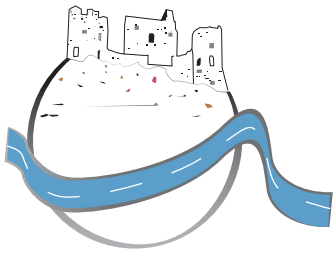


THE KINGDOM OF SATURN TOUR & D.H. LAWRENCE'S HOUSE Programme – (8 days/7 nights)

Lord Byron Viaggi

incoming tour operator - travel agency



According to a legend, the god Saturn founded five cities in the territory of Ciociaria: Alatri, Anagni, Arpino, Atina, Ferentino, by building them on the meridian of the Gemini Constellation. The tour escorts the traveller in search of these fascinating spots between myth, history... and far more.

Furthermore, the itinerary includes wonderful abbeys and charming medieval villages and then treads in a renowned English writer's footsteps, D.H. Lawrence, who for some time lived in the countryside of Picinisco, exactly in the house now famous as D.H. Lawrence's house, where he set some parts of his novel "The lost girl".

1st Day (Tuesday): arrival

Pick-up at Ciampino or Leonardo da Vinci airport (Rome) and transfer to the hotel in Fuggi. Arrival and accommodation. Welcome drink for all the guests and dinner at the hotel. After dinner short explanation of the weekly programme. Overnight stay.



2nd Day (Wednesday): Alatri and Casamari Abbey



Morning: visit to Alatri, town of medieval origins lying on a hill and famous for its monuments of great interest. To be visited: the Square of S. Maria Maggiore, centre of the city and characterized in its middle by a fountain, the Fonte Pia, wished for by the homonymous Pio IX; the Church of S. Maria Maggiore, Romanesque-style church; the Palace of the Gentili boarding school, of medieval origins and seat of a library; the Cathedral (S. Paolo), where Pope Sixtus I's Sepulchre is; the Acropolis, one of the best-preserved and most significant examples in Italy; the Polygonal Walls (2 Km long, up to 3 m high). Lunch at a local restaurant in Alatri. Afternoon: visit to Casamari Abbey. Built by four monks from the town of Veroli in pure Gothic-Cistercian style, it dates back to 1005 A.D.. Of great interest are the chapterhouse, the refectory and the library. Transfer back to the hotel, dinner and overnight stay.



3rd Day (Thursday): Anagni and Ferentino

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. Afternoon: 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. Transfer back to the hotel, dinner and overnight stay.



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4th Day (Friday): Arpino and Fumone

Morning: visit to the town of Arpino. Town rich in historical memories, it was Cicero and the famous Knight Arpinas's (the painter Giuseppe Cesari) homeland. Of great interest and charm is the upper and ancient part of the town, called Civitavecchia, where one can enjoy a beautiful panorama.



Lunch at a local restaurant in Arpino. Afternoon: visit to the town of 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): Montecassino Abbey, Atina and San Donato Val di Comino

Visit to Montecassino Abbey, founded by St. Benedict in 529 A.D. approximately, where the saint wrote his Rule Ora et Labora (pray and work). After many destructions and reconstructions, the abbey offers itself in all its magnificence and beauty still today.



Transfer to the town of Atina and lunch at a local restaurant. Afternoon: visit to Atina, town of very ancient origins as it was city of the Volsci, lying in the Comino Valley and very popular as a holiday resort.

It underwent many devastations and destructions by the barbarians, the Longobards and last by an earthquake in 1349; it revived at the beginning of the XV century. Transfer to the hotel in San Donato Val di Comino, dinner and overnight stay.

6th Day (Sunday): D.H. Lawrence's house

The whole day is spent treading in the English writer D.H. Lawrence's footsteps, over a fascinating and romantic journey on the famous English writer's tracks.

Arrival in the morning at Lawrence's house where the group meets its guide and heads for the town of Picinisco, where the local Sunday market takes place in a little square.

After a visit to this market and to the historical centre of the town, a literary walk treads in D.H. Lawrence's footsteps leading to the house where the English writer lived and set some parts of his novel "The lost girl".

After a guided visit in the house, minutely described in the pages of the novel, the group enjoys a local product-based lunch.

Free afternoon to relax. Transfer to the hotel in Fiuggi, dinner and overnight stay.



7th Day (Monday): Fiuggi

An entire day for free time in the town of Fiuggi.

In the evening, Farewell Dinner to thank and say goodbye to all the guests.

8th Day (Tuesday): departure

Departure of the group. Transfer to Ciampino or Leonardo da Vinci airport (Rome).

