

Rail holidays of Italy

Expressions



Rail holiday to Lake Maggiore



Rail holiday to Lake Maggiore

9 NIGHTS / 10 DAYS

Lake Maggiore

Stresa

Isola Bella

Isola Madre



Experience the luxury of rail travel as you journey through France and Italy by train to Lake Maggiore. Take the Eurostar to Paris, before continuing on an overnight train to Milan. From here, travel by car to the delightful Hotel Cannero Lakeside Resort in Cannero. Cannero is undoubtedly one of the most unspoilt and tranquil spots on Lake Maggiore with its winding cobbled streets, enchanting lake views and backdrop of wooded mountains. From Cannero you can take excursions by boat to various other resorts and islands the lake, including Isola Bella and Isola Madre. An alternative option for the outbound rail journey is to leave London in the morning on the Eurostar to Paris and then transfer to the TGV Lyria service to Lausanne where you stay for a night. Then the following day you continue your rail journey through the Simplon Pass and arrive in Stresa on Lake Maggiore just before 10pm. Alternatively, you can break your journey in Zurich or Geneva. Please ask us for more details regarding alternative journeys.

PRICES

From £2,410 per person

Price based on two sharing a double or twin room.

1st class rail travel can be added for a supplement.

DATES

This rail holiday can be arranged throughout the year. Timings can vary depending on the month and day of the week. For more information regarding rail services to and within Italy, view our train guide.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Train travel on all trains including the Eurostar (first class can be booked at a supplement)
- Double sleeper compartment on Thello sleeper train
- 7 nights' accommodation with half board on Lake Maggiore

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Optional extra nights
- Transfers in Paris or Lake Maggiore
- Meals other than breakfast at the hotels
- Early check in or late check out at hotels - though we can arrange this on request
- Supplements for alternative route options
- Any services not mentioned

OUTBOUND OPTION 1 – DIRECT SLEEPER

DAY ONE: Take the sleeper train from Paris

Start your rail holiday on an early afternoon Eurostar train to Paris, where you arrive at about 6pm before changing stations and continuing on the Thello sleeper train to Milan.

DAY TWO: Milan to Lake Maggiore

Arrive in Milan at about 6am, and meet a private car that will take you to your hotel on Lake Maggiore where you spend seven nights.

OUTBOUND OPTION 2 – VIA LAUSANNE

DAY ONE: Rail to Lausanne

Start your rail holiday by catching the Eurostar around 10am to Paris where there may be time for lunch at the famous Train Bleu restaurant, before you catch the high speed TGV train passing through the French city of Dijon en route to Lausanne,. You arrive here a little after 7.30pm and stay one night, or more, in the Hotel Angletterre et Residence which looks out over the shore of Lake Geneva.

DAY TWO: Lausanne to Stresa

You have the morning at leisure in Lausanne before boarding your train around 2pm. The railway follows the Rhone before passing through the stunning Simplon Pass and dropping down to Stresa on the shores of Lake Maggiore. Private transfers from the train station to your hotel can be pre-arranged for payment locally.

OUTBOUND OPTION 3 – VIA ZURICH

DAY ONE: Rail to Zurich

Start your rail holiday by travelling on a morning Eurostar from London to Paris. After arriving around 1pm, you can then take the high-speed TGV Lyria train to Zurich. This train takes a different route, entering Switzerland through the northern town of Basel. Arrive in Zurich about 6.30pm and check in to the Hotel Ambassador a l'Opera for one night.

DAY TWO: Zurich to Stresa

Leaving Zurich behind at midday you head east to Bern where a simple change then drops you down past Lake Thun and through the Simplon Pass, arriving in Stresa around 4pm.



Terrace at Hotel Cannero

DAYS THREE TO EIGHT: Lake Maggiore

Explore Lake Maggiore and the surrounding area at your leisure. Lake Maggiore is noted for its picturesque setting amid the greenery-covered mountains. It is set apart from the other Italian lakes by the tiny Borromean islands that are found within its blue waters. These islands, known for their terraced gardens and aristocratic villas are reachable by boat, and are well worth a visit.

DAY NINE: Take the sleeper from Milan

Check out of your hotel and return to Milan, where you catch an overnight sleeper train to Paris, departing at 11pm.

DAY TEN: Rail from Paris to London

Arrive in Paris at about 10am. Change stations in Paris and end your rail holiday by taking the midday Eurostar back to London.

OPTIONAL

It is possible to add extra nights in any of these destinations if you would like to spend more time there.

HOTELS

Details of the hotels in Switzerland and Italy can be found below.

Expressions

LAUSANNE (OPTION)

Hotel Angleterre et Residence 4 star

On the shores of Lake Geneva with stunning view of the Alps, this hotel comprises of five different buildings surrounding the main Reception. The hotel offers contemporary style in a historic setting with parts of the buildings dating back to the 18th century. The 75 bedrooms and Junior Suites are scattered between four buildings, each with their own distinct styles, but all guests will benefit from the same high standards of care from the friendly, professional staff.

ZURICH (OPTION)

Hotel Ambassador a l'Opera 4 star

The Hotel Ambassador a l'Opera is a historic boutique hotel located opposite Zurich's Opera House, set just back from the lakeside. This is a highly luxurious and unique option for a one or two night stay in central Zurich. The hotel has just 45 rooms and is renowned for their gourmet restaurant which is just as popular with locals as hotel guests.



Hotel Cannero from the water

LAKE MAGGIORE

Hotel Cannero 4 star

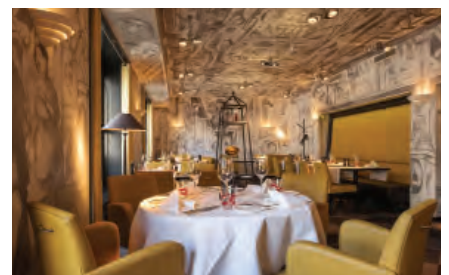
The welcoming Hotel Cannero reflects the quaint charm of its picturesque surroundings, offering attentive service to ensure that guests feel relaxed and well looked after. The original 17th century building has been restructured to make the most of its excellent position. The light and airy bedrooms feature balconies overlooking the serene lake, whilst excellent meals are served from the restaurant's lakeside terraces. The hotel has two bikes and a rowing boat "Rebecca II" which are free for guests to use during their stay.



Superior room at Hotel Angleterre et Residence



Swimming pool at Hotel Cannero



Restaurant at Hotel Ambassador a l'Opera

MAP OF TOUR LAKE MAGGIORE BY TRAIN

The map below illustrates the route outlined in this touring itinerary, with overnight stops and places of interest highlighted.



GENERAL INFORMATION

This tailor-made touring holiday is one of several suggested touring holidays we can offer you exactly as it is but also with any alterations you might want including extra nights in one or more places or adding in extra places. All our tours can be extended so that you can include a longer stay in one mountain or lake resort too, perhaps at the end of the itinerary. Do call to discuss the options with our travel consultants.

OUR TOURS

Our rail tours are for individuals travelling on their own or in their own family group. You do not join a group and you are not escorted.

FLEXIBLE ARRANGEMENTS

Our arrangements are very flexible in that you choose to travel on any day you want, subject to availability of trains and hotels. As mentioned above, additional nights can be added at any point.

EUROSTAR

A rail holiday to Italy starts with a journey by Eurostar from London St Pancras, Ebbsfleet or Ashford stations in the UK to either Paris Gare du Nord or Lille Europe. In summer months there are direct trains on Saturdays from London St Pancras to Avignon with no change required.

Eurostar offers almost hourly departures every day, allowing you to travel from the centre of London to the centre of Paris on the same train in three hours. Not all trains stop at the Ebbsfleet and Ashford stations in Kent, but parking is plentiful at both stations and it allows you to avoid London.

Check-in is 30 minutes prior to departure, customs formalities are completed before boarding and there is no limit to the amount of baggage that can be taken on board. The Eurostar trains themselves have 8 coaches which are split into Standard Class, Standard Premier and Business Premier as well as 2 cafeterias. Standard Premier customers are served a light cold meal and enjoy a more spacious environment than Standard Class, while Business Premier customers receive a hot meal and unlimited beverages as well as lounge access.

TRAIN TIMES

We have planned our itineraries based on train times that work day by day at the time of planning which can be up to a year before you travel. Usually train times stay more or less the same every day, season by season. The times we have planned will be discussed with you at the time you enquire about the holiday and they are detailed to you in your written holiday quotation. It may be that the timetable changes between the planning of the itinerary and when you come to book but we can always adjust the itinerary to suit the actual train times and any requirements you have for particular times of travel.

FIRST OR SECOND CLASS

We will automatically include travel in second class but lots of our clients do upgrade to first class service. On Eurostar this is called Premier Standard for leisure travellers as it gives you an upgraded on-board service and more spacious seating but without paying for the fully-flexible business tickets. On the Inter-city trains, upgrading to first class gives you more spacious seating with increased legroom. The price of upgrading varies from route to route but is something that is not always proportionately a lot more on the price of the overall holiday, so well-worth considering.

TRANSFERS

Transfers in Paris between stations and from the station to each hotel are not automatically included in the price of the holiday. In Paris most clients choose to take a taxi between the stations rather than go on the Metro but we can arrange a private car with driver to take you in between. This is quite useful if you are a family group that can't fit into one Paris taxi.

PRICE INFORMATION

This tailor-made touring holiday is one of several suggested touring holidays we can offer you exactly as it is but also with any alterations you might want including extra nights in one or more places or adding in extra places. All our tours can be extended so that you can include a longer stay in one mountain or lake resort too, perhaps at the end of the itinerary. Do call to discuss the options with our travel consultants.

OUR PRICES

The sample prices mentioned in this leaflet are generally a 'from' price based on the cheapest season of travel. However, train fares and hotel rates can change (up and down depending on offers), so we give you an accurate price for your holiday when we provide you with a quotation. Our sample prices should be used as an indication of how much a particular combination will cost and to show the differences on average between the hotel categories on offer.

PRICE INFORMATION IN MORE DETAIL

From £2,610 per person for first class rail travel.

From £2,410 per person for second class rail travel.

Prices based on two sharing a double or twin room using the Thello sleeper train.

What's included?

7 nights' accommodation on half board in a Lake View Room at Hotel Cannero
First or second class travel on the Eurostar (as above)
Double sleeper compartment on Thello sleeper train

What's not included?

Additional meals at the hotel
Transfers in Paris or Lake Maggiore.
Early check in or late check outs at hotels, although we can arrange this on request.
Supplements for alternative routes
Any services not mentioned above



BOOKING CONDITIONS

Our booking conditions apply to all holidays. A copy can be found on our website and a copy is also sent to you with a written quotation and when you make a booking.

FINANCIAL PROTECTION

Expressions Holidays offers full financial protection for all holidays you book with us. If your holiday includes a flight, the ATOL (3076) covers the costs of the holiday. If the holiday does not include a flight, it is the ABTOT bond that protects the cost of the holiday. We are also members of AITO (the Association of Independent Tour Operators) and ABTA.



Expressions Holidays
Lynx House, Pynes Hill, Exeter EX2 5JL

HOW TO BOOK

To make a booking, just phone us on

01392 441275

and we can take you through the details we need and start the booking process. A deposit is required to confirm the arrangements and this can be paid by debit or credit card over the phone. The level of the deposit will be confirmed at the point of booking and will depend on the ticketing deadlines of the rail tickets involved in your booking.