



## **Villa “La Gallietta”**

**Como Lake, Lombardy**

**A unique villa with precious frescoes  
by Andrea Appiani along the Lake**

**Price on application**

## The history

The "La Gallietta" Villa is one of the seven villas dated XVIII century built along the western side of the Como Lake, close to the church of S. Giorgio and Villa Olmo.

The seven villas are: Villa Carminati (1787), Villa Musa (1905, the only example of a twentieth century Villa along the lake), Villa Villani "La Rotonda" (1790-93), Villa Gallia (1614, presently headquarter of the Province Administration), Villa La Gallietta (1722-1830), the nineteenth century Villa Parravicini, Villa Colli (1840), Villa Mondolfo (aprox. 1806), Villa Ala Ponzone (1831), Villa Salazar (second half of '700) and finally, the most famous Villa Olmo (1782-1816).

The "La Gallietta" Villa is located directly on the lake and only 5 minutes from the central square of Como. Among the Como Villas it's unique due to its history.

Originally built by Pietro Antonio Fossani from Milan, who in 1772 had bought the Villa Gallia and its surrounding land, it got the name "Gallietta" (meaning "little Gallia") with relation to the larger building Villa Gallia.

The current state of the villa derives from the renovation in 1830, that was ordered by the owner Mr. Giuseppe Frank, Professor at the University of Pavia, who had bought the villa in 1825 and gave the assignment to the architect Melchiorre Nosetti, who didn't limit himself in adapting the façade to an essential neoclassical style, but also remade all the interiors: the living room is decorated with a false dome shaped roof and painted musicians, while all the other rooms have grotto-like frescos.

When Giuseppe Frank died he left the Villa to the University of Pavia, which sold it to the marquis Brivio Sforza in 1866. The interior style became even more neoclassical and as showed by the elliptical stairway, that emphasizes the dome ceiling decorated with a large fresco attributed to the Milanese painter Andrea Appiani, author of the series of frescos at Palazzo Reale in Milan and Villa Reale in Monza.

Since 1985 the villa is protected by "Belle Arti" (The Fine Arts National Institute), both for its architectural value as for its fresco.

The last renovation, made by the current owners in 2009, has given back the villa to its 1772 original artistic splendor and at the same time added modern comfort like air condition, lift, gym, yoga-area.

The French author Nathalie Comtesse set up her novel, written in 1856 in the Villa.

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## **Accomodation**

### **1st (ground) floor**

- Grand Foyer with fresco ceiling and spiral marble staircase
- 95 sq m (1,000 sq. ft )Gym - yoga / dance / cardio / weight studio
- large Cantina / Game Room & Wine Cellar
- Video Conference room

### **2nd Floor**

- Main Formal Sala 50 sq m (500 sq ft) with original fresco & mosaic floor
- Casual Living Room - original fresco & mosaic floor
- Formal Dining Room - renovated fresco & mosaic floor
- Casual Dining Room- original fresco
- Kitchen
- Guest Bedroom and Bath

### **3rd Floor**

- Master Suite & Bath 105 sq m (1100 sq ft)
- Guest Suite 1 & Bath
- Guest Suite 2 & Bath
- Children's Suite & Bath 75 sq m (800 sq ft)
- Guest Bedroom
- Full Laundry

### **4th Floor**

- Guest Suite 3 & Bath 85 sq m (900 sq ft)

On the same property, but with a private entrance/courtyard from a different street than the villa, the Rustic Apartment: 140 sq. mts (1500 sq. feet) 3 bedrooms 2 bathrooms- full kitchen and full living room.

Complete renovation finished 2008 Rustic Style - exposed roof timbers, stone work, antique floors.

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## The garden

The 1.200 sqm garden, directly facing the lake, is surrounded by stone walls guaranteeing total privacy.

La Gallietta has three gardens historically divided in:

**First garden:** the largest. Accessible from the finely forged iron gate. It has a floor of Moltrasio stones and shows in the middle an elegant baroque fountain in white marble decorated with sirens and coat of arms. This garden is accessible by cars through the main entrance. There is a multiple garage on the side and a pedestrian gate next to the main entrance.

**Second garden:** a bit smaller but with elegant prospective views, it leads with a circular stairway directly to the main living room on first floor. In the shadow of Lebanon Cedar Trees, a centennial Cypress and in the elegance of a wisteria that rises up to the second floor. The front-lake is protected by a thick hedge from where you can access the promenade leading to Villa Olmo.

**Third garden:** the smallest one, belonging to the Depandance, of elongated shape, it houses numerous prestigious plants species.



*The Villa is rich of Frescoes, among which we can admire the one by the neoclassic Italian artist Andrea Appiani.*



## Viewing

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