

WARM INVITATIONS

TO COME

TO ITALY IN 2020

Letters supporting the application of
Verbania and the surrounding Lake District,
to host the 2020 ICS Congress



Città
di Locarno Municipio

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Locarno, 23rd January 2020

To:
Guan Kayiun, ICS President
Patricia Short, ICS Past-President
Pilar Vela Fernandez, ICS Vice-President for Europe
Rolf Stockmann, ICS Director for Switzerland
Claudia Respini, ICS Representative for Switzerland
Gianmario Motta, ICS Director for Italy
Daniele Marcacci; President of the Camellia Swiss Society

Congress of the International Camellia Society (ICS) 2022

Dear Members of the International Camellia Society,

The City of Locarno is very glad to host the ICS members in the post-congress tour in Spring 2022. We are proud of hosting this world-level congress on camellias in honor of our strong relationship with this flower.

Locarno is located in southern Switzerland and northern shore of Lake Maggiore. Sheltered by the Alps, Locarno enjoys an exceptional climate in which camellias, magnolias and mimosas blossom as early as in March. Near the lakeshore and the center of Locarno lies the stunning Camellia Park, which was inaugurated in 2005 on the occasion of the International Camellia Society World Congress (ICS) attended by participants from all over the world.

Since its opening, the park has become an international attraction, thanks both to its landscape value and to its precious botanical features. At present, the park includes 900 different types of camellias spread over 10,000 square meters and the vast number of species present guarantees, in principle, a flowering period of 9 months. The nearby lake ensures constant humidity and the trees provide partial shade. Two small lakes with water features, an information pavilion and a small arena evoke the camellias' native countries.

The Locarno Camellia exhibition, taking place every March, is the most important event of its kind in Europe and is outperformed only by the initiatives promoted in Japan, home country to this exquisite flower. It is a scientific exhibition, with over 200 types of this flower, splendidly arranged by experienced gardeners and highlighting this plant, an enrichment to the botanical patrimony, present in the private and public gardens of the Locarno region. The program also includes numerous side-events, cultural moments as well as a flower and botanical literature market.

Locarno is also recognised worldwide for its International Film Festival, the biggest cultural event in Switzerland and one of the most important in the world. The heart of the city is the historic Piazza Grande, surrounded by charming old houses with typical arcades, numerous boutiques and restaurants.

Piazza Grande is one of the most famous squares in Switzerland, where the main commercial and cultural activities take place: the weekly market on Thursdays, the Moon & Stars concerts, the open-air film projections during the Film Festival in Summer or the charming outdoor ice rink during the Christmas period.

In Locarno there are also various witnesses of the past, as for example the sanctuary of Madonna del Sasso, the Visconti Castle with the "Rivellino", a bulwark, attested as a Leonardo da Vinci work and the picturesque Old Town with its narrow lanes.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to ICS post-congress 2022 and we hope you will enjoy your stay in Locarno.

Yours sincerely,

For the City Council

The Mayor:

ing. Alain Scherrer

The Town Clerk:

avv. Marco Gerosa

Società Italiana della Camelia

ONLUS - Corso Cairoli, 39 - C.P. 25
28921 Verbania Intra (VB)



To the Board of Directors of ICS

Verbania, 8 March 2018

Dear sirs,

We will be proud to support the organization of ICS Congress in 2022 in the Lake District, namely in Verbania. We think that the organization should be carried on by a consortium which shall include local municipalities and local government, nurseries, and, of course, the Italian section of ICS. We will work with the Italian Section of ICS to build such consortium after the approval of our candidature. The Lake District is located north of Milan, close to Swiss border. It includes 6 alpine lakes, west to east: Orta, Maggiore, Lugano, Como, Iseo, Garda. Since the Eighteenth Century, Lombardy gentry built there the largest set of villas (aristocratic summer house) in the world, with wonderful parks of Rhododendron, Azalea, and, of course, Camellia.

The lake District has a strong relation with ICS. Actually, the first ICS congress was held in Stresa, on Lake Maggiore, in 1972. It was organized by Antonio Sevesi, the founder of the Italian Camellia Society and an author of the International Camellia Register. Stresa congress was a great success and started the series of ICS congresses. 50 years later, coming back in the same area will celebrate the longevity of the ICS.

As location for the ICS Congress in 2022 we propose the city of Verbania, located on the Maggiore lake, the largest lake in the District. Verbania is close to famous camellia gardens as Isola Madre, Isola Bella, Villa Taranto, Villa San Remigio, Villa Pallavicino, Villa Anelli (ICS Garden of Excellence), Villa Motta and also Locarno (Switzerland). In this area, a Nursery District, recently born, is the most important producer in Europe of camellias in pot. Verbania is easily accessible from Malpensa (50 minute drive). The Municipality of Verbania, as per the letter of the Major already sent to the ICS President, will support the Congress. Hence SIC recommends to the board of directors to consider this proposal.

Your sincerely

Andrea Corneo



Città di Verbania

Il Sindaco

Verbania, 08th March 2018

Prot. 11847 / 2018

*Mr President Guanky Kaiyun
International Camellia Society (ICS)
guanky@mail.kib.ac.cn*

CC the ICS Vice President Europe Gianmario Motta motta05@unipv.it
CC the ICS Representative for Italy Mirella Gloria gloriamottamirella@gmail.com
CC the President of Società Italiana della Camelia acorneo@libero.it

Subject: 2022 Congress of the International Camellia Society in Verbania

Dear President of the International Camellia Society,

The Municipality of Verbania will be glad to host the ICS Congress in 2022 and support it. We are proud of hosting a world-level congress on camellias, given the deep and enduring relationship between Camellias and Lake Maggiore Region.

The congress sessions can be hosted at the "Centro Eventi Il Maggiore", a municipality theater in a spectacular position, with its 500 places and its parking area for large buses. The delegates can be hosted in hotels which cover the entire range of stars. Verbania is close to Malpensa international airport (1-hour bus) and well connected by rail to Milan and Switzerland. The passenger cruisers of Navigazione Lago Maggiore can transport delegates to Isole Borromee and across the lake.

Camellias, introduced around 1820, immediately thrived, thanks to the mild climate and acid soil, and became the ornament of aristocratic parks (Lago Maggiore was a typical location for aristocratic country houses). As result, Verbania and its surrounding feature many world-famous gardens, which include Italian-style Gardens (Isola Bella), romantic gardens (Isola Madre), botanical Gardens (Villa Taranto), Camellia Gardens of Excellence (villa Anelli and Locarno), aristocratic gardens (villa Rusconi, villa San Remigio, villa Motta, and many other villas). All these gardens feature camellias.

In recent years, Camellia sasanqua is becoming more and more popular. The sasanqua was chosen as the official flower of Turin Winter Olympic Games in 2006, thus witnessing the profound connection between the Camellia and our culture.

Palazzo di Città, 28922 Verbania (VB) - sindaco@comune.verbania.it



Città di Verbania

Il Sindaco

Verbania is also the town in which the Italian Society of Camellias organizes the Camellia Show (52nd edition in March 2018) and the Camellia sasanqua Show (15th edition in December 2018).

We think that Verbania can be a suitable location for the ICS Congress in 2022 and we hope that our application will meet your interest and your favor.

We stay at your disposal for any further information you might need.

Best regards.

The Mayor
Dr Silvia Macchionini

CAPANNORI



Comune di Capannori

Il Sindaco

International Camellia Society (ICS)
c/o the President Guanky Kaiyun

CC the ICS Vice President Europe Gianmario Motta
CC the ICS Representative for Italy Mirella Gloria
CC the President of Società Italiana della Camelia

Subject: 2022 Congress of the International Camellia Society Pre-congress tour in Tuscany

Dear President,

The Municipality of Capannori will be glad to host the ICS members in the pre-congress tour and support it. We are proud of hosting a world-level congress on camellias, in our long relationship of our Region with camellias.

Capannori is in west-Tuscany, in Lucchesia, a region named after the city of Lucca (world heritage). Our region is particularly suitable for a large congress. Capannori already successfully hosted the pre-congress tour in 2005, when the Camellietum of Compito, now Camellia Garden of Excellence, was inaugurated.

Camellias, introduced in early Nineteenth Century, immediately thrived, thanks to the mild climate and acid soil, and became the ornament of aristocratic gardens, where they still are living. Gardens in Lucca and its vicinity include Italian-style gardens (Villa Reale), ancient gardens (Villa Oliva, Villa Orsi, Villa Borrini). Sant'Andrea di Compito, a borough in the Capannori county, celebrates from over 20 years the Camellia Show, with many thousand visitors; it hosts the Camellietum of Compito.

The beauty of Tuscany is celebrated worldwide. Siena, Florence, and Pisa are close to Capannori, and they will be visited during the tour. Last not least, Lucca still has its ancient bastion walls, where you can bike, the Piazza Anfiteatro, a square which still maintains the original Amphitheatre layout, a series of wonderful Italian-gothic churches, and, finally, a pedestrian center, where you can quietly walk among a series of cozy shops.

Capannori, February 16, 2018



The Major

Luca Menesini



Centro
Culturale
Compitese



ANTICHE CAMELIE
DELLA LUCCHESIA

International Camellia Society (ICS)

C/O the President Guanky Kaiyun guanky@mail.kib.ac.cn

CC the ICS Vice President Europe Gianmario Motta motta05@unipv.it

CC the ICS Representative for Italy Mirella Gloria gloriamottamirella@gmail.com

CC the President of Società Italiana della Camelia acorneo@libero.it

Subject: 2022 Congress of the International Camellia Society
Pre-congress tour in Tuscany

Capannori, February 16/02/2018

The social cooperative Centro Culturale Compitese has and still is creating Cameliatum Compitese, inaugurated in 2015 and now Camellia Garden of Excellence, will have the honor of hosting members of the ICS during the pre-congressional tour and of helping them with anything during their stay here.

The congressmen will be able to visit not only Cameliatum Compitese, but also the gardens of villas that are home to great collections of ancient Camellias dating back to the early 1800s (Villa Borrini, Villa Orsi), and the most ancient tea plantation in Italy, in the Antica Chiusa Borrini. They will also have the possibility to taste local products: extra-virgin oil, cheese, cold cuts, etc.

The clarity of our water, the green of the valley, the stone artifacts will make your visit particularly pleasant and interesting.

Coop. Centro Culturale Compitese S.r.l.
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International Camellia Society (ICS)

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CC the ICS Representative for Italy Mirella Gloria gloriamottamirella@gmail.com

CC the President of Società Italiana della Camelia acorneo@libero.it

Subject: 2022 Congress of the International Camellia Society

Pre-congress tour in Tuscany

Capannori, February 19th, 2018

Villa Reale will be glad to host the ICS members in the pre-congress tour and support it. We would be proud of hosting a world-level congress on camellias, in the Region of Camellias and in our case, in a historical garden with two camellias walkways. We can easily say that the park of Villa Reale is a “must-see” for camellia lovers and experts.

Villa Reale is 8 km far from the walls of Lucca and very easy to reach with cars or buses. Moreover, Capannori successfully hosted the pre-congress tour in 2005, when the Camellietum of Compito, now Camellia Garden of Excellence, was inaugurated: next time would be fantastic to add visits and events in the park of Villa Reale too.

In Lucca, the first reliable, documented evidence of the arrival of the *Camellia japonica* was the substantial delivery of rare plants received by Elisa Bonaparte Baciocchi from her brother Giuseppe, King of Naples, in 1808. These plants came from the gardens of Caserta, destined for and arranged in the new English garden of Villa Reale. Some of the camellias most representative of the Lucca area can be found here in the two camellia-lined walkways, which are one of the major points of interest within the Park in the months of February and March. Even in January, more than thirty varieties of ancient camellias have already started to bloom, of various forms and colours, from white to red to pink, and all the shades in between.

The Camellietum in Sant’Andrea di Compito, 15 km far from Villa Reale, celebrates from almost 30 years the Camellia Show, with many thousand visitors, and we are proud to cooperate with them since 2017. Thanks to a cumulative ticket, visitors have the chance to visit the two Excellence spots with a discounted price: if you visit the show, you should visit the park of Villa Reale and the other way round in order to fully experience the camellias in bloom.



Città di
ORTA SAN GIULIO
NOVARA

Orta San Giulio, December 21th, 2015
Prot. Nr. 12161

International Camellia Society (ICS)
C/O the President Guanky Kaiyun
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CC the Vice President Europe Gianmario Motta
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CC the Representative for Italy Mirella Gloria Motta
mirellagloria1947@gmail.com

Subject : 2022 Conference of the International Camellia Society

Mirella Gloria Motta and Gianmario Motta have communicated to me their intention of proposing Orta for the forthcoming 2022 conference, which will follow the 2020 conference to be held in Japan.

The City of Orta will be proud of hosting the ICS conference.

Orta is a world known resort with nice hotels and cozy restaurants, some awarded by Michelin stars. It is a pedestrian city that offers a silent relax and wonderful walks along the lake causeways. The Island of San Giulio, in front of the city, is a unique wonder, with a belt of villas on the lake, which include the San Giulio Basilica, which was founded over 1600 years ago, and the monastery, built over the previous Langobard castle. On the top of the Orta Peninsula the "Sacro Monte" – a world heritage – hosts hundreds of statues that represent the life of Saint Francis.

Of course, camellias are part of our tradition. They are planted in all our orchards and gardens, and the oldest ones date back to the early Eighteenth Century. Orta is not isolated. At only 30 minutes, Lago Maggiore offers the largest set of camellia and rhododendron gardens, which include Isola Madre, Isola Bella, Vila Taranto, Villa Pascia, Villa Pallavicino, San Remigio etc.

Orta already hosted assemblies of the Italian Camellia Society and of the ICS Italian Section. Moreover, Orta hosted the pre-tour of the 2005 ICS Conference.

Welcome to Orta

Il Sindaco
Giorgio Angelieri