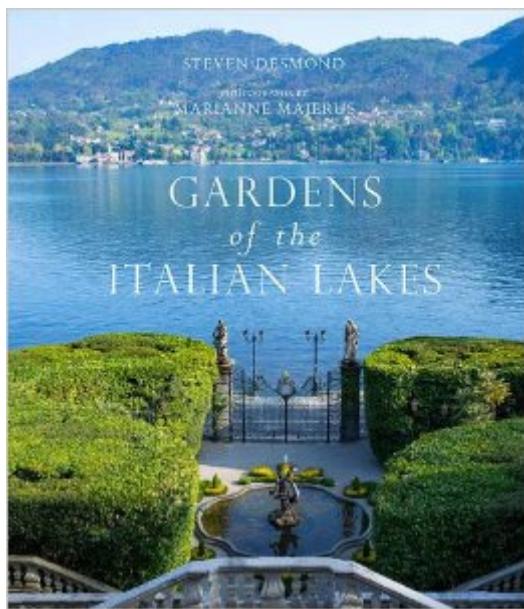


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Gardens Of The Italian Lakes



Synopsis

The gardens of the Italian Lakes are a favourite destination for garden lovers and groups. The gardens around Lake Como and Lake Maggiore, in the far north of Italy, are admired throughout the world for their beauty and variety in a magnificent natural location. This book sets out to become the standard work on these gardens as there is nothing of this kind on the market at the moment. It will appeal both to the specialist and enthusiast preparing for a visit. The common factor for all these gardens is their setting in this landscape of exceptional scenery. Lake Como is a deep lake hemmed in like a fjord by towering mountains. Lake Maggiore has more the character of an inland sea, with ferries crossing to the famous island gardens for an afternoon in another world. Both lakes are lined with the towers, villas and grand hotels that speak of a complex history including key events in Italy's struggle to achieve nationhood, inspiration for a string of illustrious writers and composers, and a long line of distinguished visitors. The gardens include: Villa Melzi, Bellagio: an early 19th-century romantic park on the lake shore; Villa Carlotta, Cadenabbia: a terraced 17th-century property with woodland; Villa del Balbianello, Lenno: a famously picturesque loggia; Villa D'Este, Cernobbio: a 16th-century cascade garden with royal connections; Villa Cicogna Mozzoni, Bissuschio: an intact 16th-century villa garden; Villa Della Porta Bozzolo, Casalzuigno: a rural baroque garden; Isola Bella, Stresa: a well-known island garden; Isola Madre, Stresa: an island retreat of flowers and birds; Villa San Remigio, Pallanza: an Edwardian garden made by two lovers; Villa Taranto, Pallanza: one of the world's great woodland gardens.

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Customer Reviews

The next best thing to actually being there, this stunning book profiles various gardens around the Lake Maggiore and Como. Each garden is covered in 8-10 pages. The text discusses the history of the garden's owners and development and is illustrated with gorgeous photographs. Maps of the region are included. The gardens and villas covered are: Isola Bella, Villa Madre, Villa Taranto, Villa San Remigio, Villa Della Porto, Villa Cicogna, Villa Mazzoni, Villa Pallavicino, Villa Alpina, Botanic Garden of the Brissago Islands, Villa Melzi, Villa Carlotta, Villa Del Balbianelli, Villa Sommi Picenardi, Villa Serbelloni, Villa Cipressi, Villa Monastero, and Villa D'este.

We had the pleasure of taking a tour of the Lakes with brilliant and witty Stephen Desmond. The book is wonderfully informative and beautifully illustrated. A must for garden lovers and romantics and a perfect gift for those planning to visit or those who cherish memories of this enchanting area of Italy.

This is one of the best books I have in my library. The photos are fabulous!

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