Immerse yourself in the true essence of town and country life in northern Italy in spectacular Venice and the fabled Lake District. In picturesque Cernobbio, spend four nights in a lake-view room in the charming HOTEL REGINA OLGA. Enjoy a private boat cruise on Lake Como, a setting that has inspired poets, composers, artists and philosophers for centuries. Explore the treasures of Bellagio, Villa del Balbianello and Stresa; cruise across Lake Maggiore to the Borromean Islands; and walk through storied Verona, a UNESCO World Heritage site, to see the balcony where Juliet yearned for her Romeo. In the floating city of Venice, spend three nights in a four-star hotel near Piazza San Marco. Enjoy a private boat cruise along the famous palace-lined Grand Canal and experience the city’s cobblestoned alleys and meandering waterways. Enriching lectures and the exclusive TOWN & COUNTRY LIFE FORUM® with local residents provide personal perspectives of the region. This comprehensive small group program is the best way to experience the northern Italian town and country life. Milan/Bergamo Pre-Program and Florence Post-Program Options. (176 words)

**ITINERARY**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Destination</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Depart the U.S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Milan, Italy/Cernobbio</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Cernobbio/Como/Cernobbio</td>
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<td>Cernobbio/Bellagio/Cernobbio</td>
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<td>Cernobbio/Lake Maggiore/Cernobbio</td>
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<td>Cernobbio/Verona/Venice</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Venice</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Venice/Return to the U.S.</td>
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**Activity Level**

Moderately Active

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- One-of-a-kind, comprehensive *soggiorno* (sojourn).
- Four nights in lake-view rooms in the charming HOTEL REGINA OLGA, ideally located on beautiful Lake Como.
- Three nights in the heart of romantic Venice in a deluxe hotel near Piazza San Marco.
- Small group enables the true experience of life in the Italian Lake District and Venice.
- Private boat tours on Lake Como and Lake Maggiore and along the Grand Canal Venice.
- Specially arranged tour of the stunning 18th-century Villa del Balbianello and gardens, owned and maintained by the Italian National Trust.
- Visit the ancient Roman city of Verona and see the legendary balcony of Shakespeare’s Juliet.
- Experience the vivacity of Piazza San Marco, the social, religious and political center of Venice.
- Exclusive TOWN & COUNTRY LIFE FORUM® featuring local residents.
- Enriching lecture in Como by local scholars.
- Complimentary use of an audio headset provided for each participant to enjoy clear narration from guides on all excursions.
- Milan and Bergamo Pre-Program Option and Florence Post-Program Option.

**HOTEL REGINA OLGA**

Overlooking Lake Como in the charming village of Cernobbio, HOTEL REGINA OLGA combines traditional Italian ambiance with exceptional service and comfortable accommodations. It is a short water taxi ride from Como and within easy walking distance to boutiques and trattorias. Its classic 19th-century Italian style takes you back to the golden age of travel when the hotel opened. By special arrangement, your room will feature a lovely view of legendary Lake Como, a private bathroom and amenities including air conditioning, direct dial telephone, satellite television, minibar, hair dryer and ample closet space. The elegant Cenobio dining room serves northern Italian cuisine, and the lounge, coffee lounge and cocktail terrace bar provide ideal settings for conversation and refreshments. For your enjoyment, the hotel also offers beautifully landscaped gardens, bicycles and an outdoor swimming pool.

**INCLUDED FEATURES**

**In Cernobbio**
- Four nights in the charming HOTEL REGINA OLGA featuring comfortable accommodations overlooking Lake Como.
- Full buffet breakfast each morning.
- One dinner in the hotel, featuring northern Italian specialties with house wine included.
- Welcome Reception with an assortment of Italian wines and Prosecco.
- Transfer from Cernobbio to Venice, including lunch in Verona.

**In Venice**
- Three nights in a four-star hotel ideally located in the heart of Venice near Piazza San Marco.
- Full buffet breakfast each morning.
- One dinner in the hotel with house wine included.
- Farewell Reception in the hotel.

**Local Expert-Guided Excursions**
- Walking tour of Old Como.
- **Private boat cruise** across Lake Como to medieval Bellagio and the 18th-century Villa del Balbianello.
- Spectacular, full-day scenic tour of Lake Maggiore, featuring a **private cruise** to the Borromean Islands.
- Walking tour of the ancient Roman city center of Verona, a UNESCO World Heritage site,
featuring the Verona Arena, home to fascinating Opera performances; the Gothic tombs of the Scaligeri; and a stop outside Juliet’s house to see the balcony that inspired Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet*.

- Walking tour of **Venice** featuring the Piazza San Marco, St. Mark’s Basilica and Doges Palace.
- **Private boat cruise** along Venice’s famous palace-lined **Grand Canal**.

**Exclusive Cultural Enrichments**

- Specially arranged **TOWN & COUNTRY LIFE FORUM®** with local Lombardy residents who will discuss contemporary cultural and social topics.
- Specially arranged private tour of the Italian National Trust’s magnificent **Villa del Balbianello**.
- Visit to the splendid **Isola Bella**.
- Exclusive, private lectures: Como history and culture presented by a local scholar and Como native, and Leonardo da Vinci presented by a local resident in Cernobbio.
- Time at your own pace to explore romantic **Bellagio**, “Pearl of the Lake,” the most famous village on Lake Como and known for its remarkable villas.
- Time to experience **Stresa’s** spectacular views and tropical gardens.
- Visit to the **Gallerie dell’Accademia** in Venice.
- Opportunities to savor northern Italy’s traditional cuisine during included meals and on your own.

**ENHANCED TRAVEL SERVICES**

- Transfers and luggage handling abroad for participants whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- All excursions and visits, as outlined above, with experienced naturalists and local guides.
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- Hospitality desk in the hotel.
- The services of an experienced Gohagan & Company Program Director throughout the program.
- Complimentary use of a state-of-the-art headset for each participant during guided excursions.
- Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure information.
- Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.

*All Included Features are contingent upon final brochure pricing.*

**MILAN • BERGAMO PRE-PROGRAM OPTION**

Widely recognized as the fashion capital of the world, the city of Milan has an ancient cultural heritage and legacy that blends the ornately preserved palaces, churches and museums with vibrant contemporary life, an abundance of haute cuisine, art and operatic traditions. Visit the world-famous Teatro alla Scala opera house and Milan’s exquisite Duomo. In Bergamo, enjoy a wealth of artistic and architectural splendor in two distinct parts of the city—Bergamo Alto and Bergamo
Basso. The upper town of Bergamo Alto is filled with enchanting medieval and Renaissance streets and structures, while the lower town of Bergamo Basso offers a more contemporary style. Accommodations for two nights are in Milan’s deluxe SHERATON DIANA MAJESTIC.

**FLORENCE POST-PROGRAM OPTION**

The birthplace of the Renaissance, the iconic UNESCO World Heritage site of Florence is a treasure trove of the period’s unparalleled achievements in art, architecture and literature. En route to Florence, stop for a walking tour and lunch in Bologna, Italy’s food capital and home to Europe’s oldest university (1088). Dante, Boccaccio and Giotto established the intellectual ascendancy of Florence in the first half of the 14th century and that intellectual and artistic verve has resounded through the city ever since. Visit the Galleria dell’Accademia, originally founded as an art school in 1563, and see Michelangelo’s *David*, carved when the artist was only 26 years old and today considered one of his crowning achievements. Tour the Uffizi Gallery, which houses Botticelli’s famous *Birth of Venus, Adoration of the Magi* by Gentile da Fabriano and works by Michelangelo, Raphael and Giotto. Accommodations for two nights are in a deluxe hotel.

*The Pre- and Post-Program Options are available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.*