



# MARCHE

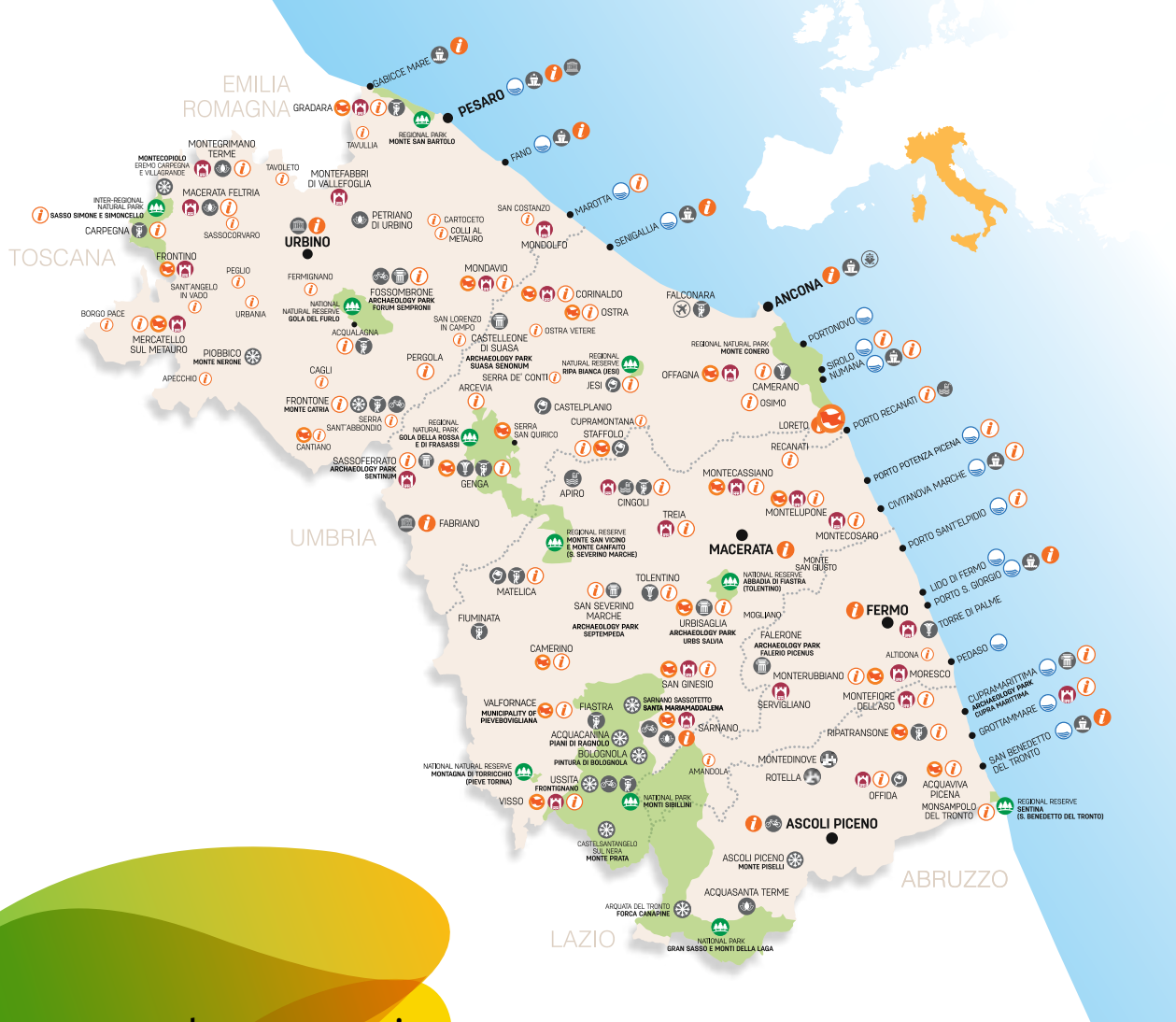
*Events, places and experiences for your holiday*

# 2019 2021

MARCHE,  
ENDLESS BEAUTY


















**REGIONE  
MARCHE**





## places, experiences, events for **your holiday in Marche**

### Legend

- |   |                                      |   |                           |   |                                  |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
|  | Blue Flag                            |  | Archaeology park          |  | Adventure and entertainment park |
|  | The most beautiful villages in Italy |  | Spa with wellness centres |  | Skiing facilities                |
|  | Orange Flag                          |  | Spa                       |  | Unesco World Heritage Sites      |
|  | Authentic Italian villages           |  | Wine cellars              |  | Tourist information centres      |
|  | Parks and Protected areas            |  | Bike Park                 |  | Tourist information points       |
|  | Marina                               |  | Aqua park                 |   |                                  |

Capital of  
the Italian Renaissance and  
birthplace of  
Raffaello Sanzio

*years*  
**2019 2021**

# MARCHE AN OPEN-AIR STAGE

Come to Marche! Between 2018 and 2021 the region becomes an open-air stage hosting exhibitions, events, and shows which celebrate its most famous sons: Rossini, Leopardi, and Raffaello. But the events and celebrations will be the driving force in promoting the excellence of the region, offering an extraordinary cultural heritage showcased in the names of Lorenzo Lotto, Frederick II Hohenstaufen, Leonardo, and Dante Alighieri.



year  
2019

# THE OPERA TRADITION OF MARCHE



## Theatre "dell'Aquila"

Fermo

In 2019 will continue the festivities commemorating 150 years since the death of **Gioachino Rossini**, the famous composer born in Pesaro in 1792, and deceased in Passy, Paris in 1868. For Pesaro, a UNESCO City of Music, 2018 has already marked the beginning of a rich program of celebrations honouring Rossini that complemented the ROF (Rossini Opera Festival), the annual theatre festival dedicated to the works of the artist from Pesaro. In 2019, the **Rossini Opera Festival** has decided to undertake a particularly committed production programme, richer than ever with novelties. The three main works, all new productions, presented on the programme which runs from **11 to 23 August** are **Semiramide** (Mariotti/Vick) and **The Curious Misunderstanding** (Rizzi/Leiser and Caurier), reworks of **Demetrio and Polibio** (Arrivabeni/Livermore) and **The Journey to Reims**, and a gala celebrating the 40th edition of the ROF, as well as numerous other concerts and recitals.

[www.pesarocultura.it](http://www.pesarocultura.it)

Rossini and Pesaro are joined by two other famous composers from the Marche region: **Giovanni Battista Pergolesi**, born in Jesi in 1710, and **Gaspere Spontini** (1774-1851) from Maiolati Spontini, in the province of Ancona. The Pergolesi Spontini Festival has been dedicated to them. It is possible to pay a visit to the Pergolesi Theatre in Jesi, host of the opera season organised with the Municipality of Ancona, and in Maiolati you can visit the house-museum and Spontini landmarks, such as the beautiful Colle Celeste Park and the Maestro's tomb.

[www.fondazionepergolespntini.com](http://www.fondazionepergolespntini.com)

The **Macerata Opera Festival** which is organised every year is not to be missed. The 2019 Macerata Opera Festival will be dedicated to the **Tema Rosso Desiderio** (Theme of Red Desire) beginning with **Carmen** on 19 July, followed by **Macbeth** on 20 July, and **Rigoletto** on 22 July. Three consecutive debuts and four weekends until 10 August.

[www.sferisterio.it](http://www.sferisterio.it)

[#rossodesiderio](https://twitter.com/rossodesiderio)

Lovers of classical music, and of theatre in general, should not miss the tour of the 71 **historic theatres**, authentic artistic and architectural jewels of the 18th and 19th centuries scattered throughout the region. They host theatre and opera seasons in Ascoli, Piceno, Fermo, Fano, Ancona, Jesi.

Tours on [www.turismo.marche.it](http://www.turismo.marche.it)

Event tickets [eventi.turismo.marche.it](http://eventi.turismo.marche.it)

## The Fortuna Theatre

Fano

## Rossini Opera Festival

Pesaro

## Feronia Theatre

San Severino Marche





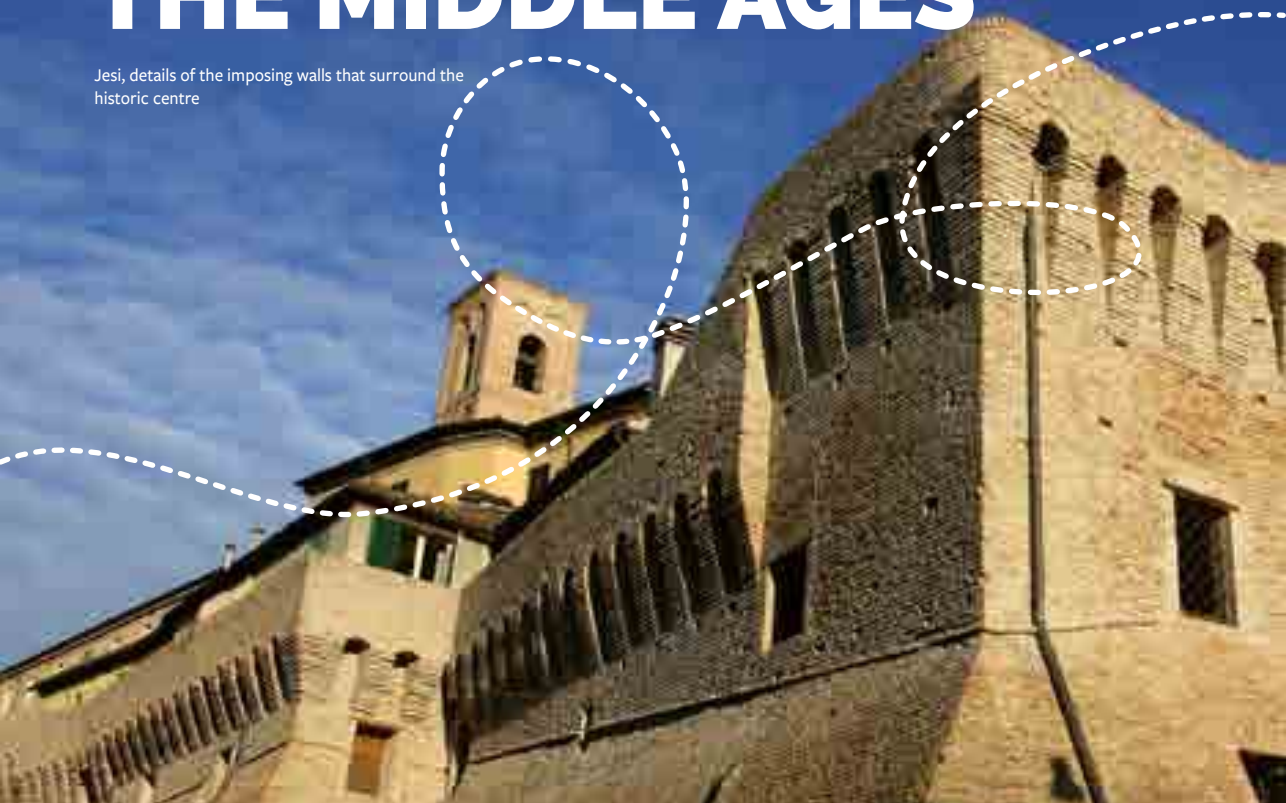
Serra San Quirico (AN)

Jesi (AN) Frederick II "Stupor  
Mundi" Museum

year  
**2019**

# MARCHE AND THE MIDDLE AGES

Jesi, details of the imposing walls that surround the  
historic centre



Ascoli Piceno

Moresco (FM)

# TO BE DISCOVERED

## From Jesi, birthplace of Frederick II Hohenstaufen, the tour that makes Marche a destination for tours and medieval cities to be discovered departs

Ghislieri's palace in Jesi hosts the Frederick II Stupor Mundi Museum. A tribute of the city to the great emperor, who was born here on 26 December 1194: grandson of Frederick Barbarossa, he became king of Germany and Sicily and emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, and was patron of the arts, lover of poetry, and great innovator in the field of laws, politics and science. The Frederick II Museum is a narrative history museum based on digital collections, multimedia installations and multisensory elements. The visit is facilitated by equipment that also provides a German language guide, and by panels written in both Italian and English. A visit to the museum is also a great opportunity to discover the city that gave birth to the emperor, Jesi: even if he never lived there, Frederick remained attached to the city and granted it a series of privileges, earning it the title of the "Royal City". Jesi is listed by UNESCO as an "exemplary city" for the way its architecture has integrated various historical periods.

Following the memory of Frederick, you should not miss the Swabian Castle of Porto Recanati on the coast, the construction of which began in 1229, the year in which Frederick II of Swabia gave the city of Recanati the land on which it is located, authorising the construction of a port and of structures to defend it from pirate attacks.

[www.federicosecondostupormundi.it](http://www.federicosecondostupormundi.it)

Situated a few kilometres from Jesi are the castles of Jesi: historic villages located on the hills, to be discovered for their works of art, fortifications and rural life, emblematic of Marche's Life Style.





Lorenzo  
LOTTA





# IL RICHIAMO DELLE MARCHE

19 ottobre 2018  
10 febbraio 2019

Macerata  
Palazzo Buonaccorsi  
Musei Civici

Centri lotteschi  
Ancona, Cingoli, Jesi, Loreto,  
Mogliano, Monte San Giusto,  
Recanati, Urbino

[www.mostralottomarche.it](http://www.mostralottomarche.it)

**St. Sebastian and St.  
Christopher**  
Berlin, Staatliche Museen

**Christ Leading the Apostles to  
Mount Tabor**  
Saint Petersburg, Ermitage

**Judith with the head of  
Holofernes**  
Rome, Banca Nazionale del Lavoro

**Portrait of Protonotary  
Giovanni Maria Pizoni**  
Private collection

year  
**2019**

# LORENZO LOTTO A LEADING FIGURE IN MARCHE



## LORENZO LOTTO



In 2018, the great artist was in the international spotlight, being the theme of a long-awaited exhibition dedicated to his portraits that reached two of the most important museums in the world, the Prado in Madrid and the National Gallery in London. An unexpected year of Lotto, in which the Marche Region could not be missed, insofar as it was an important point of reference in the life and training of the artist. In conjunction with the two exhibitions and in collaboration with the two prestigious institutions of London and Madrid, the Marche region will therefore become the set for a series of high value initiatives that will allow the public to rediscover Marche's extraordinary Lotto heritage - a region unparalleled in Italy in terms of the quantity and quality of the artist's works - but also the deep bond that united the Venetian Master to these lands, where he returned time and time again to create and to be inspired, and where he chose to wait for his death and be buried. Tours, film productions, events culminating in a major exhibition in Macerata, a city that for the first time will bring together, between 19 October 2018 and 10 February 2019, the works of Lotto created for the region and then scattered throughout the world or those works that, with their story and execution, have strong ties with Marche, highlighting even more the deep and decisive connection between Lotto and these lands.

Born in Venice in 1480, Lorenzo Lotto was active in the Marche region throughout the first half of the 16th century: he chose to work in the service of confraternities, religious orders and important prelates such as Nicolò Bonafede di Monte San Giusto, and over time this became a life style, culminating with the decision to become an oblate in the Holy House of Loreto.

The paintings that the artist painted throughout Marche cover the entire span of his work: from the *Polyptych of San Domenico*, created in Recanati in 1508, to the *Presentation at the Temple* created in Loreto, Lotto has created more than thirty works for Marche. A considerable number of these masterpieces still remain: there are twenty-four, spread among the cities of **Ancona, Recanati, Loreto, Jesi, Mogliano, Monte San Giusto, Cingoli, and Urbino**.

In addition to having constantly produced works throughout Marche and having lived there in the third decade of the 16th century, Lorenzo Lotto chose to spend the last years of his life in Loreto: he became an oblate of the Holy House that keeps his *Book of various expenditures*, a poignant and fundamental book of notes and thoughts that reveals some of the Artist's complex personality traits.

His masterpieces decorate the churches and museums in villages and towns, all to be discovered with their historic and artistic character. These are fascinating lands, where time seems to have stopped in the medieval or renaissance times, truly stone-carved chests surrounded by delicate hills and countryside descending to the Adriatic Sea.





# LOTTO GRAND TOUR IN MARCHE

## RECANATI

### Villa Colloredo Mels

#### *Polyptych of San Domenico 1508*

Recanati is the place where the bond that connected Lorenzo Lotto to Marche until the end of his days began. In 1506 the Church Fathers from San Domenico commissioned a large Polyptych from him, which was delivered two years later. In the central compartment of the Polyptych, the Madonna with the Child on the throne is depicted in the central part of the Polyptych, giving a scapular to St. Dominic. Next to the Madonna, the Venetian artist painted two Popes, Urban V and Gregory XII. In the side compartments, next to St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Peter the Martyr, saints belonging to the Dominican order, there are the two patrons of the city: the bishop Flavian and the young martyr Vito. St. Lucia and St. Vincent Ferrer, St. Catherine and St. Sigismund are depicted in the upper compartments, while the cymatium contains a Pietà which is one of the finest examples of the Venetian artist's ability to "humanise" sacred painting in an intimate and personal manner.

#### *Transfiguration 1510-1512*

This work comes from the Church of St. Mary of Castelnuovo in Recanati, where it is located on the main altar. Dated 1510-1512, after Lorenzo Lotto's collaboration with Raffaello in the Vatican Rooms, the altarpiece depicts the moment in which Jesus reveals the divine nature of his person to the apostles: With the three fingers of his right hand open, Christ shows the dogma of the Holy Trinity. The prophets Elijah and Moses accompany Jesus. On the lower part are the apostles John, James, and Peter.

#### *St. James the Pilgrim approximately 1512*

The small painting is dominated by the figure of the saint as a pilgrim, wearing the classic cloak and stick, and at his feet, resting on the ground, there is a saddlebag, a canteen, and a hat with wide flaps.

#### *The Annunciation c.1534*

Lorenzo Lotto made the restless and personal version of *The Annunciation* in approximately 1534 for the Oratory of the Confraternity of St. Mary of Mercanti. The sense of wonder that pervades the scene is centred in the fragile and defenceless figure of the Virgin and in the unsettled image of the cat leaving the scene with its back arched. The representation of the room is wonderful, as the neatly arranged objects are in refined contrast to the tension of the scene, representing the quiet flow of life interrupted by the advent of the angel.

#### **Church of St. Dominic**

#### *St. Vincent Ferrer 1510-1512*

This is the only Lotto fresco in Marche and dates back to the years immediately following his Roman experience, in line with some of the models of Raffaello. St. Vincent is portrayed in the typical clothes of the Dominican order as he communicates his message pointing his finger at the court of the angels who are announcing the Final Judgment with their trumpets.

## JESI

### **Civic Art Gallery Pianetti Palace**

#### *The Entombment 1512*

The altarpiece of the Entombment was commissioned in 1511 for the church of St. Florian by the Confraternity of the Good Jesus. The signed and dated work is a great reflection of *the Entombment of Christ*, where the pain of the characters is transfigured by the attention to every detail and by the brightness of the landscape: a major work of the Italian Renaissance.

#### *Angel of the Annunciation c.1526*

The two pieces with the Angel of the Annunciation are part of a more complex work that was located in the Franciscan church of St. Florian and date back to approximately 1526/1527, striking



the ethereal figure of the Angel arriving on tiptoes to make the announcement to Mary in her room.

### **Madonna and Child, St. Joseph and St. Jerome (Madonna of Roses) 1526**

The Madonna and Child with St. Joseph and St. Jerome (Madonna of Roses) for the church of Friars Minor dates back to 1526. The title comes from the rose garden seen on the left side and from the rose petals scattered on the ground in front of Mary's throne. Joseph plays with the Child in a moment of joy and tenderness, and Mary touches the book of St. Jerome, showing him not to open the scriptures so as not to disturb the happiness of the Child with the story of the passion and death of Christ.

### **St. Lucia Altarpiece 1532**

The contract for the St. Lucia Altarpiece was signed in 1523, but was delivered to the Confraternity of the Hospital of St. Lucia only nine years later, some time between the end of 1532 and the beginning of 1533. The altarpiece tells the story of St. Lucia, the noble young woman from Syracuse who disobeyed the law and remained faithful to Christianity. Made in Venice, it is one of the masterpieces of the Renaissance.

### **Visitation 1532-1539**

Set in a home background, the scene consists of four female characters where the visible pregnancy of old Elizabeth stands

out. Only one man appears in the painting, Zaccaria, located near the door as if to emphasise his unfamiliarity with a female universe governed by its own laws and cadences.

## **MONTE SAN GIUSTO**

The history of the village of Monte San Giusto is linked to one of its most illustrious sons, Niccolò Bonafede (1463-1564), the apostolic protonotary who transformed the town into an fully-fledged Renaissance court, ordering the construction of the Bonafede Palace, now seat of the City Council, and by commissioning Lorenzo Lotto to paint the *Crucifixion*. The craftsmen of San Giusto, known for their hard work and entrepreneurial skills, produce high quality shoes that are widespread throughout Italy and abroad.

### **Crucifixion, 1529, Church of Santa Maria in Telusiano,**

If you want to admire “the most beautiful representation of the Golgotha from the Renaissance period”, as Bernard Berenson called it, you can do so in Monte San Giusto. This is an experience that leaves its mark: the large altarpiece (almost five meters high by three meters wide) imposes itself within the church and surrounds the viewer as would a theatrical performance. At that time the artist was living in Venice, where he created most of the painting. The client, Niccolò Bonafede, is kneeling and urged by the angel to contemplate on the torment of the Madonna.



# LOTTO GRAND TOUR IN MARCHE

## ANCONA

If you notice Ancona from the sea, you can immediately understand the origin of its name: Ankon, the Greek term for “elbow”, stands on a promontory stretching out into the Adriatic and is the only Italian city where you can admire the sunrise and sunset over the sea. The splendour of the city has continued over the centuries, as shown on the Arch of Trajan in the Old Port, the Cathedral of St. Cyriacus, the Merchants’ Lodge where Lorenzo Lotto auctioned his paintings in 1550, the churches of San Francesco alle Scale that accommodates the great Assumption of 1550 and of St. Augustin where the Alabarda altarpiece was located. The beautiful Conero Coastline runs from the town’s Passetto beach.

***Madonna and Child, with Angels and Saints (“Alabarda Altarpiece”); in the lunette of the Holy Spirit in a Glory of Angels 1538-39, Art Gallery F. Podesti***

When Lotto was documented here as a “habitor” in 1534, Ancona was still deeply troubled by the terrible events that had occurred six years earlier in 1532, causing the city lose its independence, falling under the dominion of the Papal State. In this environment, Lotto was introduced to the most important Ancona families of the time and he designed and painted the *Alabarda Altarpiece* (1538/1539): so this is where the dark atmosphere of the painting originates, with the details of the altarpiece, broken and overturned, seemingly reassuring those admiring it of a future of peace.

***Ancona, Church of San Francesco alle Scale, Assumption of the Virgin 1550***

Lotto left one of his last works, The Assumption, in Ancona. A work painted in 1550 for the church of San Francesco alle Scale. The theme is presented following Titian’s models: Mary is standing as she is being carried by a choir of angels, her arms are open and her eyes are turned towards heaven. Below the apostles, amazed and lost, surround the empty tomb.

## CINGOLI

A visit to Cingoli, a Roman city, is a must: it is one of the largest and best-preserved villages in Marche, full of palaces with elegant portals, small squares and courtyards, and medieval streets. The birthplace of Pope Pius VIII, it accommodates a historic house museum full of works of art. Located in the heart of the Apennines, Cingoli is the starting point for excursions to Monte di S. Vicino, the beechwood of Canfaito known for its autumn foliage, as well as to the fantastic village of Elcito.

***Madonna del Rosario, 1539, church of San Domenico (currently in the Town Hall)***

The altarpiece was made for the church of San Domenico and is signed and dated 1539. On a veiled sky stands a rose garden where the medallions with the fifteen mysteries of the devotion to the Lady of the Rosary are laid. At the front, there is the Holy Conversation between the Virgin sitting on the throne with the Child, and St. Dominic - he receives the crown of the Rosary from the Madonna - and St. Exuperantius, patron saint of the city of Cingoli, who offers a model of the city of Cingoli at that time. Elegantly dressed, St. Mary Magdalene, perhaps depicted as the noblewoman Sperandia Franceschini Simonetti; St. Catherine of Siena; and Saints Vincent Ferrer and Peter of Verona. Below, in the centre, the child Giovanni Battista and two cherubs give the painting a festive note, throwing the rose petals from the tub, as if to evoke the traditional gesture of solemn processions. The work is located in the Hall of Coats of Arms of the Municipality of Cingoli.

## MOGLIANO

The village of Mogliano is located halfway between the Sibillini Mountains and the Adriatic coast, surrounded by olive groves, among which the beautiful local variety called the “Mogliano olive” tree stands out. Mogliano is one of the most famous centres in the Marche region for the craftsmanship of wicker objects; the neighbouring Montappone is known as the land of hats.





**Madonna in Glory with Angels and Saints Joseph, Magdalene, Anthony of Padua and Battista, 1548 Church of Santa Maria (currently in the Museum of Sacred Art)**

On 16 November 1547 misser Jacomo Boninfanti da Mogliano in la Marche signed an agreement in Venice with Lotto for the creation of an altarpiece for the church in his Community. The altarpiece was completed in 1548 and delivered by the student Durante Nobili. Mogliano's altarpiece presents an iconographic richness and details of absolute beauty: one need only observe the flare and glow in the upper part, studded with cherubs and angels; the series of ancient monuments behind the exedra; the dress of Magdalene, elegant, sumptuous, refined, of a deep petroleum green combined with the blazing red of the cloak.

## URBINO

Urbino, birthplace of Raffaello Sanzio and home of the historic University, has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1998. Federico da Montefeltro, who was its Lord between 1444 and 1482, transformed it from a medieval village into an urban jewel of the Renaissance, calling the greatest artists of the time to his court: Piero della Francesca, Paolo Uccello, Francesco di Giorgio Martini, Francesco Laurana, Baldassarre Castiglione.

**San Rocco, 1549-50, Marche National Gallery**

The San Rocco, kept in the Marche National Gallery in Urbino, belongs to the artist's late period and is part of the lost polyptych that the artist painted for the church of Santa Maria di Posatora in Ancona. The canvas is a replica of the same theme depicted in the large altarpiece that Lotto painted for the Marian basilica of Loreto in approximately 1535.

## LORETO

**St. Christopher between Saints Sebastian and Rocco 1534-1535, Basilica of the Holy House**

In the third decade of the sixteenth century he was commissioned to paint St. Christopher between Saints

Sebastian and Rocco. The painting is dominated by the figure of St. Christopher, protector of wayfarers and travellers, who stands at the centre of the painting, in line with the iconography of the legend as narrated by Jacopo da Varagine. On the left is depicted St. Rocco showing, according to the canons of traditional iconography, the bubble caused by the plague that struck him; in a mirror position is St. Sebastian, pierced by arrows and tied to a tree from which ivy is sprouting, in a symbol of immortality. The painting is located in the Basilica of the Holy House.

**The Adoration of the Child, The Adoration of the Magi, The Baptism of Christ, Christ and the Adulteress, The Sacrifice of Melchisedech, Archangel Michael Chasing Lucifer, The Force that Defeats Fortune - Pontifical Museum of the Holy House**

The ties between Lorenzo Lotto and Loreto were long-lasting, ending only with his death in 1556. Many of Lorenzo Lotto's paintings are kept in Loreto: The Adoration of the Child, The Adoration of the Magi, The Baptism of Christ, Christ and the Adulteress (1546-50), The Sacrifice of Melchisedech, Archangel Michael Chasing Lucifer 1545-50, The Force that Defeats Fortune. The works are at the Pontifical Museum of the Holy House, where the *Book of various expenditures* is also kept, a diary in which the artist noted the expenditures and commissions, while adding some personal reflections. A precious document that gives us some clues about the personal life of the artist.

In 1554, after having tried to sell some of his works in an auction held under the arcades of Ancona in 1550, he decided to become an oblate in the Holy House. Here he painted his last work, the amazing *Presentation in the Temple* (1554-1556), which remained unfinished after the artist's death, and is considered his spiritual testament.



*year*  
**2019**

# ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMPOSITION OF INFINITY



# GIACOMO LEOPARDI

2019 marks the anniversary of the composition of *Infinity*, one of the most famous operas from the Songs of Giacomo Leopardi, written by him during his early youth in Recanati, between 1818 and 1819. This is an event that is expected to resonate worldwide, especially after the growing attention received by the poet in the Anglo-Saxon world. It will therefore be an unmissable opportunity to introduce all the famous landmarks connected to Leopardi, as mentioned above. The celebrations will bring forward not only the “native wild village”, but also the whole surrounding area, from the rich and varied businesses, to the famous resorts of Loreto, Macerata, Porto Recanati, and up to the kaleidoscopic Conero Coastline.

## LEOPARDI AND INFINITY

**Recanati MC - 9 December 2018 - 5 May 2019**

A large exhibition celebrating the bicentenary of the writing of one of the most famous compositions in the history of poetry. Among the main exhibits is a manuscript signed by Giacomo Leopardi, loaned by the Municipality of Visso. Starting with the display of the manuscript, the exhibition will explore the concept of infinity in various areas corresponding to dedicated sections: in poetry, through multimedia and scenography dedicated to the precious manuscript, in art, photography, science, history, philosophy. This will not just be an exhibition, but an international event that, on the pretext of a theme and of a masterpiece of universal art, will be an unmissable event, making Recanati one of Italy's must-see destinations.

*Villa Colloredo Mels Civic Museum TF 071 7570410*

*[www.infinitorecanati.it](http://www.infinitorecanati.it) - [recanati@sistemamuseo.it](mailto:recanati@sistemamuseo.it)*



## 2019 in Fabriano with UNESCO and Orazio Gentileschi

In 2019, Fabriano (An), a UNESCO Creative City, will host the international meeting of UNESCO's creative cities from 10 to 16 June. On 16 June 2019 an exhibition dedicated to the Caravaggio-influenced artist Orazio Gentileschi will be inaugurated, who left masterpieces that can be seen in the Cathedral of St. Venanzio, the church of St. Mary Magdalene, in addition to the Art Gallery.

*[www.fabrianoturismo.it](http://www.fabrianoturismo.it)*

*[www.fabrianocreativa.it](http://www.fabrianocreativa.it)*





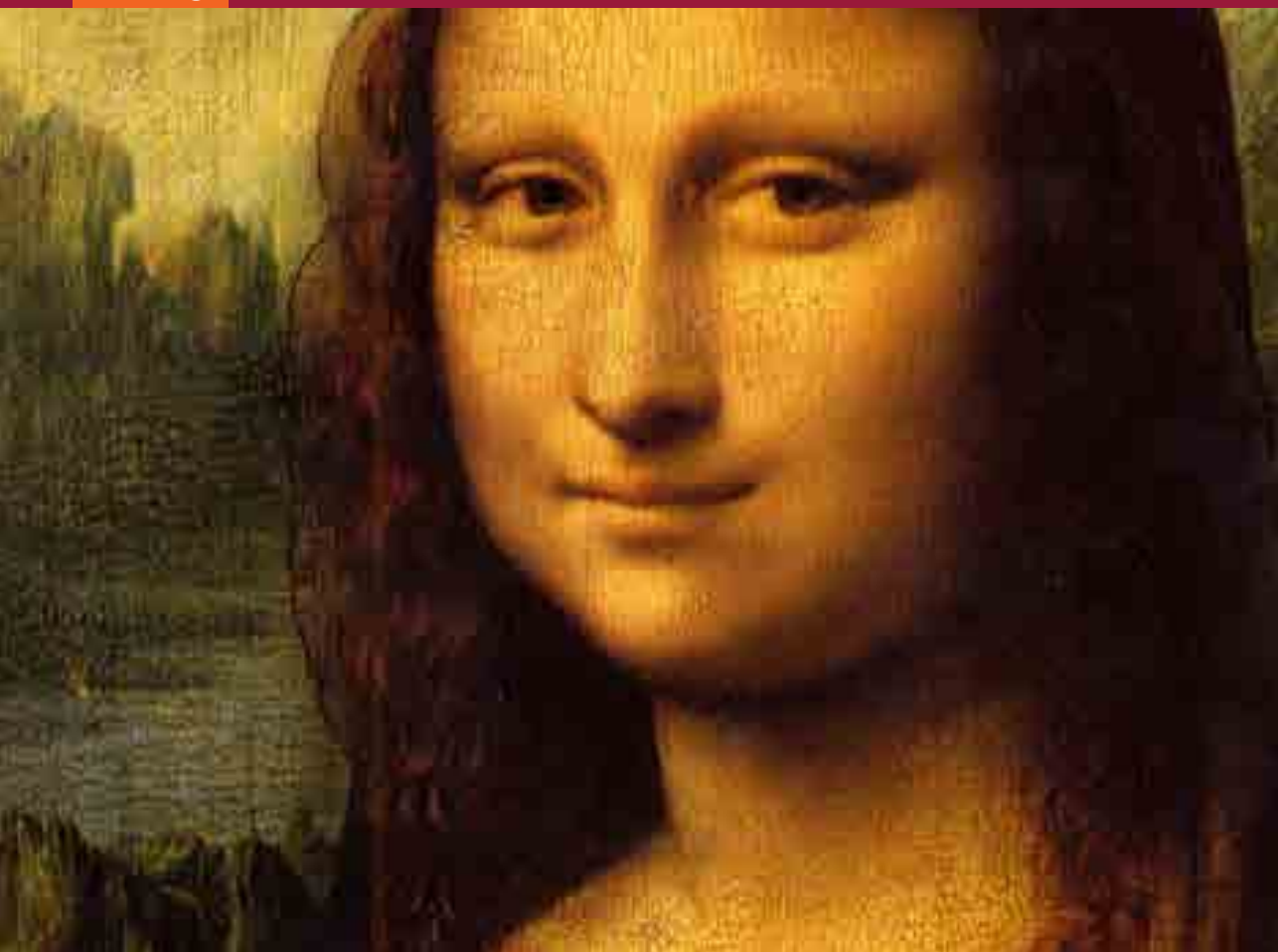
**The Flagellation**

Piero della Francesca  
Urbino, Marche National Gallery

**The Balcony of Triumphs**

Urbania (PU), Loc. Pieve del Colle

year  
**2019**



## LANDSCAPES PAINTED BY PIERO AND LEONARDO



### 500 ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF LEONARDO DA VINCI 2 MAY 1519, AMBOISE, FRANCE

A new way to see and know the Marche region is represented by the fantastic opportunity offered today by our works of art, and by a new key with which to interpret them. Even if this work of art is called the Mona Lisa and is the work of Leonardo da Vinci. Each of us can be part of the landscape of a work of art: after discovering that the backgrounds in the paintings of Piero della Francesca can still be found between Romagna and Marche, following years of study and research, we witness the discovery of the real landscape from the Mona Lisa, namely a very wide aerial view of the ancient Duchy of Urbino as seen from the heights of the Marecchia Valley, now a territory belonging to Marche, Emilia Romagna and, in part, to Tuscany. This great and important discovery comes with another mystery being confirmed, one that revolves around the woman portrayed by Leonardo. The real identity of the lady is not Mona Lisa, but Pacifica Brandani, lady at the court of Urbino, lover of Giuliano De' Medici, who died giving birth to the son of Giuliano. The discovery of the identity of the woman is made by the historian Roberto Zapperi who, in 2012, published "Goodbye Mona Lisa. The true history of the Mona Lisa", a theory already supported since the '50s by the greatest historians of Leonardo, namely Chastel, Pedretti and Perrig.

[www.turismo.marche.it](http://www.turismo.marche.it)

<https://rinascimentoemontefeltro.it>

### PIERO DELLA FRANCESCA, PERUGINO, GIOVANNI BELLINI AND FRANCESCO DI GIORGIO MARTINI IN MARCHE

The Tuscan painter Piero della Francesca left masterpieces in many cities in Marche, including Ancona, Loreto, Pesaro, part of which were lost. But it is among the streets and palaces of Urbino that the proverbial geometries of Piero seem to have taken shape. As symbol of Piero and the importance he had for art in our region, the Marche region together with Emilia Romagna, Tuscany, and Umbria support the interregional route "Terre di Piero", and, together with our neighbour, Umbria, the route "Terre del Duca" which, after Urbino, arrives in the Renaissance city of Pesaro, where the Civic Museums accommodate the great Coronation of the Virgin by Giovanni Bellini and Senigallia, known for the great Rocca Roveresca, full of masterpieces by Perugino, such as the Annunciation from the church of S. Maria delle Grazie, and of Federico Barocci. Another masterpiece by Perugino is kept in Fano: the Polyptych in the church of S. Maria Nuova. In order to find out about the landscapes in the background of many of Piero della Francesca's works, the Marche region has also promoted a visit to the Balconies of Piero, spread between Romagna and Marche, a sort of "Rediscovered landscapes of art", where the incredible similarities between some landscapes of Montefeltro and those painted by him emerge, such as, for example, that from the Diptych of the Dukes of Urbino which is kept in the Uffizi Gallery in Florence. Not to be missed is the tour of the fortresses and palaces of Francesco di Giorgio Martini in the Marche region: Sassocorvaro, Cagli, Urbino, Urbania, Frontone, Mondavio, Jesi.

*year*  
**2020**

# CELEBRATION OF RAPHAEL SANZIO





**Saint Catherine of Alexandria**

Raffaello Sanzio  
Urbino, Marche National Gallery

**Madonna with Child**

Raffaello Sanzio  
Urbino, House Museum of  
Raffaello

**The Portrait of a Young  
Woman**

Raffaello Sanzio  
Urbino, Marche National Gallery

# RAPHAEL SANZIO

## URBINO 2020: COMMEMORATION OF 500 YEARS SINCE THE DEATH OF RAPHAEL SANZIO

2020 marks the 500th anniversary of the death of Raphael Sanzio, one of the most famous painters of the Italian Renaissance, born in Urbino in 1483, and deceased in Rome in 1520. Urbino, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, will once again reveal itself in all its beauty, offering visitors the imposing Ducal Palace, one of the most interesting architectural and artistic examples of the Italian Renaissance, home to the Marche National Gallery, which accommodated beautiful paintings from artists such as Raffaello, Piero della Francesca, Paolo Uccello and Titian; the House-Museum where Raffaello Sanzio lived, and many other pictorial and architectural remnants; the churches of St. Clare and St. Bernard, masterpieces of Renaissance architecture; trips and itineraries. St. Clare and St. Bernard, masterpieces of Renaissance architecture; Renaissance itineraries in the city and in the territory under the sign of Piero della Francesca, Francesco di Giorgio Martini, Bramante, Perugino, Giovanni Santi, Giovanni Bellini, Raffaello, and Leonardo.

## EVENTS DEDICATED TO RAPHAEL

### 30/11/2018 - 17/03/2019 - Urbino

Marche National Gallery, "St. Giovanni Santi and the court of Urbino", curated by Maria Rosaria Valazzi and Agnese Vastano

### Spring 2019 - Urbino

"From Raphael - Raffaellino del Colle", edited by Vittorio Sgarbi

### October 2019 - January 2020 - Urbino

Marche National Gallery, "Raphael and friends of Urbino", curated by Barbara Agosti, Silvia Ginzburg, Sylvia Ferino

### Spring 2020

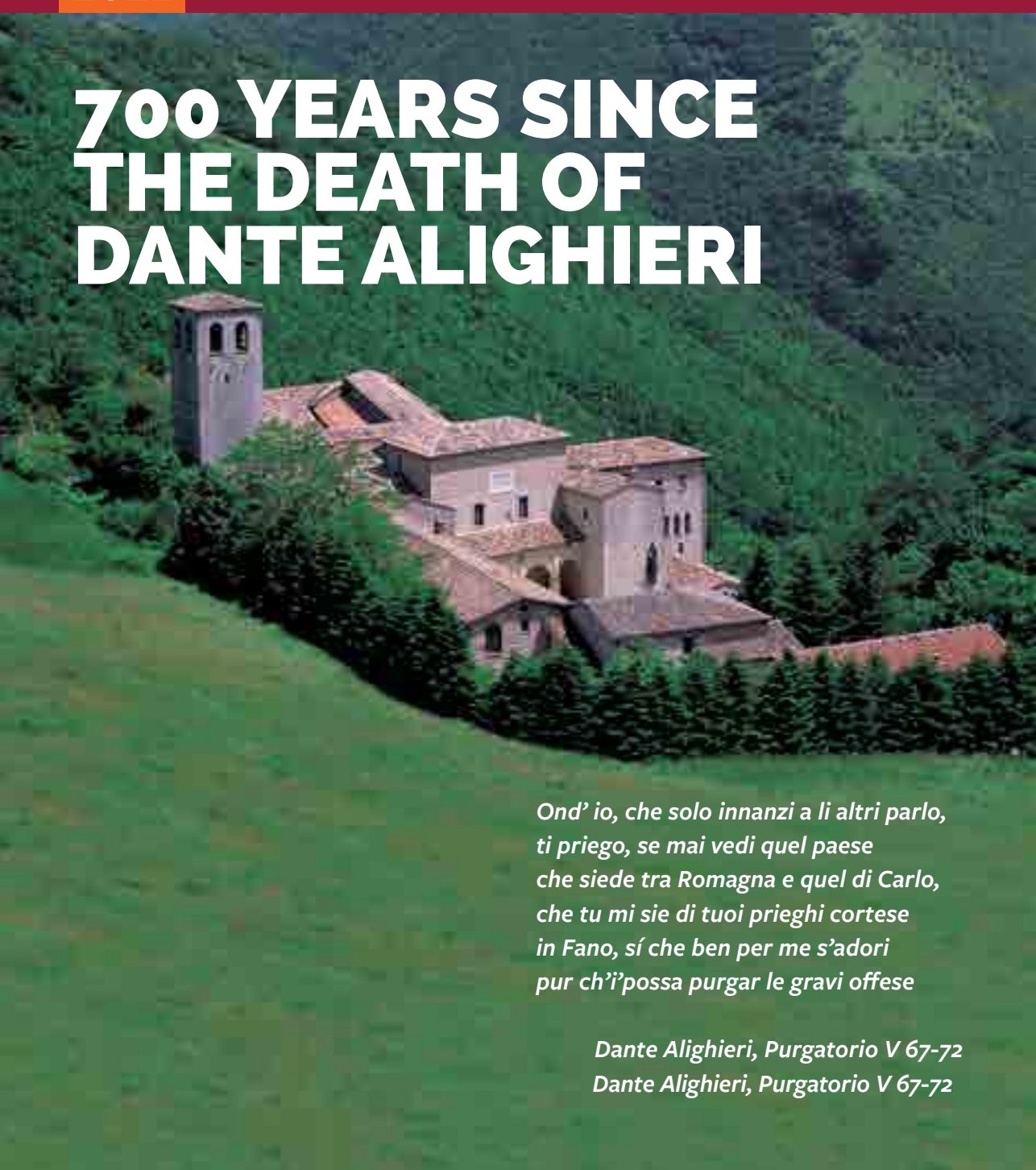
Baldassarre Castiglione, curated by Vittorio Sgarbi, Jack Lang and Elisabetta Soletti



The Hermitage of Fonte  
Avellana linked to the Canto  
del Paradiso where Dante  
meets San Pier Damiani

year  
2021

# 700 YEARS SINCE THE DEATH OF DANTE ALIGHIERI



*Ond' io, che solo innanzi a li altri parlo,  
ti priego, se mai vedi quel paese  
che siede tra Romagna e quel di Carlo,  
che tu mi sie di tuoi prieghi cortese  
in Fano, sí che ben per me s'adori  
pur ch'ì possa purgar le gravi offese*

*Dante Alighieri, Purgatorio V 67-72*

*Dante Alighieri, Purgatorio V 67-72*

Pesaro, Fiorenzuola di Focara

Gradara (PU)

Ancona, Abbey of St. Mary of Portonovo

## MARCHE AND DANTE ALIGHIERI

In 2021, Italy will commemorate 700 years since the death of Dante Alighieri; Marche will be working in this direction, since the great Tuscan poet spoke of Marche in many passages of the Divine Comedy, and here, in the small village of Castello della Pieve, in the municipality of Mercatello sul Metauro, the exile from his beloved Florence was decreed. Dante Alighieri described and talked about places and characters from our region in the Divine Comedy, transforming them into focal points of the narrative, as well as into icons and symbols of universal literature. Just think of the passion of Paolo and Francesca sung in the Canto V of the Inferno, or the silence of the Hermitage of Fonte Avellana under Mount Catria, the fulcrum of the existence of San Pier Damiani, met in Paradiso (Canto XXI).

But in the case of Jacopo del Cassero of Fano (approx. 1260-1298) Dante did much more; disturbed and moved by the tragic destiny of man, he accepted in Purgatorio (Canto V) the request for prayer, the desire for peace of this soul through a lyrical vision of his land "that country that sits between Romagna and that of Carlo". Jacopo remembers our Marche which had one of its first, if not the first, historical/geographical references, with Dante. A precise cultural and territorial identity between Romagna and the reign of Charles II of Anjou.

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