



Grand Historic Events presents

THE EXOTIC ORIENT **A NAPOLEONIC WEEKEND** June 5-7, 2020 Lucca

Programme of Events
(all in period dress - see page 11)

Friday 5th June, 4.45pm - 6pm

Palazzo Ducale Prefecture, Piazza Napoleone

VISIT ELISA'S APARTMENTS & "THE MEMORY OF SCENT" EXHIBITION

Friday 5th June, 7.30pm - 11pm

Palazzo Tucci, Via Cesare Battisti 13, Lucca

2 DANCE RUN-THROUGHS at 7.30pm - 9pm or 9.30pm - 11pm

Saturday 6th June, 10am - 1pm

Meet in Palazzo Ducale's garden courtyard

**GUIDED VISIT OF THE BOTANIC GARDENS, VILLA BOTTINI, A WALK
ALONG THE CITY WALLS & SOME SECRET GARDENS IN LUCCA**

Saturday 6th June, 7pm - midnight

Palazzo Ducale, Lucca

THE GRAND EGYPTIAN BALL

Sunday 7th June, 9.30am - 6.30pm

Villa Reale and Park, Via Fraga Alta 2, Marlia, Capannori, north of Lucca

A SUMMER'S DAY AT MARLIA WITH ELISA

Sunday 7th June, 7.30pm - 12.30am

Bagni di Pisa, Largo Shelley, 18, San Giuliano Terme

A TURKISH OTTOMAN NIGHT AT THE BATHS

Information: margaritafm@yahoo.com.au



Friday 5th June, 2020 4.45pm - 6pm
Palazzo Ducale - Prefecture - Piazza Napoleone, Lucca

VISIT ELISA'S PRIVATE APARTMENTS & "THE MEMORY OF SCENT" EXHIBITION

Elisa Baciocchi Bonaparte completely redecorated this part of Palazzo Ducale in the neo-classical style and made it her official residence.

We have special permission to view this private part of Palazzo Ducale. A new, permanent exhibition located in the rooms once dedicated to Elisa's theatre presents the exotic scents introduced to Lucca by Elisa during her reign.

Dress Code: 1805 - 1820 day wear, or ball attire as for Palazzo Tucci
Ticket: 10 euro





Friday 5th June, 2020, 7.30pm - 9pm and 9.30pm - 11pm
PALAZZO TUCCI - Via Cesare Battisti 13, Lucca

2 DANCE RUN-THROUGHS

(in 1805-1820 outfits with gentlemen's jackets off)

Historical Dance Master Donald Francis, Artistic Director of L'Atelier de Danse, Florence, will lead a run-through of Saturday's Ball programme. Everyone will have a chance to learn the choreography, meet the other guests and enjoy the beauty of the Palace.

Elisa Baciocchi Bonaparte, Napoleon's sister, and her husband Felix Baciocchi, attended a candlelit ball here on their first night in Lucca.

Please choose a session & email me your choice at margaritafm@yahoo.com.au

Dress Code: 1805-1820 outfits. No boots, no heels and gentlemen's jackets off

Ticket: 35 euro





Saturday 6th June, 2020, 10am - 1pm
Meet in Palazzo Ducale's garden courtyard at 10am

**WALK THE CITY'S MEDIEVAL WALLS, VISIT THE BOTANIC GARDENS,
VISIT ELISA BACIOCCHI'S VILLA BOTTINI
& FOLLOW OUR GUIDES ALONG THE SCENTED PATH AROUND LUCCA**

Villa Bottini was purchased by Elisa's husband, Felix Baciocchi, in 1811. Lucca's largest and oldest plane tree, planted by Elisa, can be found in this garden. It has a circumference of 7 metres and a canopy of over 25 metres and witnessed the era of the Napoleonic Principality.

The garden is also graced with magnolias, a botanical species introduced to Lucca from the park of Villa Reale, Marlia. We will visit the Villa and the Botanic Gardens, planned by Elisa. We

will walk along the medieval walls, made walkable by Elisa who planted the original trees.

Expert guides will show us her legacy as we discover some secret scented gardens in Lucca.

Dress Code: 1805 - 1820 day wear

Ticket: 30 euro





Saturday 6th June, 2020. 7pm - midnight
Palazzo Ducale, Piazza Napoleone, Lucca

THE GRAND EGYPTIAN BALL

Dance Master: Donald Francis
Orchestra Leader: Valentino Alfredo Zangara
Buffet Froid*: Anna Bowcock
Croupier: Virgilio Contrucci

Palazzo Ducale, transformed into Egypt, will beguile you for a night of mystery and passion. Dance cotillons, quadrilles and contradances by the banks of the river Nile. Savour the spices of the orient with a buffet froid set in Cairo's ancient market. Gamble away your inheritance in the salons of the bazaar with Georgian ices to cool the spirit. And allow the music of the duduk to transport you back 3000 years to the ancient world of Isis and Ra.

Ticket: 175 euro

Dress Code: Napoleonic Ball attire or Ancient Egyptian dress





Sunday 7th June, 2020. 9.30am - 6.30pm

Villa Reale and the Park, Via Fraga Alta 2, Marlia, Capannori

A SUMMER'S DAY AT MARLIA

The restoration of this magnificent Park and its exquisite Villa Reale is now finished and open to the public. Elisa Baciocchi Bonaparte and her family invite us to spend the day with them, to experience their summer residence as it was in 1810. Everyone will have a chance to participate in numerous activities and partake of an abundant picnic lunch* under the trees down near the lake. A detailed programme of events will be printed. Concerts, dancing, theatre, archery, fencing, painting, tableaux vivant, informed political debates, gambling and games, carriage rides, water games in Pan's Grotto and guided tours around the Park discovering the Perfumed Way.

Members of the public will be present throughout the day from 10am to 6pm.

Buses will leave Lucca's Porta San Pietro at 9.30am & return at 6.30pm.

TICKET: 120 euro

DRESS CODE: 1797 - 1820 Day Attire

* Please contact me if you have special dietary needs





Sunday 7th June, 2020. 7.30pm - 12.30am

Bagni di Pisa, Largo Shelley, 18, San Giuliano Terme

A TURKISH OTTOMAN NIGHT AT THE BATHS

In 1743 a majestic summer residence was built in San Giuliano Terme between Lucca and Pisa for the Grand Duke of Tuscany, Francesco Stefano of Lorraine, on the site of ancient Roman thermal baths. Today the Palace is a renowned 5 star hotel with an extensive Spa with a number of thermal pools both indoors and out, saunas, a natural grotto & massage baths. This exclusive event at the Bagni di Pisa has the theme of the Turkish Ottoman Baths so fashionable at the times of Napoleon.

Dinner* will be served from 8pm to 10pm and the site will be decorated for the event with carpets and cushion and with dancers and musicians to entertain.

A time to relax in the thermal pools and try Turkish delight, baclava and red poppy sherbert.

The Marlia buses will drop off and pick up people at Lucca's St Pietro's Gate at 6.30pm and arrive at the Bagni di Pisa at 7.15pm. Buses will depart at midnight for Lucca and arrive at 12.30am.

TICKET: 90 euro

DRESS CODE: Turkish Ottoman clothes (see page 11 for important details)

* Please contact me if you have special dietary needs



PAYMENT

Complete Weekend Programme: 460 euro

★Payment must be made by 1st May 2020 to the following bank account:

Name on Account: Martinez Wurfel, Margarita Francisca

Bank Name: Banco Posta

Bank Address: Via Pelliceria, 3, 50100 Florence

City: Florence (Firenze)

Country: Italy

IBAN: IT11Y0760102800000016805848

BIC/SWIFT Number: BPPIITRRXXX. (2 capital "i"s)

My address: Margarita Martinez

"Studio Architettura"

Viale Petrarca, 110

Firenze 50124, Italia

If you wish to attend only part of the Weekend Program, please write me an email with your ticket requests and I will send you the total amount to transfer. The individual event costs are on the programme.

When transferring the money, please include your full name and write "weekend" on the transfer statement.

Once payment is confirmed your name/s will go on the Attendee List for each event.

PAYPAL:

If you are out of the euro zone and wish to pay with Paypal, please let me know, via email. My PayPal is based in Australia and I will send you an invoice in Australian Dollars, bypassing euros altogether. A paypal fee will be added to the money request.

Confirmation Email to: margaritafm@yahoo.com.au

After payment, please confirm by writing me an email with:

- 1) bank transfer confirmation
- 2) your mobile telephone number (I may need to contact you with possible last minute updates)
- 3) Any special dietary information



Bedroom in Villa Reale, Marlia

ACCOMMODATION IN LUCCA - JUNE 2020

Please book your accommodation inside the historic walls of Lucca!

The dance run-through on Friday evening will be held in **Palazzo Tucci** in costume.

This historical residence was built in 1797 in the neo-classical style. Marquis Tucci still lives here with his family and the “piano nobile” is a B&B. This superb palace has been recently meticulously restored to its former glory. If you would like to stay here, please write me an email at margaritafm@yahoo.com.au. I have booked the entire Palazzo, with discounted prices, from Friday afternoon till Monday morning. The rooms are air-conditioned and you can park your car on-site which is a rare luxury in Lucca.

Their website is: www.palazzotucci.com

There are many excellent, reasonably-priced **apartments** available in the city centre of Lucca (inside the walls), to be found either on www.booking.com or www.airbnb.com

Some good hotel options in Lucca are:

PALAZZO ROCCHI: <http://www.palazzorocchi.it/index.php>

well-priced luxury double rooms, suites and apartments next to San Michele.

PALAZZO ALEXANDER: www.hotelpalazzoalexander.it

4 star hotel very near Palazzo Mansi. Rooms are traditional and elegant though not as big as some other hotels.

HOTEL ILARIA & RESIDENZA DELL'ALBA: www.hotelilaria.com

conference-style hotel with soundproofed identical modern rooms. The residence has enormous suites with every luxury.

DIMORA DEI GUELF: www.dimoradeiguelphi.com

2 double bedrooms (classic) and 4 possible triple bedrooms (superior) in a new well-kept B&B.

Special reductions to prices for a group that books all 6 rooms for 3 nights

ALLA DIMORA LUCENSE: www.dimoralucense.it

Traditional decor, classic, basic rooms but solid. Parking available. Internal courtyard with open air bar.

On the second floor, but with a lift.

L'ANTICA BIFORE: www.anticabifore.com

Medieval tower with 4 large medieval styled rooms all leading off a central large room with a long wooden refectory table. Coffee/tea and microwave facilities off to one side. No lift but large staircase. On the first floor.

ANTICA RESIDENZA DEL GALLO: www.anticaresidenzadelgallo.it

Apartments, some with bed and basic kitchen in one room and the “La Boheme” apartment is fully equipped (sleeps 6). Restored with modern colours (!) but clean, basic and comfortable. Discounted prices for a group

ALLE CORTE DEGLI ANGELI: www.allacortedegliangeli.it

Brightly coloured B&B with comfortable rooms in Medieval Building in the heart of the shopping area.



LUCCA - THE CITY

The centre of Lucca has remained almost unchanged since the Renaissance.

Like Siena, its city walls are still intact, dating back to Roman times.

Originally it was an Etruscan settlement.

It is 20 kilometres from Pisa Airport and is easily accessible by bus and train from Pisa and Florence.

It has 80,000 inhabitants and continues to trade in cloth as it has for centuries.

HOW TO GET TO LUCCA

The nearest airport is Pisa, 20 kms from Lucca. The low cost airlines flying in and out of Pisa airport are Ryan Air and Easy Jet. The airport is linked to Lucca by train. There is a new “People Mover” shuttle train from the airport to Pisa Centrale train station. Buy the 2,70 euro ticket from the machines at the shuttle station (tickets bought in the airport building cost 2 euro more). The trip takes approximately 8 minutes with one intermediary stop. Then there is a ramp and then a lift to access the main station building (Platform 1). Here you can buy your regional train ticket to Lucca from one of the automatic ticket machines. The trip takes around 30 minutes.

Remember to validate your Lucca ticket in one of the green and grey boxes in the Pisa Centrale station. There are lifts to all platforms both in Pisa Centrale and in the Lucca station.

The train website is: www.trenitalia.com

The train company *Italo* doesn't operate regional trains, but is an excellent alternative to Trenitalia for longer routes.

Pisa (city) is also linked to Lucca by Vaibus buses.

Walking access (with no steps) to the historic centre of Lucca is through the San Pietro Gate, 2 minutes walk from the station (go to your left along the main road in front of the station garden).

Another possibility is to fly into Florence airport or one of Rome's two airports (Fiumicino and Ciampino). Lucca is well connected to Florence by train and by the Vaibus buses. The main train station in Florence is Firenze Santa Maria Novella. The trip from Florence to Lucca takes around 80 minutes and tickets can be purchased at the automatic machines or at the station's ticket sellers.

Once again, remember to validate your regional ticket in one of the green and grey boxes in the Firenze SMN station. Regional train tickets are now valid only on the date specified on the ticket and must be validated before you board the train.

CARS IN THE HISTORIC CENTRE OF LUCCA

Cars are not permitted inside the walls of Lucca without permission. If you have a car, ask the apartment owner or hotel staff to explain how to arrive with your luggage and where to eventually park.

You must follow their instructions exactly.

For those who decide to stay in Palazzo Tucci, there is a car park next to the Palace. The car space is free. The staff will explain which city gate to enter by and how to get to the Palazzo.

Information regarding the Dress Code for each event

Friday afternoon's visit to the Prefecture can be in 1805 - 1820 day dress or evening dress suitable for the dance rehearsals to be held afterwards in Palazzo Tucci. Palazzo Tucci is air-conditioned, but I suggest jacket's off for the gentlemen (waistcoats on) and light summer evening wear for the ladies. The dress-code period is from 1805 (when Elisa Bonaparte arrived in Lucca) until 1820, but clothes from 1796 - 1805 may be worn. Please note: no heels, no spurs, no boots.

Saturday morning's visits are in day wear from 1805 till 1820. Ladies in bonnets and no Battenburg lace umbrellas, please. Men in jackets or long summer coats.

Saturday evening's GRAND EGYPTIAN BALL in Lucca's Palazzo Ducale is dedicated to Napoleon's Egyptian campaign (1798 - 1801) and Horatio Nelson's Battle of the Nile (August 1798). During Elisa's reign as Princess of Lucca she held numerous themed Grand Balls and one is known to have had Egypt as its theme. The love of Orientalism was steadily spreading throughout Europe at the time. The dress code is either Napoleonic Ball dress or ancient Egyptian dress or a mix of the two.

Sunday 7th June finds us in Villa Reale and its Park in Marlia, north of Lucca. Guests will need Day Wear from the years 1797 - 1820. Ladies in bonnets and men in jackets. Again, no Battenburg lace umbrellas. Please bring a bag with your swimming costume, Turkish Ottoman costume with turban scarf, accessories etc, and a plastic bag for your wet swimmers. The bag will stay in a large room next to Villa Reale during the day. This room will be open but supervised at all times during the day. Bags can be picked up just before 6pm when we will catch the buses back to Lucca and on to the Bagni di Pisa.

On Sunday evening we will travel from Marlia back to Lucca where the buses can drop people off and pick others up. When the buses arrive at San Giuliano Terme everyone will be given a locker in the Male and Female change rooms. Here you can change into your Turkish Ottoman attire for the evening.

Modern swimming costumes are required under your costume in either nude colour or black for both men and woman. Hair must be covered whilst swimming and we have permission for both men and women to wear turbans rather than modern bathing caps. The various baths (inside and outside) will be decorated in Ottoman style and there will be various types of entertainment throughout the evening including dancers and musicians. Dinner will be served at 8pm in the central Spa reception area and drinks will be available all evening from there. This event is exclusive and we have permission to also use the grotto (a small natural cave with a hot bath discovered 20 years ago during renovations and similar to Paolina's grotto in Bagni di Lucca's Hotel delle Terme). We will also have access to the saunas, Turkish bath and thermal pools with hydromassage jets. Slippers will be provided but you may like to bring Turkish slippers with you or even chopines if you can find any. A towel will be provided. I suggest you bring an open Turkish caftan to wear whilst walk around the building from pool to pool.

