

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910797540403321
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Titolo	The grand spas of Central Europe : a history of intrigue, politics, art, and healing // David Clay Large
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Lanham, Maryland : , : Rowman & Littlefield, , 2015 ©2015
ISBN	1-4422-2237-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (477 p.)
Disciplina	613/.122094
Soggetti	Health resorts - Europe, Central - History Europe, Central Social life and customs Europe, Central Politics and government
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Introduction; CHAPTER ONE. Spas and Spa Culture from the Greco-Roman World to the Grand Tour; CHAPTER TWO. Baden-Baden: The "Summer Capital of Europe"; CHAPTER THREE. Muses in the Waters; CHAPTER FOUR. Roulettenburg: Russian Writers at the Grand German Spas; CHAPTER FIVE. Politics on the Promenade; CHAPTER SIX. Modernization and Its Discontents; CHAPTER SEVEN. Trouble in Paradise: Spa-Town Life from World War I to the Triumph of Hitler; CHAPTER EIGHT. Brown Waters Grand Spas under the Third Reich; CHAPTER NINE. A New Beginning; EPILOGUE. The Grand Spas Today; Acknowledgments Principal Sources and Suggestions for Further Reading Index; About the Author
Sommario/riassunto	In this irresistible tour through the grand spas of Central Europe, noted historian David Clay Large traces their history from classical antiquity to the present. He vividly shows that they were not only centers of healing but hotbeds of artistic creation, nests of social intrigue, and gilded venues for high-level politicking.