



**INFERRARA**  
BY PO DELTA TOURISM

## **ADULT GROUPS AND TOURISM FOR SCHOOLS**

**SEPTEMBER 2024  
DECEMBER 2025**

Discovering Ferrara:  
art and culture, good food,  
events and slow tourism.  
The Renaissance capital in its  
entirety, with in-depth and  
tailor-made programmes

# WELCOME TO FERRARA!

The city of bicycles with its history, art, food, wine and nature can be discovered slowly by bike or on foot. With the help of professional guides, InFerrara offers a wide range of hand-picked experiences for groups, ensuring that no detail is overlooked to create the perfect stay.

Our suggestions do not end with what you will find in the pages of this catalogue: **our team are available to design bespoke programmes for the needs and interests of a group or class.**

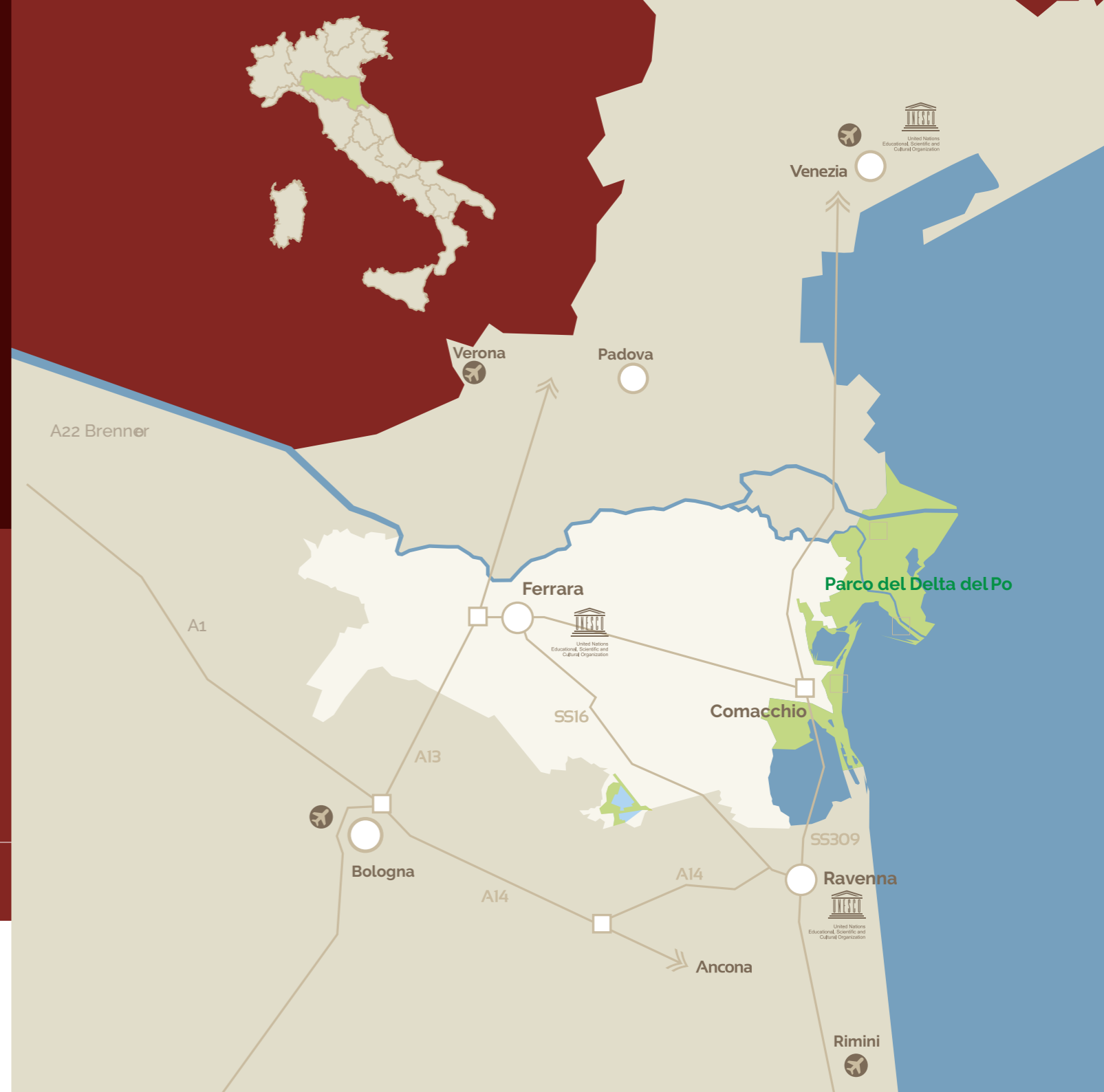
To complete the package, we can also organise accommodation to welcome you and meet your every need.



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With thanks to Pierluigi Benini for the selection of photographs.

*The information contained in this catalog, printed in September 2024, is valid at the time of publication and may be subject to change. Any updates made after the printing date can be found on the website [www.inferrara.it](http://www.inferrara.it).*



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# FERRARA

# CITY OF ART AND CULTURE



**Capital of the Renaissance, metaphysical city, city of art**, the names given to this city are a reminder of how art and culture are omnipresent in Ferrara, in the nature of the city itself and its possible visitor itineraries.

As the first example of a modern city, Ferrara was the site of one of the most important urban projects in Italian history, the Addizione Erculea, which sought to harmoniously integrate the city with its medieval side. The Este Castle, the Palazzo dei Diamanti, which today hosts major international exhibitions, the Palazzo Schifanoia with its museum and the entire historic centre are essential stops to understand the Ferrara of yesterday and today, with its metaphysical overtones and the base for the writings of Bassani.

*In Ferrara, every corner tells a story, and with us, you can discover the one that best suits your travel spirit.*





## THE ESTENSE CASTLE

An evocative journey through the centuries, discovering the ancient military fortress and symbol of the city, accompanied by stories and anecdotes from a local guide. A backdrop to the splendours of the ducal court, the Este Castle is a place rich in history and charm. Amidst cursed loves, court intrigue, illustrious personalities and sumptuous banquets, a journey through time takes shape: from **the dungeons** that bear witness to the sad affair of Don Giulio d'Este, to **the magic of the Orange Garden**, Ariosto's inspiration for **the enchanted landscapes of Orlando Furioso**, through **the frescoed halls of the piano nobile**.

### USEFUL INFORMATION

**Duration:** 1h30

**Meeting point:** The Estense Castle Courtyard

**Time:** to be agreed

**Rate:** €110

**Additional info:** maximum 25 participants per group

Rates do not include entrance fees to the Estense Castle, available for purchase at the ticket office or through InFerrara.

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## SCHIFANOIA MUSEUM

A spectacular palace of the splendid court of the Este family, who used it to escape the boredom between parties, dances and banquets, the Schifanoia Museum is one of the most important buildings in the history of Italian art. In the **Salone dei Mesi** you can admire an imposing cycle of frescoes by the masters of the Officina Ferrarese, Francesco del Cossa and Ercole de' Roberti. The experience is even more fascinating by **the modern layout, opened in 2020** to preserve an incredible civic, historical and artistic heritage, but with the exciting dynamism of storytelling.

### USEFUL INFORMATION

**Duration:** 1h30

**Meeting point:** in front of the Museum entrance

**Time:** to be agreed

**Rate:** €110

**Additional info:** maximum 25 participants per group

Rates do not include entrance fees to the Museum, available for purchase at the ticket office or through InFerrara.

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## CATHEDRAL MUSEUM



Founded in 1929, the Cathedral Museum found its permanent home in 2000 in **the former church of San Romano**, the most important sacred temple of Este spirituality. It houses priceless artifacts dating from the early Middle Ages to the 19th century. **The monumental organ** doors depicting St George, the Dragon and the Annunciation are by Cosmè Tura, while the Master of the Months created the 13th-century panels that adorn Porta dei Pellegrini. Instead, Jacopo della Quercia is credited with having painted the **splendid Madonna of the Pomegranate**. Skilful staging and carefully considered lighting enhance these works of rare wonder.

### USEFUL INFORMATION

**Duration:** 1h30

**Meeting point:** in front of the Museum entrance

**Time:** to be agreed

**Rate:** €110

**Additional info:** maximum 25 participants per group  
Rates do not include entrance fees to the Museum, available for purchase at the ticket office or through InFerrara.

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## MEIS - NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ITALIAN JUDAISM AND THE SHOAH

The National Museum of Italian Judaism and the Shoah was established with the mission of **recounting over two thousand years of Jewish history in Italy**. Ferrara, a city rich in history, serves as an emblematic location that encapsulates various experiences of this millennia-old history. Since the time of the Este family, Ferrara has woven an inextricable relationship with the Jewish community. The museum's site itself is deeply symbolic, as it is located in the former city prisons where anti-fascists and Jews were imprisoned in the early 20th century. Through a guided tour that weaves between the ancient and recent history of Italian Judaism, visitors are led through the **key milestones that have shaped the experiences and movements of the Jewish people**: from the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem to the creation of ghettos, with a focus on the tragedy of the Shoah.

### USEFUL INFORMATION

**Duration:** 1h

**Meeting point:** in front of the Museum entrance

**Time:** to be agreed

**Rate:** €125

**Additional info:** maximum 25 participants per group  
Rates do not include entrance fees to the Museum, available for purchase online or through InFerrara.

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## NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

Inside the **prestigious Palazzo Costabili, also known as Palazzo "of Ludovico il Moro"**, is the National Archaeological Museum of Ferrara. The magnificent finds from the excavations of the ancient city and necropolis of Spina are housed in this treasure chest of antiquity. Every room in the museum evokes and bears witness to the city's wealth: from the **Cortile d'Onore** to the **Sala degli Ori** (Hall of Gold Jewellery), from the **Sala delle Carte Geografiche** (Hall of Maps) to the **Sala delle Piroghe** (Pirogues Room), from the **Sala del Tesoro** (Treasure Hall) with frescoes by Benvenuto Tisi, known as Garofalo, between 1503 and 1506, with a masterly trompe-l'oeil effect, finally losing oneself in the **green and silent labyrinth** of the Palazzo Costabili gardens.

### USEFUL INFORMATION

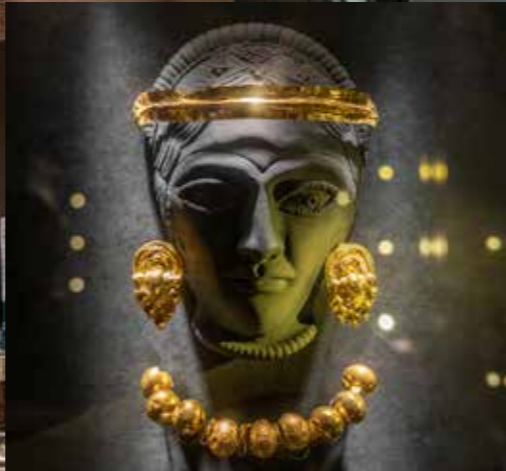
**Duration:** maximum 2 hours

**Meeting point:** in front of the Museum entrance

**Time:** to be agreed

**Rate:** €125

**Additional info:** maximum 25 participants per group. Rates do not include entrance fees to the Museum, available for purchase at the ticket office or through InFerrara.



## WALKING TOUR

## EVERY CORNER TELLS A STORY

**Ferrara is a city of many souls and personalities:** our walking tours will take you on a journey of discovery, with itineraries designed to show you the most important places, monuments and views, and themed itineraries that will allow you to discover the stories and personalities that are inextricably linked to the Este capital, from ever new angles and perspectives.



### MEDIEVAL ITINERARY

**To really understand the origins of the city of Ferrara, you need to immerse yourself in the Middle Ages.** What better way than a fascinating tour of the city's historic heart with an experienced local guide? Medieval Ferrara includes some of the most evocative places in the historic centre, from the splendid Via delle Volte, which followed the course of the river Po, with its magnificent arches, to the characteristic views of the Jewish Ghetto, the backdrop to the daily life of one of the oldest communities in Europe, through the Piazza della Cattedrale and Piazzetta Municipale. A stop at the Estense Castle, still surrounded by an imposing moat and drawbridges, the majestic symbol of the city, is not to be missed.

### RENAISSANCE ITINERARY

**The most famous aspect of the city is its Renaissance heritage, recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage site.** It is the 15th-century Addizione Erculea that characterized Ferrara as **'the first modern city in Europe'**, shaping its features even in future developments. The itinerary, accompanied by a qualified guide, will take you along the majestic Corso Ercole I d'Este, the intersection of the Quadrivio degli Angeli, which connects the Estense Castle to the Porta degli Angeli. A detour to Piazza Ariostea, the stage for the traditional Palio races, designed by the famous architect Biagio Rossetti. Between the majestic palaces, you can get a glimpse of the Massari Park and the magnificent Certosa Monumentale. This is the perfect route to appreciate the modernity of the Este city. The tour can also be organised with a focus on Ariosto-related sites or on the notable women of the Este court.



## JEWISH ITINERARY

**The history of the city of Ferrara is closely linked to that of its ancient Jewish community.** The medieval district is still home to the synagogue and preserves the historical memory of the past, among the streets of the old ghetto. Via Mazzini was the heart of the commercial and social life of the community. Starting from the Cathedral of San Giorgio, we walk through the streets of the city center, discovering the history of the city community, with a look at Corso Ercole I d'Este and Corso della Giovecca. There are many places to visit here to get an understanding of **everyday Jewish life, traditions and cuisine.**

It is possible to extend the itinerary with an in-depth look at the life and works of the Ferrarese writer Giorgio Bassani and/or a visit to the Jewish cemetery in Via delle Vigne (subject to opening days and hours).

The itinerary can be rounded off with a visit to the MEIS - National Museum of Italian Judaism and the Shoah.



## MYSTERY TOUR

**A guided tour to discover legends, astrological symbols and mysteries,** to uncover some of the most compelling secrets and stories from the city's history, in the picturesque alleyways, ancient churches and noble residences. Starting with the façade of the cathedral, with its hidden esoteric symbols, and **the Church of San Domenico, famous for its "Devil's Footprint"**, the unsettling adventures of the magician-engineer **Bartolomeo Chiozzi**, straddling history and popular legend, will be re-enacted. The itinerary then takes us to the Oratorio dell'Annunziata, the ancient seat of the **Confraternita della Buona Morte** (Brotherhood of the Good Death), and to Via Savonarola, where the mysterious death of the court poet Ercole Strozzi took place; or from **Torquato Tasso's cell** along Corso Ercole I D'Este, ending at Palazzo dei Diamanti, a visible example and culmination of Borso d'Este's great passion for astrology.



## FERRARA AND THE CINEMA

From Michelangelo Antonioni to Florestano Vancini, from Luchino Visconti to Vittorio de Sica, and even to the directors of more recent TV series, Ferrara's relationship with the world of cinema has been established for over a century. Accompanied by a guide, you will explore the locations that have served as set for important films, whose charm has inspired famous movies, short films, and TV series embedded in the collective imagination, most notably *The Garden of the Finzi-Contini*.

The itinerary winds through the medieval historical center to the Renaissance Addition, following in the footsteps of cinematic protagonists and stories that still echo through the city's alleys, gardens, and squares. Upon request, the tour can be enhanced with a visit to the Spazio Antonioni, the museum dedicated to the life and work of one of the greatest figures in modern cinema.

### WALKING TOURS RATES

#### USEFUL INFORMATION

**Duration:** maximum 2h30

**Meeting point and time:** to be agreed

**Rate:** €150 up to 20 people €3 for any additional participant  
**Additional info:** Rates do not include entrance fees to any possible museum, available for purchase at the ticket office or through InFerrara

It is possible, upon request, to combine thematic routes or to integrate the walking tour with an interior visit to one of the city's museums.



## A CITY TO BE LIVED AT A SLOW PACE

## SLOW TOURISM

**An ideal place for slow tourism, Ferrara is a city of bicycles, crossed by picturesque rivers.** Cycling is a way of life for its residents, who have been accustomed since childhood to getting around quickly and comfortably on two wheels. Flat and "on a human scale", Ferrara has a compact historic centre surrounded by 9 kilometres of restored ancient walls and about 13 kilometres of sottomura, where bastions, towers and gates bear witness to the city's ancient defences. Together with the Bassani Urban Park, this green embrace of pedestrian and cycle paths forms the natural lungs of the city. In Ferrara, the call for slow tourism is so compelling that to spend a day on the Po River by bike or by boat is an experience not to be missed.







## BIKE TOUR



**Ferrara, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is known as the “city of bicycles”!** From the heart of the historic centre, a slow itinerary begins along the ancient and green walls, between the bastions remains of the original fortifications. From Porta Paola, through the archaeological park of Porta d’Amore, this two-wheeled tour is the perfect way for cycling enthusiasts and the merely curious travel to the famous Porta degli Angeli. We return to the centre across the splendid Corso Ercole I d’Este, a delightful way to explore the city from a new perspective.

### USEFUL INFORMATION

**Duration:** maximum 2h30

**Meeting point:** in front of the Cathedral

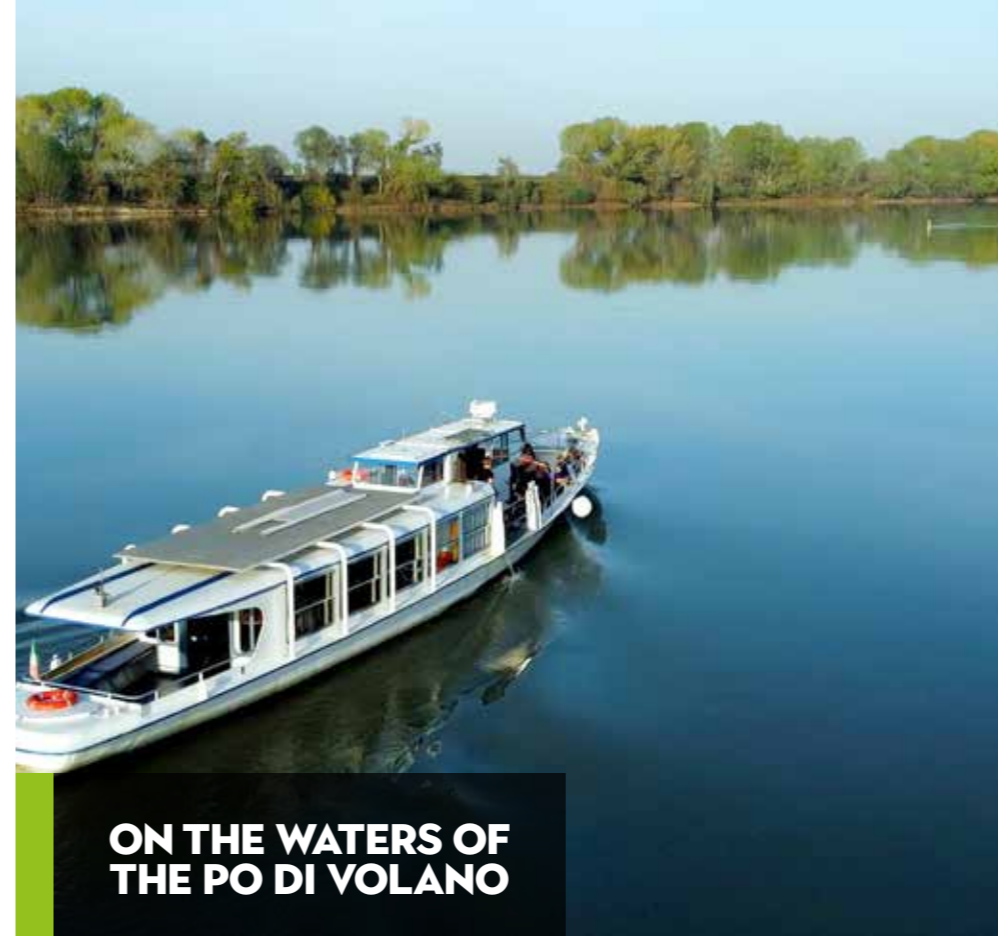
**Time:** to be agreed

**Rate:** € 150 up to 20 people, € 3 for any additional participant

**Additional info:** max. 25 participants per group

Surcharge for bicycle rental: €10 each

Surcharge for radio guide rental (mandatory): €2 each



## ON THE WATERS OF THE PO DI VOLANO



**Boat trips from the dock in Ferrara on the Po di Volano, an ancient branch of the Po delta** which, together with the Po di Primaro, gave rise to the first urban settlement in the Byzantine period. We will sail along the waters of the ancient river, parallel for a long stretch to the city walls, catching sight of the towers of the Estense Castle and the medieval bell towers of the square, until we reach the bell tower of the first Cathedral of San Giorgio, in front of the city’s defensive walls, and the Ferrara countryside. A small aperitif during the cruise is included.

### USEFUL INFORMATION

**Duration:** approx. 2h

**Meeting point:** departure and arrival at Via Darsena

57, pier Wunderkammer

**Time:** to be agreed

**Rate:** €560 for groups up to 35 people

€16 for each additional participant, up to a maximum of 70 people



## FROM FERRARA TO THE PO GRANDE



**Excursion on board the historic Nena, an ancient Venetian steamboat** to discover the river origins of the Este city and its evolution through the Middle Ages and the Renaissance up to the present day. Boarding at the San Paolo dock, in the heart of the city, close to the historic centre. We sail on the waterway that joins Ferrara to the Po. An unusual cross-section of the city, a natural corridor where herons, bee-eaters and turtles live undisturbed. Passing through the Pontelagoscuro reservoir, a scenic backdrop to the majesty of the Po River with its spectacular views, you will skirt Giarina beach, the ancient Isola Bianca (Lipu Oasis) and discover its heronry with nesting herons. A small aperitif during the cruise is included.

### USEFUL INFORMATION

**Duration:** approx. 2h30

**Meeting point:** departure and arrival at Via Darsena 57, pier Wunderkammer

**Time:** to be agreed

**Rate:** €630 for groups up to 35 people  
€18 for each additional participant, up to a maximum of 70 people



## TOWARDS THE DELIZIA OF VILLA MENSA BY BOAT



A cruise along the Po di Volano, **on one of the ancient waterways beloved by the Este family**, along which they built the most beautiful Delizie, summer residences created for recreation and pleasure. From the dock in Ferrara, through the countryside of Ferrara with its small villages, we will cruise to the Villa La Mensa, an ancient 15th-century villa, one of the Delizie residences of the D'Este family and the only one still accessible by water.

Stop for a guided tour of the villa (2 hours).

### USEFUL INFORMATION

**Duration:** 2h outward - 2h round trip

**Meeting point:** Departure and arrival at Via Darsena 57, Wunderkammer Pier

**Time:** to be agreed

**Cruise Rate:** €20 one way | €25 round trip (minimum 35 people)  
Guided tour of Villa Mensa: €5 per person

## TASTE FERRARA

## FOOD AND WINE EXPERIENCES

**Cristoforo (from) Messisbugo**, in his mid-sixteenth century cookbook "Libro novo. Nel quale s'insegna a far d'ogni sorte di vivande (...)" was the first chef to put down on paper several recipes using ingredients that are very common today. A ducal attendant at the Este court, he was first a scalco (a skilled meat butcher) and then a chef. We owe many specialities of Ferrara cuisine to his creativity between the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, including pasticcio di maccheroni. With ancient traditions and curious anecdotes (it is said that egg tagliatelle were inspired by the hair of Duchess Lucrezia Borgia), **Ferrara offers a cuisine with surprising combinations**, such as those that make Cappellaccio so unique.



## COOKING CLASS

A fun and engaging way to discover one of the fundamental aspects of Ferrara's tradition and folklore: its food and wine specialties! In this cooking class, you will literally get your hands dirty with dough while learning technical skills, fascinating facts, and legends about the most famous traditional dishes, all culminating in a final tasting.

You'll discover the "**coppia**", Ferrara's bread with its unusual cross shape, whose crunchy twists are said to have been inspired by the golden curls of Lucrezia Borgia, and the "**ricciola**", a fragrant, savory breakfast ring. Then, the "**cappellacci di zucca**", pumpkin-filled pasta that is a symbol of the city, followed by the rich and indulgent "**torta tenerina**" with its soft, melting heart, and the "**brazadlin**", typical homemade cookies, delightfully crumbly.

### USEFUL INFORMATION

**Duration:** approx. 2h

**Meeting point and time:** to be agreed

**Rate:** starting from €45 per person  
min. 15 participants



## TASTING SESSIONS IN FERRARA

A city with an extensive culinary tradition, as noted above, **Ferrara offers a wide range of food and wine specialities to please all palates.** To taste a little of everything, InFerrara offers personalized tasting sessions in breathtaking locations such as the splendid Porta Paola, the green and famous

Piazza Ariostea or the not-to-be-missed Palazzo dei Diamanti; tasting a local speciality in places that symbolise the city's history guarantees an authentic Ferrara experience!

Whether tasting Ferrara bread with a slice of "zia", a tasty local salami, the famous cappellacci di zucca or discovering traditional desserts, the right panorama becomes an integral part of the experience.

And for those who wish to delve deeper into the tradition and see who still carries it on, the tasting can be accompanied by a small workshop on pasta dough, held by a Ferrara-based sfogliina (pasta maker), with whom you can try your hand at some of the preparation steps, such as closing the cappellacci.

## FERRARA, CITY OF EVENTS

**In Ferrara, culture, entertainment and fun are a constant throughout the year!** The city, with its eclectic, creative and sophisticated soul, offers a rich programme of unmissable events and manifestations, capable of attracting hundreds of thousands of visitors every year: from New Year's Eve to great concerts in the most evocative locations in the city center, from food and wine festivals to the now historic Ferrara Buskers Festival and the great exhibitions at the Palazzo dei Diamanti. Ferrara is constantly buzzing and has something to please everyone, of all ages, with an ever-changing calendar of events!





## MAJOR EXHIBITIONS AT THE PALAZZO DIAMANTI

The major exhibitions at the Palazzo dei Diamanti are internationally renowned, the masterpieces of the great names of ancient, modern and contemporary art come to life again in halls of the palace, symbol of the Addizione Erculea and the Ferrara Capital of the Renaissance. The installations, curated by the **Ferrara Arte Foundation**, respect the historic site, enhancing the works and creating an exciting combination of ever-changing interpretations. Exhibitions often create valuable connections with the city, offering focused explorations, in-depth studies, as well as targeted events and dedicated series. It's a comprehensive experience that takes you from discovering the precious palace to exploring the city itself. In a city like Ferrara, a dive into art is simply a must.

In October 2024, a new exhibition on the Ferrara Renaissance will open, following the success of the one that marked the reopening of Palazzo dei Diamanti in February 2023, after its significant restoration.

From October 12th 2024 to February 16th 2025 "The 16th Century in Ferrara. Mazzolino, Ortolano, Garofalo, Dosso."



## FERRARA FOOD FESTIVAL

Too difficult to choose which dishes to sample during your few days of holiday?

**The Ferrara Food Festival gathers the city's food and wine excellence**, bringing together all the specialities in a single event! The Listone, the long, wide, metaphysical pavement of Piazza Trento Trieste, and other squares, are transformed for a few days into the most magical of outdoor areas, where tradition is served with small samples of typical products, tastings, cooking shows and even some theoretical moments.

An event like this isn't complete without an excellent traditional dinner or, why not try a cooking class: we'll make your culinary experience unforgettable!



## CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR IN FERRARA

### Experience the wonderful festive atmosphere: Christmas and New Year in Ferrara.

Kilometers of lights and decorations illuminate the old town, climbing up the main streets, while the impressive decorated tree watches over the square, adorning the view of the Cathedral of San Giorgio. There is no shortage of traditional markets on the listone of Piazza Trento and Trieste, to help residents and tourists fill any empty space under the tree. Pretty little wooden chalets also grace Piazza del Municipio.

A range of large and small events, shows and surprises accompany us as we head towards Christmas and on to the final celebration on New Year's Eve. **Famous across Italy, the fire at the Estense Castle marks midnight, bringing in the New Year.**

If you are a Christmas lover or a New Year enthusiast, Ferrara has something for you: during the holidays, wishes come true!



## THE PALIO DI FERRARA

The **Palio di Ferrara** is one of the most important and oldest events the city has to offer. **Discover the unique atmosphere of the ancient Piazza Nova - the magnificent Piazza Ariostea - in the days leading up to the races.** The Palio is not just the important final competition between the **eight city quarters**, watched over by the Corte Ducale, the races are preceded by the **historical parade, the flag-waving and music competitions** in Piazza Municipale and, above all, the traditional propitiatory dinners.

To experience the Palio is to live a few moments of typical folklore, excitement and energy; and the parade of the historical procession is an enthralling experience that takes you back to the glorious past of the Este court.



## FERRARA SUMMER FESTIVAL

**The Ferrara Summer Festival is when great music comes to town!** Nearly two months of entertainment in the historic center, featuring big names from the international and national music scenes, along with theater, comedy, and performances.

The Ferrara Summer Festival attracts audiences from all over Italy each year with its eclectic program: from sporting events to concerts by legendary Italian and international artists, as well as performances by the most popular contemporary bands and comedy shows.

Over the years, the Ferrara Summer Festival stage has hosted artists of the caliber of **Gianni Morandi, Francesco De Gregori, Antonello Venditti, Pooh, Giuseppe Giacobazzi**, as well as international stars like Europe, the Black Eyed Peas, and renowned DJs such as **Paul Kalkbrenner, Disclosure, and Peggy Gou**. Other notable acts include **Coma Cose, Calcutta, and Annalisa**.



## AN EVENING AT THE THEATRE

**A favourite habit of many Ferrara residents, proud of their little gem of a theatre** located in the city center, **is to spend an evening there**. The Teatro Comunale di Ferrara has been located a few steps away from the Estense Castle since the end of the 18th century, when the Cardinal Legate Borghese commissioned it from architect Antonio Foscini and Cosimo Morelli. Renovated in the mid-twentieth century by the Ferrara engineer Carlo Savonuzzi, it has since offered major seasons of drama, dance, opera, classical and other music, as well as experimental theatre. **Since 2014, the theatre has been named after the great conductor Claudio Abbado** to commemorate his wish to establish the Chamber Orchestra of Europe there. A magnificent example of Italian-style theatre, acoustically excellent. An evening at the theatre, with the customary aperitif before entry, could be the perfect opportunity to do something different during your stay in Ferrara.

The wonderful architecture of the interior also provides the ideal setting to enjoy the season's events to the full!



## LIVELY DARSENA

**The Darsena comes to life, every year, during the summer months. This space, restored and returned to the city, overlooks the Po di Volano, the urban branch of the great river Po.** It is the quintessential place to spend the warmest evenings, refreshed by the river breeze. In just a few years, the Darsena has become one of the most beloved gathering spots for the people of Ferrara, especially during the summer season.

Whether it's for a jogging session, an aperitif, a picnic or as a boarding point for a river excursion, the Darsena is a space to enjoy at any time of the day.

In summer, it buzzes with a rich program of events, including food, wine tastings, music, and dance, organized by various local associations that create a diverse, almost non-stop festival from mid-May to September. All that's left is to choose one -or more- of the many events according to your tastes!



## FERRARA BUSKERS FESTIVAL

**The Ferrara Buskers Festival has become a tradition: since 1988,** and on an international scale, the festival has brought street arts to the city, with a special focus on music and cultures from the most diverse corners of the world. Its important mission is to highlight art in all its forms and the talent of artists who are often not in the spotlight. This is an event of sharing and great emotions, where every step reveals a new cultural and human dimension, creating a festive atmosphere in the final days of August.

For the past few years, invited artists have given a preview performance in the magnificent Comacchio, the jewel of the Po Delta, for an evening filled with atmosphere among the town's bridges and canals.

It's a unique opportunity to visit Ferrara and its Po Delta Park and to experience all its nuances.





## MIX BUSINESS WITH PLEASURE...WHY NOT!

The InFerrara team is also on hand to **create tailor-made packages for companies** wishing to offer **team-building** experiences to employees, **a short break with unique touches to customers or suppliers**, or to make the most of a business trip with a special experience. **Whether it is a weekend getaway at the end of a trade fair week**, an incentive trip or a group dinner after a business meeting, our team can help you find the best solution for every occasion.

For team building or as a gift, we offer shared opportunities for educational recreation, such as cooking classes, themed city tours or treasure hunts, as well as relaxing bike rides and tastings. Contact our booking center for advice in organizing an unforgettable experience!



## TRAVEL IDEAS

### CITY BREAK IN FERRARA

#### 1 night | 2 days stay

Accommodation in a 3\* hotel or B&B, bed and breakfast basis

#### DAY 1

**10 a.m.** outdoor city tour

**12:30 p.m.** lunch in a typical restaurant and "sfoglia" workshop

**3 p.m.** guided tour of the Este Castle

Free time in the afternoon

Check-in at the accommodation, dinner and overnight stay.

#### DAY 2

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out  
**9:30 a.m.** cruise on the Po di Volano with departure from the Ferrara dock

**12:30 p.m.** lunch in a typical restaurant

**3 p.m.** guided tour of the Schifanoia Museum

End of services

The stay can be extended including a visit to Comacchio and the Po Delta Park.



## CULTURE, TASTE AND NATURE



### 2 nights | 3 days stay

Accommodation in a 3\* hotel or B&B, bed and breakfast basis

#### DAY 1

**10 a.m.** guided tour of Palazzo Schifanoia, followed by a guided tour of the medieval historical center

**1 p.m.** light lunch with tasting of typical products

Check-in at the accommodation

**3.30 p.m.** guided tour of the Este Castle

**5:30 p.m.** cooking class

Free dinner

Overnight stay

#### DAY 2

Breakfast at the hotel

**8 a.m.** departure for Comacchio and Po Delta

**10 a.m.** Cruise through the Comacchio Valleys and brief visit to the historic center of Comacchio

**1 p.m.** lunch in a restaurant with traditional dishes

**3:30 p.m.** guided visit to Pomposa Abbey followed by tasting of the sand wines and local products

Return to Ferrara, free dinner and overnight stay

#### DAY 3

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out

**9 a.m.** bike tour along the ancient walls and through the Renaissance area of the city, with a guided visit to the Jewish Cemetery.

**11:30 a.m.** guided visit to the Spazio Antonioni

**1:30 p.m.** lunch in a typical restaurant

Free time

End of services

## AND TOURISM FOR SCHOOLS...

**Walking tours and visits to the city's museums designed for groups are also available for school groups of various levels and ages.** Thanks to the collaboration of experienced guides, who share their know-how and experience with students, guided tours become an opportunity for cultural learning and enjoyable study opportunities.

Of great interest, and continuously updated, are the educational programs and workshops related to the exhibitions at Palazzo dei Diamanti, where the **autumn 2024** opening will be the exhibition *The 16th Century in Ferrara: Mazzolino, Ortolano, Garofalo, Dosso*. This exhibition continues an extensive project on the Ferrara Renaissance, offering schools of various levels the opportunity to explore the evolution of artistic language at a time when the city became one of the main centers of the Italian Renaissance.





### FERRARA BETWEEN MIDDLE AGES AND RENAISSANCE - HALF DAY

The tour explores the most representative sites of Ferrara's historic center, a UNESCO World Heritage site that perfectly balances the Middle Ages and the Renaissance period. The visit begins at the Este Castle, an imposing fortress, ultimate expression of the court power and patronage. It then moves towards the central squares, such as Piazza Savonarola and Piazza Trento e Trieste, stopping at the Cathedral and the Ducal Palace.

The itinerary continues through the medieval streets of the oldest part of the city and the district of the ancient Jewish ghetto, concluding with a view of the monumental Corso Ercole I d'Este, the main axis of the so-called Renaissance Addition.

Available upon request the visit of Palazzo Schifanoia, Cathedral Museum or Casa Ariosto instead of the Este Castle tour.

#### USEFUL INFORMATION

**Duration:** max 2h30

**Meeting point:** bus drop on/off point at Viale Cavour 11 (near the gardens adjacent to the Este Castle)

**Time:** to be agreed

**Rate:** € 8,00 per student - group leaders free

**Additional info:** minimum 20 students

**Additional guide:** inside the museums for groups exceeding 25 people: €105.00

Rates do not include any entrance tickets to the museums, which can be purchased at the ticket office or through InFerrara.



### FERRARA BETWEEN MIDDLE AGES AND RENAISSANCE - FULL DAY

A comprehensive guided tour through the medieval heart and the Renaissance district, known as the Addizione Erculea. After an optional bus tour to admire the ancient city walls, you will visit Ariosto's house, where the poet spent his final years, and then head to the famous Palazzo dei Diamanti. Passing through Piazza Ariostea, which hosts the Palio races in May, the itinerary continues towards the Este Castle (external view). Free time for lunch.

In the afternoon, a walk through the central squares and medieval streets, such as Via delle Volte, famous for its arches, and the Jewish Ghetto; the Cathedral and the Ducal Palace. The last stop is Palazzo Schifanoia, with the splendid frescoes of the so called "Hall of the Months".

As an alternative to Palazzo Schifanoia, you can visit the Este Castle, the Cathedral Museum, the National Archaeological Museum, or MEIS. The itinerary can also be enhanced with an interactive walk through the medieval district, where students will be engaged with simple riddles or clues to be found around the city.

#### USEFUL INFORMATION

**Duration:** max 5h (break in the middle)

**Meeting point:** bus drop on/off point at Corso Porta Mare (near Parco Massari)

**Time:** to be agreed

**Rate:** € 12,00 per student - group leaders free

**Additional info:** minimum 20 students

**Additional guide:** inside the museums for groups exceeding 25 people: €105.00

Rates do not include any entrance tickets to the museums, which can be purchased at the ticket office or through InFerrara.



### GUIDED TOURS "IN COSTUME"

Special for Kindergarten and Primary Schools

Discover the most important museums of Ferrara accompanied by a special guide who, dressed in Renaissance attire, will make the visit a playful and interactive experience. The young visitors will explore the magnificent "Hall of the Months" at Palazzo Schifanoia, being enchanted by a world of zodiac signs, astrological icons, and court figures that adorn the walls of this outstanding palace, formerly called "delizia". They will be led through the evocative halls of the majestic Este Castle, the prisons, and the beautiful hanging Garden of the Oranges, where they will relive, through simple games and riddles, life during the time of the Dukes of Ferrara—what they ate, how ladies and knights spent their leisure time—accompanied by the guide's anecdotes. Additionally, they can immerse themselves in the fascinating atmosphere of the Cathedral Museum, rich in symbolism and stories, discovering the legend of the city's patron, Saint George and the Dragon.

#### USEFUL INFORMATION

**Duration:** max 1h30

**Meeting point:** in front of the Museum entrance

**Time:** to be agreed

**Rate:** € 7,00 per student - group leaders free

**Additional info:** minimum 20 maximum 25 students

Rates do not include any entrance tickets to the museums, which can be purchased at the ticket office or through InFerrara.



### THEATRE VISIT

A guided tour to discover the fascinating Teatro Comunale of Ferrara, considered one of the most remarkable examples of "Italian-style" theatres, with its architectural structures that have remained almost entirely unchanged over its more than 200-year history, and the somewhat magical, open yet seemingly hidden space known as the Rotonda Foschini.

The internal guided tour offers the opportunity to immerse oneself in an atmosphere of creativity, music, and performance, revealing some of the behind-the-scenes secrets. Visitors will explore the Main Theatre Hall, the Ridotto Rooms, the Library, and the evocative Sala degli Argani, a "non-place" located in the attic of the building that houses the original winches, dating back to the 18th century, which were used to raise the chandeliers.

#### USEFUL INFORMATION

**Duration:** around 1h

**Meeting point:** in front of the Theatre ticket office

**Time:** to be agreed (between 9 and 12 a.m.)

**Rate:** € 6,00 per student - teachers and group leaders free

**Additional info:** maximum 20 people

Visits can be conducted subject to the theatre's schedule and the ongoing activities in the halls.

## THE EXHIBITIONS AT PALAZZO DEI DIAMANTI



### THE 16TH CENTURY IN FERRARA. MAZZOLINO, ORTOLANO, GAROFALO, DOSSO

OCTOBER 12, 2024 – FEBRUARY 16, 2025

Benvenuto Tisi aka Garofalo  
Sacra Famiglia, c. 1525-30  
Oil on board, cm 53,3 x 81,1  
Frankfurt, Städel Museum

### A FAIRYTALE AT THE MUSEUM - ANIMATED VISIT

A fairytale narrated through the halls of the exhibition *The 16th Century in Ferrara* - an enchanting animated story that brings to life the tales of artists who lived at the court of Duke Alfonso I d'Este: from the eccentric Mazzolino, to the quiet Ortolano, the tireless Garofalo, and the ironic and dreamy Dosso Dossi. The rooms of Palazzo dei Diamanti become the fairytale setting for an engaging narrative journey designed for the little ones, allowing them to observe some of the exhibited works accompanied by objects, words, and images that spark wonder. **Suitable for kindergarten (age 5) and primary school (grades 1 and 2).**

### ABC OF THE RENAISSANCE - VISIT WITH WORKSHOP IN THE EDUCATIONAL CLASSROOM

A for Ariosto, B for white lead, C for collecting... The Renaissance alphabet is enriched with new keywords that will guide us through the exhibition *The 16th Century in Ferrara*. Viewing the exhibited works and hearing the stories of artists, writers, and poets active in an increasingly refined and ambitious Este court will lead students to discover the language of Ferrarese and Italian art at the beginning of the 16th century. In the workshop, participants will be involved in creating a large collective dictionary that will help them understand the meaning of the key words of the High Renaissance.

**Suitable for primary school (grades 3, 4, 5) and lower secondary school (grade 1).**

### SPEAKING WITH IMAGES - ANIMATED VISIT

An animated visit to the exhibition *The 16th Century in Ferrara* to explore the expressive language of the artists who frequented the Este court during the High Renaissance. Colors, symbols, gestures, and characters depicted within the works create a true symbolic alphabet that was easily understood by the people of the time but is more challenging to interpret today. This visit will allow participants to learn how to "read works of art" and create a personal image dictionary that connects past and present.

**Suitable for primary school (grades 3, 4, 5) and lower secondary school (grade 1).**

### NAMES, OBJECTS, CITIES - VISIT WITH WORKSHOP IN THE EDUCATIONAL CLASSROOM

What did it mean to be an artist at the beginning of the 16th century? The works of Mazzolino, Ortolano, Garofalo, Dosso Dossi, and some of their contemporaries exhibited in *The 16th Century in Ferrara* provide an opportunity to reflect on the styles, subjects, patrons, and trends of the time during the Duchy of Alfonso I d'Este. What innovations were Titian and Raphael introducing in painting? How did Ludovico Ariosto influence the court painters? In the workshop, participants will create a large collective map to discover, learn about, and connect the main players in the art system of the time with the historical and political events of the city and other Italian courts.

**Suitable for lower and upper secondary schools.**

#### USEFUL INFORMATION

**Meeting point:** Palazzo dei Diamanti

**Time:** to be agreed

**Rate:** €80 + exhibition entrance tickets and pre-sale fees



## FERRARA SLOW

### ON THE WATERS OF THE PO DI VOLANO

**Ferrara and the ancient Delta Cruise from the Ferrara dock on the Po di Volano, an ancient branch of the Po Delta that together with the Po di Primaro gave rise to the first city settlement in the Byzantine era.**

We will sail along the waters of the ancient river, parallel for a long stretch to the city walls, catching sight of the towers of the Estense Castle and the medieval bell towers of the square, until we reach the bell tower of the first Cathedral of San Giorgio, in front of the city's defensive walls, and the Ferrara countryside

#### USEFUL INFORMATION

**Ideal for primary, junior and secondary schools**

**Duration:** approx. 1h30

**Meeting point:** departure and arrival at Via Darsena 57, Wunderkammer pier

**Time:** to be agreed

**Cost:** €12 per person, 1 teacher free every 15 students

Groups of minimum 35 - maximum 70 people

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### FROM FERRARA TO THE PO GRANDE

Ferrara, the canals, the reservoir, the Po and the Isola Bianca

**Guided tour to discover the river origins of the Este city and its evolution** through the Middle Ages and Renaissance to the present day. Embark at the San Paolo dock in Ferrara, on the Po di Volano, located in the heart of the city a stone's throw from the Castle.

We sail on the waterway that joins Ferrara, which was founded in ancient times on the banks of the river, to the Po. An unusual cross-section of the city, a natural corridor where herons, bee-eaters and turtles live undisturbed. Passing through the Pontelagoscuoro reservoir, a scenic backdrop to the majesty of the Po river with spectacular views, you will skirt Giarina beach, the ancient Isola Bianca and discover its heronry with nesting herons.

#### USEFUL INFORMATION

**Ideal for primary, junior and secondary schools**

**Duration:** approx. 2h30

**Meeting point:** departure and arrival at Via Darsena 57, Wunderkammer pier

**Time:** to be agreed

**Cost:** €14 per student, 1 teacher free every 15 students

Groups of minimum 35 maximum 70 people

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**THE PIRATES OF THE PO**  
Guided cruise and workshop

Pellegrina Pibigas and Captain Atze, two surviving pirates of the Po, will take children on a real and imaginary journey down the river through the stories of the river people, populated by animals and fantastic creatures who are not always in a good mood, as in the story of the old pirate Sapan. **Between animal sightings, tattoos and pirate songs, the children, the new young pirates,** the stars of this river adventure, will be able, in a sort of collective ritual, to make a wish and entrust it to paper boats that will float to the sea pushed by the river current.

**USEFUL INFORMATION**

**Ideal for primary, infant schools and families**

**Duration:** approx. 2h30

**Meeting point:** departure and arrival at Via Darsena 57, Wunderkammer pier

**Time:** to be agreed

**Rate:** €16 per child, 1 teacher free every 15

students

Groups of minimum 35 - maximum 70 people



**THE DELIGHTS OF VILLA MENSA BY BOAT**  
On the ancient waterways of the Este family

A cruise along the Po di Volano, on one of the ancient waterways beloved by the Este family, along which they built the most beautiful Delizie, summer residences created for recreation and pleasure. From the dock in Ferrara, through the countryside of Ferrara with its small villages, we will cruise to the Villa La Mensa, an ancient 15th-century villa, one of the Delizie residences of the D'Este family and the only one still accessible by water. Stop for a guided tour of the villa (2 hours).

**USEFUL INFORMATION**

**Ideal for primary, junior and secondary schools**

**Duration:** 2h outward - 2h return

**Meeting point:** departure and arrival at Via Darsena 57, Wunderkammer pier

**Time:** to be agreed

**Rate:** €16 one way - €21 round trip, per person, teachers free

Groups of minimum 40 - maximum 70 people  
Guided tour of Villa Mensa: €4 per person

## MULTI-DAY EDUCATIONAL TRIPS



### 1 night | 2 days stay

Accommodation in a 3\* hotel, bed and breakfast basis

#### DAY 1

**10 a.m.** Visit to the Jewish Cemetery and guided tour of the medieval district and Jewish ghetto  
Free time lunch break\*

**4 p.m.** Cruise on the Po di Volano with departure from the Ferrara dock  
Check-in at the accommodation and free time at dinner or half-board

#### DAY 2

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out  
**9 a.m.** guided tour discovering Ariosto places and Renaissance highlights  
**11:30 a.m.** Guided tour of the Este Castle  
Free time lunch break\*  
**2:30 p.m.** Stop at the Corpus Domini Monastery  
**3:30 pm** Guided visit to the Museum of Palazzo Schifanoia  
End of services and departure

\*Packed lunch option indoors in case of rain, subject to availability.  
From €1 per person charge.

Stay can be extended including a visit to Comacchio and the Po Delta Park.

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### 2 nights | 3 days stay

Accommodation in a 3\* hotel, bed and breakfast basis

#### DAY 1

**10 a.m.** guided tour of the National Archaeological Museum followed by a guided tour of the medieval city center  
Free time lunch break\* and check-in at the accommodation

**3:30 p.m.** guided tour of the Este Castle

**5 p.m** Guided tour of main Renaissance spots in Ferrara

#### DAY 2

Breakfast at the hotel

**8:30 a.m.** departure for Comacchio and the Po Delta Park

**10 a.m.** cruise in the Comacchio lagoons and brief visit to the historic center of Comacchio  
Free time lunch break\*

**3:30 p.m.** Guided visit to Pomposa Abbey  
Return to Ferrara

#### DAY 3

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out

**9 a.m.** guided tour at the Cathedral and its Museum

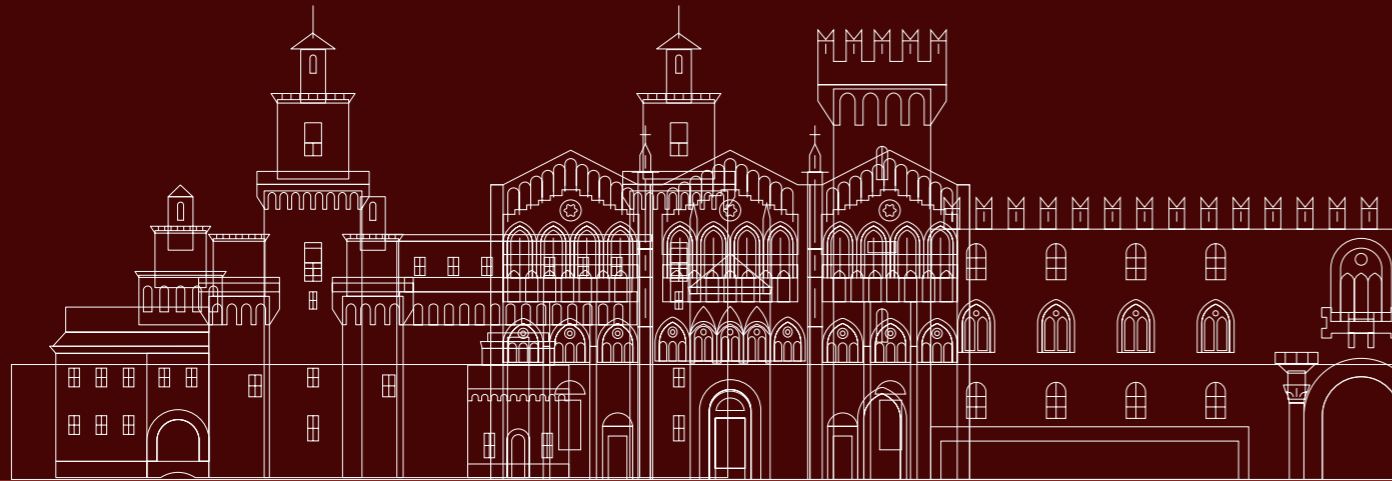
**11 a.m.** Bike tour along the ancient city walls  
Free time lunch break\* and free time  
End of services and departure

\*Packed lunch option indoors in case of rain, subject to availability.  
From €1 per person charge.

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## RATES AND SUPPLEMENTS

**Full-day guided service** (max 5h): from €230

**Supplement for holidays and days before holidays services:** €10

**Supplement for guided services in National Archaeological Museum – National Portrait Gallery – MEIS:** €15

**Supplement for guided services in a foreign language:**

- Short and half-day tour (max. 2h30) €40
- Full day tour (max. 5h) €50

**Additional guide supplement in museums for groups exceeding 25 people:** €105

**Supplement for interactive walking tours:** €10

**Supplement for guided services outside Ferrara:** starting from €30

**Supplement for pre-purchase of museums and exhibitions' tickets:** €20

**Radio guide rental:**

HD service up to 4 hours: €2.50

FD service up to 8 hours: €3.50

**Bicycle rental:** €8.00 - €20

## HOW TO BOOK

**Send a request:** In order to book any of our services, please send a request by email, indicating your preferred itineraries, the date of the visit and the number of participants. We will send you a quote of the cost with details of services and availability on the requested date.

**Confirmation of services:** To confirm your quote, simply send an email with the following information so we can prepare the contract and issue your invoice: - date of visit - number of people - name and mobile phone number of contact person - full details: name and surname or company name, address, tax code.

**Payment:** Payments are accepted only via bank transfer or in person at the IAT-Tourist Information Office of Ferrara.

- A 30% deposit of the total amount is required upon confirmation.
- The balance must be paid 5 days before the service date.

No refunds will be issued for any cancellations communicated after the balance has been paid.

**Vouchers:** After the payment, vouchers will be sent by email with a summary of the services, meeting points, addresses and telephone contacts for group assistance.

**Conditions and cancellation:**

Cancellation - withdrawal by the customer. In the event of cancellation of the booked services, the following penalties will be applied:

- 30 days before the date of the service, the deposit will be forfeit
- 5 days before the date of the service, and/or in case of no-show on the same day 100% of the amount due.

Changes - Cancellation by the organiser. In the event of force majeure, adverse weather conditions or vessel breakdown, the organization reserves the right to cancel confirmed bookings without any compensation other than the refund of any amounts already paid. The organization is not responsible for any extraordinary closures of museums and monuments, which are announced after the time of booking and cannot be foreseen.

**Insurance:** to cover the risks to people, arising from participation in the programmes, Po Delta Tourism ADV has taken out policy No. 501648707 - Enterprise Liabil - 14.





**IAT- Tourist Information Office**

at Este Castle | Largo Castello 1

Hours: Mondays - Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. | Sundays and public holidays from 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m

**[booking@inferrara.it](mailto:booking@inferrara.it)**

**[instagram.com/inferrara.it](https://www.instagram.com/inferrara.it)**

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