

# MEDIEVAL TOWNS AND CATHEDRALS

Programme – (5 days/4 nights)

Lord Byron Viaggi

incoming tour operator - travel agency



The "Medieval towns and cathedrals" tour represents a cultural journey over a remote period rich in fascination. Indeed the Middle Ages are considered one of the most interesting and controversial periods in the history of humanity, a period of spirituality made of lights and shadows, characterized by prominent personalities and thinkers and extraordinary and tragic events.

This tour intends to escort the traveller in search of towns and abbeys that represented the background of these events, where one can make a jump in the past finding oneself in a historical, unknown and fascinating dimension, still visible thanks to medieval buildings, churches and villages which are still intact in their peculiarity and beauty.

## 1st Day (Tuesday): arrival

Pick-up at Ciampino or Leonardo da Vinci airport (Rome) and transfer to the hotel in Fiuggi. Arrival and accommodation.

Before dinner, welcome drink for all the guests and after dinner short explanation of the weekly programme.

Overnight stay.



## 2nd Day (Wednesday): Anagni and Fiuggi



Morning: visit to the town of Anagni, known as "The Popes' Town" for it was the birthplace of important Catholic popes, the most famous of which was Pope Boniface VIII. To be visited: the Cathedral, one of the most beautiful Romanesque churches in Latium, where S. Magno's Crypt, bishop and patron of the town, is; Boniface VIII's Palace, where it is told that the historical event of Anagni's slap took place (the pope would have been slapped by Sciarra Colonna).

Lunch at a local restaurant in Anagni.

Transfer back to Fiuggi and visit to its old town.

Transfer to the hotel, dinner and overnight stay.



## 3rd Day (Thursday): Veroli, Casamari and Trisulti

Morning: visit to the town of Veroli and to Casamari Abbey. Veroli is a town standing on a promontory, characterized by medieval considerable monuments and evidences. To be visited: the Medieval Quarter; St. Erasmus Church, in Romanesque style; the Cathedral (S. Andrea Apostolo), Romanesque cathedral which was founded in the place of ancient Verulae's forum; the typical S. Leucio Quarter; S. Leucio Castle, where, according to the tradition, Pope John X and later Pope John XII were held as prisoners; S. Maria Salome Church, where one can go along the so-called Holy Stairs, consisting of 12 steps to be gone along on one's knees as a form of penitence. At a little distance from Veroli there is the renowned Casamari Abbey, in Gothic-Cistercian style, which has, besides a meteorological-seismic observatory and a chemist's, a distillery.

The abbey carries out an intense spiritual activity. Lunch at a local restaurant.

Afternoon: visit to the Charterhouse of Trisulti, magnificent example of abbey residence, whose building started in 1204 by Innocent III, pope from Anagni.

One can still admire the beauty of the medieval façades of its buildings and the neoclassical magnificence of its church.

Transfer back to the hotel, dinner and overnight stay.



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### 4th Day (Friday): Ferentino and Fumone

Morning: visit to the town of Ferentino, a town of great interest for its remains belonging to the Roman and Middle Ages. Of great interest are: the Roman Theatre, dating back to Trajan-Adrian's age; the Acropolis, on rectangular plan; the Church of S. Maria Maggiore, Cistercian-style church; the Porta Sanguinaria (the bloody door); the Cathedral (SS. Giovanni e Paolo), rising on the acropolis; the Borgo (village), inside the walls, with all its monuments, churches and palaces, among which the Consul's Palace stands out, showing the still intact female prison. Lunch at a local restaurant in Ferentino. Afternoon: transfer to Fumone, very well-preserved medieval village. Its name ("big smoke") derives from the function that this small town had during the barbarian invasions: given its elevated position, with a sight ranging from Colli Albani to Liri Valley, it could catch sight of the invaders at a long distance and through big smoke signals alert the neighbouring countries in time.



The visit includes Fumone's Castle, restored at the end of the XVI century by Longhi family, which realized a wonderful Italian-style hanging garden, which is the highest in Europe.

Transfer back to the hotel, dinner and overnight stay or Medieval Dinner in Fumone (only on last Friday of the month), a special event characterized by typical dishes, traditional music and story-tellers...



( Transfer back to the hotel and overnight stay)

### 5th Day (Saturday): Departure

Transfer to Ciampino or Leonardo da Vinci airport (Rome)

