

Zoca De Oli

Region: Lake Como Sleeps: 7

Overview



Although the stylish towns adorning Lake Como's shores are renowned for their uber-relaxed atmosphere, anyone seeking an escape providing a little more detachment from even this gentle pace of life will find Zoca De Oli absolutely perfect. Quite literally off the beaten track, this four-bedroomed lakeside retreat is only accessible by boat, giving an exceptional feeling of secluded exclusivity for up to seven guests - in truly stunning surroundings.

Famed local author Guiseppe Guin has made this exquisite nineteenth-century stone quarryman's home a place to diverge from everyday life, with many of his novels and short stories set in the towns on Como's perimeter. It's easy to see how spending time at Zoca De Oli provides artistic inspiration, with the kind of blissful peace craved by writers and creators of all hues enhanced by an astonishing lakeside backdrop. Dreamy sunsets give way to a kaleidoscope of colour on the water, the lights from hillside towns on the western shore creating a mesmeric reflection, while nature provides an atmospheric soundtrack, waves gently striking the rocks by the pontoon.

Beautifully upholstered sofas and chairs share the living space with gorgeous antique furniture, a skilfully carved writer's desk perhaps the standout piece. On the wall behind the bureau, locally quarried stone and chestnut timber have been used to create a fantastic bookcase that rises to the vaulted ceiling, with a dining table that invites you to enjoy meals with the same astonishing views as its outdoor equivalent. Floor-to-ceiling windows and portes-fenêtres arc round to reveal a panorama that's a story all in itself. The view encompasses spectacular hills studded with charming towns and marinas on the opposite side of the lake, the emerald water itself, then the villa's humble and effortlessly striking garden at the edge of a laurel forest.

The house's sympathetic restoration and inventive use of stone and timber isn't confined to the library, with the villa's three bathrooms and its kitchen fusing fabulous design with these outstanding local materials. One of the bathrooms forms part of the master suite on the upper floor, where you'll enjoy a truly blissful night of sleep in a sumptuous double bed, with a picture book vista to greet you as you wake. Another double bedroom can be found at the opposite side of the villa, with more carefully chosen furniture and antique ornamentation – not to mention a magical woodland view from the window. A further single bedroom is available on the ground floor, ideal for a teenager or single member of a visiting group.

There's a cosy, self-contained apartment tucked away at the back with a double sofa bed too, accessible from the garden. Alongside the bathroom door is a wall bedecked with mirrors – of course mirrors open up a room visually, but these ornately framed looking glasses are also ideally positioned to reflect the inevitably smiling, relaxed faces of guests during their stay at this enchanting home.

The manicured lawn of Zoca De Oli's garden has a brilliantly designed dining table as its centrepiece – crafted from local timber and stone of course - with a barbecue area that lends itself to sunset dinners and relaxed al fresco lunches alike. Hardwood sun loungers sit at the water's edge, a paradisiacal spot for sunbathers to immerse themselves in a uniquely enchanting atmosphere. As the sun shimmers on the surface of Lake Como's crystalline waters, your view extending across to the sophisticated hillside town of Carate Urio, the splendid tranquillity at this beguiling retreat makes this very special corner of Italy feel as though it's all yours.

If you can bear to leave Zoca De Oli during your stay, transfers to Faggeto Lario – where parking is provided – and other towns can be easily arranged. The transfer between your villa and Faggeto Lario only takes around five minutes, with the town of Como at the lake's southernmost point reachable by car in under half an hour – with delectable scenery to admire along the way.

There is a superb network of ferries and private boats, so if there's a particular town or landmark around the lake you'd like to explore – don't be afraid to ask! You can even take a ride on various types of vessel, with the chance to hire one yourself and take to the waves in style. Many companies offer cruises around Lake Como, with romantic, beautifully lit evening boating tours that are not to be missed.

Facilities

Villa/House • Ideal for Babies & Toddlers • Ideal for Kids • Ideal for Teens
• Wi-Fi/Internet • Air-Con • Pets on Request • Laptop Friendly Workspace
• BBQ • Washing Machine • Dishwasher • Coffee Machine • Hairdryer •
Satellite TV • Wine Cellar • Heating • Parking Space • Waterfront •
Watersports • Sailing • Canoeing/Kayaking • Wine Tasting • Cycling •
Outstanding Landscapes • Outdoor Pursuit & Activities • Tourist Towns &
Villages • Boat Trips

Interior & Grounds

Villa Interior

Ground Floor

- Lounge with television, dining table
- Kitchen with hob, oven, dishwasher, microwave, fridge-freezer, Nespresso coffee machine, wine fridge
- Bathroom with shower, WC, bidet
- Bedroom with single bed

First Floor

- Bedroom with double bed and en-suite bathroom with walk-in shower, washbasin, WC, bidet
- Bedroom with double bed
- Bathroom with shower, WC, bidet

Outside Grounds

- Barbecue
- Outdoor lounge
- Dining table
- Sunbeds and parasols
- Private pontoon
- Two canoes
- Parking at Faggeto Lario – access to villa via boat (2-5 minute crossing)

Facilities

- Wi-Fi
- Air conditioning



Location & Local Information

The super-stylish town of Como, thirty minutes by car from Faggeto Lario (or by ferry if you prefer), is a shopper's delight. Whether you're gathering mouth-watering local produce at the thrice-weekly farmer's market, browsing boutiques and wine outlets along the Via Vittorio Emanuele II, or simply scouring familiar high street stores for bargains on Via Giuseppe Garibaldi, there's plenty to enjoy here. Savour an artisanal gelato cone on the Lungolago Mafalda di Savoia, take the weight off your feet on the waterfront with a delicious coffee and pastry, or sample some Lombard cuisine at one of Como's superb eateries. You'll find a broad range of choice, from haute cuisine on the Swiss border and phenomenal seafood from the Amalfi coast, to rustic trattorias and osterias serving hearty dishes – all with superb wine lists, of course!

Como has a great range of stores with clothing and accessories for those with a taste for outdoor pursuits: a key component of life in and around the lake. This 146km² expanse of water is a hotspot for watersports, with Faggeto Lario's Water Experience Centre (WEC) being a great place to explore the high-powered end of aquatic thrills. Open throughout summer, the WEC caters for everyone from beginners to seasoned hobbyists, with wake-surfing and water-skiing experiences behind powerboats available to try, along with jet ski hire. The incredible scenery adds another layer of enjoyment, with many visitors to the region getting up close and personal along its numerous hiking trails. Just west of Como is the Parco Regionale Spina Verde, a woodland area with a range of picturesque routes. The pick of these is its 'Hilly Ridge' trail, offering spectacular views across the lake.

Aficionados of baroque architecture can be found starting a hike at Sacro Monte di Ossuccio, a UNESCO World Heritage site which overlooks Isola Comacina and Ossuccio. This is a terrific route along a cobbled path that guides you past no less than fourteen seventeenth and eighteenth-century chapels, with these landmarks featuring statues and colourful frescoes – not to mention the stunning views of the lake and its surrounding mountains.

Zoca De Oli is a superb place for couples, with the magical ambience of Lake Como providing a picturesque backdrop to a romantic break. Relax on your private grassy beach in total privacy, take walks along the winding streets of the gorgeous hillside towns and villages, and enjoy an evening cruise under the lights, with the illuminated Nesso Bridge in particular delivering unforgettable views.



Local Amenities

Nearest Airport

**Milan Malpensa Airport
(63 km)**

Nearest Airport 2	Milan Bergamo Airport (103 km)
Nearest Train Station	Como Train Station (14 km)
Nearest Village	Pognana Lario
Sightseeing	Lungolago Mafalda di Savoia
Nearest Town	Faggeto Lario (8 km)
Nearest City	Como (12 km)
Nearest Restaurant	(400 m)

What we love

- Accessible only by boat transfer, this tranquil retreat provides the perfect stay for those seeking a break in total isolation.
- The views across Lake Como are as beautiful by day as by night, with the towns on the western shore illuminating the water after sundown.

What you should know...

- The fourth bedroom has a sofa bed, so can double as a small lounge.
- Although this villa does not have a pool, your villa has a private beach, and there are plenty of exciting watersports options around Lake Como, including in nearby Faggeto Lario.
- There is no fence at the water's edge, so small children should be supervised at all times.
- Please note that published rates are only valid for the current year. Any bookings for subsequent years will be on request only and correct rates will be confirmed at the time of booking.
- Please note that your booking will only be confirmed once we have checked availability with the owner or their property manager.

Terms & Conditions

- Security deposit: €1000 paid via bank transfer to the owner one month before arrival and refunded two weeks after departure, subject to full inspection.
- Arrival time: Between 3.00 p.m. and 7.00 p.m. Late arrivals might be subject to a charge.
- Departure time: 10.00 a.m.
- Energy costs included?: Yes.
- Heating costs included?: Yes.
- Linen & towels included?: Yes.
- End of stay cleaning included?: No. €599, payable by bank transfer. This is for a standard changeover clean. Guests are required to leave the accommodation clean, tidy and in the same condition as on their arrival. Any extra cleaning, laundry, maintenance and/or rubbish disposal required will be charged against the security deposit.
- Tax: Italian Visitors Tax payable locally in cash (typically costs €1-€10 per adult per night - please enquire if exact amount is required).
- Changeover day: Flexible.
- Minimum stay: 7 nights during high season (June, July, August, September) and 3 nights during the rest of the year.
- Pets welcome?: On request only and with prior agreement with the owner. If accepted, a pet supplement per pet per day will apply (payable locally).
- Smoking Allowed?: Not allowed.
- Stag & Hen Do's Allowed? : Weddings, stag/hen parties and any special events are not allowed.
- Internet access?: Wi-Fi internet access included.
- Insurance: Guests are required to be in possession of a valid insurance policy, which covers them for cancellations, loss of personal belongings, personal liability and any accidental damage caused during their stay.
- Other Ts and Cs: Please note that published rates are only valid for the current year. Any bookings for subsequent years will be on request only and correct rates will be confirmed at the time of booking.
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