









## RISERVA SPECIALE DEL SACRO MONTE DI ORTA



# MYSTICISM AND ROMANCE! The Sacro Monte di Orta and its romantic lake.

So Piero Chiara, writer and poet, described it: "Orta, watercolor of God, seems painted on a backdrop of silk, with its Sacred Mountain behind, his noble promenade lined with closed buildings, the quiet square with sides contrite behind the foliage of the chestnut trees, and in

front of the island of San Giulio, similar to the aircraft Dante's purgatory, hesitating between water and sky "

In short, the description of a perfect combination of mysticism, art and romance!

### **But ... what are the Sacred Mountains?**

"Nine Sacred Mountains of Northern Italy are groups of chapels and other architectural structures built between the XVI and XVII century, dedicated to different aspects of the Christian faith. In addition to their symbolic and spiritual meaning, they possess remarkable qualities of beauty, virtue and pleasantness, and are integrated in a natural environment and landscape of hills, forests and lakes. They also contain very important artistic artifacts (paintings and statues)". With this motivation, in 2003, UNESCO inscribed the site "Sacred Mountains of Piedmont and Lombardy" in the World Heritage List.



Relax and discover the most romantic Italian lake! Luxuriate in an atmosphere that combines the mysticism of the Sacro Monte, with its chapels and gardens, and the romance of the Orta Lake. Walking through the streets of Orta, Piazza Motta with the pier for

the island, you will discover enchanting corners, arches and narrow streets that lead into the lake,

villas and palazzi.

And the island of San Giulio: the legend goes that this island, at 400 meters from the shore of Orta, was once a rock inhabited by snakes and terrible monsters, when Saint Giulio set foot on it: walking the lake waters on his cloak and guided by his staff through the storm, the Saint founded a church, where he was later to be buried, and transformed the island into the evangelization centre of the entire region. Of course you will reach the Island on comfortable boats, but the charm of the

place is always the same. Finally we discover the nature and simple walks around the Sacred Mountain, the lake, very easy and affordable for all "shoes"

Who is this package?:to all those people who want to discover in a "slow" (a term now very fashionable!) corner of Piedmont and places of culture, religion, art, nature and outdoor sports. Suitable for all ages, does not require any preparation, except for a pair of comfortable shoes.







## **PROGRAM:**

**Day 1:** Arrival and accommodation in double room at the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

**Day 2:** After breakfast, meet your guide who will accompany you throughout the day. Guided tour of the Island of San Giulio. Visit the Basilica with its carved pulpit and walk in his ways. Lunch at a restaurant on the island. After lunch, we returned to the

boat to continue the tour in Orta and climb to the Sacro Monte. The ascent can be made using the train that touches all the most interesting places of Orta. Dinner at a restaurant with a lakeside terrace, reached by boat with a drink on board. Return to the hotel. Relax walking along the lake. Overnight.

**Day 3:** Breakfast and tour on foot, with short and easy walk with a guide around the Sacro Monte, and then to Mount Mesma with its cloisters and its



Romanesque church. Buffet lunch at a restaurant in Armeno, with a magnificent view of the lake. End of the packet.

If you will send us the number of people in the group, we will be delighted to send you the relative price!

**The price includes:** 2 half board in a double room, 1 full day tour guide, half day naturalistic guide, two lunches. All transfers by boat including a drink on board. **The price does not include:** beverages, transfers by bus, train ticket, anything not mentioned in "the price includes"

**Options:** Bugella Welcome by Scaramuzzi Viaggi will be happy to customize the package to suit your needs.

Possible additional quotations:

- ✓ transfers to / from the airport
- ✓ rent bus / minibus / car transfers on site.
- ✓ Quotes for small groups or individuals.

Validity: 31.12.2015

### Links to learn more:

- www.sacri-monti.com
- www.sacromonteorta.it
- http://orta.net/ita1/index.htm



### FOR INFO AND BOOKING:

