











EUROPEAN AGRICULTURAL FUND FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT: EUROPEAN INVESTMENT IN RURAL AREAS

Between Venice and the Dolomites

The delights of the Northern March of Trevigo





Paesaggio del Prosecco Superiore

Monte Grappa



MAB UNESCO

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Printed by

Tipografia SILE srl Carbonera (TV)

Cover photo:

simephoto.com / Archivio s'PAUL n'CO. Design e UNPLI Treviso

First edition: April 2021

Changes that were made at a later date cannot be covered in the information provided

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THE LOCAL ACTION GROUP

The Alta Marca Trevigiana Local Action Group (LAG) is a consortium in the form of a limited liability company. It was founded on 18 February 2008 by the Province of Treviso and the Chamber of Commerce of Treviso to represent approximately 50 public bodies and private organizations, which are now the members of the group. Its main goal is to promote rural development through engagement of local public and private players, as well as members of the public.

MISSION

The core concept behind the LAG's Local Development Programmes (LDPs) in the last ten years has always been to champion the local area and products and establish a network between exceptional local players in order to back sustainable rural tourism. Behind all efforts on this front lie promotion of the primary sector (i.e. agriculture and all associated activities), production and sales of superior food and wine, agritourism, local events and tasting sessions.

THE MEMBERS OF THE NORTHERN MARCH OF TREVISO LOCAL ACTION GROUP

29 PUBLIC BODIES

- Province of Treviso
- Treviso & Belluno Dolomites Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Craft and Agriculture
- Treviso Prealps Mountain Union, Grappa Mountain Union
- Municipalities of Cappella Maggiore, Castelcucco, Cavaso del Tomba, Cison di Valmarino, Cordignano, Farra di Soligo, Follina, Fonte, Fregona, Miane, Monfumo, Pederobba, Pieve del Grappa, Pieve di Soligo, Possagno, Refrontolo, Revine Lago, San Zenone degli Ezzelini, Sarmede, Segusino, Sernaglia della Battaglia, Tarzo, Valdobbiadene, Vidor, and Vittorio Veneto.

PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS

- Confagricoltura Treviso
- Confartigianato Imprese Marca Trevigiana, Confcooperative Belluno & Treviso Interprovincial Union
- Confederazione Italiana Agricoltori Treviso
- Coldiretti Treviso Provincial Federation, Unascom Confcommercio Treviso
- Prosecco and Conegliano Valdobbiadene Hills Wine Route Association
- Montello and Asolo Hills Wine Route
- Conegliano-Valdobbiadene Prosecco Protection Consortium
- Casatella Trevigiana PDO Cheese Protection Consortium
- Asolo and Montello Wines Consortium, Altamarca Association
- Vivere il Grappa Tourism Consortium
- UNPLI Provincial Committee for Treviso
- Marca Treviso Foundation, Banca della Marca Credito Cooperativo
- Banca Prealpi SanBiagio Credito Cooperativo, A.P.O.V.F.
- Associazione Produttori Ortofrutticoli Veneto Friuli
- Cantina Colli del Soligo Soc. Agr. Coop
- Latteria di Soligo Soc. Agr. Coop



Nestled between the Piave River, the Treviso Prealps and Monte Grappa, our local area is a treasure trove that is just waiting to be discovered. It has a host of authentic experiences to offer and is home to a perfect blend of art, culture, traditions and nature, with historical roots stretching back through countless centuries.

This guide showcases the distinctive features, events and places of interest for tourists in the 22 municipalities that are part of the Alta Marca Trevigiana Local Action Group. In addition, it provides visitors with ideas and tips on how to put together an itinerary that is individually tailored to suit their needs and will introduce them to the exceptional art, culture, food, wine, sport and natural marvels in this part of the world.

Whether you are visiting for the first time or coming back for more, there is so much to enjoy here: the paths on Monte Grappa, the stunning Cansiglio forest, picturesque villages, old churches and museums, the works and stories of the artists who have lived and worked here over the years, and of course the Prosecco hills, which were recently added to the UNESCO

World Heritage List thanks to the wonderful way in which they have been shaped in tandem by humans and the natural environment.

Get ready for an adventure!

Giuseppe Carlet

President of Alta Marca Trevigiana LAG



Another valuable initiative through which the Alta Marca Trevigiana

LAG continues promoting and enhancing its land. A treasure chest of beauty, a unique cultural and environmental heritage that the Region of Veneto intends to preserve, pass on and enhance. To do that, we need the commitment of all those who believe in the potential of an

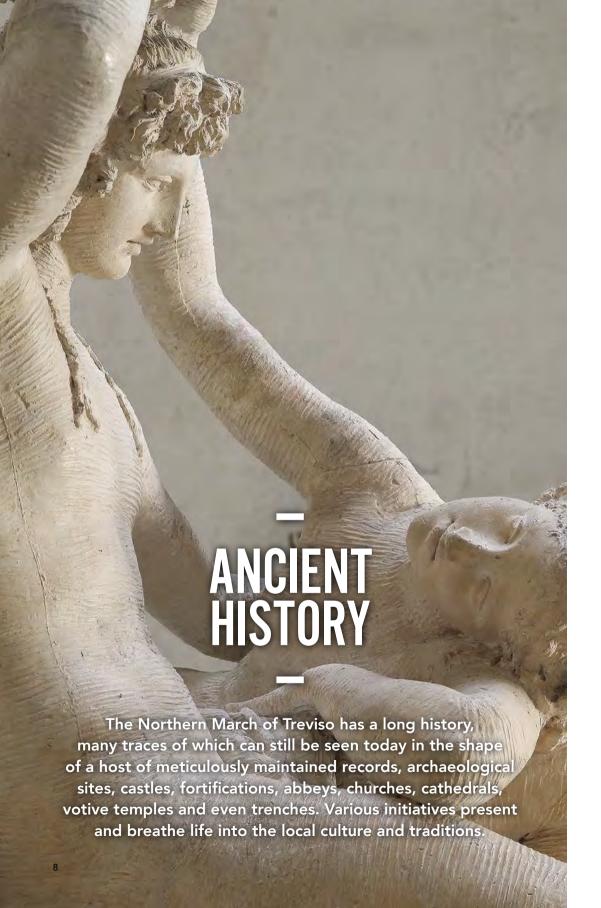
area that has managed to obtain recognition as a World Heritage Site, thanks to the collective effort.

From the House-museum to the Gypsotheca of Antonio Canova, passing through the castles of Monfumo, just to name a few, with this tourist guide we can provide an innovative tool of discovery and important knowledge. A real treasure hunt that begins with a good glass of wine and ends with the natural spectacle of the Caglieron Caves.

We just have to start this journey to discover a territory that is art, culture, food and wine and landscape at the same time.

Federico Caner

Veneto Region Councilor for Tourism





The area has been settled since Prehistoric times and there are occasional finds dating back to the Palaeolithic. In addition, some chance finds from the early 20th century and archaeological excavations in the 1980s and 1990s have shown that in Colmaggiore near Tarzo there was a significant cathedral, which is the mother church of prehistoric wetland settlement in the Neolithic, Copper Age and Bronze Age. The **Livelet Educational Archaeology Park** was opened in Revine Lago in 2007 to make the most of the discovery. It contains a reconstruction of a small stilt house village that offers visitors a glimpse of everyday life by the lakes between 6000 and 3500 years ago.

In the nearby village of Cison di Valmarino stands the striking Brandolini Castle (1), which dates back to the Middle Ages and has now been fully restored and opened

to visitors. Many other important fortifications can be found in the area, including two in Vittorio Veneto. The Castle of San Martino towers over the Ceneda district and the bishop now resides there. It boasts breathtaking views of the city and the the diocese and contains the relics of Saint Titian of Oderzo. Meanwhile, you can visit the remains of an old medieval castle known as the Castrum in the district of Serravalle, which was joined together with Ceneda in the late 19th century to form the city of Vittorio Veneto.

While you are in Serravalle, it is worth taking the time to enjoy a stroll in the arcades and in Piazza Flaminio, which is lined with buildings such as Palazzo Todesco, the Torre Civica and the loggia of the Ceneda Museum.

ANCIENT HISTORY



The vineyards of Farra di Soligo encircle the Towers of Credazzo (2), which are all that is left of the old Castle of Credazzo. Owned by the Collalto family from the 10th century, it was extended in the 13th century and later unfortunately sacked and left in ruins for more than 600 years. Modern restoration work has revived some of the former glory of the fortified complex. Although the inside cannot be visited yet, it adds a unique touch to the hills in this area, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The Northern March of Treviso is also dotted with important religious sites and places of worship, which in some cases were hubs of local economic development. The Cistercian Abbey in Follina (3) is an unmissable little gem. Steeped in a sense of peace and spirituality, it boasts exquisite Gothic and Romanesque architectural features and offers visitors a perfect blend of art and nature. The Abbey of Santa Bona (4) in Vidor was built between 1106 and 1110. It is now privately owned and it is only open to the

public on special occasions, when visitors have to travel up a steep slope on the hill can savour superb views of the Piave River and the beautiful cloister.

In the hills of the Northern March of Treviso, you can find charming churches and old hermitages with sweeping views. Among the steep slopes of the vinevards near Farra di Soligo, the Oratory of San Vigilio and the Temple of San Martino bear witness to the religious

devotion of the local people.

There is an old belief associated with the Temple of San Martino that still lives on today. Many couples go there to ask Saint Martin of Tours for help having a baby. They pick a name out of a box that is provided for them and pledge to give it to the child. Records show that the tradition has existed since at least 1743. While you are near Farra di Soligo, it is also worth taking a trip to the Hermitage of San Gallo. You

of the same name to get there, but you will be rewarded with unparalleled views of the

> Quartier del Piave area. You will also find a monument to aviators up there. Heading west, make sure you stop at

the Church of San Martino in Castelcies. near Cavaso del Tomba. There you will find a stone with words in Rhaetic and Latin that are the oldest inscriptions in the Province of Treviso.

One of the finest examples of religious architecture in the area is the Parish Church of San Pietro di Feletto, which dates back to the 11th century and has an even older structure at its centre. The church has panoramic views of both the Refrontolo hills and the Prealps. On its façade is a famous depiction of the Sunday Christ, showing all of the types of work that must not be done on the Lord's Day. Frescos of this kind are rare





the in history of art and there only ten

or so in the whole

of Europe. Inside the church are yet more outstanding frescos, which were painted between the 12th and 15th centuries. From there, it takes just a few minutes to get to Conegliano, where the Cathedral contains a portrayal of the Madonna and Child with Saints by Giovanni Battista Cima. It is the only work by the prominent Renaissance painter that can be found in his home

town. Make sure you take a look around the Sala dei Battuti, which is directly above the Cathedral. This large room is fully frescoed with stories from the Old and New Testaments. The name is a reference to a flagellant confraternity that once met here and the exceptional works of art bear witness to the leading role that it played in Conegliano in the Middle Ages.

One of the most important Italian artists of the 18th century came from the Northern March of Treviso. Antonio Canova is considered the greatest exponent of Italian Neoclassicism and he was born in Possagno, just a few miles from Cavaso del Tomba. The mark that Canova made on the town can still be seen today. In his Birthplace, you can see some of his paintings, engravings, drawings and tools. Meanwhile, original models of his famous sculptures, sketches, drawings and paintings are on display in the adjoining Gallery (5). Finally, there is the unmissable **Temple of Canova** (6), which really encapsulates his brilliance. With its strategic location and towering silhouette, you cannot fail to see it and you and he is best known for his work dediare bound to fall in love with it. The interior of the dome is decorated with large panels with language.

adorned with golden roses made of wood and inside the temple is a magnificent Pietà sculpted in 1830 by a pupil of Canova called Bartolomeo Ferrari. Antonio Canova died before this unforgettable building was completed.

Another birthplace that will soon become a museum is that of Andrea Zanzotto, who was born and lived in Pieve di Soligo. He was one of the most important and significant poets of the 20th century cated to the landscape and experiments





A stop in Tarzo comes highly recommended for all art lovers. A number of houses lining **Via dei Murales** in the Fratta area are decorated with unique paintings and frescos. Every year, artists flock to the small town of Sarmede, which lies further east

and plays host to a large number of painting, sculpture and art festivals. Another reason to visit Sarmede is the Fantasy Park (7), where you can follow a pedestrian route past more than 70 frescos, murals and outlandish pieces of architecture. They are all part of the legacy of Stepan Zavrel, an artist who was born in Prague but later lived and worked here.

One of the most charming spots in the Northern March of Treviso is the **Croda Watermill (8)** in Refrontolo. It was used to

mill maize until 1953 and it now serves as a symbol of rural life in the area. It was restored by the local council and it welcomes thousands of visitors every year. As well as seeing the traditional work once done by the miller, they can take their pick from

the numerous paths in the nearby area and go for a stroll among the vine-yards. The network of **Themed Edu-**

of Themed Educational Parks in the Northern March of Treviso was only created recently but it already plays a crucial role. It brings together a number of locations that are open to the public and dedicated to local life and history: the

15

Livelet Educational Archaeology Park, the Fantasy Park in Sarmede, the Caglieron Caves Park in Fregona, the Charcoal Park in Cordignano (9), and the Olive Tree Park in Cappella Maggiore.

Wate

14 ANCIENT HISTORY ANCIENT HISTORY



As for 20th century history, an indelible mark was left by the two world wars. The Northern March of Treviso was particularly badly affected by the conflicts and vivid memories of them are kept alive by the many traces that can still be seen today, as well as the numerous monuments to commemorate the victims and the century's darkest times.

At the summit of Monte Grappa is an important **War Memorial**, which is also the resting place of more than 12,600 Italian soldiers and over 10,200 of their Austro-Hungarian counterparts. A large number of remembrance ceremonies take place there. You can follow the line of trenches used in battle (10) all along the Grappa ridge, from Paderno to

Pederobba. The latter is home to a French War Memorial, which was built to honour the military brotherhood between the Italians and the French.

The impact of the conflicts is also marked further downhill. In the small but compelling **First World War Museum** in Fontigo near Sernaglia della Battaglia, there are numerous finds from the banks of the Piave River that were mostly donated by local residents. There is also a fascinating reconstruction of a trench.

Moving back to the Vallata area, the **Bosco delle Penne Mozze** (*Wood of the Broken Feathers*) above the village of Cison di Valmarino is definitely worth a visit. More than

2400 stelae in memory of fallen Alpini by a section on Life during

troops can be found in the thick woods, whose peaceful atmosphere is a fitting tribute to the lives and stories of those lost in the battles of the past and the present.

The Battle Museum in Vittorio Veneto (11) makes a key contribution to preserving the memories of the First World War. The museum was originally founded to display a number of important items donated by Luigi Marson from Vittorio Veneto, who was in the 2nd Grenadiers and was part of the generation of soldiers born in 1899. It was recently renovated and it gives visitors the chance to immerse themselves in the history of the First World War. The first part is all about life in the trenches. It is followed

Marson Armoury. Visits to the museum finish with a section called From the battle to the legend, which takes a close look at the famous Battle of Vittorio Veneto (24/10/1918 to 04/11/1918).

the occupation

and the impressive

From Prehistory to Ancient Roman times, from the Middle Ages to the Risorgimento, and from the 20th century to the present day: in the Northern March of Treviso there is a unique, spellbinding blend of art and history that has shaped the local identity and is just waiting to be discovered in all of its forms.



There is only one way to begin a journey of discovery through the taste sensations of the Northern March of Treviso, and that is with the wine that has made the area famous across the globe: DOCG Conegliano Valdobbiadene Prosecco Superiore, which is a marvellous ambassador for the local wine-making traditions and can only be made in a zone spanning 15 municipalities in the hills.

The key to Prosecco Superiore lies in a perfect blend of outstanding Glera grapes, the composition of the soil, the mild climate, and the expertise of the vine growers, who have devotedly shaped the land in the hills over centuries of hard work. All of this gives rise to a fresh, zesty wine filled with fragrances of fruit and white flowers that is truly enchanting from the very first sip. Conegliano Valdobbiadene sparkling wine was awarded prestigious DOCG labelling under the Italian wine classification system in 2009. It can be enjoyed throughout meals, from hors d'oeuvre to dessert. There are three kinds, with different residual sugar levels. Ranging from the driest to the sweetest, they are known as Brut, Extra Dry and Dry. As well as the internationally renowned sparkling wine, there are semi-sparkling and still versions. The former is seen as a flagship product for local traditions. It undergoes a brief second fermentation period in the bottle, during which the yeast gives it a subtle crusty bread scent and leaves it slightly cloudy. The still wine is more of a niche product.

A special mention must go to the prized Valdobbiadene Superiore di Cartizze, which is made in a *cru*: a small area of vineyards covering 107 hectares among the steepest hills of San Pietro di Barbozza, Santo Stefano and Saccol, which are all part of the Municipality of Valdobbiadene. The wine's exceptional qualities stem from the combi-

nation of a mild microclimate and some of the oldest and most varied soil in the whole of the DOCG area. Cartizze is a sumptuous sparkling wine with a vibrant colour that presents an intricate array of broad, enticing fragrances, with a rounded, velvety rich flavour. It is normally Dry – which is its most classic form – and it marvellously complements traditional desserts, shortcrust pastry and fruit tarts.



Prosecco Superiore does not just come from the Conegliano and Valdobbiadene hills: the 18 municipalities around Asolo were officially awarded DOCG status in 2009 and are home to Asolo Prosecco. All of the usual types of sparkling wine are allowed under the production regulations and **Asolo Prosecco** was actually the very first labelling system on the Prosecco scene to include Extra Brut on the list. Asolo Prosecco presents notes of lemon, citron, ripe apples and white flowers on the nose. It is ideal not only for serving with appetizers, but also for complementing meals and toasting special occasions.

A TASTE FOR TRAVELLING

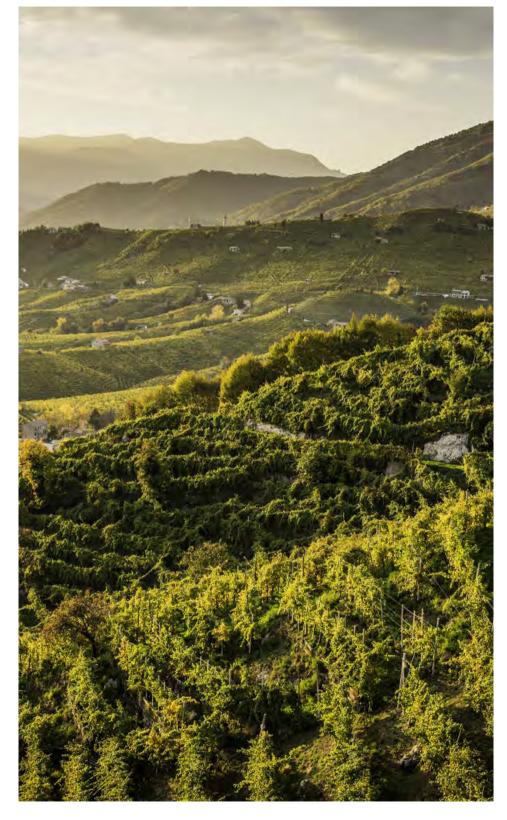


Many other amazing wines are also made in the Northern March of Treviso. For example, take DOCG Colli di Conegliano: available in both white and red versions, it is made from a masterful blend of the finest grapes from the Conegliano Hills. Age-old vines in the small village of Combai are used to make IGT Verdiso. Production is limited but the wine is very popular due to its dry, perky notes on the palate, with a hint of unripe apples and a slightly bitter aftertaste.

Many wines and other products embody the history of the local area, such as **DOCG** them rather sweet. Torchiato di Fregona from the Fregona area. It is a sweet raisin wine made with aromatic grapes, which are left to dry until the spring and crushed in manual presses. Its origins are still shrouded in mystery but according to an old local legend, it was of Ciser near Fregona, when a wine maker left grapes to ripen by hanging them on blackberries and Marasca cherries.

the beams in a barn and found that it made

Another storied product is DOCG Refrontolo Passito, which is praised in Mozart's Don Giovanni. It is made with Marzemino grapes from Refrontolo, which are selected during the harvest, dried on matting and first created in around 1600 in the hamlet then crushed to produce a sweet, ruby red raisin wine with a rich bouquet and notes of





growing vines, the Northern March of Treviso produces numerous other nationally and internationally renowned wonders.

In the autumn, the local chestnuts are always in big demand. Bigger than normal chestnuts, they are sweet, heart-shaped are very famous. They play a key part in a wide range of recipes and are celebrated village of Combai, which is near Miane. PGI Monfenera Chestnuts from the Pederob- in large numbers.

ba area are also highly renowned. Borlotto Nano Levada beans - which have been part of the agricultural scene in the foothills since the early 20th century - are also grown in the Pederobba area, while the Revine Lakes are known for their Fasol de and light brown. PGI Combai Chestnuts Lago (Lake Beans). Potatoes from Quartier del Piave - which grow in the area between the Treviso Prealps and the Montello every year in a big Chestnut Festival in the hills - are distinctive and delicious but a little hard to find because they are not grown



Moving on to the local cuisine, one of the trademark dishes of the area is **Spiedo d'Alta Marca**, which is always associated with celebrations, traditions and great company because it is only prepared and served on special occasions. Small pieces of meat – mainly chicken and pork, but also other types such as guinea fowl, capon, rabbit, kid, lamb and quail – are placed on skewers with lard and sprigs of sage or rosemary between them and cooked over open fires. **The long cooking process lasts between five and six hours** and the food must be served immediately, when the meat is still

crispy and piping hot. There are countless traditional accompaniments for the skewers, depending on the season: beans, greens, roast potatoes, mushrooms... and of course **polenta**, preferably made with white maize.

A Giant **Spit Roast Festival** has been held in Pieve di Soligo since 1956 and it set a spit roast Guinness World Record in 2017. The dish plays such an important, cherished part in local life that in 2006 a Spiedo d'Alta Marca Academy was created to protect and promote it through spit roasting courses, meetings and informative evening events.

Making deli meats is a in the lives long-established, wideof peasant families. spread tradition in the Northern March of Treviso. Another type of Make sure you try soppressa, which is a type of salami that unlocal cured meat is ossocollo, which is dergoes extensive ageing and was aged in cellars using natural first produced with leftover parts of butchered pigs back in the 19th century. Then moisture and ventilation. All of these items there is delicious salame de casada, whose are made by numerous small local comname underlines the fact that it used to panies that have limited product runs and be made in people's homes after they had work alongside the Veneto regional authorslaughtered a pig. It was almost a ritual act ities to ensure that set quality and hygiene standards are met. and one of the most important annual events



No visit to the Northern March of Treviso would be complete with some time savouring the local dairy products. There are lots of **shepherds' huts** on the pastures of the Treviso Prealps, where cows graze and eat healthy, delicious grass and hay. This plays a crucial part in the production of high-quality milk, which is made into cheese capable of pleasing even the most demanding palates.

Some unmissable types of cheese can be found in and around the Cansiglio Woods, such as PDO Casatella Trevigiana and S-céch from Segusino, after which the inhabitants are named. Imbriago first developed here when people hid their caciotta cheese inside grape pomace during the First World War so that it would not be requisitioned by Austro-Hungarian soldiers. From the shepherds' huts on Monte Grappa come Morlacco and Bastardo del Grappa, the latter of which gets its name from the fact that differ-

ent types of milk are used to make it.

It would be wrong to think that the vast food and wine culture in the Northern March of Treviso is entirely focused on the savoury side of things. In every little village you can find countless traditional desserts and cakes. For instance, Pinza is a classic March of Treviso treat that people usually make at Christmas time. It is an essential part of the annual **Panevin** celebrations on 5 January. The humble ingredients in the traditional recipe include raisins, pine nuts, walnuts, wheat flour, maize flour, and grated lemon zest. Tiramisu is another very common treat and an indispensable part of all special occasions, not to mention every restaurant and osteria menu. Biscuits made with local dessert wines are another must. Torchiatelli feature a blend of shortbread with DOCG Torchiato di Fregona, while Marzemini biscuits contain DOCG Refrontolo Passito.



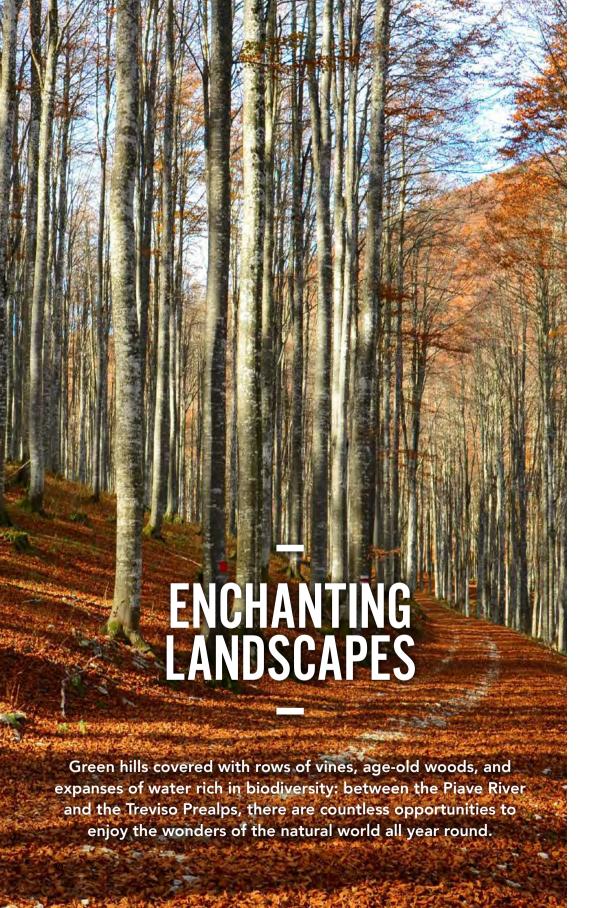
The wealth of traditional dishes and products has led to the creation of a number of wine routes and other themed itineraries that enable visitors to really get to know the area, its output and the producers who dedicate their lives to keeping traditions alive.

This is the home of the Prosecco and Conegliano Valdobbiadene Hills Wine Route, which was the first trail of its kind in Italy. Created in 1966, it winds its way for 45 km among vineyards and important architectural and historical sites between the towns of Conegliano and Valdobbiadene. It is very easy to extend the journey by taking a detour to Vittorio Veneto and Fregona to the East, exploring Susegana and the Collalto area to the South, or going through the Vallata countryside to the North.

The recently created Treviso Hills **PGI Chestnuts and Local Cuisine Route** will take you from the famous town of Asolo to the foot of Monte Grappa and then through the Monfenera area, to Cesen and finally to Vittorio Veneto.

A Food District was founded in Pieve di Soligo in 2020, in a project launched by the Northern March of Treviso Local Action Group together with the local councils of the area in question and a number of local associations and organizations. Working in synergy on all fronts, they intend to promote and champion the many exceptional culinary creations from the March of Treviso, including products with geographical indications, traditional and typical products, goods by small local manufacturers, and specialities. At the same time, they will support the local food and agriculture scene in a drive for comprehensive development of tourism.





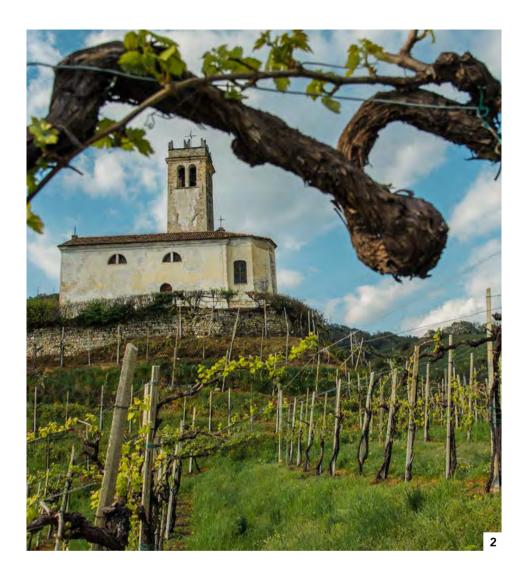


of the Prealps and the plain, the
Northern March of Treviso boasts
some magnificent natural treasures,
such as Cansiglio Forest near Fregona: a
bewitching place with nature on all sides.
It is said that magical creatures live among
the flint and the beech and fir trees, where
visitors can spot and follow will-o'-thewisps. Cansiglio Forest is the ideal place to
go for a walk or a hike at any time of year.
In the autumn, you can hear the mighty bellows of rutting deer.

Throughout the **Treviso Prealps** there are marvellous trails in natural surroundings that you can follow on foot, mountain bike or even horseback! On the slopes from Col Visentin to Pianezze, nature lovers can venture along trails among open meadows and shady woods that offer cool refuge on

fully here. Why not stop off at one of the many shepherds' huts so that you can take a close look at the livestock and find out about the traditional products that they make?

The **Grappa Massif (1)** is an ecological treasure trove where a multitude of species of flora and fauna live alongside each other. Protection of biodiversity and sustainable development ensure that there is a balanced relationship between people and the environment. In order to safeguard it, Monte Grappa has been nominated for inclusion in the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve network, to go with the already impressive number of UNESCO World Heritage sites in the Veneto Region.



Crespano del Grappa in the Monte Grappa area has a remarkable educational experience to offer in the **Astego Garden**. It stands at 450 metres above sea level and stretches up the slope, taking visitors on a journey through the various ecosystems from the peak of Monte Grappa to the plain below in the space of just 16 terraces. There is plenty to see, including a wild orchid area, a recreation of a mountain stream, and a special system for attracting birds. There is also a botanic garden in which the plants are divided by families and types of use (such as bee forage, food and herbs), as well as a fungi section.

Further down the slopes, you will come to the Conegliano and Valdobbiadene Prosecco Hills (2-3). Added to the UNESCO World Heritage List in July 2019, the rolling hills change colour with the passing seasons and present unforgettable scenery. They bear witness to the loving relationship between the local area and its people, especially vine growers. A unique touch is added to the landscape by terraces that have been created for vine growing, which are laid out like a mosaic with blocks of woodland in between the vineyards.

Another great place to visit is the Valley

The Conegliano and Valdobbiadene Prosecco Hills: a UNESCO World Heritage Site

In 2019, the Conegliano and Valdobbiadene Prosecco Hills were added to the World Heritage List during the 43rd session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee in Baku (Azerbaijan). The hilly area that has become a World Heritage Site stretches east from the Municipality of Valdobbiadene to the Municipality of Vittorio Veneto. Between them, the core zone and the buffer zone span 18,967.25 hectares and encompass the hilly parts of 15 different municipalities. January 2020 saw the founding of an Association to Protect the Heritage of the UNESCO Conegliano and Valdobbiadene Prosecco Hills.





Lakes Park (4) near Revine Lago and Tarzo. It contains the Lago and Santa Maria lakes and has been a Site of Community Importance (SCI) for years because it is used by protected species when they are nesting and migrating. On the shores of the two lakes is a figure-of-eight route that will take you past woods and reed thickets, offering beautiful views of the peaceful water and a chance to spot wild birds. There are fun augmented reality stations and information panels presenting all sorts of interesting details about plants and animals.

A short distance away in Cison di Valmarino is another nature trail: the entrancing Via dei Mulini (5). The name means "Mill Way" and it connects the centre of one of the most beautiful villages in Italy to the Bosco delle Penne Mozze ("Wood of the Broken Feathers"). As you follow the short route, you can learn about the rural history of the village, which revolved around use of the water in the Rujo stream. Along the way, you will find the remains of old wash tubs, fountains and canals.

In Tarzo, pay a visit to the privately run **Bonsai Museum Garden of Happiness (6)**. Lovingly created by Armando Dal Col, it is a beguiling spot spanning approximately 1,000 m² that contains a vast bonsai collection. The trees are skilfully arranged to ensure that they blend in with the surrounding environment, making the garden a place of both wonder and reflection.







From Miane, a path through thick woods will take you to the Sanctuary of the Madonna del Carmine and then to the **Landrel** Cave. As well as exceptional natural appeal due to the breathtaking surrounding landscape filled with chestnut, ash and oak trees, the cave is a place of great religious significance because it contains a small stone Madonna that was blessed by Pope John Paul II in 2003.

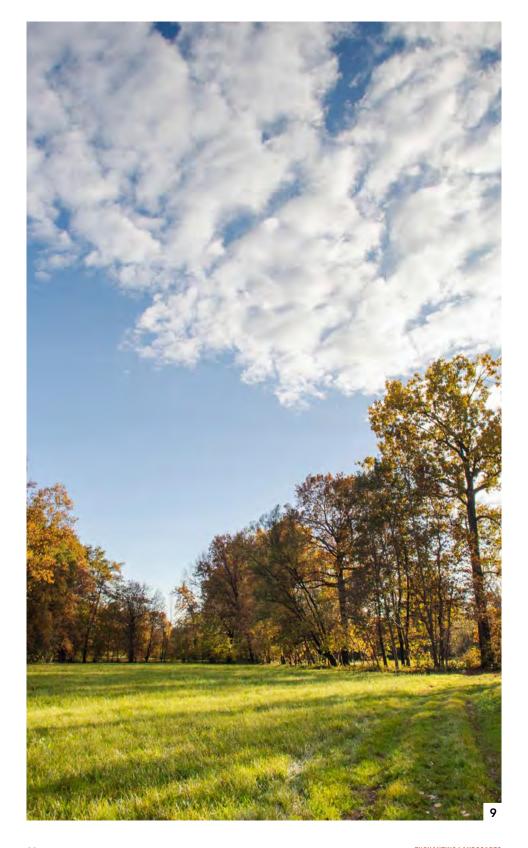
The Caglieron Caves Park (7) in the Fregona area is another unmissable spot. Situated just outside Cansiglio Forest, it takes visitors on a journey through history and nature among chambers that were carved out over thousands of years by the Caglieron stream and the quarrying process for piera dolza (soft stone), which was once used in local door and window jambs. As well as offering a wonderful way to spend a day in the great outdoors, still today the Caglieron Caves are used to mature cheese. There is a special room that has been carved into the rock for this purpose and it is occasionally opened to the public. The route is clearly marked and along the way you can admire the remains of old watermills and a castelliere (an ancient fortified settlement).

Moving towards the Valdobbiadene area, make sure you visit the Settolo Basso Natural Park on the banks of the Piave River. It recently received local recognition for its wide variety of species of flora and fauna.

The Garzaia Conservation Area near Valdobbiadene and Pederobba is a site run by LIPU (the Italian Bird Protection League). It lies between the Piave River and the San Giacomo resurgences and benefits from European recognition and protection. First here. There is a circular, 100% pedestriand foremost, this is because of the birds that live and nest here or stop off while an hour, it takes you through scenery that migrating, taking advantage of the poplar and willow woods and wide expanses of gravel. More than 120 species have been expanses of water. recorded, including a number of types of herons, birds of prey and corvids, as well as Also in the Sernaglia della Battaglia area,

common kingfishers and protected species such as Eurasian penduline tits. In addition, there have been sightings of golden eagles.

If you follow the course of the river, in Fontigo near Sernaglia della Battaglia you will come to the Fontane Bianche nature reserve (8). Its name means "White Fountains" and it comes from the fact that the clear water from the Quartier del Piave plain's water table comes to the surface an route for visitors to follow. In just over is spellbinding all year round, including woods on the flood plain, resurgences and





reserve on the Piave River called the Pedrè Park. It contains the Cave of Santa Barbara, which resembles the entrance to an underground mine and is therefore dedicated to Saint Barbara – the patron saint of miners and artillerymen – and all those who die at work.

In between Sernaglia della Battaglia, Moriago della Battaglia, Vidor and Farra di Soligo is a place called Palù del Quartier del Piave (9). It is thought to be the only landscape of its kind in Europe, with ditches and hedges lining wet meadows. It was given its to the period after the Second World War current appearance by land drainage work and is partly furnished with relics from the done in marshlands by Benedictine monks in the 13th century, so that they could farm the land and produce fodder and timber.

A short distance away is another site of great several species of orchids.

natural and historical significance, which is known as the Island of the Dead (10). In a famous attack during the First World War, in 1918 Arditi (Italian shock troops) opened up a breach here and recaptured the left bank of the Piave River. In the centre of the park is a pyramid-shaped memorial that was unveiled in the 1920s and features words by D'Annunzio. There is also a sanctuary dedicated to the Virgin Mary that dates back war, and a "Life for Peace" monument from 1991. There are numerous nature trails branching off from the evocative entrance road and a little botanic garden containing







One of the most popular sports in the area is **cycling**. The proximity of the Prealps and the rolling Conegliano and Valdobbiadene Prosecco Hills (a UNESCO World Heritage Site), means that this is a great place to stay in shape while exploring.

The challenging Ca' del Poggio climb it was built by the Austro-Hungarian army near San Pietro di Feletto has been made famous by the Giro d'Italia, which has a clear view of the Piave front. Nowadays, passed through no fewer than five times. It thousands of cyclists go through the pass

an average gradient of 15% and highs of 19%, which make it one of the toughest slopes in Europe. Due to its unique characteristics, since 2016 it has been twinned with the Muur van Geraardsbergen in Belgium, which is an iconic climb from the Tour of Flanders. The route up to the San Boldo Pass is strenuous but spellbinding. Connecting the provinces of Treviso and Belluno, it features five tunnels that were dug out of the rock during the First World War. It is also known as the 100-day road because in just a few months in 1918 to give them is 1.3 kilometres long and fully paved, with every year during their training sessions.

Breathtaking experiences on two wheels Hills (1) is by making regular stops to adcan also be enjoyed on Monte Grappa, where you can once again combine sport wineries. Many tourist operators organize and history. If you go up the slopes from Possagno, you can stop off on the way to visit the Monte Palon trenches. It involves a constant climb, with gradients as high as 25% at some points. The climb is a little less steep if you start in Cavaso del Tomba, especially on the second part of the route. Another way up Monte Grappa is on the Monfenera road from Pederobba, which benefits from the shade of the woods and has a maximum slope of 23%.

The most wonderful way to get to know the In the beautiful local area there are three Conegliano and Valdobbiadene Prosecco circular routes that are part of the Prealp

mire the incredible views and visit the local cycling packages and bike rides in the picturesque hills. They are now accessible to everyone thanks to the widespread availability of e-bikes and charging stations. Try it and you will be able to boast that you reached even the hardest destinations and summits with ease!

The legendary Vespa is another extremely popular way to experience the local area, complete with a picnic in the great outdoors.





tourist trails on the E7 European long distance path can be followed safely on foot, mountain bike or horseback. On the way, you will get the chance to see breathtaking scenery, meet local communities and savour exceptional food and wine. The 33 km C8 route will take you through the hugely varied landscape and environment of Monte Grappa on safe and easily accessible paths, starting and finishing in Campocroce. The 31 km C9 route will introduce you to the Monte Cesen area near Valdobbiadene. Admire views of the sweeping Piave River crossing the plain below, as you go through green pastures dotted with farmsteads, shepherds' huts and dairies. Finally, the C12 route goes through Cansiglio Forest, surrounded by age-old

Path (2-3) project. These

Another route that can be followed on foot is the **TV1 Alta Via in the Treviso Prealps**. It consists of a series of paths with pano-

beeches and fir trees, with rhododendrons, blueberries, honeysuckles, rowans and el-

derberries in the undergrowth.

ramic views that wind their way through historical and natural sites from Monte Grappa to Cansiglio (4), over a total of 112 kilometres. It takes ten days to hike along the entire route, but it can be divided into four sections that can all

be enjoyed on separate trips: Monte Grappa, from Cesen to the San Boldo Pass, from the San Boldo Pass to Fadalto via Col Visentin, and from Fadalto to Vittorio Veneto over the Cansiglio plateau.

Finally, horse riding enthusiasts should not miss out on the TV5 Bridle Path in the Belluno and Treviso Prealps. The 266 kilometre trail goes through the municipalities of Cappella Maggiore, Cison di Valmarino, Follina, Fregona, Miane, Revine Lago, Segusino, Valdobbiadene and Vittorio Veneto, from the Piave River to Cansiglio Forest.

All of the routes provide great opportunities to discover the many mountain huts and shepherds' huts dotted across the Treviso Prealps, where you can take a refreshing break and sample traditional local products.





If you are looking for a slightly less challenging hike, in the Northern March of Treviso there is a vast range of options, from the simplest ones such as the Prosecco Circular Route through the Cartizze vineyards, to more demanding choices such as the Lookout Path in the municipality of Farra di Soligo, which stretches from Col San Martino to Soligo. Approximately 8 km in length, the trail around the lakes near Revine Lago and Tarzo is a relatively simple one for all of the family to follow because the ground is completely flat.

There are plenty of opportunities to discover the area's distinctive natural features with professional guides. In the Pederobba area, you can follow the Path of the Onigo Counts, which combines sites of historical and artistic interest with astounding panoramic views of Monte Cesen and the Piave route that will introduce you to the wonders valley. In Vittorio Veneto, a path of approximately 4 kilometres will take you to Lake **Morto** at 274 metres above sea level. Water seeps into it underground from Lake Santa Croce and flows into it from karst springs on the right side of Col Visentin. In Cavaso del

Tomba, a series of forest paths will take you from the Hermitage of San Giorgio to Colle della Bastia and then up to Monte Tomba (5), where you will find plenty of shepherds' huts and agritourism establishments. Finally, in Cordignano there is a Magic of Nature of the mountainous areas on the border of the Province of Pordenone, including beech woods and some stunning views. It goes through the Charcoal Park, which was recently added to the network of Educational Parks in the Northern March of Treviso.



A visit to the Northern March of Treviso can be an opportunity to take to the skies! Monte Grappa is considered one of the best launch pads in Europe. Looking out over Borso del Grappa, Romano d'Ezzelino and Crespano del Grappa, you can go hang gliding or paragliding either with an instructor or on your own, if you have the necessary expertise. Another good place to take flight is the *Pian de le Femene* plateau above Revine Lago: the Prosecco Hills look even more spectacular from above.

If you like your sport to be a little more relaxing, there are lots of places where you can enjoy a round of **golf**. In Cavaso del Tomba there is a golf course with a total of 27 holes that can be played in three different ways. In addition, there is an 18-hole course on the Cansiglio Plateau and there is also a small course in Vittorio Veneto that is mostly used for practice and training.

Pianezze Avventura park in Valdobbiadene is the perfect place for fun with family and friends. Young and old alike will relish the challenge of moving along tree top adventure routes with various degrees of difficulty.

If you are looking for a peaceful, natural experience, you can go **birdwatching** in the Valley Lakes Park near Revine Lago and Tarzo (6) or the Fontane Bianche nature reserve near Sernaglia della Battaglia. In Revine Lago you can hire a **pedalo** and head out onto the calm water or try your hand at **canoeing** during lessons organized by local associations.

This is just a small selection of the countless outdoor activities on offer in the local area, where you can find something to suit all tastes, ages and levels of experience.



50 AMAZING EXPERIENCES



PLACES OF INTEREST

Art and Culture

Church of the Santissima Trinità (also known as the Mattarella Church): this church has stood here in its current form since the 15th century. It was built around the original church on this site, which dates back to the 13th century. Magnificent frescoes adorn the interiors: the oldest was painted at some time between the late 13th and early 14th century and it was the first example of a Last Supper in the March of Treviso. Among the other frescoes are two by Antonio Zago: a Crucifixion from 1498 and an Enthroned Madonna and Child with angels playing music and the client Andrea Mattarella, which is from 1503.

There are a number of other superb works of art in the local area. **Anzano parish church**, which is dedicated to Saints Vitus and Modestus, contains an early 16th century altarpiece by Francesco Da Milano that shows the Madonna and Child in Glory, with Saints Vitus, Roch, Sebastian and Titian. Meanwhile, there is a 1948 depiction of the Ascension by renowned local artist Luigi Cillo in the Parish Church of Santa Maria Maddalena in Cappella Maggiore.

Castelletto: local tradition has it that this castle was built in the 10th century on the site of a previous structure, in order to protect the area from people invading from the North. It was strategically located to monitor the surrounding area and today it offers outstanding views of the hills all around. The castle is now privately owned and used as a venue for big events.

Elegant Veneto villas and picturesque rural villages (such as **Borgo Villa** near Cappella Maggiore and **Borgo Masotto** near Anzano) can be found in the local area.

Landscape and Nature

Olive Park – Themed Educational Park in the Northern March of Treviso: this park was created to promote olive cultivation in the hills and raise awareness about the healthy qualities and other benefits of locally made extra virgin olive oil. The park features a route that winds its way along the roads in the town and takes in a number of interesting locations, including: an oil mill; an experimental olive grove that was developed in 2012 in conjunction with the Town Council and the University of Padua; and an educational olive grove containing olive trees, fruit trees and insect hotels.



Historical Snippets

The oldest part of the town is Anzano, where people have lived since Roman times. It is thought to have been settled between the 4th and 5th centuries AD.

The area is important in strategic and military terms and it has been invaded and occupied by many different people over the centuries.

Cappella and Anzano were not joined together as a single municipality until 1815.

Church of the Santissima Trinità (also known as the Mattarella Church)

name for the Church of the

Santissima Trinità (dedicated

to the Holy Trinity).

- 2. Olive grove
- 3. Cappella Maggiore town centre
- 4. Castelletto

EVENTS AND INITIATIVES:

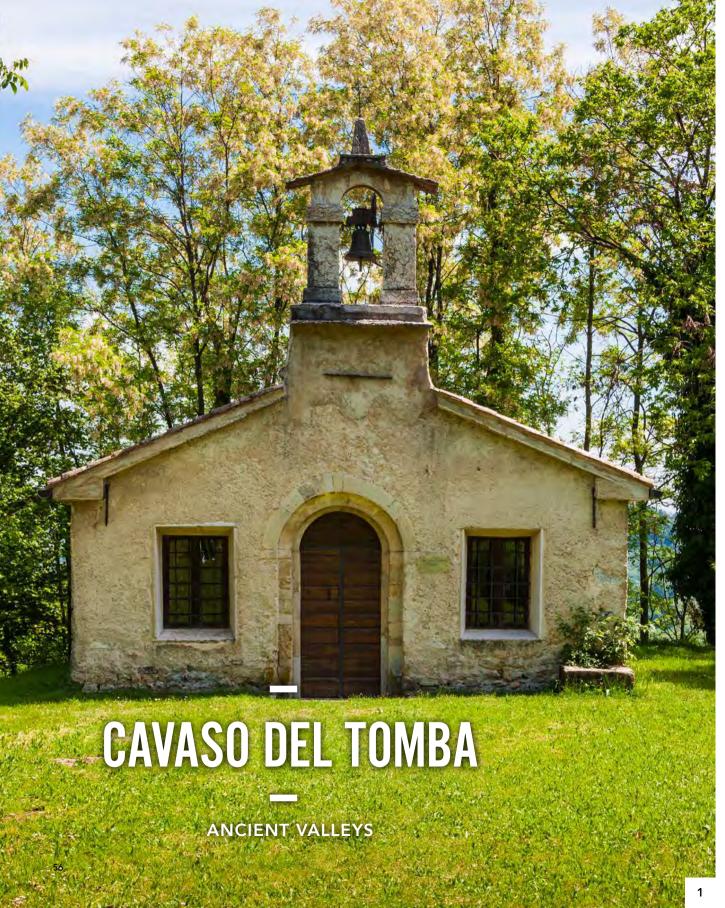
April: Spring Fair
June: Olive Trees and
Olive Oil
October: Ancient Rosary
Festival

Olive oil

Olive trees have been grown in Cappella Maggiore since ancient times. Thanks in part to initiatives by the town council, there are currently 10,000 olive trees in the municipal area. The most common varieties are: Frantoio, Leccino, Pendolino, Tonda di Villa and Bianchera. The exceptional local olive oil has a rich fruity flavour, a golden green colour with shades of yellow, and a fresh olive aroma.







PLACES OF INTEREST

Art and Culture

Church of the Visitazione della Beata Vergine Maria a Santa Elisabetta: this is the parish church of Cavaso and it is dedicated to the Visitation. It is thought to have been built in the 12th century and since then it has undergone renovation and restoration work on a number of occasions. It contains an altarpiece from 1587 and a painting from 1580 by Jacopo Da Ponte, as well as an altarpiece showing the Virgin Mary visiting Elizabeth by the Flemish artist Nicolas Régnier.

Oratory and Hermitage of San Giorgio al Paveion: nobody knows for certain when this little temple and the small dwelling next to it were built. Records show that a hermit was living in the oratory in 1789. The complex is now home to a museum about historic routes in the Valcavasia.

Villa Bianchi-Premoli and Villa Bianchi-Sertorio: the former was built in the 17th century and the latter in the first half of the 18th century. They offer concrete proof of the wealth of the Bianchi family, which came from wool processing.

Church of San Martino: according to an inscription from 1789, this little church in Castelcies was built as long ago as 1168. It was the local people's main place of worship for many centuries. It was given its current form in the 16th century, when it was frescoed by Marco da Mel. It was badly damaged during the First World War: a grenade hit it and broke up part of the floor, revealing the foundations of a Roman home underneath.

Landscape and Nature

Monte Tomba: the provinces of Treviso and Belluno are divided by the ridge of this mountain, which reaches 868 metres above sea level. It was part of the Grappa front during the First World War. The Alpine Church of the Madonna del Monte Tomba on its slopes is dedicated to the fallen. Path 212 starts in Cavaso and leads to the top.

Path to Colle della Bastìa di San Giorgio: this marked route goes from Caniezza to the Hermitage of San Giorgio, past some enchanting dry stone walls. From the hermitage there are marvellous views of the whole of the Val Cavasia. If you like, you can continue from there to the top of the hill and look around the ruins of the Bastìa di San Giorgio Castle, which is thought to have been built in Roman times.

Historical Snippets

The first known written document to mention Cavaso and the district of Virago is from 780 AD. It reveals that a clergyman named Felice gave land to his daughter in *Capati*, in a place called *Viriacus*.

In the Middle Ages, the parish of Cavaso took the form of a federation of eight communes (corresponding to the current districts of the municipality) with ties to the city of Treviso.

From the 16th century onwards, the political stability provided by the rule of the Republic of Venice helped a range of renowned artisan activities to flourish, especially in the wool industry. However, the area was badly affected by an earthquake on 25 February 1695.

The town was partially destroyed during the First World War and the refugees were only able to return in early 1919.



- 1. Church of San Martino in Castelcies
- 2. A building in the old town centre
- 3. The village of Castelcies
- 4. The castle ruins

Castelcies and its castle

Castelcies is a village in the Municipality of Cavaso del Tomba that lies in the hills on the southern side of the Val Cavasia. It is a very old settlement whose origins may stretch back as far as the Bronze Age. There has been numerous finds from Roman times in the area, leading to theories that Castelcies might have been a *vicus* (a unit consisting of homes and land) on the margins of the Asolo area. Castelcies castle was built in around the 11th century by Gherardo Maltraversi, who was a member of an important feudal family. Over the years, it was occupied by a number of families, starting with the Maltraversi family themselves and subsequently the Colfosco, the Collato and finally the Da Castelli family. The last known record mentioning the castle is from 1283. In the early 1990s, the castle ruins were discovered during archaeological excavations near the Church of San Martino.

EVENTS

AND INITIATIVES:

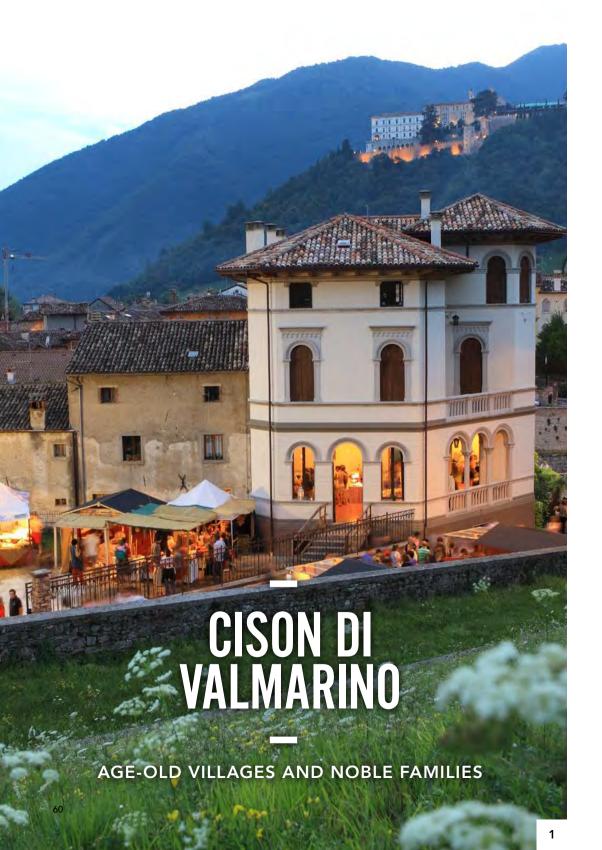
February: Cavaso Carniva

August: Blessing Festival **November:** Festival of

Saint Martin

Did you know?

Inside the Church of San Martino is a square block of stone with an inscription in Rhaetic on one side and a translation in Latin on the other. It dates back to the 2nd century BC and is considered the oldest document in the Province of Treviso.



PLACES OF INTEREST

Art and Culture

Piazza Roma: the most important buildings in Cison line this vibrant square at the heart of the town. Representatives of the 12 villages in the Valmareno area used to gather and discuss feudal management issues in the 17th century Teatro la Loggia. It is now home to a vintage radio museum with more than 80 items in its collection. The town hall is known as Palazzo Zambaldi and it was built in around the 15th century. Villa Brandolini is also known as Casa Granda, meaning "Big House". From the 15th century, the Brandolini family stayed there when they were in town. Finally, standing between the town hall and the church is the enormous Palazzo Casoni Moretti, which is better known now as Palazzo Marcello. It was built and extended between the 14th and 15th centuries. All of these buildings contain classic terrazzo flooring, stucco work, decorated wooden ceilings and – in some cases - frescoes.

Church of Santa Maria Assunta: consecrated in 1746 by Bishop Lorenzo Da Ponte, its entrance is adorned with three statues by Marco Casagrande and it contains an exceptional array of works of art, including exquisite marble pieces, polychrome stucco work and a remarkable cycle of paintings. The Baroque single nave is decorated with frescoes and paintings by the Cison-born artist Egidio Dall'Oglio.

Case Marian: also known as the "red houses", this 17th century building is made up of one big block, with stables to the West the architect Ottavio Scotti between 1710 and homes to the East. The large arcade was added in the mid-20th century and the well in the middle was rebuilt in the 1990s.





Borghi più belli d'Italia

Between the 19th and 20th centuries, the outside walls were painted red like many other sharecroppers' homes owned by the Brandolini family.

Old Brandolini Winery: it is thought that this building dates back to the 15th century. Changes and improvements were made by Count Guido Brandolini in the second half of the 17th century. Along with the Case Marian, it can be admired in all of its glory during the big "Artigianato Vivo" craftsmanship festival, which fills the streets and courtyards of the town with the

marvels of age-old trades in August every year.

Brandolini-Colomban Castle (Castel-Brando): this castle takes its name from the Brandolini family, who lived there for more than 500 years. This was almost certainly

the site of a military garrison

from the time of the Lombards onwards. The remains of a late Roman village from some time between the 4th and 6th centuries AD have been found less than a kilometre away, on a nearby mountain. Some historians believe that the castle was built in 1194 to counterbalance the presence of another fortification. Over the centuries, it was extended on a number of occasions. The last work of this kind was carried out by and 1714. The castle now contains six museum areas and it looks down from the top of the hill over Valmareno and Cison.

Landscape and Nature

Bosco delle Penne Mozze: the name of this place means Wood of the Broken Feathers. which is a reference to the feathers worn by Italian Alpini troops in their hats. It was opened in 1972, is easy to reach from the village and enjoys sweeping views of the Treviso Prealps. Spanning more than 16,000 m², it is a memorial in natural surroundings where more than 2,400 stelae produced by Simon Benetton are positioned among the trees to remember Alpini from the Province of Treviso who have died in combat or for any reasons connected with their service.

The Via dei Mulini (Mill Way): a few hunentrance to a 3 km trail that winds its way through the valley to the Bosco delle Penne along the way.

Mozze, taking you past some interesting historical and natural sites. The route paints a picture of what the artisan scene in Cison was like until the start of the last century, with the water in the Rujo stream playing a key role. You can see rebuilt wash tubs, fountains, canals with a number of locks, old water mills and the remains of old fulling stocks.

The Loff Refuge: the name "Loff" means "Wolves", which is a moniker given to the people of Cison. The refuge is one of the most spellbinding spots in the Treviso Prealps. There are various paths leading there, the fastest of which is number 991. dred metres north of Piazza Roma is the It starts in the San Boldo Pass and there are a number of spots with sweeping views

Did you know?

The 100-day Road: this road leading from Tovena to the San Boldo Pass gets its distinctive name from the fact that it was built between March and June 1918 by Austrian military engineers for strategic purposes. The local people made a key contribution to this memorable feat, which involved digging five tunnels.

- 1. Artigianato Vivo craftsmanship festival, with CastelBrando in the background
- 2. San Vito Bridge
- 3. San Boldo Pass
- 4. The village of Rolle, protected by the Italian National Trust (FAI)



AND INITIATIVES: March/April: Assaporando Cison food and wine festival, Il Bosco Incantato sulle vie dell'Acqua (Enchanted

EVENTS

Woods by the Water) August: Artigianato Vivo craftsmanship festival, Penne Mozze gathering

October: Santi Simone & Giuda fair **December:** Stelle a Natale Christmas market, Nativity scenes in Mura

of Alpini troops

Historical Snippets

Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Bronze Age finds have shown that people have lived in the local area ever since prehistoric times.

It underwent substantial development under the Goths and the Lombards, as revealed by the remains of fortifications that can still be seen on mountain ridges and the devotion to military saints in small churches in the area.

Cison was the capital of the Fief of Valmareno from 1436, when the Republic of Venice left the land in the hands of the condottieri Erasmo of Narni (better known as Gattamelata) and Brandolino Brandolini. The descendants of the latter held the Valmareno area until the fall of the Republic of Venice.

Traditions

At the age-old Santi Simone & Giuda fair in Tovena, the people of the foothills and the Belluno area used to trade duty-free agricultural and craft products. The fair has lost its commercial side over the years, but it still provides people with an opportunity to gather together, celebrate and savour traditional dishes, including tripe made using an ancient local recipe.



The Village of Rolle

This charming little rural spot was the first village to be officially protected by the Italian National Trust (FAI). The poet Andrea Zanzotto was very fond of Rolle and called it a postcard sent by the gods due to its beautiful landscape. Its development began in the 13th century, when some Benedictine monks settled there. Part of the old monastery can still be seen near the centre of the village. From the square in Rolle there are breathtaking views of the cottages, fruit trees and vineyards stretching across the hills.



PLACES OF **INTEREST**

Art and Culture

Church of Santi Maria Assunta & Cassiano: this place of worship was built in the first half of the 17th century on the former site of an old oratory dedicated to Saint is thought to have been destroyed by the Cassian of Imola. It boasts some exceptional works of art, including a last supper by Marco Vecellio (Titian's nephew), a fresco by Giovanni De Min, a piece by Palma il Giovane and one by Domenico Robusti (Tintoretto's son).

Church of San Valentino: first mentioned in a document dating back to 1599, this church contains a painting by Giacinto Arnosti and a 17th century wooden altar by the Ghirlanduzzi brothers, who were wood carvers from Ceneda.

Church of Santo Stefano: this building in the Pinidello area was given its current form when an existing structure was extended in the first half of the 16th century. Inside are an altarpiece by Francesco Da Milano from 1536 and a cycle of 15th century frescoes.

Villa Zanussi (formerly Villa Rota Brandolini d'Adda): this 17th century villa is in the centre of town, on the bank of the Meschio River. As well as the central body, it has two side wings and large grounds. The long drive is lined with trees and statues from the 17th and 18th centuries depicting mythological gods and allegorical figures.

Villa Mocenigo (also known as Belvedere): this 16th century building's most glorious years came in the 18th century, when the Doge of Venice Alvise Giovanni Mocenigo stayed there. Carlo Goldoni was part of his retinue.

Cordignano Castle (Castelat): this old stronghold stands on a hill called Col Castelir. It was built in the 11th century and Turks towards the end of the 15th century. Only the ruins can be seen today.



Il Cristo del Meschio is an island in the River Meschio in Santo Stefano di Pinidello, on the border with the Municipality of Colle Umberto. A beautiful wooden crucifix on the riverbank inspired its name, which means Christ of the Meschio.

Ponte della Muda: (originally Villa Pontis): this area dates back to the 11th century. There are two parts in its name. The first (Ponte) means Bridge and it comes from the most important bridge in Cordignano, which was built in the 13th century and was part of the Royal Road linking Venice with Northern Europe. The second (Muda) means Tax and it refers to the duties paid in the nearby early 16th century Custom House. The latter initially had five round arches with capitals. Customs procedures for goods and animals were carried out inside it.

Landscape and Nature

The Meschio: the river has always played a key part in the local economy and been used by the local people in many ways, including as a source of food. The name comes from the Latin *mixtus*, which means *mixed*. It refers to the fact that the water from numerous streams flows into it and gets mixed together. There are no fewer than seven bridges over the Meschio River in Cordignano.

Cordignano *Canyon*: The starting point for this route is at the junction between Strada del Faidel and Via Cal delle Zatte in Villa di Villa. It takes you through the wildest part of the Cordignano hills, where the landscape has been shaped by constantly flowing water.

Patriarch Path: the start of this path is in the first 200 metres of Strada del Faidel, near Cordignano Castle in Villa di Villa. The route takes in woods, large meadows, country homes and viewpoints as it climbs to the foot of Col Oliver (at 950 metres above sea level). It follows CAI (Italian Alpine Club) path 1060 for much of the way.



Historical Snippets

The Ancient Veneti are known to have settled in Cordignano, which has roots stretching back to prehistoric times. If you climb from Villa di Villa towards the hills on the border with the Municipality of Caneva, you will come to Col Castelir. Its name comes from a Bronze Age fortified settlement known as a "castelliere", at the foot of which a place of worship from the time of the Ancient Veneti and Romans was found in 1973.

In the Middle Ages, Cordignano was regularly invaded by barbarians. It is thought that the Lombards first used the place name Corticionus, which later developed into Cordignano.

The Republic of Venice handed Cordignano to the nobleman Guido Rangoni in 1337 and subsequently passed it on to the Mocenigo family, who helped the area to thrive.

- 1. Meschio River
- 2. Cordignano Castle (Castelat)
- 3. Old town centre
- 4. View from Le Conche in Villa di Villa
- 5. Building in the Charcoal Park

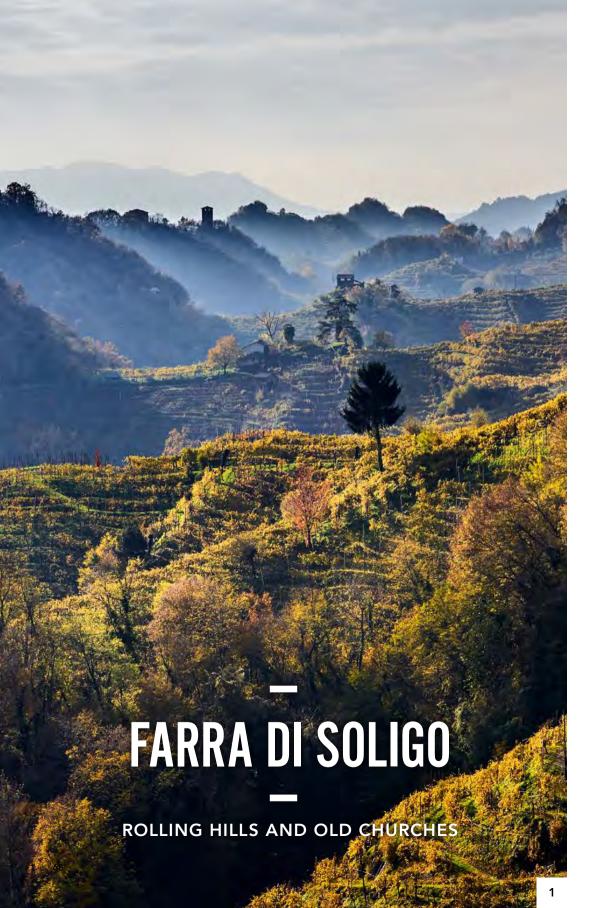


July: Charcoal Festival
November: Prealps Festival
and Wood Sculpture Symposium, National Painting,
Graphic Design and Watercolour Exhibition



This park is in Lamar, at approximately 850 metres above sea level. It was built in June 1983 by a group of former charcoal makers from Villa di Villa in order to keep alive the links with the ancient and recent history of the local area. Reconstructions of a traditional charcoal pile (known as a pojat in the local dialect) and a charcoal maker's house (cason in dialect) show visitors how the Republic of Venice made use of the resources of Cansiglio Forest. You can walk to the park on CAI (Italian Alpine Club) path 1060. If you would prefer to cycle or drive, follow the road that leads from Strada del Faidel, then take Via Cansiglio to Crosetta.





Art and Culture

Towers of Credazzo: part of the fief of Credazzo, they were built by the Da Camino family and are the last remnants of a stronghold for which the earliest records date that have been attributed to the 15th cenback to 1233. Around a century later, the Medieval fortalice came into the hands of the Collalto family. They held onto it until it was destroyed by the Hungarians in the 15th century. The site has now been restored. It features three towers of different Romanesque oratory of San Vigilio: the sizes that are joined together by a wall.

Church of San Lorenzo: the earliest record of this place of worship dates back to 1210. It is south of the Towers of Credazzo and was part of the fief of the same name. There are spectacular, sweeping views of the Prosecco Superiore hills from the church.

Church of the Madonna dei Broi: the first known mention of this little medieval church is from 1326 and pilgrims have travelled there for centuries to pray for rain and plentiful harvests. The building suffered substantial damage when the Austro-Hungarian army invaded during the First World War. It was first used as a stable for the horses of the troops and Collagu: this enchanting little village in then to house prisoners of war, who left some moving traces that can still be seen today. Recent restoration work has brought to light some remarkable frescoes from the early 14th century and the words and drawings of Italian soldiers who fought in the First World War.

Hermitage of San Gallo: the first record of this complex on top of the hill of the same name is in a will from 1354. As well as a Romanesque church, there is an annex where time, which requires "heroic" dedication to pilgrims once stayed.

Church of Santa Maria Nova: this building in Soligo is known locally as the "little church". It contains some superb frescoes tury Rimini School. During the First World War, a grenade damaged the structure and revealed additional frescoes that were hidden under the plaster.

hilltop chapel in Col San Martino was originally built in the 11th century and later reshaped and extended. It contains a magnificent selection of 15th century paintings.

Landscape and Nature

Lookout Path: this route gets its name because the Austro-Hungarian army monitored the area from up here. It runs from Col San Martino to Soligo along the ridge of the hills and offers views of nearby towns and the Prealp peaks. When you come to Monte Moncader, you can visit a perfectly preserved First World War tunnel.

the peaceful hills developed thanks to the presence of the noble Bottari da Castello family from Solighetto. The relics of Saint Aemilius and Saint Florida are kept here in a 1930s sanctuary that is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows.

Heroic hills: in the picturesque hillside vineyards of the Farra di Soligo area, Glera grapes are still hand-picked one bunch at a the back-breaking work.

The place name Farra is part of the legacy of the widespread presence of the Lombards in the hills from the 5th century AD onwards: a fara was a family group within their society. In addition, a Lombard burial ground has been found on the slopes of a hill in Monchera.

In the Middle Ages, the Farra area was divided into two fiefs: to the East was the fief of Farra, with a fortress on Colle di San Giorgio; and to the West was the fief of Credazzo, where the castle dates back to the 9th or 10th century.

Battles took place here during the First and Second World Wars. In 2008, the town was presented with a Bronze Medal for Civil Valour to commemorate eight civilians slaughtered by Nazi-Fascist troops.

Did you know?

La piera dei mat: People from rival towns and villages always used to claim that the inhabitants of Farra were a little odd and blame it on the legend of a large stone in Farra that would make anyone who accidentally touched it or stood on it lose their mind.

Famous figures

Antonio Bellucci (1654-1726): he had Venetian origins but his mother was from Soligo and he made it his home. He was considered by many people to be the most illustrious 17th century artist from the Treviso area. Numerous paintings by Bellucci can be found in Northern Italy. His fame soon spread beyond the national borders and his reputation grew to such an extent that he was appointed as the painter of the Holy Roman Emperors Joseph I and Charles VI.

Quirico Viviani (1780-1835): in the early decades of the 19th century, Quirico Viviani played a significant role in literary circles. As well as translating works by ancient au-

thors into Italian, he wrote under his own name. His publications included *La Divina Commedia di Dante secondo la lezione del Codice Bartoliniano*, which was about Dante's Divine Comedy.

Bruno Donadel (1929-2018): this painter was born into a peasant family in Soligo and was almost entirely self-taught, although he did learn about perspective at evening school in Pieve di Soligo, under the guidance of Giovanni Zanzotto (father of the famous poet Andrea). He became known as the peasant painter because he portrayed the rural world in his works, which were mostly oil paintings.

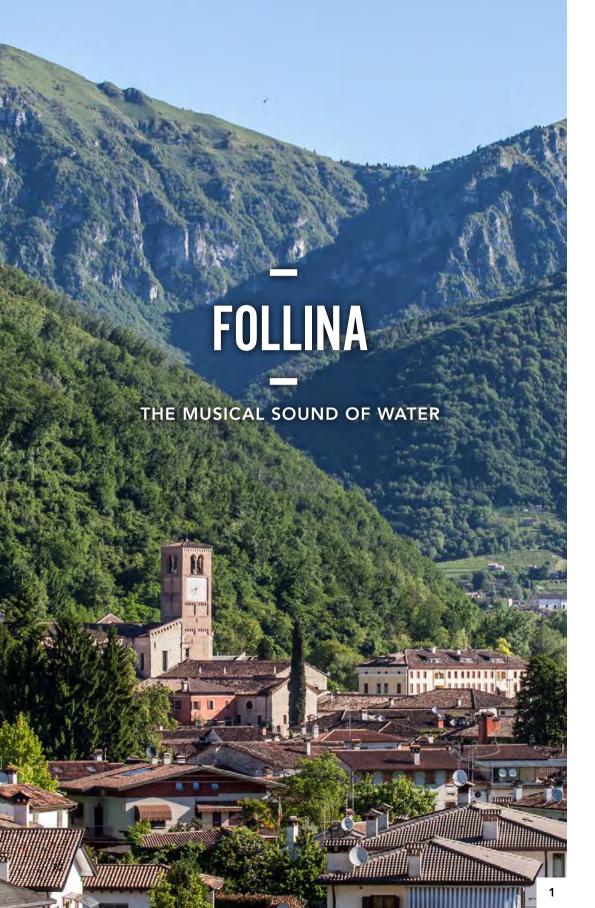




The naming box

EVENTI E MANIFESTAZIONI:

The Romanesque Oratory of San Martino in Col San Martino was destroyed in 1918 and rebuilt in 1927. Inside it is a box containing a large number of pieces of paper with boys' and girls' names on them. Still today, couples who want to have a baby go there, pick a name out of the box and pledge to give it to their future child. There are records of the tradition from as long ago as 1743, but its origins probably stretch much further back in time.



Art and Culture

Abbey of Santa Maria: in the 13th centuatmosphere thanks to a perfect blend of half of the 15th century. profound mysticism, enchanting appeal and historic architecture. The harmonious Austro-Hungarian war memorial: built shapes, mysterious silence and magical light take visitors on timeless journeys. Building work on the magnificent cloister - which is older than the basilica and perfectly preserved today - was completed in 1268, when the Cistercian monks moved into the abbey. They are thought to have been the ones who honed wool processing techniques in the local area. Follina is actually believed to have got its name from the Italian word for "fulling" ("follatura"), which is a wool processing procedure.

Palazzo Barberis: it was built near the abbey in the second half of the 17th century by Francesco Fadda, to complement a cloth factory that he owned. There is a centred triple lancet window in the middle of the façade, with centred windows on either side. In the inner courtyard is an airy frescoed loggia with bossage on the pillars of the arches.

Town hall: in 1820, a Castelfranco-based entrepreneur called Andretta started construction work on a wool mill that has now become the town hall. It is an imposing has a south-facing balcony for drying cloth and calls to mind the industrial buildings of Northern Europe. It later became the Pasqualis silk mill and the San Giuseppe Servite seminary.





Old metalworking hammer: according to ry work began on the abbey, which is the a 17th century map, the building where the spiritual heart of Follina. It has a unique hammer is found dates back to the second

> during the First World War, it is now a symbol of peace and brotherhood between nations. 77 soldiers from different countries are buried there under their national flags.

Landscape and Nature

Via Claudia Augusta Altinate: this important military road led from the Adriatic Sea to the Danube. It got its name from the Roman emperor Claudius, who had it built in 46 AD according to the inscriptions that can still be seen today. Many historians believe that the road followed the Soligo valley as far as Follina, then went up to the Praderadego pass.

Praderadego and Col De Moi: the Praderadego pass at 925 metres above sea level provides a link between two sides of the Prealps: Vallata and Valbelluna. CAI (Italian Alpine Club) path 991 leads up from the pass to Col De Moi, which is the highest peak in the Municipality of Follina at 1,358 metres above sea level.

Santa Scolastica Springs: this is the source of the Follina River, which is a tributary of structure that stands near the sources of the the Soligo River. Tradition has it that the Follina River and has a number of floors. It springs were originally named after a pagan god, but the Benedictine monks who first came to Follina in the 12th century did not approve. They named them after Saint Scholastica, who is said to have been the sister of Saint Benedict of Nursia.

In 1154, the Colfosco and Da Camino families were joined together by the marriage of Sofia and Guecellone. Countess Sofia made a big contribution to the development of Follina and its abbey, bequeathing a number of local churches and their estates to Abbot Pietro.

In 1436 the Republic of Venice handed the Fief of Valmareno to Brandolino III Brandolini and Gattamelata. The latter ceded his part to the former in 1439 and the fief remained with the Brandolini family until 1797.

In 1865, the oldest mutual aid scheme in the Province of Treviso was founded in Follina. It ensured that the families of workers would benefit from insurance coverage in the event of illness or death. It was launched by the local wool mill owners, partly out of a spirit of philanthropy and partly as a way to keep hardship under control.

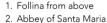
EVENTS AND INITIATIVES:

April: Colours of Spring market and Street Painting Festival Halfway through Lent: Trial of the old hag May: Age-old Pentecost Festival, along with Wool Road events June: Prosecco Spring, Notes of DOCG Prosecco, Barbecue Festival November: urban hiking December: Christmas markets, Winter Colours

Traditions

Trial of the old hag: this traditional event takes place halfway through Lent every year. An effigy of an old woman is accused of being responsible for all of Follina's misfortunes and sentenced to burn at the stake.



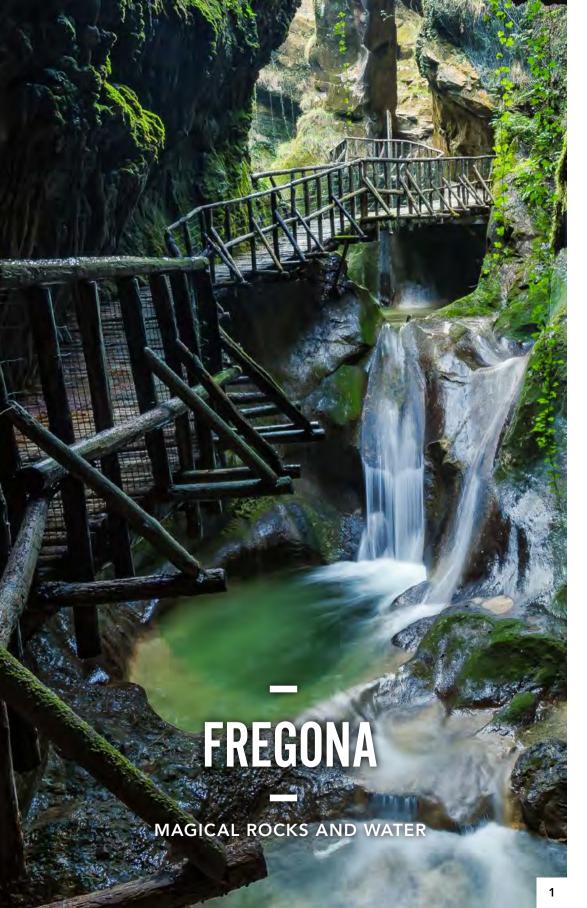


3. Church of San Giacomo in Valmareno



Wool and silk

Wool and silk manufacturing flourished in Follina for many years. From the 13th century onwards, numerous wool mills were opened in the local area. Follina became renowned for its exceptional wool and silk, which were prized in the Republic of Venice and beyond. From the 1880s, the industry declined. The town was not connected to the main railway lines and trading networks and it could no longer compete with mills elsewhere that had replaced natural water power with coal and steam. Consequently, the two biggest wool mills closed. Smaller companies managed to stay in business and in the late 19th and early 20th century the previously small local silk industry began to grow.



Art and Culture

Fregona Bell Tower: work began on this luno. Cansiglio Forest played an enormous neo-Gothic structure in 1881 and it was designed by Francesco Ciprian. It was taken to its current height of 67 metres in 1909. It features graceful balustrades, four side go by, a range of stunning colours appear pinnacles and eight dragon and lion gargoyles. In the nearby archpriest's church is a superb 18th century altarpiece by Sebastiano Ricci, which is entitled Christ Crucified and Souls in Purgatory.

Altarpiece of Saint George: one of Francesco da Milano's masterpieces, it was painted in 1529. It is in the Parish Church of Osigo.

there is a harmonious rhythm to the elegant architecture of this 17th century Veneto villa, which is one of the most prestigious buildings in Fregona.

Piai Castle: there are panoramic views from this spot at the foot of Monte Pizzoc, which started out as a Roman watch post. Its glory years came under the rule of the Da Camino family in the 13th to 15th centuries. This is underlined by a solid wood strongbox with a complex security system on the lid that was found inside it. It belonged to Salatino Scotti - the last lord of the castle - until 1423 and it is now kept in the archpriest's church in Fregona. Only a few traces of the castle can be seen today.

Landscape and Nature

Cansiglio Forest: The first known historical record of Cansiglio Forest (which was known as the Alpago Wood at the time) is a certificate from 923 AD showing that Berengar I, the King of Italy, had given the forest to the fief of the Count-Bishop of Bel-

economic role in the Republic of Venice because its beech trees were used to make oars, timber and charcoal. As the seasons in the beech woods, which are at their absolute best in autumn.

Caglieron Caves: there are a number of chambers in this complex in Breda di Fregona. Some of them are a result of the quarrying process for a type of sandstone known locally as "piera dolza" ("soft stone"). Others have been naturally carved by the Caglieron stream into alternating Villa Trojer Lucheschi De Mori Salvador: layers of clastic limestone, sandstone and marl from the Middle Miocene (between 16 million and 10 million years ago). There are numerous waterfalls, some of which are many metres tall. Due to the significant limestone content in the water, visitors can admire stalactites and stalagmites in a host of shapes and colours.



Monte Pizzoc: from the top there are amazing views of the Alpago mountains, the Veneto Dolomites and the Revine Lakes. On clear days, it is even possible to make out the Venetian Lagoon. You can either drive up or follow the network of paths and mule tracks. From Fregona, the Direttissima (short but steep) path will take you to the Città di Vittorio Veneto refuge in approximately one hour.

Proverbs

La piova che vien da Cansei no la bagna gnanca i 2éi (Rain that comes from Cansiglio doesn't even get the ground under the vines wet).

Historical Snippets

A number of remains have been found that suggest people have been living in the Fregona area since the Iron Age. It gets lots of sunlight, has plenty of water resources and is sheltered by the mountains, so it is an ideal place to settle.

It belonged to the bishops of Belluno, then it passed into the hands of the Counts of the Da Montanara family, who later became the Da Camino family. After the death of Rizzardo VI da Camino, in 1337 Fregona shared the same fate as Serravalle and became part of the lands of the Republic of Venice.

On the night of 20 July 1509, Captain Francesco Forte and a squad of men that he had recruited in Fregona captured the town of Serravalle, which was a strategic place of transit. In recognition of this feat, Venice made Fregona exempt from taxes. It was a privilege that it would continue to enjoy until the fall of the Venetian Republic.

Traditions

Stonemasons: for over 400 years, starting in the 16th century, local people skilfully quarried sandstone to make architectural features such as door jambs, cornerstones and steps. Fregona bell tower and many buildings in Vittorio Veneto feature a host of "piera dolza" decorations. The stonemasons deftly followed the layers in the rock and plied their trade with a blend of great expertise and a small selection of tools (pickaxes, hammers, chisels, wedges, spikes and steel blades).

Fascinating facts

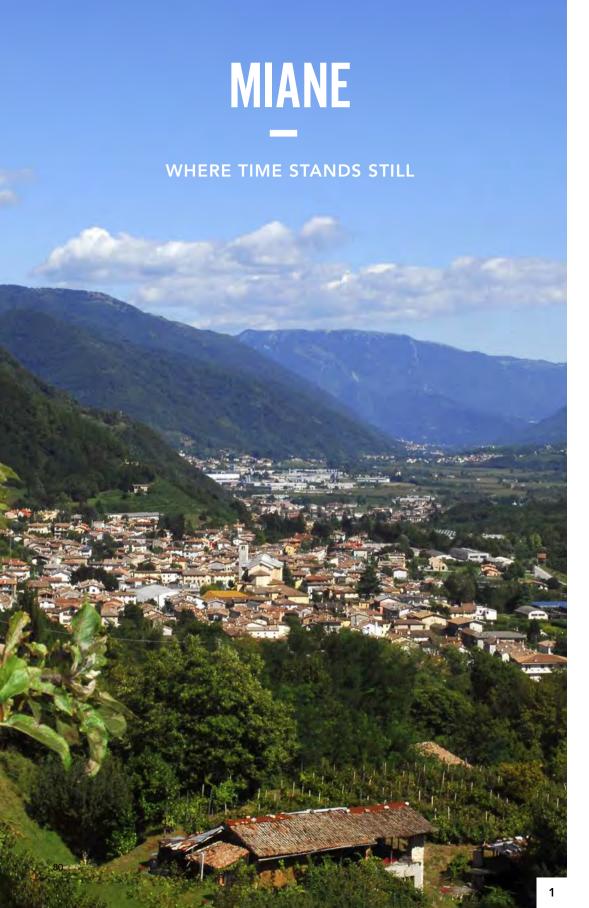
Torchiato di Fregona is a type of wine whose origins lie in the distant past. Legend has it that a 17th century grower had to harvest his grapes earlier than planned because frosty weather was expected. He left the grapes on matting in his barn and the following spring he pressed it (*Torchiato* means *Pressed*) a number of times, then put the must into small barrels. A year later, he tasted the wine and was amazed by how delicious it was!





Caglieron Cave-aged Cheese

This cheese is made with whole milk from selected dairies on the Cansiglio plateau and in the Treviso Prealps. It is aged for at least 60 days in the Caglieron Caves, where the relative humidity remains at 99% and the temperature at 16°C almost all year round. It has a very intense aroma, with hints of warm butter, citrus yogurt, mineral notes and damp wood. It has a mild, savoury flavour, with a touch of acidity. It is a straw yellow colour, with small to medium eyes.



Art and Culture

Archpriest's Church: built in 1878, it con- from the 16th century onwards, it features tains a marble high altar and a magnificent unadulterated, graceful lines. Rather than a shrine as well as paintings by Dall'Oglio, Bianchi, Bellucci and Balliana. The church also has a bell tower. It was originally built quired by a self-sufficient local community. in the 15th century as a watch tower that The village of Campea developed thanks to was part of a more complex defensive system, then converted for its current purpose at a later date.

Sanctuary of the Madonna del Carmine: consecrated in 1824, it is in Visnà and has seen numerous pilgrims visit over the years.

The 14th century **Church of San Pietro** was the original Archpriest's Church in Miane. It has a simple, spotless white façade.

the former was built in around 1300 as a votive offering to ward off the plague. It contains a 16th century altarpiece showing the Shepherds' huts and country homes: Virgin Mary (the Patron Saint of Miane) with Saint Sebastian and Saint Roch. The 16th century Church of Sant'Antonio contains works by Frigimelica and Rossi.



Villa Gera-Bellati: built by the Gera family

simple luxury home, it is an intricate combination of the essential rustic structures rethe villa, around which most economic and social activities revolved until the first half of the last century.

Landscape and Nature

Landrel Way tourist and spiritual route: this trail leads to the Landrel Cave, a place of worship that lots of people visit so that they can pray to the Madonna, who is said to have appeared before a group of shepherds in around 1100. The route starts at the Sanctuary of the Madonna del Carmine Churches of San Vito and Sant'Antonio: and takes you down a dirt road through the enchanting little village of Posa Granda.

> there are numerous shepherds' huts and country homes in the Miane area, including the Budui and Mont shepherds' huts (two of the few that are still in use), the Federa and I Pian country homes, and the Posa Puner Refuge. From the latter, you can look south over the northern Treviso plain and hills, and north over the woods stretching across the slopes as far as the Val Belluna.

> Comby Path: on this education and nature trail, you can see the different stages in the lives of chestnut trees and get to know the local flora and fauna. It is in Canesella and vou can walk there from the centre of Combai, along a route through age-old chestnut woods that is about 1 km long and has spellbinding views.



Miane was an ancient Roman pagus (village) and it probably got its name from a Roman veteran named Aemilius.

Miane became part of the fief of Valmareno in the 12th century and was subject to its legislation system until the fall of the Republic of Venice in 1797. During the subsequent period of Austrian rule, it was governed by authorities based in Valdobbiadene.

Economic hardship in the years following the Second World War forced many people from Miane to emigrate. A document from 1956 shows that approximately a quarter of the population worked abroad on either a seasonal or a permanent basis.

AND INITIATIVES:

April: DOCG Prosecco Show, Miane in Bloom September: Shepherds' Huts in Miane and Borgo Valbelluna October: Chestnut Festival **November:** Festival of Saint Martin, Festival of Saint Andrew

Famous figures

Marco Casagrande: born in 1804, he attended the Academy of Fine Art in Venice thanks to his first patron, Bartolomeo Gera, for whom he produced the magnificent tympanum at Villa Gera in Conegliano at just 23 years of age. He also lived and worked in Hungary, where he became one of the most highly rated sculptors around.

Giovanni Antiga: this organist and composer was born in Miane in 1878. Having completed his musical education, in 1900 he found work in France. There he met the famous composer Massenet, who took him under his wing. He wrote numerous works for the piano and violin.



1. Miane from above

- 2. Villa Bellati in Campea
- 3. Sanctuary of the Madonna del Carmine
- 4. Combai
- 5. PGI Combai Chestnuts
- 6. Posa Puner Refuge

Did you know?

La Strada de la fan: this road was built by forced labourers under the Austrian occupation during the First World War. The work was done by the people from the area (mostly women and children, because the men were away at the front). The commanders of the Austrian engineers designed the road to transport artillery so that it could shell the land on the far side of the Piave River. Its name means "Road of Hunger" and it comes from the fact that the forced labourers - and especially the women and children – never had enough to eat and were very poorly nourished.

PGI Combai Chestnuts

Combai is at the heart of the production area for PGI Combai Chestnuts, which encompasses 11 municipalities, from Segusino to Cordignano. Records show that chestnuts have been grown here since at least the 12th century. One particularly interesting document from 1665 lays down the chestnut harvesting rules for local people. The chestnuts grown here are larger than normal and they require more fertile land and greater care during cultivation. They are sweet, mealy and crunchy. The Chestnut Festival showcases and promotes the local area and everything that chestnut trees have to offer. It first took place in 1945. The European Union awarded Combai Chestnuts PGI (Protected Geographical Indication) status in 2009.



MONFUMO **ROLLING ALPINE FOOTHILLS**

PLACES OF INTEREST

Art and Culture

Villa Scotti: this villa is thought to have been designed by Vincenzo Scamozzi, a pupil of Palladio. In its fascinating façade, a tympanum with a sundial tops a portico with two columns featuring Doric capitals.

Monfumo Church: featuring classic 18th century architecture, this church stands on the former site of the Maltraverso castle and contains a marvellous fresco by Noè Bordignon dating back to 1887. The two angels on the high altar were sculpted by Perin Canova, grandfather of the more famous Antonio.

Castelli Church, near Monfumo: this place of worship stands on the former site of one of two old castles that were found in the area. Parts of the tomb of Count Baldo Castelli are built into the outside wall.

Lignite mine: this was a valuable source of employment for the people of the foothills from the 1920s until the end of the Second World War. At its peak in the 1940s, the number of workers reached 800 and a narrow-gauge railway more than 1 km long was built to cater to its needs.

Landscape and Nature

Acqua Morta route: this easy route will take you over the tops of green hills through a varied landscape. It is crossed by the Acqua Morta ditch, which flows into the Muson stream. As you go up and down the slopes, you will walk past hillside vineyards surrounded by green meadows.

Forcella Mostaccin: this pass joins together the two sides of the Asolo hills, climbing up from Monfumo and then leading back down to Maser. Running perpendicular to it is the *Due Rocche* path, which winds its way along the ridge of the hills from Cornuda to Asolo.



EVENTS AND INITIATIVES:

September: Apple Festival

Historical Snippets

In the Middle Ages, the story of Monfumo became intertwined with that of the noble Maltraverso and Da Castelli families, who took possession of their fiefs in the early 12th century. Their destinies were shaped by the rivalry between the Guelphs and the Ghibellines, which flared up into violent clashes and saw the two families join the Della Scala family in the fight against the Da Camino family and the bishops of Feltre and Treviso, who were on the Guelph side. As the conflicts grew fiercer and the power of Venice grew, the fortunes of the two families began to dwindle and by the second half of the 14th century little was left of the two fiefs of Monfumo.

The Municipality of Monfumo was established in 1810, under Napoleonic rule. In 1928 it was abolished and absorbed by Asolo, before finally becoming an independent municipality again in 1946.

1. San Nicola Parish Church in Monfumo

2. Monfumo's rural landscape3. An old variety of Sant'Anna apple

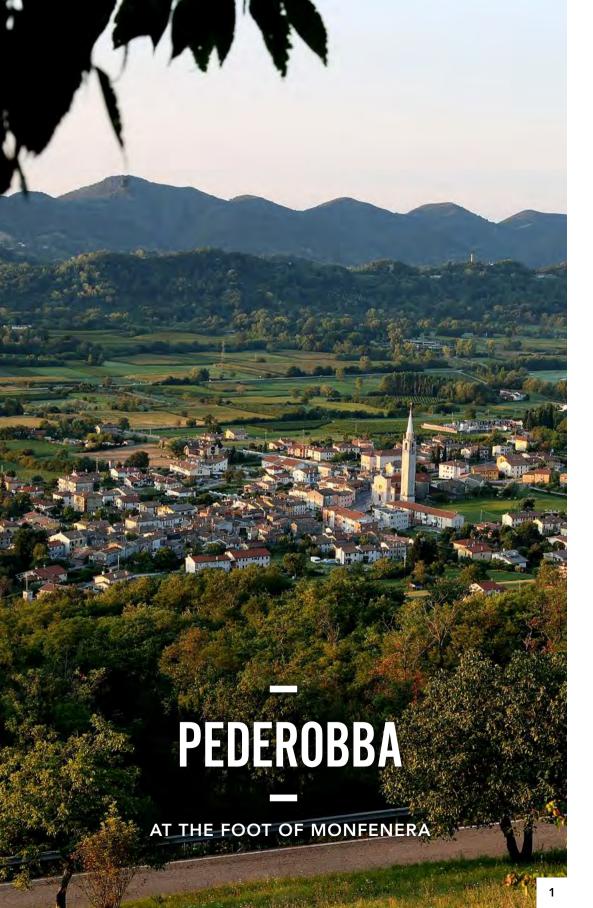


The old apples of Monfumo

The Old Apples association was founded in 1999 in partnership with the Grappa Mountain Community and the local council, as part of efforts to rediscover old varieties of apples and other traditional local products. Thanks to the drive and dedication of the members, a number of varieties of apple trees have been reintroduced over the years, including Rosa di Monfumo, Fiordarancio and Pom del Corlo. Since 2009, the association has worked in conjunction with the Slow Food branch for Montello and the Asolo Hills on initiatives to promote and protect the products

Did you know?

Fumo means smoke and the most likely story behind the name Monfumo is that signal fires were used to communicate with the castles in the surrounding area



Art and Culture

Hermitage of Sant'Elena: it is thought that and finally hopes for a peaceful future. this delightful little medieval church - which is dedicated to Saint Helena - has stood here ever since the 13th century. The noble Onigo family used it as their private rural chapel. For many centuries, a tradition has been kept alive of celebrating Saint Helena during a festival in Onigo on 18 August every year.

Castle ruins: the ruins of the Onigo family's medieval castle can still be seen today. They are found in a strategic position in the Piave valley and were used as a watch post during the First World War. Research and restoration work has been carried out on them in recent decades.

French military cemetery: opened in 1937 on the Feltrina State Road on the outskirts of Pederobba, this is the largest French military cemetery in Italy. It is a prominent landmark because it features a wall that is 100 metres long and 10 metres high, which represents the enemy advance being brought to a halt. It houses the remains of approximately 1.000 French soldiers who lost their lives on the North Italian front. Adorning the towering monument is a giant sculpture of "Mother France" and "Mother Italy" united in their grief as they hold a lifeless body.

Italian war memorial: produced in 1988 by the Venetian sculptor Gianni Aricò, this monument stands just a short distance from the French military cemetery. Featuring 20 lifesize figures, it tells a story by presenting a number of scenes inspired by the First World War: a man saying goodbye to his family, soldiers marching to the front, refugees fleeing, the barrier formed by the Piave River,

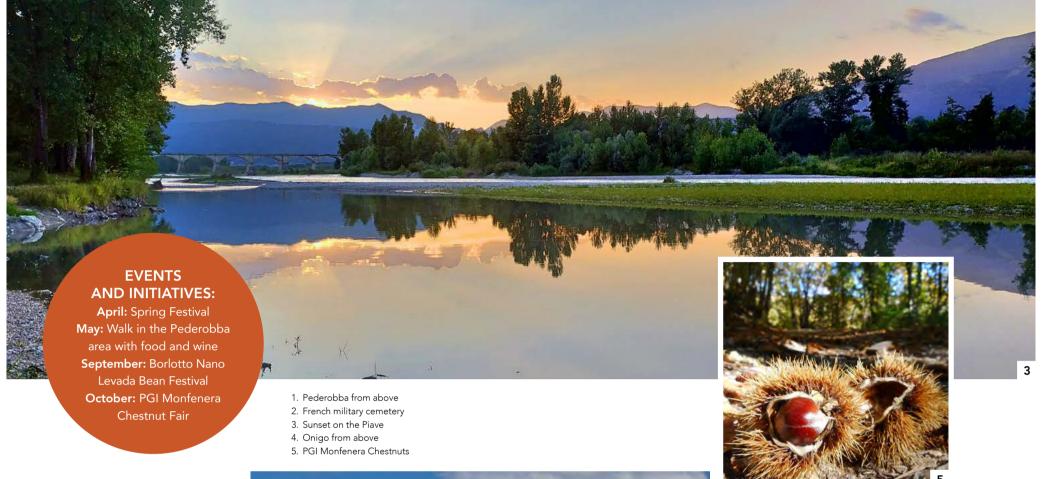
Landscape and Nature

LIPU Conservation Area - Garzaia Path: egrets and grey herons are just two of the vast number of protected species that can be found in the LIPU (Italian Bird Protection League) conservation area, which is surrounded by the spellbinding scenery of the Veneto Prealps and the broad bed of the Piave River. Some very rare birds can often be spotted during migration season, including black storks, white storks, western ospreys and numerous red-footed falcons.



Path in the Onigo hills: this simple hiking route is suitable for anyone who wants to enjoy some time in the great outdoors, in surroundings bursting with history that boast breathtaking, sweeping views of Monte Cesen and the Piave valley. Green woodland lines the path and it is possible to visit the trenches that formed Italy's second line of defence during the First World War.

Ae Barche Piave River Park: located on the bank of the Piave River, this is one of the most enchanting natural environments in the Pederobba area. Spanning 70,000 m², it is open to the public and is a great place to unwind and enjoy a little peace and quiet.



The Onigo family played a central role in this area for many years. They lived in Onigo castle, which was later taken from them by Ezzelino III da Romano and subsequently given to the Commune of Treviso.

The castle was handed back to Giovanni da Onigo in 1266. Pederobba flourished under the rule of the Republic of Venice, which saw a number of mills and workshops being built. It was also home to one of the most important fodder markets in the 16th century.

Pederobba suffered enormously after the Italian defeat at Caporetto during the First World War due to its location near the Piave front, Monte Grappa and Montello.



Outstanding Produce

The Pederobba area is famous for the beans and chestnuts that are grown there. It is the only part of the world where Borlotto Nano Levada beans are cultivated, as part of a tradition dating back to the start of the last century. The distinguishing features of this special type of beans are their reasonably large size and their rounded, elongated shapes, as well as their very thin white skins with red speckles. Chestnut growing plays a key role in the local rural economy. Constant dedication to chestnut cultivation is a tradition that has never died and it has helped to earn Monfenera Chestnuts PGI status. The Monfenera Chestnut Fair was launched in 1974 to champion the invaluable woods in the area and their most prized products. Honey is another trademark local product, as are free range chickens. The latter are free to roam in open green spaces, where they get an ideal diet in environmentally friendly conditions.

PIEVE DEL GRAPPA **HISTORY AND MEMORIES** 92

PLACES OF **INTEREST**

Art and Culture

Sanctuary of the Beata Vergine del Covolo: is the highest one – in metres above sea levthis church is high up on the slopes of the Prealps in Crespano. Tradition has it that it was built in the 12th century, after the Virgin Mary appeared before a deaf young shepherdess who had taken shelter in a cave (a "covolo" in the local dialect) during a storm. The church was given its current form in the first decade of the 19th century. It is a circular neoclassical construction that was designed by Antonio Canova. The previous church was preserved and can now be seen in the apse.

Crespano del Grappa Cathedral: the current cathedral is dedicated to Saint Mark and Saint Pancras. Work on it began in 1735 and it was consecrated in 1766. It is the parish church of Crespano and it was officially named the archpriest's church in 1829 thanks to the support of Giovanni Bat-1907. The current bell tower was built three years later. In 1928 the choir was extended to make room for the organ.

Archpriest's Church of Paderno del Grappa: originally built in the 14th century, it was extended in 1569 and renovated after an earthquake on 25 February 1695. It has a truly exceptional ceiling that was frescoed by Giovanni De Min in 1824 with a portrayal of the Last Judgement.

Church of Sant'Andrea: this 14th century building is in the North of the Crosera area. It was the town's rural church until 1718. The Baroque altar is from 1602 and it features an altarpiece that has been attributed to Leandro Bassano.

Church of the Santissima Trinità in Fietta: this is the town's current parish church and it

el - in the whole of the diocese of Treviso. It was built between 1762 and 1773, but some parts are from older churches. The bell tower was built by Francesco Zardo in 1793.

Villa Fietta: according to research by Monsignor Vittorio Piva, this complex was built in the early 15th century by Count Biagio Fietta. There are three floors in the main body of the building, which is topped with a pediment with two small additions on the sides. There is a long two-storey wing on each side, with a church on the end of the eastern one.

Lastego bridge: Crespano and Paderno del Grappa are joined together by this bridge over the Lastego stream. It was built in tista Sartori, who used his inheritance from his brother Antonio Canova to subsidize its construction. The bridge collapsed just a few months later due to the poor quality of the materials used, which were different from those listed in the original design by Angelo Casarotti. Even though he was not to blame, Casarotti committed suicide by throwing himself off what remained of the bridge. Shortly afterwards, the bridge was rebuilt to his original design.

First World War Museum: this museum is in Palazzo Reale in Crespano del Grappa, which probably gets its name (meaning "Royal Palace") because Prince Umberto, Count of Salemi (the nephew of Italian King Umberto I), stayed there. It contains around a thousand exhibits, which are divided into four themed areas: the mess, the field hospital, free time, and the trench.

Landscape and Nature

Astego Garden: the natural environments stretching from the peak of Monte Grappa to the plain below have been reconstructed on 16 terraces in this educational garden at 450 metres above sea level in Castagner dea Madoneta.

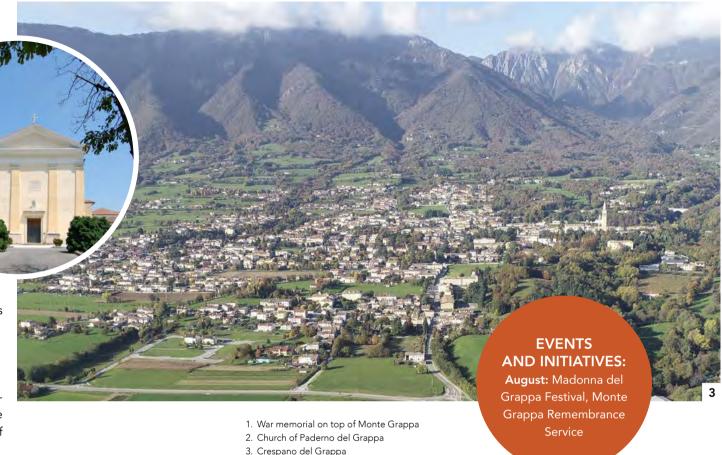
Ezzelini trail: follow the Muson and Lastego streams along a route with a total length of 40 km. The second stretch goes through the Asolo and Fonte areas and ends in Pieve del Grappa. Along the boundary between Crespano and Paderno, it enters the San Pancrazio natural park, climbs up to Castagner dea Madoneta and finally joins up with the Monte Grappa routes in San Liberale, near Fietta.

Historical Snippets

The Municipalities of Crespano del Grappa and Paderno del Grappa (the latter of which included Fietta) were merged on 30 January 2019 to form the Municipality of Pieve del Grappa.

Between the 11th and 13th centuries, the fate of Crespano was tied in with that of the Ezzelini family, until the downfall of the latter in 1260. From the 14th century onwards, records show that there was a great deal of artisan activity in the area, especially in the field of wool manufacturing. Thanks to financial support from Giovanni Battista Sartori, in the 19th century the square with a fountain was completed, a bridge was built between Crespano and Paderno, and the Molinetto road was opened.

Numerous items from Ancient Roman times have been found in the Paderno del Grappa area. Like Treviso, Paderno became part of the Republic of Venice in the late 14th century. As in Crespano, wool manufacturing flourished there. In the 17th century, the town was devastated first by the plague and then by an earthquake on 25 February 1695. Paderno was more fortunate during the First World War. Although fierce battles raged on the nearby Monte Grappa, the town came through the conflict unscathed.



4. War memorial on top of Monte Grappa



War memorial on top of Monte Grappa

This site has become an emblem of the suffering caused by the First World War. Although the surrounding landscape is stunningly beautiful, the memorial really drives home the horrors of one of the darkest periods in 20th century history. The Bassano Refuge on the slopes of Monte Grappa originally stood where the memorial is found now. It was rebuilt in 1935. In the former Milano Barracks a little lower down is a First World War Museum containing photographs, weapons and finds from the Monte Grappa and Asiago Plateau battlefields. Next to the museum is the entrance to the 5 km Vittorio Emanuele Tunnel, which was built in 1917 as part of fortification work. The war memorial is a towering sight on top of Monte Grappa. It is the resting place of 12,500 Italian soldiers and 10,000 of their Austro-Hungarian counterparts, as well as Lieutenant General Gaetano Giardino, the commander of Italy's Monte Grappa army.



Art and Culture

Palazzo Vaccari: the central part of this Palazzo Ciassi: a family of woollen cloth pro-19th century building originally served as the town hall. It was also home to local schools, including a pre-school and a any between the lands of the Brandolini and drawing school for artisans. It has recently been restored and is now used as the town hall again.

Loggia dei Grani: the grain market used to be held in this 19th century building with a neoclassical gallery.

Palazzo Balbi Valier: this building takes its name from a noble Venetian family who are known to have been in Pieve as long ago as the late 17th century. Along with its annexes and cellars, it is now known as the Balbi Valier Centre and is home to numerous offices and businesses.

Borgo Stolfi: head down from the bridge over the Soligo River through this charming little district, where a watermill complete with a wheel highlights the town's long-standing manufacturing traditions.

Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta: this neo-Gothic construction was built in 1900 to replace the old 14th century parish church. It stands tall over the town and the bell tower really catches the eye. Inside are works by Francesco Da Milano, Giovanni Possamai and Marta Sammartini, as well as the tomb of Blessed Giuseppe Toniolo.

Villa Chisini-Daniotti: this 17th century building looking out over the Soligo River has a square shape and a roof with four pediments. On the façade is a triple lancet window with an iron balcony.

ducers built and gave their name to this 17th century building. It was right on the bound-Collalto families and the coat of arms of the former can still be seen on one wall.

Palazzo Morona: it was built in the 17th century by the illustrious Morona family, who were originally from Rolle and moved to Pieve in around 1600. Next to it is a striking baroque chapel with a bell-gable, which is dedicated to Our Lady of Mount Carmel.



Church of Santa Maria Maddalena: there are records of this building from as long ago as 1354. It is dedicated to Saint Mary Magdalene, who is the patron saint of the town. Her devotees formed a confraternity around 700 years ago. Among other things, they were dedicated to the upkeep of the church, which has a gabled façade with a tympanum.

Church of San Martino: the first known record of this old oratory is from 1177, but it was rebuilt and given its current neoclassical form in 1840. A cemetery was built on the western side of the church in 1832.

The Pradella hammer: located in Solighetto and once used for ironworking and making agricultural equipment, it is now a fascinating piece of proto-industrial history.

Villa Brandolini: this late 18th century Veneto villa, its buildings and its historical grounds are at the heart of Solighetto. The various districts of the area fan out from it. It is owned by the town council and hosts art exhibitions and cultural events.

Church of Sant'Andrea: alongside the distinctive bell tower in Solighetto square stands this 19th century church dedicated to Saint Andrew and Saint Mary Immaculate, which is adorned with works of art by Giovanni De Min and the sculptor Marco Casagrande.

Church of Santa Caterina: originally dating back to the 14th century, this church in Barbisano was completely rebuilt and given its current form in 1902. On the façade are two statues by Emilio Fontana. An altar by Paolo Possamai and a painting by Giovanni Zanzotto can be found inside.

Landscape and Nature

Pedrè rocks: the Lierza stream has created little pools and waterfalls around these monumental conglomerate formations, which were mentioned as a distinctive feature of the landscape in a tourist guide by the Province of Treviso as long ago as the late 19th century. This is the starting point for numerous walking and cycling routes in the surrounding hills.

Via dei Troi: this short but spellbinding route with sweeping views will take you from the church in Solighetto to Pieve di Soligo alongside the river, which is lined with thick natural vegetation.





Giant spit roast: in 1956, some people from Pieve di Soligo came up with the idea of having a giant poultry-based spit roast in the town square. The Pro Loco local promotion association backed and championed the initiative, which has taken place in October every year ever since, attracting thousands of visitors. In 2017 the Giant Spit Roast Festival in Pieve di Soligo set a Guinness World Record for the largest serving of roast quail. During the celebrations, there is a traditional tug of war between the Contà and Trevisan districts from the two sides of the river, which have been rivals for centuries.

Famous figures

Andrea Zanzotto: born in Pieve di Soligo in 1921, he was one of the most significant names in Italian poetry in the second half of the 20th century. He was nominated for a Nobel prize in 1999, which is the same year when a selection of his works was published in a book in the prestigious Meridiani collection. One of the core themes in his poetry is the landscape, which partly serves as a metaphor for the contradictions that he feels in the world around him. His work is largely autobiographical and full of philosophical and existential reflection. He lived in Pieve until he passed away in 2011.

Giuseppe Toniolo: a professor who taught at the universities of Padua, Modena and Pisa, he lived from 1845 until 1918 and was beatified in 2011. He was one of the pioneers of Christian sociology and his ideas inspired the social doctrine of the Church.

Toti Dal Monte: this was the stage name of Antonietta Meneghel, who was born in Mogliano Veneto in 1899. She was one of the most famous sopranos in the world in the first half of the 20th century and her talent as a singer was universally renowned and acclaimed. She liked to rest and relax in her villa in Barbisanello, which is where she lived after she retired from the stage.

Francesco Fabbri: born in Solighetto, he graduated from the University of Bologna with a degree in agricultural science and ventured into a career in politics, gradually climbing the ladder to the top. He was elected mayor of Pieve di Soligo, then a provincial councillor, before going on to become a member of parliament and finally a minister. He tirelessly promoted economic and social initiatives.

A number of archaeological finds have shown that the first settlement on this site had Roman origins. It was probably a rural military colony near the route of the Roman road known as Via Claudia Augusta Altinate.

Pieve means parish and it is thought that the parish of Soligo is one of the oldest in the area, dating back to the 9th century AD. In the Middle Ages, it was already divided into two separate administrative entities divided by the Soligo River: the Parish of Contà on the left bank was under the jurisdiction of the counties of Cison and Collalto, while the Parish of Trevisan on the right bank was ruled by the Commune of Treviso.

In 1638, the Republic of Venice officially recognized and introduced rules for the weekly market that had been taking place for some time in the area around the parish church courtyard in Pieve di Soligo. The market has been held every Saturday ever since, only stopping during the two World Wars. In 2019, it was officially recognized as a Historic Market by the Veneto regional authorities.

Barbisano was under the jurisdiction of the county of Collalto for centuries and was only merged with Pieve di Soligo after the unification of Italy.



- 1. A rainbow over Solighetto
- 2. Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta
- 3. Villa Brandolini
- 4. View of Pieve di Soligo from San Gallo
- 5. Toti Dal Monte
- 6. Borgo Stolfi
- 7. Pieve di Soligo from above
- 8. Giant Spit Roast



AND INITIATIVES:
August/September:
Festival of Saint Titian
October: Giant
Spit Roast

EVENTS

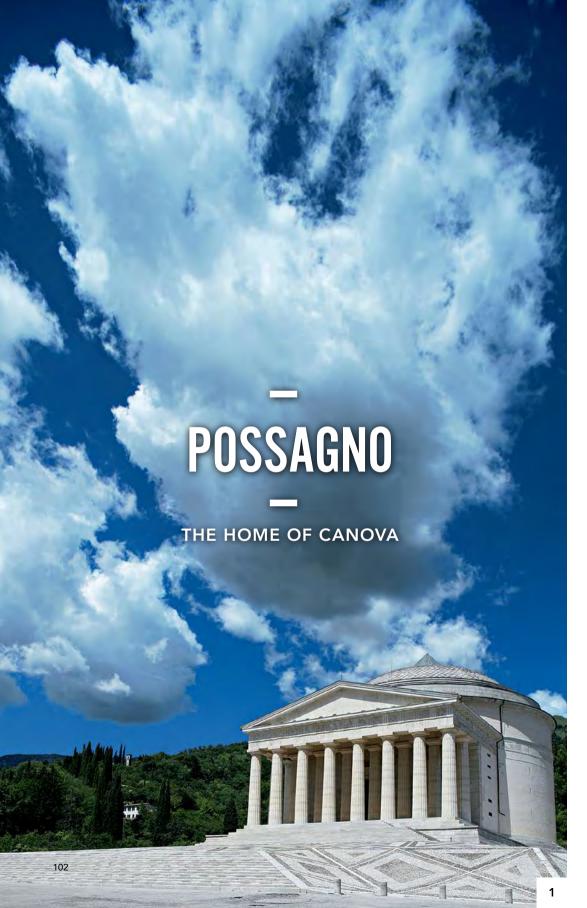
Did you know?

El Barba zhucon: part of the local folklore is the tale of El Barba Zhucon, whose name means The Half-witted Uncle. He is described as an old man who would go from one house to the next snatching disobedient children and bundling them up in a sack. The poet Andrea Zanzotto edited two versions of this story: one in Italian and one in the local dialect.



Wicker Wonderland

In 1885, the Province of Treviso's first wicker factory was opened in Barbisano. As well as a production facility, it was a school where young people from the local area could learn a trade and improve their prospects. The original shape of the factory/school can still be seen in the square in Barbisano. During the 20th century, it developed into a wooden furniture production plant.



Art and Culture

The Temple: the great sculptor Antonio the early centuries of Christianity. Canova designed this building and laid the first stone on 11 July 1819. The technical drawings were by Pietro Bosio. Inside the temple are Canova's tomb and a special urn containing his right hand.

Antonio Canova Museum and Gallery: Canova's half-brother Giovanni Battista Sartori had the gallery built to display the original models and plaster casts used by Canova to make marble statues. It is next to the artist's birthplace, which has been preserved to show what it was like during his lifetime. Inside is a collection of oil paintings, tempera paintings, engravings, drawings and the tools that he used.

Church of Santa Giustina: this is said to be one of the oldest churches in the foothills. It is thought that the building was renovated in the 18th century.

Church of San Giacomo: this church is dedicated to Saint James, whose feast day on 25 July was the same date when the books were once balanced for milk and dairy products, hence the interesting 17th century fresco showing the Nursing Madonna.

Church of San Rocco: this church is dedicated to Saint Roch, who is the patron saint of Possagno. It was built on the hill that shares its name in order to ask for protection from the saint after the 1629-31 plague epidemic. It contains the relics of Roman martyrs from

Landscape and Nature

Districts: Possagno is divided into districts called "colmelli", the oldest of which are named Rover, Cunial, Vardanega and Masiere. Each one contains attractive squares, sights, churches, arches, capitals and little roads where you can go for a pleasant stroll and admire the rural landscape.

Memorial Trail: a group of Alpini (Italian mountain troops) from Possagno created this route on Monte Palon in remembrance of those who fought on the Grappa massif during the First World War. 1,000 metres of trenches and 300 metres of tunnels were reopened thanks to restoration work, which was also carried out on some barracks and emplacements.

Paths: there are a number of hiking routes in the Possagno area, some of which are also open to mountain bikers. For example, if you take the road towards Colle San Rocco from the Temple of Canova, on the first hairpin bend you will find a path that leads to Bocca di Forca, at 1438 metres above sea level.

Buco del Dinosauro: the name of this cave means "Dinosaur Hole". It is at 935 metres above sea level and it reaches depths of around 200 metres. They can be reached through a number of vertical shafts, the largest of which involves a descent of 45 metres.

The first records of Possagno as both a name and a place date back to 1076. However, archaeological evidence shows that there was a Roman camp and fort here.

South of Monte Palon, on 5 November 1925 the people of Possagno erected a large wooden cross in memory of all those who fought and died in the First World War. It has stood tall over the town ever since.

During the Second World War, several dozen Jewish families from nearby Croatia were sent to Possagno as part of a forced residence scheme. After the announcement of the armistice between Italy and the Allies on 8 September 1943, everyone in the town worked together to hide them and prevent them from being deported by the Fascist and Nazi authorities that still had control of the area. In recognition of the great dedication to this cause shown by its people, Possagno has been given the honorary title Righteous Among the Nations by the Yad Vashem centre in Jerusalem.

Traditions

I *Posagnòt*: this group was founded in 1982 to promote and keep alive local traditions and folklore through singing, dancing and shows in dialect. Performances by the group are accompanied by traditional instruments such as the accordion, mandolin, flute and tambourine.

Famous figures

Antonio Canova (1757-1822): born in Possagno, he is considered the greatest Neoclassical sculptor. He was raised by his paternal grandfather, who taught him to cut and sculpt stone. He did an apprenticeship in Venice and then moved to Rome, where he soon proved to be so successful that he was able to travel and work all over Europe. His masterpieces are now displayed in museums all over the world.



- 2. The trenches on Monte Palon
- 3. Church on Cima Mandria
- 4. Possagno
- 5. Morlacco cheese





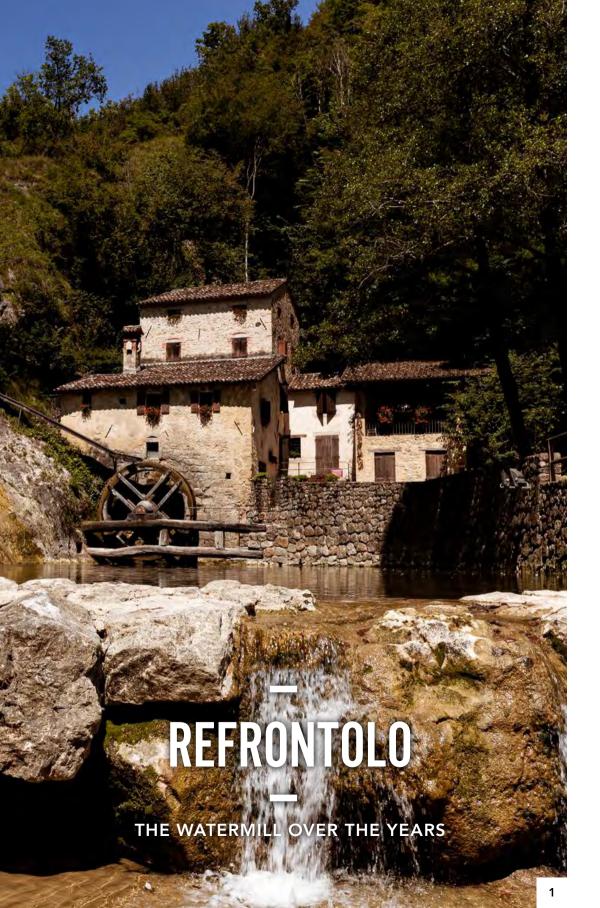
June: First World War re-enactment on Monte Palon August: Festival of Saint Roch



Morlacco cheese

A short ageing process is used for this soft, low-fat cheese, which has a long history behind it. In 1224 the Diocese of Treviso granted the Commune of Possagno permission to use the Archeson shepherd's hut to produce milk and cheese, and Morlacco is mentioned in records from as early as the 15th century. Butter was the main source of income for dairy farmers at the time, so Morlacco was made with skimmed milk. Consequently, it had a reputation as the "Poor Man's Cheese". Morlacco has now become one of the trademark products of the Monte Grappa pastures, along with Bastardo del Grappa, butter, and fresh and smoked ricotta.







Art and Culture

Croda Watermill: one of the most spellbinding spots in the March of Treviso, it has stood here for almost four centuries. Over the years, it has inspired artists and enchant- 1475 and it became a parish church in ed thousands of visitors. Different parts of this distinctive example of 17th century rural architecture were built at different times. The name Croda means Crag and it is a reference to the bare rock on which the foundations of the original structure stand. The old mill was used to grind flour until 1953, then it stood derelict for a number of years. After meticulous restoration work, tourists and school children now visit it on guided tours.

Spada Temple: this circular neoclassical construction dates back to the early 19th century. It was destroyed during the First World War and then rebuilt. Just a short walk from the square outside the church, it offers visitors stunning panoramic views all year round.

Villa Battaglia-Spada: building work on the villa started in the second half of the 17th century and was completed in the late 19th century. In the early 20th century it was There are some gentle climbs and descents a luxury home known as Villa Antonietta. In among the vineyards, with sweeping views 1917-18, it was commandeered by the invading Austro-Hungarian army and used as official headquarters. The villa is complemented by a two-storey rural service building near the church.

Church of Santa Margherita: records show that a church has stood in Refrontolo since the 11th century. It was rebuilt in around the 16th century. The bell tower was built in 1613 and the current parish church was built to a design by Giovanni Possamai between 1927 and 1933.

Landscape and Nature

Maurizio & Lucio Route: this circular route is approximately 9 km long and it takes in some of the main sights and the most interesting spots in the area to the North of Refrontolo. It starts at the Croda Watermill and along the way you can admire the Marsini shelter, a little place called Mondaresca nestled among the hills, and the picturesque views of the Quartier del Piave area as you climb up the slopes of Monte Croce.

Crevada Watermill path: take a trip to the old Crevada Watermill in the valley where the stream of the same name flows, between Refrontolo and San Pietro di Feletto. of the classic Prosecco Superiore scenery, as well as paths that go past karst springs, little caves and underground passages carved out by the stream, not to mention thriving moss, mangroves and other plants.



current form date back

to 1540. In medieval doc-

uments, the village was

referred to in a number of different ways: Roncum

Frontulum, Ronco Frontu-

lo. Roncofrontolo in 1128

and Refrontali in 1266.

Historical Snippets

The Refrontolo area was originally ruled by the Lombards. In the 9th century it became State property and then in the 10th century it was included in the lands of Giovanni II, the bishop of Belluno.

over the years

November: National

Raisin Wine Show

Along with Falzè and Barbisano, Refrontolo belonged to the church in Collalto, which was ruled by the counts of the same name until 1797.

In 1807, a decree signed by Napoleon made Refrontolo an independent municipality for the first time. It temporarily lost its independence in 1810 when it was merged with San Pietro di Feletto, but they were split apart again in 1819 and Refrontolo not only regained its independence but also had Barbisano and Collalto added to its territory. The latter was switched to the municipality of Susegana in 1889.

In 1928, the Fascist regime made Refrontolo part of the municipality of Pieve di Soligo. Refrontolo regained its independence once more in 1946, but it lost Barbisano.

- 1. Croda Watermill
- 2. View from the Spada Temple
- 3. Piazza Francesco Fabbri
- 4. Hilly landscape

Famous figures

Emma Ciardi: the renowned landscape artist from Venice chose to live in Refrontolo in the 1930s so that she could paint the views in the green hills.

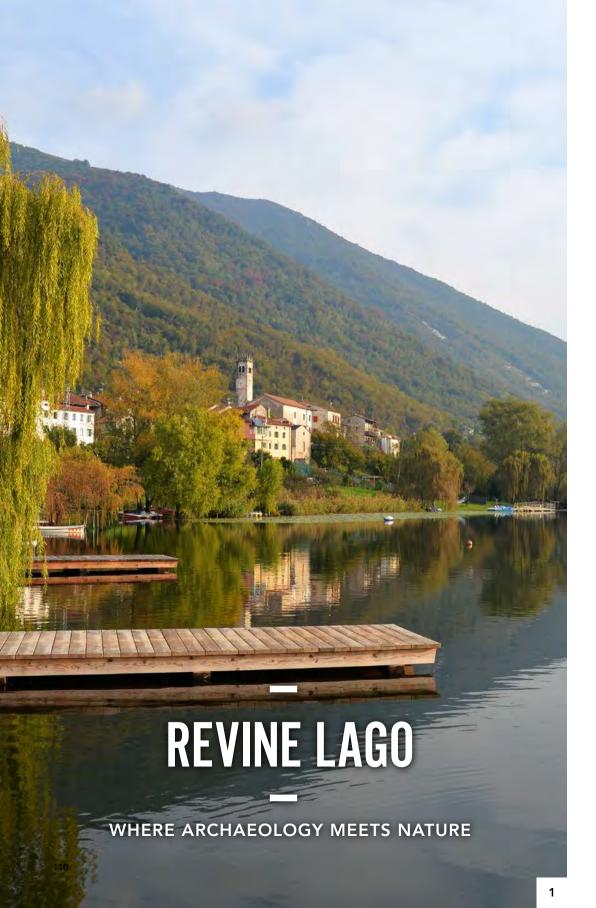
Piero Dalle Ceste: born in Refrontolo in the early 20th century, he did a lot of work in Piedmont and was known for his large celebratory cycles and domes frescoed with light and colour effects that made the scenes extremely expressive.

Abate Domenico Capretta: born in Refrontolo in the early 19th century, he put together an exceptional, invaluable and vast collection of booklets and manuscripts in a wide range of languages, dialects and fields. They covered the period from the invention of the printing press to the present day and were subsequently bought by the National Library in Florence.



The Marzemino island

DOCG Refrontolo Passito is a wine that has been renowned since the 16th century and was praised in Mozart's Don Giovanni. Made with Marzemino grapes that are left to dry on matting, it is ideal for serving with dessert and enjoying during conversations with friends. It is a delightful ruby red colour with violet hues around the edges. Slightly sweet and full-flavoured, it has a rich bouquet with notes of blackberries and Marasca cherries. The alcohol content reaches 12% to 14% by volume.



Art and Culture

Castles: there were once two castles on the other buildings in this architectural comhigh ground above Revine, both of which now lie in ruins. Castegna Maor (whose name means Major Castle) is in Pra de Palazh, while Monte Frascon Castle - which underwent substantial changes over the centuries - overlooks the town centre. Recent publications have suggested that a third fortified building may have once stood in Salt de Casin.

Le Lame: in the 1870s, a fountain with a trough below it was built in Lama. It was covered by a roof supported by columns and – as is still the case today – the water came from the Lavazé springs. Two basins were added on the sides in the following decades and a wash tub was built behind it in 1893. This enchanting little spot is now known locally as Le Lame.

Church of San Giorgio: there is a single hall in this church in Lago, which was consecrated in 1923. It contains an altarpiece by Francesco da Milano showing the Enthroned Madonna and Child with Saints and a client, with Saint George (to whom the church is dedicated) taking a prominent role.

Church of Santa Maria: located in the village of the same name, it is one of the oldest churches in the area and was mentioned in the will of Sofia Da Camino from Collalto in 1170. There are numerous paintings inside, including a 16th century work by Francesco da Milano and two 18th century frontals by Egidio Dall'Oglio. An original stone alms box can be seen outside, at the foot of a flight of steps that was built in 1784.

Oratory of San Francesco di Paola: in addition to a church, there are a number of

plex, which the parish priest Father Giovanni Domenico Cumano had built entirely at his own expense between 1677 and 1702. You can get from the town to the oratory by following the Via Crucis path, which zigzags its way up the hillside and is dotted with original old chapels and little shrines from the 19th century.

Landscape and Nature

Lago and Santa Maria lakes: these glacial lakes are separated by a thin strip of land. The two lakes are 1,050 metres and 1,200 metres long respectively, with widths ranging from 200 metres to 500 metres and maximum depths of 8-10 metres. In the early 15th century, the westernmost area was drained so that it could be used for farming. One of the key parts of the land reclamation work was digging the Tajada canal, which flows into the Soligo River.

Educational Livelet Archaeology Park: Neolithic, Copper Age and Bronze Age technology and objects can be seen in a reconstructed stilt village that was built in 2007 on the shore of Lake Lago. The park also contains teaching areas, zones focusing on the local flora and fauna, and picnic and barbecue areas. Numerous school children and tourists from all over Veneto and the neighbouring regions visit every year.

Pian de le femene: the name of this area at 1.140 metres above sea level means "Plateau of the women". It is thought that women waited here for their men to return from working in the pastures. It is the starting point for lots of paths that can take you back to Revine and Lago, or down towards Belluno.

A number of archaeological finds have shown that humans were already in the area in the late Neolithic (from 4000 BC to 1500 BC). Their presence became more substantial following invasions by Celtic tribes and the Roman conquest.

Throughout the Middle Ages, the area was divided into fiefs: Revine was run by the bishops of Ceneda, while Lago was owned by the Da Camino family.

Italian Royal Decree no. 4453 of 14 June 1868 created the Municipality of Revine Lago. There was fighting in Revine Lago during both World Wars. After the Italian de-

feat at Caporetto during the First World War, fierce clashes with enemy troops took place in a number of towns in the area. They culminated in the Battle of Revine in Col de la Spina on 30 October 1918.

EVENTS AND
INITIATIVES:
Good Friday: Passion Play
April: Saint George's Fair
December: Living

Nativity Scene



- 2. Lago Film Fest
- 3. Le Lame in Revine Lago
- 4. View of the lakes in Revine Lago from Pian de le Femene
- 5. View of the Valley Lakes Park from the Livelet Park

Did you know?

A Revine-Vergoman Feldbahn railway was built by the Austro-Hungarian army in 1918 to transport supplies, weapons and munitions. It is said that the Imperial troops sank the train in the lake during their retreat. According to some reports, it can still be found there under the sediment that has built up over the years. Some people even claim that a mysterious treasure went down with the train.

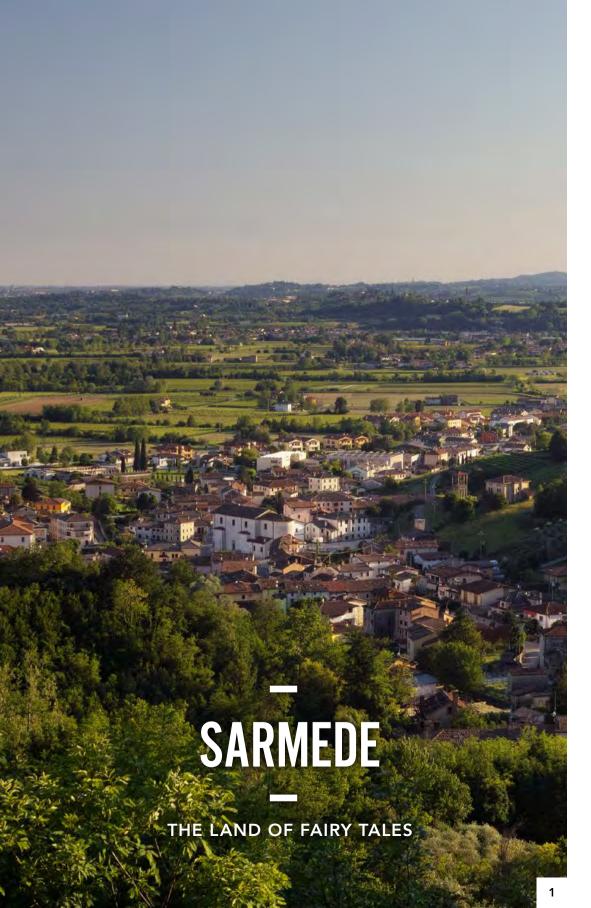
Traditions

Religious performances: every year, a hundred or so local people appear in a Living Nativity Scene and a Passion Play in the courtyard of the Church of San Matteo Apostolo. There are two acts in the Living Nativity scene: the birth of Jesus and the adoration of the Magi. It takes place on 26 December and 6 January (Epiphany). The Passion Play is performed on Good Friday on the Via Crucis.



Valley Lakes Park

The biodiversity is exceptional in this park near the two lakes. Thanks to a joint project by Revine Lago and Tarzo town councils, two circular walking and cycling routes have been created around the lakes, with information panels, a floating jetty linking the beach in Lago with the Livelet Park and a bridge over the canal known as the Canale delle Barche. Along the route, there are a number of augmented reality stations that you can use with your smartphone.



Art and Culture

Church of Santa Cecilia: located in Val near Montaner, this is the oldest place of worship in the area and it has Lombard origins. The first known record of it is from 1316 and it became a parish church in the 17th century. It is now used to celebrate Divine Liturgy by the Eparchial Orthodox Monastery of Santa Barbara in Montaner.

Parish Church of San Giorgio: this 14th century Romanesque building in the village of Rugolo was a parish church in the Patriarchate of Aquileia until 1797. It has sweeping views of the local area and it is thought that it was originally a chapel inside the castle that stood on the same site.

Archpriest's Church of Sarmede: this early 19th century church is dedicated to Saint Anthony of Padua. There is a baroque flavour to the internal lines but the decorative approach is not overly ostentatious. On the ceiling is a magnificent fresco by Noè Bordignon showing the Glory of Saint Anthony. Parish Church of Montaner: this 19th century neoclassical building contains works by Noè Bordignon and Antonio Dal Favero from 1889. It has been the parish church since 1820, when it took over the role from the church in Val.

Church of the Madonna in Val: the first known record of this building at the foot of Monte Castelir is from 1599. It is thought that a hermit might have lived there. It contains a painting by Silvestro Arnosti from Ceneda.

Štěpán Zavřel Museum: a collection of 60 original pieces by the Czech artist provides an overview of his creative process and highlights the extremely innovative, con-

Church of Santa Cecilia: located in Val near temporary aspects of his work. The muse-Montaner, this is the oldest place of wor-

Landscape and Nature

Santo Path: the route starts in the square in Montaner and follows a mule track up the mountain towards the Cansiglio plateau. It was once used by the people of Montaner when moving livestock between summer and winter pastures and for carrying down wood and hay from the mountains.

Pagnoca Path (1061): this educational history trail follows the route taken by the partisans of Montaner on 26 March 1944, when they first went up to the Cansiglio Plateau. It starts in the square in Montaner and follows the Santo Path to Col Alt.



Scaffe Path (1039): follow old mule tracks from Fontanelle in Montaner to the inlet of the Valsalega stream. There you will cross a narrow gorge, passing rocky ravines, little waterfalls and viewpoints on the way.

It is thought that a group of Sarmatians may have come to the area in the time of the barbarian invasions, giving rise to the name Sarmede.

During the Second World War, Montaner's parish priest Monsignor Giuseppe Faè coordinated and helped to put together one of the first partisan groups in the Vittorio Veneto area. Things came to a head on 26 March 1944, when Faé and his sister Giovanna were arrested and the young partisans headed for the mountains, where they formed the Vittorio Veneto Brigades.

Did you know?

The Schism of Montaner: in 1966, Montaner's hugely popular parish priest Father Giuseppe Faè died. The local people all firmly believed that he would and should be replaced by Father Antonio Botteon, who had helped Father Faè in his final years. However, Albino Luciani (who was the Bishop of Vittorio Veneto at the time and later became Pope John Paul I) pointed out that priests are not elected by the people and he appointed a different person. The locals refused to accept his decision and began a series of protests which culminated in the establishment of an Orthodox community that still exists today. It is part of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople and Montaner is now home to the only Orthodox Monastery for nuns in Italy.



- 1. Sarmede from above
- 2. Il Santo votive church on the Pagnoca Path
- 3. Montaner
- 4. Part of the town hall

AND INITIATIVES:

October: Street Performance Fair, Chestnut Festival From November to February: Le Immagini della Fantasia Illustration Exhibition

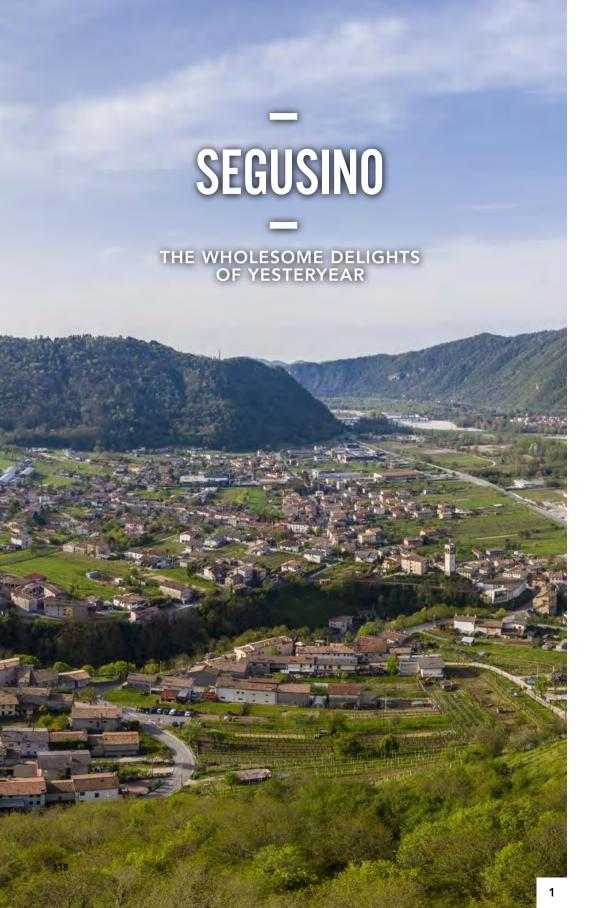
Famous figures

Štěpán Zavřel: born in Prague in 1932, he settled in Sarmede in 1968 after fleeing from the totalitarian regime in Czechoslovakia. He was a painter and illustrator whose works were exhibited in museums and galleries all over the world. He helped to make Sarmede into a hub for a creative network of artists from all over Central Europe. He was behind the launch of the International Children's Illustration Exhibition (now known as "Le Immagini della Fantasia") in 1983, which was joined by the International Illustration School in 1988.



Frescoes and art in Sarmede

Thanks to the International Children's Illustration Exhibition and the Street Performance Fair, artists from all over the world flock to this little town. Following the lead of Štěpán Zavřel, some of them have made a permanent mark in the area in the shape of frescoes and murals. In some cases, they are even accompanied by genuine architectural features such as floors, arches and portals. There are more than 60 works of this kind spread throughout the town centre and the villages of Montaner, Val and Rugolo further up the slopes.



Art and Culture

Parish Church of Santa Lucia: there are looks out over the Piave River, it was occuwritten sources mentioning this church from as long ago as 1259. It largely had to be rebuilt due to the damage that it suffered in the First World War and very little remains cords showing that a hermit lived there until of the original building. It is decorated in neo-Gothic style and contains an altar with Verona marble columns that is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, as well as an altar showing a Pietà that survived the mortar shells.

Church of Santa Maria Ausiliatrice: also known as the Church of the Alpini (Italian mountain troops) it is in Milies and it was built in 1875. There are Neoclassical features on the façade, where a large eye of God is portrayed on the tympanum. Underneath it is a china clay statue of Saint Lucy that was made in around 1250. The marmorino altar is from 1741.

Church of San Valentino: this 19th century church with a circular shape is dedicated to Saint Valentine. It was at the heart of the Zogo and Monte Cesen. Milies is an ideal spiritual life of the little village of Stramare, where the people used to ask the saint to free them from epilepsy. In the charming little square, there is an interesting fountain made from a single piece of stone from the Val di Non.

Oratory of San Barnaba: it is also known as the céseta del diaolet (church of the devil) because a little devil can be seen at the feet of the saint portrayed on the altarpiece. Its distinctive bell tower was built after the First World War. It stands tall over the town centre and has become its main landmark.

Oratory of Santi Gervasio & Protasio: located on the hill of the same name, which

pied by the Austro-Hungarian army during the First World War. Volunteers from Segusino restored it in the 1990s. There are rethe 19th century.

Landscape and Nature

Stramare: this picturesque little village full of old stone houses is surrounded by greenery and little streams. It is thought that the first people to settle here were charcoal makers from Istria in the 17th century. Nobody lives in the village anymore, but it is kept alive by numerous cultural initiatives and events. The biggest of all is the Festival of Saint Valentine, when lots of old homes are opened to the public.

Milies: stone cottages line the narrow cobbled streets of this enchanting old village at 680 metres above sea level. It looks out over the Treviso plain and is sheltered by Monte starting point for countless walks and hikes to places such as the Miliana country home, Col da Fi, and Monte Zogo. It is on the route of the E7 European long distance path, which starts in Lisbon, goes through Spain and stretches all of the way to Romania.

Trodo delle Acque (Path by the Water): this delightful route starts in Cal del Pont (between Riva Secca and Riva Grassa) and takes you up to Stramare alongside the Riù stream, which you will cross on a number of recently built little bridges.

Veteran ash tree: in Molvine there is a magnificent ash tree (Fraxinus excelsior) that has a circumference of 4 metres and is 20 metres tall.

People have lived in Segusino since prehistoric times, as demonstrated by the numerous Neolithic hunting, cutting and woodworking tools that have been found on the ridge of Monte Zogo.

The first known historical record of the town is from 983, when Bishop Rodolfo gave the lands of Segusino to the Monastery of Santi Felice & Fortunato in Vicenza, in compensation for the damage caused by Hungarian raids.

After the Second World War, the eyewear industry began to develop here. In the following decades it gradually transformed the economy of Segusino and then the whole of the area to the South of Feltre, eventually growing into an internationally renowned manufacturing district that is still flourishing today.

Traditions

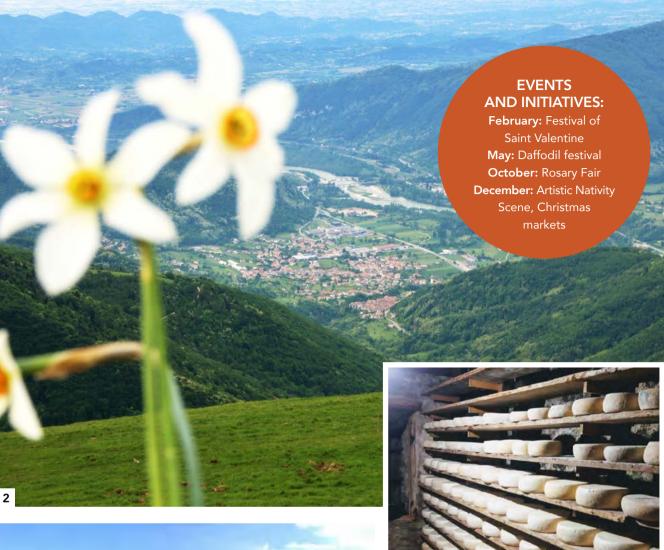
Artistic Nativity Scene: at Christmas time every year, thousands of people flock to see an artistic nativity scene that goes on display in the former home of the chaplain of the Church of Santa Lucia. It portrays rural life in the local land-scape and there is a different theme every year.

Rosary Fair: for over a century, on the last weekend of October every year visitors have come to this event to see cattle and the numerous local specialities from this area between the mountains and the plain, including cheese, sausages, potatoes from Milies, jam and honey.

Did you know?

In 1882, many people from the local area emigrated to Chipilo in Mexico. Still today, the people of the town speak a Veneto dialect now known as *Chipileño*.

- 1. Segusino from above
- 2. The view from Monte Zogo
- 3. The village of Milies
- 4. S-céch cheese ageing





S-céch cheese

Years ago, this fresh cheese was probably the only really prized product made in the town's stables and cowsheds. It is left to age on wooden tables for 20 days, during which time it is turned over and washed on a daily basis. The small cheeses are called *pezhatele* and they have soft, deep yellow rind on them. Inside, the cheese is firm and compact, with no eyes. It has a strong flavour with a little bite to it because it is made with unpasteurized whole milk. S-céch (or S-cek) is also a nickname given to people from Segusino by those from nearby towns and villages.

SERNAGLIA DELLA BATTAGLIA HISTORICAL SITES AND NATURAL DELIGHTS

PLACES OF INTEREST

Art and Culture

Churches: there are three churches in Sernaglia della Battaglia that are particularly interesting in historical terms. They are: the Church of Santa Maria Assunta (which has an old bell tower), the Church of San Rocco, and the Church of Via Croce (which boasts a marvellous crucifix).

Mid-Piave Environmental Education Centre: learn all about the local history, traditions, flora and fauna. The centre contains a First World War Museum where visitors can see numerous finds from the area.

Arditi Monument: this striking bronze monument by sculptor Giovanni Possamai pays tribute to a group of *Arditi* (Italian shock troops) from the 72nd Assault Unit who earned the name the Caimans of the Piave after they crossed the river during a daring mission on 27 November 1918.

Landscape and Nature

Palù: the Palù area was marshland until it was drained in around 1200 by the Benedictine monks from the nearby Abbey of Santa Bona in Vidor. The wetland was transformed into a patchwork of meadows lined with plants and ditches, forming a unique landscape.

Passo Barca – Volpere path: the route winds its way from Passo Barca near Falzé di Piave along the left bank of the river, until it converges with the water in the Fontane Bianche nature reserve. The sedimentary rock walls have developed into a striking natural feature. The conglomerate is easily eroded by the water and this has led to the formation of gorges, some of which are very large. They provide shelter for numerous animals, including the foxes (volpi in Italian) that give the place its name. Along the way, you will come across mythological figures who embody natural phenomena, such as the wood sprite Matharol and water-based zoomorphic female creatures called Anguane.

In the 17th century - and in particular between 1629 and 1631 - the town was badly hit by the plague, which was ravaging a number of parts of Europe at the time. The Church of San Rocco was built as a votive offering to stop the epidemic.

Both of the World Wars in the 20th century made their mark on the local area. This is particularly true of the First World War, when Sernaglia was a strategically important part of the Piave Line. It was occupied by the Austro-Hungarian forces and the town centre was completely destroyed.

In the years after the Second World War, emigration had a huge impact on the economic and social life of the town. The traditional Festival of Saint Valentine was launched at that time as a way of bidding farewell and remembering those who left Sernaglia to seek their fortune elsewhere.







- 2. Sernaglia della Battaglia bell tower
- 3. Themed parade floats
- 4. Fontane Bianche nature reserve
- 5. Sernaglia town centre

EVENTS AND INITIATIVES: February: Festival of Saint Valentine

with themed floats on parade **November:** traditional Our Lady of Health celebrations, Festival of Saint Martin

December: Festival of Saint Nicholas

Did you know?

The word Battaglia means Battle and it was added to Sernaglia's name in 1924 in remembrance of the events that took place there during the First World War.



Famous figures

Giocondo Pillonetto (1910-1981): a poet who was born and spent his whole life in Sernaglia della Battaglia. His works were never published during his lifetime: they were gathered in a collection called Penultima Fiaba (Penultimate Fairy Tale) that was posthumously printed in 1983, with a foreword by Andrea Zanzotto. He was behind the first parade of themed floats in Sernaglia, for which he had a boat abandoned by the retreating Nazi forces transformed into a pirate ship.

Fontane Bianche

This nature reserve spanning 26 hectares contains thick, well preserved woods on the flood plain, as well as numerous resurgences and expanses of water. An education and nature trail has been specially designed to allow visitors to see the many different species of plants and animals present. Examples include Orchis militaris, Gymnadenia conopsea, Lilium bulbiferum, Listera ovata and Pulmonaria vallarsae. Hidden away among the greenery are numerous pools of water that prove irresistible for passing flocks of birds, mallards, little bitterns, water rails, common moorhens, egrets, grey herons and garganeys, as well as various species of woodpeckers, birds of prey such as long-eared owls, tawny owls and buzzards, and of course common kingfishers. The main fish species are trout, chub, common barbel. Alburnus arborella and eels.





Art and Culture

Mondini-Mazzucco House: this 15th cen- considered the masterpiece of Cesare Vetury building is in a charming little village with great views of the surrounding hills. It of Titian, his father's cousin). has the typical features of rural homes in the area, with stables and a cellar on the ground floor and the living quarters on the first floor. Although it is a rural building, a refined touch is added by the layout of the doors and windows, which are now partly covered by newer constructions.

Villa Franceschet-Silan-Cancian: there are four floors in this building, which boasts decorative wood and stone finishing. Oral tradition has it that it was built with stones taken from the ruins of a castle. There are two units in the villa today: one has stone walls and the other has white plastered walls and a tympanum at the front.

Vergine Maria: dedicated to the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, this church the new town hall. is thought to have been either built or renovated in 1597. It then underwent substantial changes between 1741 and 1746. The altarpiece on the high altar shows the

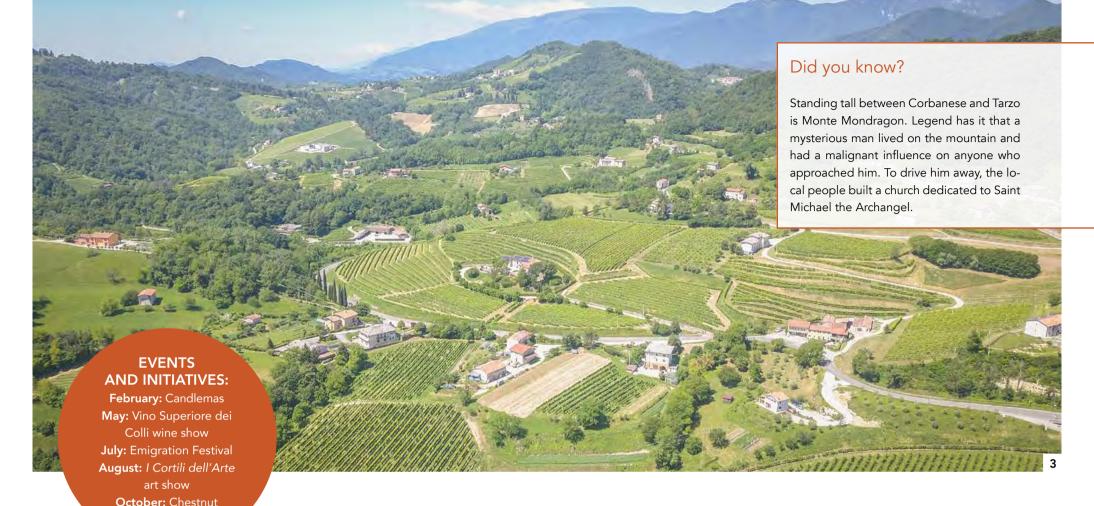
cellio (who learned to paint in the workshop

Church of Santi Gervasio & Protasio: the first known record of this church in the village of Corbanese is from 1216. The current building dates back to the 18th century and it was consecrated by Bishop Lorenzo Da Ponte. It contains various paintings and sculptures, as well as a De Lorenzi organ from 1859.

Church of San Bartolomeo: this 15th century building of great historical interest is in the village of Arfanta. It contains an altarpiece by Francesco Da Milano from 1522 and a Callido organ from 1802.

Town hall: originally the home of the renowned Lucis family, in 1838 it became part Church of the Purificazione della Beata of the Lucis-Lucchese Benefice. In 1954, the town council bought it and made it into

Palazzo della Comunità Casagranda: located opposite the town hall, this 16th century building was used by the public from the Presentation of Jesus at the Temple and it is second half of the 18th century onwards.



Landscape and Nature

Bonsai Museum Garden of Happiness: Antonio Dal Col has brought a little piece of Japan to life behind his house. In an area by a hill spanning approximately 1,000 m², he has planted countless bonsai species, many of which have won a number of Nippon Bonsai Association awards.

Festival

The oldest forest in the world: archaeological excavations have revealed around a hundred fossilized larch trunks from approximately 15,000 BC. They are up to 4 metres in length and still have their roots. Some examples can be seen in Revine Lago town hall.

Historical Snippets

The discovery of a stilt settlement in Colmaggiore has helped to prove that humans lived here between the Neolithic and the Bronze Age.

The Lombards arrived in the area in 568 AD and ruled for 200 years. During that time, they integrated with the local people, reorganized the area, and founded parishes and new communities such as Tarzo and Corbanese, which were home to fortalices that no longer exist.

Tarzo was ruled from Ceneda for a long time, first by the Dukes of Ceneda and then by the Bishops. When the Da Camino family arrived, the county was ceded to the Bishops of Ceneda again. They kept control of it until it passed into the hands of the Republic of Venice in 1769.

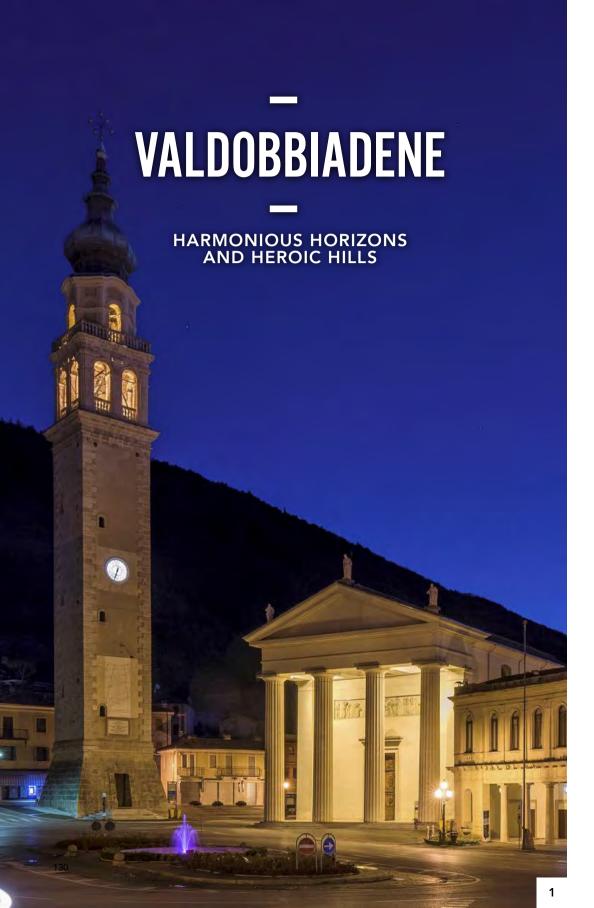


- 1. Tarzo from above
- 2. The Tarzo hills

Via dei murales

Art and history come together on this striking, fascinating road that winds its way between the villages of Fratta and Colmaggiore. Over the years, various artists have created murals on the walls of houses. They cover topics such as popular culture, old trades and everyday life in the past, and the mass emigration that had a big impact on the local area and continued until the years after the Second World War. The community and its history are portrayed in 16 murals altogether. They were produced using a range of techniques between 2008 and 2016.

- 3. Sunset in the Valley Lakes Park
- 4. Via dei Murales



Art and Culture

Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta: built Prosecco Superiore Circular Route: follow in the 14th century, the original design featured a nave and two side aisles but radical reconstruction work between the 15th and 17th centuries gave it the rectangular layout with a single nave that can be seen today. Inside are exceptional works of art by Francesco Beccaruzzi, Paris Bordon and Palma il Giovane.

Cathedral bell tower: a sundial by the Abbot Giovanni Follador adorns the bell tower, which stands next to the cathedral and was designed by Francesco Maria Preti in the second half of the 18th century.

Villa dei Cedri: this graceful early 19th century Art Nouveau building originally housed a silk mill. The villa is now owned by the town council and used as a venue for events, conferences and concerts. It gets its name from a towering cedar ("cedro" in Italian) that stood for more than a hundred years in the verdant grounds around the villa, which are open to the public.

Church of San Floriano: there are magnificent views of the valley below from this church, which can be reached either by car or on foot along the road that leads from Valdobbiadene town centre to Pianezze. The oratory was completed in 1724 when construction work was finished on the beacon/bell tower, but it was mentioned in a will as long ago as 1424. It was destroyed by shelling in 1917-1918, then rebuilt and extended in the following years. Inside the church, a selection of old photographs shows the damage that it suffered during the First World War.

Landscape and Nature

this walking route between the hills and the vineyards. It covers 15 km in total but it can be shortened to suit your needs thanks to a number of alternative paths. It is best to start and finish in the San Pietro di Barbozza church car park. Hikers can venture off the beaten track and explore vineyards and places such as Saccol and Santo Stefano, not to mention the famous Cartizze area.

International Donors' Temple: from Valdobbiadene you can travel up to this site in Pianezze, at 1.071 metres above sea level. Based on an idea by a group of blood donors, it was built in 1962 on the spot where an artillery emplacement stood during the First World War. The Italian National Trust (FAI) has listed the Temple as one of the Places of its Heart.

Monte Cesen: this is the highest point in the Municipality of Valdobbiadene, reaching 1570 metres above sea level. The Monte Cesen area is criss-crossed with numerous dirt tracks and paths featuring various levels of difficulty and elevation gains. They provide the scope for a host of interesting hikes during which you can discover woods, pastures, shepherds' huts and their traditional, locally made products.

Montagnola: this hill rises up above Settolo Basso, on the left bank of the Piave River. During the First World War, the area was occupied by Austro-Hungarian troops, who built widespread defensive works. There is a trench and a number of installations with soldier-like outlines that provide information about the local area and its history, as well as offering marvellous views of Valdobbiadene from above.



The first historical document known to mention Valdobbiadene dates back to 1116, when the Holy Roman Emperor Henry V was establishing the boundaries of the various communities in the region. The Valdobbiadene area was strategically located on one of the routes leading north and it started to grow in importance, undergoing both demographic and economic development.

In the 12th and 13th centuries, the area was ruled by the Da Carrara, Ezzelini and Da Camino families, as well as the Commune of Treviso. Each change of hands was preceded by sieges, destruction and Republic of Venice in 1391.

Although the latter remained the main political power, Valdobbiadene - which was divided into 15 rural communities called

Regole – gained a semblance of autonomy thanks to a self-government system. The heads of families democratically elected a group of men called Merighi from within their own ranks. The arrival of Napoleon and the subsequent period of Austrian rule led to the disappearance of the Regole and the rise of municipalities: Valdobbiadene, San Pietro di Barbozza and Bigolino, which would later be merged in the Municipality of Valdobbiadene.

In the 19th century, Valdobbiadene was an important silk production hub with a number of silk mills. In 1818, Pietro Piva and his plundering, until it was conquered by the sons Sigismondo and Celestino bought an old factory, expanded it and made improvements, bringing in specialist staff and machinery from Bologna. They subsequently created a new facility which became known as the Piva-Sisi hosiery factory.



Famous figures

Saint Venantius Fortunatus: the Bishop of Poitiers and an illustrious writer in late antiquity, he was born in Duplavilis – now known as Valdobbiadene – in approximately 540 AD to an old, wealthy Roman family and went on to study in the Treviso area. One of his most important works was a verse hagiography of Saint Martin: the four-book poem De Vita Sancti Martini.

Nicolò Bocassino: born in 1240 and elected pope in 1303 with the name Benedict XI, the distinguishing features of his pontificate were humility, strength of mind and a constant drive for peace. There is plaque and a papal coat of arms on his birthplace in the village of San Vito.

Benedict XI is also commemorated with a statue in front of the Church of Santi Vito & Modesto.

Traditions

Saint Gregory's Fair: held in early March every year, this age-old fair provides an important opportunity for the people of the Province of Treviso to come together and it is an ideal way to showcase the exceptional local agricultural scene, especially when it comes to wine. It takes place in Valdobbiadene's old town centre and features a section highlighting the taste sensations of traditional local products, a trade fair, an area dedicated to agriculture, and a zone where the focus is firmly on fun.

EVENTS AND INITIATIVES:

March: Saint Gregory's Fair, DOCG Cartizze and Valdobbiadene Show in Santo Stefano
April: DOCG Cartizze and Valdobbiadene Show in San Pietro di Barbozza, DOCG Valdobbiadene Show in Guia, DOCG Cartizze and Valdobbiadene Show in San Giovanni
June: Canevando guided walk
August: Calici di Stelle wine event, Mountain Festival
October: ValdobbiadeneJazz, Voluntary Work
Festival, Urban Hiking



- 1. Piazza Marconi
- 2. DOCG Valdobbiadene Hills
- 3. Pianezze in the snow
- 4. View of Valdobbiadene from San Floriano
- 5. Calici di Stelle wine event at Villa dei Cedri
- 6. DOCG Cartizze and Valdobbiadene Show in San Pietro di Barbozza



The Prosecco Superiore Spring

Launched in 1995 to bring all Prosecco events together under the same umbrella, the Prosecco Superiore Spring has become one of the most important wine tourism events in the whole of the Triveneto area. From March to June, a number of places in the hills play host to shows promoting DOCG Conegliano Valdobbiadene Prosecco Superiore and other local wines, as well as visits and trips in the area, themed evenings, guided tastings, and cultural and sports events. It is all thanks to the joint efforts of everyone in the field, including local promotion associations, accommodation establishments, restaurants, and tourist businesses and associations. In the Valdobbiadene area, there are Prosecco Superiore Spring events in San Pietro di Barbozza, Santo Stefano, San Giovanni and Guia.



Art and Culture

Archpriest's Church of the Santo Nome di Maria: initially found in the old castle of the Da Vidor family, it was rebuilt in its current location in the first half of the 18th century. It was very badly damaged during the First World War, but the bell tower was left unscathed. It has a single nave, with numerous side altars. Inside are two altarpieces by Francesco Zugno and a number of frescoes by Guido Cadorin.

Abbey of Santa Bona: the founding is recorded in a document from 1106, which states that Giovanni da Vidor donated the Chapel of Santa Maria and other property to the Benedictine Abbey of Pomposa. Giovanni Gravone da Vidor had the chapel built as a resting place for the relics of Saint Bona, which he brought back from the Holy Land after the First Crusade. The abbey was suppressed by the Republic of Venice in 1773 and it was badly damaged during the First World War, but it was later rebuilt. The original core of the abbey complex consisted of the church, the bell tower and the cloister. The church has a Romanesque layout, with some late Gothic features.

built in 1925 to commemorate those who fell in the First World War. It was designed tritoli. It will take you through the hills and by the architect Brenno Del Giudice and stands on the former site of Vidor Castle. There is a colonnade outside the Romanesque temple and a Winged Victory statue on top of the facade. The remains of the **The Piave:** the river is considered sacred by soldiers from Vidor are found in the crypt.

Sanctuary of the Madonna delle Grazie: there are magnificent views of the surrounding Prosecco Hills from this sanctuary. It was built in 1530 by members of the Servite Order from the Convent of Santa Cate-

rina in Treviso, who arrived in Colbertaldo in around 1346 after the Black Death swept through the country. The convent was suppressed by the Republic of Venice in 1776 and the sanctuary then became an isolation hospital for people with cholera. Inside the church is a 15th century fresco of the Madonna and Child and the Annunciation.

Parish Church of Sant'Andrea Apostolo: the current church was built after the previous one was destroyed during the First World War. It is on top of a small hill, where the Castle of the Colbertaldo Counts once stood. A long flight of steps leads up to it. Inside is an altarpiece showing the Crucifixion of Saint Andrew.

Landscape and Nature

From the Sacred to the Pro...secco: visit interesting historical and natural sites on a path that starts at the Parish Church and leads to the bed of the Piave River and then the Abbey of Santa Bona. You can admire a range of landscapes and ecosystems along the way, from the river, the flood plain and the flat agricultural land to the Prosecco Superiore Hills.

Oratory of the Addolorata: the church was On the Colbertaldo hills: follow a circular route that starts and finishes in Piazzale Peto the Sanctuary of the Madonna delle Grazie, where you can enjoy magnificent views of the Quartier del Piave area.

> the nation of Italy due to the role it played in the First World War. It flows alongside the Vidor area, which is on the left side of its drainage basin. The scenery is striking around its gravelly bed, where you can go for long strolls or sunbathe when the weather is fine.

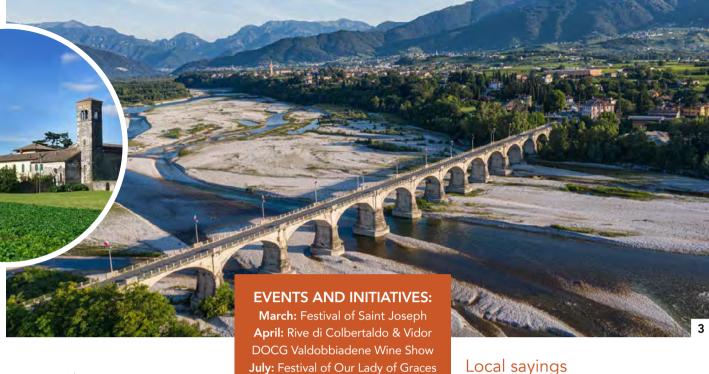
A number of archaeological finds have shown that humans have lived in the Vidor area since prehistoric times. It continued to be inhabited under the Romans, as demonstrated by evidence of centuriation systems and the necropolis in Piazza Maor.

After the Abbey of Santa Bona was founded in the Middle Ages, the Benedictine monks began drainage and deforestation schemes in the area and took control of the ferry over the River Piave. A strategically located castle was built and the most important families in the March of Treviso fought over it many times over the centuries before it was eventually destroyed in 1510 during the War of the League of Cambrai.

In 1911 a stone bridge was built over the Piave River to replace an older wooden one from 1871 that was a little further downstream. The new bridge was mined and partially destroyed by Italian soldiers following the Italian defeat at Caporetto in November 1917, then rebuilt after the end of the First World War.

Did you know?

Vidor was twinned with Petritoli (near Fermo, in the Marche region) in 2004, after research helped to make the public aware of the hospitality offered by the people of the town to refugees from Vidor who had to abandon their homes due to the destruction caused by the First World War. The Carabinieri in Petritoli at the time were commanded by Marshal Chiodaro, who was originally from Vidor and went to great personal lengths to ensure that the refugees were welcomed properly.



September: Vidor September

(Vidor Palio, Fair of Saint Bona,

Marcia del Ciclamino walk and

Marche Evening)

November: Festival of Saint

- 1. Vidor town centre
- 2. Abbey of Santa Bona
- 3. Vidor Bridge
- 4. Vidor Castle

Local sayings

There is a famous local saying that goes: Signor da Vidor, ciolé la barca e vegnéme cior (Gentleman from Vidor, come and get me with your boat). Its origins lie in the privilege enjoyed by the abbots of the Abbey of Santa Bona of running the ferry service. The gentleman mentioned would be a member of the Reghin family, who provided the ferrymen for the abbey's boats for centuries.



The Vidor Palio

This competitive event has taken place on the second Sunday in September ever since 1996. It was inspired by the Hungarian assault on Vidor Castle in the 10th century. The teams aim to be the fastest to carry a wooden ladder from the abbey to the bottom of the castle hill and from there a heavy wooden battering ram to the top. They represent the five different parts of Vidor (the town centre, Colbertaldo, Alnè di Sotto, Alnè di Sopra and Bosco), Petritoli (Vidor's twin town), Moriago della Battaglia and Sernaglia della Battaglia.

VITTORIO VENERO CITY OF VICTORY

PLACES OF INTEREST

Museums

Ceneda Museum: located in the old Loggia della Comunità in Serravalle, it keeps alive memories from the Ceneda area with archaeological, historical and artistic exhibits.

Vittorio Emanuele II City Gallery:

inside Villa Croze is an interesting collection of works of art donated by a man from Vittorio Veneto named Giovanni Paludetti (1912-2002).

Battle Museum: since
1938, the old Loggia
in Ceneda has played
host to a collection donated to the city by Luigi
Marson, who was born in
1899 and fought on the front
line during the First World War.

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Antonio De Nardi Natural History Museum and Albino Luciani Diocesan Religious Art Museum: these two museums are both inside the Episcopal Seminary. The former contains a vast collection of rocks and fossils, as well as a section dedicated to botany and local wildlife. The latter houses works of religious art from the Diocese of Vittorio Veneto.

Silkworm Museum: the former Maffi silk mill in San Giacomo di Veglia is home to a collection of documents, tools and equipment, as well as old footage and photographs of silkworm breeding in the local area and work in sericulture centres and silk mills.

Marson Sericulture Museum: the scientific equipment and documents in this museum highlight the important role that sericultural research played in improvements to silkworm breeding.

Art and Culture

Palazzo Minucci-De Carlo: this building contains the eclectic, D'Annunzio-style collection of works of art, antiques and miscellaneous items that belonged to its last owner, Camillo De Carlo. He was a secret agent who won a Gold Medal for Military Valour during the First World War.

Oratory of Santi Lorenzo & Marco dei Battuti: it was built by the Confraternita dei Battuti, a lay, flagellant confraternity dedicated to helping those in need. The interior is decorated with a stunning cycle of 15th century frescoes.

Cathedral of Santa Maria Nova: it was completely rebuilt in the second half of the 18th century by Domenico Schiavi from Tolmezzo. On the high altar inside is an altarpiece that has been attributed to Titian.

Church of San Giovanni Battista: built in 1357 in Romano-Gothic style, its Galletti Chapel contains an exceptional cycle of 15th century frescoes.

Church of Santa Giustina: the mausoleum of Rizzardo VI Da Camino is found in this church, which is a remarkable example of 14th century Gothic art featuring refined work by Venetian stone cutters.

Parish Church of Sant'Andrea in Bigonzo: this was the first mother church in Serravalle. It was rebuilt in Romano-Gothic style in the 14th century. There are a large number of extremely interesting 15th and 16th century frescoes inside.

Ceneda Cathedral: dedicated to Our Lady of the Assumption, this cathedral was rebuilt in neoclassical style in the 18th century. It contains the relics of Saint Titian of Oderzo, who is the patron saint of Ceneda. Above the sacristy is a small Cathedral Museum, where a selection of ecclesiastical treasures can be seen.

Church of Santa Maria in Meschio: the high altar is home to a painting by Andrea Previtali that is one of Vittorio Veneto's greatest Renaissance masterpieces.

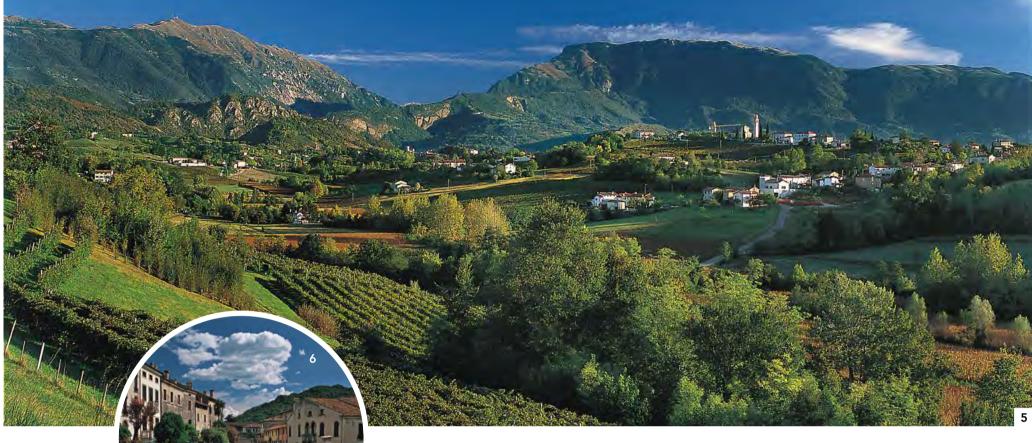
Church of San Silvestro: this building in Costa dates back to the 16th century. Inside, it is decorated with a superb cycle of frescoes by Antonio Rosso from Cadore.



Castle of San Martino: the first stronghold on this site was built in Roman times, but the current structure dates back to the period of Lombard rule. It was partially destroyed during Hungarian raids, then rebuilt between 1420 and 1430 by Bishop Antonio Correr and became the home of the Count-Bishops.

Castrum of Serravalle: originally built as a military base, it became the home of the Da Camino family between the 11th and 14th centuries.

Sanctuary of Santa Augusta: near Serravalle Cathedral is a monumental flight of steps which marks the start of the route leading to the Sanctuary of Santa Augusta. The sanctuary is dedicated to Saint Augusta and her relics can be found inside. She was the daughter of the Gothic king Matrucus. When he found out that she had converted to Christianity, her father martyred her by having her burned, broken on the wheel and then killed with a sword.



Landscape and Nature

The Meschio: the source of the Meschio River is on the slopes of Monte Visentin, in Savassa Alta. It enters Santa Giustina and flows through Serravalle.

Distinctive canals called meschet lead off from the main course and run throughout the local area. The temperature of the water remains steady at approximately 11°C all year round.

Pedestrian and cycle path: there is a route that starts in Serravalle and runs alongside the Meschio River for approximately 5 km before reaching San Giacomo di Veglia. Natural greenery and historical sites line the path, including the remains of old mills, the forges where the famous blades of Serravalle were made, and the paper and wool

mills that were built from the 17th century onwards.

Val Lapisina: there are

three big expanses of water in the Vittorio Veneto area, all of which are in the Val Lapisina. Their names are Lake Morto, Lake Restello (or San Floriano) and Lake Negrisiola. All three are artificial, but they are in natural hollows left by an old glacier in the valley.

Villages: there are at least 50 villages in the mountains, hills and plain around Vittorio Veneto. Some of the most enchanting are: Borgo Maren, where you can see the remains of an old monastery; Borgo Olarigo, which is perched on the slopes near Monte Baldo; and Borgo Olivi in Fais, which is on the road that leads from Longhere in the valley to the top of Col Visentin.

Historical Snippets

Vittorio Veneto was officially created when the previously separate towns of Ceneda and Serravalle were merged in 1866. It was originally named Vittorio to pay tribute to the new King of Italy. The "Veneto" part was added in 1923.

Ceneda was settled by the ancient Celts and Veneti. It is thought that in Roman times it became an outpost of the flourishing municipium of Opitergium (Oderzo), due to its location on the Prealpine branches uphill from the Via Postumia consular road. As Oderzo declined, Ceneda grew more important. It was the capital of a Lombard duchy and then a diocese. In 1328, the episcopal county became part 1337, Serravalle's appearance slowly began of the lands of the Scaliger family. It then passed into the hands of the Da Carrara family in 1383 and finally the Republic of Venice in 1388.

The centre of Serravalle has a distinctive elongated shape and it lies in a valley formed by Monte Cucco and Monte Marcantone. Its location meant that goods travelling from the Cadore area to Venice had to go through the town. It is said locally that in the mid-12th century, the bishops of Ceneda enfeoffed a group of powerful families with Serravalle and its territory. The Da Camino family soon came to dominate them all. The settlement grew thanks to the flourishing manufacturing industry, to which the water of the Meschio made a key contribution. Producers of cold weapons played a particularly big role in the local scene and supplied a huge market. After it came under the rule of the Republic of Venice in to change. Previously concentrated almost entirely in the fortified town centre, it saw the development of the first urban neighbourhoods for merchants and artisans.

Famous figures

Lorenzo Da Ponte: born in the Ceneda Ghetto in 1749, he was ordained as a priest and moved to Venice but was banished from the Republic due to his dissolute lifestyle. With the help of Antonio Salieri, he found work in Vienna writing libretti for a range of musicians. He rose to fame as the librettist for Mozart's operas Così fan tutte, Don Giovanni (to which Giacomo Casanova also contributed) and The Marriage of Figaro. He subsequently moved to New York, where he became the first professor of Italian literature at Columbia College.

Albino Luciani: appointed as the Bishop of Vittorio Veneto in 1958, he was well known and loved for his humility and his ability to get his message across to everyone. From the very beginning he was reluctant to live in the Castle of San Martino and he would have preferred a home closer to his people. He was elected pope in 1978 with the name John Paul I, but his pontificate was one of the shortest in history because he died just 33 days after his election.

Did you know?

The *Graziella* folding bicycle, which was very popular in Italy in the 1960s, was designed by the artist Rinaldo Donzelli and made by the Teodoro Carnielli factory in Vittorio Veneto.

- 1. Piazza Flaminio in Serravalle
- 2. The flight of steps leading to the Sanctuary of Santa Augusta
- 3. Piazza Giovanni Paolo I in Ceneda
- 4. Castle of San Martino

- 5. Col Visentin and Monte Pizzoc
- 6. Serravalle's meschet
- 7. City of Vittorio Veneto Trophy National Choral Competition
- 8. Battle Museum Entrance



and flower show

May: City of Vittorio Veneto Trophy

EVENTS AND INITIATIVES:

January: Festival of Saint Titian of Oderzo

April: La città e il fiore plant

National Choral Competition

May/June: DOCG Vittorio Veneto Wine Show

August: Age-old Festival of Saint Augusta, Age-old Bird Fair

December: City of Vittorio Veneto Violin Competition



Righea: this traditional game vaguely resembles billiards and it is part of the local rural culture. It is played on a surface with a dip in the middle that is created on the ground with clay and sandstone. Colourfully painted hard-boiled eggs are rolled down the sloping side and the aim is to hits the eggs of the other players. The eggs can only be collected by a player called a ranzinier, who uses a ranzin: a long willow pole with a loop on the end that can be used to gather eggs without affecting anything else on the field of play.



The Battle of Vittorio Veneto

The city gave its name to a big battle that was fought from 24 October to 3 November 1918 by 57 Italian divisions, two British divisions, one French division, one Czechoslovak legion and one American regiment, against 73 Austro-Hungarian divisions. It ended with victory for Italy. After hard fighting on the Piave River and Monte Grappa in the early stages, the Austro-Hungarian forces gradually began to crumble. It was the last clash between the armies of Italy and the Austro-Hungarian Empire in the First World War.

Useful information:

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How to get here

- When travelling from Venice, Bologna, Padua or Milan on the A27 motorway, take the "Conegliano" or "Treviso Nord" exit
- When travelling from Belluno or Austria on the A27 motorway, take the "Vittorio Veneto Nord" exit
- When travelling from Trieste, Udine, Pordenone, Portogruaro, Austria or Slovenia on the A28 motorway, take the "Conegliano" exit

TRAIN

• Local train stations: Conegliano, Cornuda and Vittorio Veneto

AEROPLANE

- Venice Tessera "Marco Polo" Airport
- Treviso "Canova" Airport
- Verona "Catullo" Airport

Thank you to the following for the pictures:

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Arcangelo Piai (p. 19 in the square, 21, 28-29, 33, 132-133, 134-135)

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Francesco Pederiva (p. 72, 74 in the circle) Matteo Andreetta (p. 76, 78-79 at the top)

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Francesco Pradal (p. 126, 128-129)

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NESTLED BETWEEN THE PIAVE RIVER, THE TREVISO PREALPS AND MONTE GRAPPA, OUR LOCAL AREA IN THE NORTHERN MARCH OF TREVISO BLEND OF ART, CULTURE, TRADITIONS AND NATURE, WITH HISTORICAL ROOTS STRETCHING BACK THROUGH COUNTLESS CENTURIES



