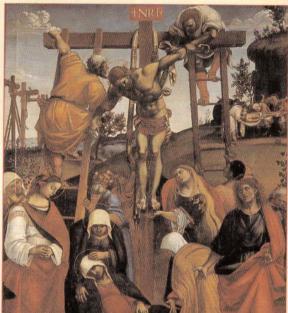
UMBERTIDE

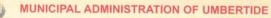
Landscape - History - Monuments - Art - Itineraries - Tourist Information



At the discovery of a territory rich of history, art, culture, monuments and natural beauties







Environment

Green public areas

Umbertide is a town surrounded by green areas and the local

government has always tried to preserve it from an excessive use of concrete.

The green public areas already existent have been reorganized and new parks have been created both in the town centre and in the surroundings.

A special mention should be reserved to the Parco Ranieri, a green, equipped area in the town centre covering a surface of about 230.000 mg (23 hectares). This area is organised as follows: open-air theatre and gazebo (30,000 mg);

Pineta Ranieri (Ranieri pinewood) (50.000 mg);

Wood and pine-wood including a well equipped pathway and bowling-greens (130.000 mq);

Recreation at Ranieri Pine-wood

Green public area in via Papa Giovanni XXIII (14.000 mq);

Ranieri Park



JOLLY



Open-air theatre of Ranieri Park

Children park in via Morandi (6.000 mq).

The project is inspired by the example of the Italian, Classical gardens and it aims at creating a perfect, structural harmony with the surrounding environment.

Within the park people can visit the open-air theatre (1.200 seats), the square with its gazebo, refreshment-booth and the well-equipped pathway (2.100 m.) including 18 stops for exercises.

National angling installation

For some years, the Fipsas of Perugia, with the collaboration of the region, province and the local government, has been carrying out a project aimed at the environmental saving of a reach of the Tiber. Considerable time and effort have been spent to make the place fit for an international angling installation. The goal of the organizers and promoters is to enlarge the structure and to make it more and more functional in order to meet the needs of the many competitors who come to this area every year.

The installation on the Tiber river







Via Morandi - Umbertide



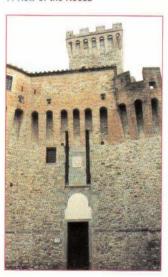
Landescape

The territory covers an area of about 200 kmg; the landscape includes flat and hilly areas (22% and 58% respectively) as well as high hills and mountains (20%). Settled at 250 metres a.s.l., Umbertide has a Mediterranean, temperate climate. The population is about 15,000. The most important river is the Tiber, but there are other minor streams such as: Niccone, Assino, Carpina, Nestore and Reggia. The flora is mainly represented by deciduous oak woods. The commonest animals are wild boar, fox, crow and hedgehog. The main fish to be found are carp, chub, barbel, alborella and the eel.



History

A view of the Rocca



Umbertide has very ancient origins. An evidence of the very first settlements (VIth century) is provided by the so called "bronzetti di Monte Acuto", small votive statues attributed to the Umbri (a very ancient people). However, the presence of many Roman finds bears witness to the existence of a settlement on the shores of the river Tiber (IIIrd century) known as "Forum Bremitii", "Forum Julii" or "Pitulum". The ancient Pitulum was supposed to be destroyed by the Ostrogothians and later rebuilt (790)by the sons of Uberto or Umberto Ranieri under the name of Fratta. The first historical mention of Fratta dates back to 1186. In this year Fracta was put under the jurisdiction of Perugia, thus following the destiny of this town and suferring from the consequences of raids and sacking. It was kept under the

Pope's rule untill 1868 when, together with the rest of the region, it became part of the "Regno d'Italia." Once the unity of Italy was accomplished, Fracta was given its first local government. On 25th january 1863 the Town Council decided to replace the name "Fracta" with "Umbertide" in honour of Umberto's sons who had been responsible for the rebuilding of the town (Fracta filiorum Uberti).

Umbertide keeps a dramatic memory of the two World Wars as the violent wave of bombings (25th April 1944) caused the death of 74 people and the destruction of many buildings in the town centre.

The reconstruction was extremely difficult, but the inhabitants could soon erase the signs of the war. After the 60's the industrial and building development reached such a high peak that the town aspect turned out to be considerably changed. The presence of excellent hotels, recreational and sport facilities makes the tourist feel at ease and provides a relaxed atmosphere.

A view of the ancient town's walles



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Monuments

Pocca

It's an imposing medieval fortress standing as the symbol of the

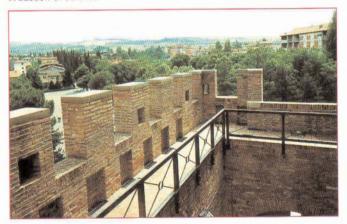
town. As to the date of its building there are contrasting views: some authors say it dates back to 1374, some others affirm that during the struggles between the noblemen and the members of the lower classes, Perugia gave Guidalotti the task to build it. The work was ended in 1389 and Alberto Guidalotti and Angeluccio di Ceccolo (known as "il Trocascio") were respectively remembered as works manager and designer.

The fortress rises in front of the stream Reggia and it is made up of an imposing square tower (height: mt. 31.60; width: mt. 7.60).

The walls are 2.20 mt. thick at the base. Besides the imposing square tower, the structure includes two smaller circular keeps and a square basis on

Today the Rocca has just one door opening onto Fortebracci square, but originally it had two (the second overlooking the stream Reggia) and both of them had drawbridges. In 1394 Braccio Fortebracci da Montone was imprisoned in this fortress.

A bastion of defence



In 1521 Pope Leone X decided to give the safe keeping of the castle to the worthiest people of Fracta for seven years and under Pope Clemente VII this honour received a ten year respite so that the money people should pay to the castellan or to the soldiers could be spent to restore the walls. At that time, every year the Camera Apostolica



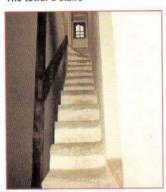
The subterranean passage

was to pay Fracta a sixty scudo contribution to the upkeeping of the Rocca and, in his turn, the castellan had to provide the Perugian magistrate's chapel with two pounds wax.

In 1798 the Perugian subsidy was abolished as a consequence of the establishment of the French republican government; since when the Pope

returned to the Papal State and until 1923, the Rocca was used as a public jail. Since 1913 the fortress underwent some internal transformations: the two circular keeps were roofed to make the structure suit for dwelling. The Rocca was lived in until 1974. In 1984 the local government decided to start a series of works to save and restore the structure and two years later (1986) the monument was given back to its town.

The restoration process was conceived to return the structure to its The tower's stairs





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Tel. e Fax 075 9302166 - 075 9302103 - 0759302190 www.cerretino.it - info@cerretino.it original, historical identity and to allow the use of all its inner rooms. Despite the extreme care taken to keep the original nucleus unaltered, some structural changes have been brought about.

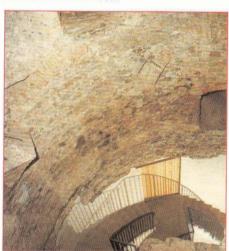
The most striking of all is the creation of a new entrance at the base of the left tower's walls.

This new entry gives direct access to the Teatro dei Riuniti and connects Piazza del Mercato to Piazza Fortebracci through a suggestive way created by removing the filling earth.

The finding of a stone staircase in the very first room of the first floor, allowed

to rebuild the vertical connecting axis of the tower: from the under-





ground level to the battlements.

Even the dungeon with its trapdoor has been discovered during the works in the lower part of the tower.

The suppression of the division-walls within the cells of the tower and the substitution of the pavilion-roofing of the tower with a practicable floor make the inner rooms even more enjoyable.

The Centre for Contemporary Art

Once the restoration was over, the local government decided to use the Rocca for cultural initiatives and exhibitions.

In 1986 the very first exhibition took place , which was dedicated to "Cagli e Leoncillo e le ceramiche Rometti di Umbertide".

After that, the local government decided to create a public collection of contemporary art whose ambitious task is to provide evidence of art languages and trends of the last years.

This collection (whose original nucleus is represented by the 19 works the painter Giovanni Ciangottini left to his beloved town) is kept in the



Fortebracci square

ancient rooms of the Rocca which has been the permanent "Centre for Contemporary Art" since 1991.

The generous contribution of many artists, managers of art galleries and collectors as well as the passionate scientific zeal of the exhibitions' promoters and organizers allowed the creation of the first embryo of a local contemporary art museum.

The works of art which have been donated to town are periodically displayed in the rooms of the Rocca.

The Centre for Contemporary Art



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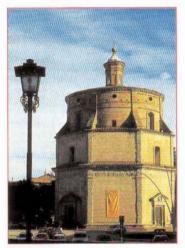
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La Collegiata Church (Santa Maria della Deggia)



The Collegiata Church's - sec. XVI

The temple dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, also referred to as S. Maria della Reggia, was built during the second half of the XVIth century, not fa from the homonymous stream. out of the people's will. It was built to host a miraculous fresco-painted image which was kept in a nearby chapel. At first the works were directed by the architects Galeazzo Alessi e Giulio Danti who disegned the original plan; in 1583 they were replaced by Bino Sotii, Mariotto da Cortona (1600), Rutilio (1623) and finally Bemardino Sermigni (1640).

The original plan, combining

an external octagonal shape with an internal circular one, has a 22 mt. inside diameter and it is 40 mt. high. The interior of the dome, from the drum to the lantern, covers an area of 689 mq. The diameter of the copper sphere standing on the lantern is 1.65 mt. At the beginning of the XVIIth century, the original dome began to show some sagging signs; it was rebuilt but the original plan of the monument was just partially altered. The inside perimeter is marked by a series of 16 columns; they are quite detached from wall, where the shapes of the corresponding pillars are quite evident. The eight wide areostyles formed by the intercolumns are characterised by round arches including the altars, the organ loft and the two portals. The coupled columns (dating back to 1632 and having the structural function to support the dome), the moulding, the niches and the chiaroscuro effects provide the whole structure with a suggestuve, dynamic perception of masses, volumes and light. The columns are 9.60 mt high. The polychrome fired-brick floor dating back to the XVIIth

century deserves a special mention.

Works of art.

The dome drum is decorated with four large canvases:

- 1. (above the main altar) Glorifie Virgin with the Saints M.Maddalena, Giovanni Battista e Evangelista, Andrea, Francesco, Apollonia. This canvas can be attributed to a Roman school of the XVIth century.
- 2. (above the organ loft) Ascension with the Saints Benedetto, Romualdo, Savino e Vescovo including eucharistic symbols. By Niccolò Circignani, known as Pomarancio (1578).
- 3. (above the altar of the Rosary) Blessed Virgin of Loreto with the Saints Andrea Avellino and Ubaldo. By G. Alaboyna (1749).
- 4. (above the altar of San Giuseppe) Christ showing the cross to a regular clergyman. By G. Alaboyna (1749).

Ancona of the Virgin

Pediment with stucco-work draperies and angels (1725) framing the fresco of the enthroned Virgin with Child and Saints. This fresco is generally attributed to the circle of the schools of Gubbio (XVth century).

Altar of the Holy Sacrament

It's a magnificient golden wood carving by Peter Kraas (1680). On the upper part a work by Scaramuccia representing the Eternal Father. On the same altar a golden wood tabernacle from Florentine school (1500)and a XIXth century wooden crucifix are noteworthy.

Christening font

It's a beautiful white marble font dating back to the XVIth century. The golden stucco-work altar lying in the back is by G. Fontana and frames a XVIIth century canvas representing the Virgin and the Saints.

The Collegiata Church's inside - sec. XVI





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Altar of S. Giuseppe

It's a precoius statue from XVIth century Florentine school.

Altar of the Rosary

It consists of 15 XVIIth century copper painted medallions representing the mysteries of the Rosary.

Above the two portals, two baroque inscriptions bear witness of the dates when the temple was built and consecrated (1751).

The name "Collegiata" derives from the fact that in the XVIIIth century the so called "Colleggiata dei canonici" – a college of canons whose seat, in 1765, was the church of San Giovanni Battista – was moved to this temple. At the present time the church of Santa Maria della Reggia is the seat of of the parish of San Giovanni Battista. Between 1992 and 1993 it was radically restored but today its works of art are badly in need of restoring interventions.

Diazza San Francesco

In times past this area, known as "Borgo Inferiore", was the centre of many blacksmiths' workshops which made the town pretty famous. Originally this area was settled outside the walls and it was crossed by the road southerly leading to Perugia.

The tourist can't fail to visit this place and appreciate its cultural, artistic value. As a matter of fact some of the most important churches of the town look on to this square.

Chiesa di Santa Croce: The original plan of this church was designed thelocal architect Luigi Fracassini. It was built in 1610, by enlarging the Augustinian Fathers' chapel founded in 1338. It has been completely restored and transformed into a town-museum where the Deposizione dalla Croce, one of the most famous works by Luca Signorelli, is kept.

Chiesa di San Francesco: Built during the XIIIth century (probably in 1299) on gothic structures, it has been restored and reopened in 1966. It kept the statua di S. Rocco attributed to Michelozzo Fiorentino and a canvas by Pomarancio which has been moved to the civic museum of Santa Croce. The church also includes the adjacent Convento di San Francesco. Today the historical archives, town library and a cultural centre have their seat in this ancient, completely restored building.

Chiesa di San Bernardino: built on the ancient oratory of the so called "disciplinati", according to the tradion it was San Bernardino who, in 1426, founded the "Congregazione del Buon Gesù" in this very place. It was consecrated in 1556 and in the course of the centuries it underwent many changes untill 1768, when it finally acquired the present structure. The main altar includes two important works of art: La cena degli Apostoli (1602) by Muzio Fiori and the woodden Statua di San Bernardino dating back to the XVIth century and attributed to Vecchietta. The famous XVIIIth century singer Domenico Bruni is buried in this church. The church can be visited on Thursdays.

Santa Maria della Dietà

It was built in 1486 with the contribution of Bartolomeo di Nello Burelli from Fratta. On the portal's lunette a fresco by Pinturicchio (1504) is particularly noteworthy. Until 1814 the church also kept another important painting of the same artist representing the coronation of the Virgin. Today this painting is kept in room VII of the Vatican picture gallery. The front portico and the large square have been recently restored under the building management of the engineer Giuseppe Rinaldi and the artistic competence of the architect Giuseppe Ristori.

Chiesa di Cristo Risorto

The new Cristo Risorto Church was inaugurated on 28th april 2001. A historical event for Umbertide. The last inauguration of a great monumental church, S. Croce, goes back to 1610. Situated in an area of 8.000 mq., in the centre of the new urban development, it has classrooms for different activities, spaces for free time, a library and a multimedial room, rooms for Radio Comunità Cristiana and for Caritas.

The new Cristo Risorto Church



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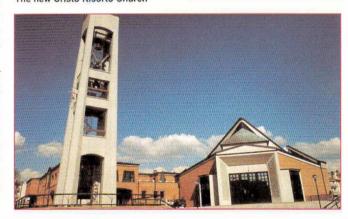
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3rst Tourist Route: Perugia Territory.

4rst Tourist Route: In the marquisate of Ascanio della Corgna.

5rst Tourist Route: The green valleys of memory among castles and abbeys.

The green valleys of memory among castles ad abbeys

Leave the S.S. 75 Bis and take the winding road: you will pass Trécine and Castel Rigone, where you can enjoy the wonderful view of the Trasimeno lake; then you will arrive at Preggio (631 m. sea - level): here you can appreciate the "Collegiata della SS. Trinità" and the ruins of the ancient castle.

Surrounded by beautiful woods, Preggio is famous for the production of chestnuts and every year there is a fair where everybody can taste traditional chestnuts dishes.

If you come down the road going to the Niccone valley, you will admire ancient farmhouses and, down the valley, the Reschio and Sorbello castles.

Taking the S.S. 416, Niccone direction, along a valley marked by an intense farming, you will meet the villages of Mita, Spedalicchio and Molino Vitelli.

On the surrounding hills, among olives, grapevines and thick chestnut woods, you will discover the medieval villages of Bastia Creti and Montemigiano and the ancient castles of Rasina and Montalto; this one dominates the point where the two valleys meet.

You turn right into the S.S. Tiberina 3 Bis and, after three km., you arrive in Umbertide, showing its typical houses on the river Tevere.

Leaving the town and going east direction for about ten minutes, you 'll see the Civitella Ranieri and Serra Partucci castles.

If you take again the Tiberina (Perugia direction), after three km. you will find the indications for ancient

"Abbadia di San Salvatore" and for the "Eremo Camaldolese"; this one lies on the top of the century-old wood covering Montecorona hill.

If you take the road which follows the Tevere, you will arrive at the Ascagnano castle, which saw the birth of the romantic love between the King of Baviera and the marguise Florenzi. Going on this direction, you will arrive at Pieve San Quirico, on the slope of Monte Tezio.

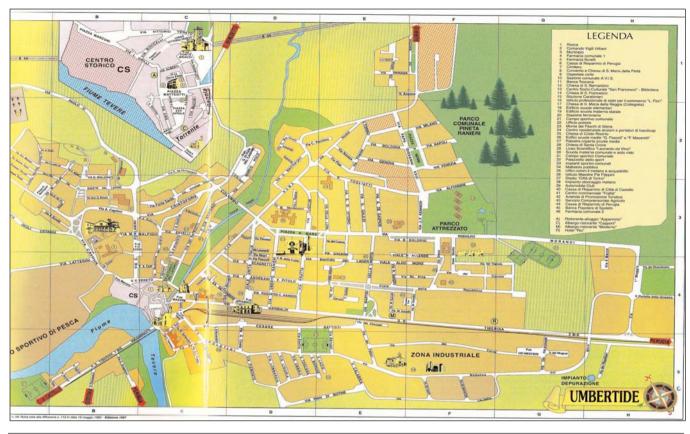
From Ponte Pattoli you take again the Tiberina (North direction); arrived in Pierantonio, you have to take the road for Pantano; so you will admire first the castle of Valenzina and then that of Antognolla, surrounded by the emerald green of some golf-fields.

After getting over this wonderful place, you pass Pieve del Vescovo; then the road goes down again to the rich plain that encircles the Trasimeno lake.

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(v.) 5C Giovanni di P. di Carpine (P.za) 2-3D

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Ranieri R. Cane (v.) 4D Ranieri U. (v.) 3-4D Repubblica (v.le delia) 4E-F-G Roma (v.) 3-4C-D Rosati G. (v.) 2-3A

Rigattieri (v. dei) 5H

San Francesco (P.za) C.S. 2C - 5C Santini A. (v.) C.S. 1-2C Santini G. (v.) 3C Sanzio R. (v.) 4E Sarti (v. dei) 5F Savelli G. (v.) 3C Scagnetti R. (v.) 4D Secoli G. (v.) 5C

Signorelfi L. (v.) 5C Soli (v.) G.P e F.M. 4C Spoletini G.B. (v.) 4-5C-D Spunta M. (v.) C.S. 2C Starnini G. (v.) 2-3A Stella F. (v.) 4C

Tagliamento (v.) 5B Togliatti P. (v.) 2-3E Torino (v.) 2E Toscana (v.) 5D Tusicum (v.) 3D Trieste (v.) 1E Trocascio (piazzetta del)

C.S. 1C Umbria (v.) 5D Unità d'Italia (v.) 3-4D

Venezia (v.) 2F XX Settembre (v.) 4C-D XX Settembre (trav. v.) 4C XXV Aprile (P.za) C.S 2C Vespucci A. (v.) 3C Vibi L. (largo) C.S. 2C

Vibi L. (v.) 2-3A-B Vignola (v. del) 4F-G Vittorio Veneto (largo) CS.1C Vittorio Veneto (v.) 1C



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CULTURE, SPORT AND FREE TIME

Teatro dei Riuniti - P.zza Fortebracci (Tel. 075 9412697)

Museo Civico di Santa Croce - Via Soli (Tel. 075 9420147)

Centro Culturale S. Francesco - P.zza S. Francesco (Tel. 075 9415958)

Centro sociale "Le Fonti" - Via Secoli, 11 (Tel. 075 9411567

Biblioteca Comunale - Piazza C. Marx (Tel. 075 9414256)

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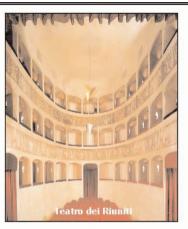
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Percorso verde attrezzato
Pineta Ranieri e Macchione

Banda Cittadina - Via Secoli, 7 (Tel. 075 9417822)



FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

Festival di Primavera - Musica classica

(aprile - maggio - giugno)

Premio Letterario Nazionale "Umbertide XXV Aprile" (aprile)

Fotografia in Umbria (maggio – novembre)

Rockin'Umbria (giugno - luglio)

Comoedia - Rassegna teatro dialettale (luglio - agosto)

Preggio Music Festival - Musica da Camera (luglio - agosto)

Settembre Umbertidese (settembre)

Feste di Settembre nella Fratta dell'Ottocento (settembre)





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The Museum of Santa Croce

After the restoring works and the return of the "Deposizione dalla Croce", Luca Signorelli's masterpiece, to its original place, the church of Santa Croce has been transformed into a museum also used as an auditorium and a conference-room. Besides Signorelli' masterpiece the visitor can admire the "Madonna col Bambino in gloria tra angeli e santi", a large painting by Pomarancio, once kept in the adjacent church of San Francesco. Within the museum, ten panels provide the visitor with detailed information about Signorelli's itinerary, the altar-piece's restoration and the history of the church itself.



Signorelli's altar-piece in its precious frame

a house was built on the church and short afterwards (1515-1516), at the confraternity's expense, Luca Signorelli was ordered the famous "Depozione dalla croce". In 1556 a plot of land and a "wall" belonging to the neighbouring Franciscan friars were bought in order to enlarge the building. In the second half of the century, the church must have taken such considerable dimension to keep the large woodden panel carved between 1611 and 1612 (attributed to a wood-carver from the Marches) which was to host Signorelli's altar-piece. Between 1634 and 1645 the church came to know the last step towards its definitive restoration under the building management of Filippo Fracassini. On this occasion a plot of land was bought where the sacristy and the bell tower

the situation is pretty different. In 1509

would rise. By then, the long process of tranformation of the church was over but for the late-baroque façade dating back to the first half of the XVIIIth century.

Santa Croce church

The church, in its present state, is the result of a series of enlarging interventions. Originally this area was occupied by a small church, may be the one the sources refer

to as the church of SS. Pietro e Paolo, which already existed in 1295. In the first years of the XIVth century this small church was used as oratory of the so called Confraternita dei disciplinati di Santa Maria (the first document on the confraternity dates back to 1337) who also ran a hospital. This was one of the many religious groups of laymen who began to gather from the XIIIth century and whose main principle was sharing Christ's sufferings by means of self-scourging. The first mention of this confraternity dates back to 1340 and it is referred to with the name of S. Maria e S. Croce. During the XVth century there is no precise informa-

FOR ANY FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT OPENING TIMES TEL. 075.9419239-9420147-9417099 tion available on the church, but from the first years of the following century

A detail of left predella





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Signorelli's Deposizione dalla Croce

We assume that in 1515 this painting was ordered by the confraternity to Luca Signorelli who finished the work in 1616. This is the date we find at the bottom of the original frame which was later included in the large woodden panel carved in 1611-12. The painting was realized in such a short time that we can assume that Signorelli could rely very much on a well organized workshop where skilled pupils gave their precious contribution.

The painter includes the main subject (the Deposition) into a wider context, thus realizing a sort of cycle representing the main episodes of Christ's Passion. The choice of this particular structure was probably suggested by the confraternity itself whose members attached a great importance to the theme of Passion. This is also witnessed by the fact that at Easter many plays were put on stage dealing with that matter and the texts of those plays have been partially handed down to us. The painting's reading starts from above, on the left hand, where the three crosses on the Golgotha marks the episode of the Crucifixion.

Then we pass to the central scene, the Deposition, whose sad witnesses are the Marie, on the left side, the Virgin fainted on the ground and the Maddalena represented in her sweet, desperate attempt to keep Christ's blood in her hand. The last element of this group is embodied by San Giovanni and above him the last episode of the cycle represents the carrying of Christ's body to His sepulchre and a mourning procession. Seeing that the confraternity was named after the Holy Cross, the three panels of the predella are dedicated to the legend of the "finding of Christ's Cross" which had become very popular thanks to a medieval text, "legenda Aurea", by Iacopo da Varagine.

The first episode (curiously included in the central panel, on the right half) dates back to King Salomon's time when Queen Saba, his guest, out of a divine inspiration, knelt in adoration of a woodden trunk used as a bridge over a stream. A long time afterwards, that very trunk would be used to build Christ's Cross. Starting from the first panel on the left hand, the visual narration goes on referring to the times of the Roman Emperor Costantino (IVth century A.D.) and to the way he succeeded in putting Massenzio's army into flight by showing a golden cross. After the conversion of her son, Elena, Costantino's mother, strove to find out Christ's Cross (central panel); once the three crosses were found on the Golgotha, a miraculous event took place: one of these three crosses (Christ's Cross) was put near a dead child and he was immediately brought back to life. The story ends with an event which took place a long time afterwards, in the VIIth century. After Jerusalem's conquest, the Persian king Cosroe took the Cross which was recovered by the Emperor Eraclio. The right panel shows Eraclio bearing the Cross and triumphantly entering the town of Jerusalem. But the access to the town is barred by an angel inviting the Emperor to put his clothes and footwears and humbly enter the town while showing the Holy relic.

A detail of the right predella



Pomarancio's altar-piece

The canvas, representing the "Madonna col Bambino in gloria di angeli e santi" was originally kept in the adjacent church of San Francesco but it has been recently removed to safeguard its state of preservation. At the bottom, on the left hand, we can perceive the artist's signature Niccolò Circignani "de Pomarancio", while on the right the execution date as well as the client's name (Cristoforo Martinelli) are clearly visible. While painting the Virgin with the Child, Pomarancio seems to be inspired by a work the famous painter Parmigianino realised in Rome between 1526 and 1527 for Maria Bufalini (member of the oustanding family from Città di Castello). Only some years later did this work reach the town of Città di Castello (in S. Agostino). Today this work of art is kept in London.



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A detail of Pomarancio's altar-piece



Gli itinerari turistici

The green hills surrounding Umbertide are studded with castles and towers formerly built to defend the territory. By visiting these ancient buildings the tourist is likely to enjoy the flavour of history and nature.

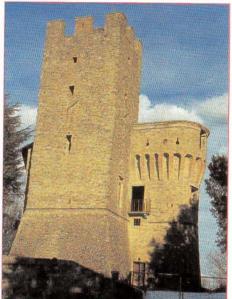
On the way to Dreggio

On the road leading to Preggio, settled on a hill towering Umbertide, the castle of Romeggio dates back to medieval times, when this area was frequently crossed by the so-called Romei, the pilgrims who went to visit the holy places. Not far from Romeggio is the castle of Polgeto; it was built in 1399 around a fortified post existing ever since the XIIth century. This ancient post beloged to Biagio di Buto, a Perugian exile. This is one of the best preserved castles of the area as it has always been used as a dwelling-place. Few kilometers farther, we arrive to Preggio (height: 638m a.s.l.), an ancient village surrounded by woods and lush vegetation. It's an ideal place for people loving unspoilt countryside and the intimate, carefree atmosphere of Umbrian hills. The Rocca di Preggio, because of its towering position, was considered as one of the most important of

Preggio. Church of SS. Trinità in S. Francesco (1223)



the Perugian territory and of the Alta Valle del Tevere. It has exited ever since 917, when the Emperor Berengario II put Preggio under the rule of the marquis Uguccione Bourbon, Besides the ruins of the Rocca the following monuments are noteworthy: the church of S.S. Trinità in San Francesco (1223)



with its silver reliquary keeping the holy thorn (on display every vear Easter Monday) and the church of the Madonna delle Grazie(1400) with its beautiful renaissance altar and a fresco attributed to Pinturicchio. Going on, few kilometers farther, the tourist may catch a glimpse of the Trasimeno Lake through the Pineta di Col di Campana in a very suggestive setting.

The Castle of Serra Partucci - sec. XIV

On the way to Dineta Danieri

Not far from the town centre, the Pineta Ranieri together with the wood and the Parco Ranieri offers 23 hectares of well equipped green areas. From the Pineta Ranieri, above the E-45, people can catch a glimpse of the castle of Civitella Ranieri, an imposing, wonderful example of medieval fortress. It dates back to the second half of the XIth century, when Raniero, Duke Guglielmo di Monferrato's brother, ordered his son Uberto to build a citadel. The present architectural structure stands as the result of the restoration which has been realized during the last few years. The castle of Serra Partucci, not far from Civitella, rises in a dominating position between two torrents: Reggia and Assino. The present structure has been built on the ruins of the castle destroyed by Giacomo Baglioni, Braccio Fortebracci's lieutenant, in 1420.



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On the way to the Niccone Valley

While leaving Umbertide on the way to Città di Castello (Tiberina 3Bis) the tourist will be attracted by the sight of the castle of Montalto. In ancient times this fortress, with its imposing tower, had a tactical importance both for the defence of Fratta and for the control of the expansionist aims of Città di Castello.

The first historical mention of the castle dates back to 1385, when the Perugians decided to reinforce it. Going on through the Niccone Valley, an area offering a scenic, striking landscape,the tourist can admire the medieval village of Montemigiano. It is settled on the top of a high hill overlooking Niccone; a visit to its small, ancient church and its restored houses is like going back to medieval times. On the border between Umbria and Tuscany there is the castle of Reschio, a medieval fortress existing ever since 1355.

the Castle of Civitella Ranieri - sec.XV



The village of Montemigiano

On the way to the Eremo di Montecorona

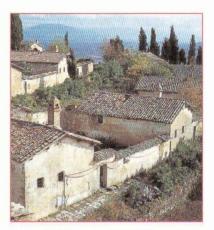
It is settled at the foot of the hill which bears its name, 4 km far from Umbertide. According to the tradition, S. Romualdo founded the monastery of S. Salvatore in Monte Acuto, Montecorona's original name in the XIth century. The ancient crypt was built in the basement and it has a great artistic and cultural value. The interior is divided into five aisles; the columns holding up the low vaults are very different in style. The upper church, with nave and two aisles was consecrated in 1105; it keeps the remains of some frescos and a beautiful woodden chancel. The bell tower is also worth seeing; it has an octagonal, circular plant and it was probably used as a defensive tower. The tower clock has been recently restored. From the Badia di Montecorona people may easily reach the homonymous Eremo (height: 705 m a.s.) by taking a road

flanked by beeches and chest-nut trees. On the way to the Eremo the tourist will also find many votive niches. In ancient times there was a path called "la mattonata", leading to the Eremo. This path, recently reopened as "nature trail", derives its name from the fact that it was dry-paved with sand-stone blocks. The Eremo is an ancient monastery built by the Camaldolensians and Coronesi during the XVIth century. Going on along the same road the tourist can discover the Borgo di Santa Giuliana, an ancient, very pictoresque village

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The San Salvatore of Montecorona abbey - sec.XI



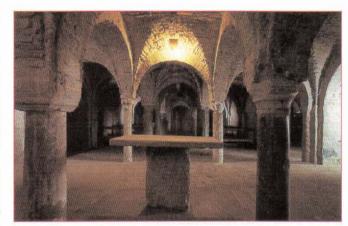


Eremo of Montecorona - sec. XVI

which has been recently restored by trying to preserve its medieval plan.

We do not know exactly when this castle was originally built; the first historical mention dates back to 1362. In 1411 the castle was besieged by Captain Paolo Orsini, an allied of Braccio Fortebracci da Montone.

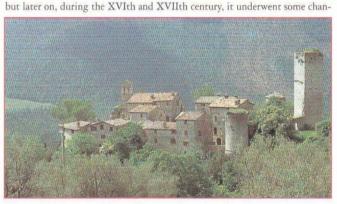
On the way to Perugia we can catch a glimpse of the fortress of Valenzina on which there are just few information available. It was built to defend the territory



The abbey's crypt of Montecorona

Agnolo Ticagnetto from Perugia who began to rebuild the destroyed castle. In the XIXth century the castle of Ascagnano belonged to Ettore Florenzi who sold it to Luigi I, King of Bavaria, in 1832. During the last centuries the castle has undergone many structural changes aimed at making it more and more comfortable and functional. The castle of Antognolla, settled on the territory of Perugia, not even far from Umbertide, towers above the ancient houses of the surrounding village. We don't know exactly when it was first built, but we know that a Benedictine monastery already existed in this area in 1174.

In 1404 the castle was used as a shelter for some Perugian noblemen: Jacopo degli Arcipreti, Pandolfo Baglioni and Donato di Ser Jacopo with his followers. In 1480 the Baglioni family occupied the castle and kept it under their rule for some years. In 1836 the Guglielmi family bought the County of Antognolla and owned it until 1921.



The medieval village of Santa Giuliana

ges to meet the landowners' needs. 3 km farther, on the way to Pierantonio we can admire the castle of Ascagnano. It rises in a dominating position, just in the point where the Nese stream flows into the Tiber. The name "Ascagnano" seems to come from the Ascanis, Enea's descendants. The date of its foundation is unknown. The first historical mentions concerning the castle date back to 1370. In this year Gilberto, Count of Serra, invaded Castiglione Ugolino and tried to occupy the castle which was under Perugia's rule. In 1395, Biordo Michelotti, Lord of Perugia, ordered the destruction of the castle because he found out that Giacomo d'Ascagnano and other members of his family were planning to give the castle to the Perugian exiled noblemen. In 1415 the ruins were bought by

The green hills of the umbertidese country





Historical Performance of the

September's Festivity

of End

Nineteenth century

Umbertide - Historical Centre

September

The "800 century September Festival" recalls "Fratta" in the '800, a period of great changes for our town. The iniziative is carried out by the club "Fratta in the '800" and promoted by the Municipality, by the town centre shopkeepers, by the Quarter Council n.4 and by "Accademia of Riuniti", with the enthusiastic cooperation of many people wearing period costumes.







Some pictures of 2002 edition

The Taverns

Appointment with the traditional cooking of Fratta

