

## The Sublime Extra Virgin Olive Oil of Lake Garda, Highlights of the Eastern shore

[Luciana Squadrilli](#) | Wed, 09/22/2021



Imagine a place with enchanting mansions and their own private piers, luxury hotels, and panoramic campsites, romantic lakeside promenades, or bike trails along the vineyards, not to mention sailing trips from one riverbank to another. Almost equally divided between Veneto (to the south-east), and Lombardy (south-west), lies a small-yet-significant land strip belonging to Trentino in North Lake Garda, a shoreline that offers a wide and diverse range of attractions and accommodati

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Luciana Squadrilli (Tin), 09/23/2021 - 00:50



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One main thing all the three shores have in common, besides the calm waters, are olive trees from the lower Venetian bank to the higher banks in Trentino - which was once considered the highest latitude to grow olives in Italy. This has now shifted due to climate change and now the gentle slopes surrounding the lake are often made of morainic soil and are mostly covered with olive trees.



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### Latest property in Lake Garda



#### Apartment in Dro

35 m<sup>2</sup>  
1 Bedrooms  
195.000 € - 3208,382 -  
1162,565



#### Apartment in Riva del Garda

90 m<sup>2</sup>  
2 Bedrooms  
398.000 € - 3465,930 -  
1341,597



#### Apartment in Riva del Garda

84 m<sup>2</sup>  
3 Bedrooms  
359.000 € - 5420,274 -  
1308,134



#### Apartment in Riva del Garda

65 m<sup>2</sup>  
2 Bedrooms  
370.000 € - 5433,157 -  
1317,565



#### Villa in Manerba del Garda

1255 m<sup>2</sup>  
10 Bedrooms  
2.500.000 € - 32.936,688 -  
12145,708



#### Apartment in Riva del Garda

120 m<sup>2</sup>  
3 Bedrooms

only available to a few and mainly used to give light to churches and thus, the Riviera of 'olives' was born. Among them is the San Colombano monastery perched on the beautiful Venetian hills of Bardolino, on the Eastern side, where monks are still nurturing olive trees and producing excellent extra virgin olive oil.



Photo courtesy of Garda Dop extra virgin olive oil consortium.

Not far from here, the village of Cavaion Veronese hosts the offices of the Garda DOP extra virgin olive oil consortium lead by local producer Laura Turri. One of a kind in Italy, the consortium gathers 470 associates - growers, millers and bottlers - from the three different regions (and from four provinces, also counting a single producer in the Mantova area by the lake). They all share a common olive variety, Casaliva, traditionally giving birth to elegant and delicate extra virgin olive oils (or even harmoniously bitter and pungent ones, in the most "modern" versions), which can be eventually flanked by other lesser local varieties giving peculiar aromatic hues, from citrus to officinal herbs. In its traditional version, Garda DOP extra virgin oil works perfectly to enhance the flavors of typical lake cuisine starting from lake fish such as pike (you'll see it mentioned as "luccio in salsa" on many local menus).



resort, and also a grower associated with the Consortium – they offer wonderfully soothing massages and face treatments with their own precious extra virgin olive oil.

If you want to add to the charm of olive trees, why not embark on a refreshing swim in the freshwater lake or stroll along the beach, from Bardolino you can head to Punta San Vigilio, past Garda village, to join the idyllic Baia delle Sirene Park where a beautiful olive grove leads to a small, lovely beach equipped with loungers, picnic tables, shower, children's playground, two dining spots and a small ice cream parlor.



Punta San Vigilio.

A short walk will also take you at the very end of Punta San Vigilio to one of the most romantic spots on this side of the lake, a promontory creating a small natural harbor plays host to the magnificent Villa Guarienti, built in 1540 by the philosopher Agostino Brenzoni. The location right by the water adds to the austere yet elegant style much appreciated at the time. Inherited by the Counts Guarienti di Brenzone and still privately owned (as well as rented for events or movie sets), the mansion and its wonderful garden hosted many illustrious guests, including many European crowned heads and Hollywood stars.

If you want to follow their tracks, you can book a table (or even a suite) at the refined Locanda San Vigilio, or opt for one of the outdoor tables along the pier at the more casual Tavern. Or, if you love sailing and want to get a glimpse of the Villa Guarienti offshore, get on board the San Nicolò, a beautifully restored sailing vessel that dates back to 1925. It can host up to 30 people for parties and meetings yet it also offers daily excursions or sunset cruises passing the most picturesque places of the lake such as Torri del Benaco, the Grottoes of Catullus, Isola del Garda, and more. It is the ideal place to enjoy the sunset, a glass of local wine, and maybe a slice of bread with local extra virgin olive oil or a piece of fagassa.

#### WEBSITES:

[www.oliogardedop.it](http://www.oliogardedop.it)

[www.hotelcaesiusterme.com](http://www.hotelcaesiusterme.com)

<https://www.sannicolo1925.com/>

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