

FRASSANELLE

Frassanelle Conte Papafava

The **historical** estate of Frassanelle is an undisclosed oasis of peace within the Veneto region. The 150 hectare property consists of a **Venetian Villa**, a 19th century english-style **park**, a carefully designed **18 hole golf course** and organically grown land. It lies 20 km south of Padua within easy reach of the famous historic villas of the Veneto, many of them built by the great Italian architect Andrea **Palladio**, as well as the northern Italian cities of **Venice (50 km)**, Vicenza (23 km), **Verona (90 km)**, Ferrara (80 km), Mantua (98 km) and the Lake district.

Frassanelle reveals its delights slowly and elegantly. Leaving the hurly-burly of Venice behind you, the drive takes you on a simple country road through a 19th century English-style park and 50 hectares of organically cultivated land.

The main villa will appear dramatically on top of one of the hills, as though shielding the 18th century agricultural centre of the estate and the beautifully restored farmhouse, La Bencontenta, which can now be rented by the week. The estate of Frassanelle has belonged to the Counts Papafava since the 13th century, well over 700 years.

The „fattoria“ farm buildings of the estate are surrounded by the English style park, organically grown fields and - literally bordering on the estate - the Natural Park of the Euganean hills. The striking main building with a columned courtyard was built in the 18th century, some alterations dating from the 19th century. What used to be granarys, storerooms and living quarters of the employees have now been turned into comfortable and well-equipped apartments.

Most attractive feature of the building is the courtyard with its elegant loggia articulated by a series of columns, which are grown with a profusion of geraniums and lemon trees in antique terracotta vases. Tables and chairs will invite you to spend some time here, reading-up your guide books while having breakfast or relaxing with a glass of the excellent local red wine after a rewarding day of sight-seeing.

Some of the other outhouses have been turned into equestrian stables which house race horses. The wine cellar is now a reception room which is rented out for weddings or other festivities. Our guests have not been bothered by either, but you should however be aware of the other activities on the premises.

The golf club is considered the best in the area. Two further 18 hole golf courses - "Golf Club Montecchia" and "Golf Club Padova" - can be reached in less than 15 minutes by car. Reduced green fees for our guests. The club house - a cleverly converted farm building with a very pleasant restaurant - serves excellent light lunches and full dinners.

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GOLF

The Frassanelle Golf Club: Via Rialto 5/A, 35030 Rovolon. Tel. +39 049 9910722 Fax +39 049 9910691, <http://www.golffrassanelle.it>, info@golffrassanelle.it

The course has been drawn out within the nineteenth century park of Villa Papafava dei Carraresi by Marco Croze, one of the best golf architects in Italy. He drew out a course with 18 holes adding some difficulties to the already existent ones, ensuring the golfer to fully enjoy himself on every hole. The Club House has been restored from a rural cottage of the 1700s and it has been furnished with much care and detail in a style that brings to mind those club houses of England. The architecture together with the characteristics of the landscape make the Golf Club Frassanelle, one of the most "English" Golf Clubs in the Veneto region.

THE COURSE: (18 holes par 72 with a development of 6.180 metres) has been designed with modern principles, with insidious, undulated greens for the presence of the numerous water obstacles like lakes and streams. Each hole requests maximum concentration and a game strategy completely different from the one used on the previous hole.

DAILY FEES : The guests of the estate of Frassanelle are granted a discount on the greenfees of the Frassanelle Golf Course. Please make your reservations ahead of time (2 weeks ahead) via fax to the Golf Club tel. +39 049 9910722, fax +39 049 9910691 indicating the date, number of persons and eventual extras (clubs, car) and that you are guests of the Frassanelle estate.

The Veneto has 18 golf courses all in all (see the website below), 2 of which are in the nearest vicinity. Golf della Montecchia and the Padova Golf Club are more or less 10 and 20 minutes by car. Web site with full description of the golf courses in the Veneto:

<http://www.english.abanolink.it/fitnessesport/golf/golf.asp>

Golf La Montecchia: Via Montecchia 12, 35030 Selvazzano Dentro. Tel. 0039-049-8055550, Fax 0039-049-8055737, www.golfmontecchia.it 8 km from Frassanelle

The Golf of Montecchia is a 27 holes championship golf course. It is located in the estate of Conti Emo Capodilista with its old castle and elegant villa (XVI century). The course that is stretched across a surface of 82 hectares has been realised from the design of the Irish architect Tom McCauley. The course is a modern and free design with many water obstacles. The Club House is very welcoming and comfortable, it is located in one of the ancient, large buildings of the property.

THE COURSE: (27 holes par 72 with a development of 6.318 metres) is completely flat, but very technical and it requires a good concentration from the golfer who has to pay particular attention to the water obstacles that make the play more difficult. Another particular of this ground is the innovative drainage system, that makes it possible to play even when the weather is not good. This allows the passionate golfer to play also under the rain.

Directions: out of the property turn right, first stop left, always straight until traffic light, turn right towards Padova keep going straight in Selvazzano turn left for Montecchia)

Padua Golf Club Via Noiera 57, 35030 Galzignano Terme (Valsanzibio). Tel: 049 9130078, <http://www.golfpadova.it>, 15 km from Frassanelle. With its 18 holes (par 72, SSS 72, length 6.053 m) it constitutes a third attractive alternative for golfers. The ground is located at the foot of the Euganean Hills, near to the seventh century Villa Barbarigo. It was built in 1960 by the English architect John Harris, it stretches across a surface of 70 hectares with a series of studied obstacles to give the game more charm. The course is developed on the inside of a real park, with more than 8000 trees and bushes that fit in with the surrounding landscape.

THE COURSE: (18 holes par 72 with a development of 6.053 metres) is extremely varied and very technical, with canals, lakes, bunkers, scattered everywhere making a more difficult game for the golfer. The welcoming Club House has a restaurant, pool and tennis court.

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Directions: (out of the estate turn right, at the first stop right, keep going until the 2nd stop after the village of Montemerlo, turn right and immediately left towards: TORREGLIA and LUVIGLIANO. As you are in Luvigliano keep the left and go around the wall of the magnificent Villa dei Vescovi, which you will see on your right. Turn left towards Torreglia. As you get to the stop go left towards GALZIGNANO. At the town about go right towards GALZIGNANO. As you arrive in Galzignano turn left towards: ARQUA' PETARCA, at the round about turn right towards VALSANZIBIO, shortly after you find the golf entrance on your right hand side).

Venezia Golf Club: Strada Vecchia 1, 30126 Alberoni Lido di Venezia. Tel: 041 731333

www.circologolfvenezia.it. 2 hours journey minimum.

The Venice Golf Club was born in the locality of "Alberoni" on the island of Lido-Venice in 1928. It was realized by the Scottish architect Cruickshank. The best golf players in the world have played on this course, we are speaking of Arnold Palmer, who still is the owner of the course record with 67, as to say 5 under par. But he is only one of the many: Henry Cotton, Johnny Miller, Severiano Ballesteros, Tony Jacklin, Lee Trevino and many others of the old generation have been playing golf here. Among the younger, Bernard Langer, Josè Maria Olazabal, Jhon Daly, Angel Cabrera, Colin Montgomery, Ian Poulter.

THE COURSE: (18 holes, Par 72 with a development of 6.199) From the original project the sandy soil is still the old one but greens are now a lot more undulated and many more water hazards are now part of the link. Hole number 9 is mythical and published on all the most prestigious golf magazines because of its setting on the lagoon. Hole number 11 is considered the best par 5 in all Italy. Many other of the holes have their special story to tell, for all of them is important to be precise and able to hit the ball out of the woods some now and then. Last tip: pay attention to the wind, it can change the way you have to approach the hole and if you don't understand how and when you have to change your strategy it can be too late to go back home with a nice score. 6.199 metres. Par 72 metres..

Directions: Go to Grisignano (MILANO-VENICE motorway). As you have crossed the lagoon bridge to Venice Just after the traffic light turn right towards Tronchetto / ferry boats – Lido. The ferry leaves every 50 min from 6,40 am the journey takes 35 min. As you are in the Lido island follow the indication for Alberoni.

OTHER SPORTS

Tennis:

Selvazzano, Via Montecchia, tel. 049 637866

They have 4 hard courts and the cost per hour for the court is € 5,50. The management of the tennis club can also supply rackets, please let them know 2 days ahead.

2 courts are available between 3 pm and 8 pm. From 8 pm to 11 pm, 3 courts are available.

Please book ahead. A trainer is also available, cost depends on whether the lessons are individual or for a group of people. The telephone number is 049-8055740.

Park Tennis Club, Abano Terme, Via Colli Euganei 22, tel.049 812411

Open from March to November 8am – 12pm. Trainer available.

Thermal swimming pools:

In Montegrotto Terme we recommend 2 beautiful pools with wonderful views onto the Eugean hills:

Hotel Preistoriche: Montegrotto, Via Castello 5, tel 049 793477 (irregular shaped pool, partly inside, partly outdoors.) Sunday-Thursday 10am-10pm Friday and Saturday 10am-12pm. € 22,00 per person Monday-Saturday € 27,00 per person Sunday and national holidays.

www.termepreistoriche.it

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Hotel Terme Bellavista: Montegrotto, Via dei Colli 5. Tel. 049 793333 www.bellavistaterme.com.
3 swimming pool (1 indoor one outdoor and 1 half in door and half outdoor) and a very good restaurant. Open every day 9am-7pm. € 20,00 per person.

Hotel Ritz Terme: Abano Terme via Monteortone 19, tel 048 8633444 and 049 8633100
www.ritz.it. Open every day 7.30pm-11.00pm. € 10,00 per person.

Horse Riding:

Villa Trent: Cervarese S. Croce, Via Roma 1, 35030 villatrento@libero.it

Instructor: Sascha: tel. 328 2293318

Other n° 328 6489530 and 328 5437509

English, German and French speaking .On the main road to the motor way Milano – Venice, on the right just past the village of Cervarese S. Croce.

Alfa Farm: Longare, V. S. Gaetano 28, tel 0444 555418 / portable: 339 8465458

Only Italian speaking

Bike Rentals:

Michele Marcolin: Bastia di Rovolon Via Abettoniera 2, 35030. Tel 049 9910642

biciemoto@fiscali.it

Open Saturday: 8 am / 7,30 pm. Sunday: 8 am / 12.30 pm. Monday morning closed. All other days: 8 am / 12,30 pm – 15 pm / 7,30 pm

When you arrive at the traffic light in Bastia go right the shop is on the right facing the square.

DAILY LIFE

Distances: Venice Airport to Frassanelle: 45 minutes to 1 hour
Milano to highway exit Grisignano: approx. 3 hours

This is under normal traffic conditions. The Milano – Venice highway is very busy during the week, especially on Friday afternoon and evening.

Usual rush hours: 8.30 to 10.30 am and 4.30 to 7.30 pm

On week ends there tends to be more traffic between 2 and 9 pm.

National Holidays: shops are closed, local supermarkets are also closed, large supermarkets which I signe with ** are normaly open but it is always better to call.

1st of January: New Year

6th of January: Epiphania

Easter

Monday after Easter

25th of April: Liberatoin Day

1st of May: Worker Feast

2nd of June: Republic Feast

15th of August: Assumption of Virgin Mary

1st of November: All Saints

8th of December: Immacolata Concezione

25th of December: Christmas

26th of December: S. Stephan

Wednesday: remember that in Italy most food shops are closed on wednesday afternoon.

Monday: clothes shops are closed in the morning and hairdresser are closed all day.

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August: this is the month most italians still choose for holidays most shops are closed for minimum a week, usually the middle one, but there is no fix rule and every individual makes its own decision. Supermarkets and Markets are normally open also in August.

The closest villages to Frassanelle are:

Montemerlo: (as you leave the property turn right in Via Frassanelle, drive ahead until the stop, turn right: you are in Via Roma, keep driving straight ahead, this road leads you to the village).

Bresseo: (after the village of Montemerlo go on and turn left towards Padova, keep going until the stop, the main road in front is Via Euganea shops are on your left and right hand side).

Tre Ponti: (after the village of Montemerlo go on following the main road until the stop, the main road in front is Via Euganea and you are in Tre Ponti which means Three Bridges.)

Bastia: (as you leave the gate turn left in Via Frassanelle, keep going until you reach the stop, turn left: you are in Via Roma, if you keep going you will reach the center of Bastia with the church in front of you).

Fossona: (as you leave the gate turn left in Via Frassanelle go ahead until the stop and turn left, keep going straight, in the roundabout follow the indications to Cervarese S. Croce, keep going straight until the traffic light the shops are just after the light on your left hand side).

Nearest Supermarket open also on Wednesday afternoon:

Di Più Discount with a very good butcher: Montemerlo, Via Roma 320, tel. 049 9903847. Open from Monday to Friday 8.30am -12.30pm / 15,30 pm-7.30pm. Saturday 8.30am -7.30pm. (after the stop in Via Frassanelle turn right, 300 metre later on your right).

SISA: Tre Ponti – Via Euganea 39, tel. 049 9900021. Open from Monday to Saturday 8,30 am-12,45 am / 3,30 pm-7,30 pm. (out of the estate take a right turn, first stop on the right, pass the village of Montemerlo, second stop on the right towards Teolo, 200 m after on the right).

Other Supermarkets:

Il Punto: Bresseo - Via Euganea 29/31, tel.049 9900046. Open from Monday to Saturday 8am-12,45pm / 3.30pm-7.30pm. Closed Wednesday afternoon. (at the stop turn left, it is immediatelly on your left)

Ali: Montegalda, Via 2 Giugno 4, tel. 0444 737707. Open from Monday to Saturday 8.30am-12.45pm / 3.30pm-17.45pm. Closed Wednesday afternoon. (on the road towards the MILAN-VENICE motorway it is on your right hand side).

****Supermarket open over lunchtime and on Wednesday afternoon:**

Coop: Selvazzano Dentro, V. Euganea 144, tel.049 638977. Open from Monday to Saturday 9am-8pm. (from Bresseo driving towards Padova is on your left 200 m after the traffic lights of the village of Selvazzano).

Billa: Selvazzano Dentro, V.Euganea 146, tel. 049 8056058. Open from Monday to Saturday 8,30am-8pm. (from Bresseo driving towards Padova is on your left 200 m after the traffic lights of the village of Selvazzano).

Le Brentelle in Sarneola di Rubano, Via della Provvidenza 1, tel. 049 8731611. Open Tuesday to Saturday from 8am to 10pm, Monday from 14pm to 10pm. This supermarket is close to the exit Padova Ovest, and therefore convenient if you have spend the day in Venice. Indications: as you leave the autostradata, turn left towards Vicenza. Follow the indications for Vicenza and Rovigo. When you are on the road SS11, after 11 red lights Le Brentelle is on your left. Indications from Frassanelle: Go to Fossona, at the traffic light turn right towards Padova, keep going straight ahead, at the first traffic light turn left toward Mestrino, keep following the

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main road until you are on the Statale Padova-Vicenza (SS 11), turn right towards Padova. Drive for 5,5 km, the restaurant is in Rubano on your left hand side.

**Hypermarkets and Markets also on Sunday:

Centre of Bastia: Sunday's market from 9am to 12,30am: you can find everything you need from food to clothes.

Aliper hypermarket: Abano Terme, Via Previtali, 30, tel. 049 8668222. Open every day of the week 9am-10pm.

Reach Bresseo and take a left turn after the stop towards Padova, keep going straight until the traffic light, turn left towards Abano. This will take you to the by-pass of Abano.

Indications: Turn right,

keep going straight ahead past 4 crossroads and then turn to your left following the signs for "Aliper". You will find the shopping mall to your right.

Organic Food:

Bio Market Antica Fattoria, Bresseo, V. Montemerlo 6 A, tel. 049 9901753. Open from Monday to Saturday 8.30am-12.30pm / 3pm-7.30pm. (before the stop on your left hand side).

Butcher:

Beghin: Bresseo, Via Euganea 48, tel. 049 9900008. Open from Monday to Saturday 7am-1pm; Thursday, Friday and Saturday also 3.30pm-7pm. (after the stop in front of you).

Fish:

Belmar: Bresseo, Via Euganea 74, tel. 049 9903561. Open from Tuesday to Saturday 8am-12.30pm, Thursday and Friday 4pm-5.30pm (at the stop turn right towards Teolo, 200 m ahead on your left)

Baker:

Maggagnin, Bastia, Via Roma 21, tel. 049 9910605. Open from Monday to Saturday 7am-1pm/4pm-7pm. Closed Wednesday afternoon. (before the traffic light on your right).

Pastries and Cakes:

Maggagnin, Bastia, Via Roma 21 (049 9910097) open 7,30-13/15-19,30 closed in the afternoon on Wednesday and Sunday. (before the traffic light on the right)

Take Away Pizza:

Chaplin: Bastia, Via Roma 7, tel. 049 9910524. Open every day except from Tuesday 17,30-22. (just before the traffic light on your right hand side).

Party Pizza: Fossona, Via Roma 126, tel. 9916014. Open from Tuesday to Sunday 18-22. (after the traffic light on your left hand side near the Post Office).

La Rustica Bruschetta e Pizzeria: Bresseo, Via Bresseo 87, tel 049 9903223. Open from Tuesday to Sunday 6pm – 11pm. Pass the village of Montemerlo and go towards Padova before arriving to the stop in Bresseo on your left.

Markets:

Sunday: Bastia, from 8am to 1pm.

Monday: Montegalda, from 8am to 1pm.

Tuesday: Bresseo, from 8 am to 1pm.

Wednesday: Grisignano, from 8am to 1pm

Thursday: Saccolongo, from 8am to 1pm

Saturday: Padova, Prato della Valle, all day long.

Antiques Markets:

Noventa Vicentina: Piazza Municipale, every 1st Sunday of the month. Info. 0444 861353.

Vicenza: Piazza dei Signori, every 2nd Sunday of the month. Info. 0444 323863 – 347 5980930.

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Motegrotto Terme: Viale Stazione, every 2nd Saturday of the month. Info. 049 8928711.

Padova: Prato della Valle, every 3rd Sunday of the month. Info. 049 8205361.

Piazzola sul Brenta: in front of the beautiful Villa Camerini, every 1st Sunday of the month. Info 329 2372475.

Banks:

Cassa Risparmio Padova e Rovigo: Montemerlo, V. Roma 319, tel. 049 9903100. Open 8.20am-1.20pm / 2.35pm-3.35pm (in front of the church).

Cassa Risparmio Padova e Rovigo: Bastia, V. Roma 64C, tel. 049 9910007. Open 8.20am-1.20pm / 2.35pm-3.35pm (before the traffic light on your left hand side).

Private Taxi:

Mr. Costantin	fax 049 9900011	tel. 049 9900373	cel. 339 4546247
Mr. Costantin Junior speaks a little English			cel. 328 2183245
Mr. Odino			cel. 335 485586

Taxi:

Abano Terme: Largo Marconi,	tel. 049 8669345	fax 049 8669581
Abano Terme: Via Montirone 14,	tel 049 667842	

Car Mechanic:

Montemerlo: Zuin Carlo, Via Roma 323, Tel. 049 9900503. Open from Monday to Saturday 8am to 12.30pm / 2.30pm to 7pm. (after the new church in the big square on your left hand side in proximity of the gas station).

Car Rental:

Padova: MAGGIORE, Piazzale Stazione 15/bis (Square in front of the main station) Padova
Tel. 049 8752852

SPRINTAGE- Specialised in classic car rental (Alfa Romeo Spider, MG, Porsche and others)

Phone and fax: +39 0424 541397, E-mail: info@sprintage.it

Website: <http://www.sprintage.it> (Cars can be delivered and collected elsewhere in all Central and Northern Italy (at the main airports, train stations or agreed places). Delivery and collection of the cars is possible in 2 different locations)

Dry Cleaner:

Bastia: Pulisecco Nicoletta, Via Euganea 68, tel. 9900166. Open from Tuesday to Saturday 8,30-12,30/15,30-19,30. (at the stop turn left and immediately on your right hand side near the hairdresser).

Ladies and Gentlmen Hairdresser:

Bresseo: Line Effe di Frison Claudio, Via Euganea 50, tel. 049 9900330. Open from Tuesday to Friday 9-12,30/15-19 Saturday 9-19. (at the stop turn left and immediately on your right hand side near the dry cleaner).

Beautycian-Cosmetician:

Bastia: Harmony and Beauty: Via Roma 47/e, tel. 049 9914062. Open from Tuesday to Friday 9am-7,30pm Saturday 9-15. On the round about on your right.

Chiropratic:

Vicenza: Dr Patricia De Luca: Contrà del Gusto 7, tel 0444 323999 cel. 340 8923235

Vicenza: Dr Marco De Luca: Contrà del Gusto 7, tel 0444 323999 cel. 340 2223573

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Massages:

At home: Luisella 049 810448

Saccolongo: Mara e Patrizia 049 8016760

Nails:

Abano Terme: 049 8912797

Padova: Paola or Violetta 049 8774730

Original Hammam from Tunisia:

Veggiano: Hammam di Kouka ,Via Pedagni 8. tel 049 9001414 333 2018243

www.hammamdikouka.com unfortunately only italian version. Mrs Kouka is from Tunisia and speaks French.

Internet point:

The nearest internet point is in Bastia in the library of the town hall.

As you leave the property turn left, at the stop turn left again. Keep going until the traffic light.

The town hall is on the right just after the traffic light.

Opening hours:

Monday and Wednesday 3,30 – 17,30 pm

Thursday 9,30 am – 1,30 pm

Cost: € 1,50 per hour

To register you need a photocopy of your passport or ID, please make it both sides. You find a shop for photocopies just before the traffic light on the left hand side (morning: 9 am – 12,30 pm. Afternoon: 3,30 pm – 19,30 pm).

Tel n° +39 049 9910017 ask for the Biblioteca

WINE AND FOOD

Culinary Matters. In most, but not all, of the Euganean Hills - some are just wooded - there are restaurants, trattorias and taverns providing delicious local food. Gallina padovana (chicken à la Padua), for instance, coniglio (rabbit), polenta con soppressa (polenta with brawn), risotto with erbe dei colli (wild local herbs) or baccalà (salt cod). And, of course, pasta in all its variations. To conclude, a formaggio asuago or a grano padano. Guests dine in the midst of locals, delighting in the fragrant forest air.

WINE BARS AND ENOTECAS

Jolly Bar, Via Roma 3, Bastia – Tel. 049 9910002

Next to the red lights of Bastia. They have an excellent choice of Italian wines with more than a 100 different labels.

Open from 7am to 12 pm, except for Thursdays 7am to 8pm. Closed on Monday.

Wine Bar Godenda, Via Squarcione 4, Padova, Tel. 049 8774192.

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Located in a side street of the Piazza delle Erbe, this elegant and modern wine bar serves a good selection of wine to accompany tasteful appetizers and dishes. Open from 10am to midnight. Closed on Sunday.

La Corte dei Leoni, Via P. d'Abano 1, Padova, tel. 049 8750083

We suggest this place for its large selection of wines and good dishes. Full meal excl. of wines Euro 30-35. Tables are set out in the courtyard in summer. Closed on Sunday and Monday lunch.

Istinto, Via San Clemente 8/10, Padova, tel. 049 8764711.

Trendy bar with large choice of wine by the glass. Good paninis and appetizers. The kitchen is behind a large glass pane. Open from 8am to 1am. Closed on Tuesday.

La Mia Cantina, Piazzale Santa Croce 21, Padova, tel. 049 8801330 (this is a shop, no tasting here). Open from 8am to 1.30pm and from 4pm to 8pm, closed on Sundays and Mondays.

Enoteca Severino, via del Santo 44, Padova, tel. 049 650697

Wine shop with tasting.

Open 10am to 1pm and 5pm to 9pm. Closed on Sunday.

WINE ESTATES

Castello della Montecchia, Via Montecchia 16 – 35030 Selvazzano Dentro. Tel. 049 637294. Wine shop and tasting. Open from Tuesday to Saturday 9am to 12 am and 2,30 pm to 18,30 pm.

This estate has been winning international accolades over the past 10 years. The owners Emo Capodilista are first cousins of the Papafava family. A visit to the winery can be combined with the visit of the famous 16th century VILLA CAPODILISTA which lies on the same estate (see our chapter SURROUNDINGS). For further information visit the website www.lamontecchia.it. Rentals on the estate of Montecchia are handled by Trust&Travel.

To reach La Montecchia, in the village of Bresseo turn right towards Padova. Turn left towards La Montecchia at the first red lights you will come across.

Meeting point is in front of the wine shop of the estate. The tour of the Villa is followed by a visit to the rural museum on the premises and a tasting of the wines of the estate.

Vigna Alta, Villa dei Vescovi, Luvigliano. Wine shop and tasting. One of the best estates of the Eugenean hills.

After Montemerlo follow the indications for Tre Ponti and then Luvigliano. Once you have reached the walls which surround this famous property, turn right. The estates shop is on the left of the entrance to the villa. Open 10.30am to 1.30pm and 2pm to 7pm. Closed on Sundays. For visits to the Villa dei Vescovi see our chapter SURROUNDINGS.

CHEESE

Enrico Grandis, Via Carbonare 45, Montegalda

Excellent fresh and matured cheeses produced from organically raised goats. Inquire with Francesca Papafava for opening hours.

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DISTILLERIES

Brunello, Via Giuseppe Roi 27, Montegalda, Tel. 0444 737253

Excellent distillati and fruit conserved in grappa.

In Montegalda turn right towards Vicenza. You will find the distillery to the left after 1 km, next to the restaurant Culatta.

RESTAURANTS

Top range

3 Michelin stars ***

Le Calandre – Statale Padova Vicenza – Loc. Sarneola – Rubano – Tel. 049/630303

Closed Sunday and Monday. Go to Fossana, at the traffic light turn right towards Padova, keep going straight ahead, at the first traffic light turn left toward Mestrino, keep following the main road until you are on the Statale Padova-Vicenza (SS 11), turn right towards Padova. Drive for 5,5 km, the restaurant is in Rubano on your left hand side.

Relais Club della Montecchia: Tel 049-8055323

Via Montecchia, 16 Selvazzano Dentro

Closed on Monday and Tuesday

The Golf Club hosts one of the better restaurants in the area. It is run by the family Alaimo, the owners of the famous 3 star restaurant Le Calandre. First class food and wine list. Closed on Monday.

Middle range:

NEAREST SURROUNDINGS

Frassanelle Golf club restaurant - tel. 049/5226056

Closed on Tuesday.

The restaurant of the Frassanelle Golf Club lies within the property. A rural setting as well as wonderful views onto the Euganean hills make it a pleasant choice. The cuisine is simple and of excellent quality, all ingredients are fresh and vary according to the season.

Lunch A: a first course (i.e. pasta), water, a glass of wine, coffee, bread: € 9,00

Lunch B: a second course (i.e. meat), water, a glass of wine, coffee, bread: € 14,00

Dinner: full dinner € 30,00 plus drinks

Il Pozzetto, Tel. 049 9915395

Via Pozzetto 64, Bastia.

Closed on Monday evening and all day on Tuesday.

Largish restaurant with garden, simple Italian cooking. We like the gnocchi, tagliatelle ai piselli freschi (pasta with fresh peas), the faraona arrosto (roasted guinea fowl).

At the gate turn to the left, at the stop sign turn left again. The restaurant is immediately to your left.

Il Bastione, Tel. 049 9910507

Via Pozzetto 32, Bastia

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Closed Monday dinner and all Tuesday

Specialised in sea food. € 30,00/35,00 plus drinks.

At the gate turn to the left, at the stop sign turn left again. Go on for 400 m and you will find the restaurant after the Pozzetto on your left.

Da Bepi alle Scuole, Tel. 049 5226212 – 049 5226060

Via San Giorgio 1, Rovolon

Closed on Tuesday and Wednesday.

This Restaurant is on the hill above Frassanelle, beautiful view, the food is genuine and simple.

At the gate turn to the left, at the stop sign turn left again. Go straight until Bastia then follow the sign to Rovolon. The restaurant is before the village of Rovolon on the left hand side.

Fardigo, Tel 049 5226205

Via S. Giorgio 51, Rovolon

Closed on Monday and Tuesday. In summer open also on Tuesday. *Open in August.*

€ 28,00

Drive past Bastia and then to the left to Rovolon, on your right opposite the church.

Monte Grande, Tel. 049 5226248

Via S. Giorgio 11, Rovolon

Closed on Tuesday

Suggested by our guests, good food, good service and very beautiful view especially recommended in summer for its very large terrace.

Drive to Bastia and then to the left to Rovolon go past the church in Rovolon you will see signs on your right..

Ai Castelli, Tel. 049 5226245

Via S. Giorgio 41, Rovolon

Closed from October to April. Open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday *also in August*

Drive past Bastia and then go left to Rovolon after the church on your right.

Agriturismo La Buona Terra, Tel. 049 991 5497

Via Repoise 73, Montemerlo.

Closed: Monday. *Open in August*

Country fare, with local specialities, organic and very tasty food. € 25,00 plus drinks. Please reserve

At the red lights in Fossana turn right towards Padova, then take the first turn to the right and follow the indications. (at present Via Repoise is under repair, please go ahead on the main road and follow the next indications on the right for "La Buona Terra").

Ristorante l'Hosteria Modenese, Tel 049 9916027

Via Fossana 7/12, Fossana, Cervarese S. Croce

Open every day 9am - 3pm and 4pm - 1am *also in August*

This restaurant is also a take away and a shop for very good quality gastronomic specialities.

Unfortunately the open area is by the road and very noisy. But the food is nice and not expensive, I like to order a selection of cheeses and salami and hams served with a very good fried bread.

At the traffic light in Fossana turn left and immediately right.

Trattoria da Giovanni Tel. 049 9902012

Via della Busa 9, Luvigliano

Closed on Monday evening and all Tuesday (*open on the 15th of August and most of the month*)

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FRASSANELLE

If booked in advance you can have a very good fish meal. Drive to Treponti before the village of Luvigliano on your right.

Trattoria da Cirillo, Tel 0444 636025

Via F. Lampertico 13, Montegaldella.

Closed Wednesday evening and Thursday all day.

This restaurant is known for its Baccalà (cod) Vicenza style. Cost between Euro 30 and 35 plus drinks.

www.trattoriadacirillo.it

Drive to Montegaldella, turn to the left towards Nanto and Bastia. Keep driving for another 1,3 km, you will come upon the restaurant on the left.

Trattoria Culatta, Tel. 0444 636033

Via G. Roi 47, Montegalda.

Open every lunch except Tuesday, and in the evenings of Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday.

Excellent traditional trattoria famous for its baccalà, mushroom soup and pasticcio della casa (oven baked pasta). € 30,00 plus drinks Go to Montegalda and take a left turn towards Vicenza. The restaurant lies on this road after about 1 km.

Ai 3 Scalini, Tel. 0444 636385

Via Castello 1, Montegalda

Closed on Monday evening and Tuesday all day.

Highly recommended by our guests. Full meal € 25,00/30,00

Pizzerias:

La Cascina, Tel. 049 9900 709

Via Euganea 27, Bresseo.

Closed on Monday and Saturday lunch. Pizzas only in the evenings.

Drive to Bresseo, turn left towards Padova, shortly thereafter on the right, next to the football field.

Ristorante Pizzeria da Giò, Tel 049 999901394

Via Euganea 32, Treponti.

Closed on Sunday. *Open in August*

Drive pass Montemerlo always follow the main road to the stop in Treponti the pizzeria is on your right at the stop.

EUGANEAN HILLS

Trattoria al Sasso, Tel. 049-9925073

Via Ronco- Castelnuovo.

Closed on Wednesdays (Open: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday only dinner Saturday and Sunday lunch and dinner). *Open in August*.

Slightly more elegant country restaurant in Euganean hills with excellent food and wine list.

The scenic drive as well as what you find upon arrival make this a worthwhile visit. Full menu € 35,00 plus drinks.

To reach the restaurant drive to Bresseo and turn right towards Teolo. In Teolo take the left turn towards Castelnuovo. In Castelnuovo follow the indications for the restaurant you will find it on your left.

La Tavolozza, Tel. 049 5211063

Via Boschette 2, Torreglia

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FRASSANELLE

Closed all day on Wednesday and for lunch on Thursday. *Open in August.*

Traditional Veneto's chitken and seasonal chitken. Nice outdoor area.

Drive to Tre Ponti than follow the indications to Luvigliano than to Torreglia at the round about go right towards Galzignano after few hundred metres on your left.

Antica Trattoria Ballotta, Tel 049 5212970

Via Carromatto 2, Torreglia

Closed on Tuesday. *Usually open in August*

Highly recommended by our guests. www.ballotta.it

Drive to Tre Ponti than follow the indications to Luvigliano and Torreglia.

Da Mario, Tel. 049-794090

Corso delle Terme 4, Montegrotto Terme.

Closed Tuesday and at lunch on Wednesday. *Open in August*

This is one of our favourites in the area. The extremely high quality of the dishes are based on traditional recipes and the wine list is excellent. € 35,00 plus drinks.

Drive to Bressano, turn left towards Padova and then right towards Abano. As you reach the large by-pass of Abano, turn right towards Montegrotto. As you reach Montegrotto keep going, Mario is opposite the Hotel Garden.

Castello di Valbona, Tel. 0429 97022

Valbona di Lozzo Atesino

Closed on Monday, Tuesday and November. *Open in August.* Please make a reservation.

Restaurant, Pizzeria and pub in one of the best preserved 13th century fortified building in the whole province. A very good chance to see an ancient castle in its almost original state. Go to Bastia, pass Vò, follow towards Este, turn right towards Lozzo Atesino, pass Lozzo Atesino and follow the signs on the right to Castello di Valbona.

Ristorante Sapio, Tel 0429-602565

Via Madonetta 2/C, Este

Closed on Monday.

To reach the town of Este drive to Bastia and follow the indications for Vò and Este.

Ristorante Antica Torre, Tel 0429-3484

Via Cornaro 11, Este

Closed on Tuesday

To reach the town of Este drive to Bastia and follow the indications for Vò and Este and finally for Montagnana. As you reach the small locality of Ponte della Torre turn left.

Ristorante La Torre, Tel 0429-73752

Piazza Mazzini 14, Monselice

Closed on Tuesday.

From Abano Terme follow the indications to Monselice

Ristorante La Montanella, Tel 0429-718200

Via Costa 33, Arquà Petrarca

Closed on Tuesday evening and Wednesday all day.

To reach Arquà Petrarca drive through: Tre Ponti, Luvigliano, Torreglia, Galzignano.

PADOVA

L'Anfora Tel. 049-656629

Via de Soncin, 13 Padova Centro

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FRASSANELLE

Closed on Sundays.

Osteria and wine bar in the center of town. At lunch they serve a small variety of well chosen dishes at low prices, whereas in the evening it becomes a meeting point for aficionados who gather around the famous spuncioni (warm and cold appetizers). There is a wide range of choice - meat, fish and vegetables. No tables outside. Average price excl. of wine

Caffè Pedrocchi, Via 8 Febbraio 8 Padova Centro

Historical coffee house in the old center of Padova, famous throughout Italy, you should at least have had a coffee here.

Osteria Dal Capo, Tel. 049 663105

Via degli Obizzi 2,

Closed on Sunday.

Choice of typical venetian dishes served in a fresh and pleasant surrounding. No tables outdoors. Average cost excl. of wine

La Vigna, Tel. 049 87 19 709.

Specialised in fish. Riviera Paleocpa 94,

Closed on Thursday.

Excellent fish dishes, always fresh. Large outdoor area. € 50,0 plus drinks

Ristorante Al Cicheto, Tel 049 8719794

Via Savonarola 59,

Closed Monday lunch and all Sunday. Closed all August

Very romantic little restaurant. Good food and friendly people. € 30/35

Enoteca Corte dei Leoni, Tel. 049 8750083

V. Pietro D'Abano 1

Closed on Sunday and Monday lunch.

Especially good for its vast choice of wines. Outdoor area in the court yard.

Bacaro and Cambusa Luigi De Gaetano, Tel 049 656740 Cel 338 6510093

Via S. Andrea 12,

This is a small and pleasant restaurant which combines traditions from Venice and from Naples. I like very much having lunch on Sunday.

Restaurant and Pizzeria Pe Pen, Tel. 049 8759483

Piazza Cavour 15,

Closed on Sunday

Very good pizzas, good restaurant, friendly and fast service. Large outdoor area in the Cavour square.

Pizzeria da Stecca, Tel. 049 686463.

Via Giordano Bruno 42,

Closed on Monday.

Large selection of very good pizzas, from the most traditional to surprising novelties.

VICENZA

Prosciutteria Italiana by Chris Canotto, Tel 0444 285931 www.prosciutteria.biz

Via Vecchia Ferriera 22

Closed on Saturday lunch and all Sunday

A real great culinary experience and a very unusual place. On the outskirts of Vicenza in a self service pizzeria you would never dream to find such a refined and good restaurant.

Behind the self service an area is reserved for guests who are real gourmets. Chris likes to serve his guests personally and cooks in front of them, his idea is to combine very high quality ingredients coming from all over Europe and Italian kitchen skills. The wine selection is superb.

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FRASSANELLE

Absolutely necessary the reservation.

VERONA

12 Apostoli, Tel 045 596999

Corticella S. Marco 5, Verona

Closed on Sunday evening and on Monday.

Top quality: one of the best in Verona.

Antica Bottega del Vino, Tel 045 8004535

Via Scudo di Francia 3, Verona

Closed on Tuesday. Always open during the Arena Opera's season. Very good middle range restaurant.

Trattoria al Pompiere, Tel 045 8030537

Vicolo Regina d'Ungheria 5, Verona

Closed on Sunday and Monday lunch.

Second best middle range.

VENICE

Trattoria Antiche Carampane, Tel 041 5240165

S. Polo 1911 (near campo S. Polo)

Closed Sunday and Monday

Typical Venetian restaurant with outside tables on the calle. The inside is small but very comfortable the fish is excellent.. Please make a reservation.

Harry's Bar, Tel 041 5208822 www.cipriani.com

S. Marco 1323 (near piazza S. Marco)

Closed Monday

Very famous high class restaurant founded in 1931 by Giuseppe Cipriani. € 100,00/180,00 per person. At lunch you can try the famous Bellini cocktail and the delicious egg, chicken or shrimp sandwiches.

Osteria Da Fiore, Tel 340 878

S. Polo 2202/A+

Closed on Sunday and Monday

The best and freshest seafood in Venice. Excellent risotto. To choose your menu ask for advice the Maitre Maurizio Marin husband of the Chef Mara Zanetti. Expensive but worth it.

NEAR ASOLO AND BASSANO

This area is rich with very good restaurants I know one in Mussolente and one in Monfumo, 2 villages near the shop Eger where I buy the fabrics for the agriturismo.

Antica Trattoria da Cioro, Tel. 0424 577041

Via Ten. Eger 3, Mussolente (Vi).

Just excellent! Very simple and unexpensive trattoria

Ristorante da Gerry, Tel 0423 545077

Via Chiesa 6, 31010 Monfumo (Vi)

Closed on Monday

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FRASSANELLE

This restaurant is on the hills and the view is very beautiful. The food is also very good and different from what you can have in Padova.

ROVERETO

For our guests crossing the Alps in Brennero I suggest:

[Enoteca Casa del Vino della Vallagarina](#), Tel 0464 486057

Piazza S. Vincenzo 1, 38060 Isera

Closed only on the 25th of December!

Only few minutes from the motorway A22 exit Rovereto Sud if you are going to Brennero, Rovereto Nord if you are coming to Frassanelle.

Very large selection of excellent wine. You can also eat the plate of the day usually very good.

SURROUNDINGS

The Euganean Hills. For the most part a fertile plain, the hinterland of Venice does hold some surprises in store: unexpectedly, about 20 km south-west of Padua, a group of solitary cone-shaped hills suddenly rises, the Colli Euganei or Euganean Hills. They have something of volcanic craters about them or of a natural wonder, as if some childish giant had played with damp lumps of earth and had slung them across the land. Some are high and wooded, others no more than mounds, climbed in a couple of minutes. Today the Colli are a protected regional park.

Excursions in the neighbourhood. Venetia is steeped in history and culture, towns like Padua, Vicenza, Verona, Mantua, Ferrara and, of course, Venice are within easy reach. The numerous Veneto villas, the *Villeggiatura*, are a real must. Now a brief history of how this came about.

When Venetian maritime trade declined in the course of the 16th century, Patrician families felt compelled to rethink their old principle of "coltivar il mare, lasciar stare la terra" (cultivating the sea, letting the land be) and remembered the hitherto neglected hinterland, the *Terraferma*. By reclaiming the alluvial land and starting agricultural production, they had a second string to their bow, as it were. But they would not have been the Venetians, had they not as a matter of course transferred their customary civilized lifestyle to the country. This in turn meant that they had magnificent villas built in the style of their urban palaces, but situated in the midst of their agricultural estates. The most famous of these - La Badoera, La Malcontenta, La Rotonda, Villa Maser, Villa Emo and the Villa Cornaro Rush, for instance - were designed by Andrea Palladio (1508-1580) who combined the classical proportions of antiquity with the ground plans of the traditional Venetian palaces. Seventeen are the work of Palladio, but on the Brenta Canal north of Padua alone there are 125 villas, many of which evoke his vocabulary. The most outstanding among them are the Contarini Simes and Pisani Villas - both more princely residences than villas in the strict sense - and La Malcontenta. They are all easily accessible from Frassanelle. Many of them are open to the public. Apart from the famous towns and the extraordinary villas, we suggest visiting some smaller towns, all of them reachable in less than 1,5 hours by car. Bassano del Grappa lies below the Grappa mountain. Close by Asolo is a medieval jewel located north of Bassano. Furthermore you have Marositica, a fortified hamlet famous for the biennial chess game with human figures, held in commemoration of a medieval challenge to win the hand of the chatelains daughter. Montagnana is one of the most famous and better conserved medieval citadels of Europe. Possagno is where the world famous sculptor Antonio Canova was born. In the museum, next to the house where he was born, you can see the plaster models and designs of his major works of art.

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In half an hours distance:

Abbey of Praglia: The terracotta-coloured Abazia di Praglia nestles on Lonzina Hill. The largest Benedictine abbey in Italy, this was founded in the 11th century, acquiring its present form - with the exception of the older campanile - in the 15th century. Of particular interest are the cloisters and the Church of the Holy Virgin. The monks produce and sell honey, face creams, soaps and herbal teas. Getting there: on the road to Padova, a little after Bresseo you will find indications to the right. Open: guided tours only: Saturday and holidays: regular hour 2.30, 3.00, 3.30, 4.00, 4.30 pm. Daylight saving: 3.30, 4.00, 4.30, 5.00, 5.30 pm. Weeks day: regular hour: 2.30, 3.10, 3.50, 4.30 pm. Daylight saving: 3.30, 4.10, 4.50, 5.30. Closed on Monday, New Year's day, Epiphany, Easter Triduum, Easter Sunday, Pentecost, Assumption, All Saints Day, Immaculate Conception, Christmas and Christmas Eve. Sunday Mass: 9.15 and 11.00 solemn. 16.30 (17.00 daylight saving) www.praglia.it

La Campanella is a garden center founded by Anna Maria Sgarabottolo which specialises in old and English roses. Only a few minutes from Frassanelle, before you reach Bastia, turn right towards Cervarese S. Croce, keep going until you reach indications for both Bastia e Cervarese S. Croce. Turn left here, the garden center is shortly thereafter to your left. Anna Maria has planted a beautiful rose garden. In May, the garden is a true firework of colours and smells. Afficionados will find it interesting in every season, here you will find a large selection of the most beautiful old roses and their hybrids. Tel. 049 9910905 www.vivaiolacampanella.com

Villa Capodilista: Visits only upon request: Tel. 049 637294

Originally a hunting lodge built in 1568, this was the brainchild of Dario Varotari, a painter and architect, pupil of Veronese. The rooms are covered in mannerist frescoes: scenes from mythology and family history, putti, grotesques and vignettes. In keeping with the open, hilly situation, Varotari designed a severely square building with identical facades, each with extended double-storey loggias. The formal severity produces a delightful contrast with the playfully theatrical loggias, their frescos and their elaborately decorated pediments. The internal layout of the rooms follows the symmetrical principle. The four rooms on the ground floor and the four rooms on the first floor are connected by a splendid staircase with four ramps. The basically square structure of the hedge-lined Italian garden is broken up by semicircular extensions, so-called exedra. Villa Capodilista belong to the estate La Montecchia. www.lamontecchia.it

Villa dei Vescovi, in Luvigliano: the villa is curent being refurbished it is expected to be re-open to the public in Spring 2009. Constructed between 1535 and 1542 on an embankment in the Eugenean Hills this imposing villa stands out against the surrounding rural landscape. Much more than a mere villa built to serve agricultural functions, it is notable for its design, which reinterprets Roman models and encapsulates a perfect sense of harmony between art and nature a sense that is also evident in the interior design, which features an important cycle of Raphaelesque frescos painted between 1542 and 1548 by Lamberto Sustris. For re-opening cheque the www.fondoambiente.it Getting there: drive through Montemerlo e follow the indications for Teolo. At the stop cross the road (SP 89) and continue towards Luvigliano.

The gardens of Villa Barbarigo, Valsanzibio: In the 1600's Antonio Barbarigo, brother of St. Gregorio, enlarged and transformed the exterior of the villa by drawing out a large water garden inspired by the antique Romans. The garden is decorated with 70 statues of which 40 are attributed to Marengo. Furthermore there are 4 ponds, 3 water follies, 16 fountains and a boxwood maze.

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Getting there: from Luvigliano drive towards Torreglia and then Valsanzibio. Open from March to November, 10am to 1pm and 2pm until sunset. Tel. 049 8055614 responsible Dr. Rossi Tel. 328 6482894. www.valsanzibiogiardino.it

Casa Petrarca, Arquà Petrarca: "Here, in the Euganean Hills, I live in complete peace of mind, free from noise, misunderstandings or cares, reading, writing and praising God", wrote Petrarch from Arquà Petrarca - still simply called Arquà at that time - to his brother. That was in 1373. The following year the poet died in his study. The room can be viewed, as can the entire Casa Petrarca with its Renaissance frescos. Open March 1st to October 31st, 9am to 12pm and 3pm to 6.30pm. Between November 1st and February 28th, 9am to 12pm and 2pm to 5pm. Closed on Monday, Christmas, day after Christmas, New Year's day, 1st of May. Tel. 0429 718294.

Castello di San Martino: very close to Frassanelle, the oldest part of this small castle goes back to the year 1000. Later on the Carraresi amplified the building. The Venetians used it as a port along the river. Today the building has been transformed into a museum of the river Bacchiglione with finds going from the age of iron to the middle ages.

Getting there: turn to the right towards Padova at the traffic lights in Fossana. The first road to the left is Via San Martino, the castle is a little further down this road. The castle and the museum are open April 1st to September 30th. Saturday 3pm to 7pm, Sunday 10am-1pm and 2pm-7pm. From October 1st Saturday 2pm-6pm, Sunday 10am-1pm and 2pm-6pm Tel. 049 9915425. Responsible Sig.ra Debora Coron 348 8746424 or 0429 647157. www.musei.padova.it

Villa Beatrice d'Este, Monte Gemola; Baone: The Villa was given this name after the blessed Beatrice d'Este stayed here in the 12th century. At the time the building was a monastery. In the 1600's a Venetian merchant transformed the religious building into a worldly Villa. The *barchessa* was added in the 19th century. Today the Villa is the museum of the Colli Euganei. Open: April 1st to September 30th; Saturday 3pm to 7pm, Sunday 10am-1pm and 2pm-7pm. From October 1st Saturday 2pm-6pm, Sunday 10am-1pm and 2pm-6pm Tel. 049 9915425. Responsible Sig.ra Debora Coron 348 8746424 or 0429 647157. www.musei.padova.it

Museo di Cava Bomba, Cinto Euganeo. The 19th century furnaces of Cava Bomba is an highly interesting example of an former factory for the production of lime. The space houses a geo-paleontological museum which illustrates the geological phenomena and the fossil finds of the Euganean hills. Open: open April 1st to September 30th. Saturday 3pm to 7pm, Sunday 10am-1pm and 2pm-7pm. From October 1st Saturday 2pm-6pm, Sunday 10am-1pm and 2pm-6pm Tel. 049 9915425. Responsible Sig.ra Debora Coron 348 8746424 or 0429 647157. www.musei.padova.it

A real must: Panoramic route to Vicenza: take to road which from Montegalda turns left towards Vicenza. It will take you along the banks of the Berica and shortly before you reach Vicenza past the famous Villa Rotonda by Palladio and Villa Valmarana ai Nani with fabulous frescos by Gianbattista and Giandomenico Tiepolo. The 2 villas are linked by a very nice foot path in the country, visitors can walk from one villa to the other. On the way, in Montegalda, you will come past the excellent [trattoria Culatta](#).

Villa Rotonda by Palladio c. 1556: Vicenza, via Rotonda 29. Although the Villa Rotonda is the universal icon of the Palladian villa, in reality its owner considered it an urban residence, or — more appropriately — a suburban one. Paolo Almerico in fact sold his own palace in the city in order to move just beyond its walls, and Palladio himself publishes the Rotonda amongst the palaces, not the villas, in the *Quattro Libri*. Otherwise the villa is isolated on the crest of a small hill and originally there were no agricultural dependencies. Visit: garden: 15 March – 4 November: from Tuesday to Sunday 10am-12am / 3pm-6pm. Villa: 15 March - 4 November:

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Wed. 10am-12am / 3-6 pm. With booking (min. 25 persons) after 4 November and in other days. Tel. +39 0444 321793 / Fax +39 049 8790879 (preferable) +39 049 8791380.

Villa Valmarana ai Nani: Vicenza, via dei Nani 8. The Villa is a marvellous architectural and artistic sight composed by three buildings and a wide 18th century park. In 1757, Tiepolo and his son Giandomenico were invited to Vicenza to fresco rooms in the Villa Valmarana and in the adjoining guest quarters, the so-called 'foresteria'. Their patron was Count Giustino Valmarana, a scholar and theater enthusiast. Tiepolo frescoed the vestibule and four ground-floor rooms, while his son executed the decoration in the adjacent guest house.

Giandomenico's lively genre scenes featuring peasants and merchants were intended to form a marked contrast with Giambattista's noble and tragic themes in the Villa, borrowed from famous works of Greek, Roman, and Italian literature. Visit: March 11 – November 2nd 2008 from Tuesday to Sunday 10am – 12am / 3pm - 6pm. November 8th – March 10 2009 only Saturday and Sunday 10am – 12am / 2pm - 4,30pm. Tel: 0444 321803.

www.villavalmarana.com

Villa Barbarigo, Noventa Vicentina. If you go to Vicenza through the panoramic road (see below) you must take a detour and visit this amazing villa. Among villas erected near Vicenza for Venetian patricians, Villa Barbarigo distinguishes itself because it was built for a dogal family. For this reason it deserves the title of *Villa of the Dogi* (definition that in the past some authors had not correctly attributed to all the Venetian villas). Here everything cooperates to glorify the Barbarigo family: the majesty of the architecture on four floors, the scenographic and solemn façade crowned by daggers and flanked with two wings of porticos, the wide cycle of frescoes that fills an area of approximately 430 sqm. Frescoes by Antonio Foler, Antonio Vassillachi the Aliense and Luca Ferrari from Reggio. Visits: every day from 9,30 to 12,30 am.

Castello di Valbona, Valbona di Lozzo Atesino. The Castle is situated along the road leading to Noventa Vicentina. It belongs to the most interesting and best preserved fortified buildings in the whole province and offers a chance to visitors to see an ancient castle in its almost original state. It seems to have its origins in the 13th Century perhaps built on the order of Ezzelino da Romano. It became the property of count Lozzo, passed to the Comune of Padova and to the Carraresi. The structure of the castle does not seem to have served so much as a feudal residence as a significant defence structure, capable of withstanding the Vicentine raids. In the castle can be visited if you go to the restaurant, or pizzeria and pub. Tel. 0429 97022. Closed on Monday and Tuesday and November. Open in August.

The Castello Catajo is situated in the immediate vicinity of Frassanelle, beside the Euganean Hills, on the main Padua-Rovigo road. Its builder, Pio Enea Obizzi, inventor of the howitzer (Ital. obice), took part in the siege of Lepanto (1571) in which the Turks were defeated. This explains the somewhat Oriental, fortress-like architecture. The park is magnificent with a pond covered in water lilies, in the shade of massive, centuries-old trees. With their waxy leaves and their showy flowers the magnolias, in particular, catch the eye. The castello is open from April to August, Tuesday and Sunday from 3pm to 7pm. March, September, October and November: Tuesday and Sunday from 2.30 pm to 6.30 pm. Tel. 049 9100411.

www.castellodelcatajo.it

Ca' Marcello Only a few kilometres south of the Castello del Catajo, in Monselice, lies the Ca' Marcello. Ca' is the Venetians' abbreviation for Casa (house) - an understatement indeed, for this is the heavily fortified castle of Ezzelino III da Romano, a local tyrant in the 13th century. The Ca' Marcello is the only well preserved example of a lordly residence of that era in the Veneto. Remarkable, too, are the six chapels on the Via Sacra alongside the castle hill. Open from April 1st to November 30th. Guided tours daylight saving: at 9am, 10am, 11am, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm. Regular hour: 9am, 10am, 11am, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm winter. Closed on Monday. Tel. 0429 72931. www.castellodimonselice.it

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The remarkable Villa Emo (at Rivella, just near Monselice) can be viewed by appointment.

The garden is accessible on certain days:

(April and October: Thursday and Saturday 2pm to 7pm, Sunday 10am to 7pm) the ornamental garden is not far from the main road, but nevertheless remains a world of its own. "The average traveller would not dream what marvellous parks and gardens lie hidden behind commonplace castle walls on a country road", as the authoress Tryphosa Bates Batcheller once aptly remarked. Tel. 0429 781970.

Castello di San Pelagio: on the same road between Padova and Rovigo, north of the Castello del Cataio, you will find the interesting Museum of the Air (Museo dell'Aria), which assembles documents, models and aeroplanes from the time of Leonardo da Vinci to our days. You will find the exposition about Gabriele D'Annunzio highly interesting. It was here that he planned his famous flight to Vienna in 1918. The garden is also very beautiful with its 2 mazes (a third one is under construction) is a vreal attraction for children. Open: from February to November all week except for Monday, 9am to 12.30pm and 2pm to 5.30pm (winter) or 7pm (summer). Tel. 049 9125008. www.museodellaria.it

Butterfly Arc: in Montegrotto Terme a vast greenhouse is the habitat of 100 different types of butterflies from all over the world. Visitors can wander through this oasis of palmtrees, orchids, alocasias and passiflora. Nearby you will find a mythological garden inhabited by gnomes, elves, fairies, magicians, witches, kings and queens, all figures taken from ancient naturalistic legends. Open: April to September, 9.30am to 12.30pm and 2.30pm to 5.30pm. February, March and October, November 9.30am to 12.30pm and 2pm to 4pm. In February and November the Arc is open only for some days please call: 049 8910189. www.butterflyarc.it

Abbazia di Carceri, Via Camaldoli 4, Carceri. Very old and impressive abbey. The first church built here goes back to 1107. The abbey has a cloister from the 1400', beautifully decorated in Pietra d'Istria (stone from Istria). Open on Saturday and Sunday from 3,30pm to 7pm in summer and to 5pm in winter. tel. 0429 619777.

Villa Contarini: Piazzola sul Brenta (on the way to Cittadella and Bassano) antique market on the last Sunday of the month.

The magniloquent baroque appearance that the Villa Contarini displays today is, in all probability, the result of the seventeenth-century transformation of a villa designed by Andrea Palladio in the 1540s for Paolo Contarini and his brothers. Traces of Palladio's work linger on in maps and archival documents, although little is now visible of a building which was transformed in several campaigns from 1662 on. In 1676 the right wing was enlarged and remodelled, with a two-storey order of rustic columns and telamons, and a program of ostentatious sculptural decoration which invades the principal villa block too. A map of 1788 shows that by that date the porticoed hemicycle defining the great piazza already existed. The 50 hectares of parkland are entirely open to visitors.

The flowerbeds, lakes, fish ponds, lawns and garden features, woods and wetlands form a protected environment, home to many species of birds and small mammals.

Visit: the inside of the villa only guided tours: March 1st to October 31st 9.00am-7.00pm.

November 1st to February 28th 10am-4pm. Closed on Wednesday, Christmas, and New Year's day. The time tables for the guided tours change very often, it lasts 1 hour, please call: 049 5590347/238 — fax 049 9619182. www.villacontarini.com

The river Brenta Villas: Once along this waterway sailed the "burchielli", boats that carried the Venetian nobleman; nowadays all the boats that cruise along the Brenta Canal are called "burchielli". boat carrying from 70 to 135 passengers. The guided cruises usually include boat trips from Padua to Venice or viceversa (Padua, Strà, Dolo, Mira, Oriago, Malcontenta, Fusina, Venezia); and the visits to Villa Gradenigo of Oriago, to Villa Widmann or Barchessa Valmarana of Mira, to Villa Pisani of Strà, to Villa Foscari Malcontenta by Palladio. Also

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included in the programs a visit of the Ancient Mills of the 16th century, historically very important for the economy of this area. Some programs include departure or arrival in the historical centre of Padua at the new landing stage of "Porte Contarine" lock or at the old fluvial port "Portello" with its Steps of the 16th century. A daily cruise from 09.00 to 18.00 proposes: navigation, visit to three Villas, visit to the 16th century Mills in Dolo and the guide; lunch is optional and it is served in a restaurant. Special short cruises and half day public and private group programs are available. Tel: 049 8760233 Mon-Fri 9.00am-12.30pm/3.00pm-6.30pm www.battellidelbrenta.it

The Spa Abano Terme and Montegrotto Terme

Abano Terme and Montegrotto Terme were known for their curative waters in Roman days, the mineral-rich water comes subterraneously from the Alps and shoots to the surface at a temperature of 70-80 degrees.

One of the best spa hotels in Abano Terme, the Hotel Ritz Terme, via Monteortone 19, tel 048 8633444 and 049 8633100 www.ritz.it. Specialises in therapeutic (mud, galvanotherapy, lymphatic draining, massages, hot baths and more) as well as wellness and beauty treatments (sauna, steambath, solarium, facials and more).

In Montegrotto we highly recommend the Hotel Terme Bellavista, Via dei Colli 5. Tel. 049 793333 www.bellavistaterme.com. The Spa offers the following treatments: mud, ozone thermal water baths, special massages and re-education massages, hydro massage, inhalation, aerosol therapy and Physiokinesi therapy, massages: traditional (**anti-stress, draining, toning, anti-cellulite, firming, relaxing and lymphatic draining**), Oriental (**Shiatsu, Watsu, Ayurveda, Californian, hot stone, plantar reflexology and Reiki treatment**). You can also feel your energy recharging with alternative Chinese medicine: Twina-Chinese massage and your tensions disappearing under the finger pressure of a Thai masseuse. Beauty treatment programmes include facial cleansing, mud masks and massage, vitamin serums for facials, breast firming treatment, body treatments, anti-cellulite, computerized lymphatic drainage, body peeling and cooling leg wraps for varicose veins.

GOING TO VENICE

by train:

This is what I suggest: go to Montegrotto rail way station, park the car in the free parking area. You have a train every hour and the journey takes 47 minutes. Time tables: from Montegrotto: 9:16 – 10:16 – 11:16 – 13:16 – 14:16 15:16 from Venice: 15:57 – 16:57 – 17:57 – 18:57 – 19:57 - 21,24 (this train takes 1,23 hours and is more expensive) – 23:30 (this train takes 1,21 hours and is more expensive). Ticket price in 2008: € 5,10 first class, and € 3,40 second class children up to 12 € 2,55 first class and € 1,70 second class. For more informations go to www.trenitalia.it the station in Montegrotto is called Terme Eugane.

by car:

Time: 1 hour if there is no traffic. I suggest to avoid the rush hours at the toll (8/10 am and 5/8 pm) from Frassanelle to the toll is at 45 minutes.

Take the A4 in Grisignano. The only vehicle access road to Venice, the Ponte della Libertà (Liberty Bridge), is a straight road 4 km. long with two lanes in each direction. Parking areas in Venice are located in Piazzale Roma and Tronchetto.

Piazzale Roma: City Parking Garage: Piazzale Roma, Santa Croce 496, 30135 Venice. Tel 041 2727211 ticket office 041 2727307. Open 24 hours. is the first one you find on your right. Prices: € 24,00 for 24 hours period can not be divided.

Piazzale Roma: S. Andrea - small secured parking lot, uncovered - S. Croce 461, 30135 Venezia. Tel. 041.2727304. Open 7am - 12pm. This parking is behind the City Parking Garage as you reach Piazzale Roma always keep your right. The garage is small and you might have to wait in line before parking up to 30 minutes. Some time the line starts at the level of the entrance to the City Parking Garage you have to join the right queue. Prices: € 4,50 every 2 hours.

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Tronchetto: Venezia Tronchetto Parking 30125 Venezia (VE) - isola Tronchetto
tel. 041.5207555 - fax 041.5285750

Before reaching Piazzale Roma, follow the street signs and then turn right to reach Tronchetto. You can easily reach Venice from Tronchetto by taking the ACTV boat line 82 (2 from Jann. 2008) which brings you to the heart of the city. Expect to pay € 20,00 for 24 hours.

Parking before the Ponte della Libertà (Liberty Bridge) S. Giuliano Car Park: this is a parking area just before the bridge Ponte della Libertà on the right. This parking lot is made up of many independent car parks. Usually this are the economic conditions and the opening hours, but please cheque before entering the car parck: for 6 hours: € 8,00 all day: € 12,00 open from 6am to 2am , from here you have to take a bus to cross the 4 km bridge and reach Piazzale Roma. The bus ticket is € 1,00 per person and you can buy it at the exit of the car park. The bus stop is very near the car park but it depends on which car park you have choosen.

For more informations on car parks in Venice go to www.asmvenezia.it

Suggestion for guided tours in Venice

WALKINSIDEVENICE – classical and unusual tours for the discerning travelers. English, German and Spanish. Contact: e-mail: info@walkinsidevenice.com, phone/fax: + 39 041 524 1706, website: www.walkinsidevenice.com

VISITING THIS REGION WITH CHILDREN

Venetia is rich in attractive sightseeing destinations which are also fun for children. First of all of course Venice, where children can run and play without any danger of being hurt by cars. A journey in a Gondola along the canals is a magical experience which a child will remember all his life.

For the older ones the arena of Verona recalls the roman gladiators. But also medieval castles can be fun. Following castles are in the immediate vicinity:

Castello di San Martino: very close to Frassanelle, the oldest part of this small castle goes back to the year 1000. Later on the Carraresi amplified the building. The Venetians used it as a port along the river. Today the building has been transformed into a museum of the river Bacchiglione with finds going from the age of iron to the middle ages.

Getting there: turn to the right towards Padova at the traffic lights in Fossona. The first road to the left is Via San Martino, the castle is a little futher down this road. The castle and the museum are open April 1st to September 30th . Saturday 3pm to 7pm, Sunday 10am-1pm and 2pm-7pm. From October 1st Saturday 2pm-6pm, Sunday 10am-1pm and 2pm-6pm Tel. 049 9915425. Responsible Sig.ra Debora Coron 348 8746424 or 0429 647157.

www.musei.padova.it.

The Castello Catajo is situated in the immediate vicinity of Frassanelle, beside the Euganean Hills, on the main Padua-Rovigo road. Its builder, Pio Enea Obizzi, inventor of the howitzer (Ital. oblice), took part in the siege of Lepanto (1571) in which the Turks were defeated. This explains the somewhat Oriental, fortress-like architecture. The park is magnificent with a pond covered in water lilies, in the shade of massive, centuries-old trees. With their waxy leaves and their showy flowers the magnolias, in particular, catch the eye. The castello is open from April to August, Tuesday and Sunday from 3pm to 7pm. March, September, October and November: Tuesday and Sunday from 2.30 pm to 6.30 pm. Tel. 049 9100411.

www.castellodelcatajo.it.

Castello di San Pelagio: on the same road between Padova and Rovigo, north of the Castello del Catajo, you will find the interesting Museum of the Air (Museo dell'Aria), which assembles documents, models and aeroplanes from the time of Leonardo da Vinci to our

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Ca' Marcello Only a few kilometres south of the Castello del Catajo, in Monselice, lies the Ca' Marcello. Ca' is the Venetians' abbreviation for Casa (house) - an understatement indeed, for this is the heavily fortified castle of Ezzelino III da Romano, a local tyrant in the 13th century. The Ca' Marcello is the only well preserved example of a lordly residence of that era in the Veneto. Remarkable, too, are the six chapels on the Via Sacra alongside the castle hill. Open from April 1st to November 30th. Guided tours datlight saving: at 9am, 10am, 11am, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm. Regular hour: 9am, 10am, 11am, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm winter. Closed on Monday. Tel. 0429 72931. www.castellodimonselice.it

Castello di Valbona, Valbona di Lozzo Atesino. The Castle is situated along the road leading to Noventa Vicentina. It belongs to the most interesting and best preserved fortified buildings in the whole province and offers a chance to visitors to see an ancient castle in its almost original state . It seems to have its origins in the 13th Century perhaps built on the order of Ezzelino da Romano. It became the property of of count Lozzo, passed to the Comune of Padova and to the Carraresi. The structure of the castle does not seem to have served so much as a feudal residence as a significant defence structure, capable of withstanding the Vicentine raids.

In the castle you can find a restaurant, pizzeria and pub. And a children play area, Tel. 0429 97022. Closed on Monday and Tesday and all November.

Castello di San Zeno, Montagnana: The castle of S. Zeno rises in the place of an early medieval installation that was the residence of the heirs of Ugo the Great of Tuscany, who later became marquis of Este. The present building goes back for the most part to the 13th century when Ezzelino, after putting Montagnana to flames in 1242, decided to rebuild and fortify the town. The building has a rectangular plan with an ample inner courtyard. Till the early 19th century, the castle was surrounded by a ditch, and also comprised towers. Originally the drawbridge that crossed the ditch giving entrance to the city, led probably into the inner courtyard of the castle. When Padua, Verona and the other cities in Veneto were subdued by Venice and stopped their never-ending mutual struggles, Montagnana flourished thanks to its agricultural production, especially hemp. The castle of San Zeno was then turned into a deposit of hemp and even troop lodging. When the Austrians took over Veneto (Napoleon gave the area to them with the Campoformio Treaty, betraying the Venetian republic) and still later on with the kingdom of Italy and until the First World War the castle continued to be used as military lodgings.

The gardens of Villa Barbarigo, Valsanzibio: In the 1600's Antonio Barbarigo, brother of St. Gregorio, enlarged and transformed the exterior of the villa by drawing out a large water garden inspired by the antique Romans. The garden is decorated with 70 statues of which 40 are attributed to Marengo. Furthermore there are 4 ponds, 3 water follies, 16 fountains and a boxwood maze.

Getting there: from Luvigliano drive towards Torreglia and then Valsanzibio. Open from March to November, 10am to 1pm and 2pm until sunset. Tel. 049 8055614 responsible Dr. Rossi Tel. 328 6482894. www.valsanzibiogiardino.it

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Gardaland, Peschiera sul lago di Garda: Gardaland is a sort of Italian Disneyland on the shores of Lake Garda.

VISITING PALLADIO'S VILLAS

The following informations are taken from www.cisapalladio.org and www.ville.inews.it we suggest to consult them for historical details and more informations.

La Rotonda c. 1556: Vicenza, via Rotonda 29. Visit: garden: 15 March – 4 November: from Tuesday to Sunday 10-12 am or 3-6 pm. Villa: 15 March - 4 November: Wed. 10-12 am or 3-6 pm. With booking (min. 25 persons) after 4 November and in other days. Tel. +39 0444 321793 / Fax +39 049 8790879 (preferable) +39 049 8791380

Villa Saraceno c. 1543: Vicenza, Finale di Agugliaro, Via Finale 8. Visit: 1 April - 31 October Wed 2-4 pm (reservation if more of 20 persons), 1 November - 31 March only with booking. Tel./Fax +39 0444 891371

Villa Repeta c. 1557: Vicenza, Campiglia dei Berici, Via Andrea Palladio 1. Visit: only on request. Tel. +39 0444866032

Villa Pojana c. 1546: Vicenza, Pojana Maggiore (near Montagnana), via Castello 41. Visit: March end of September: Saturday and Sunday 10am-18am Tel. +39 0444 323014

Villa Thiene c. 1542: Vicenza, Quinto Vicentino - (1542) Piazza IV Novembre, 4. **Visit:** Monday to Friday 9am-1pm Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 3-7pm tel. 0444584224/0444584225/0444584211

Villa Pisani c. 1542: Vicenza, Bagnolo of Lonigo, via Risaie 1. Visit: 1 April - 4 November: only on request. Tel. +39 0444 831104 .

Villa Pisani c. 1552: Montagnana, Via Borgo Eniano 1, not open to the public, but you can see it from the outside.

Villa Piovene c. 1539: Vicenza, Lonedo di Lugo Vicentino, Via Palladio 51, **Visit** Every day 2-7pm

Villa Godi c. 1537: Vicenza, Lonedo di Lugo Vicentino, Via Palladio 44, **Visit:** June 1 to October 31: every day 3-7pm November 1 to May 31: every day 2-6pm tel. 0445 860561 / 0339 3429942

Villa Chiericati c. 1550: Vicenza, Vancimuglio di Grumolo delle Abadesse, Via Nazionale 1, **Visit:** April 1 to October 31: every day 9-12am / 3-7pm November 1 to March 31: every day 9-12am / 3-5pm tel. 0444 387076

Villa Caldogno c. 1542: Vicenza, Caldogno, Via Zanella 1, **Visit:** Presently under restoration (call 0444 905054 for further information)

Villa Badoer c. 1554: Rovigo, Fratta Polesine, Via T. Tasso 1, **Visit:** Summer: 10-12am / 2-5pm Winter: 9-12am / 3-7pm tel. 0425 668122

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Villa Contarini c. 1546: Padova, Piazzola sul Brenta, Via L. Camerini 1,

Visit: May 1 to September 30: weekdays 9-12am / 3-7pm, Sundays and holidays 3-8pm;
December 1 to February 29: 9-12am / 2-5pm; November and March: 9-12am / 2-6pm; April
and October: 9-12am / 2.30-6.30pm tel. 049 5590347/238 — fax 049 9619182

Villa Cornaro c. **1552:** Padova, Piombino Dese, Via Roma,

Visit: May 1 to September 30: Saturday 3.30-6pm tel. 049 9365017

<http://www.boglewood.com/palladio/>

Villa Barbaro c. **1554:** Maser (10 km from Asolo), **Visit:** March-October: Tuesday, Saturday,
Sunday and Italian national holidays 3-6 pm. Closed Easter day. November-February:
Saturday, Sunday and Italian national holidays 2.30-5 pm. Closed from 24th December to 6th
January. Apologizing for any inconvenience, the owners reserve themselves to close at any
time of the year. Tel. +39 0423 923004/3. www.villadimaser.it

Villa Emo c. **1558:** Treviso, Fanzolo di Vedelago, Via Stazione 5. **Visit:** May-September: Monday
to Friday, and Sunday 10.30-12.30am / 3-7pm, Saturday 3-7pm Winter: Saturday and Sunday
2-6pm tel. 0423 476334/414 fax 0423 487043

Villa Zeno c. **1554:** Treviso - Via Donegal, Donegal di Cessalto.

Visits by appointment only for groups of 10 people or over. fax 0422 752688 e-mail:

liasora@doge.it <http://www.liasora.com>

Villa Foscari or La Malcontenta **1559:** Venezia, Malcontenta di Mira, Via dei Turisti 9,

Visit: April 1 to October 31: Tuesday and Saturday 9-12am tel. 041 5203966 / 041 5470012 fax
041 2770204 www.lamalcontenta.com