



EMIDIO PEPE

AGRITURISMO

Through this guide, you will discover a territory and a region that over the years has been able to preserve with pride and in a pristine way its beauties with a deep artistic, architectural and natural-landscape value, without becoming “touristy”. Do not be afraid to go to the discovery, this land will well repay you.

The Pepe family

Torano Nuovo is at the center of an uncontaminated nature still punctuated by its times, capable to generate unforgettable fruits and landscapes. The village is perfectly set between the highest peak of the Apennines, the Gran Sasso and the Adriatic Sea, leaving the climate to balance the soft and tasty influence of the sea to the cold currents of the high mountain. The view from the rolling hills, dominated by a rich biodiversity, offers the most diverse possibilities from the sea to the mountains and everything else in between.



Welcome to our Land

GRAN SASSO NATIONAL PARK MONTI DELLA LAGA



The Gran Sasso and Monti della Laga National Park contains the Gran Sasso group, the Laga group and the Gemelli Mountains.

The first presents the typical face of the Dolomites with important peaks, steep slopes and a myriad of high altitude routes from where it is possible, on particularly clear days, to see the Adriatic Sea, the Tyrrhenian and most of central Italy. Here lies also the Calderone glacier and the Campo

Imperatore plateau, a large and beautiful high-altitude prairie. Rich in woods and streams, in waterfalls and ponds, the Monti della Laga have a softer and more wavy appearance. It is possible to organize guided hikes with expert guides by asking the Reception.

A not-to-miss, is a lunch at the Rifugio Franchetti, located on the highest peak of the Gran Sasso, at 2433 meters a.s.l., which retains the original spirit of the refuge of the past.

GOLE DEL SALINELLO

In the province of Teramo, located within the Gran Sasso and Monti della Laga National Park, in Abruzzo, near the border with the region Marche, there is one of the most fascinating valleys of the Apennines, the Gole del Salinello Natural Reserve. The “Gole del Salinello” is a nature reserve for the protection of the deep gorges created by the Salinello river, between the Foltrone and Girella mountains, also known as the Gemelli Mountains, which, over the millennia, has been able to create landscapes of uncontaminated beauty and hiking-trails of unspeakable charm, characterized by springs, waterfalls, streams and ponds.





Nearby Cities

"A walk through the streets of the old city is like flipping through a volume of art history and meeting the most expressive illustrations of the various periods of Italian art"

Jean Paul Sartre



ASCOLI PICENO

Ascoli Piceno is a beautiful medieval city of the Marche region, considered among the most monumental in Italy. Dotted with towers and bell towers and enveloped in the warm golden color of travertine, which covers almost the entire historic center. The Piazza del Popolo is magnificent with some of the most important places, including Palazzo dei Capitani del Popolo (13th century) or the church of San Francesco (13th-16th centuries), the Loggia dei Mercanti and

Piazza Arringo, the oldest of Ascoli. Not to be missed is the historic Caffè Meletti, inaugurated in 1907, one of the 150 historic bars in Italy, which has seen guests such as Ernest Hemingway, Jean Paul Sartre and Mario Soldati. The bar offers a solid selection of high-quality cocktails, our favorite is the Ramerino to accompany the classic Olive all'Ascolana, as the Meletti offers an excellent version of them.

SAN BENEDETTO DEL TRONTO

San Benedetto del Tronto is the first touristic reality of the Marche region and is a seaside destination known nationally and not only. The city is located between the rivers Tesino and Tronto and is characterized by a wide sandy beach that surrounds a beautiful sea with shallow waters. These are the main characteristics of the “Riviera delle Palme” of which San Benedetto del Tronto is the main exponent and that has allowed the city to be nominated for many years the “Blue Flag” of the European Community as well as having become a location of international relevance.

Vinoammare, a chalet on the beach



between San Benedetto del Tronto and Martinsicuro, offers a typical cuisine that enhances the natural goodness of the fish with a biodynamic and artisan wine list.



TERAMO

The capital of our province is a city with very ancient origins that boasts a rich artistic heritage. The most valuable work is undoubtedly the Duomo, known as the Basilica of Santa Maria Assunta, built in the twelfth century in Romanesque style.

Heritage



Perched on a summit, the spectacular fortress of Civitella del Tronto stands out in the panorama with its fortifications and its well-preserved historic center.



CIVITELLA DEL TRONTO



The emotions of the past come to life in the city-fortress of Civitella, certainly one of the most representative and evocative centers of our province. Emblem of Civitella is the solemn Bourbon Fortress, a masterpiece of military engineering with its 25,000 square meters of surface that make it the largest in Europe.

Built by the Spaniards between 1564 and 1576 to resist the enemy, the Fortress was the last bastion of the Kingdom of

Naples during the “risorgimento” struggles for the unification of Italy. Envidable for its panoramic position, the fort seduces with its three splendid parade grounds, the ramparts and walkways and, inside, the Museum that still today "tells" its history.

It is worth stopping for lunch at the historic restaurant Zunica 1880, a food and wine landmark of the area: its cuisine is rooted in tradition yet reinterpreted with current sensibility and techniques.

CAMPLI

Campli, despite the appearance of a quiet town in the Teramo countryside, used to be a village of great traditions and this illustrious past still preserves today, jealously, splendid testimonies: one of these is certainly the Scala Santa.

The Scala Santa was established in Campli on 21 January 1772 thanks to a Papal Privilege of Clement XIV. The sacred building is made up of 28 wooden steps to be climbed strictly on his knees, for the remission of sins. Those who perform the rite receive the Plenary Indulgence with the same value of the homonymous “Scala di Roma”. Campli is very well known for being the homeland of the famous “porchetta”, one of the most iconic street food in Italy. The Cappuccelli butcher and the Antica Porchetta are surely among the most famous places where to buy a sandwich to be enjoyed, perhaps with a fresh drink, in the shade of the arcades.





Berghi and Local Crafts

The majolica is a typical production of many countries of Abruzzo since the Middle Ages and has its capital in Castelli which was for centuries one of the most important production centers in Europe.

CASTELLI

Castelli is located in the surroundings of Teramo at the foot of Mount Camicia, in the National Park of Gran Sasso and Monti della Laga and is considered among the most beautiful villages in Italy. Already from the Middle Ages the presence of clay, water and wood in the territory led the Benedictine monks to start the production of ceramics. This processing is still done today and along the main street of the village, characterized by a staircase, you can admire the workmanship of this fine material in many shops belonging to the old masters.

If you are curious to find out how the process of working with pottery takes place, our advice is to visit the historic workshop of the Pardi family, founded in 1838, as it is one of the few where you can see the full process from the lathe to the final product.

In addition, the Ceramics Museum, located in the ancient Franciscan convent dating back to the mid-sixteenth century, deserves to be visited.



TOSSICIA

The art of forging copper is a practice still used in some artisan workshops of Tossicia, a small enchanted village that was in the past the capital of the Sicilian Valley, a district of high landscape and cultural value on the Teramo side of the Gran Sasso mount donated, during the 16th century, by Charles V to a noble Spanish family.

Several typical objects are produced here, and in particular the “conca”, the typical basin symbol of the land of Abruzzo.

OFFIDA

Offida, an ancient village surrounded by the 15th century castle walls, is included among the most beautiful villages in Italy (Borghi più belli d'Italia). Located on a rocky outcrop, between the valleys of the Tesino and the Tronto rivers, it is known for the laborious and patient art of “merletto al tombo-lo” (bobbin lace), an ancient tradition, to which a whole museum is dedicated. Here, the lace work dates back to the '400 and the tools used today are still those of the past: a large cushion (bobbin), a perch that serves as a base (prepenna) and wooden spindles to wrap the wire. All this to create tissues, centerpieces, sheets, bedspreads. The heart of the village is Piazza del



Popolo, with its unusual triangular shape and the Palazzo Comunale, with an elegant loggia of thirteen columns in travertine and a XV century portico. From the portico of the town hall you can access the splendid Theatre “Teatro del Serpente Aureo”, built in the 19th century, rich in stuccos and gilded carvings.

It is also known for its historic Carnival that takes place every year according to a ritual set by tradition: it officially begins on January 17, the day of St. Anthony.

To characterize the Carnival “offidano” is the manifestation of “Lu BovFint” (The fake bull), which consists of a farcical hunt for a fake bull today, but real in the past. This is an event that, despite the pressure of modern times, preserves its identity, maintaining a healthy imprint of popular creativity.



The Coast

“Leaning out from the rocks, like a lurking monster, with its hundred arts the Trabocco had a formidable appearance”

Gabriele D’Annunzio

TORRE DI CERRANO

The Tower of Cerrano is one of the few surviving fortresses part of the dense network of coastal fortifications of the Kingdom of Naples, built to repel the frequent attacks from the sea by Turks and Saracens; it dates back to 1568 and was built on a pre-existing construction of the thirteenth century. Today, after an intense consolidation and restoration, it houses a Biology Center and is home to the "Torre del Cerrano" Protected Marine Area, which made the fortress usable, opening up to sustainable tourism through a series of activities such as guided tours, events and snorkeling activities on the remains of the submerged port, completing a program to protect and enhance the environment. The beach in the surroundings is one of the most beautiful and wild of Abruzzo. Half an hour from the tower you can find two iconic fish restaurants: Vecchia Marina and Manetta, the first a real sea restaurant with high quality raw materials, the second more elegant with more elaborate preparations.



COSTA DEI TRABOCCHI

Similar to huge spiders planted in the sea, as Gabriele D'Annunzio himself called them, the Trabocchi, which for centuries were the fishing houses of farmers not accustomed/used to navigation, are nowadays cozy and welcoming places for visitors. The Trabocchi are fishing machines that punctuate the Adriatic coast of Abruzzo (44 km from Ortona to Vasto). A tangle of ropes, wood and iron; stilt houses that still perform their primary function: fishing.

Recently this area is experiencing an important tourist development and many overflows have been converted into restaurants that interpret the local cuisine differently. Worth noting, both for the quality of the restaurant and for the well-kept and scenographic environment, undoubtedly the Trabocco "Punta Cavalluccio" in Fossacesia.





Enjoy our Mountains

For those who are willing to dedicate a day to discover one of the most important mountains in Europe and drive a few kilometers more to get there, there are countless itineraries and villages to experience on the different slopes of the Gran Sasso d'Italia.

CAMPO IMPERATORE

The Gran Sasso massif is characterized by the immense Campo Imperatore plateau, between 1,500 and 1,900 meters of altitude, modeled over millennia by floods and glaciers, a vast, enormous and unusual landscape. In the summer, a stop at Fonte Vetica can definitely not be missed, as there you will find two rest areas not far from each other, selling typical Abruzzese products such as cheeses and meat: Ristoro Mucciante and Macelleria Giuliani. The peculiarity is that the meats purchased, such as "arrosticini" and sausages, can immediately be cooked on large barbecues specially set up for clients and then eat sitting on benches and tables arranged around the restaurants. A sort of street food in picnic mode!

PRATI DI TIVO

From the Prati di Tivo forecourt

(reachable in about 1hr by car from Torano Nuovo) it is possible to leave the car in the large parking lot and take the cableway to the Madonnina, an accessible point for everyone on the Gran Sasso massif, with a wonderful view on the "Sleeping Giant" and overlooking the entire surrounding province up to the blue expanse of our Adriatic sea. After the short trip by cableway, you will be immersed in a dolomitic landscape dominated by the immense and rocky walls of the two horns of the Gran Sasso. From here start different routes for all tastes, hikings, mountain biking trails, climbing, all of different levels of difficulty. In particular, a well-marked trail will take you to the "Rifugio Franchetti" in about 1.5 hours, where a stop to taste the typical dishes is a must. In winter these routes are recommended only to experienced climbers.

ROCCA CALASCIO

Rocca Calascio with its almost 1,500 meters of altitude is the highest castle in Italy and one of the highest in Europe. From the Fortress, the view is breathtaking: the view sweeps 360 ° from the peaks of the Gran Sasso to those of the Majella and Sirente, from the Tirino valley to the Navelli plain. The whole is so fascinating that the Rocca has several times been a film location including "Lady Hawke" (with

Michelle Pfeiffer) and "The name of the rose" (with Sean Connery).



SANTO STEFANO DI SESSANIO

The road continues up to Santo Stefano di Sessanio, the homeland of lentils. What is produced in Santo Stefano belongs to a rare and ancient quality that is grown only on high altitude soils between 1,200 and 1,450 meters. In addition to its taste, it is appreciated for its ease of preservation and cooking. Santo Stefano di Sessanio is a small

mountain village of medieval times built entirely of white limestone. In recent years, it has captured the attention of Italians and tourists thanks to the initiative of a Swedish entrepreneur who has restructured, preserving the aesthetics of the village and the territory, many abandoned houses in the historic center thus creating a "wide-

Excursions

WALKING ITINERARIES

In addition to the high-altitude trails leading to the Corno Grande, Mount Gorzano and the highest peaks, which can only safely be traveled in the summer, you can experience excursions of various difficulty in the Park.

In fact, there are hundreds of marked trails, created with the contribution of the Italian Alpine Club, which also include wide-ranging itineraries, such as the Gran Sasso Horse Trail and the Italian Path. There are also scenic walks, foothills walks between medieval villages and olive groves and numerous thematic itineraries leading to hermitages, water mills, waterfalls, springs, castles and necropolises. Many of these routes are also possible in spring and autumn, while some can be faced even in winter, when the presence of snow however requires to wear crampons or skis.



Some recommended walking routes:
Through the “Gole del Salinello”
Departure: Borgo di Ripe (611m)
Travel time: 2.15 hours
Difficulty: E – Excursion (EE if detour through S.FrancescoalleScalelle)
Difference in level: 500m

From “Prati di Tivo” to the “Corno Grande”
Departure: Prati di Tivo (1465 m)
Arrival: Corno Grande
Travel time: 2.45 hours
Difficulty: E – Excursion
Difference in level: 940 m
Recommended: from July to September

HORSE RIDING TRAILS



The Gran Sasso is home to the largest and most extensive horse trail of Italy that measures 320 km crossing incredible natural and cultural beauties, enchanting mountain villages and breathtaking landscapes. Several stables offer the opportunity to take walks along part of the route.

The nearest starting point from Emidio Pepe is at Prati di Tivo with a marked trail that arrives to Rigopiano in 7 hours. But also other stables, closer to Torano Nuovo, offer the possibility of horseback riding in scenic cliff paths.

Recommended horse route:

From Prati di Tivo to Rigopiano

Departure: Prati di Tivo

Arrival: Rigopiano

Travel time: 7 hours

Length: 35 km

Difference in level: uphill 1350 m – downhill 1600 m

BIKE ROUTES

The same route of the horse trail Ippovia of the Gran Sasso d'Italia (320 km) can also be covered by mountain bike. There are numerous cycle paths that pass through evocative landscapes, connecting several neighboring mountain villages (including Campotosto, Santo Stefano di Sessanio, Campotosto, Calascio, Prati di Tivo, Pietracamela).

Also the area surrounding Torano Nuovo is full of cycle paths of different difficulty and length, both for mountain bikes and asphalt.

Route of the Vibrata Valley

Hilly path that winds through some of the most beautiful centers of the Vibrata valley: from the sea to the mountains along the Vibrata stream and the Salino river. It is also possible to shorten the route and follow it only from the mountain side passing through Civitella del Tronto or only from the

seaside passing through Alba Adriatica and Corropoli (both departing from Sant'Omero and returning from Corropoli to get back to Torano Nuovo). Distance: 92.7 km (complete route)
Type: road
Background: asphalt

Santo Stefano di Sessanio – Calascio route

Length: 6,7 km

Difference in level: 125 m

Ceiling: 1342 m

Background: 70% natural, 30% asphalt
Travel time: approximately 2 hours, roundtrip

Difficulty: Easy



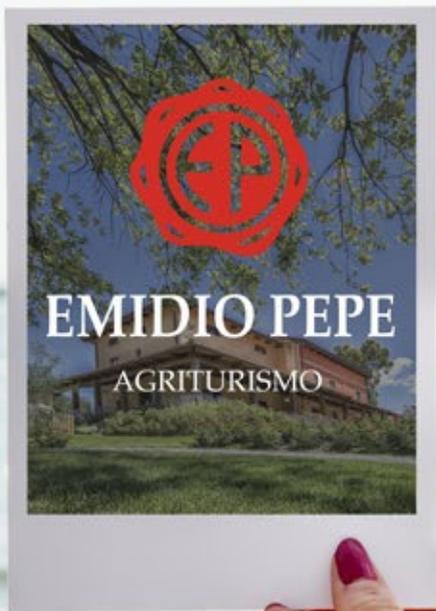
SHOPPING

The finest cashmere and the finest garments are produced by the historic knitwear firm Gran Sasso of Sant'Egidio alla Vibrata, an icon of cashmere made in Italy. Just a few minutes away by car you can reach the shop where new collections and unique items can be found. Re-Hash, a young, innovative and careful brand that produces quality sartorial jeans. Its shop a few miles from us. Tod's, Fay, Prada, Santoni factory stores just 70 km from the Agriturismo Emidio Pepe.

At the center of the Marche footwear district lies the production houses of the most famous international brands and attentive handicraft productions, where they study, create and give life to the prototypes of bags and shoes that dictate the fashion trends all over the world. Visible and open all week for the most exclusive purchases and for very convenient occasions.



Handcrafted cashmere production at the Gran Sasso knitwear factory in Sant'Egidio alla Vibrata (TE)



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