



COLLECTION  
HOTELS

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## The Magic of History on the Shore of Lake Como

Travel

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Par Bernie

Holidays in the beautiful area of Lake Como can bring you many delightful and memorable moments. This elite resort region has a lot of marvelous spots to offer, and **Villa Cipressi**, this year's winner of **Luxury Lifestyle Awards** in the category of **The Best Luxury Hotels in the Lake Como Area, Italy**, is one of the most astonishing of them.



### Hotel Villa Cipressi, recent winner in the category The Best Luxury Hotels in the Lake Como Area, Italy

The word "cipressi" in the hotel's name translates as "cypress" and refers to its botanical garden. But cypresses are only a part of the garden's splendor, while the garden is only a part of the villa's splendor.

Villa Cipressi is located in the small village of Varenna on the eastern shore of Lake Como. The picturesque lake is the main highlight of this area, but you can also enjoy visiting the churches of San Giorgio and the one dedicated to San Giovanni Battista, both in the central piazza of Varenna; cozy restaurants with waterfront seating.



The walls of the **Hotel Villa Cipressi** are imbued with the past; the property's history dates back six centuries. The first of three main buildings, which today hosts the breakfast room, was constructed in the 1400s. The second building was erected in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and the third one was built in the 1800s – now the reception and some rooms are housed in it.

Many outstanding people have owned the villa since its inception. One of the first owners was the noble Serponti family; Baron Isimbardi, director of Millar's Mint, owned **Villa Cipressi** at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The Andreossi family took over the property in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, later it passed into the possession of Sir Astley and Sir Sulton, and then to the editor Accame.

In 1980 villa was purchased by voluntary public subscription by the "People and Friends of Varenna", and now it is owned mainly by the Municipality of Varenna. Thanks to the renovation works, organized by the group R Collection Hotels, the property retains its historic charm while providing its guests with modern amenities and comfort.

The 31 rooms of **Villa Cipressi** offer traditional décor, maintaining the magic of history of this place while offering modern technology and comfort. The hotel's rooms have a private bathroom, air conditioning, minibar, hairdryer, safe, and a flat-screen TV. The rooms on the back of the building offer stunning views over the lake.

All hotel guests can enjoy the wellness treatments at the Suite SPA located on the edge of the botanical garden. Suite SPA offers a relaxing environment providing a wellness experience for two people. Here you can pamper yourself with a sound bath, steam bath, various types of massages, a Finnish sauna, and relaxing showers.

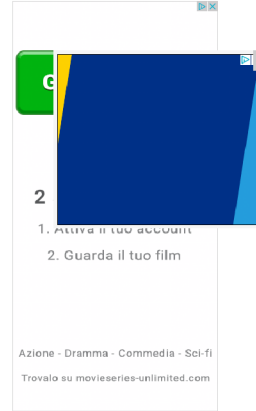


Still, one of the hotel's main highlights is the beautiful botanical garden that features a great variety of species, some of which are unusual for the region of northern Italy. Take a walk down the snaking path through the garden, and you will see and smell the marvelous biodiversity including cypresses, tamarisk, palms, oleanders, strawberry trees, camellias, azaleas, gardenias, hydrangeas, and other stunning flora.

In addition to enjoying the delights of the garden and the charming atmosphere of the hotel, guests of **Villa Cipressi** can also take a boat tour, visit museums around the lake, practice.

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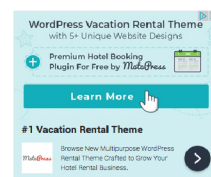
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