



ITINERARY

5



THE MORAINAL LAKES OF COMO



LENGTH OF THE ROUTE:	29 Km
DEPARTURE - ARRIVAL:	Como
ARRIVAL - DEPARTURE:	The Lake of Pusiano (district of Merone)
THE CONDITIONS OF THE TRACK:	The track is currently practicable and for who wants to do the whole route, we recommend the use of a mountain bike, while if you only go on certain tracks, it is possible to use a city or road bike. Remember the low level of security, and there can be difficult moments along the whole route, especially when the track offroad. In some places where the track is still not yet finished, other roads or tracks can be taken.

2,5 - 3 h

ROUTE TIME: almost always easy.

COURSE DIFFICULTY:	Some difficult sections:
	Ca.Franca in the town of Lipomo
	Cascina Bassetto in the town of Merone
	Ponte Nuovo-Cimitero in the town of Merone.
	Camerlata (Como) from the multi-storey car park to Villa Salterio
	Belvedere di Alserio in the town of Alserio
	Monticello in the town of Alserio

Moderate:

Difficult/ a sporting challenge:

PLACES FOR STOPS: Under construction: town of Monguzzo in the area of Casen by the ARCI Pesce.

PANORAMIC PLACES AND OBSERVATION STOPS: The town of Alserio in via Belvedere, the town of Monguzzo along the didactic course of the lakeside of Alserio.

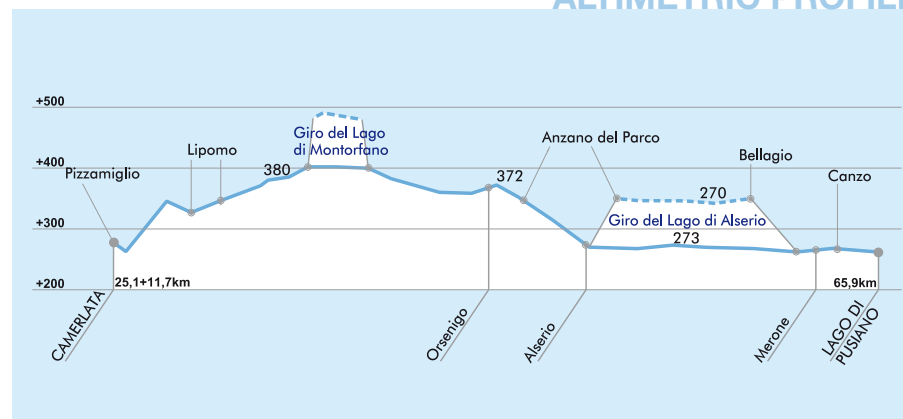
LINKS WITH OTHER ITINERARIES:

by bicycle: the course links up with itinerary 4 "From the pine tree park, to the city of Como", and to Itinerary 6 "The Ghisallo" and with Itinerary 7 "Art and Literature among the lakes of Brianza".

by train: train travellers can link up with itinerary 4 "From the pine tree park, to the city of Como." (FFS line Lecco-Como) with itinerary 6 " The Ghisallo" (until Asso with the Milano-Meda-Asso line of the FFS Lecco-Como) and with itinerary 7 "Art and Literature among the lakes of Brianza" (FFS Lecco-Como line)

by boat: with the navigational lake service, the boat traveller can link up with Itinerary 6 (Como-Bellagio line) or with itinerary 8 " The lakeside Riviera from Lecco to Colico.)

ALTIMETRIC PROFILE





INFORMATION REGARDING ACCESSIBILITY

DEPARTURE/ARRIVAL: COMO

By car: take the motorway A9, take the turn off for Como Sud. From Switzerland take the motorway E5 (via S. Gottardo-Lugano-Chiasso).

By train: take the direct Milano-Como line (FFS and Ferrovie Nord Milano), Milano-Chiasso-Basilea (FFS) and Lugano-Chiasso (Ferrovie Federali Svizzere).

By bus: take the main lines from and to the cities of Lecco and Varese.

By boat: navigational service of the lake of Como.

ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE: LAGO DI PUSIANO (the district of Merone)

By car: take the motorway A9, take the exit for Como and go along the road SS.Briantea 342, in the direction of Lecco (about 19km).

By train: take the Milano-Meda-Asso Ferrovie Nord Milano and Como-Molteno-Lecco FFS.

By bus: Cremona-Lurago d'Erba-Erba and Erba-Bosisio Parini line.

Leaving the multi-storey car park of the hospital of Camerlata (Como), the course moves in the direction of Lecco, first crossing the centre of Lipomo and then Capiago Intimiano. Already at this point, the countryside begins to change and it is characterised from a historical-artistic point of view, by the presence of ancient town centres, near the small lakes of morainal origin, of which the best example is the village of **Montorfano**. Leaving Capiago, in fact, the itinerary continues in the direction of the Lake Montorfano, where a visit to the historical town of the same name, is worth a visit. Here it is possible to visit the Church of San Giovanni Evangelista, consecrated in 1044, restored in 1197 and completely restored in 1578 and admire some examples of noble residences, of which Villa Mandelli in particular is only visible from the lake. Leaving the lake behind you, the course continues and crosses the district of Orsenigo to reach Alzate Brianza. At about one km from the cycle lane, it is possible to arrive at the **centre of Fabbrica Durini**, an estate

on a morainal summit, with a villa and English parklands, redesigned in a neo-classical age, probably built over a fortified area of late medieval origins. It is worth making a stop in the historical centre of Alzate, to see **Villa Baragiola** and **Villa Odescalchi**.

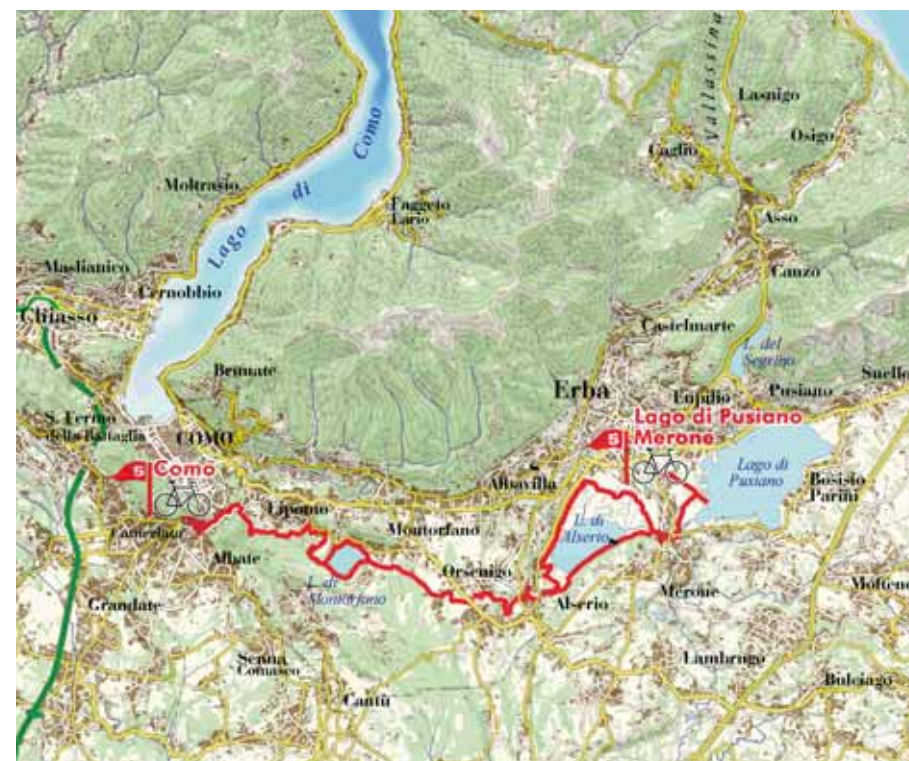
The first, of Baroque origin was constructed by the Alciati on the foundations of a medieval fort, maybe the feudal castle of the village, with a tower remaining as testimony, while the second represents a 17th century centre. It was probably reorganised in the 18th century, as the rational distribution of the whole building shows, together with the clear external organisation of the windows. The villa was also the personal residence of Papa Innocenzo XI (Benedetto Odescalchi, 1611-1689). Furthermore, always in the historical town, it is possible to visit the **Church of San Giorgio**, characterised internally by a precious series of Renaissance frescoes. If we look closely at the family crests figured here, the series could have been commissioned by the local family of Balduini,

probably the painter Marco d'Oggiono or maybe Sigismondo de'Magistri, who was in the area of Como and Valtellina in the year between 15th and 16th centuries, in the regions of Como and Valtellina.

Before leaving the town, we recommend a visit to the **Santuario della Beata Vergine di Rogoredo**, positioned in the south of the town, in an area that was once the evocative wooded area (perhaps the nickname Rogoredo is linked to rogere, oaks) near the swamp of the

Terrò. The tradition has attributed to the Virgin, a number of miracles, to who will come there, which is linked to the protection of the wayfarers from highwaymen.

The course continues in the direction of Anzano del Parco, until you reach the town of Alserio where you can see the **Parish Church of San Clemente**, a Renaissance style church (it was consecrated in 1574), which has a façade with a classical stamp and inside it is of the Baroque period. Continuing in the direction





of Lecco, you cross the town of Monguzzo, Albavilla and Erba. We recommend a stopover in the last place, Erba, because there are lots of historical/artistic assets to see. In particular we recommend a visit to the **Monumenti ai caduti** and the **Teatro Licinium**, that rise on the summit of a hill and are west of the town centre. The first was built at the top of a flight of steps, an axis with one of the most important roads in Erba, that from here opens in many different directions; the second is only a little further away.

The **Monumenti ai caduti** was created by the rationalist architect Giuseppe Terragni in 1932, six years from the first sketch designs. The **Teatro Licinium** which is an open air theatre was the idea of the brothers Alberto and Federico Airoldi. The work was inaugurated in July 1924 and it soon put on many important

theatre and opera presentations. As the original wooden terraces were destroyed in 1928, the theatre was built with a more stable structure by the same Airoldi, but with the designs of engineers Bassi and Bozzoli.

The **Castello di Pomerio** is also of great interest and of note also is the one at **Casiglio** (this last is now a 4 star hotel), the first dates back to the 11th –13th centuries and the second slightly earlier and whose foundation, according to an ancient book written on Genealogie, says that it should be the work of Beltramo Parravicini.

A must, is also **Villa Amalia**, re-built in the years between the 18th and 19th centuries, transformed from a 15th century monastery of Reformed Franciscans, whose oratory was partially incorporated into the villa by the designer Leopold Pollack. Also the parklands surrounding the villa, has interesting constructions and

neoclassical statues. If it is taken all together, it can be considered a unique emergence, a monumental system, if it is valued with the nearby **Monumento ai caduti**, designed by Giuseppe Terragni and the open air **teatro Licinium** (1926). For those who are passionate about archaeological findings, since 1977, the **Villa Comunale in Crevenna** has housed the **Civico Museo of Erba**, created in 1961 and already operative in 1964 in the office in Villa Majnoni. It has collections of the remains of the ancient population of the area and it illustrates the character of the Brianza area from its history and from its geo-morphological character.

The course that ends near the FNM station of Merone, continues before reaching the Lake Pusiano, the last stop on the itinerary. At Pusiano it is worth visiting the **Palace Beauharnais** (which today has partial scholastic use, an

accommodation part and a congress centre.) which is an interesting example of a noble residence of Renaissance origin (probably founded in 1521) and enlarged in the 19th century. Cardinal Carlo Borromeo stayed here and the Viceroy Eugenio Beauharnais, the son of Napoleon Bonaparte, lived here. The landscape of the Lake Pusiano, like many other places in Brianza, is linked to the work of the painter Giovanni Segantini (1858-1899), who stayed in this area more than once between 1881 and 1886. From the banks of the Lake of Pusiano, Segantini painted "Ave Maria a trasbordo" in 1882 with which he won the gold medal at the Universal Exhibition in Amsterdam.

The course represents the initial part of a much longer itinerary that links the City of Como with that of Lecco, crossing the minor morainial lakes of Brianza (link with itinerary 7)



View from Villa Amalia

THEMATIC ROUTES

A NATURALISTIC COURSE OF THE MORAINAL LAKES

The course is dedicated to who likes lake scenery, but also to who wants to discover protected areas and places of environmental beauty. An easy itinerary which is fascinating at the same time, as it unwinds between pools of water that are high in naturalistic value. The lake of Montorfano, a nature reserve which was created in 1984 has a place in the park that is understandably linked to the system/project "Spina Verde" of Como.

The Lake Montorfano is the smallest of the lakes in Brianza (measures 1 km.). It is fed

only by underground springs, it originated when they got rid of morainics in the south (allowing the water to settle in the conch dug out of the glacier). The name comes from Mons Orphanus, the mountain (m554) that sores higher and more solitary than the rest of the nearby mountain chain. Among the other minor lakes of morainic origin, is the Lake Alserio, which is also a nature reserve and the Lake Pusiano where it is possible to admire L'Isola dei Cipressi, which positioned only a few meters from the northern bank, represents



a natural monument of great historical and environmental value. The island which is about 18,000 mq. is characterised by its long and oval shape and in the middle of the island there is a 19th century villa.

The story of the island goes back to Neolithic times (10.000 B.C) when on its eastern point, a village of lake dwelling people settled (some poles that were discovered here in 1863, can be seen in the **Museo Preistorico of Erba**). Because of its oblong shape and because it is close to the bank, you can follow the lakeside road parallel with the island for quite a long way and it offers a very varied view, from woods to fields to cypress trees.

The environment of the morainic lakes is further characterised by the presence of the

Parco del Valle del Lambro and by PLIS of the Brughiera Briantea and of the Lake Segrino. The naturalistic course of the morainic lakes represents a unique occasion to spend a relaxing day out in the countryside.



Games of light in the swamp

WE RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING PLACES TO VISIT:

The district of Montorfano: a nature reserve at the lake of Montorfano

INFORMATION:
Consorzio Lago di Montorfano c/o Municipio
piazza Roma, 18 - 22030 Montorfano (CO)
tel. [031201745](tel:031201745) e fax. [031553097](tel:031553097)
e-mail: lagomontorfano@hotmail.com

Lake di Alserio: riserva naturale a nature reserve in the park Valle del Lambro.

INFORMATION:
Consorzio Parco Regionale della Valle del Lambro
via Vittorio Veneto, 19 - 20050 Triuggio (MI)
tel. [0362970961](tel:0362970961) e [0362997137](tel:0362997137)
fax [0362997045](tel:0362997045)
e-mail: silvia.galli@parcovallelambro.it

On the banks of the Lake of Alserio there is an educational, environmental centre "Bambini di Beslan", that has a didactic laboratory at Castel

del Lago. There is a didactic, botanical-naturalistic course in the woods of the Buerga, on the eastern bank of the lake and an electric boat which can take a class group for excursions on the lake. To take part in educational environmental projects, contact the following number
tel. [0362970961](tel:0362970961) or [0362997137](tel:0362997137)
e-mail: silvia.galli@parcovallelambro.it

The district of Longone al Segrino

lake and PLIS del Segrino.

The district of Pusiano

Isola dei cipressi (cannot be visited)

THEMATIC ROUTES

ART AMONG THE LAKES



Cycling along the side of Lake Pusiano

The course is dedicated to art and history lovers, because of the diffuse presence of historical buildings of great quality, which refer to all periods in History, from pre Christianity to the early 20th century, with numerous examples of the overlapping of styles verified with the passing of time. The itinerary allows the discovery of the region, through an introduction to its cultural assets, that testify the past, historically, artistically and industrially. Among the most significant monuments and assets which concern the identity of the place and which we recommend you visit are:



THE VILLAGE OF MONTORFANO

the first settlements in the area go back to the Bronze Age and to the following Iron Age, when the area was inhabited by a population that were concerned with the culture of the "Golasecca" (drythroat). Following this the 'Galli Insubri' created a fort on Mount Orfano, but were defeated by the Romans in 196B.C. So the process of cultural Romanization of the region started, by means of the settlement of colonies. After the fall of the Roman Emperor, the 'castrum' on mount Orfano was part of a defence system that was developed from Alta Valtellina to Castello Baradello in Como, taking a strategic role also in the fight between the Torriani, Visconti and the Rusconi. Following this the 'castrum' was knocked down and re-built more than once, until it was completely destroyed by Charles V. The remains of two long walls have been preserved, two towers and a quadrangular room which was once cross vaulted in brick with ribs. The town centre of Montorfano has buildings around courtyards, with the facades running along the road, generally in a curvilinear shape. This is counter pointed by the square, with its regular shape giving it a Renaissance flavour, culminating in the

parish church of San Giovanni Evangelista which is positioned towards the mountain. The church is on a central layout, was already consecrated in 1044, restored in 1197 and completely restructured in 1578.

In the village the secluded noble residence is the Villa Mandelli, which is visible, however, only from the lake.

Accessibility from the cycle route:

the cycle lane goes right round the lake and the village

Information:

Town Hall of Montorfano

tel. 031553316



Picture of the village

BEAUHARNAIS RESIDENCE OF PUSIANO

The building is in the town of Pusiano, on the road to Lecco which separates the villa from the shores of the lake. Today, partially employed for scholastic use, it also houses , an accommodation structure and a congress centre and it represents an interesting example of a noble residency of

Renaissance origin (founded in 1521). Part of its interest is also in its position on the edge of the ancient village, which gives it character. It is organised around a courtyard, closed on the lake side by a low porch and the wings were created in different periods. Particularly beautiful is the 18th century

wing, whose style is like that of Giovanni Ruggeri, who was the greatest interpreter of Lombard architecture of his time. The simple façades of the courtyard are softened by the raised porch, with triple lancet windows which are placed in sequence, with coupled columns in sandstone. Worthy of note is also the 19th century expansion, linked to the new productive dimension of the area (a mill on the edge of the garden is significant). The historical value of the building is also high, as the cardinal Carlo Borromeo stayed there and it was the residence of the viceroy Eugenio Beauharnais, the son of Napoleon Bonaparte.

Accessibility from the cycle route: 5 km circa Information:

Town Hall of Pusiano

tel. 031655704 or fax 031657142



Picture of Palazzo Beauhamais

SEGANTINIAN PLACES

(the lake of Pusiano): the areas of Brianza, and in particular those near the lake of Pusiano, are linked to the activity of the pointillist painter Giovanni Segantini (1858-1899), who stayed there more than once between 1881 and 1886. From the banks of the Lake Pusiano, Segantini painted the 'Ave Maria a trasbordo' in 1882, for which he won the gold medal at the "Universal Exhibition of Amsterdam". The tie that the artist had, in the late 19th century, with these places, was important and this reverberates in his pointillist paintings, as he paid more attention to atmospheric values and colour, than to just to raw landscapes. In Pusiano a new virtual museum is due to open, with computer archives of Segantini's paintings, as well as multimedia interactive courses, to increase knowledge of the place

and the interwoven relationship with the paintings.

Accessibility from the cycle route: 2-3 km circa Information:

Town Hall of Pusiano

tel. 031655704 e fax 031657142



"Ave Maria a trasbordo", painting by Segantini



BIKE SALES AND REPAIR

Masnaghetti Claudio cicli Corsa

via Monte Grappa, 45/A - Tradate
tel. 0331841670

Ferca cicli

via Dottesio, 8 - Como
tel. 031300160 e fax 031331994

Fase 2 sport

via Canturina, 196 - Como
tel. 031526181/3933713123 - fax 031526181

Flli Riccardi Di Riccardi Maurizio E C. Sas

Commercio Bicycle repair
via Armando Diaz, 90 - Como
tel. 031260105

Martinelli Franco & C. (S.N.C.)

Bicycle and Motorbike sales
viale Lecco, 95 - Como
tel. 031264417

Solesun Srl

via Achille Grandi, 17 - Como
tel. 031263025

Maglificio supersport

via Grassi, 361 - Lipomo Como
tel. 031282549 e fax 031283631

Vismara Snc

corso Ariberto, 34 - Capiago Intimiano - Como
tel. 031460038 e fax 031460038

Cicli Losa (S.A.S.)

Cicli e Accessori
via Giuseppe Mazzini, 86 - Erba - Como
tel. 031641448

Pozzi Alessandro (S.N.C.)

Sales and bicycle repair
via Valassina, 14B - Monguzzo - Como
tel. 031617999

Rullo bike

via Grandi - Como
tel. 031263025

During the summer months, mountain bike excursions are organised

OTHER SPORTING ACTIVITIES

For who wants to spend a day in the countryside, doing sport:

**The district of
Montorfano**

SHORE: **Lido del Lago di Montorfano**
tel. 3341017173

GOLF: **Golf club Villa d'Este**
tel. 031200200 e fax 031200786
www.golfvilladeste.com
e-mail: golf.villadeste@fin.it

**The district of
Alzate Brianza**

FLYING CLUB: **Aeroporto Giancarlo Maestri**
tel. 031619250 - 031632345 - 031927151
<http://www.avl.it> - e-mail: avlsegreteria@libero.it

**The district of
Capiago Intimiano**

HORSERIDING: **Centro ippico "Il Grillo"**
tel. or fax 031462219

The district of Eupilio

SWIMMING POOLS: **Lido Aquilegia**
tel. 031655160

SOME PROPOSALS FOR TOURIST TREKKING

Longone al Segrino:

a cycle lane which circles the Lake Segrino.

Erba:

path to the Lake Alserio – 20 mins. One for the Lake Pusiano 30mins, to the Buco del Piombo – 1 hour, to Monte Bolettone (departure from Crevenna)- 3 hours, to Monte Croce (departure from Caslino d'Erba) - 2 hours, to Dosso Mattone (departure from Caslino d'Erba) –1,45 hours.

Pusiano:

a path to Monte Cornizzolo- 3 ½ hours, to the oratory of San Pietro al Monte in Val dell'Oro – 2 hours

Tavernerio:

a pedestrian stroll along the old tram network from Solzago to Camnago Volta (about 2 km.), path to the Valle di Tavernerio 2 hours, to Brunate 1,15 hours, route to the Capanna San Pietro, Monte Bolettone, Torre del Broncino and Albavilla and back 5 hours

TYPICAL REFRESHMENT

For information about the complete list of restaurants along the route, consult the site:

www.provincia.como.it/turismo



ACCOMMODATION

LOCALITY	TPOLOGY	STRUCTURE	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Como	hotels	Barchetta ★★★★★	piazza Cavour, 1	0313221
	hotels	Como ★★★★★	via Mentana, 28	031266173
	hotels	Grand Hotel di Como ★★★★★	via per Cernobbio	0315161
	hotels	Le due Corti ★★★★★	piazza Vittoria, 15	031328111
	hotels	Metropole & Suisse ★★★★★	piazza Cavour, 19	031269444
	hotels	Palace Hotel ★★★★★	lungo Lario Trieste, 16	031303303-23391
	hotels	Terminus ★★★★★	lungo Lario Trieste, 14	031329111
	hotels	Villa Flori ★★★★★	via per Cernobbio, 12	03133820
	hotels	Continental ★★★	viale Innocenzo XI, 15	031260485
	hotels	Del Duca ★★★	piazza Mazzini, 12	031264859
	hotels	Engadina ★★★	via Fratelli Rosselli, 22	031570008
	hotels	Falchetto ★★★	salita Peltre, 37	0313365033
	hotels	Firenze ★★★	piazza Volta, 16	031300333
	hotels	Il Loggiato dei Serviti ★★★	via Barelli, 4	0312753382
	hotels	Larius ★★★	via Anzani, 12/C	0314038102
	hotels	Locan. dell'Oca Bianca ★★★	via Canturina, 251	031525605
	hotels	Marco's ★★★	via Coloniola, 43	031303628
	hotels	Mini Hotel Baradello ★★★	piazza Camerlata, 9	031523180
	hotels	Park Hotel ★★★	viale Rosselli, 20	031572615
	hotels	Plinius ★★★	via Garibaldi, 33	031273067
	hotels	Tre Re ★★★	piazza Baldoni, 20	031265374
	hotels	Fontana ★★	via D. Fontana, 19	031271110
	hotels	Funicolare ★★	via Coloniola, 8/10	031304277
	hotels	Milano ★★	via Canturina, 19	031521282
	hotels	Posta ★★	via Garibaldi, 2	031266012
	hotels	Quarcino ★★	salita Quarcino, 4	031303934
	hotels	Valtellina ★★	via Bellinzona, 265	031540750
	hotels	Baita Bondella ★	via Bel Paese, 9 fraz. Brunate	031220307
	hotels	Dinner ★	via Borgovico, 45	031570108
	hotels	Dogana ★	piazza XIV Maggio, 6	031541185
	hotels	Nuovo Mondo ★	via San Giacomo, 52	031541240
	hotels	Piazzolo ★	via Indipendenza, 65	031272186
hotels	Sant'Abbondio ★	via Sant'Abbondio, 7	3386481143	
hotels	Sociale ★	via Maestri Comacini, 8	031264042	
rented rooms	In riva al Lago s.n.c.	via Crespi, 4	031302333	
rented rooms	Palazzo del Borgo	via Borgovico, 123	031575222	
Albavilla	hotels	Hotel Motel Albavilla ★★★★★	via Carcano, 6/A	031626242
	B&B	Villa Margot	via C. Cantù, 42	3387292680
Alzate Brianza	hotels	Villa Odescalchi ★★★★★	via Anzani, 12	031630822
	house flat/holiday	Villa Odescalchi	via Benzi, 18	031630822
Anzano del Parco	hotels	Cisa ★★★	viale Ortelli, 5	031631572

Erba	hotels	Castello di Casiglio ★★★★★	via Cantù, 21	031627288
	hotels	Leonardo Da Vinci ★★★★★	via L. Da Vinci, 6	031611556
	hotels	Centrale ★★★	via XXV Aprile, ang.V. Dante	031641052
	hotels	Erba ★★★	via Milano, 12/D	031611515
	hotels	Campeggio ★	via Capanna Mara, 1	031627151
	rented rooms	Marinelli Pasquale	via Como, 17	031627588
B&B	Il Giardino di Sofia	via G. Marconi, 81	0313338571	
	Le Due Torrette	via Chiesa Molinari, 18	031641944	
Long. al Segrino	B&B	Ortensia Bianca	via Roma, 16	031640201
Merone	hotels	Il Corazziere ★★★★★	via G. Mazzini, 17	031617181
	hotels	Pontenuovo ★★	via Roma, 12/A	031650827
Monguzzo	hotels	Castello ★★★	via Valassina, 22	031650183
	hotels	Nastro Azzurro ★★★	via Chiesa, 8	031617373
Montorfano	hotels	Santandrea Golf Hotel ★★★★★	via Como, 19	031200220
	camping	Montorfano ★★	via per Alzate, 30	031200305
Orsenigo	holiday farms	La Cassinazza	loc. Cassinazza	031631468
Pusiano	hotels	Negri ★	via Mazzini, 24/26	031655706
	B&B	Leon d'Oro	piazza Parini, 2	031658865
Tavernerio	RTA	Casina ★★	via Casina, 20/B-loc. Solzago	031560059
	rented rooms	Larioceramiche		031421081

TOURIST INFORMATION

For further information, consult the web site www.provincia.como.it/turismo or www.lakecomo.org or ask for the annual hotel guide *Guida all'ospitalità del lago di Como*, which can be found:

Tourist Information Office of Como

piazza Cavour, 17 - tel. 031269712 - fax 031240111, e-mail:lakecomo@tin.it

Tourist Information Office of Bellagio

piazza Mazzini (imbarcadere) - tel. or fax 031950204, e-mail:prombell@tin.it

Tourist Information Office of Cernobbio (open in the tourist season)

C/o Municipio - tel. 031343235

Tourist Information Office of Canzo (open in the tourist season)

piazza Chiesa, 4 - tel. or fax 031682457, e-mail:procanzo@tiscali.it