



## Q.ne.S.T. DC2.5

**Publications on Capitalized best practices and routes: revised reports and informative sheets on the capitalization activities on best practices and routes.**

### Veneto (Italy)

#### QNeST International Itineraries:



#### Wine and Olive Oil Itinerary

The theme of the Mediterranean Diet, with a particular focus on oil and wine, runs through all the countries of the EUSAIR area. The landscapes, characterised by olive groves and vineyards, bear witness to the common culture of the Euro-Mediterranean area, although each region has its own cultivars and production techniques. Oil and wine have always been used not just in food, but also in the rituals of the various belief systems practised on the shores of

the Mediterranean. All the areas involved in the QNeST brand are crossed by routes linked to oil and wine.

In Puglia, the greenways involving olive groves and vineyards are characterised by centuries-old monumental olive trees and olive oil mills, extensive vineyards and wineries. Along these routes in Xanthi, the olive trees stand out in all their majesty, while the wine route bears witness to the region's historic identity. The olive route in Epirus also highlights the bond between the centuries-old olive trees and the region. In the Marche region, the "Emotions without Borders" and "Experience the Region" routes allow you to discover the wealth of local heritage. The "Cycling through the Wineries" route allows you to enjoy the wineries in the Euganean Hills in Veneto in combination with the spas in the area. The vineyards and wineries of Montenegro are a constant theme of the "Historic and Natural treasure Route". Istria hosts routes in both Croatia and Slovenia;



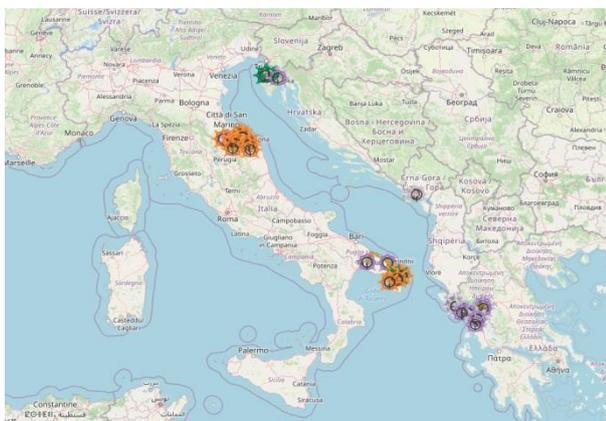
in the former on the themes of olive oil, wine and ham, a characteristic local product, and in the latter on stone, the coast and olive groves.



## Travellers, merchants and pilgrims

The Mediterranean is a sea enclosed by land, since time immemorial connecting the various cultures that have evolved along its shores. Since ancient times, this sea has been crossed by peoples, merchants, pilgrims and travellers of all kinds, carrying with them cultural baggage and experiences that have shaped its regions, traditions, languages and cultures. The QNeST Brand promotes cultural activities via specific itineraries.

The Via Francigena Greenway runs through the Salento peninsula in Puglia, offering "slow tourism" activities that allow the visitor to discover hidden treasures and ancient traditions between Brindisi and Otranto, following the routes of ancient travellers who embarked for the Orient. Closely connected to this theme is "The Way to Jerusalem" in the region of Xanthi, in Greece, while in Epirus, religious heritage routes highlight the Byzantine monasteries. In the Marches, the "Gira-Sole" project promotes cultural activities in the area of Pesaro. In Veneto, the "Literary Park of the Euganean Hills" hosts locations that have inspired poets and writers, while other routes allow the visitor to admire the splendid Venetian villas and castles along the River Brenta. In Montenegro the Virpazar and Skadar Lake National Park route includes landscapes, monuments and flavours around Skadar Lake



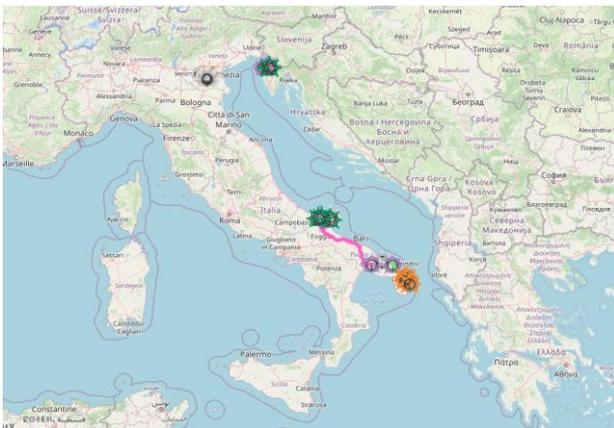
## Dry Stone

Traditional dry-stone building techniques, recognised by UNESCO as World Heritage, are another shared feature of the regions surrounding the Mediterranean Sea. The QNeST Brand promotes routes connected to this important theme: used to build boundary walls, small circular buildings of various kinds, retaining walls for



agricultural terraces and underground places of worship, the stones tell the history of the locations where they are deployed.

The Dry Stones Greenways in Puglia are based on the importance of stone and its use in boundary walls, buildings, underground oil mills, crypts and rock-cut settlements. In the region of Xanthi, "Myths and Culture" is a historical and cultural tourist route linked to the myth of Hercules. In Epirus, the Stone Route runs through the mountain villages of Pindos. In Istria, the Stone Walls route showcases the rural area of Vodnjan, where stone is a key element of the landscape. In Montenegro, the Njegusi village and Lovćen National Park route takes the visitor on a spectacular journey from Kotor, on the coast, to the mountains inland, with an opportunity to enjoy the distinctive flavours of the local food and wine of Njegusi.



## Water

Water is something that the countries of the Adriatic-Ionian area all share. In terms of nature, it includes wetlands, springs, rivers and lakes both near the coasts and inland. In terms of human activity, it plays a role in religious rites, gastronomic traditions and even health, as seen in the use of thermal spring waters since ancient times. This is reflected in the proximity of places of worship, cisterns, canals and spas, evidence of the day-to-day link between water and the

human population. Then there is the sea, which, in addition to forming a vast ecosystem and a shared asset for the various populations, over time has enabled them to communicate with each other thanks to the art of navigation.

In Puglia there are water-themed greenways in the coastal area from the archaeological park of Egnatia to the Alimini Lakes near Otranto, characterised by a mosaic of wetlands, ancient archaeological sites and spas. In the Veneto region, the Euganean Hills and Spas Area Brand combines thermal spring waters with local food and wine. In the Marche region, a route starts from the coast near Fano, before heading inland along the Furlo Gorge to the "Grotta dei folletti" in Acqualagna. Montenegro proposes a boat trip to discover the natural and cultural heritage of Lake Skadar. Lastly, Epirus proposes the "National Parks of Epirus" network, rich in natural ecosystems and beautiful landscapes.



## QNeST Local Routes:

### Euganean Hills Route

These hills of volcanic origin, south of Padua, form a natural oasis which emerges from the flat landscape of the Po Valley concealing ancient villages and artistic and historic monuments among its dense forests and breathtaking scenery. Abano and Montegrotto lie at the foot of the hills a short distance apart. These towns, renowned for the extraordinary healing properties of their mud and water since Roman times, together form one of the most famous spa resorts in the world. In Montegrotto, among other things, a visit to the main archaeological area of the Hills, with baths and channels dating back to the Roman Republican and Augustan times, is highly-recommended. From here, proceed along the slopes of the hills towards Torreglia and after Galzignano you will find the village of Valsanzibio, with its imposing villa Barbarigo, whose seventeenth-century Italian gardens are unique in their kind in Veneto. Battaglia, once an important river port (located on the channel of the same name), now home to the Museum of Navigation that collects evidence of activities related to goods transportation from the Hills to the laguna, comes after the green hills. Back in amongst the hills once more you will find the medieval town of Arquà Petrarca and the house in which poet Francesco Petrarca spent his last years. Your next stop will be Monselice, a walled city dominated by an isolated hill with a medieval fortress full of ancient furniture, weapons and artwork. Then you will arrive in Este, an ancient city which was inhabited as early as the ninth century BC. This town's castle is surrounded by Carrara marble walls a kilometer long, dotted with towers and crowned with battlements. The route continues through Cinto Euganeo and Teolo. After these two towns and you will take the road to the left, marked by age-old trees, and reach the abbey of Praglia, founded in the eleventh century, with its fifteenth-century church of the "Assunta", Italian for Our Lady of the Assumption, monastery, cloisters and monumental refectory. The abbey boasts a rich library of over 50,000 volumes. Here the monks dedicate themselves to the restoration of paper and books and herbalism.

### Navigation Itinerary Along The Veneto Region's Waterways

Boat navigation, on traditional wooden boats, from Padua to Monselice (and vice versa), the ancient road that runs along the Natural Park of the Euganean Hills. An ancient route between the Venetian Villas and Castles loved by Francesco Petrarca, who was attracted by the beauties of the places, loved to compose his rhymes, while sailing the Naviglio of the Euganean Riviera to reach his vineyard of Arquà; pleasant recess between the Euganean Hills , in delicious and healthy posture.



## Relax And Wellness, Thermal Baths And Cycling

Thermae Abano Montegrotto are the biggest thermal centre in Europe with a hundred hotels equipped with thermal spa, but it is also a centre of excellence for thermal mud treatments. Thermal mud is a unique resource containing special components as monogalactosyldiacylglycerol (MGDG), that cures cartilage inflammation. Scientific research has proved that MGDG is more effective than no steroidal drugs like indomethacin, and it does not have its side effects. The uniqueness and the properties of thermal mud components, a gift made by Mother Nature to our land, are protected by European patent n°0001355006. But the Euganean Hills are also the first Electrical mobility natural park in the Veneto Region. Stunning natural landscapes, Venetian Villas, historical towns, wine yards, oil mills, art crafts and thermal baths: everything on an E-Bike.

## Wine Route Of Colli Euganei

Nearby the route passes through Valsanzibio di Galzignano, with the 17th century Villa Barbarigo with its beautiful Italian garden with fountains, statues and geometric landscaping. The steel stoned streets of Arquà Petrarca guide us through typical stone houses and the square with its gothic buildings. When we leave the village, where Petrarca, the great poet from Arezzo lived, we reach Este, a pre-roman town with the historic centre bound by walls and dominated by the castle. The itinerary then leads us to Vo' Euganeo with its fascinating historic residences, Villa Contarini Venier and Villa Sceriman. The road then continues to Praglia, with the majestic Benedictine abbey, where Fogazzaro set some of the events in his Little Modern World. Finally we reach Selvazzano with the noble Villa Emo Capodilista, which was added to the medieval castle in 1500, which then occupied the Montecchia plateau.



**QNeST**  
**Brand Member:**

**Società agricola Scarpon**

**Activity:** Farming

*The Scarpon Farm was born about thirty years ago with the aim of cultivating cereals and producing grapes. Over the years, Mrs. Franca's passion for preserves has given the input for a new way of experiencing agriculture. Today the Callegaro family mainly deals with the production and processing of various agricultural products. We intend to dedicate our experience and our passion to those who want to rediscover the flavors, aromas and colors of the ancient Paduan tradition.*

**Main Driver:** Mediterranean diet

**Town:** Arquà Petrarca- **Municipality:** Padova - **Country:** Italy

**Full Address:** Via Fonteghe, 27, 35032 Arquà Petrarca PD

**Latitude:** 45.2621259 - **Longitude:** 11.7131305

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**L'Enoteca di Arquà**

**Activity:** Restaurants

*In the heart of the village of Arquà Petrarca, immersed in the relaxing landscape of the Euganean Hills, easily accessible from the upper part of the town and just 50 meters from Petrarca's house is the Arquà wine shop. Thanks to the professional and friendly staff, you will immediately feel welcomed by a well-kept environment and service, where you can not only taste the best local and regional wines but also eat and buy local and traditional Venetian products.*

**Main Driver:** Mediterranean diet

**Town:** Arquà Petrarca- **Municipality:** Padova - **Country:** Italy

**Full Address:** Via Castello, 9, 35032 Arquà Petrarca PD

**Latitude:** 45.269625 - **Longitude:** 11.7168361



## Museo Civico della Navigazione Fluviale

**Activity:** Other

*Testimony of this centuries-old industrial vocation is the Civic Museum of River Navigation. Located on the edge of the Ortazzo Riviera, it is unique in its genre as it collects stories, materials and memories of real life through which you can rediscover traditions, practices and activities of a recent past that must not be forgotten.*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & traditional heritage

**Town:** Battaglia Terme- **Municipality:** Padova - **Country:** Italy

**Full Address:** Via Ortazzo, 63 - 35041 - Battaglia Terme (PD)

**Latitude:** 45.2872352 - **Longitude:** 11.78799

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## Hotel Mioni Royal San

**Activity:** Accommodation services

*The new experience of wellness on Montegrotto Terme Innovation, experience, care for the whole as well as for every last detail. A spa vacation at the Mioni Hotel is this and much more: it is an alternative, a new possibility for living moments of true pleasure and relaxation, an occasion for restoring the body and regenerating the spirit.*

**Main Driver:** Accessibility and social well-being tourism services

**Town:** Montegrotto Terme- **Municipality:** Padova - **Country:** Italy

**Full Address:** Piazzale Stazione 10 35036 Montegrotto Terme (PD) - Italy

**Latitude:** 45.3263889 - **Longitude:** 11.7952778

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## Viaggiare curiosi

**Activity:** Tour operator

*Viaggiare curiosi is a tourism agency specialized in sustainable tourism based in Veneto Region, 15 km from Padua and 50 km from Venice. We organize bike, trekking, boat and wine tours mainly in the inland of Venice. We propose half day to one week tours by bike, by boat or by feet,*



*guided tours or self guided, all outdoor activities in order to give you the opportunity to meet old boatmen, craftsmen and local farmers.*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & traditional heritage

**Town:** Montegrotto Terme- **Municipality:** Padova - **Country:** Italy

**Full Address:** Via Aureliana, 50, 35036 Montegrotto Terme PD

**Latitude:** 45.3312815 - **Longitude:** 11.7911667

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## QNeST

### Points of Interest:

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## Abbazia di Praglia

*The Abbey of Praglia at Teolo lies at the foot of the Euganean Hills, 4 km from Abano Terme, along the ancient road taking to Este. The monastery foundation dates back to the 11th – 12th century. The first Abbot of Praglia, Iselberto dei Tadi, who had become a monk in the monastery of S. Benedetto Polirone in Mantua, is mentioned in an important Papal Bull by Calixtus II in 1123, with which the Pope placed the newly founded abbey under his protection. Until 1304 Praglia was strongly subject to the powerful abbey of Polirone, founded by the Canossa Earls in 1007 and then entered into the sphere of influence of the Cluny abbey. By the beginning of the Fourteenth century the community of Praglia had firmly rooted and strengthened in Padua, and it began a new course as an autonomous Abbey, led by its own Abbot. After the serious material and spiritual damage caused by the imposition of the Commendatory Abbot, the Fifteenth century begins under good auspices for the future of Italian monasticism; the Abbey of St. Justine in Padua started a far-reaching Benedictine monastic reform that spread in the whole peninsula, even reaching Sicily.*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.364587- **Longitude:** 11.735072

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## Villa Vescovi

*The splendid Villa dei Vescovi is set in the hamlet of Luvigliano, municipality of Torreglia, and is one of the most charming and elegant villas of the Renaissance around Paduan territory. The*



*edifice is situated on a hillock, surrounded by a natural amphitheater formed by the mounts Pendice, Pirio and Rina, on one side, and stretching out towards the plain of Torreglia and Abano on the other side. In ancient times this knoll was called Livianum and deemed to be the place chosen by the Roman historian Livy as his country residence. For this further literary suggestion, the hill, owned by the bishops of Padua since the eleventh century, was designed to accommodate a manorial house: the document certifying this first building dates back to 1474.*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.343076- **Longitude:** 11.710904

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## Lake of Laghizzolo

*Since ancient times, Padua was known as "the city of waters"; the construction of artificial canals has made the Euganean area a focal point of commercial traffic in past centuries, while today the waterways and the numerous lakes represent important sites of naturalistic interest.*

**Main Driver:** Sustainable Environment

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.315119- **Longitude:** 11.673293

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## Villa Contarini

*Villa Contarini called Palazzo del Principe, located on the Cero hill overlooking Este, was built as a summer residence by the Contarini family in the sixteenth century, perhaps based on a design by the great architect Vincenzo Scamozzi (1552-1616). The appellative "of the Prince" is linked to a historical fact: the election of Alvise Contarini as a Doge, which took place in 1676 while the patrician was in the Atestine residence. As it appears from the outside, the building has gone through two construction phases: the oldest part is the one facing south, while the north part was built later and remodeled several times over the centuries. The villa is located in the center of a large trachyte paved courtyard and looks like a quadrangular block with gabled façades preceded by stairways: the slightly protruding plinth, the portals and the windows are decorated with ashlar ashlars. The layout is almost unique in western Veneto: a square with an inscribed Greek cross, to which a rectangular body is leaned on the northern side, shallow but protruding from the square behind. Inside, the central hall has a Greek cross plan whose arms end in four doors that open to the outside and is barrel-vaulted. The walls are finely decorated with frescoes. Rustics and a chapel complete the complex.*



**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.299524- **Longitude:** 11.660852

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## Cinto Euganeo

*The Municipality of Cinto Euganeo is located west of the Euganean area, between the slopes of Monte Venda and Val Calaona, lapped by the Adige river until 589 BC. The origin of the name is very ancient, in addition to local legends that refer to Greek and Roman myths, the toponym should derive from its location, or "Quintus" located at the Fifth mile of the Roman track that connected Este to Vo 'and Teolo. Only after 1400 the territory will be identified as Cinto, while the nickname "Euganeo" was added in 1867, by decree of the King of Italy.*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.276547- **Longitude:** 11.661644

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## Arqua' Petrarca

*Time seems to stand still here, keeping all the magic of the Middle Ages intact. Indeed, at Arquà Petrarca one can admire buildings that were already there at the dawn of the year 1000. Chosen as home by Petrarch (the house, recently restored, holds an exhibition dedicated to the poet) who counted on the patronage of the Carraresi, Arquà developed at the foot of the Castello and Ventolone mountains. The part of the city at the foot of Mt. Castello offers two religious sites: the Oratorio della S.S. Trinità and the Chiesa di S. Maria Assunta, the church yard holding the tomb of the great poet. Arquà owes its great fortune to the presence of Petrarch and the magnificence of the Carraresi: the city was elevated to a Vicarship and became the point of reference for the aristocracy of Padua and Venice.*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.269199- **Longitude:** 11.719418



## Galzignano Terme

*The Municipality of Galzignano Terme includes large wooded areas and is made up of typically rural housing units. Its territory extends into the valleys enclosed between Mount Rua and Mount Gallo, where the vegetation is particularly luxuriant and the orderly agricultural crops blend harmoniously into a nature that still appears uncontaminated. Like the nearby towns of Abano and Montegrotto Terme, Galzignano is also renowned for the presence of luxurious hotels in its territory, which offer the most modern spa treatments and the possibility of practicing all kinds of sports and outdoor excursions.*

**Main Driver:** Accessibility and Social Well-being

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.292763- **Longitude:** 11.728946

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## Battaglia Terme

*Bordered to north and south by two sumptuous princely residences, lying gently between the Hills to the west and meandering canals leading to the sea to the east, Battaglia Terme is a surprising town, totally different from the other towns in the Padua area. The town stretches along the banks of a wide river, with a footbridge reminiscent of Venice, and houses the only River Navigation Museum in the whole of Italy, as well as being the home to some important hydraulic creations including the Arco di Mezzo (middle arch) and the Conca di Navigazione (lock). Even the toponymy of Battaglia, once known as Baptalea, is tied to the water and could have originally meant “the place of the baths”. Right from the 11th century in fact, the natural spa grotto at S. Elena Hill and the relative bath have characterised and identified this place. From the 13th century on, this toponymy has been mixed with the root of the verb “battere” (to beat), linked to the incessant, rhythmic sound made by the rollers in the Battaglia paper mill, which no longer exists but which was very famous in centuries gone by.*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.289861- **Longitude:** 11.784068



## Museum of Holocaust and Landscape at Vo' Vecchio

*Currently, the inner rooms of Villa Contarini Giovanelli Venier contain an interesting museal path: the main floor (piano nobile) houses the Museum of the Landscape with an ample display of copies of ancient maps of the area, the second floor is devoted to the fitting out of temporary exhibitions, while the ground floor has become Place of Holocaust Remembrance, with the remains of the kitchens used by inmates and panels that describe the tragedy they experienced.*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.329011- **Longitude:** 11.620123

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## The House of Butterflies at Montegrotto Terme

*The House of Butterflies at Montegrotto Terme features wonderful exotic gardens where more than 400 among the most beautiful butterflies in the world mate, feed and breed. The tropical butterflies live in three different gardens: the Amazonian (or neo-tropical) garden, the African tropical garden, and the Indo-Australian garden. Here visitors can observe the whole growing process of butterflies: from egg to caterpillar, and from chrysalis to butterfly. It is also possible to look closely at the differences between day-living and nocturnal butterflies, also called moths. Visitors can experience some of the most remarkable examples of aposematic and earth-like mimicry, and see the tricks butterflies use to survive predators, attacks such as Batesian, Mullerian and cryptic mimicry. The direct observation this multicoloured place allows represents a great opportunity to watch butterflies' behaviour and also for ethological studies.*

**Main Driver:** Sustainable Environment

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.3314584- **Longitude:** 11.7921136

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## The Natural Park of the Euganean Hills

*The Regional Park of Euganean Hills founded in 1989 covers an area of around 19 thousand square hectares of hills of volcanic origin. Forests of age-old oak and chestnut alternate with Mediterranean maquis and wide terraced slopes with fruit trees and grapevines. Ancient hamlets, hermitages, and the refined architecture of the sumptuous Veneto villas narrate centuries of history, art and tradition. The Euganean Hills Park can be variously enjoyed by bicycle, mountain*



*bike, on foot, or by car along the numerous panoramic routes and the over 20 clearly-indicated and regularly-serviced trails up, down and around the slopes that make up the exploratory network. The activities within the Park include hiking, horseback riding and rock climbing.*

**Main Driver:** Sustainable Environment

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.226734- **Longitude:** 11.663864

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## Sanctuary of the Seven Churches

*The Sanctuary of the Seven Churches at Monselice. The most prominent religious monumental complex in Monselice is set on the slopes of the Colle della Rocca. It is the Jubilee Shrine of the Seven Churches, consisting of six chapels that follow one another along the road that ascends to the square in front of Villa Duodo, where the church of San Giorgio is located.*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.2236- **Longitude:** 11.7919

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## Church of Saint Sabino

*Church of Saint Sabino at Torreglia. Representing the symbol and center of gravity of the core of Torreglia Alta, the upper town, the church of Saint Sabino is the ancient parish church mentioned for the first time in medieval documents dating back to 1077. It stands in an elevated position between two valleys, Valderio and Vallorto, on the small Colle della Mira, which offers a wide stunning view of the plains and surrounding hills. The building is accessed via a double staircase which leads to the small church square on whose right side we may observe the high and mighty bell tower, which seems to have arisen from the remains of an ancient fort. Likely the toponym turricula originates from this tower, which gave rise to the name of the country. Today no trace of the castle has remained; however in the Middle Ages the hill called “della Mira” certainly referred to a fortified garrison with purpose of sighting function. It appears that in the thirteenth century the church of S. Sabino was dependent on the parish of Luvigliano. Once it became parish, in the following centuries, it underwent alternate moments that led to the deterioration of part of its buildings. In the seventeenth century it was rebuilt and later restored in 1765 assuming its present form, thanks to the financial support bestowed by the distinguished literary man Jacopo Facciolati.*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage



**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.3278604- **Longitude:** 11.7181621

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## Hermitage of Monte Rua at Torreglia

*Hermitage of Monte Rua at Torreglia: a typical Camaldolese Hermitage founded in 1530 on Mount Rua, it consists in a small church surrounded by 14 cells designed as small houses. Every cell contains a small bedroom for rest, a private room for study, a chapel with an altar, a bathroom, and a woodshed. Outside, every cell is provided with a small, wall-fenced vegetable garden. Still nowadays it is inhabited by the Camaldolese Friars, who live a cloistered life. A walk around its walls is very charming. You can also spend some days here, since the monks accept those who wish to stop here and admire the peacefulness of the place. Moreover here you can buy some typical and exclusive products, which the monks make with the care and the skill handed down the centuries. Access to the Hermitage is allowed to single people only, and women are not allowed.*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.321387- **Longitude:** 11.7150824

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## Olivetan Monastery at Galzignano Terme

*Olivetan Monastery at Galzignano Terme. A will written in 1197 mentions a donation to the monks of Venda and documents the existence of a religious community near the summit of the highest hill. The first monk to retreat to this place was Adamo di Torreglia who lived in a cave on the summit until 1160. In 1209, Stefano, a former prior of St Justina, and Brother Alberico built two small churches dedicated to St Michael the Archangel and St John the Baptist, and from 1229 on, the small hermitage became a true monastery following the Rule of St Benedict. Bequests made by the aristocratic family of Maltraversi di Castelnuovo and, later, the Da Carrara family, increased its importance and a more imposing church dedicated to St John the Baptist was built on the site of the first two churches. In 1380, the site was given to the Olivetan Congregation, an aristocratic order of expert painters and wood carvers. The church, with a single rectangular nave and imposing bell tower, boasted an altar, a carved wooden choir, a presbytery with carved trachyte lesenes and a crypt dedicated to the Madonna under the main altar. The monastery with its imposing, austere layout featured corridors, cells, storerooms, a cloister and vegetable gardens. After a long period of calm that lasted until 1771, the Republic of Venice dissolved the monastery, moved the monks away and auctioned the site and its lands, which were bought by the Erizzo family. The once-grand monastery became a shelter for shepherds and inevitably fell to ruin.*



**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.3288991- **Longitude:** 11.6417347

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## The path of the Prince

*On foot from Este to Calaone: from October the Path of the Prince is available to citizens and tourists for pleasant and interesting excursions in full safety, thanks to the maintenance activity managed by the Legambiente circle of Este, in agreement with the Euganean Hills Park .*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.2375911- **Longitude:** 11.6579859

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## Villa Vigna Contarena

*Villa Vigna Contarena: back in the 16th century, the Contarini family owned various properties standing in an isolated position near to the centre of Este. According to a proclamation dated 1518, Anzolo Contarini, son of Francesco, owned a house with courtyard, orchard and surrounding land. The name of “ Vigna Contarena” probably comes from the use of the building, which was an autumn residence for the family, or, perhaps, originally to the extensive vineyards it possessed. In fact this villa was part of an extensive complex, with outhouses for the servants, stables and carriage store. The current appearance of the building, which was divided up over the centuries, seems to be the outcome of work that was carried out between 1600 and 1700. However the rich frescoes in the hall and rooms on the first storey with lots of mythological scenes were definitely painted between 1690 and 1720 by some unknown Venetian artists. In fact, no extensive research has been made into the history of the villa so far, and its link to the specific period can only be based on the architectural style. Despite its small size, the old master building has a predominating piano nobile, with a loggia encased with precious columns in Nanto stone placed against the central frescoed bay. The loggia stands on a high base in line with the ground floor, flanked by a stairway with two elbow shaped flights of steps; on the small terrace with balustrade at the top there is a garret with triangular gable and volutes at the sides. Perhaps the secret garden on the northwest side of the villa dates back to the 17-18th century, bordered by a mixed profile boundary wall broken up by recesses.*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy



**Latitude:** 45.332- **Longitude:** 11.4892

## Palazzo del Principe

*The Palazzo del Principe is a villa located on the hill overlooking Este and built by the Contarini family, perhaps based on a design by the great architect Vincenzo Scamozzi. The appellation "of the Prince" is linked to a historical fact: the election of Alvise Contarini as doge, which took place while the patrician was in the Atestine residence. Remodeled in the following centuries, the villa is located in the center of a large trachyte paved courtyard, inside the central hall has a Greek cross plan and is barrel vaulted. Rustics and a chapel complete the complex. The property is privately owned.*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.2375911- **Longitude:** 11.6579859

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## Euganean Hills Literary Park

*The Euganean Hills have seen the passage, over the millennia, of important writers who have drawn inspiration from these places for their novels, poems, stories. The idea of enhancing the traditional commercial activities of these areas, through the interpretation of culture, thus becomes a way of producing and integrating an important tourist industry, the cultural one, to the already present landscape and natural one. The Francesco Petrarca and Euganean Hills Literary Park was established in 2012 by Assoturismo Confesercenti Padova, thanks to the contribution of the Padua Chamber of Commerce. The first step of the Literary Park was to identify some literary places through the installation of literary plaques.*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.3023555- **Longitude:** 11.805076

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## Eremo of San Luca

*On the slopes of Monte Rua between the Euganean Hills in Torreglia Alta, in the diocese and province of Padua, and a few steps from Villa Immacolata - Center of diocesan spirituality - and from the Camaldolese Hermitage located on the top of the mountain, the ancient church is preserved parish church of S. Sabino. The adjoining canonical house, radically restored and furnished, was desired and deemed suitable by Archbishop Antonio Mattiazzo as a place of*



*spiritual hermitage, a biblical prayer "on the sidelines", in a "desert" inhabited by God. The hermitage is dedicated to St. Luke, the evangelist who in the Gospel and in the Acts of the Apostles strongly emphasizes the value of prayer. A new hermitage in perfect harmony with the contemplative life of the Benedictine monastery of S. Giustina in Padua, where according to tradition, the relics of the evangelist and doctor would have been brought with those of St. Matthias and the icon called Constantinopolitan.*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.3278604- **Longitude:** 11.7181622

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## Villa Selvatico Sartori

*On the top of the historic hill of Sant 'Elena, also known as "Colle della Stufa" or "mount of the stupa" for the presence of an ancient sweat cave (the cave of Sant'Elena, frequented since the early Middle Ages to treat diseases and relieve joint pain thanks to the heat and properties of the thermal waters that flowed spontaneously; illustrious characters were also used, including the poet Francesco Petrarca, the duke Francesco III of Modena, the philosopher Michel de Montaigne, the French writer Stendhal and the German poet Hainrich Heine), on the southern outskirts of Battaglia Terme rises expertly restored and framed by splendid secular plants, the white and majestic Villa Selvatico, whose origins date back to 1593, when the noble Selvatico family (former owners of the hill and surrounding land) decided to build in a panoramic and dominant position a sumptuous palace with an adjoining chapel dedicated to Sant'E lena. The monumental complex of the Villa, finished in 1647 probably by Lorenzo Bedogni (his decoration of the dome with the Rosa dei Venti), represents a unique stylistic example that anticipates the canons of the Venetian Baroque, with original medieval and oriental architectural fusions.*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.2375911- **Longitude:** 11.6579861

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## Castello del Catajo

*The Catajo Castle was built between 1570 and 1573, at the foot of Montenuovo, at the behest of the leader of the Republic of Venice Pius Aeneas I degli Obizzi, belonging to a family originally from Burgundy, and based on the project of the architect Andrea da Valle. The building, designed as a private residence by the mother of Pius Aeneas, following the enlargement commissioned by her leader son assumed the imposing appearance of a fortress. During the nineteenth century, the*



castle was inherited prior by the Este family, Dukes of Modena, then by the Habsburgs family, who moved to Vienna the very precious collections of weapons and archaeological finds, and finally became the property of the Dalla Francesca family in 1928. The building is majestic, with a long boulevard that leads to the Giants Courtyard. This space was used by the Obizzi family for theatre performances, tournaments and naval battles (re-enactments of naval battles), since the lower part of the yard could be filled with water. Among the various fountains of the villa the Elephant fountain is the most spectacular, located inside a cave carved into the rock embellished by the sculpture of the animal, an emblematic work with the exotic tastes of the former owners. A stairway, built in a way that can be climbed even on horseback, allows access to the piano nobile and boardrooms, where you can see the Obizzi family tree, painted on a wall. The castle consists of 350 rooms, some of which are home to frescoes by Giambattista Zelotti, a Venetian painter of the sixteenth century and a pupil of Paolo Veronese, in which are celebrated the events of the best-known members of the family, leaders in the service of various Italian states, from Lucca the Papal State, the Serenissima. From the large terrace, the visitor can admire the Southern extensive gardens, set up in the 17th century by Pius Aeneas II, characterized by two magnolia trees dating back to the eighteenth century and an American giant sequoia, as well as fish ponds, pergolas and boxwood mazes. The curious name "Catajo" pertains not to Cathay told by Marco Polo like some have imaginatively speculated in the past, but probably derives from a mispronunciation of the name Ca' del Taglio (taio in Venetian dialect), which indicated a rock excavation aimed at the water outflow.

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.2975047- **Longitude:** 11.7861359

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## Castello San Pelagio

The San Pelagio Castle is also called Villa Zaborra after the Earls of Zaborra who have owned it since the 1700s. The central unit consists of a 14th century medieval tower with its battlements intact. This splendid national monument is bordered by a well articulated park with a main garden, a secret garden, century-old hornbeams, an orchard, a fish pond and an ice-house. Its collection of very old English roses is famous, as is the thermal bath from the late Roman period that was recovered during the park renovation. As of 1980 it is used as a museum of the air and of space (Museo dell'Aria e dello Spazio) in homage to Gabriele d'Annunzio, who parted from there with his Venetian Air Squadron to launch flyers over Vienna asking them to surrender. Inside the museum exhibits over 300 models of airplanes, airships, hot-air balloons, period uniforms, mannequins and engines that cover the history of flight from mythology to current day. Ample space is dedicated to the conquest of space, where one can admire the Vela Solare, an experimental spaceship made by engineers of the University of Padua, and images of the space probe Giotto. The San Pelagio



*Castle, unique in Europe for its aeronautic collection, is an extraordinary place to spend a serene, relaxing day, and enjoy a picnic on its comfortable tables in the park.*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.3197857- **Longitude:** 11.8174201

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## Villa Barbarigo

*The Monumental complex of Villa Barbarigo Pizzoni Ardemani at Valsanzibio was brought to its contemporary magnificence in the second half of the Seventeenth century by the Venetian noble GiovanFrancesco Berbarigo assisted by his sons Antonio and Gregorio. Actually, it was this last son, the first-born Gregorio, Cardinal, Bishop of Padua and future Saint, that inspired the symbolic meaning of the plan drawn by Luigi Bernini, top Vatican architect and fountain expert. In fact, the then Cardinal Gregorio Barbarigo, in consequence of a solemn ‘vow’ made by his Father to our God in 1631 (see bottom note 1), desired that the garden of Valsanzibio had to be a monumental symbolic road trip to perfection; a journey that brings man from the false to the truth, from ignorance to Revelation. The ‘Diane Pavilion’ or ‘Diane’s Doorway’ was not only the main entrance by water to the estate of the Barbarigo in the 17th and 18th century, but, this majestic and impressive doorway, represented, as it does still today, the beginning of the salvation’s itinerary, wanted by Saint Gregorio Barbarigo, that ends in front of the Villa, in the square of the Mushroom Fountain, the Ecstasy’s Fountain or, indeed, the Fountain of the Revelations.*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.2903243- **Longitude:** 11.7316593

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## Battaglia Canal

*The Bacchiglione, channeled north into the historic center of the city of Padua, takes the name of Tronco Maestro and Piovego. To the south, in the Bassanello area, two branches have been built: the Battaglia Canal, dating back to the Middle Ages, and the Canale Scaricatore, excavated in 1863 to finally put an end to the disastrous floods that periodically damaged the city. The various branches of the river furrow the low Paduan plain from west to east, flowing into the Brenta Canal and then flowing into the Adriatic Sea at the Brondolo di Chioggia locality.*

**Main Driver:** Sustainable Environment



**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.289861- **Longitude:** 11.784068

## Villa Emo di Rivella

*The sixteenth century Villa Emo, attributed to Vincenzo Scamozzi, stands at the foot of the Euganean Hills not far from Monselice. Its garden, although a recent creation, is still classically Italian in conception, uniting typically Italian Renaissance elements such as the hornbeam pergola, the orchard and fish ponds while including an exceptional variety and number of flowers.*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.2722039- **Longitude:** 11.7734991

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## Walled city of Monselice

*First the Romans, then the Longobards, the Franks of Charlemagne, the Estensis, the Svevis and finally the Republic of Venice: given its strategic position for the defence of Padua, Monselice has gleaned the styles and cultures of the civilizations of various ages. The signs of such presence can still be found in the medieval Castle, for example, its library offering the Longobard Antiquarium. Not far from the Cathedral a roadway opens up leading to the Santuario Giubilare delle Sette Chiesette (Exalted Sanctuary of the Seven Churches), an entranceway to Villa Duodo. Those who appreciate a scenic view should not miss the trail leading to Monte Ricco. In 602 the Byzantine castrum called Mons Silicis was conquered by the Lombard king Agilulfo, as Paolo Diacono tells in his Historia Longobardorum, the first written source on this settlement. Already a neo-eneolithic settlement (4th-3rd millennium B.C.), the traces of Monselice go back also to the Bronze Age (2nd millennium B.C.) and to the Roman Empire; under the Lombards and the Franks, Monselice was an important military stronghold and the administrative centre of a vast territory comprised between the Adige river and the Euganean Hills. Towards the middle of the 12th century it was a Commune with its own government; in 1237 it welcomed tyrant Ezzelino III da Romano, the representative of Emperor Frederic II of Swabia in the Veneto, who ordered major fortification works and made Monselice the location of violent military campaigns against Padua, Este, and the castles of the neighbouring lands. Conquered in 1338 by the da Carrara, the lords of Padua, after a whole year-long and exhausting siege, in 1405 it was annexed to the territories of the Serenissima Republic. The long and prosperous period under the Venetian rule marked the slow decline of its military bend and the flourishing of agricultural, industrial (quarrying, spinning) and trading activities, which benefited from nearby waterways for transportation. The quarrying of stone from the Colle della*



*Rocca and from Monte Ricco marked the industrial development of the town, which reached its climax in the 1700s when a big load of trachyte left Monselice to be used to pave St. Mark's Square in Venice (1722).*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.2417684- **Longitude:** 11.7508534

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## Borgo fluviale di Marendole

*The settlement where Villa Buzzaccarini stands is thousands of years old, but the Villa as we see it now dates back to the mid-1500s. The frescoes now brought back to life in its hall and in the rooms, were made it is thought about a century later, just to host a wedding. This place has more than 400 years of history*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.2274302- **Longitude:** 11.7258796

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## Castello Carrarese

*The Carrara Castle is one of the most important historical, architectural, artistic and military heritages of Padua. This antique building is on the same site that once held a castle constructed by Ezzelino III da Romano, tyrant of the city from 1237 to 1256, as a defensive pivot of the 13th century walls. The most evident trace of the old castle is the Torlonga, the larger of its two towers. After the fall of the tyrant the fortifications were abandoned until the da Carrara family came to rule the town, had the Castle reconstructed, and the two towers painted in white and red checks, as Giusto de' Menabuoi depicted them in 1382 in his fresco of the city painted in the chapel of the Blessed Luca Belludi in St. Anthony's Basilica. The entire castle was decorated, inside and out, as emerged during the restoration works of the last 10 years. There are still visible traces of vivid red and white in the remotest corners of the Observatory (the Specola) that was later built on that castle. The castle was connected to the Carrara Royal Palace by an overpass that linked the political and the military centres of power. With the construction of the Renaissance city walls e after a long period of peace under the rule of the Republic of Venice, there was less need for the Old Castle of Padua, as people used to call it in the 18th century. The Republic of Venice contemplated the construction of a New Castle on the east side of the walls, but there remain only a few bastions of this project.*



**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.332- **Longitude:** 11.4892

## Villa Draghi

*Villa Draghi stands isolated on the slopes of Mount Alto, on top of a hillock to the west of the town of Montegrotto Terme. The structure as it appears today, is an elegant building constructed between 1848 and 1850 by Pietro Scapin. In the seventeenth century, the holiday house of the Venetian Alvise Lucadello (a wealthy accountant in the service of the Venetian government) was located in the place of the Villa itself. Later, the ownership was transferred to the family Donati, and then the seventeenth-century property was purchased by Scapin, who found the building in a severe decay and determined to demolish and rebuild it. The new edifice is largely well-preserved and, it hasn't been called by the name of its owner for over hundred years, being known as Villa Draghi, with reference to the family who owned it from 1874 to 1965. In 1972, the whole property was acquired by the municipality of Abano Terme that recently has carried out the restoration of the building.*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & Traditional Heritage

**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.3290499- **Longitude:** 11.7714717

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## Abano Montegrotto the first european destination for prevention health

*In the thermal resorts annexed to every Hotel Spa in Abano Montegrotto, Thermal Medicine is adopted – through the application of thermal mud and thermal water – for the treatment and prevention of a wide range of disorders, including arthrosis, osteoporosis, rheumatism, primary inflammatory processes, rehabilitation following bone fracture, traumatic lesions or orthopaedic surgery. The healing properties of thermal water are applied in various respiratory disorders. All these thermal cures are performed under the supervision and responsibility of specialist physicians and highly qualified personnel. Abano Montegrotto are the only spas with a European patent pending on the ripening process of thermal mud.*

**Main Driver:** Accessibility and Social Well-being



**Country:** Italy

**Latitude:** 45.3603142- **Longitude:** 11.7897833

## QNeST

### Traditional Events:

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#### Palio di Monselice

**Months of Event:** September

*From 1 to 15 September, every weekend, Monselice commemorates the passage of Emperor Frederick II of Swabia in 1239 with events and shows. The nine districts, after a whole year of preparations, compete in spectacular and exciting races to conquer victory and the coveted prize.*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & traditional heritage

**Town:** Monselice- **Municipality:** Monselice

**Latitude:** 45.2274302- **Longitude:** 11.7258796

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#### Festa di San Valentino

**Months of Event:** February

*Historic procession to the relics of San Valentino in the oratory of San Giorgio with delivery of golden keys*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & traditional heritage

**Town:** Monselice- **Municipality:** Monselice

**Latitude:** 45.2274302- **Longitude:** 11.7258797

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#### Este in fiore

**Months of Event:** April



*Flower nursery festival with villa openings and guided tours*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & traditional heritage

**Town:** Este- **Municipality:** Este

**Latitude:** 45.2375911- **Longitude:** 11.6579859

## FESTA DELLA GIUGGIOLA

**Months of Event:** October

*The "Jujube Festival" is a well-known event on the Euganean Hills and throughout the province of Padua; in recent years the fame of Arquà Petrarca and his festival has also exceeded regional borders. The most attractive aspect of this party is undoubtedly the food and wine: on holidays it is possible to taste the numerous jujube-based products and learn about the most unusual and delicious combinations that can be experienced in the kitchen. The most sought after product by tourists arriving in Arquà Petrarca is undoubtedly the renowned "jujube broth", whose artisan recipe is exclusive to the small village. Walking through the enchanting medieval streets, you can find jujube plants everywhere; even in the pretty garden of the house inhabited by Francesco Petrarca at the end of the 14th century there are some trees and who knows, perhaps even the Supreme Poet delighted with the fruits and the delicious liqueur during the last peaceful years of his life spent in Arquà. The typical food shops and restaurants in the area offer the opportunity to taste and buy the "jujube broth" produced in Arquà Petrarca at all times of the year; in any season you visit the location it is therefore possible to taste and buy this unmissable delicacy.*

**Main Driver:** Mediterranean diet

**Town:** Arqua' Petrarca- **Municipality:** Arqua' Petrarca

**Latitude:** 45.269199- **Longitude:** 11.719418

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## FESTA SANTISSIMA TRINITA'

**Months of Event:** June

*procession with confraternities along the streets of the town*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & traditional heritage

**Town:** Arquà Petrarca- **Municipality:** Arquà Petrarca



**Latitude:** 45.269199- **Longitude:** 11.719418

## Festa dell'olio

**Months of Event:** November

*sale of typical and artisan products to celebrate this moment of oil production*

**Main Driver:** Mediterranean diet

**Town:** Arquà Petrarca- **Municipality:** Arquà Petrarca

**Latitude:** 45.269199- **Longitude:** 11.719418

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## Bertha che filava

**Months of Event:** September

*Historical parade and collateral activities to remember the legend of Bertha*

**Main Driver:** Cultural & traditional heritage

**Town:** Montegrotto Terme- **Municipality:** Montegrotto Terme

**Latitude:** 45.3290499- **Longitude:** 11.7714717