

*The Garden Series George Weigel
presents...*

Gardens and Villas of the Italian Lakes

May 16 – 25, 2015



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& Save
\$150

Per Person
Deposit by 9/1/2014

For more information contact
Lowee's Group Tours
(717) 657-9658 or 888-345-LOWEE
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10 Days • 13 Meals: 8 Breakfasts, 5 Dinners

Book Now

see please note section for details

Double \$5,249 *

Single \$6,049; Triple \$5,199

Regular rates:

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Included in Price: Round Trip Transfers from Harrisburg provided by Lowee's Group Tours, Round Trip Air from Philadelphia Intl Airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers

Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$260 per person

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change



Please call for rates from other gateways

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS: Your price is subject to increase prior to the time you make full payment. Your price is not subject to increase after you make full payment, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. Once deposited, you have 7 days to send us written consumer consent or withdraw consent and receive a full refund. (See registration form for consent.)



Highlights... Padua Botanic Garden, Valsanzibio Gardens, Giardino Giusti, Lake Como, Villa del Balbianello, Bellagio, Villa Cicogna Mozzoni, Varese, Lago Maggiore, Villa Taranto, Isola Madre, Isola Bella

Day 1: Saturday, May 16, 2015

Overnight Flight Join us for an unforgettable exploration of the spectacular gardens and villas of Italy's lakes region. Your adventure begins with an overnight flight to Venice.

Day 2: Sunday, May 17, 2015 Padua, Italy - Tour Begins Your tour opens in Padua today. This evening, join your fellow travelers for a special welcome dinner featuring regional delicacies and fine Italian wine. (D)

Day 3: Monday, May 18, 2015 Padua Start your day with a visit to the world's first botanical garden and UNESCO World Heritage site - Padua Botanic Garden - originating in 1545. Then, travel to Valsanzibio Gardens, one of the best preserved Baroque gardens in existence. Meet its owner who will guide you through the meticulous gardens; this is followed by an interactive gardening workshop to learn their techniques and uncover the secrets of what it takes to keep their historic gardens vibrant. Tonight,

enjoy dinner at a local restaurant before returning to your hotel in Padua. (B, D)

Day 4: Tuesday, May 19, 2015 Padua - Verona - Lake Como Step into the Renaissance with a visit to Giardino Giusti. These perfectly manicured gardens are as breathtaking now as they were when they opened in the 1500s. The current owners will walk you through their masterpiece and share stories of its history. Continue on to the elegant shores of Lake Como, your home for the next three nights. Its charm stems from the beautiful villas, lush gardens and spectacular views. (B, D)

Day 5: Wednesday, May 20, 2015 Lake Como - Bellagio - Lake Como Explore one of the most spectacular gardens in all of Italy, the Villa Carlotta. Built at the end of the 17th century, this lakefront property was once part of Europe's Grand Tour. Afterwards, travel by ferry to the romantic town of Bellagio. Bellagio provides the perfect place to soak up



the lake's famous panoramic view. The village is characterized by century-old buildings, stone lanes and picturesque cobbled stairways filled with shops showcasing the finest Italian wares. Stroll the neoclassic Villa Melzi d'Eril's garden with its exotic species, camellias and rhododendrons. Discover the splendor of Bellagio at your own pace this afternoon before returning to Lake Como. (B, D)

Day 6: Thursday, May 21, 2015 Lake Como Spend time this morning at the stunning garden of Villa del Balbianello. Resting on the shores of Lake Como, the terraced garden boasts breathtaking views and is dominated by stunning architectural features. The garden is a bona fide masterpiece in which every element relates to its elegant history and location. Learn about the restoration and preservation efforts before returning to your hotel this afternoon for a special wine reception in the garden. (B)

Day 7: Friday, May 22, 2015 Lake Como - Varese - Lago Maggiore Travel to the incomparable Villa

Cicogna Mozzoni, a wonderful example of Italian Lombard Renaissance architecture. Immerse yourself in the spectacular elegance of the villa and gardens on a tour hosted by a member of the Cicogna Mozzoni family. At the conclusion of your tour, enjoy refreshments in this delightful setting. Later, travel to Varese, the garden city of Italy, to visit the beautiful Villa Della Porta Bozzolo for a guided tour. The villa, which was constructed in the 16th century, boasts a spectacular Italian garden exuding Baroque charm. Explore the grounds and the "Secret Garden". Continue to Lago Maggiore, home to spectacular views as well as areas of historical and architectural interest. (B)

Day 8: Saturday, May 23, 2015 Lago Maggiore Journey via cableway to the Alpinum Garden, a botanical garden specializing in the collection and cultivation of Alpine plants. Later, enjoy a guided tour of the spectacular gardens of Villa Taranto. Neil McEacharn, a Scottish captain, purchased the villa and dedicated his life to creating a great botanic collection. During your visit, explore the terraced garden, bog garden,



winter garden and herbarium. Following your tour, enjoy free time to take in the gardens at your own pace. (B)

Day 9: Sunday, May 24, 2015 Lago Maggiore - Borromean Islands - Lago Maggiore

Travel by boat to the stunning Borromean Islands. Arrive first to the enchanting Isola Madre where you will tour the gardens and palace with a local expert. Isola Madre is the largest of the islands with stunning gardens featuring azaleas, pergolas of ancient wisteria, and camellia blossoms. This afternoon, cruise to another of the Borromean Islands, Isola Bella. Join an expert guide and discover the beauty of the island's palace and gardens. Gather this evening to celebrate with a

delightful farewell dinner. After dinner, you will return to the mainland by boat. (B, D)

Day 10: Monday, May 25, 2015 Lago Maggiore - Milan Malpensa - Tour Ends Your tour comes to a close in Milan Malpensa this morning. (B)

Itinerary at a glance

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Days 2, 3	Hotel Plaza Padova, Padova
Days 4 – 6	Grand Hotel Imperiale , Lake Como
Days 7 – 9	Zacchera Hotels, Lago Maggiore

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Experience It! Borromean Islands

The Borromean Islands are a group of islands sprinkled on Lago Maggiore in northern Italy. The island's name originated in the 7th century when they were acquired by Charles III Borromeo. These petite but incredible islands are brimming with grand palaces and exquisite gardens that are world-renowned for their extensive variety. Isola Bella's famed palace will bring you to another time and is steeped in unmeasurable wealth and regal pageantry. The remarkable landscape and architecture of all of these splendid islands have drawn many famous people to their shores over the centuries including Napoleon Bonaparte, Ernest Hemingway and many English Royals.

Please Note:

Book Now rates valid until Sep 1, 2014, valid on air inclusive packages only.

RHS Garden Holidays are expertly crafted for their members. A one-year gift membership to the Royal Horticultural Society is included in the cost of your vacation. Upon completion of your trip you will receive a Royal Horticultural Society gift pack by mail.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing Collette airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

Included breakfasts are buffet breakfasts.

Please note that most shops and businesses in Italy are closed on Sundays and on national/religious holidays.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis. When reserving single accommodations, be advised that single rooms in Italy are often smaller in size.

**Zacchera Hotels is a hotel chain in Lago Maggiore. The exact hotel to be used will be available 15 days prior to tour departure date.

To truly experience the program and destination, you need to be able to participate in physical activities such as longer walking tours, walking over uneven terrain, climbing stairs and periods of standing. Some of the touring days may be longer, with select included activities occurring later in the evening.

Air passengers will depart from the Milan, Italy airport. All transfers will depart from Lago Maggiore for Milan airport.

Departure flights should not be booked prior to 10 a.m.

Air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

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For more information visit

<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/600402>

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[†] Full credit is valid for travel within 12 months of the original trip. \$100 of the credit remains valid for travel within 13-24 months and the entire credit expires after 24 months.



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BOOKING NUMBER: 600402
DEPARTURE DATE: May 16, 2015

TOUR: Gardens and Villas of the Italian Lakes
GROUP NAME: Lowee's Group Tours

Name of Passenger:

Salutation: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____ Last Name: _____ Suffix: _____
(Mr., Mrs., Rev.) (Please print as it appears on Passport) (Jr., Sr.)

Cardholder Name: _____
(Please print as it appears on your Credit Card)

Cardholder Address: _____
(as it appears on your credit card statement)

Cardholder Phone: _____

Credit Card Type: ___ American Express ___ Discover ___ MasterCard ___ Visa

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Amount to be charged: \$ _____

Cardholder's Signature: _____ Date: _____

I agree to pay according to the card issuer agreement. I understand and accept Collette cancellation policy, terms and conditions.

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Attn: Chrissie Kelly
PO Box 6058
Harrisburg, PA 17112

Or by Fax to: (717) 652-9476

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For Reservations Contact: Lowee's Group Tours (717) 657-9658 or 888-345-LOWEE email: ckelly@lowees.com

Lowee's Group Tours, 7389 Country View Dr, Harrisburg, PA 17112-8840

Deposit of \$250 per person due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the seat reduction date of 11/10/2014 are based upon availability. Final payment due by 3/17/2015. Please note: deposits are fully refundable up until 11/17/2014, after that date certain charges apply.

YOUR INFORMATION:

Clearly print your full name (first/middle/last) as it appears on your government issued travel documentation.

IMPORTANT: In order to avoid any unnecessary change fees, it is imperative that all guest names are entered correctly from the start. The information below must be the legal name and be 100% identical to the ID being used to travel <passport/driver's license> including middle names or suffixes <Jr, Sr>.

First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____ Suffix: _____

Nickname: _____ Gender: () Male () Female Date of Birth: (month/day/year) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: () _____ Cell: () _____ Email Address: _____

Passport Number: _____ Expiration Date: (month/day/year) _____ Date of Issuance: (month/day/year) _____

City, State, Country of Issuance: _____ Citizenship: _____

RHS Membership Number _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: () _____

ROOMING WITH: Check if address is the same as Passenger #1

First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____ Suffix: _____

AIR GATEWAY: Departure airport for this tour: _____ Air Seat Request: () Aisle () Window () Next To Traveling Companion

Collette cannot guarantee your seat preference. If you have not purchased air through Collette and wish to purchase transfers, you must transfer at our pre-scheduled times.

AIR UPGRADE: I am interested in purchasing an air upgrade to: Premium Economy Business Class First Class

Service is limited and not available on all flights or carriers. Other restrictions may apply.

Are you willing to separate from the group air schedule to accommodate your upgrade request? () Yes () No

TRAVEL PROTECTION: () Yes, I wish to purchase travel protection \$260 () No, I decline

If you choose not to purchase Collette's Waiver Insurance Plan, you will incur penalties for changes and cancellations. Travel Protection Payment is due with first deposit. The Waiver Fee does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual's traveling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. The single supplement will be deducted from the refund of the person who cancels. (There is coverage under Part B which includes a single supplement benefit of \$1,000 for certain covered reasons. See Part B for details.)

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Lowee's Group Tours () Check () Credit Card

Waiver/Insurance Amount: \$ _____ Deposit Amount: \$ _____ Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

Cardholder Name (if paying by Credit Card): _____

Cardholder Billing Address: Check if address is the same as above _____

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Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: / M M Y Y

SIGNATURE REQUIRED for acceptance of the below conditions and agreement to credit card use:

Date: _____

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Important Conditions: Your price is subject to increase prior to the time you make full payment. Your price is not subject to increase after you make full payment, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees.