

# Venice and the Italian Lakes

## Day 1: Depart Hendersonville

Overnight flight to Europe.

## Day 2: Milan

Milan City tour with local tour director. Visit to the Duomo di Milano, which took 6 centuries to complete. It is the 5th largest cathedral in the world. Check into our hotel in Milan and enjoy a welcome dinner.

## Day 3: Lake Como - Bellagio

We will finish our time in Milan with a morning viewing of Michelangelo's famous *Last Supper* and depart for a scenic lunch stop in Como. Afterwards, we will take the ferry up the lake to the scenic resort town of Bellagio. This charming town is characterized by century old buildings, stone lanes and picturesque cobbled stairways filled with shops showcasing the finest Italian crafts and wares. We will enjoy a special lake-caught seafood dinner at a family run trattoria tonight.

## Day 4: Leisure Day in Bellagio

Today we get to enjoy exploring Bellagio and the little villages that are situated nearby on Lake Como. We will begin with a private boat cruise and a visit to the lovely Villa Carlotta in Tremezzo. The afternoon is free for individual (or group) exploration or resting on your private terrace at the hotel.

## Day 5: Stresa

Today we will drive over to Stresa on the shores of Lake Maggiore. We'll enjoy a private boat ride over to tiny Isola Pescatori for shopping and lunch before cruising over to Isola Bella, home of a stunning Baroque palace and elaborate terraced Italian gardens. We will have a gelato in Stresa and time for a stroll in this elegant lakeside village.



## Day 6: Lake Como/Bellagio Day at Leisure

## Day 7: Verona and transit to Venice

This morning will be spent driving to Verona. After lunch, we will walk the ancient streets of Verona with our guide and see the famed Romeo and Juliet balcony that inspired Shakespeare's romantic tragedy. We will tour the Verona Arena, a Roman amphitheater now used for large scale opera performances. We will overnight outside of Venice.

## Day 8: Venice

Venice is one of the most unique cities in the world, built on 117 islands with 150 canals and 400 bridges. We'll begin our tour with a boat ride to St. Mark's Square and visit to St. Mark's Basilica. We will also see the Doge's Palace, a pink marble Gothic masterpiece containing the Clock Tower and the Bridge of Sighs. Our private boat taxi will cruise through the ancient canals. We will arrive back at our hotel outside of Venice in time for a final dinner.

## Day 9: Flight Home

Return service to your door.

