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Top 10 Garda Hiking Trails

The finest walks, chosen by locals

The definitive Lake Garda guide — with AI Trip Designer at instagarda.net

From Europe's most famous cliff-carved path to strolls among lemon terraces: ten routes tested and chosen for their views, variety and authenticity. Each entry lists distance, elevation gain, duration and difficulty. Interactive maps and GPX tracks for every route at instagarda.net.

Top 10

1 Ponale Trail

5.2 km · +290 m · 2:00 h · Easy · Riva del Garda

A former military road carved into the cliff face high above the lake: Garda's most iconic trail. Start at Riva's harbour, finish towards Lake Ledro with a mountain-hut stop.

Local tip: Start before 9 am: later it becomes a highway of bikes and hikers.

2 Punta Larici from Pregasina

5 km · +350 m · 2:00 h · Moderate · Riva del Garda

The most spectacular viewpoint on the entire lake: a natural balcony at 900 metres, overhanging the water with views of Limone, Malcesine and Monte Baldo.

3 Busatte-Tempesta

4 km · +200 m · 1:30 h · Easy · Torbole

400 iron steps bolted to the rock high above the lake. Easy yet spectacular, the most photographed panoramic route of northern Garda.

Local tip: A shuttle bus takes you back from Tempesta.

4 Monte Baldo ridge walk

8.5 km · +480 m · 3:30 h · Moderate · Malcesine

Cable car to 1,760 m, then a ridge traverse through flower meadows with the lake on one side and the Dolomites on the other. Descend on foot or by cable car.

5 Rocca di Manerba

3.5 km · +120 m · 1:15 h · Easy · Manerba del Garda

A loop on the peninsula with castle ruins and 360-degree views over the southern lake. Archaeological park and wild beaches below.

Local tip: Combine it with a swim at Romantica beach.

6 Lemon Trail

2.8 km · +80 m · 1:00 h · Easy · Limone sul Garda

A walk among the ancient terraced lemon houses that gave the town its name, with views across to the opposite shore.

7

Punta San Vigilio

4 km · +50 m · 1:30 h · Easy · Garda

Olive groves and cypresses leading to the lake's most romantic headland: hidden bay, 16th-century villa and historic inn. Flat, for everyone.

Local tip: Baia delle Sirene charges entry in summer but is worth every euro.

8

Ventrar Trail

7 km · +420 m · 3:00 h · Moderate · Malcesine

Monte Baldo's western flank alternating open stretches and woodland, with the lake 1,500 metres below. Thrilling without being technical.

9

Monte Brione

5.5 km · +200 m · 2:00 h · Easy · Riva del Garda

The loop over the fortress hill between Riva and Torbole: Habsburg fortifications, wild orchids and twin views over both harbours.

10

San Giorgio Hermitage

3.2 km · +180 m · 1:15 h · Easy · Bardolino

A short climb among cypresses to the Benedictine hermitage, overlooking Bardolino's vineyards and the blue expanse of the lake.

Local tip: Pair it with a winery tasting on the way back.

Your journey starts here

At instagarda.net you'll find 80+ routes with interactive maps and GPX files, 27 destinations, beaches, events and the AI Trip Designer that builds your personalised day-by-day itinerary in seconds. Free.

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