

Visiting Colico with children

Beaches

There are three main beaches that are very good for kids.

Spiaggia di Piona Beach at 15 minutes walking distance from Villa Tre Cariole.

It overlooks the bay of Piona, has a small marina and is bordered by a tree-lined avenue that offers shade in some hours of the day. There is a kiosk, which also offers bar and restaurant service with the possibility of renting canoes, and pedalo'.

Spiaggia Lido di Colico offers the possibility to dine or have lunch by the lake. Possibility to rent deck chairs for the beach. The structure offers parking for customers and there are also some municipal parking nearby.

Spiaggia Ontano has a restaurant and a kiosk where you can rent sunbeds, deck chairs and canoeing. Here you will have the possibility to practice water sports such as kite surfing and windsurfing.

Adjacent to the beach there are many municipal parking lots and an equipped motorhome area.

Biking

Villa Tre Cariole sits on a hill, so cycling into town with children can be demanding due to the slope and lack of a dedicated bike lane. For a pleasant family ride, we suggest driving down with your bikes and parking at Spiaggia di Piona. There are few free parking spaces in Via Logiasc, about 300 meters from the beach, or a paid parking area much closer run by the nearby kiosk/chiosco. Otherwise there are more free parking spaces in Via Lido by the Spiaggia Lido Colico.

There is a cycle paths starting from Baia di Piona to Piazza Garibaldi (downtown Colico) and continuing to the Sentiero Valtellina along the Adda

river. The flat lakefront cycle path is perfect for family bike rides, offering beautiful views over Lake Como, and through the Piano di Spagna nature reserve, a peaceful wetland area ideal for spotting birds and butterflies, a great option for families who enjoy nature.

Quel Raglio del Lago di Como

An association dedicated to promoting the welfare of donkeys. They offer pet therapy, various activities with donkeys for children and people with disabilities, donkey trekking excursions, and educational programs.

Website: <https://quelragliodellagodicomo.it/>

From August 1 to 31 - 2026, the whole herd of donkeys moves to the picturesque village of Vignago, in the mountains above Dervio — just a 10-minute drive from Colico.

Located in Via dei Ciacc, 3 - Colico

Agriturismo La Florida

Guided Farm Tour of La Florida farm, where you will discover the cheese dairy and how milk is processed, the greenhouses, crops, vegetable gardens, pig and goat breeding, and the large stable with our cows. All children will have the chance to try milking our super-friendly goat!

Duration: Approximately 1.5 hours

For reservations: <https://www.lafiorida.com/it/esperienze-in-fattoria/>

Colico Tourist Train

A comfortable and fun way to discover the area, admire the landscape, and reach some of the most beautiful spots in our town.

Departing from Piazza Garibaldi, the little train runs daily (from July 1 to August 31) through the town center and along the lakeside, offering a pleasant experience for families, children, and tourists of all ages.

Information: 0341 930930

<https://visitcolico.it/eventi/torna-il-trenino-turistico/>

NinjaSplash Dervio

Ninja Splash is a fun aquatic obstacle park on Lake Como in Dervio, offering two courses: a challenging floating Ninja Course with 22 obstacles and a giant inflatable area perfect for adults and children age 6 and up.

Open daily from June 13 to September 8, 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM.

It gets very busy in July and August, so we recommend arriving early in the morning or late afternoon.

Via Santa Cecilia, 23824 Dervio, LC, Italia

Tel: 3791701369

<https://www.ninjasplash.it/>

Lake Como Adventure Park

(about 45 minutes drive from Colico)

An adventure park offering multiple ropes courses with different difficulty levels — including a dedicated section for young children — featuring zip Age-appropriate courses start from 3–4 years old (with adult accompaniment for the youngest).

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

Orrido di Bellano

It is a natural canyon created 1.5 million years ago by the erosion of the Pioverna stream and the Adda Glacier, which, over the centuries, have shaped the rock into gigantic potholes, dark recesses, and evocative caves.

The narrow canyon can be visited thanks to a system of walkways anchored to the high vertical walls overlooking the water. The path is very simple and suitable for everyone.

Please note that there are stairs and narrow passages. For this reason, access with strollers and wheelchairs is not permitted.

Piazza S. Giorgio, 23822 Bellano

Tel. +39 0341 1812535

<https://www.discoveringbellano.eu/it/orrido-di-bellano/>

Abbazia Cistercense di Santa Maria di Piona

The Cistercian Monks of Piona, in accordance with the Benedictine precept “Ora et Labora” (Pray and Work), provide for their own needs, for the parish of Olgiasca, and for their missions (in Africa and Brazil) through the work of their own hands.

Beautiful and peaceful place. You can visit the Abbazia, the chiosco, the garden and the store with many products made by the monks.

Among their products are the renowned liqueurs, made from aromatic herbs according to recipes passed down by the first monks, and various herbal teas.

Via Abbazia di Piona 55 - Colico

<https://www.cistercensi.info/piona/orari.htm>

Acquafraggia Waterfalls

A nice waterfalls located in the Valchiavenna area, one of the most impressive and easily accessible waterfalls near Lake Como. There's a short, moderately easy walking path with viewing platforms.

Distance from Colico: Approximately 30-40 minutes by car.

Nice place for a family trip, picnic and play by the river (best to visit during weekdays).

You can combine with a visit of **Chiavenna**, a charming historic town. It's a pleasant town to stroll around, shop for local products, and enjoy an authentic atmosphere away from the crowded lakefront tourist spots. We recommend a dinner in Chiavenna, there are many “Crotto” with good traditional food.

Corenno Plinio

A small medieval village for a nice walk on streets carved in the rock and with picturesque views. A recommendation: no strollers. It's better to bring baby carriers.

10 minutes by car from Villa Tre Cariole.

It can be combined with a visit to Dervio and a the new playground located on the lakeside promenade with beautiful views of the lake and mountains. Perfect for kids to play for hours while parents relax and enjoy the scenery.

Belvedere Parco Valentino ai Piani Resinelli

This is a beautiful place that can be easily reached by car from Villa Tre Cariole in about an hour. From the parking lot to the belvedere, there is an easy walk suitable for families with small children. It is mostly a wide shady and dirt path. Not suitable for regular baby strollers due to the uneven gravel surface, best with a trekking stroller. Elevation gain is about 170m, taking roughly 15 minutes one way.

The town has a few good restaurants, we really like "La tana del nibbio". Best if visited weekdays, it can be crowded during weekends.

<https://www.trekkinglecco.com/belvedere-parco-valentino-passerella-piani-resinelli/>

A new **Adventure Park** has opened at Piani Resinelli (near Parco Valentino trail) with age-appropriate courses: safe routes for young children (from 3+), exciting ones for kids/pre-teens, and more advanced courses (up to 15m) for teens and adults. All supervised by qualified instructors.

<https://www.jungleraiderpark.com>

Family friendly trekking

This is a selection of moderately easy mountain trails near Colico that are suitable for families with young children.

Although classified as “easy,” these are still proper mountain trails featuring tree roots, narrow sections, and occasional small rocks.

Good hiking shoes are strongly recommended.

<https://www.caicolico.it/sentieri>

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Torre di Fontanedo

This pleasant and easy trail with a stunning view of the Lake and Colico.

The hike (path CAI #6) starts from Robustello (near Colico), at an altitude of about 452m. The route takes you through chestnut woods and along old mule tracks, leading to the charming historic hamlet of Fontanedo.

Highlights include the ruins of the ancient Torre di Fontanedo (watchtower) and the small, picturesque Church of Sant'Elena, which offers lovely views.

The trail then descends back to the starting point via a shaded road, passing a picnic area.

It's an easy-to-moderate circular walk, ideal for those who enjoy history, nature, and peaceful mountain scenery.

Montecchio Sud

You can start path CAI #4 from the Bay of Piona and continuing on the path on the right after the harbor. The path goes from a woody area, you can reach a nice little beach and then continue to the summit of Montecchio sud, from which you have a wide and unusual panoramic view of Colico, with clear sights of Montecchio Nord, the more distant Forte di Fuentes, and the strategic entrance to Valtellina and Valchiavenna. At the end of the woody path, if you turn to the left you can continue to Piazza Garibaldi (downtown Colico), if turn to the right you return to the bay via Via dei Ciach.

Abbazia di Piona – Hiking Route from Olgiasca

The walk to Piona Abbey starts in the village of Olgiasca (5 minutes drive from Villa Tre Cariole). After parking near the parish church, follow the CAI trail markers (path CAI #7) through the charming narrow streets and alleys of the old village.

The path soon emerges onto a scenic natural balcony with beautiful views over Lake Como and Gravedona. After visiting the beautiful and peaceful Cistercian abbey, you can return to Olgiasca via a different route (path CAI 7A) along a pretty cobblestone road.

The hike is relatively easy, offers lovely lake and mountain views Visiting Colico with small children

Sentiero Cascata Del Cenghen

A moderately easy excursion of about an hour from Abbazia Lariana (20 minutes by car from Colico) to a nice waterfall.

This is an easy, hike through woods and meadows. It is a mountain trail that may have roots and rocks.

It takes about 1 hour with 340m of elevation gain. Suitable for all seasons, especially recommended in summer for cooler temperatures. Good hiking shoes are advised, particularly after rain.

<https://www.trekkinglecco.com/cascata-cenghen-sentiero-abbazia/>