**NATURE** 

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Special Natural Reserve of Fondotoce

Feriolo

Oltrefiume

Romanico

Loita

Botanic Garden 'Alpinia'

Lago

Maggiore

Baveno

Promenade

M. Camoscio

(690 m)

△ (879 m)

Rif. A.N.A.

M. Crocino

(1.021 m)

Nuovo

Mottarone

△ (1.491 m)

### Nature and Sports

akes, rivers, hills and mountains offer an ideal background to spend days in the open air among nature and sports. In every season, Baveno offers, bevond the pleasantness of the stay. many excursions by water or by ground, to discover the natural heritage and the possibility of practising numerous sports and recreational activities like trekking, mountain bike, golf, borse-riding, sailing, canoeing, scuba-diving, water skiing and fishing. For winter sports (alpine

descents and snowboarding) you can go to the top of the Mottarone mountain (balf an bour drive from Baveno). In addition, the favoured centralised position of Baveno, crossing point to the Ossola Valley, allows you to reach in a short time the National Park of the Val Grande, the vastest area of Wilderness of Italy and the Alps, Macugnaga, Monte Rosa, the Natural Parks of Alpe Veglia and Alpe Devero, of Val Formazza and Val Vigezzo.



presence of crystals of pink orthoclase, the black mica biotite, are among the

best in the world'. On the mountains surrounding Baveno, human activity has acted on nature producing a very suggestive landscape; in fact, the mining of the famous pink granite has re-shaped the skyline, Legend ascribes to St. Carlo Bor-Underground flowers. The pink colour romeo the discovery of pink granite of with black and white dots is due to the Bayeno, used in architecture since the second half of the sixteenth century. It the mineral that, together with the oligo- was used in Milan (Lazzaretto, St. Fedele, clase white, the transparent quartz and eighty columns of the University), in the gardens of Bella Island and in the cities of principal components of this magmatic Lombardy. In the nineteenth century, craft intrusive rock. Frequent characteristic of manufacturing became industrial prothe Pink Granite is the formation of drus-duction thanks to technological innovaes, rich in magnificent crystals in which tions, like the increased use of mines and the doubling of the orthoclase - in great water saws. Everyone was involved: demand by collectors - can be observed, some mining: some in the mountains

The crystalline splendours of granite reflect in thousands of monuments in every

country and are considered among the



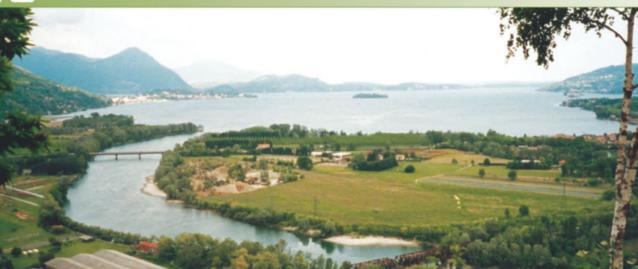
arts centre 'Circolo Bavenese' are dedicatthe theme chosen by a popular assembly, der to grasp the complexity of their trade, of the manufacturing of one of the columns of the Duomo of Milan was the starting point for the column that crosses the paint ng in perspective. Women are portrayed with the 'gaula' (a sort of pannier) used to transport pyric powder. This painting is expression of the historical movement 'New

O nella conca di Bavèn nottura, Dove le gaje villanelle, in giro

preparing the mines with pyric powder important monuments of the world (the hundred columns of St. Paolo in Rome, the Bangkok, monuments in Buenos Aires and



picciol foco, sulla via Bayeno has considerable accommodation sedute, Alternano, facilities and an over one-hundred-year al capir dall'essiccato long tradition in the hospitality sector. Canape, il canto: e ai boasting prestigious hotels and luxurious veroncelli assisa and refined wellness centres; comfortable e prime note del and high quality facilities, residences, sermone gentile rooms and houses for rent. Plenty of imla peregrina di portant guests came to Baveno in every age like Queen Victoria, Churchill, John Bretagna ascolta Ruskin and Stendhal. For lovers of open-Giovanni Prati, air tourism, there are several camping Isnirazioni del sites and an equipped area for Verbano, 1854. campers/caravans (water refill, toilets, dis-



SPECIAL NATURAL

A landscape of rare beauty, protected by the Region of Piedmont and under the guardianship of the Board of Management of the Parks and Natural Reserve of Lake Maggiore (Info: 0323 496596), stretches from the camping sites to the north of Feriolo for 365 hectares. The luxuriant vegetation of cane-breaks and willow-groves is a habitat of great ornithological interest (wild ducks, loons, etc), and also for migratory birdlife that takes shelter here before crossing the Alps and for the wintering of some species (garrots, coots, rock pipits). In close contact with nature, you can practice bird-watching and naturalistic hikng. (www.parchilagomaggiore.it)



Shows, art, culture, wine and food festi-tasting of typical products from the Osso-

vals, and sports: this is the list of events la Valley; village festivals organised by lo-

in Romanico with the traditional feast of sumption). Sporting events with tourna-

St. Giuseppe (19 March), the religious ments of table tennis (July), beach volley,

mass, the delicious sweet fritters and the five-a-side, football, bowls and the Hall

(19 June) take place in Baveno over a few (Castagnata Tarabech, second Sunday of

days with different events, like in Ron- October) and the Quartascia Festival (the

Sorrows (mid September), in Loita for St. In winter university courses for adults 'Uni

Fermo (7 August) and the Virgin Mary of 3' with meetings on history of theatre,

games for children, art exhibitions, open- and the Arrival of the 'Befana' (6 January).

caro for the celebration of Our Lady of fourth Sunday of October in Oltrefiume).

BY BIKE

A long cycle track starts from the motorway junction and runs along the lake until Feriolo: from there you have the possibility of either cycling to Mergozzo, characteristic town on the homonymous lake. or proceeding through the cane-break of the Special Natural Reserve of Fondotoce.

OGETHER FOR A YEAR

The first Patronal celebration takes place

Celebrations for St. Gervasio and Protasio

not to be missed in Bayeno.

launch of balloons

the Snow (end July).



cal groups and exhibitions of local sports

associations/Böcc Festival, feast of the As-

marathon of the VCO (September).

In autumn, the roast chestnuts festival

history of arts, ecology, medicine, music,

painting, literature; photography courses

(January/February), In December, Markets

**AUGUST** 

THE SLEEPLESS

NIGHT BAVENO

MUSIC, SHOW, SPORT

GAME, SOLIDARITY

BAVENO - OLTREFIUME - FERIOLO - TORRE Walking distance: 3h40 (return):

4 itineraries in the mountains and pastures

Walking distance: 2h15 (return): A walk along the lake with views over the The journey winds along meadows and granite guarries of Mount Camoscio and woods with small trickles. From Romanthe Alps. From the park of Villa Fedora. ico (250 m) climb to Alp Navalesco (340 turn left towards Oltrefiume, proceed m) and then reach the through via Lavarini and street Cavalli riverbed of the stream that, after crossing the railway, joins the Selva Spessa, that can main street (S.S.33) until the roundabout before the town of Feriolo (worth a visit). foot, To the left, climb up Turn left here and get onto the footpath, via a path through the then mule-track that brings you to the woods and then reach tower of Feriolo, where there is a pic-nic Alp Vedabia (879 m).

e: 2h15 (one way) 1h25



ZUGHERO - ALPE VEDABIA - MOTTARONE

be easily crossed on

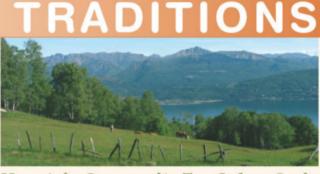
Walking distance: 4h15 (one way), 3h35 (coming back). From Oltrefiume (resort Tranquilla) follow the footpath through the Campino. The journey with views over woods that takes you to Mount Camoscio chestnuts, beeches and pine trees at the ridge towards Mount Crocino and reach Alb Vedabia (879 m). From here, passing the Alpine refuge C.A.I. (Italian Alpine from here to the top of Mottarone (1491) m) from where you can enjoy a wonderful view over the alpine arc from Mount Rosa to the Padana Plain. To come back, you can descend to Stresa via cable way and return to Baveno by boat or bus.





Speciale Città di Baveno a cura di ML monti@laghi news© THED EDITION Ufficio Turismo Città di Baveno: Maria Carla Lucietti, Emma Lazzaro, Ileana Bosina. Progetto editoriale e grafica: Rita Ghisalberti Tel. 339 8822059

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Mountain Community Two Lakes, Cusio Mottarone and Valstrona

he district of the Mountain Community is an area of wonderful natural beauty that stretches from the shores of Lake Maggiore and Lake Orta to the Mottarone Mountain and the Valstrona Valley.

WUSEUM OF THE STONE-CUTTER BOTANIC GARDEN 'ALPINIA'

In the resort of 'Boleto di Madonna del Sas- The garden, placed on the hill overlooking so' there is a museum that exhibits the in- Stresa, stretches for around 40,000 square struments, the handiwork, documents but metres. Natural balcony over Lake Magabove all explains through videos, iconogiore, it offers an incredible view of the Borgraphic and historical research the trade of romeo Islands and the surrounding Alps. Its the stonecutter. [open from 15 June to 15 distinctiveness is represented by more than September: Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays 800 botanic species typical of the territory 10h00-12h00; 15h00-18h00); from 16 of the Alps. (Open every day from 1 April to September to 14 June: Sundays 15h00- 15 October. Entry Fee. 9h30 to 18h00). 18h00; at any other time upon request by phoning 0322 981177].

ANTASY PARK 'G. RODARI'

The Gardens of the Cake in the sky: this is a natural park with equipped areas and routes for games at Mount Zuoli of Omegna; one of the most panoramic views of Cusio.



COMUNITÁ

To the traditional and natural flavours of the cuisine of the lake, made of fish (fillets of perch, lavaret and trout) accompanied by rice and fried bleaks, you can add flavours from the mountains like mushrooms, chestnuts and cheese prepared following traditional recipes, with selected milk from cows of local mountain pastures. From hotel tradition, princely and spectacular banquets for every



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IAT Tourist and

DISCOVERING

**BAVENO** 

(coming back). From Baveno's lakeside promenade, climb up to Romanico and Lake Maggiore runs along woods of (890 m). Proceed through the wooden top of Mount Mottarone. It is possible to make a detour to the Albinia Botanic Gar- through Mount Zughero (1230 m) reach den and from here use the intermediate stop of the cableway Stresa-Mottarone Club) at Alp Nuovo; you can then proceed as alternative to reach Stresa or the top.



## THE LEGEND OF ROSES

Painted houses, reflecting in the lake, the scent of flowers and above all many, many roses populate Bayeno. But why is Bayeno the 'town of Roses'? An explanation exists. In fact...once upon a time. All fables begin in this way, but the one we are about to tell you could be a true story. Everything happened one morning many years ago, on the shores of the lake: neither the documents discovered in the archives of the Parish that gave rise to this story, mention the exact date. Some fishermen found the lifeless body of a beautiful young woman. She seemed asleep. The oldest fisherman.

with the softness that only old people pos-

sess, tried to wake her up. But nothing. she was too beautiful to be already dead so the fishermen and the inhabitants of the of butter; 125 grams of sugar; a whole egg; town informed the master of the castle, a yolk; a pinch of salt; lemon skin; a small Guiscardo the Beautiful, who, as soon as he glass of grappa. saw the face of the sleeping woman, was Place the flour with sugar on the rolling conquered by her pure face. He vainly tried board. Add the whole egg and the yolk with to wake her up gently but when he started a pinch of salt. Add the butter and the grapto despair, from the crowd move forward an pa. Mix everything. Lay down the dough in a old woman saying: The young woman is vic- low baking-pan and decorate the surface tim of a sorcery provoked by the thorn of a by carving it with the edge of a glass. Paint rose. To wake up again, she has to breathe the surface with the albumen. Put it in the scent of all the roses of the lake'. Everyone oven at 180 degrees for around forty minthen started to pick flowers. Boats full of utes. After is cake is cooked, wait until it roses, azaleas, hydrangeas and rhododen- has cooled down before removing it from drons came. There was a heady scent but the baking-pan. the woman did not wake up. The sorcerv is strong -said the old lady- and the marvel can only happen at sunset if the sun leaves forevthis morning when it first saw the sleeping youngster. In order to make this happen we must pray'. Guiscardo kneeled down. When the last ray of sun reached the white mountain overlooking Bayeno, this mountain turned pale pink: the sun set but the colour remained. The marvel happened: it was the colour of the blocks of pink granite revealing itself that evening. The young woman then awoke. Guiscardo married her and like in all fables they lived happily ever after. As a It is traditional, in occasion of the Patronal memory to that event, people of the town celebrations for St. Gervasio and Protasio (19 attributed the name 'Rosa' to the mountain June) that the women of Bayeno prepare -actowering above all others visible from cording to the ancient recipe of 1800- the 'fu Bayeno, In 1932, a spectacular manifesta- gascina', typical cake of Bayeno that is sold

event Mincenzo Amato)



Ingredients: 250 grams of flour; 125 grams



tion on the shores of the lake re-evoked the after the Mass. The cake can be found all year long in some of the shops of the town.



(Isola di Gozo),

The monument (5) on the lakeside prome- some breaking blocks; some on the nade, realised by Raffaele Polli in 1990 and shores of the lake at the 'Barachetta' the wall painting in Matteotti Square (8) of beach (39) manufacturing blocks and Baveno carried out in 1979 by Gilberto some others organising the transport on Carpo with the help of the students of the barges of the material used in the most ed to the Picasass, the stonecutters of dome of St. Gaudenzio in Novara, colon-Baveno, whose ability is world known nade of Roma Road in Turin, arches of the since many centuries. Carpo, to develop Vittorio Emanuele Gallery in Milan, one used the testimonies of stonecutters in or- Opera of Paris, the train station of Luzern, both in its craftsmanlike and creative di- New York, etc.) The resistance to wear and mensions and in its evolution, represented tear and inalterability allows for many usat the top of the painting by mechanisms es in building (stairs, coating), in urban that create lines and geometrical forms, equipment, flooring and industry (oil symbols of mass production. A photograph mills,



charge of chemical WC, paying car park). (Info: 0323 924632 IAT)

tic flowers of this area

17 Villa Fed

VILLA FEDORA

is organised yearly.

To the period between 1800 and 1900 be- Beaches can be found to the

long the wonderful villas surrounded by lux- north of Baveno's town centre.

urious naturalistic English parks and gar- The 'lido' (14), equipped with

dens, rich in exotic and precious essences showers and public toilets,

and camelias) that became so well acclima-

tised to this territory to become characteris- the opportunity to practice sports and holds

like the acidophils (azaleas, rhododendrons hire of sun beds, bar/restau-

The most interesting part of this villa dating Baveno boasts a great tradition of parks and back to 1800 (17) is the one turned to the gardens, favoured by the mild climate and garden, with two protruding bodies that spectacular morphology of the territory; the contain a double order of porches, covered background of every scenary are the lake by balconies. In the park, there is an old ice- and the surrounding mountains. A journey house: a circular building with a stone roof by boat or motorboat offers suggestive enand an inside hole to collect ice. In this villa, vironmental views to admire in all their owadays seat of the Chamber of Commerce splendour the villas with their gardens, the of the VCO (Verbano-Cusio-Ossola) Province, hotels and small towns mounted like jewels lived for twenty years and composed some in the landscape reflecting in the water. of his works the master Umberto Giordano (1867-1948), to whom another famous mu-

in 1986 dictated the inscription of the The festival, organised by the town hall of plaque affixed in the entrance hall of Baveno, originated in occasion of the cen-Baveno's town hall. In his memory, since tenary of the first performance of 'Fedora'

evening events. The 'Riviera' of Feriolo (42-

44) with sandy white beaches and shallow

waters is ideal for families. The park of Villa

Fedora (16) has ample green slopes and a

rich arboreous heritage (oak trees, camel-

lias, mimosas and azaleas) descending to-

wards the coastline where you can find a

wet dock and a gravely and sandy beach. It

is an oasis of summer chilliness, suitable

for walks, to rest and for children that can

play games and a restaurant/kiosk.

PARKS AND GARDENS

1998 the music Festival Umberto Giordano (1898) and the fiftieth anniversary of the The festival, dedicated to different artistic genres, boasts the participation of world-



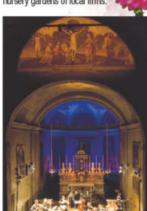
sician Gian Andrea Gavazzeni (1909-1996),

The fairy-tale architecture of 1870 has a colours of the woods of broadof bricks with white stones; it is enlivened missed: a visit in spring in the by towers and cusp turrets. (25)



A YEAR IN BLOOM

The landscape transmits strong splendour at the change of the season in February, as the woods are full of primulas and narcis sus, from March to June for the wonderful blossom of azaleas, camellias and minosas, in summer for hydrangeas, oleanders and dahlias, between Septembe and November for the autumn nursery gardens of local firms.



### air cinema, markets and displays with (Info: 0323 924632 IAT) NOT TO BE MISSED

In summer: travelling musicians, con-

certs in squares and churches, shows,

JULY FIRST AND SECOND WEEK **BAVENO FESTIVAL UMBERTO GIORDANO** OPERA, CONCERTS, DANCE, POETRY AND MUSIC baveno/estival

**EVERY TWO YEARS (NEXT EDITION IN 2012)** LIVING CHRISTMAS CRIB

AND ANCIENT TRADES

takes place in the old town of Baveno



24 DECEMBER SANTA CLAUS ARRIVES FROM THE LAKE Santa Claus distributes sweets to children and gifts to the last child born in Baveno (20.30; lakeside promenade of Baveno)



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**BAVENO** 

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### Architectural and artistic routes

he territory of Baveno is an area rich in history, traditions and culture. There are plenty of archaeological, artistic and architectural testimonies: from the findings of the 'neolithic' age (2500-1800 B.C.) in Feriolo, important and thriving commercial harbour, both on the lake and on the river, linking the Ossola Valley and the territories on the other side of the Alps to the capitals of Lombardy and the maritime centres of Venice and Genoa; to the remains of the Roman age documented by tombstones and discoveries found in the necropolis (1-II centuries A.D.), with domestic and funerary furnishings, arms, bronze and golden coins (IV-V centuries A. D.) to the Roman architecture witnessed in the monumental complex of the Provostal Church in the centre of Baveno.

The quarrying of the precious pink granite started in the XVI century, while the architecture of the XVII and XVIII centuries is represented by churches and numerous devotional chapels, linked one to the other by quiet walks that offer wonderful panoramic views. In the XIX century, the development of important commercial routes like the opening of the carriage road of the Simplon (1807), wanted by Napoleon to link Paris to Milan and the launch of the first steamboats (1826) with on-board restaurants for tourist navigation of Lake Maggiore transformed Baveno into a 'post-city' where stage-coaches headed. The privileged geographical position of Baveno, the first city onto the lake for people arriving from Northern Europe and the last for those returning back home passing through the Simplon Pass, and the many attractions it offers to those who, according to a local journal, 'tired of travelling, stop at the hotels for some days to enjoy the fresh air and the wonderful view', make of it a perfect place for a break.

The strengthening of the railway linking Genoa and Turin, the completion of the railway Novara-Domodossola (1888) and in 1906 the opening of the Simplon tunnel, directly linking Lake Maggiore with Switzerland, definitely inserted Baveno in the circuit of international tourism.

During the renovations of the parsonage, that nowadays hosts the polyfunctional hall 'Notr@domus' recently equipped to host 120 people, an interesting funerary stone dating back to the I century AD. was discovered, on which was engraved the portrait of a family of Roman age.



### St. GERVASIO AND PROTASIO CHURCH

one of the most important Roman monuments: a true jewel of architecture but al-The architecture, enhanced by the clear so a privileged area of peace, whose atcolour of square stones, presents on the mosphere calls for meditation and spirifront two walled tombstones of Roman tual well-being. At the top of the stairage that, together with the other features case, there are the parsonages, the apse of the site, a balcony on the lake turned to of the church, the bell tower, the baptisthe rising sun, seem to corroborate the tery and the colonnade of the 'Way of hypothesis that the church was built on a the Cross', that in an harmonious union site of pagan cult. The 'a capanna' façade of architectures of different ages have is a wonderful example of Roman archicreated in the heart of the city a place of tecture (1150-1175), covered with beole rest and tranquillity, animated in summer (flat stones typical of the Ossola Valley) by swallows flying around the bell tower and the bell tower (1050-1075), six-The variety of glimpses in perspective storey high on a square base, walled sinmake of it a destination favoured by gle lancet windows and masonry in pebbles placed in an irregular manner. The interior is the result of different interventions, with frescos of the XV century, inter esting altar frontals in the side chapels added in 1700, two panels attributed to

'Annunciated' by Camillo Procaccini (1551-1629). On the central vault, the precious wooden Crucifix has on the background a vision of the 'Golgotha' mountain, frescoed by Andrea Francinetti and Giovanni

ry, though this suggestion still has to be supported by specific archaeological excavations. The exterior resembles a building of the XVIII century, preceded by a porch with granite columns on a square plan to which corresponds an internal octagonal space with alternate rectangular and semi-circular niches carved into the wall. The decorations of the ribbed vault and of the walls were realised between 1400 and 1800.

Coming from the lake, an ample stair-

case sustained by strong walls leads to

Defendente Ferrari.

Worship of the Virgin Mary, detail C. Procaccini, the Annunciation, detail











The sacred perimeter is bounded by a se-

ries of porches that characterise the Via

Crucis, realised in 1839 after the transfer of

the cemetery. The route of the stations of

the Cross has incorporated an ancient funer-

al chapel, devoted to the Sepulchre that

contains a wooden statue of Christ and the

instruments of the Passion of Christ

Anonymous interpreters of a decorative art, ranging from sacred paintings to Liberty floral drawings, have transformed the façades of houses in a gallery under the open sky. An example: on the left hand side of the church, after a bottleneck, there is a second church courtyard bounded by ancient parsonages where there is a wrought iron balcony of 1700 surrounded by wall paintings (picture above).









HE PARISH OF BAVENO

In Frankish age (800 A.D.) a network of bap-

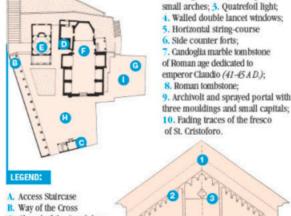
tismal churches, 'Parish', developed with

the task of directing the population of the

area towards specific places of worship

where they could receive the sacraments.





. Chapel of the Sepulchre Polyfunctional Hall II. Church Courtyard I. Small Church Courtyard



A wonderful resort (3 km from Baveno) sit- discovered, dating back to the Roman era

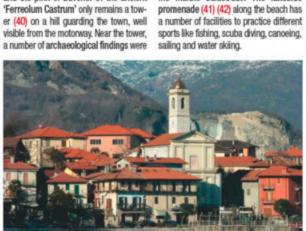


LEGEND: 1. Monumental complex St. Gervasio e Protasio ; 2. Oven; 3. Morandi House; 4. Chapel; 5. Sculpture dedicated to the Stonecutter; 6. Matteotti Square 7. Town Hall; 8. Wall Painting; 9. Former Hotel 'Posta'; 10. Pier; 11. War Memoria 12. Train Station; 13. Baitone; 14. Lido; 15. Beach of Villa Fedora; 16. Park of Villa Fedora; 17. Villa Fedora; 18. Church St. Pietro Martyr; 19. Villa Mussi; 20. Park of Villa Mussi; 21. Monferini House; 22. Former thermal baths; 23. Arena 'Città Nadur'; 24. Harbour; 25. Villa Henfrey Branca; 26. Molino di Ripa; 27. Statue o Queen Victoria; 28. Statue of W. Churchill; 29. Church B.V. Addolorata 30. Court yard; 31. Park; 32. Villa Carosio; 33. Church St. Antonio e Fermo; 34. Former factory; 35. Quarter Milnese; 36. Church St. Giuseppe; 37. Sculpture; 38. Sports field 39. Beach 'Baracchetta'; 47. Portal; 48. Monument to the Chestnut (Tarabech



## ERIOLO

uated in a natural inlet of rare beauty. or the Middle Age, a retouched flint blade. Nowadays, it is a destination in great de- an 'eneolitic' (copper age) dagger, nowamand for open-air tourism. It is a com- days preserved in the Museum 'L. Pigorini' pulsory transit point for river trade with the of Rome. In Feriolo, Count Carlo III Bor-Ossola Valley; the village of fishermen and romeo had some stables built for the stonecutters was an important trade cen- breeding of Dutch mares. This great projtre of products like fish from alpine rivers, ect was not completed but a room was butter, hay, coal and fire wood, as well as a transformed into an Oratory consecrated place of manufacturing and loading of the to St. Carlo Borromeo (XVII century) (43) famous marbles and granites of the area: that, expanded in the following centuries, the marble of Candoglia, the white of Or- became Parish in 1831. Interesting are the navasso, the white granite of Montorfano statue of the Virgin Mary and the polychroand the pink of Baveno. Of the ancient mo marble balustrade. The lakeside



aveno, its old town and hamlets should be visited on foot, to appreciate the architectural elements and the landscape. The itinerary passing through the hamlets of Roncaro, Romanico, Feriolo and Loita shows extraordinary landscapes and magnificent views of the Lake Major. Fountains,

wash-houses, arches, decorations, narrow and winding alleys, small squares, chapels and votive paintings, courtyards with porches and houses close to each other intertwine in a magical interplay of volumes that offer views of the lake and the surrounding mountains. Routes practicable on foot and carriage roads link sites of major historical, architectonical and naturalistic importance and wind along woods, gardens and beautiful villas, opening up to panoramic views of the lake and the mountains.

EGEND: 40. Tower; 41. Böcc; 42. Beach of Böcc

43. Church of St. Carlo; 44. Beach; 45. Specia

Natural Reserve of Fondotoce; 46. 'Scarpia' Virgin Mary; 49. Monument to the Mule

The street of the hamlets



A narrow alley (Domo Road) links the church of St. Gervasio and Protasio (1) with the suggestive small square of the old village of Domo (in Latin 'domus' means house) that stretches to the east of the monumen tal complex. Here, a short building with a stone roof and a tall chimney, maybe a public oven (2), faces an ancient chapel with a Marian fresco (4), built ex voto for liberation from pestilence in 1630. On the background, the picturesque 'Morandi' house (3) of 1700 with external staircases and balconies. It is a corner much appreciated by painters and photographers. On the side of the oven, an alley with a stone underpass leads to the lakeside, an over 1.4 km long promenade from which the Borromeo Gulf is visible up to Laveno, with trees and flowerbeds with large avenues, fountains, an arena and games for children (23), inviting people to stop on benches or at cafes to



### SCARPIA VIRGIN MARY

The small church of the 'Scarpia' or 'Rialto' At the outskirts of the town, carved into the Virgin Mary stands on the road to Gravellona wall of a house, is the bust of a woman in (46). The building, with suggestive night black stone of 1930 (37). The Oratory of St. lighting, was built in its actual form in early Giuseppe (36) dates back to 1633 and was 1700 by the stonecutters that went there to renovated in 1952. It has a small pronaos in rest and contains a worshipped image of the façade with columns in granite and inthe Virgin Mary.



### RONCARO

Lago

Maggiore

The panoramic route comes to an end in Roncaro with the Oratory of 1700 devoted to 'Our Lady of Sorrows' (29); in 1821, the porch was added re-utilising the granite columns of the old church of Stresa and the bell tower dates back to 1830. Opposite, we can find in an ancient courtyard (30), engraved on a bench of local stone, the game of the stonecutters or 'windmil table' with some cupels. Past the church. the shady Public Park with children's slides (31). Thanks to the wonderful view over the lake, opposite Pescatori Island, the traditional agricultural town was transformed in the second half of 1800, into a holiday resort in great demand as can be witnessed by the many villas built at that time. Among these, Villa Carosio (1907-1910) (32) designed by Giuseppe Sommaruga, a famous architect of Italian Liberty. The transformation into a residence has modified the original plan but has preserved the original architectonical and decorative features, like the stone base from which the building seems to rise and the plastic decorations







ITINERARIES



Of easy reach, Loita offers breathtaking views of the Borromeo Gulf, the coast of Baveno, Pallanza and everywhere around the mountains. A wonderful small white church consecrated to St. Antonio and Fermo (33) dominates the landscape and its terrace position make of it an extraordinary view point from where you can enjoy one of the most beautiful views of Lake Maggiore. Harmoniously inserted within the building, there is an inside a chapel consecrated to St. Barbara, patron saint of miners, built in 1905 by the powder factory 'Salvi & Locatelli' after an explosion that caused the death of one worker. In the past, Loita was well-known for its delicious yellow rice prepared in



# The small rural town, on the other side of

the Selva Spessa river, once seat of the most populous settlement of stonecutters and trade market for minerals, was transformed in 1800 into an industrial area. Nowadays, to document the presence and traditional ability of stonecutters only remain stone handicrafts inserted into pretty houses. The most striking is the portal of the Ancient Tayern of the Porch Porch decorated with floral motives, overlooking the small square of the Church of St. Pietro Martyr (18) dating back to early 1700. Inside, the Crucified in marble of ancient making, Opposite the church. Villa Mussi (19) in Liberty style where Francesco Cazzamini Mussi (1888-1952), historian and poet, lived. The big park (20) open to the public, hosts summer events and fitness exer-







side there are frescos by G. Gaddia. A little further, you can find the quarter 'Milnese (35) that can also be reached by the omonymous road, a very narrow street coming up from the harbour fauarter 'Molino di Ripa' (26) and skirting the parks of adiacent villas. Here, it is preserved a chapel with an arcade painted with frescos of the Virgin Mary of the Graces and some 'thau-



