





L'intelaiatura del tetto

Art Nouveau charm and centuries-old hospitality

he Regina Palace Hotel was founded shortly after the opening of the Simplon tunnel in 1906. In December 1906, to create the new hotel, the Lake Maggiore Hotel Association Company was born: Members of the Company included the Borromeo and the Pallavicino families, wealthy holidaymakers, professionals, such as the architect of the project

Giuseppe Pagani, entrepreneurs and traders in part local, such as the builder Vasco Capucci and the surveyor Tommaso Tadini. Work began in 1907, after the purchase of the Villa De Martini - built in 1849 and demolished not without regret - and the surrounding land. The hotel was opened on 8 March 1908 and opened to customers on 27 June. Luxury, impeccable service, "maximum modern comforts" and social life attract members of the aristocracy and cosmopolitan high society of the period.

The striking position of the hotel overlooking the Borromean gulf, posters, leaflets, labels for suitcases and postcards quickly spread its fame around the world. The Regina Palace Hotel is a significant example of the Art Nouveau style. The structure facing the lake consists of two diagonal bodies that converge towards the central facade. The bulk of the building is lightened by a calibrated game of volumes, the large windows of the ground floor and the presence of domes with a special wooden frame. Rounded frames, columns, capitals, friezes, squares and decorative geometric patterns adorn the exterior with elegance. On the other hand, the interior is a triumph of luxurious fabrics and furnishings, precious floors and stuccoes, sparkling chandeliers and stained glass windows; the central staircase is designed to enhance the precious ladies' powder rooms upon entering the large main central living room.

Over the years lots of restoration works have taken place in order to adapt the hotel to modern day needs but always bearing in mind the original design right down to the smallest details. For this reason, the sumptuous Regina Palace Hotel has retained its charming luxurious character for over a century.

1922-1974: Swiss family of hoteliers: Bernard Anton Bossi (1888-1959) and his wife Elsa Wirth; the sons René André and Marcel Bossi

From 1974 to today: three historic Stresian families of hoteliers: Mariani, Padulazzi and Zanetta











