

POS 6

The City of Painted Walls.

The Nineteenth Century and its inventions.



Since 2002 Saludecio has been a member of the Italian Association of Painted Countries, where more than one hundred communities are brought together by the exterior walls of houses that are artistically decorated. The "Nineteenth Century Festival" has left its lasting fruit in the streets of the village which, although medieval in origin, preserves in its nineteenth-century architecture the memory of the role and historical period of greater administrative importance in the valley. In 1797 Saludecio was declared the capital of the District; in 1805 it was the capital of the Cantone; in 1816 it was the headquarter of the Second Class Government; on the eve of the Unification of Italy (1859) it became the mandamental headquarter of Valconca. The square and the Town Hall's construction were completed in the last days of the Pontifical Government and they may have been the work of the chief-builder from Rimini Onofrio Meluzzi. The 19th Century saw also the consolidation of the road network in the valley. A section of the carriage road to Cattolica was inaugurated at Saludecio's expense; in 1817, the road known as "Ponte Rosso" (Red Bridge) was built and it was named after the colour of a new masonry bridge over the Ventena stream. Saludecio's district included Mondaino, Monte Fiorito (Monte Fiore), Montegridolfo, San Giovanni in Marignano and Gemmano, and boasted the town hall, the magistrate's court, prisons, a "condominium" theatre (founded in 1839, at that time equipped with 33 stages), the civic clock tower, public schools and a hospital.

Emotional and evocative walks surprise the visitor in every season of the year. Since 1991 the village has been colourful thanks to the *Murales* that have been painted on the facades of houses and buildings. Conceived in collaboration with the artists of AR.Per.C. (Art to Communicate), "Muri Dipinti" (Painted Walls) is an "en plein air" exhibition dedicated to 19th Century inventions. A total of fifty-one works trace the painted stages of the epochal Industrial Revolution, from the most famous to the most curious: pizza Margherita, charcoal microphone, the accordion, Foucault's pendulum, the glider, light pantomimes, the Strauss waltz, the tutu, the first automobile race, the garter belt, the velocipede, the Borsalino hat, the kaleidoscope, the photography, the citrus liqueur, the Red Cross, the Borsalino Parma violet, the Lumière cinema, the Bayard locomotive, the newspaper, the fountain pen, the toilet paper, the matches, the blue jeans, the rocking chair, advertising posters, Pasteur's vaccine, marine binoculars, stereoscopic photography, the broth cube, the ecology, The Yellow Kid's first comic book, the gramophone, the wedding favour, the can opener, the radio broadcast, the Olympics, the typewriter, the X-ray, the light bulb, the telephone, the sewing machine, the candle factory, the volcanic observatory, Coca Cola, the mouth harmonica, the mail, the postage stamp and the razor.

POS.7

Culture and Gastronomy

Discovering stories ad flavours



Since 2007, a permanent exhibition has been dedicated to the hero of the two worlds. It is located in the rooms of the Malatesta Castle, which later became the mandatory prison. The bond between Saludecio and Garibaldi was strengthened on the morning of October 16 1859, when the general was welcomed by the citizens and hosted by the Albini family. The collection of the Risorgimento Museum "Giuseppe Garibaldi" was enriched in 2009. It is the result of Michele Ottaviani's passion, began when he was nine years old. Memorabilia includes: the "Hunter of the Alps" uniform; Garibaldi's Guard, worn by some of Garibaldi's men at General Custer's side; the dragon jacket and flag of the 1849 Roman Republic and a Bersagliere's hat from 1836. Among the original and unique documents were also found: the cover that Harper's Weekly dedicated to him in 1882; the hero's correspondence with Victor Hugo, Victor Emmanuel II and Otto von Bismarck; Garibaldi's Liberty Song of the Italo-American Vincent Charles Minnelli, grandfather of the famous singer and one of Antonio Meucci's friends, whom Garibaldi helped with the stearic candle factory in America; the autograph manuscript *Campagna dell'Italia meridionale in Sicilia e nel napoletano* by Francesco Parodi (1860), supplemented by some military maps. The niches in the lower rooms promote the image of Garibaldi, already a master of marketing: not to be missed are the winglets with his image, a hand-embroidered bookmark from the Nineteenth Century with his face, a bottle in the shape of a bust of Garibaldi, and photos of him, even in moments of suffering. The collection reveals the general's greatness. Through its precious mementos, it tells the story of the men and women who were the main characters of the Risorgimento's exploits: from the crutch offered to Garibaldi in Aspromonte to the three-quarter-length portrait of Anita, his first wife of Brazilian origin; from Nino Bixio's handgun to the picture of Olmeda Respicio Bilancioni, a native of San Giovanni in Marignano, famous for sending the telegram with the famous reply "Obbedisco" in 1866, delivered in Bezzecca to the Italian commander of the Third War of Independence, Alfonso La Marmora.



Salus Decii: "the place of healing and 'health'. The country has made its future "green", starting with a legendary reputation already written in its name. Saludecio's connection to the world of herbs is to be found through Gaetano Casadei (1911-1990), itinerant knife grinder, poet and, above all, self-taught herbalist and expert of folk medical traditions. Gaetano's recipes and breviaries are a summary of his experiences as a traveller. His sources of knowledge are the people he meets, the writings of the botanist Francesco Barsetta, the calendar of Friar Indovino, and all the volumes concerning the anatomy and physiology of animals. He compares indications, quantities, gives harvesting advice, dosages (A. Grilli, Associazione *I Radecc*) and adapts animal cures and recipes to his personal use at a time when there was no money for doctors, veterinarians or for the purchase of medicines. In 1984 his Herbarium aroused interest in herbalism, medicinal plants and their therapeutic effects.



Since that time, the 'world of herbs' has been the starting point for initiatives, conferences and exhibitions that focus on herbalism, the environment and nature. The image of "Saludecio Verde" (Green Saludecio) is established. This is how "Salus Erbe" and environmental enhancement projects were born. Parco delle Rimembranze (The Remembrance Park), Giardino dei Profumi (Garden of Scents), Viale dei Tigli (Avenue of Lime Trees) and the Panoramic Terrace in front of Porta Marina make Saludecio a "balcony over the Adriatic Sea" that will continue to be a centre of study and education on environmental sustainability.

POS 7.4



There is a wide range of foods and wines in Saludecio. The hills of Saludecio are home to the largest number of olive groves in the province of Rimini from which is produced an excellent extra virgin olive oil through the cold pressing process. The most renowned wineries produce Trebbiano Romagnolo from white grapes; Cabernet Sauvignon, Sangiovese di Romagna and Rimini DOC from red grapes. Here you'll find the farms of the Mora Romagnola, a unique breed of pig that was bred in the area from 1800 to 1950. The last "pure" specimens were found in 1982. Their meats and sausages are appreciated for their intense flavour. Saludecio is also known for its cheeses made with sheep's milk. The sheep follow a healthy and natural diet, fed with organically grown feed. Other companies produce the traditional thin "piadina" (flatbread), known as "piadina riminese", and practice the "white art" of baking; an ancient recipe is used to make "bustreng", a Romagna dessert made from stale bread. Artistic ceramics and terracotta are also highly valued, along with the famous "fireworks".



Santo Amato: the pilgrim of the stars and his museum

He was beatified by Pius VI in 1776 and canonized by Pope Francis on November 23, 2014. Patron and defensor of Saludecio, he is the first saint of the second millennium of the Church of Rimini. He is a prophetic presence for today's society. Brother Amato is a pilgrim of hope who invites us to build a new, compassionate and ecological humanity. Amato Ronconi (1226-1292) was born in Saludecio in the same year of the death of St. Francis. He embraced the spirituality of St. Francis and was fascinated by it. He was the son of Felice Ronconi and Santa Mosconi, well-to-do farmers. He grew up as an orphan and was raised with his sister Chiara by his older brother Girolamo. He had a life as a farmer and a career as a labourer on his farm. He was a man who believed in charity, prayer, penance, mysticism, and thaumaturgy. He endured slander and persecution. He became a Franciscan tertiary and built a *hospitale* for the poor and sick in his father's house on Monte Orciaro, now the "Santo Amato Ronconi" nursing home. He welcomed pilgrims who travelled along the Flaminia Minor to reach Rome. He lived by the Benedictine rule of "Ora et Labora", and while his land rested in the fallow year, he made five journeys to Santiago de Compostela, then returned to his community to serve the needy. On his death on May 8, 1292, he donated all his possessions to the Benedictine Monastery of San Giuliano in Rimini. Amato Ronconi was publicly venerated by the believers and popes from his death until the diocesan investigation, which ended in May 1999 with the Positio. His miracles are still remembered: crossing the river Conca in flood on the cloak; the cloak hanging in the sun; the rising from the floor; the turnips; the stick turned into an elm tree. The plant can be seen in the little cell in Via Roma. In 1987 it became part of the heraldic image of the Municipality of Saludecio.

The relic of his incorruptible body makes the parish church of San Biagio an important sanctuary. Built between 1794 and 1803, it is a beautiful example of neoclassical architecture by Giuseppe Achilli (1752-1810). It is called the "Cathedral of the Conca Valley" not only for its solemn dimensions, but also for the artistic heritage it preserves such as the stucco-work done by Antonio Trentanove between 1798 and 1800,

the paintings by Viviani, Fra Atanasio Favini and Cialdieri, the altars and furnishings, including the wooden choir, from the San Gaudenzo Sanctuary in Rimini. The tower next to the church is the venue of the Museum of Saludecio and the Beloved Saint. Inaugurated in 2001, it contains almost three hundred works of art gathered around the figure of the Sainthood, as well as a complete picture gallery with works by Guido Cagnacci, Claudio Ridolfi, known as "il Veronese", G.F. Nagli, known as "Centino", Sante Braschi and Father Atanasio da Coriano. It offers an exemplary cross section of the artistic culture of the 17th and 18th centuries between the Marche and Romagna regions. The main points of reference are Rimini, Urbino and Rome.

POS 11. Places for you to discover



The village of Saludecio is located on a ridge that overlooks the Conca Valley, among hills covered with olive groves. Its outline is marked by the bell towers, the tower and the Malatesta walls, surrounded by a thick layer of lime trees and conifers. Documented in 1014, the town's history is intertwined with the power struggles between Sigismondo Malatesta and Federico da Montefeltro. In the early 1500s, Saludecio was briefly ruled by the Republic of Venice. In 1524, it became part of the Papal State until the Unification of Italy. Many places are testimony of its intense history, such as the palace where Blessed Elisabetta Renzi was born, Palazzo Magi, Palazzo Zandri, Palazzo Albini-Suali and Palazzo Albini-Elisei, residences of ancient noble families of Saludecio.

Porta Marina. This is the main entrance to the town, dating back to the time of Sigismondo Pandolfo Malatesta. The complex of walls and towers suggests the overall idea of the town's fortification. The most striking features are the large polygonal bastion, which houses a room of the Museum of the Santo Amato, and the "heart-shaped" tower, visible when walking along the tree-lined avenue or the paths inside the town.

Gerolamini Church and Convent: the building preserves works from the 17th and 18th centuries and has a terracotta façade with moldings and corbels. On the western wall there is the body of the beatified Cipriano Mosconi (1575-1617), to whom we owe the construction of the first ecclesial edifice in Saludecio, of the Order of St. Jerome. Today, the complex of the former convent, founded in 1640, is attached to the present church. It contains the Don Masi House of Spirituality with the cloister, the ancient fountain and the genealogical tree of the priors of the convent.

The Civic Tower. Medieval in origin, it has the town's coat of arms and a plaque commemorating Garibaldi's passage. It is used for temporary exhibitions.

Porta Montanara. It is the second gate of the city, situated in the opposite direction to the Porta Marina. Smaller in size, it faces the Apennines and was built for the control of the borders with the lands of Montefeltro. It preserves the original structure, including the drawbridge.

POS 12



Meleto Castle. A small fortified village, it preserves the charm of a centre of Lombard provenance that dates back to the 6th century. It is located in a panoramic position overlooking the Tavollo and Foglia valleys. The urban layout, however, dates back to the communal period. During this period, the castle was disputed between the city of Rimini and the Holy See. In the immediate post-war period, the city walls were stripped of their gates. However, they still retain their original elements. Inside, the following are worthy of note: the eighteenth-century church; the old priory palace with its rock walls and striking underground caves and the headquarters of the prestigious Dionigi company, founded in Meleto at the end of the Nineteenth Century and specialized in the production of fireworks. Every summer since 2004, the Saludecio Association Armonda has organized the event "800NNT" (Black Night Theatre).

Castle of Cerreto. Medieval in origin, *Castrum Cereti Abatis* was submitted to the municipality of Rimini in 1233. It is a small rural fortification dominated by the civic tower, which then became the bell tower of the small church. It preserves intact traces of ancient fortifications and, above all, a heritage of non-material culture: "the Carnival of Cerreto", an articulate repertoire of funny events of "collective madness", which the local community only stopped celebrating at the end of the 1960, due to the depopulation towards the coast. The study of the festival brought back to light some of the elements of the festival, like the comedies and the pranks, along the lines of the famous *Polenta in the Fountain*, masks and masquerades: the man covered with leaves, the old woman, "i niret", the troublesome demonic figures with faces painted black, the jester with coloured ribbons, and the ritual of burning the mask with which the carnival closed.

Astronomical Observatory "N. Copernicus". Here it's possible to admire the sky among the hills of Romagna thanks to the Centre for the Popularization of Astronomical Science. It was founded in 1978 and is equipped with telescopes. Every year, thousands of visitors come to this place: curiosity seekers, enthusiasts and schoolchildren of all ages, who are even more enthusiastic during theme nights such as the Perseids. There's an inflatable planetarium, a digital projector that can reproduce the vault of the sky and a VR station that can simulate a walk on Mars or on the Moon. Visitors can also observe celestial bodies from space. An important new development is the acquisition of a new and sophisticated telescope, which will be used to explore and take pictures of the planets. The most recent project that the Astrophiles and Operations Group is working on is the creation of a robotic, remote-controlled telescope. This will allow national and international collaboration and exchange of research programmes.