lakes of Iseo, Como, St Moritz, Lugano, Maggiore and Orta.
- > Visit beautiful lakeside towns including Bellagio, Locarno, Ascona and Stresa.
- > Deluxe VIP transport and boat excursions on Lake Como and Lake Maggiore.
- > Airport transfers on first and last day.
- > Note: hotel city taxes, if applicable, are not included.

## TOUR FOCUS









#### DAY 1 Milan

Welcome to Milan for the start of an unforgettable adventure covering Italy and Switzerland's beautiful lakes and mountains. On arrival, transfer to your centrally located hotel to freshen up, before enjoying the rest of the day at leisure.

OVERNIGHT: Galleria Vik Milano 5-star or similar

## DAY 2 Milan – Franciacorta – Lake Iseo – Lake Como (B, L)

Visit the Franciacorta region, characterised by rolling hills and perfect soil for the cultivation of grapes. Enjoy a tasting of the area's most famous export, Franciacorta sparkling wine, followed by a light lunch. Afterward, enjoy leisure time in Lake Iseo to perhaps cruise the crystal-clear waters of Lake Iseo, surrounded by lush green mountains with time to stroll the Lake's stunning Island. Monte Isola is the largest lake island in Italy and with a peak of 600 metres above sea level, is one of the highest in Europe. Afterward, continue to Lake Como for an evening at leisure in your amazing hotel.

STAY 3 NIGHTS: Grand Hotel Tremezzo 5-star or similar







### DAY 3 Lake Como (B. L)

Explore magnificent Lake Como, a popular retreat for aristocrats and the wealthy since Roman times. The Lake is of glacial origin and has been voted one of the 20 most beautiful lakes in the world. Commence with a guided tour of Villa Carlotta, boasting luxurious interiors and an exquisite 17-acre garden decorated with sculptures, stairs, fountains and over 500 species of plants. Take the ferry to Bellagio, the famous village located on a beautiful promontory with authentic shops and cobbled alleyways. After a village tour, enjoy lunch with magnificent views and leisure time for shopping and gelato, before returning to your hotel by ferry.



Dine on Lake Como's Isola Comachina at an amazing trattoria serving delicious local dishes and amazing views. George Clooney is a frequent guest.

## DAY 4 Lake Como (B)

Enjoy the entire day at your leisure. Options include a visit to Varenna or Menaggio; visit Villa del Balbianello as featured in many films such as Casino Royale; lunch at the exclusive Villa d'Este or relax in the hotel's opulent spa and pool.

## DAY 5 Lake Como – Tirano – St Moritz – Lugano (B)

Depart for a train ride aboard the iconic Bernina Express. The stunning journey twists, turns and loops through incredible landscapes and across amazing bridges, following the historic Rhaetian Railway which is UNESCO World Heritage Listed. On arrival in St Moritz, enjoy a guided tour of this Alpine resort that stands at a crisp 5,910 feet above sea level. Afterward, have time for lunch and a stroll along the lake, before departing to your sexy Lugano hotel with a stunning view.

STAY 2 NIGHTS: THE VIEW Lugano 5-star or similar



Enjoy a train ride on the iconic Bernina Express with magnificent panoramas of both Italy and Switzerland

## DAY 6 Lugano (B)

Enjoy the entire day at leisure to explore this beautiful Italian speaking Swiss town. Stroll the pedestrian streets and piazzas littered with designer stores; people watch in Piazza della Riforma ringed with pastel coloured, neo classical palazzi; or stroll Lake Lugano's scenic promenade.

## DAY 7 Lugano – Locarno – Ascona – Stresa (B)

Our Swiss discovery continues with a quick stop in Locarno with enough time to lose yourself in its maze of speciality craft stores. Continue to the quaint village of Ascona on the Swiss shores of Lake Maggiore. Enjoy time for an independent lunch at one of Ascona's many lakeside café's before crossing through stunning snow-capped mountains to return to Italy. On arrival, experience Lake Maggiore from a different perspective with a relaxing evening at leisure.

STAY 2 NIGHTS: Grand Hotel des lles Borromees 5-star or similar

## DAY 8 Stresa – Isola Bella – Stresa (B)

Enjoy a morning guided tour to learn about Lake Maggiore, Stresa and its nearby villages. The tour includes the ferry to Isola Bella, one of the Borromean Islands for a visit to the fishing village and the beautiful Palazzo Palais Borromée with its Italianate Gardens. Afterward, return to Stresa for an afternoon at leisure.

## DAY 9 Stresa – Lake Orta – Milan (B. L)

Visit Lake Orta which features the beautiful Island, Isola San Giulio and many lakeside villages including Orta San Giulio, Omegna and Pettenasco. Enjoy time to visit Orta San Giulio and soak up the Lake's atmosphere before celebrating with a memorable closing lunch. Afterward, if not extending your stay with us on a post-tour extension, transfer to a Milan airport or Milan centre.

# Departures and Pricing

2022			2023		
STARTS	ENDS	PRICE*	STARTS	ENDS	PRICE*
Milan	Milan	Twin Share per person	Milan	Milan	Twin Share per person
14-May-22	22-May-22	\$8,390	13-May-23	21-May-23	\$8,690
18-Jun-22	26-Jun-22	\$8,390	17-Jun-23	25-Jun-23	\$8,690
16-Jul-22	24-Jul-22	\$8,390	15-Jul-23	23-Jul-23	\$8,690
03-Sep-22	11-Sep-22	\$8,390	02-Sep-23	10-Sep-23	\$8,690
24-Sep-22	02-Oct-22	\$8,390	23-Sep-23	01-Oct-23	\$8,690
Sir	ngle Supplement	\$4,200	Single Supplement \$4,300		



## THE VIEW LUGANO STAY 2 NIGHTS

- > The hotel's 16 rooms are all suites facing Lake Lugano and boast wonderful views from generous balconies.
- > Hotel amenities are first class with complimentary electric vehicles for guests to discover the town. The boutique hotel also features a modern full service spa and indoor swimming pool.
- > Luxury personified.



# Want to discover more?

OUR MOST POPULAR TOUR EXTENSIONS

#### PRE-TOUR RECOMMENDATIONS

### Milan City Break (4 Days)

> Visit the main sites in Milan with a private guide including admission to the Milan Cathedral with rooftop access, Brera Picture Gallery and Leonardo da Vinci's Vineyard.

Explore more on page 65, tailored to exclude Lake Como.

## **Venice** City Break (4 Days)

- > Explore Venice as a pre-tour tailored itinerary with a private car or train transfer to Milan.
- > Visit the main sites including Piazza San Marco, Saint Mark's Basilica, Doge's Palace, Rialto Bridge and Grand Canal; take a day trip to the islands of Murano, Burano and Torcello; and experience an iconic gondola ride.

Explore more on page 64.

#### **POST-TOUR RECOMMENDATIONS**

## A Piedmont: Food, Wine & Truffles (7 Days) Small

Group Journey

- > Extend post-tour into the Piedmont region, famed for its award-winning Barolo and Barbaresco wines and the world's best truffles... a foodie's paradise.
- > Activities include truffle hunting with dogs, wine tasting with a master sommelier, lunch at a Barolo winery, cooking class and guided tours of Turin and Alba.

## Explore more on page 37.

## **Emilia-Romagna** Regional Discovery (6 Days)

- > Continue your gastronomy adventure into Emilia-Romagna to visit producers of Italy's most important foods such as prosciutto, Modena balsamic vinegar and Parmesan cheese. Also visit Antica Corte Pallavicina for a Michelin star lunch.
- > The region also boasts the medieval towns of Bologna and Ravenna that played significant roles in Italy's history.

Explore more on page 69.