



Jacob Philipp Hackert, 1803
Serraglio Bridge over the River Lima

Grand Historic Events presents

SUMMER DELIGHTS IN BAGNI DI LUCCA

Celebrating this famous resort and royal summer residence.

The Bonaparte family, poets Byron and the Shelley's and medicinal thermal baths.

6 - 8 June, 2025

All events in 1797 - 1839 outfits (see page 10)

Programme of Events

Friday 6th June 2025, 5pm to 11.30pm

Lord Byron Evening - Choreography Rehearsals & a Rustic Dinner with his Poetry

Saturday 7th June 2025, 9.30am to 3pm

Visit Shelley's house, the Bonaparte residences, Villa Gamba & a Tuscan lunch

SATURDAY 7th June, 3pm - 6pm

BATHE in the warm medicinal Spa Waters in the Bernabò Baths and Bagno alla Villa

SATURDAY 7th June, 8pm - 1am

THE ROYAL CASINO of BAGNI DI LUCCA

THE POET'S BALL

Dance Master: Maestro Donald Francis, Croupier: Virgilio Contrucci, Orchestra: Valentino Alfredo Zangara,

Sunday 8th June 2025, 10am to 4pm

Visit to Villa Reale, Marlia, and its Park, Picnic Lunch and Visit to the Devil's Bridge

Sunday 8th June, 2025, 7pm to 2am

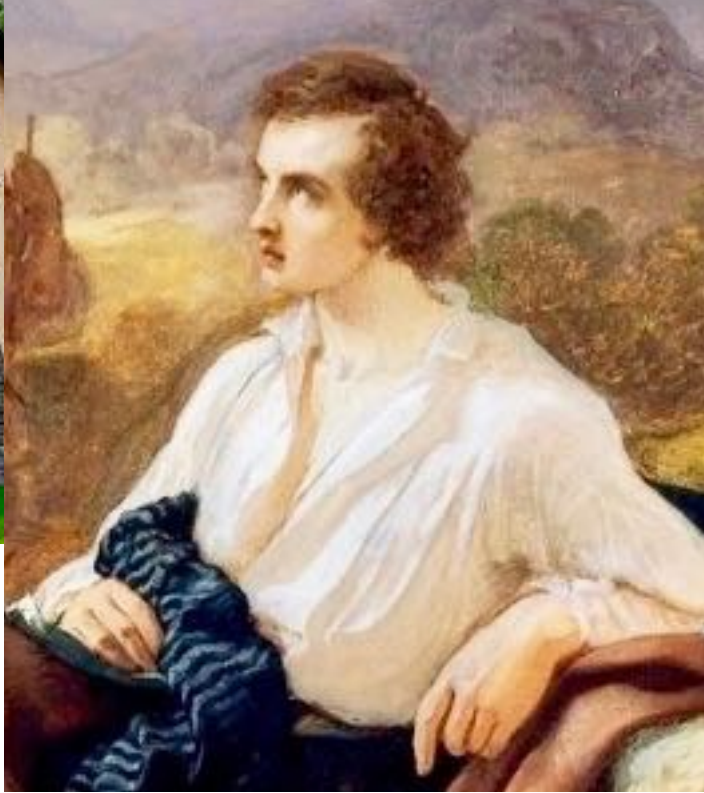
THE ROYAL CASINO of BAGNI DI LUCCA

SOIRÉE DANZANTE to celebrate the opening of the Royal Casino in 1839

A Concert followed by a Grand 1839 Ball, Buffet Froid and Gambling

Dance Master: Maestro Donald Francis, Croupier: Virgilio Contrucci, Orchestra: Valentino Alfredo Zangara,

Information: margaritafm@yahoo.com.au telephone: **+39 340 853 4505**



Friday 7th June, 2025
5pm - 11.30pm
Villa Webb, Bagni di Lucca

LORD BYRON EVENING
2 REHEARSALS of the REGENCY BALL CHOREOGRAPHY
RUSTIC DINNER ON THE BURLAMACCHI'S GARDEN TERRACE

In 1822 the celebrated English poet Byron stayed in Villa Webb in Bagni di Lucca. We will have an evening of dancing and good food in this rustic setting. Dance Master Donald Francis will lead you in a choreography run-through on the ground floor of the Villa. The first rehearsal will be from 5pm to 6.30pm and the second from 7pm till 8.30pm. The evening will have a rustic theme, with men in shirts and ladies in light country-style dresses.

Email me with the class you would prefer. margaritafm@yahoo.com.au

During the evening, on the first floor of the Villa, you can play a choice of table games of the period, lovingly reproduced by Virgilio Contrucci. A seated buffet rustic Tuscan dinner will be served on the garden terrace of the Burlamacchi Villas with a twilight view of the surrounding mountains.

Impromptu poetry readings of Byron's work will stir the heart.

DRESS CODE: 1797 - 1822 rustic wear. Gentlemen: no jackets and no waistcoats. Period shirts!





Saturday 7th June 2025
9.30am - 3pm

WALKING TOUR OF HISTORICAL BAGNI DI LUCCA

Starting at Villa Webb, we will visit inside the next door Villa Chiappa where Percy and Mary Shelley stayed over the happy summer of 1818. Mary had just published “Frankenstein” and the excellent reviews were arriving from England. We will see inside the house where Letizia Bonaparte resided with Pauline. Strolling along the river we will visit Villa Gamba where Byron’s lover Teresa Guiccioli Gamba lived. The house is still owned by her heir. Byron’s gun is on view. The Lima river runs along the bottom of their park.

We will have lunch at the Circolo dei Forestieri.

When you first arrive at Villa Webb at 9.30am, please bring your afternoon bathing clothes with you. The bag (with your name) should contain your Regency Bathing clothes (see page 10), a towel, an optional towelling bath robe and slippers. You will pick up the bag after lunch.

DRESS CODE: Day wear from 1797 - 1822





Photo by Coltrane Koh

Saturday 7th June 2025, 3pm - 6pm
Bernabò Baths and Bagno alla Villa

BATHE IN THE MEDICINAL SPA BATHS

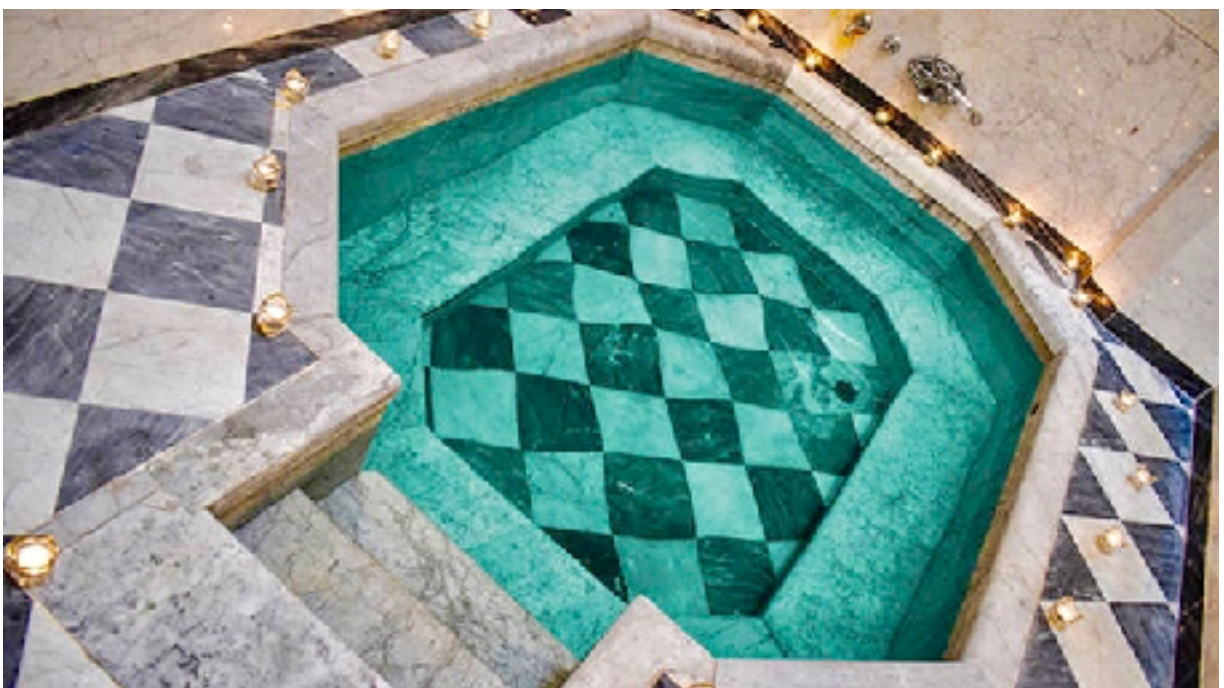
The hills around Bagni di Lucca have been famous for their thermal baths since the middle ages. When you arrive at Villa Webb in the morning, you can leave a bag with your Regency Bathing clothes (see page 10), a towel and towelling bath robe (optional) and slippers. After lunch we will split up and visit these bathing establishments during the afternoon. The two establishments you can choose from are the Bernabò Baths on the road above the Casino, and the Bagno alla Villa Baths right next to Villa Webb.

As soon as lunch is over those who have chosen to bathe in the Bagni Bernabò will be ferried there. Their bathing bags will be already at the baths.

The group who have chosen Bagno alla Villa will walk back up to Villa Webb.

The ticket is for an immersion bath in the thermal water for about 30 minutes. There are individual baths and larger group baths. There are limited places also available at the Bernabò Baths for those who would like a massage or to sit in the steam grotto (at an extra cost - let me know). The timing of the bathing will be organised closer to the date. When you finish your bath the minibuses will drive you back to your accommodation.

DRESS CODE: Regency Bathing Clothes (see page 10)





Saturday, 7th June, 2025
8pm to 1am

Royal Casino, Via Casinò Municipale, 66
THE POET'S BALL

Dance Master: Maestro Donald Francis
Orchestra Leader: Valentino Alfredo Zangara
Croupier: Virgilio Contrucci

The evening begins with drinks and amuses bouches on arrival at 8pm. A Buffet Froid will be served from 8.30pm to 10.30pm. The dancing begins around 9pm and finishes at midnight. Beware of the gambling tables.

The game of roulette was invented here in Bagni di Lucca. Prepare to lose your shirt.

The minibus pick-ups begin at 7.30pm. Pickup points will be confirmed closer to the date.

From midnight to 1am there will be minibuses to take you back, unless you decide to stroll home.

DRESS CODE: 1797-1822 Ball dress





Sunday 8th June, 2025 10am - 4pm
Villa Reale di Maria, Via Fraga Alta, 2

A VISIT TO THE SUMMER RESIDENCE OF ELISA BONAPARTE BACIOCCHI VILLA REALE AND ITS PARK, A PICNIC LUNCH and THE DEVIL'S BRIDGE

Elisa, Napoleon's sister spent her summers at Villa Reale from 1805 to 1813. This breathtaking Villa and its extensive park have recently been exquisitely restored. It's now possible to take photos and videos inside the Villa. We will have a picnic lunch and then visit the Devil's Bridge on the way back to Bagni di Lucca.

The buses will pick us up at 10am from appointed pickup points (decided closer to the time).

When we have finished lunch the buses will drive us back via the Devil's Bridge.

DRESS CODE: Day clothes 1797 - 1818





Sunday 8th June, 2025 7pm - 2am
ROYAL CASINO, Via Casinò Municipale, 66

SOIRÉE DANZANTE to celebrate the opening of the Royal Casino in 1839
A Concert followed by a GRAND 1839 BALL, Buffet Froid and Gambling

Dance Master: Maestro Donald Francis, Orchestra: Valentino Alfredo Zangara, Croupier: Virgilio Contrucci

In 1836 work began on building the world's first independent Casinò in Bagni di Lucca. The opening took place in August 1839 with a concert in front of an illustrious audience. We will celebrate the opening with a Soirée Danzante in 1839 clothes. A concert of Romantic music from this period will be followed by a buffet froid and a 1839 Grand Ball. The orchestra, playing newly orchestrated music, will accompany the quadrilles, contredances, waltzes and galops under the baton of Valentino Alfredo Zangara and led by our Dancing Master, Donald Francis. Roulette was invented here and you will have the chance to play with Croupier Virgilio Contrucci. The minibus pickups will begin at 6.30pm and they will then take you home from midnight to 2am.

DRESS CODE: 1839 Evening and Ball Dress

