



# ISOLA DEL GARDA

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## LA VILLA

The Island is situated on the Brescian side of Lake Garda, a short distance from San Felice del Benaco. Today it owes its fascination to the extraordinary Venetian neo-Gothic style villa, designed by the architect Luigi Rovelli at the beginning of the 20th century; an imposing harmonious building, rich in surprising architectonic details. It boasts a beautiful 18th century painting by Carlo Carloni. Below, the terraces and Italian gardens slope down to the lake. All around the vegetation is luxuriant and intact, rich in local, exotic plants, rare essences and unique flowers.

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## THE GARDENS

On the central terrace at the front of the Villa the garden is in the classical Italian style with well-modeled hedges which represent various figures including the emblem of the De Ferrari family who gave life to the garden. Near the villa, palms originating from the Canary Islands grow. On the lower terrace, on the banks of the lake fruit trees such as persimmons, lemons, pears, pomegranates, olives, oranges, grapefruit, prickly pears, jujubes and capers can be found. Roses of the China roseate are also grown, the Lady Hillingdon rose, the yellow Banksia rose, valerian, bougainvillea and many other plants and flowers of rare beauty.

## THE PARK

The most evocative and wild can be found in the flat area of the Island, where evergreen cypresses, marshland cypresses, deciduous oaks, citron trees, poplars, laurels, plane trees, fir and various species of pines can be found mixed with shrubs and more typically Mediterranean essences. This park is still today a well-conserved secret, only recently open to visitors.

