The University of Kentucky Alumni Association

VILLAGE LIFE®

around the

Italian Lakes

Lake Como • Lake Maggiore

April 27 to May 5, 2017

Choose your adventure among the Italian Lakes. Experience the stunning beauty of Lake Como and Lake Maggiore, surrounded by picturesque villages and vibrant colors. This unique package includes early booking benefits, allowing you to reserve your spot and save $500 per couple!
Dear Alumni & Friends:

High on the list of the most captivating destinations in the world is northern Italy’s fabled Lake District. Its unique, extraordinary landscape of glacial waters, Alpine peaks, ancient towns painted in ocher and terra cotta hues and its distinctly bella figura Italian style combined with its rich history, has inspired poets, composers, musicians, artists and philosophers for centuries.

Join our small group of alumni travelers at the best time of year for this one-of-a-kind, eight-day Village Life® around the Italian Lakes soggiorno, an exceptional way to experience the true essence of life in the beautiful and charming region of Lombardy, featuring the quintessentially Italian Lago di Como. Our carefully designed, expert-guided excursions explore the artistic and architectural treasures commissioned by Roman patricians, medieval lords and Renaissance princes at a relaxed pace, while enriching presentations and the exclusive Village Life® Forum, featuring local residents, offer you personal perspectives on Lombardy’s cultural heritage and contemporary life. You will have opportunities to taste northern Italy’s acclaimed cuisine and wines, including prosecco, and learn basic Italian phrases to make your time in Como’s lively market all the more enjoyable.

Your accommodations for this comprehensive program are located on the shores of Lake Como in the heart of ancient Cernobbio in the charming Hotel Regina Olga. This traditional hotel overlooks stunning Lake Como and welcomes guests with warm Italian hospitality and impeccable service.

Won’t you join us for Village Life® around the Italian Lakes? This popular travel program has sold out every time it has been offered. It is an excellent value and a unique opportunity to experience daily life in one of Italy’s loveliest settings, and you unpack only once! I encourage you to book now while Early Booking Savings and space are still available.

Sincerely,

Leslie Hayes
Traveling Wildcats Coordinator

Alumni Travel Protection Plan

Injury, illness, trip delays and lost baggage are a few of the things that can cost you more than just your vacation. They can also cost a lot of extra money you hadn’t planned on spending.

That’s why the University of Kentucky Alumni Association recommends our Alumni Travel Protection Plan to all alumni and/or members who travel. This plan not only insures your vacation but, more importantly, it provides the peace of mind you deserve while traveling. You’re covered from the moment you leave home until the moment you return. If your vacation is cancelled for a covered reason, you’ll get your money back—money to reschedule your vacation!

The Alumni Travel Protection Plan is custom-designed exclusively for University of Kentucky alumni and/or University of Kentucky Alumni Association members.

If you have any questions about this plan, call 800-753-1000 and choose option 6 or visit https://alumni.tpaproducts.com/ukaa.

Cover: The stunning beauty and architecture of the Italian Lake District possesses an inexhaustible charm that has beckoned travelers for centuries.
Experience firsthand the true character of Italy’s romantic Lombardy province during this specially designed small group soggiorno with visits to the charming lakeside città (towns) and villagi (villages) of Cernobbio, Como, Bellagio and Stresa along the shores of Lake Como and Lake Maggiore. Enjoy an enriching travel experience like no other, an excellent value featuring a carefully crafted itinerary, thoughtfully designed exclusive excursions, hotel accommodations specially selected for a unique and impressive location and leisure time for independent exploration. Interact with local people and become immersed in the rhythm of daily life in the Italian Lake District; explore the history and culture, art, cuisine and language. And, unpack just once! This popular program is one of the VILLAGE LIFE® series, a comprehensive and intimate travel experience at just the right pace.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS are specially arranged for this custom-designed itinerary:

♦ Immerse yourself in authentic experiences during this carefully planned itinerary of included guided historical and cultural excursions, well balanced with ample leisure time to observe the rhythms of daily life in quaint local cafés and along lovely cobblestone streets, or take the passenger ferry—located just steps away from our hotel—to Como’s three-times-weekly colorful outdoor market.

♦ Hear it from the Experts! Meet a Como scholar who will present a lecture on his città natale (hometown) and share his expertise of historical, cultural and contemporary Lombardy. An art historian and lifelong resident of Como will share her knowledge of art, medieval history and the classics during a private lecture on Leonardo da Vinci.

♦ Experience the best of the Italian Lake District in unspoiled Como, on picturesque Isola Bella surrounded by Lake Maggiore and amid the Alpine splendor of Cernobbio.

♦ Engage with local lombardi during the VILLAGE LIFE® FORUM where they will share their candid perspectives on contemporary daily life in the majestic Italian Lake District.

♦ Admire the magnificent 18th-century architecture and elaborate terraced gardens of the Italian National Trust’s Villa del Balbianello.

♦ Visit Isola Bella’s 17th-century Baroque palazzo, home to masterpieces by northern Italian artists including Bergognone, Boltraffio and Crespi, and splendid terraced gardens where white peacocks strut among tropical flowers.

♦ Sample authentic Italian regional specialties during included dinners in the hotel and in a typical Cernobbio ristorante.

♦ Choose to take the opportunity to visit the hilltop town of Bergamo and walk through the 16th-century Città Alta (Upper Town), known for its impressive medieval and Renaissance architecture.

♦ Learn key phrases in la lingua italiana (the Italian language) to make your interactions with local residents all the more enjoyable.

Visit picturesque Cernobbio, a splendid combination of fin-de-siècle architecture and stunning panoramic views of Lake Como. Inset above: Statue at Villa del Balbianello.
**Itinerary**

**Day**

1. **MILAN® Pre-Program Option**
   - Depart the U.S.
2. **MILAN, ITALY/CERNOBBIO on LAKE COMO**
   - Check into HOTEL REGINA OLGA.
3. **CERNOBBIO/COMO**
   - Walking tour of Old Como.
   - Cultural Enrichments:
     - Lecture by Como scholar.
     - Exclusive VILLAGE LIFE® Forum.
     - Time at leisure to explore Como’s market.
4. **LAKE COMO/BELLAGIO**
   - Private guided scenic cruise on Lake Como.
   - Cultural Enrichments:
     - Specially arranged tour of the Italian National Trust’s Villa del Balbianello.
     - Explore charming Bellagio at your own pace.
5. **CERNOBBIO**
   - Cultural Enrichments:
     - Day at leisure in Cernobbio to explore the quaint village.
     - Lecture by local art historian.
6. **STRESA/LAKE MAGGIORE/ISOLA BELLA**
   - Private cruise on Lake Maggiore around the Borromean Islands.
   - Cultural Enrichments:
     - Tour of Isola Bella’s magnificent 17th-century palazzo and gardens.
     - Explore the charming strade (streets) of Stresa at your own pace.
7. **CERNOBBIO/BERGAMO**
   - Cultural Enrichment Option:
     - Walking tour of Bergamo’s captivating Città Alta (Upper Town).
8. **CERNOBBIO**
   - Cultural Enrichment:
     - Enjoy a day at leisure and opt to stroll Como’s colorful market and mingle with lombardi.
9. **CERNOBBIO/MILAN/Return to the U.S.**

**Cernobbio**

This delightful village, located at the foot of Mount Bisbino, is the perfect “home” for our soggiorno into the spectacular mountainous Italian countryside. Stroll along Cernobbio’s bustling waterfront. Wander down the village’s narrow medieval strade and amble through its romantic piazzas, lined with handsome buildings painted in the soft, buttery hue seen throughout the Italian Lake District.

**Cultural Enrichment:** A local scholar presents a private lecture about Como from the Roman era to the present.

**Cultural Enrichment:** During the exclusive VILLAGE LIFE® Forum, residents will discuss contemporary life in the extraordinarily beautiful and historic Italian Lake District.

**Cultural Enrichment:** Local art historian and resident Giuseppina Lucini presents an exclusive lecture about Renaissance master Leonardo da Vinci.

**Cultural Enrichment:** Savor the delights of northern Italian cuisine while enjoying dinner in a local Cernobbio ristorante.

Isola Bella is the most spectacular of the Borromean Islands, located on the Italian side of Lake Maggiore. Visit a magnificent 16th-century villa and stroll through one of the most beautiful gardens in the world.
CULTURAL ENRICHMENT: Just steps from the hotel, you can board the passenger ferry and discover for yourself the impossibly picturesque villages and communes that surround glittering Lake Como.

Como
Founded by the Romans in 196 B.C., Como has been internationally known for its silk-weaving industry since silkworms were first imported here in the 14th century. At one time, Como was the largest European silk producer—dyeing, weaving and designing fabrics to be shipped to the fashion houses of Milan, Paris and London. Walk along winding cobblestone passages past medieval towers and walls, Renaissance palaces and churches, neoclassical 19th-century villas and small family-owned negozi (shops) leading to the Piazza Cavour and the tranquil lakeside promenade. See the magnificent Duomo di Como, considered to be the most beautiful cathedral in Lombardy—it took nearly 400 years to complete and reflects a seamless blend of Gothic and Renaissance styles.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT: During time on your own, peruse the fresh fruit and vegetables in the three-times-weekly outdoor market, a local tradition for centuries.

Lago di Como
Composer Franz Liszt romanticized, “When you write the story of two happy lovers, place them on the shores of Lake Como.” Cruise by private boat across the sparkling waters of Italy’s deepest—and perhaps most spectacular—lake and learn more about its fascinating history and allure as you pass in front of quaint coastal villages like Bellagio and grand Renaissance villas, built on the surrounding snowcapped mountainsides.

Bellagio
Perched on a promontory punctuated by stands of cypress trees, Bellagio is one of the Italian Lake District’s most internationally well-known communes and has been a popular European holiday destination since Roman times. In the 18th and 19th centuries, Milanese nobility flocked here to build elaborate villas and cultivate subtropical gardens.

Villa del Balbianello
Just across Lake Como from Bellagio is the exquisite Villa del Balbianello and its magnificent terraced gardens. Built in 1787 by Cardinal Angelo Maria Durini, this epitome of an Italian lake villa was renovated in the early 20th century by an American veteran of World War I and more recently purchased by Italy’s first explorer to summit Mt. Everest, Guido Monzino, who bequeathed it to the Italian National Trust. It remains an authentic Italian villa masterpiece and repository of 18th-century French and English furniture, and Monzino’s collection of Chinese, pre-Columbian and African art.

Lago Maggiore
Italy’s second-largest lake forms a natural boundary between the regions of Lombardy and Piedmont and is a close rival to Lake Como as the most spectacular in the Italian Lake District. Lake Maggiore’s mild climate allows gardens to grow rare and exotic plants in the beautiful landscape beneath the high Alps, particularly on the remarkable Borromean Islands.

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During the Pre-Program Option, visit Milan’s towering Duomo, home to some of Italy’s finest religious art.
Enjoy a private boat cruise across the deep, clear waters and amidst its charming islands that served as inspiration for Flaubert, Wagner and Goethe.

Borromean Islands
Cruise among Lake Maggiore’s enticing islands graced with elegant villas and striking natural beauty. Isola Bella, Isola di San Giovanni, Isola Madre and Isola dei Pescatori are collectively known as the Borromean Islands, named after the powerful and influential Borromeo family. Visit the exquisitely preserved Isola Bella, commissioned by Count Carlo Borromeo III in 1632 as a magnificent Baroque retreat dedicated to his wife, Isabella.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT: Walk through Isola Bella’s splendid Italianate gardens, where white peacocks stroll among the seasonal blaze of roses, gardenias, azaleas and rhododendrons. Tour the 17th-century Palazzo Borromeo, filled with priceless masterpieces by such artists as Tiepolo and the sculptor Canova, and see the spectacular grotto, decorated entirely with mosaics of marine life.

Stresa
An 18th- and 19th-century “Grand Tour” of Europe was considered incomplete without a visit to Stresa to experience its spectacular mountain views, tropical gardens and the resplendent glistening waters of Lake Maggiore. A young Ernest Hemingway, recuperating in Stresa during World War I, was inspired to make it the setting for Frederic Henry and Catherine Barkley’s reunion in A Farewell to Arms.

Bergamo
Once a Roman settlement, the beautiful hilltop town of Bergamo owes much of its artistic and architectural abundance to Venice, which ruled the town for nearly four centuries beginning in 1428. The historic Città Alta (Upper Town) is likened to an open-air museum because of its picturesque cobblestone streets and handsome medieval and Renaissance buildings.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT OPTION: Join this full-day optional excursion including a walking tour of the captivating Città Alta, which is surrounded by impressive 17th-century fortifications. Visit the Piazza Vecchia, the loveliest area of the Upper Town, where you can see the 12th-century Palazzo della Ragione—the oldest town hall in Italy—and the iconic Cittadella built by the Visconti in the mid-14th century.

Hotel Regina Olga
Overlooking Lake Como in the charming village of Cernobbio, Hotel Regina Olga combines traditional Italian ambiance with modern amenities, exceptional service and comfortable accommodations. Its classic 19th-century Italian style takes you back to the golden age of travel when the hotel first opened. By special arrangement, your room features a lovely view of legendary Lake Como.

Accommodations have a private bathroom, air conditioning, direct-dial telephone, satellite television, complimentary in-room WiFi, 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 to stroll through, bicycles and an outdoor swimming pool. It is a short water taxi ride to Como and within easy walking distance of trattorias and boutiques.

Milan’s Masterpieces
Pre-Program Option
Recognized as the capital of the design and fashion worlds, Milan has an ancient cultural heritage and legacy that blends its 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, Milan’s exquisite Duomo and the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Santa Maria delle Grazie to experience the genius and beauty of Leonardo da Vinci’s renowned masterpiece, The Last Supper.

Accommodations for two nights are in the deluxe Sheraton Diana Majestic.

The Pre-Program Option and the Bergamo Optional Excursion are at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.
In Cernobbio

◆ Seven nights in the charming HOTEL REGINA OLGA featuring comfortable accommodations overlooking Lake Como.
◆ Full buffet breakfast each morning.
◆ Three dinners in the hotel and one dinner in a traditional restaurant, featuring northern Italian specialties with Italian wines.
◆ Welcome Reception featuring Italian wines, including prosecco.

Local Expert-Guided Excursions

◆ Walking tour of Old Como.
◆ Private boat cruise across Lake Como to medieval Bellagio.
◆ Spectacular, full-day scenic tour of Lake Maggiore, featuring a private cruise of the Borromean Islands.

Exclusive Cultural Enrichments

◆ Exclusively arranged, private lectures: Como history and culture presented by a local scholar and Como native, and a presentation on the life of Leonardo da Vinci by an art historian and resident of Como.
◆ Specially arranged VILLAGE LIFE® Forum with local Lombardy residents.
◆ Private guided tour of the Italian National Trust’s magnificent 18th-century Villa del Balbianello.
◆ Visit to Lake Maggiore’s Isola Bella with a walk through the gardens of the 17th-century Palazzo Borromeo.
◆ Time at your own pace to explore romantic Bellagio, the most famous village on Lake Como, and to experience Stresa’s spectacular views and tropical gardens on Lake Maggiore.
◆ Opportunities to explore local markets in Como and Cernobbio at your own pace.
◆ Opportunities to savor northern Italy’s traditional cuisine during included meals and on your own.
◆ Occasion to interact with locals and immerse yourself in Lombardy life.
◆ Italian language introduction.

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 local guides.
◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
◆ Complimentary bottled water while on excursions.
◆ Optional Excursion to charming Bergamo is available at additional cost.
◆ 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 audio 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.
The romantic allure of the Italian Lake District

For centuries, Italy’s Lake District has seduced hearts, minds and souls, including those of Virgil, Napoleon, Byron, Stendhal, Wordsworth, Shelley, Wharton, Verdi, Puccini, Toscanini, Twain and Hemingway. Long before the Romans annexed the region 2000 years ago and began to build their well-ordered towns, it was settled by Etruscans and invaded by Celts. Following the Romans, Middle Ages and Renaissance, nobility built magnificent holiday villas, filled them with priceless art and laid out extraordinary gardens. European aristocrats of the 18th and 19th centuries considered the Italian Lake District an essential stop on their “Grand Tour” of Europe.

Lombardy became one of the richest and most economically developed areas of Italy and Europe, thanks to its agricultural production, trade and banking activities that extended throughout the continent.

To this day, the region remains of paramount importance to Italy. The mild climate and the beauty of snowcapped Alpine peaks descending to serene lake shores continue to lure the rich, the famous and travelers from around the world. From the deep-blue glacial lakes of Como and Maggiore to the enchanting Villa del Balbianello, and from colorful Bellagio—“Pearl of the Lake”—to the modern sophistication of Milan, discover the exquisite gem that is the Italian Lake District.

The beautiful town of Stresa on Lake Maggiore has beckoned artists, authors and European aristocracy for centuries.
Nestled on the shores of Lake Como and surrounded by majestic Alpine peaks, the legendary Villa del Balbianello has one of the most beautiful and dramatic settings in all of Italy.

LAND TARIFF*
Per person, based on double occupancy

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<th>Early Booking Tariff* through October 24, 2016</th>
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*Singles are available upon request for an additional $900.

Program reservations require a deposit of $600 per person and $200 per person Milan’s Masterpieces Pre-Program Option. By reserving and depositing on this program, I/we agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

Please make my/our reservation(s):
- Double occupancy (two twin beds).
- Double occupancy (one double bed).
- Single accommodations.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Please make my/our reservation(s):
Milan’s Masterpieces Pre-Program Option
- Double at $895 per person.
- Single at $1250 per person.
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Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $__________ as deposit.

Make checks payable to Thomas P. Gohagan & Company. I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $__________ to:
- Visa
- MasterCard

I/We want you to book my/our air from

(fill in departure city) to and from Milan, Italy, at an additional cost to be advised.

Eligibility: Membership in the UK Alumni Association is a requirement for participation in this program. One membership is required for every family. Alumni, friends of the University and parents are welcome. Annual memberships are $45. If you are not a current member of the UK Alumni Association please enclose a separate check payable to the UK Alumni Association for the appropriate amount and mail it with your deposit.
Picturesque lakes, Alpine views and grand villas define the beauty and charm of Lake Maggiore.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

Thank you for choosing Thomas Gohagan, the sponsoring company, the sponsoring associations/organizations, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns ("Gohagan").

"Gohagan," unless otherwise specifically defined, shall mean Thomas Gohagan & Company, its officers, agents, employees, affiliates, subsidiaries, successors and assigns (collectively "Gohagan").

The following terms and conditions constitute a contract between you and the airline, even if purchased earlier or later than the scheduled group transfer(s); any overnight stops or departure if you are arriving earlier or later than and/or departing or safely.

Any physical or mental condition that may constitute a contract between you and the airline, even if purchased earlier or later than the scheduled group transfer(s); any overnight stops or departure if you are arriving earlier or later than and/or departing

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If due to weather, flight schedules or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend an additional night(s), you will be responsible for the cost of additional hotel, transfers and meal costs. Baggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may vary.

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