

information

Mandarin Oriental, Lago di Como
Via Caronti, 69 – 22020 Blevio (Co), Italy
Telephone +39 031 32 511
www.mandarinoriental.com/lake-como



MANDARIN ORIENTAL, LAGO DI COMO – TOP HOTEL FACTS

SIGNATURE FAN

The symbol of Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group is an eleven-bladed fan that ties together the Group's hotels into a single identity. Each of the Group's hotels has its own fan, chosen to reflect the hotel's unique personality.

Dating back to 1880, Mandarin Oriental, Lago Di Como's unique fan is reflective of the sophistication and elegance of the hotel. Its striking design, with garlands of golden flowers and silver foliage, is a reference to the beautiful shores of Lake Como.

THE BOTANICAL GARDEN

Mandarin Oriental, Lago di Como is surrounded by a magnificent botanical garden where guests can enjoy a stroll and unwind in shaded grounds home to 54 species of plants and flowers. Landscape designer Patrizia Pozzi took inspiration from the luxurious gardens of famous villas around the lake, including Villa Carlotta, Villa Melzi and Villa del Balbianello, to recreate a lush oasis where guests can relax amidst rhododendrons, azaleas and camellias.

Six of the nine Villas are named after plants that grow in the park: Villa Oleandro is named after the beautiful oleanders that grow at the resort entrance; Villa Abete takes its name from a fir tree that looms over the Villa; Villa Alloro comes from the Italian for 'bay tree'; Villa delle Palme takes its name from the palm trees that shade the Villa; finally, Villa del Cedro is named after a 200-year old Lebanese cedar tree where Giuditta Pasta is said to have spent hours admiring the lake views.

-more-

THE HISTORY OF VILLA ROCCABRUNA

Villa Roccabruna, the beating heart of Mandarin Oriental, Lago di Como, has a rich and varied history. Dating back to 1799, it was originally owned by Madame Ribier, an eccentric French dressmaker from Paris who made a fortune while in Milan designing outfits for the top echelons of high society.

In 1827, opera singer Giuditta Pasta acquired the property and asked her uncle, architect Filippo Ferranti, to renovate the villa. Nicknamed Villa Roda, the property became a meeting point for artists, composers and singers, including Gaetano Donizetti, who is said to have completed his opera *Anna Bolena* here. Italian composer Vincenzo Bellini was a regular guest and developed a close relationship with Pasta (Bellini's *La Sonnambula* and *Norma* are both thought to have been written for the soprano). Legend says Pasta would lean out of the windows of Villa Roda to sing to her heart's content, while on the opposite shore in the small town of Moltrasio renowned composer Vincenzo Bellini would listen intently, enchanted by her beautiful voice. Pasta hosted many other illustrious guests at the villa, including Italian composer Gioacchino Rossini, writer and poet Alessandro Manzoni, French novelist Stendhal, and artist Maria Cosway. At the beginning of the 20th century, the property was purchased by the Wild family, cotton industrialists of Swiss origin from the nearby city of Turin.

GREEN INITIATIVES

Mandarin Oriental, Lago di Como is fully supportive of Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group's pledge to eliminate all single-use plastic across its global portfolio and is busy sourcing viable eco-alternatives. Mandarin Oriental, Lago di Como limits its water and energy consumption by harvesting water from the lake, making the most of the water's temperature regulating properties to heat or cool down the interiors of the building. In addition, the resort has two electric Tesla X cars on the property. The vehicles are available for short-distance transfers, exploring the surrounding towns and villages, or quick trips into the city of Como.

-more-

UNFORGETTABLE SUNSETS

The resort is located on the eastern shore of the lake, allowing the property to capture plenty of sunlight throughout the day. The sun rises behind the resort, resulting in wonderful sunsets that can be viewed and enjoyed from all corners of the property. During the golden hour, guests can also experience a romantic and intimate aperitif with their loved ones onboard an exclusive Venetian taxi.

LAKE COMO

Considered to be one of the most beautiful destinations in Italy thanks to its breath-taking natural scenery and its rich cultural legacy, Lake Como is home to picturesque villages, beautiful churches, and sumptuous historical villas. The lake area is a truly scenic delight, its discreet atmosphere and understated elegance further adding to its charm. That is why Lake Como has been the background of many films, different in genre, setting and characters: from the romantic comedy *A Month by the Lake* to *Star Wars: Episode II Attack of the Clones*, without forgetting the 007 action of the *Casino Royale* and *Ocean's Twelve*.

Mandarin Oriental, Lago di Como is the ideal starting point to discover this cinematographic scenario with its splendid villas, renowned UNESCO World Heritage sites and lakefront towns such as Menaggio, Tremezzo, Varenna and Bellagio, all located less than a one-hour car journey or boat ride from the resort. In addition to a transfer service and water taxi, guests are given the opportunity to rent luxury Venetian-style boats for excursions and guided tours on the lake. Small motor boats can be rented on site to be driven independently without the need for a boat license.

The lake area offers a wide array of sports and adventure activities, including climbing, fishing, golfing, parachuting, watersports and horse-riding, to name a few. Guests can enjoy gentle relaxing walks as they explore the resort's botanical park or hike panoramic trails through the surrounding mountains.

-more-



An in-house rental service provides guests with an iconic 1959 Alfa Romeo Giulietta convertible to enjoy a stylish experience along Lake Como's enchanting roads and panoramic routes.

- end -

For further information, please contact:

Mandarin Oriental, Lago di Como

Emilia Gozza (egoza@mohg.com)

Marketing & Communications Manager

Tel: + 39 031 32511

mandarinoriental.com/lake-como