Via Castello, Brienno, Lake Como

Welcome!

We are very happy to welcome you to *Via Castello* Apartment and hope that you will have a wonderful time at Lake Como!

www.brienno-apartments.com
comolakevacation@gmail.com

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What to do in Brienno?

Brienno is one of the lake's most picturesque villages. It is magical to walk through the alleys and discover medieval passages that lead directly to the lake.

100 meters from the apartment (going down to the lake), you will find several lake spots/deck pontons where you can swim or relax.

The bar / lounge / lido-beach open from June to September, offers also direct access to the lake (the deck is open to the public), where you can get a drink, eat, or rent sun loungers.

Directly from Via Castello, you can go for a walk (going up on your left), with splendid views of the lake. There is also a nice hike, starting from Via Regina, at the entrance of the village towards Laglio (Il sentiero Mezza Costa). More information on this link or on the municipality website visitbrienno.it.

Where to eat in Brienno and around?

You may want to eat at the pizzeria Bri'en Pizza e Caffè near the apartment (150 meters), open all year long (except for one month of annual leave in winter) and appreciated by the locals. From June till September, you can enjoy a beautiful spot on the lake, La Terrazza 125, and grab some Italian specialties. Brienno also has a fancy restaurant Crotto Dei Platini, located directly on the lake, 2 kilometres from the center.

More coffees and restaurants can be found in Argegno and Laglio villages, adjoining Brienno.

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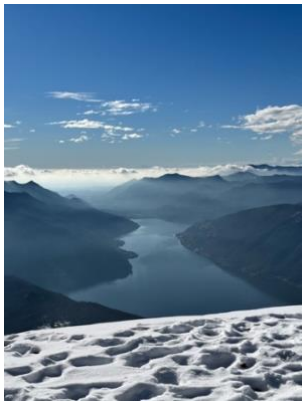
Preferred tourist spots around Brienno

- **Como town** – Beautiful city with numerous shops, restaurants, and coffees.
- **Villa Carlotta and Villa Balbianello** - A must do! (open from April till October).
- **Bellagio, Menaggio and Varenna** - The *pearls of the lake*. Take the boat from Cadenabbia, Argegno, and even Brienno during the season.
- **Green Way** - an easy trail across the villages, on the shore of the lake. Beautiful views! departures from Colonno or Laglio.
- **Argegno, Cernobbio** – Nice villages close to Brienno with a wide choice of coffees and restaurants. Lively all year round.
- **Lugano** - Get the spirit of Switzerland.
- **Milan** - Go by train from Como and avoid traffic headaches.
- **Cablecar of Brunate** - This ancient means of transport is an experience. On site, admire the magnificent Liberty-style villas.
- **Cablecar of Pigra** - Outstanding view – Nice activity with kids. Numerous hiking trails.

And in Winter?



- **Brienno Christmas Market** – The first two weekends of December, Brienno hosts a beautiful market, with unique local items. Located under the arcades of the medieval alleys, it offers an extraordinary atmosphere, with illuminations, decorations, tastings, visits, and music. A must-see!
- **Città dei Balocchi:** a month of festivities taking place in Cernobbio or in Como, to celebrate Christmas and the New Year.
- **Sighignola view spot,** where you can enjoy a breath-taking panorama and a snowy atmosphere (1320 m altitude). There is even a small ski resort on site.
- If the weather is good, having a coffee or a hot chocolate by the lake in **Menaggio, Argegno, or Cernobbio** is a magical moment. Complete with a **tour of Como Lake by boat.**
- And of course, the cities of **Como, Lugano and Milan** are very lively, both summer and winter.

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Getting around from Brienno
(by car, boat or bus)

Brienno is ideally located for discovering the lake's most famous villages and sites. By car, of course, but also by **boat.**

From April to October, Como Lake Navigazione offers 3 departures per day, directly from Brienno dock, 200 meters from the apartment, near the central church.

Our recommendation:
For a relaxed excursion, away from crowds and queues**, take the first boat of the day, around 10:00 am.** The journey from Brienno is a bit longer, but far more enjoyable. You will also have the opportunity to admire beautiful villages and villas from the lake (tickets can be purchased directly on board).

Between November and March, Como Lake Navigazione serves nearby villages such as Argegno, Lenno, and Cernobbio, offering the chance to enjoy **the peaceful atmosphere of lake navigation** even in winter.

If you go to Como by boat, you can also come back by **bus** from San Giovanni station (approximately 30-minute ride with bus line C25 (which crosses our village) or lines C10 or C20 which will drop you off at the village entrance.

Finally, for a walk or hike in the surrounding area, the bus is a convenient option to return to the village or reach your starting point.

For more ideas

Check-out the websites, visitbrienno.it, mylakecomo.co, lakeaddicted.com, Greenway or alltrails.com.

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Where to buy food?

Macelleria Donegana: A 5-minute drive from Brienno, on the way from Cernobbio, this Italian grocery store is one of our favorite places (fresh pasta, cheeses, meats, Italian products, ...).

Tiny coffee place in Via Regina: You may have seen a little coffee on Via Regina, between the church and our apartment. Open all year, you will find the essentials to start your stay (milk, butter, pasta, …).

Bennet or GranMercato: Two big supermarkets are located 15 minute drive in Tavernola / Cernobbio. Our preference is GranMercato, which has excellent fresh Italian products.

Food Truck di Brienno: Every Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, near the church, between 7:30 and 9:00 am, Davide sells typical products directly from his van.

Emergency numbers

113 - State Police

112 - Carabineers

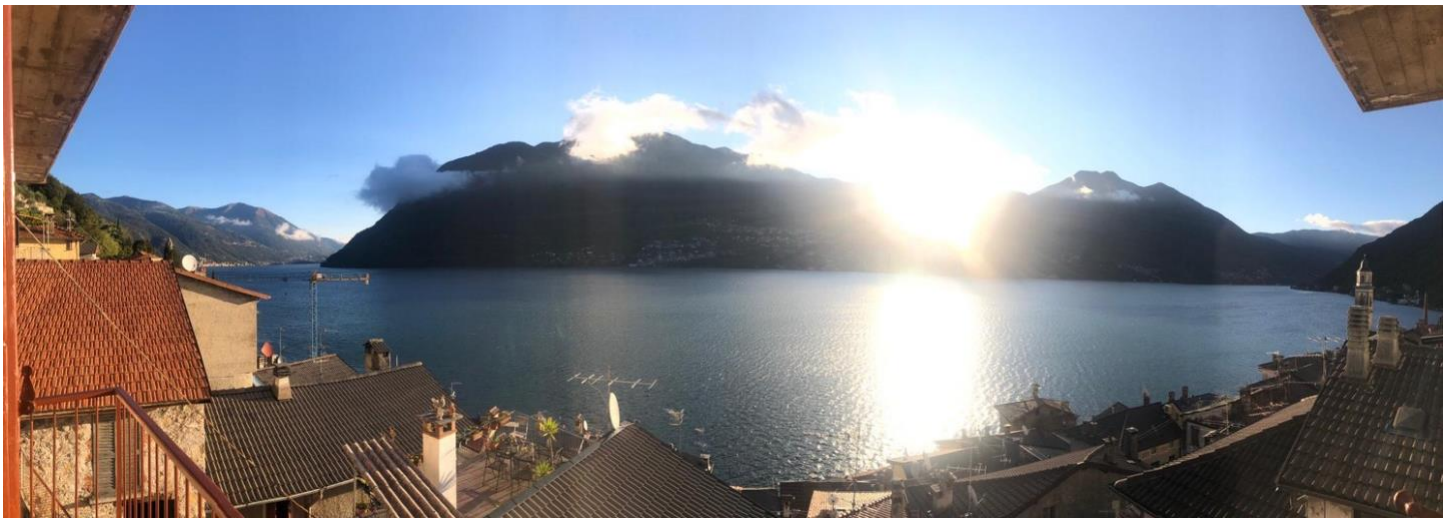
115 - Fire Brigade

118 - Emergencies

1515 - Forest Fire

1530 - Coast Guard - Sea Rescue

More info on Italia.it



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Useful Information for your stay at Via Castello Apartment

Contact us: If you need any information or assistance, feel free to contact us. Elisa at +39 338 138 57 65 or Caroline at comolakevacation@gmail.com.

Check-in: 3:00 pm – 8:00 pm. **Check-out**: 10:00 am.

Parking spaces: You can park at any time of day in the free parking spaces marked in white along the main road (Via Regina). Yellow spaces are reserved for Brienno residents. White parking spaces in the village center fill up quickly, but you'll find more availability at the entrance and exit of the village.

The tourist tax set by Brienno Municipality is € 2,5 per person and per night (up to 7 nights). Children under the age of 7 are exempt from tourist tax.

Internet use:
We have high speed internet with unlimited use. As fiber has not yet arrived in our little village, the Wi-Fi may occasionally disconnect. If that happens, simply unplug and plug back in the router's power socket.

Cellar: You will have a broom, bucket, dustpan, umbrella, and a trolley (special stairs) available at your disposal in the cellar.

Environment impact / Energy saving: we kindly ask that you turn off the lights and the air conditioning when you leave the apartment and upon check-out. In autumn and winter, please kindly reduce the heating when you are out, and set the heating to 5 degrees upon check-out.

Television: Our smart TV allows you to browse YouTube and watch Netflix. We provide a dedicated account for our guests named "Brienno Guests" with English as the default language. have logged into their own accounts and the "Brienno Guests" account has been disconnected, please send us a text message at **+33 7 56 92 29 80**. We will provide the connection procedure and validate the identification.

To keep the apartment fresh and comfortable for everyone, we kindly ask that you **smoke only in the outdoor areas. Small and well-behaved pets** are allowed in the apartment, upon specific prior agreement.

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Cleaning protocol: Before each check-in, we perform a meticulous cleaning using sanitation and hygiene materials recommended by the Italian Ministry of Health.

Change of sheets and towels: A set of towels are provided for each guest and beds are ready upon arrival. If during your stay, you would like a cleaning service or to change your sheets and towels, this will be possible, upon request:

- 8 euros per person for any new set of sheets and towels (we use a professional laundry).
- 60 euros for cleaning service.

Dishes: Before leaving the apartment, dishes should be cleaned (or put in the dish-washer with the cleaning program ON).

Garbage must be dropped down and deposited to the dedicated places upon departure. The main garbage deposit is located in the center of the village, in the parking area close to the central church (stone shed, see picture).

Security deposit: Before or upon arrival, a security deposit of 350 euros may have been asked. As long as no property damage or issue occured, we will perform a full refund after your checkout.

Enjoy your stay

at Via Castello!