

IABMAS 2012

6th International Conference on Bridge Maintenance, Safety and Management
Stresa, Lake Maggiore, Italy, July 8-12, 2012

Tour for Accompanying Persons

BELLAGIO AND THE MAGNIFICENT VILLAS OF LAKE COMO

Tuesday, July 10th, 2012

1. Tour Description

Few places are as romantic as Lake Como, and even fewer resorts as beautiful as Bellagio.

The bus transfer from Stresa will take you to Como and from the city pier you will reach Villa Carlotta by boat. The journey is worth the whole travel itself and on your way there you will experience the enchanting sight of the luxurious fin de siècle villas and mansions with their colorful gardens which spot the lake enchanting coastline.

Villa Carlotta is a place of rare beauty, where masterpieces of nature and art live together in perfect harmony in over 70.000 square meters of gardens and museum. The beautiful villa was built at the end of XVII century. The important but sober building and Italian garden is decorated with sculptures, stairs and fountains.



At the beginning of the 1800s the property attained the summit of its splendor. The gardens of Villa Carlotta chiefly owe their reputation to the rhododendrons' and azaleas' spring flowering, consisting of over 150 different sorts. But the gardens are worth to visit in every period of the year: old varieties of camellias, century old cedars and sequoias, huge plane trees and tropical plants, the Rock garden and the Ferns valley, the Rhododendrons wood and the Bamboos garden, the agricultural tools museum and the wonderful views on the lake built in the ages the celebrity of this place. It is still today considered "a place of heaven".

After Villa Carlotta, the group will reach Bellagio by boat. Called the "Pearl of the Lake", Bellagio is a first class resort and provides the perfect place to enjoy the lake's famous scenery. The village features century-old buildings, stone lanes and

picturesque cobbled stairways filled with shops showcasing the finest Italian wares. You will enjoy a walk and an insight into days gone by, or you can follow your taste buds to the fresh fruit flavors of gelato – or the wonderful aromas of café - of the kind found only in Italy. A wonderful climate to relax with this stunning lake as a backdrop.



After time for a relaxing break, transfer by boat to Como. Return to Stresa.

2. Tentative Tour Scheduling

- 07.45 Departure from Stresa by bus to Como
- 10.00 Transfer by boat to Villa Carlotta
- 11.50 Visit of Villa Carlotta
- 13.30 Transfer by boat to Bellagio lunch
- 15.30 transfer by hydrofoil to Como
- 16.10 Return to Stresa
- 18.00 Approximately arrival in Stresa

3. Booking and Payment

The tour is managed by Palazzo dei Congressi di Stresa.

<u>The ticket cost is 150,00 Euros per person</u>. This includes the cost of bus transfer to Lake Como and return, entrance ticket to Villa Carlotta, hydrofoil ticket, boat transfers Como-Villa Carlotta and Villa Carlotta-Bellagio. English Speaking guide,

Lunch starting from Euro 25,00 per person is not included in the cost. However, accompanying persons registered at the Conference are entitled to receive a packet lunch without additional costs. The packet lunch must be required one day in advance and personally taken before leaving for the tour. Please refer to the Secretariat Desk on site.

The tour is intended for a <u>minimum of 15 participants</u>. In case this minimum number is not reached, registered participants will be refunded.

To join the tour please fill in the **registration form** and send it to:

Palazzo dei Congressi

Ms. Nicoletta Bisi

Piazzale Europa, 3 - 28838 Stresa (VB), Italy Phone: +39-0323-30389 - Fax: +39-0323-33281

E-mail: segreteria@stresacongressi.it

<u>Deadline for booking is July 2nd, 2012</u>. After this date tickets will be subject to availability.

Should you have any inquiry about this tour please contact Ms. Nicoletta Bisi at: segreteria@stresacongressi.it