

## *Ideas and plans for a great future*

**T**he exhibition, taking place during the second edition of the 'Stresa Liberty' event, wants to show the main urban and architectural projects the town experienced in the period between the end of the nineteenth century and the outbreak of the First World War - i.e., what can be defined as 'The Time of Liberty'.

That was a great season in which Stresa gained a reputation as a resort of international fame, where you could find royalty, the crowned heads - first of all the Savoy -, aristocrats, entrepreneurs, politicians, military, intellectuals as well as Italian and foreign artists, who used to stay in luxury hotels and sumptuous villas. These structures, representative of the tastes and architectural trends of the time, began to be built on the coast and on the surrounding uplands, so as to enjoy the beauties of the lake. At the same time, a less élite tourism was growing, to which Stresa offered hotels, pensions, restaurants and cafés suitable for every need. It was a time of economic development that involved companies from every sector - the construction, naval, craft and commercial fields - and concerned the entire territory, from the hamlets to the nearby municipalities, up to Mount Mottarone, a destination for mountain lovers.

A highlight was the inauguration of the Simplon tunnel in 1906 and of the railway line with a stop at Stresa. Such a great tourist boost propelled the development of services and projects that affected the urban fabric, such as the Stresa-Mottarone electric railway and the Kursaal thermal & leisure complex, designed to offer innovations, fun and entertainment to a growing number of tourists and holidaymakers. Much has been preserved, much has been lost or transformed - the exhibition invites you to rediscover the sparkling Stresa of the time... like a charming lady who, lifting the veil of her wide hat, shows her bewitching gaze for a moment.

### **The exhibition promoted and realized by:**

**Mayor of Stresa - Marcella Severino**  
**Stresa Councilor for Culture and Tourism - Maria Grazia Bolongaro**

**Creation of the Path, Texts, Preparation:**  
Vilma Burba, Giorgio Chiari, Andrea Lazzarini, Thea Tilibetti, Roberto Valli

**Graphics and Iconographic Material:** © Andrea Lazzarini - Scenari S.r.l - Stresa

**Translations:** Associazione Turistica Pro Loco di Stresa;  
Cacia Gabriella Ines, Chiara Saibene

**Digital printing:** Pixartprinting S.p.A.

**Collectors:** Andrea Bertolaja, Marcello Barbè, Mariolina & Carla Bernasconi, Fabrizio & Maurizio Leone, Marcello Luparia, Luigi Manni

**Thanks for the cooperation:** the employees of the Municipality of Stresa, Roberto Donghi,  
"Zapelloni" Library of Stresa & "Ceretti" Library of Verbania

Comune di Stresa



Ass. Turistica Pro Loco di Stresa



Scenari S.r.l. - Editoria & Comunicazione

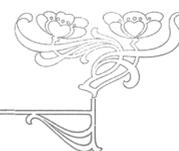
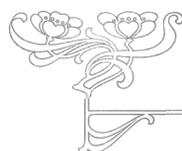


Avis Stresa



Blog Backdated Notes

*di Vilma Burba*



English

