

# **2023 IABA Reunion Weekend**

**Stresa, Italy**

**June 9 to 11, 2023**

**Program**

**as of March 19, 2023**

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## Introduction

Dear Alumni and friends,

Welcome to the 54<sup>th</sup> annual event of IABA in Stresa, the pearl of the Lago Maggiore! We hope to offer you a very enjoyable weekend at the southern foot of the Alps. Stresa is a wonderful place to stroll along the lake and admire the old and magnificent buildings of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, when it was a favorite resort town, not only of the Italian nobility, but also of many European personalities.

However, arguably the greatest attraction of Stresa is not the charming town itself, but the outlying Borromean Islands. We will visit two of them on Saturday, including a tour of the famous palace of the Borromean counts on the Isola Bella.

On Sunday we propose to visit the umbrella and parasol museum in Gignese, a village above Stresa. It is a very special museum which has a wonderful collection of luxurious and fashionable accessories, that played an important role in Stresa's history as a resort for the rich and famous, as well as into the lives of the local umbrella makers.

We hope you can join us from June 9 to June 11, 2023, on the banks of the lovely Lago Maggiore.

Jean-Claude Werz

LL.M. '83

## Program (provisional)

| <b>Friday, June 9</b>   |               |                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Pre-Program</i>      | 15:30         | Meet in the Piazza Giacomo Matteotti | For those of who are arriving early, we propose a walk in the Parco Pallavicino, about 1km from the center of Stresa.<br><a href="https://www.isoleborromee.it/en/parco-pallavicino/">https://www.isoleborromee.it/en/parco-pallavicino/</a> |
| Visit Parco Pallavicino | 16:00 – 17:00 | (next to the Hotel Italie et Suisse) |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Dinner</i>           | 19:30         | Ristorante Lago Maggiore             | Via Cavour, 36<br>Stresa<br><a href="https://www.ristorantelagomaggiorestresa.com/">https://www.ristorantelagomaggiorestresa.com/</a>                                                                                                        |

| <b>Saturday, June 10</b>                  |                                                              |                                           |                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Business meeting</i><br>(members only) | 09:15 – 11:30                                                | IABA Annual Meeting with academic lecture | Conference Center Villa Francesca<br>Hotel La Palma<br>Corso Umberto I, 33<br><a href="https://www.hlapalma.it">https://www.hlapalma.it</a> |
| <b>Excursion to the Borromean Islands</b> | 12:00                                                        | Departure to Isola dei Pescatori          | Meet at Borroni Events<br>Corso Umberto I, n.4, Stresa                                                                                      |
|                                           | 12:30 – 14:00                                                | Buffet lunch on Isola dei Pescatori       | Ristorante Italia<br><a href="https://www.ristoranteitalia.eu/">https://www.ristoranteitalia.eu/</a>                                        |
|                                           | 14:30                                                        | Departure to Isola Bella                  | <a href="https://www.isoleborromee.it/en/isola-bella/">https://www.isoleborromee.it/en/isola-bella/</a>                                     |
| 15:00 – 16.30                             | Guided tour of the Palazzo Borromeo and visit of the gardens |                                           |                                                                                                                                             |
|                                           | 17:00                                                        | Return to Stresa                          |                                                                                                                                             |
| <i>Cocktails</i>                          | 19:00                                                        | Skybar                                    | (rooftop of Hotel La Palma)<br><a href="https://www.hlapalma.it/de/skybar/">https://www.hlapalma.it/de/skybar/</a>                          |
| <i>Official Dinner</i>                    | 20:00                                                        | Hotel La Palma                            | <a href="https://www.hlapalma.it">https://www.hlapalma.it</a>                                                                               |

| <b>Sunday, June 11 (Optional Program)</b> |             |                              |                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Visit to the Umbrella Museum Gignese      | 9:30        | Meet for transfer to Gignese | Borroni Events<br>Corso Umberto I, 4, Stresa                                                                                             |
|                                           | 10:00-11:30 | Visit of museum              | Gignese<br><a href="https://www.museodellombrello.org/en/home/en/">https://www.museodellombrello.org/en/home/en/</a>                     |
|                                           | 12:15       | Lunch                        | Caffè La Verbanella<br>Corso Umberto I, 2, Stresa<br><a href="https://www.verbanella-stresa.com/">https://www.verbanella-stresa.com/</a> |

## Program in Detail

### Our Venue

The Lago Maggiore is the largest of the prealpine lakes on the southern side of the Alps, connecting Italy with the Italian-speaking part of Switzerland.

The small town of Stresa, which is situated between the Monte Mottarone and the lake, was originally a fishing village and has a long and rich history. Apart from the beautiful scenery, it benefits from a mild climate throughout the year.

The region of Stresa and the islands was already inhabited in Etruscan and Roman times. During the Middle Ages it changed hands several times. In the 15<sup>th</sup> century Duke Filippo Visconti of Milano ceded the northern part of Stresa to his treasurer Vitaliano Borromeo. This was the start of a long relationship between Stresa and the Borromeo counts. In the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries, the counts obtained control of the islands in the bay between Stresa and Verbania. Count Carlo III then proceeded to build a sumptuous palace for his wife Isabella on the Isola Inferiore, today known as Isola Bella.

In first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Lago Maggiore was the border between the Kingdom of Sardina and the Kingdom of Lombardy-Veneto which was under Austrian rule. Italian intellectuals and nobility began coming to the region. With the arrival of steamships and the railway, tourism grew. After the unification of Italy in 1861, the grand hotels began to be built and Stresa became a popular summer spot for both nobility and industrialists. With the opening of the Simplon railway tunnel in 1906, Stresa flowered as a noble resort.

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century Stresa was the venue of several international conferences. Today it is a tourist and a business conference center.

Stresa is a small town and the venues within Stresa itself are in walking distance.

## Friday, June 9

### Optional Pre-Program

#### Parco Pallavicino

For those of you who will be in Stresa early in the afternoon, we propose a visit to the Parco Pallavicino, a magnificent park overlooking the lake, which is about 1 km from the center of Stresa.



The Villa Pallavicino is a private residence dating back to mid-19th century. In 1855, the area was purchased by Ruggero Bonghi, a statesman and man of letters, who built a small villa. Subsequent owners, in particular Marquis Lodovico Pallavicino, enlarged and embellished the property, planting numerous trees, laying out gardens and pathways, decorating the park with statues. Today, the property comprises a magnificent park of 8 hectares with a neoclassical-style villa. Marquise Luisa Pallavicino completed the work in the 1950's, installing a small zoo with both local exotic animals as well as local wild animals rescued by rangers. In 1956 the Pallavicinos opened the park and wildlife museum to the public.

The park contains centuries-old chestnuts and giant liriodendrons – among the oldest in Italy -, red beeches, maples, larches, ginkgo bilobas, redwoods and magnolias. Apart from the rose garden, camellias, hydrangeas and rhododendrons colour the panoramas of the park.

#### Dinner at the Ristorante Lago Maggiore

In the evening we will have dinner in the Ristorante Lago Maggiore, a pleasant restaurant in the venter of Stresa.

## Saturday, June 10

### 2023 IABA Annual Meeting (members only)

9:15 IABA members will meet at the Conference Center Villa Francesca for annual IABA meeting. The meeting will also include an academic lecture, on the US and EU approaches on conflict of laws in international contracts. For non-members, we suggest you take a stroll along the beautiful waterfront (“Lungolago”) or in the old town.

### Excursion to the Borromean Islands

The Borromean Islands are a group of islands in the Lake Maggiore. We will be visiting the Isola dei Pescatori (also known as the Isola Superiore) and the Isola Bella (also known as the Isola Inferiore).



*Isola dei Pescatori*

We will first take the boat to the **Isola dei Pescatori**. This is the smaller of the two islands close to Stresa and was traditionally home to fishermen, thus the name “Fishermen’s Island”. Even today it has retained something of its rustic character, always having been the “poorer sister” of the nobler “Isola Bella”.

We will have a buffet lunch at the Ristorante Italia at the northern end of the island, with a view of the lake and the Isola Madre.



*Isola Bella with the Isola dei Pescatori in the background*

After lunch, we will transfer to the **Isola Bella**. Contrary to the Isola dei Pescatori, the Isola Bella was a place for the nobility.

Originally known as the Isola Inferiore (lower island), its face was transformed by the Borromeans, who built a sumptuous palace and gardens. The work was commenced by Carlo III in 1632 and finished by his son Vitaliano VI around 1671. Carlo III renamed the island to Isola Isabella in honour of his wife Isabella d’Adda. Over the centuries the name has been shortened to Isola Bella. The Borromeans and their successors hosted Europe’s royalty and nobility and many other famous people on the island.

We will have a guided tour of the magnificent baroque palace and have an opportunity to stroll through the gardens.

After the tour, we will return to Stresa

### Cocktails – Skybar, Hotel La Palma



The evening will start off with cocktails at 19:00 in the Skybar of the Hotel La Palma, which has a magnificent view of the Alps, the Lago Maggiore and the Borromean Islands. We will then move downstairs for our official dinner at the Hotel La Palma.

### Sunday, June 11 – Optional Program

#### Umbrella Museum (Museo dell’Ombrello e del Parasole)



The Vergante region between Lago Maggiore and Lake Orta was famous for its umbrella makers, who made magnificent pieces for the 19<sup>th</sup> century high society. The umbrella museum in the village of Gignese above Stresa is dedicated to the history of umbrellas and these umbrella makers.

On display are some 150 pieces, mainly parasols and umbrellas which were all the fashion from the nineteenth century until today. It also includes historical umbrellas belonging to painters, cardinals, and the parasol of the Queen Margherita, whose family used to have holidays in Stresa. You can see examples of materials used to cover umbrellas like silk and synthetic fibres, ivory, wood and silver handles and the small components which make an umbrella practical, beautiful and elegant.

A part of the Museum is dedicated to the life of the umbrella makers, where it is possible to admire the rudimentary tools of the ancient shops, in a journey of memories through the faces, the tools, the workplaces that have characterized the production of umbrellas.

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## Transportation

### Getting to Stresa

#### By train

##### ***From Milano Malpensa airport***

There are hourly trains from the Malpensa Terminal 1 (S50 direction Biasca) to Stresa with a change in Busto Arsizio (not Busto Arsizio Nord!) or Gallarate (Timetables and tickets on <https://www.italiarail.com/> . Time: approx. 1h 15min. Cost approx. €10.

Note: For a better overview you can also use <https://www.sbb.ch/en/>, as the S50 from Malpensa to Gallarate is a regional international TILO to Biasca run by the Swiss railways, but you cannot buy tickets for the route on this website.

##### ***From Milano city or Switzerland***

Stresa is a stop on the main line Milano – Domodossola – Switzerland (Simplon line). For connections from Geneva or Zurich (cities or airports), consult <https://www.sbb.ch/en/>. Time 4 – 6 hours, depending on connections. (Note: Coming from Switzerland you may have to change at Domodossola.)

#### By car

Stresa lies on the E62 Milano (to the Swiss border / Simplon pass). From the north it can be reached through the Gotthard or San Bernadino tunnels – Locarno – Verbania.

## Visas

Visitors from certain countries outside of the EU may require visas. US visitors do not require a visa:

For information: <https://vistoperitalia.esteri.it/home/en>

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## Hotels

June is a very busy time in Stresa and hotels are often heavily booked in advance and are reluctant to hold contingents. For this reason, I have personally pre-booked a number of rooms of different types of rooms with payment guarantee in different hotels for the **nights of June 9 -10**. Please indicate your preferences with your registration. I will assign them on a first-come first served basis. Please note that I will have to cancel reservations for unused rooms after May 25.

Of course, you are free to book any other hotels on your own. The Hotel La Palma, where we are holding the annual general meeting, would give priority to IABA attendees, if they have any rooms free. You can enquire at [stefano@hlapalma.it](mailto:stefano@hlapalma.it)

Tourism taxes are generally not included in the prices.

### Hotel Boston \*\*\*

Viale Duchessa di Genova, 13 (behind the Hotel La Palma), +39032330533

<https://www.hotelbostonstresa.com/>

| Room type               | Price | Breakfast | No. of rooms available | Reference |
|-------------------------|-------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|
| Double bed lakeview     | € 274 | included  | 1                      | B1        |
| Double bed + single bed | € 282 | included  | 2                      | B2        |
| 2 Single beds           | € 307 | included  | 2                      | B3        |
| Double bed              | € 247 | included  | 5                      | B4        |

### Hotel Italie et Suisse \*\*\*

Piazza Marconi 1, Centre

+39032330540 <https://www.italiesuisse.com/>

| Room type                 | Price | Breakfast | No. of rooms available | Reference |
|---------------------------|-------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|
| Double bed                | € 276 | included  | 4                      | IS1       |
| Double bed + 1 single bed | € 322 | included  | 2                      | IS2       |
| 3 single beds             | € 322 | included  | 1                      | IS3       |

### Hotel Milan Speranza Au Lac \*\*\*\*

Piazza Marconi 6/9, Centre

+39032330540 <https://www.milansperanza.it/>

| Room type               | Price | Breakfast | No. of rooms available | Reference |
|-------------------------|-------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|
| 2 single beds           | € 390 | included  | 5                      | MS1       |
| 2 single beds lake view | € 440 | included  | 2                      | MS2       |
| 1 double bed lake view  | € 440 | included  | 1                      | MS3       |

|                                |       |          |   |     |
|--------------------------------|-------|----------|---|-----|
| 1 single bed                   | € 260 | included | 5 | MS4 |
| 1 double bed<br>+ 1 single bed | € 450 | included | 1 | MS5 |

### Affittacamere Via Mazzini \*\*

Nice town house in centre with modern rooms and amenities.

Via Mazzini 12, +39 338 983 13 78,

<http://www.via-mazzini.com/en/>

| Room type  | Price | Breakfast    | No. of rooms available | Reference |
|------------|-------|--------------|------------------------|-----------|
| Double bed | € 154 | Not included | 4                      | Mazz      |

### Al San Michele B&B

Charming house with amenities in town centre. Not suitable for persons with disabilities.

Piazza San Michele 2 (behind the San Michele church), +393389831378,

<https://alsanmichele.it/>

| Room type                | Price | Breakfast    | No. of rooms available | Reference |
|--------------------------|-------|--------------|------------------------|-----------|
| Double bed               | € 244 | not included | 3                      | Al1       |
| Double bed +<br>bunk bed | € 244 | not included | 1                      | Al2       |

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## Registration

### Fees and Payment Instructions

Your registration will not be complete until after the registration fee of **EUR 300 per person** for the Friday/Saturday Program (+ **€ 60 for the optional Sunday program**, if applicable) has been received.

All bank charges are to be borne by the participant.

Raiffeisenbank Wil und Umgebung  
9500 Wil, Switzerland

IBAN: CH94 8132 0000 0084 2393 7  
SIC BC-Number: 81320  
SWIFT-BIC: RAIFCH22

To the order of Jean-Claude Werz, Thuraustrasse 4, 9500 Switzerland  
Please mention "IABA event 2023" as ground for payment

Please note that this is a EURO account

I will confirm your registration by email once the registration form and the payment  
have been received.

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# Maps

## Stresa center



Stresa & the Borromean islands

