

Italy's

Magnificent Lake District



SMALL GROUP
MAXIMUM OF
28 TRAVELERS

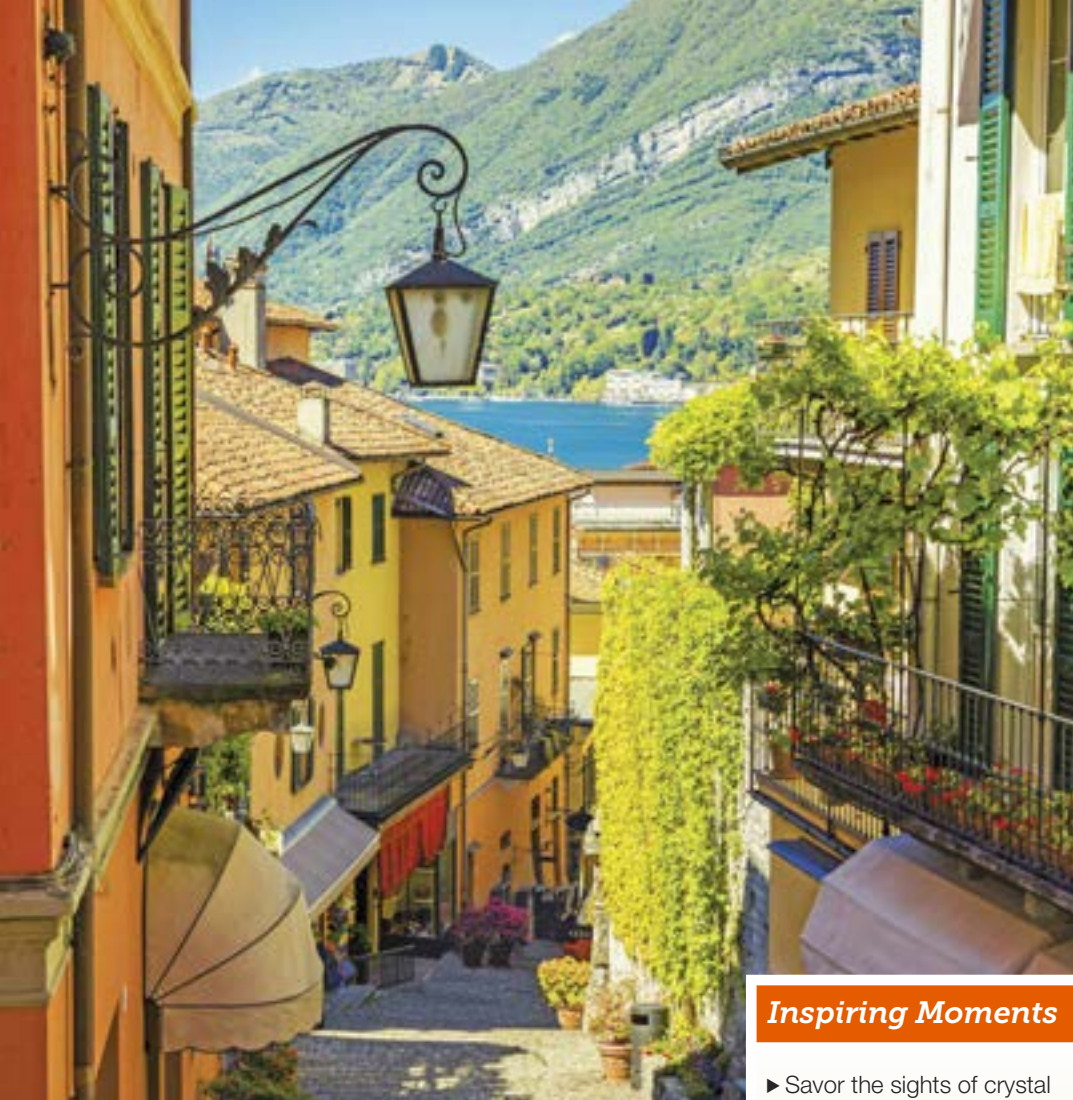
SPONSORED BY



**Michigan State University
Alumni Association**

May 14-22, 2019

Other dates available upon request



A World Apart

The story of travel involves more than a ticket and a passport. It should weave together discovery, education and humanity, the best elements of any compelling tale. Your personal travel story begins with our commitment to delivering authentic experiences with local people.

The incomparable value of your journey lies in the personalized care you receive from your Travel Director and the knowledge you gain from expert guides and lecturers, who call this area home.

By eliminating logistical worries, your multilingual Travel Director allows you to immerse yourself comfortably in your surroundings. This high-caliber professional makes you feel safe and important by creating a convivial, welcoming atmosphere.

The other important characters in this story are the guides and lecturers, whose regional expertise shines in their insider perspective and commentary.

From exploring romantic villas and lush gardens to relishing Gothic architecture and tantalizing cuisine, your newest chapter in the spectacular Lake District will be a memorable sojourn.

Above: Bellagio | Cover photo: Borromean Islands, Lake Maggiore

Inspiring Moments

- ▶ Savor the sights of crystal waters and snowcapped mountains while cruising on **Italy's glacial lakes.**
- ▶ Explore **Lake Orta**, and soak up the enchantment of Isola San Giulio.
- ▶ Admire historic, baroque villas and exotic gardens on the **Borromean Islands.**
- ▶ Discover the finer points of preparing Italian cuisine during an **exclusive cooking class.**
- ▶ Embrace the region's **serene ambience and spectacular vistas.**
- ▶ Stand before da Vinci's remarkable fresco, "**The Last Supper,**" a true icon of European art history.
- ▶ Sip Prosecco and mingle with locals while admiring views from your **hotel's rooftop lounge.**



Dear Spartan Alumni and Friends,

Join us on a spectacular journey to Italy's Magnificent Lake District, a region celebrated for its natural beauty, sumptuous cuisine and captivating, timeless atmosphere. Stay in Stresa, a lovely village nestled near the shores of Lake Maggiore and enjoy tranquil afternoons bathed in golden sunlight.

For eight days, visit picturesque islands, follow romantic cobblestones, marvel at opulent villas and walk through gardens and sleepy villages, all while embracing the region's history, art and architecture. Along the way, discover Milan's cosmopolitan panache and hone new cooking skills during a hands-on cooking demonstration. Come to Italy and indulge in the intimate grandeur of lakeside life!

This trip combines the security, ease and value of group travel with opportunities for independent exploration. Enjoy the camaraderie of traveling with a group and, during your free time, feel the thrill of making your own discoveries! Space on this exclusive journey is limited, and the trip is sure to sell out quickly, so make your reservations today!

Go Green!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Regina Cross".

Regina Cross BS '91
Director of Alumni Travel
Michigan State University Alumni Association

We strongly suggest purchasing travel insurance. Travel insurance information will be sent to you with your confirmation letter from the MSU Alumni Association.

833-303-1333

michst.ahitravel.com





Day 1

In Transit

Depart your gateway city for Milan, Italy.✈

Day 2

D

Milan, Italy | Stresa

Upon arrival, transfer✈ to Stresa and check in to the Hotel La Palma.

This evening, join your fellow travelers for a Welcome Reception and Dinner at the hotel.

Day 3

B | D

Lake Orta

Enrichment: *The Development of the Lake District.* Discuss Italy's Lake District, a haven of Alpine peaks, gardens and lakes.

Discovery: *Lake Orta.* Enjoy a scenic drive to the resort town of Orta San Giulio. During a walking tour, see the central piazza dotted with colorful umbrellas, and appreciate the idyllic, friendly vibe of lakeside life. Then, board a boat for a short journey to Isola San Giulio, the enchanted island in the lake. Visit the island's ancient Romanesque basilica, and see the immense fossilized vertebra that hangs in the sacristy. Legends claim that the vertebra is from one of the island's dreadful dragons slayed by San Giulio.

Free Time: Follow your own path in Orta San Giulio. Perhaps discover a small eatery for lunch or take a leisurely stroll through town. Gather for a dinner of local flavors. Many menus in this region are crafted using home-grown flavors and family heirloom recipes.



Above: Lake Como | Inset: Isola San Giulio, Lake Orta

Meals may be based around locally sourced meats and fish. Seasonal vegetables, such as fava beans, artichokes, tomatoes, beans and courgettes, enhance the simple dishes.

Enrichment: *Golden Age of the Renaissance.* Delve into the true genius of Michelangelo and da Vinci, and trace their profound influences on sculpture and painting.

Day 4

B

Milan

Discovery: *A Cultural Visit to Milan.*

Travel to Milan, Italy's economic powerhouse, whose wealth of cultural heritage is lavished on superb architecture, splendid art and prestigious museums. Step inside the beautiful Renaissance Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie to see Leonardo's "The Last Supper." This powerful painting is hailed as one of the greatest in the world. It took da Vinci two years to complete, and he used models from Milan for his depictions of Christ and his followers.



PYJ | Choose one of these excursions:

•**Architecture and Music.** Visit the museum at the legendary La Scala, Italy's opulent, premier opera house, and view the flamboyant 14th-century Duomo, a Gothic masterpiece defended by 2,244 marble saints and nearly 100 scowling gargoyles.

•**Fashion.** Delve into the history of Milan's legendary fashion scene while walking into the 150-year-old Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II, and pause to chat with a fashion expert.

Free Time: Spend time at leisure having lunch and getting to know cosmopolitan Milan.

Day 5

B | L

Borromeo Islands

Enrichment: *The Gardens of Lake Maggiore.* Learn about the powerful Borromeo family and how they transformed these tranquil islands into splendid retreats featuring palaces and landscaped gardens.

Discovery: *Borromeo Islands.* Board a boat for a cruise on Lake Maggiore to Isola Madre, the largest of the Borromeo Islands, and take a guided tour of the lush English-style gardens. Then embrace the rustic charm of peaceful Isola dei Pescatori. Stroll narrow streets lined by the quaint houses of the fishermen and families who call this island home. Continue to Isola Bella, the "Beautiful Island," extolled by writers over the centuries.

Explore its 17th-century baroque palace and summerhouse that is home to a mosaic grotto and an astounding collection of art and antiques.

Indulge in lunch on one of the islands.

Day 6

B

Stresa

Free Time: Perhaps stroll the lakeside, explore Stresa or take a train into Switzerland.

Enrichment: *Contemporary Italy.* Gather for a discussion of Italy's economy, politics, society and role in the European Union.

Day 7

B | L

Bellagio | Como

Discovery: *Bellagio.* Journey by boat to Bellagio and delight in the town's promenade lined with lime trees and oleanders. See the quaint city center featuring cobblestone streets and facades in shades of cream and butterscotch. Stroll by 18th- and 19th-century villas built by the region's noble families before relaxing over lunch at a lakeside restaurant.

Free Time: Explore more during leisure time.

Discovery: *Cruising Lake Como.* Travel by private boat from Bellagio to Como. Glide on deep-blue water, gloriously bathed in sunlight, and delight in views of elegant villas and colorful villages nestled onshore. Vistas of stunning gardens, hidden waterfalls



Upper: Orta San Giulio | Above: Piazza del Duomo, Milan

INCLUDED FEATURES



Accommodations

(with baggage handling)


- **7 nights** in Stresa, Italy, at the first-class Hotel La Palma.


Extensive Meal Program

- 7 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 3 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
- Opportunities to sample authentic cuisine and local flavors.

Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- Expert-led **Enrichment programs** enhance your insight into the region.
- **Discovery excursions** highlight the local culture, heritage and history:
 - Visit Orta San Giulio and its special, enchanted island.
 - View “The Last Supper,” and experience many of Milan’s special sights.
 - Cruise Lake Maggiore, and visit the scenic Borromean Islands.
 - Sail Lake Como to Bellagio, and relish the visual highlights of this pretty village.
 - Enjoy a walking tour of historic Como.
 - Explore the flavors of Italian cuisine during an interactive cooking lesson.

 **Choose from a selection of PERSONALIZE YOUR JOURNEY | PYJ excursions in selected locales based on your interests.**

- **Milan | Architecture & Music | Fashion**
-  **AHI Connects:** Local immersion.
- Free time to pursue your own interests.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.



“The Last Supper”

UNESCO World Heritage


Church and Dominican Convent of Santa Maria delle Grazie with “The Last Supper” by Leonardo da Vinci

and cypress groves will captivate your senses while majestic Alps stand sentry from afar.

Upon arrival in Como, join your group for a walking tour, beginning at Piazza Cavour.

Day 8 B | L | D

Stresa

 **AHI Connects: Flavors of Italy.** Learn the secrets of preparing traditional Italian cuisine during an interactive cooking lesson at a restaurant overlooking Lake Maggiore. Then sit down with your fellow travelers and delight in conversation and a lunch of fresh, regional cuisine.

Free Time: Wrap up your Italian adventure with a final afternoon at leisure in Stresa.

Join a Farewell Reception and Dinner tonight.

Day 9 B

In Transit

Following breakfast, transfer to Milan airport for the return flight to your gateway city. ✈

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions. Walking is required on many excursions, and surfaces may be uneven or unpaved.

✈ Transfers and flights included for AHI FlexAir participants.

B|L|D denotes included breakfasts, lunches and dinners.



AHI Travel Expertise

From your reservation to your return home, we are here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

Before you go:

- ▶ **Travel Consultants** | These experts stand ready to answer your questions about activities, meals, accommodations and more as they guide you through the reservation process.
- ▶ **Passenger Service Representative** | Once you have reserved your spot, enjoy personalized assistance from this specialist, your one point of contact who will help you with everything from arranging flights to booking elective activities to fulfilling special requests.
- ▶ **Travel Information** | Receive extensive destination information and travel tips compiled by our travel-savvy team to prepare you fully for your journey.

Once you arrive:

On the ground, three layers of top-quality professionals offer their insiders' perspective. From suggesting the best café or pub to sharing a laugh over the stories of the day, our dedicated team takes your adventure to the next level.

- ▶ **Travel Director** | Throughout your journey, you will be in the care of a seasoned AHI travel professional who will manage all the logistics, allowing you to relax and simply soak up the ambience. Resourceful, knowledgeable and attentive, your Travel Director helps to ensure you enjoy an unforgettable travel experience.
- ▶ **Expert Guides** | Who better to show you around than the people who live there? We've specially selected informed and enthusiastic local professional guides who understand the needs of our educated and curious travelers. Warm and genuine, they're ready to share their passion for their country with you.
- ▶ **Lecturers** | Coming from all walks of life, our entertaining local lecturers open your eyes to history and current events. The breadth of their knowledge deepens your appreciation for the region and its heritage.



HOTEL LA PALMA | STRESA



The Hotel La Palma is centrally located on the banks of Lake Maggiore. The property offers a stylish restaurant, a stunning rooftop lounge, a private beach, and a lakeside pool with superb views of the Borromean Islands. After a day exploring the lakes, guests can relax in the sauna or whirlpool, enjoy a workout in the fitness room, or simply savor the scenery from the poolside terrace. Complimentary Wi-Fi is available.

Reserve your Italy trip today!

Trip #:2-24496W

Send to: Italy's Magnificent Lake District
MSU Alumni Association
c/o AHI Travel
International Tower-Suite 600
8550 W. Bryn Mawr Avenue
Chicago, IL 60631

Please contact AHI Travel at **833-303-1333** with questions regarding this trip or to make a reservation. You may also call the MSU Alumni Association at **888-697-2863**.

Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on passport)

1) _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____

2) _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home: (_____) _____ Cell: (_____) _____

Sharing with _____ (Form sent separately)

I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:

Land Program and AHI FlexAir

I/we reserve the Land Program and request the round-trip AHI FlexAir to Milan, Italy, to depart from:

Departure City

Land Program

I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.

Single Accommodations

I prefer single accommodations at an additional \$695 (limited availability).

I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations to be paid in full by **February 28, 2019** (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard, Visa, Discover or Amex. Make checks payable to AHI Travel.

Enclosed is a deposit of _____ (\$600 pp required) to reserve _____ place(s).

Accept my check made payable to **AHI Travel**.

Charge my: MasterCard Visa Discover Amex

Card # _____

Expires _____ / _____

(Signature as it appears on credit card)

Please note: Any payment to AHI Travel constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out herein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

PROGRAM DATES

Air Program dates: May 14-22, 2019

Land Program dates: May 15-22, 2019

LAND PROGRAM

Full Price	Special Savings	Special Price*
\$3,745	\$250	\$3,495

*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.

VAT is an additional \$295 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

Single accommodations are an additional \$695 (limited availability).

Let us arrange your flights!

✦ **AHI FlexAir** | Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:

- ▶ **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase.
- ▶ arrival and departure **transfers** on most flights.
- ▶ **flexibility** to change or cancel your reservations without penalty up to 60 days before departure on most flights.
- ▶ **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays.
- ▶ flight insurance worth up to \$250,000, subject to policy terms.

Travel stress-free with AHI FlexAir.



Gardens of Isola Bella

NOT INCLUDED-Fees for passports and, if applicable, visas; entry/departure fees; personal gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning; excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and meals not mentioned in this brochure under included features; travel insurance; all items of a strictly personal nature.

MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL-The right is retained to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

AIR TRANSPORTATION-The price of air transportation offered by AHI Travel is based on Advance Purchase Excursion fares. After tickets are issued, penalties up to 100% of the ticket price may be levied. If connecting flights are requested, special promotional fares may be used, in which case penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or canceled after ticketing. After departure, if the reservations are changed, you will be charged the higher, all year Economy class fare.

VARIATIONS TO THE GROUP ITINERARY MUST BE REQUESTED NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. Passengers who choose to make their own airline reservations independently will be wholly responsible for arrival and departure transfers, and any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of program cancellation and/or change in travel dates, or airline schedule(s).

BAGGAGE-Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provided with your pre-departure information. Baggage allowances are subject to change by the carrier without notice. Excess baggage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces are expensive and not included in your trip price; plan your wardrobe accordingly. Transport of baggage and personal effects is at the owner's risk throughout the travel program.

AUTHORITY TO USE IMAGES AND AUDIO RECORDINGS-On occasion, AHI Travel obtains, from its staff, or from trip participants, photographic or video images of passengers and trip activities. By participating in this travel program, you authorize AHI Travel, without providing compensation to you, or obtaining additional approvals from you, to include photographic and video recordings of you, as well as voice recordings included with any videos, in AHI Travel's sales, marketing, advertising, publicity and/or training activities.

RESPONSIBILITY-AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association do not own or operate any entity which provides goods or services for this program, and act only as agents for the independent suppliers of travel conveyance, transport, accommodations or other services. All such persons or entities are independent contractors. As a result, AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association are not liable for any negligence or willful act of any such person or entity or any third person. In addition and without limitation, AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association are not responsible for any delays, delayed departure or arrival, missed carrier connections, loss, death, damage or injury to person or property or accident, mechanical defect, failure or negligence of any nature howsoever caused in connection with any accommodations, transportation or other services or for any substitution of hotels or of common carrier equipment, with or without notice, or for any additional expenses occasioned thereby. Dates, Program Details and Tour costs, although given in good faith and based on tariffs, exchange rates and other information current at the time of printing, are subject to change at or before the time of departure. No revisions of the printed itinerary or its included features are anticipated; however, the right is reserved to make any changes, with or without notice, that might become necessary, with the mutual understanding that any additional expenses will be paid by the individual passenger. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. If the entire program is canceled for any reason, participants shall have no claim other than for a full refund. By forwarding the deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she has no physical, mental or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for himself/herself or other passengers and accepts the terms of this contract set out herein and in more specific pre-departure passenger information. The airlines and other transportation companies concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event, during the time passengers are not on board their conveyances. The passage contract in use, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the company(ies) and the passenger and/or purchaser of this trip.

CANCELLATION-All cancellations for any reason will be subject to a \$300 per person administrative fee. You may choose, at the time of cancellation, to apply the withheld administrative fee to a future AHI Travel program that will operate in the current calendar year or year following. Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 15% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 75-30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. We strongly suggest purchasing travel insurance. Travel insurance information will be sent to you with your confirmation letter from the MSU Alumni Association. All cancellations must be submitted in writing to AHI Travel. **CANCELLATION OF TRIP OPTIONS**-Purchases of optional excursions, trip extensions and additional hotel nights become fully non-refundable 45 days prior to departure. Air transportation and private transfer purchases are subject only to penalties assessed by the airlines and transfer suppliers.

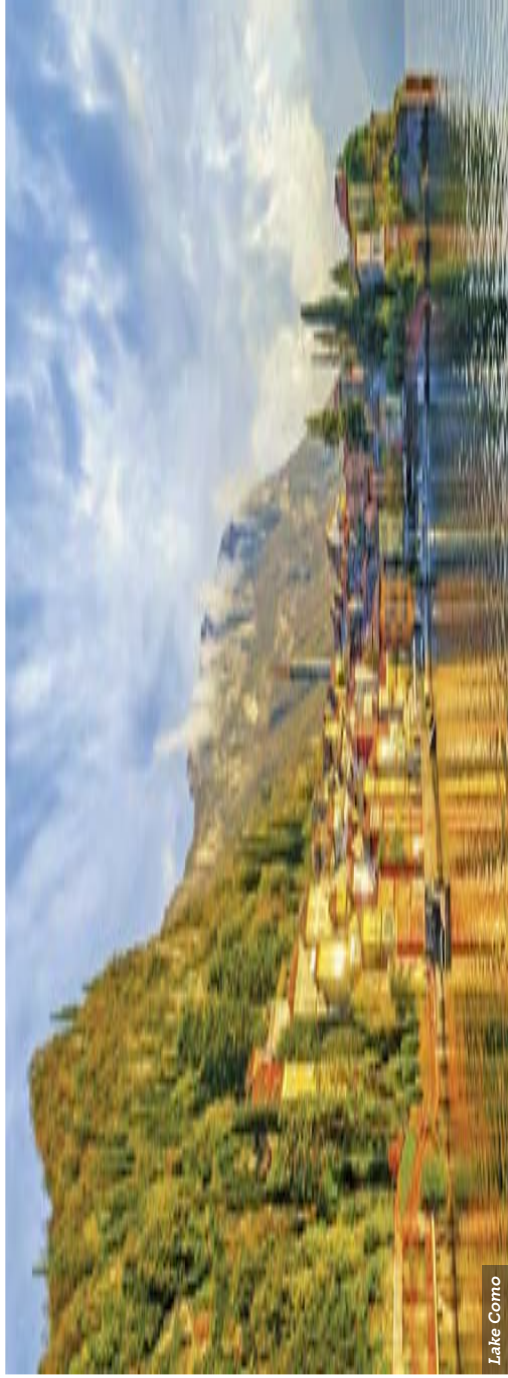


MSU Alumni Association
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

MSU Alumni Association
535 Chestnut Road
Room 300
East Lansing, MI 48824

ITALAKES19.4

833-303-1333
michst.ahitravel.com



Lake Como

Experience the magic of Italy's Lake District and indulge in *la dolce vita!*

AHI Travel's mission is to deliver inspirational educational and cultural travel programs that delight travelers.

With AHI you can rely on:

- Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey.
- An exceptional travel value.
- Unique access to local sites.
- Flexibility and customization.
- Safety and security.



Please call or refer to our website for the most current program information, discounts and pricing.

Presorted Std.
U.S. Postage
Paid
AHI Travel