



COMO LAKE EXPERIENCE

*"In recent years, the city of Como, on the lake's southwestern tip, has quietly blossomed into the most interesting spot for visitors of all bank account sizes. A raft of openings has infused **new life** there, transforming the oft-overlooked transit hub into the lake's new **place to be seen.**" - The New York Times - August 2014.*

New York Times' words, along with worldwide celebrations of Como's **pure beauty**, give us a clear idea about the city and its territory which had become the place to be for many tourists around the world.

Como is much more than a city. Como is a **lake**, largely appreciated by tourists and its inhabitants. Lake Como offers a **unique landscape** that has attracted, along the years, many musicians, writers and scientists, ranging from Liszt, to Italian writer Alessandro Manzoni who set his masterpiece here, to scientist Alessandro Volta. Nowadays, people enjoy Lake Como by boat, hiking, water sports. Lake Como is also home to marvelous villas such as Villa Carlotta in Tremezzo and **Villa Balbianello** in Lenno.

City of Como lays in the valley enclosing the first branch of the lake. Como was founded during the **Roman Empire**, under Julius Caesar, in 59 BC. The city itself is enclosed by Medieval walls that culminate in three towers, still well preserved, that used to be the entrance of the city. All around the historical center and the buildings right outside are the hills, from Brunate to **Spina Verde**, where evidence of human presence dates back to the Iron Age.



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Como has been the **city of silk** for many centuries, famed for its production of fine fabrics that have gone all over the world and remains a reference point for all major fashion houses and clothing manufacturers. The importance of the industry is marked by the presence of the **Silk Museum** and the work of the Ratti Foundation.

Como is the birthplace of famous personalities such as **Plinio il Vecchio** and **Plinio il Giovane**, great Roman writers, whose statues are displayed on the façade of Como Cathedral, and **Alessandro Volta**, the inventor of the electrical battery. A temple and Life Electric, the new work of architect **Daniel Libeskind**, are dedicated to him.

Como is the city of **architecture**. Rationalism was born and developed here. Proofs of this gold age of architecture are **Giuseppe Terragni's** masterpieces such as Casa del Fascio and Novocomum. Terragni's work gives the city a unique artistic identity that is well recognized all over the globe.

Food tradition in Como offers local products, both from the lake and the mountains. The most famous dish is polenta, either yellow wheat or buckwheat, served with meat, fish or cheese.

Lake Como's traditional fish is **misultitt** (dried fish), bleak, lavarello, perch (often served with risotto), salmon trout, pike and chub.

In what cheese concerns, Lake Como offers **semuda**, **zincarlin** and triangolo del Lario. Also, Como produces good butter and milk, cod cuts, honey (acacia, chestnut, lime tree).

Also, we can find olive oil Dop Laghi Lombardi-Lario and wine Consortium Igt Terre Lariane that produces white and red wine. Among sweets, typical are **miascia**, braschin, nocciolini di Canzo, pan mataloch, masigott, resta, pan meino, **cutizza**, and tortelli di San Giuseppe.



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