



EREMO delle CARCERI km 4
Oasis of peace and tranquility in the midst of the woods on the slopes of Mt. Subasio.

- Car Parks
- Escalator
- Elevator
- Bus Departures
- Swimming Pool
- Indoor Swimming Pool
- Sport Centre
- Hospital
- Tourist Office



SAN DAMIANO km 1.5
Franciscan shrine built on the spot where St. Francis heard the voice of Christ and where he wrote the Canticle of the Creatures. The convent founded by St. Clare is still intact.



SANTUARIO DI RIVOTORTO km 4.5
Here the "hovel of St. Francis" is preserved in memory of the first Franciscan community.

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 Basilica di S. Francesco | 20 S. Quirico |
| 2 Chiesa di S. Margherita | 21 S. Apollinare |
| 3 Loggia dei Maestri Comacini | 22 Vescovado |
| 4 S. Giacomo de Muro Rupto | 23 S. Maria Maggiore |
| 5 Palazzo Vallemani - Pinacoteca | 24 S. Antonio |
| 6 Oratorio dei Pellegrini | 25 Chiesa Nuova |
| 7 Abazia di S. Pietro | 26 S. Francesco Piccolino |
| 8 Basilica di S. Maria degli Angeli | 27 S. Maria delle Rose |
| 9 Stazione FS | 28 Rocca Maggiore |
| 10 Lyrick Theatre | 29 Confraternita di S. Lorenzo |
| 11 Fonte Marcella | 30 Cattedrale di S. Rufino |
| 12 Monte Frumentario | 31 Basilica di S. Chiara |
| 13 Auditorium Pro Civitate | 32 Parco Regina Margherita |
| 14 Teatro Metastasio | 33 Rocca Minore |
| 15 Chiesa di S. Stefano | 34 Eremo delle Carceri |
| 16 Foro Romano | 35 S. Damiano |
| 17 Palazzo del Capitano del Popolo | 36 Santuario di Rivotorto |
| 18 Chiesa di S. Maria sopra Minerva | 37 Bosco di San Francesco |
| 19 Palazzo Comunale | 38 Chiesa di Santa Croce |



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ASSISI

Although Umbrian in origin, Assisi was influenced by nearby Etruscan settlements. Under the name "Asisium", it became a flourishing Roman municipality. At the beginning of the 3rd century A.D., the martyr Rufino, the first bishop of Assisi, introduced the Christian faith. After the fall of the Roman Empire, Assisi was razed by Totila and the Goths (545 A.D.), recaptured by the Byzantines and then conquered by the Lombards, it remained under the dominion of the Duchy of Spoleto for a considerable period. It began to flourish again during the 11th and 12th centuries as a free Comune but it was soon troubled again by new wars. It fell to Barbarossa and it was here, in fact, that Federico II grew up. St. Francis and St. Clare were also born here during this period, the former in 1182 and the latter in 1193. Besides imperial and papal domination, Assisi was subject at various times to the Perugians, the Viscontis, the Montefeltros, the condottiere Braccio Fortebraccio and the Storzias. It was also torn apart by internal feuding between the Upper and Lower parts of the town. From the 16th century to 1860, except for the brief Napoleonic period, it was part of the Papal States.



ASSISI IS NOT JUST A CITY TO BE "SEEN" BUT MUST BE "EXPERIENCED"

In the heart of Umbria, half way up the slopes of Mt. Subasio at 424 metres above sea level, lies Assisi, a town extraordinarily rich in tourist attractions. Those who come here year-round from every corner of the world are attracted by the art treasures and Franciscan shrines which the city carefully preserves. The town's southern exposure, its terraces unfolding onto the enchanting Valle Umbra and its climate make Assisi an ideal place for a prolonged stay in one of its numerous, comfortable hotels. Thanks to its geographical position, and to modern means of communication, Assisi is within easy reach of all the main tourist centres in Umbria. The spirit of St. Francis can be felt everywhere. The extraordinary secret of this town lies in its capacity to combine normal day-to-day living with a re-evocation of the past and moments of intense spirituality. The calendar of annual events is, in fact, full of religious re-enactments and ceremonies whose effect is heightened by the musical contribution of the various chapel choirs. These events range from Christmas, when nativity scenes decorate churches and picturesque corners of the town seeming

to bring to life mystical Franciscan poetry, to the Easter ceremonies, the Corpus Christi procession, the Festa del Voto (22nd June), the "Perdono" or Feast of the Indulgence (1st-2nd August) and the Feast of St. Francis Patron Saint of Italy on 3rd-4th October. The calendar of artistic and cultural events is just as full, from the many art exhibitions and the annual Antiques Show to the various conferences and scholarly congresses, to the concerts throughout the tourist season, including the music festivals, combined with specialized music courses. The most famous Assisi pageant is "Kalendimaggio" (May Festival) which transforms the town, transporting it backwards in time. But Assisi offers much more. For the studios there are valuable libraries and archives. Nature lovers can immerse themselves in the silence of the woods or reach the summit of Mt. Subasio (1290 metres above sea-level) accessible by modern paved roads. For sports enthusiasts, the district offers a number of modern facilities including athletics tracks/footpaths, tennis and basketball courts, and swimming pools.

BASTIA UMBRA km 8

Today a busy agricultural, industrial and commercial centre, in the Middle Ages it was called "Insula Romana". Porta Sant'Angelo is a remnant of the medieval village. The Church of Santa Croce, founded in 1295, houses detached frescos by followers of B.Caporali and Tiberio d'Assisi, as well as a triptych by N.Alunno. The Romanesque Church of San Paolo near the cemetery was the site of an ancient Benedictine convent which sheltered St. Clare in 1212.



BETTONA km 16

In its stupendous position, 355 metres above sea level, it boasts very ancient origins. The Ipogeo, discovered in the Colle suburbs and dating from the 2nd century B.C., testifies to its Etruscan origins. The principal monuments are: the Umbro-Etruscan Walls, the 14th century Palazzetto Podestarile (site of an interesting Art Gallery), the Church of Santa Maria (with paintings by Perugino, N.Alunno and the Sienese school), the Church of San Crispolto, the Oratory of Sant'Andrea and the Church of Sant'Onofrio, with frescos dating from 14th century. At Passaggio there is the Abbey of San Crispolto and the 18th century Villa Boccaglione attributed to Piermarini.



CANNARA km 15

Today an active agricultural and small industrial centre, Cannara, in the Middle Ages was a sturdy fortification. Worth noting: the churches of San Biagio, San Francesco (with a painting by N.Alunno), Buona Morte (where according to tradition St.Francis founded the Third Order), Pian D'Arca, on the road to Bevagna, is the place where St.Francis is supposed to have preached to the birds. In Collemancio - a fine medieval "castle" - there are the 13th century Palazzetto Podestarile and, most important, the archaeological site of Urbinum Hortense, set in a wonderful panoramic position.



BASILICA DI S. FRANCESCO E SACRO CONVENTO

The Basilica complex is composed of two churches built one above the other, the lower one dating from 1228-1230 and the upper one from 1230-1253 and a crypt dug in 1818 which houses the Saint's tomb. The entrance to the lower Basilica is in Piazza Inferiore which is flanked by a portico dating from the 15th century. The Basilica is laid out in a double "T" shape and was decorated by the greatest painters of the 13th and 14th centuries: Cimabue, Giotto, the Lorenzetti brothers and Simone Martini. The stained glass windows, by Giovanni di Bonino and Puccio Capanna, are especially beautiful. The Upper Basilica has an undivided nave and is adorned by Giotto's frescos illustrating the life of St. Francis. There are also works by Cimabue, Cavallini and Torriti. The monastery houses a remarkable "Treasury" composed of rare illuminated manuscripts and the Perkins collection.

VIA SAN FRANCESCO

In this street are located the 13th century House of the Maestri Comacini, the Municipal Art Gallery (Pinacoteca Comunale) containing frescos from various schools, the Oratorio dei Pellegrini (with 15th century frescos) and the Monte Frumentario (13th century), and Olivera Fountain (16th century).

PIAZZA DEL COMUNE

The Roman Temple of Minerva 1st century A.D., the 13th century Palazzo del Capitano del Popolo, the Torre del Popolo, completed in 1305, and the Palazzo dei Priori (14th century).

MUSEO E FORO ROMANO

The Roman Forum is located below Piazza del Comune and encompasses the original Roman paving, the base of the temple of Minerva, and the Magistrates' tribune.

CHIESA NUOVA

It was built in 1615 on the remains of a building believed to be the house of St. Francis' family. St.Francis was supposedly born in the nearby Oratorio di San Francesco Piccolino.

BASILICA DI SANTA CHIARA

An example of Italian Gothic architecture (1257-1265). It contains precious paintings dating from the 12th - 14th centuries and the famous Crucifix venerated by St. Francis at San Damiano. The body of St. Clare is preserved in the crypt.

CATTEDRALE DI SAN RUFINO

The impressive Romanesque façade dating from 1140 is adorned with three rose-windows and symbolic sculptures. The interior was altered in the 16th century, but there is still the baptismal font where St. Francis and St. Clare were baptized. The Cappella del Sacramento, the wooden choir, the Roman cistern, the crypt and the museum are points of interest.

BASILICA DI SANTA MARIA DEGLI ANGELI km 4

An imposing Basilica constructed between 1569 and 1679 and crowned by the magnificent dome designed by Alessi. It encloses the Porziuncola (the nucleus of the first Franciscan monastery and the place where St. Clare received the Franciscan cowl from St. Francis in 1211 and the Cappella del Transito where St. Francis died on 3rd October 1226). The frescos which adorn the Chapel are the work of Lo Spagna. To the side of the Basilica is the Chapel of the Roses with frescos by Tiberio d'Assisi. The Museum annex contains works by the Maestro di San Francesco, Giunta Pisano and others.

ALTRI MONUMENTI

CHIESA DI SANTO STEFANO (13th century) in one of the most picturesque corners of the town.

CHIESA DI SAN GIACOMO DE MURO RUPTO (11th century).

CHIESA DI SANTA MARIA MAGGIORE Romanesque, the first Cathedral of Assisi.

CHIESA DI SAN PIETRO (11th - 13th centuries) with its elegant façade and unusual dome.

ROCCA MAGGIORE

A typical example of medieval military architecture; from the top the breathtaking panorama.

ABBAZIA DI SAN BENEDETTO

on Mt. Subasio is an ancient Benedictine monastery about 7 kms. from Assisi with two Romanesque crypts.

ROCCA SANT'ANGELO

(11 kms. from Assisi) In its church are paintings by followers of Giotto and painters from the Umbrian school.

HSITONE

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