



WELL EQUIPPED LAKE NAUTICAL SERVICES WELL KNOWN ALL OVER EUROPE

LOVERE AND ITS LAKE

An important connection between Pianura Padana and Valle Camonica over time, thanks to its favourable geographical position, today Lovere is a welcoming town beautifully mirrored in the surface of Lake Iseo. The varieties of its landscapes, the gentle climate and the excellent tourist organization make it a desirable destination for tourists all the year round.

LOVERE AND ITS HISTORY

Situated on Lake Iseo, in a place narrowed by the lake and the mountain and overlooking the route through the Val Camonica, the town of Lovere has ancient origins. From its favourable position, it was possible to control the traffic of goods between Pianura Padana and Valle Camonica, both along the roads and by the lake. An ancient fortified village of 4th-3rd centuries BC gives evidence of very old settlements while the Roman colonization, from the 1st to the 4th centuries AD, is witnessed by a necropolis that used to host the "Tesoretto dei Lovere", now on display at the Archaeological Museum of Milano. In the Middle Ages the population settled around the site of the current Piazza Vittorio Emanuele II, that looked

like a fortress featured by some big towers you can still see, such as the Torre Soca and the Torre degli Alghisi. From 1442 Lovere was ruled by the Republic of Venezia until Napoleon's accession in 1797.

Under the Serenissima's dominion, the commercial and productive activities flourished, most of all thanks to the woollen cloth trade in Europe. Another of its profitable activities was the iron-working, witnessed by the presence of various forges and a foundry for guns of 1600. The ironwork thrived after the wars in the 20th century, then it slowly declined. From then Lovere started improving its tourist resources. Today it is a splendid town with a lakeside plentiful with flowers, small gardens, restaurants and characteristic shops, visited by numerous tourists.

Lake Iseo

Frequented by tourists all the year round, Lake Iseo reaches its full splendour between May and September. In this period some boat races take place as well as evening dances and concerts. Favoured by regular winds, Lake Iseo is suitable for sailing, windsurfing and kitesurfing along with other sports such as swimming, fishing and diving activities.

The shores are covered with olive groves producing excellent olive oil.

TO BE VISITED AT LOVERE

THE ANCIENT FORTIFIED VILLAGE

It consists of a proto-historic settlement situated on a hillock, named Ronchi after the farmhouses set along its slopes. Its strategic position used to grant the control of all the routes leading to Valle Camonica. It hosts the remains of some bastions and walls dating back to diverse periods. The oldest part seems to date back to the end of the first millennium BC.

BASILICA OF SANTA MARIA IN VALVENDRA

Thanks to the quite flourishing economical period favoured by the rough woollen cloth trade, between 1473 and 1483 the important basilica dedicated to Santa Maria was built. The interior is divided into a nave and two side aisles by 12 columns, with some chapels on the left side. The nave is embellished with a fresco by Floriano Ferramola depicting the Apostles; above the central arches there is a representation of the Sibyls, the Fathers of the Church and the Prophets. The most remarkable work of art is placed inside the two panels of the organ and consists of the equestrian portraits of San Faustino and San Giovita, the Patron Saints of Brescia, depicted by Antonio Bonvicini called Il Moretto. In ancient time this painting was housed in the Duomo Vecchio.

CHURCH OF SAN GIORGIO

This is the Parish Church of Lovere. Built on the site of the Torre Soca at the end of 1300, it was modified between the 14th and the 19th centuries. It has a nave and two side aisles and is enriched with nine altars, one of which dedicated to San Giorgio. It hosts various works of art, among which a canvas depicting "Mosè che fa scaturire l'acqua dalla rupe" and "L'Ultima Cena" by Pietro Cavagna placed on the left altar.

PALAZZO TADINI

Designed by Architect Salimbeni, it was built between 1821 and 1826, in Neoclassical style, on the site of a chapel that had been erected for burying Count Luigi Tadini's son, died during the restoration of Palazzo Barboglio, holiday residence of the family. The Count decided to transfer all his art collections to Palazzo Tadini and, in 1828, made it become the seat of the Accademia delle Belle Arti. Now the Galleria Tadini hosts masterpieces by Veneziano, Jacopo Bellini, Giandomenico Tiepolo and Tintoretto.

THE SANCTUARY

Dedicated to Christ King of the Virgins, in honour of Santa Bartolomea Capitanio and Santa Vincenza Gerosa from Lovere, the Sanctuary was built between 1931 and 1938. It features a high steeple tower and inside mosaics, frescoes and architectures by artists from the Taragni School of Redona, in the province of Bergamo, and from Istituto Pavoniano Artigianelli of Monza. A Museum next to the Sanctuary hosts the Saints' relics.

LOVERE: SPORT AND NAVIGATION

LAKE NAVIGATION

The transport on Lake Iseo was widespread for centuries. Goods and passengers were carried by sailing boats that took advantage of the winds blowing towards Pianura Padana at dawn and sunset. In 1840, the first steamer was launched, a work by Ingegner Taylor, financed by a small group of local entrepreneurs that the following year founded the "Società del battello a vapore sul Lago d'Iseo", to cover the operating coasts and to finance the completion of the steamer "Arciduca Leopoldo". On 11th February 1841, the steamship started sailing: it was the first in Italy to sail lake waters.

Now the Tourist Harbour is one of the most modern and best equipped nautical structures in the European lakesides. Because of its favourable location, it is the ideal berth for those who like to enjoy the splendid water of the lake or visiting the hinterland. The place also provides other opportunities to practise sport activities.

SPORT AND LEISURE

Thanks to the excellent tourist organization and its varied landscape, Lake Iseo provides various sport opportunities. Experts and beginners can enjoy sailing, surfing, canoeing, trekking, canyoning, free-climbing, horse riding, golf, tennis paragliding and ski. People fond of art can visit the museums that host remarkable works of art, among which some paintings by Parmigianino, Tintoretto and Lotto, while those looking for relaxation can avail themselves of the Wellness Centre Relaxya.

Cuisine

Time after time you can find restaurants offering dishes with local produce, maintaining the typical features of the simple and traditional way of cooking. The main typical dish is the "polenta di mais" with flour still grinded in local stone mills. It is a tasty complement that can be eaten both hot and cold, grilled and fried. Other dishes derived from a very old tradition are the "trippa in minestrone", the "strinù" the "salamelle di maiale alla brace", the "sarde essiccate", the "lumache a rael", the "tinca ripiena" and the "casunsei", ravioli cooked with butter, bacon and sage. Occasionally you can taste the "salsiccia di castrato", the "soppressa", the "torta di rane", the "anatra" and the "mahasa", a cake with pears, apples, nuts and raisins. You cannot miss the selection of cheese, salami and the excellent wine from the near land of Franciacorta or from Valcalepio.

Getting to Lovere

By car: from Milano: A4 Motorway exit Bergamo, then drive on towards Lovere - from Venezia: A4 Motorway exit Brescia Centro, then drive on towards Lake Iseo/Valcamonica.

By train: FS Trenitalia, Bergamo Station. Then by bus to Lovere or Trescore Balneario.

By plane: Airports Bergamo/Orio al Serio
Brescia/Montichiari -Milano/Linate - Verona/Catullo

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