

GIARDINO

ASCONA

Press dossier

Charming perfection

7 things you should know about Giardino Ascona.
And which set it apart from other hotels.

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Part of Giardino Hotel Group

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Those who travel to Giardino Ascona have chosen pleasure. The Tuscan-style villas are enveloped by a Mediterranean garden full with lemon trees, cypresses, and olive trees. The terrace overlooks a pond where water lilies bloom, and koi fish gracefully swim their laps. The occasional sound of a successful “plop” of a golf shot resonates from the nearby Patriziale Ascona golf course, adding to the tranquil ambience. At Giardino Ascona, the emphasis is on pure contentedness. Guests can unwind with a pampering spa treatment or wander into the scenic surroundings on a leisurely hiking or biking quest.

An array of bicycles is at our guests’ disposal, provided free of charge. Culinary enthusiasts have a choice of two distinctive restaurants – the locally and seasonally inspired Hide & Seek, and multi-award-winning gourmet restaurant, Ecco Ascona, overseen by the renowned chef Rolf Fliegau. The best restaurant in Ticino, awarded two Michelin stars and 18 Gault Millau points. Giardino Ascona looks back on a colorful and varied history, just like Ascona itself. The 5-star hotel is one of the best hotels in Switzerland with a total of 53 rooms and 18 suites.

Seven reasons to visit the Giardino Ascona:





The garden

Intoxicating fragrances

A stay at Giardino Ascona promises a reminiscent experience of the warm atmosphere of Tuscany. The hotel's villas are surrounded by a Mediterranean garden, providing a fragrant backdrop with lemon trees, cypresses, and olive trees. Eucalyptus trees offer shade, while gorse bushes glow intensely yellow. Koi fish swimming in the pond eagerly await feeding, and a 150-year-old olive tree takes center stage in the garden. Indigenous herbs like rosemary, thyme, sage, and oregano thrive splendidly. In Giardino Ascona's garden, cherries, plums, pears, and apples flourish, imparting their unique flavor to the hotel's culinary creations. A delicacy of the hotel is homemade jams crafted according to a secret recipe.



The kitchen

Nourish your joy!

Food aficionados at Giardino Ascona have the privilege of choosing between two exceptional restaurants – Hide & Seek, where the cuisine is locally and seasonally inspired, and the award-winning gourmet restaurant Ecco Ascona, led by the acclaimed chef Rolf Fliegau. It stands as the finest dining establishment in Ticino, boasting two Michelin stars and an impressive 18 Gault Millau points. The culinary artistry at Giardino Ascona is in a constant state of evolution, yet it consistently maintains its regional roots. It is distinguished by innovation and progressive approaches, ensuring a culinary experience that is both cutting-edge and deeply rooted in local tradition.

Restaurant Hide & Seek

The name Hide & Seek conceals the hotel's second restaurant concept. This dining establishment draws inspiration from local and seasonal cuisine, presenting products from the region and nearby surroundings in a contemporary manner. The culinary narrative emerges from a modern kitchen, featuring dishes that are light, aromatic, at times simple, and at times playful. Whether it's breakfast or a romantic dinner for two, this is not a place for seeking; it's a place for discovery.

Restaurant Ecco

In the gourmet restaurant Ecco Ascona, Rolf Fliegauf showcases his culinary boldness. His affinity for the kitchen traces back to his childhood, where he preferred spending time in his family's restaurant. Today, he stands as one of Switzerland's most decorated chefs. The "Guide Michelin" has awarded him two stars multiple times, and Gault-Millau has bestowed 18 points upon both Ecco Ascona and Ecco St. Moritz in Giardino Mountain (Champfèr-St. Moritz), which he monitors during the winter months. Fliegauf's culinary creations are renowned beyond the borders of Ascona, making a reservation highly recommended.

He views a menu like an opera, emphasizing the importance of the perfect composition. Restaurant critics describe Rolf Fliegauf's dishes as a taste of symphonies. His cuisine is a delightful surprise, characterized by its light and creative approach: classic fundamentals, a play of acidity and spiciness, diverse textures, and temperatures. Fliegauf himself refers to it as a "purist aromatic cuisine". What does that mean? "Aromatic cuisine means that each ingredient retains its original flavor", he explains. "By combining the components, I bring out all the notes perfectly".



Ayurveda by Giardino

The science of life

The Giardino Ascona hotel embraces the spiritual tradition of Ticino, offering rebirth, balance, and healthy nutrition through "Ayurveda by Giardino", developed by Daniela Frutiger and a team of Ayurveda specialists. Following a thorough assessment, guests receive personalized treatments from our Ayurveda therapists and indulge in Ayurvedic Tri-Dosha menus served morning, noon, and night. What sets this experience apart is that the culinary team at the Hide & Seek restaurant incorporates local herbs and spices into Ayurvedic dishes to ensure compatibility for guests with European backgrounds. In addition to Ayurvedic nutrition, meditation and yoga play crucial roles, as yoga serves as the physiotherapy of Ayurveda. The Mediterranean climate in the sun-kissed Ticino region enhances this experience further.



dipiù spa

For more power!

Daniela Frutiger, the owner of the Giardino Group, underscores the significance of nature and her holistic approach. Drawing on her background as a trained pharmaceutical assistant and therapist in beauty and wellness, she has developed a sustainable spa concept for the Giardino Hotels. The in-house brand “dipiù”, named after the Italian word for “more”, plays a central role. Collaborating with scientists from Ticino, she has crafted a premium skincare line distinguished by its delicate textures, exquisite fragrances, and natural ingredients. All dipiù products are free from paraffins and silicones, featuring valuable essences from Merlot grapes, herbs, and fruits. The range includes various oils and creams, also used in spa treatments. The dipiù Spa at Giardino Ascona offers both indoor and outdoor pools, saunas, a steam bath, and relaxation areas. A fitness room with TechnoGym equipment and an Aveda hair salon complement the offerings. The spacious treatment rooms provide views of the dreamy garden. All dipiù products are available in both Giardino Hotels and the dipiù online shop.



Golf

From your bed to the green

The neighbouring Patriziale golf course, constructed in 1928 by Max Emden from Hamburg and later gifted to the town of Ascona, forms a direct extension to the hotel. In 2017, Giardino Ascona was the first golf resort in Ticino, offering exclusive access to the historic 18-hole golf club. Some rooms provide captivating views of the golf course, creating an ideal setting for morning coffee on the balcony. The hotel specializes in providing a unique golfing experience and introduces the distinctive Golf-Body-Balance program, "Golf-Check-Up", developed in collaboration with physiotherapist Cornelia Albrecht. This program allows guests to gain a more precise understanding of their body rotation, stability, and coordination during the game through a 60-minute check-up. The Ayurveda specialists and therapists at Giardino Ascona are dedicated to addressing the specific needs of golfers, especially those related to movement discomfort.



The Team

Welcome Home

We all seek the perfect experience: the perfect hotel, the perfect place, or the perfect moment. But what defines perfection for our guests? At Giardino Ascona, we firmly believe that we are dedicated hosts with unique personalities who appreciate and embody a sense of ease. Therefore, we consistently strive to provide attentive service, ensuring that our guests feel at home and eagerly return. This philosophy is encapsulated in our slogan "Welcome Home".



The location

Where Switzerland smiles

The Ticino, often referred to as the Mediterranean soul of Switzerland, is a true source of rejuvenation.

This region is characterized by an exceptionally mild climate, marked by a brief yet warm three-month winter and a delightful summer that spans a generous nine months. With over 2,300 hours of sunshine annually, the canton of Ticino unfolds towards the south, presenting a quaint landscape that could almost be considered picture-postcard: a turquoise lake, snow-capped mountains, and a multitude of vibrant flowers.

As early as February, Ticino delights with blooming jasmine, and mimosas and oleanders are more abundant here than elsewhere. The camellia has become a symbol of the charm of this unique region. In the Camellia Park in Locarno visitors can admire an impressive collection of 850 varieties of this Japanese rose. Equally distinctive is the botanical garden on the Brissago Islands, a subtropical paradise featuring 1,600 rare plant species from around the world. These islands lie idyllically in Lake Maggiore and are easily accessible by boat.

Luxurious nonchalance

About the Giardino Group

The Giardino Group comprises of three properties in Switzerland, which include the 5-star-superior-hotels the Giardino Ascona, the Giardino Mountain near St. Moritz, as well as the boutique hotel Giardino Lago at Minusio near Locarno.

More information

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