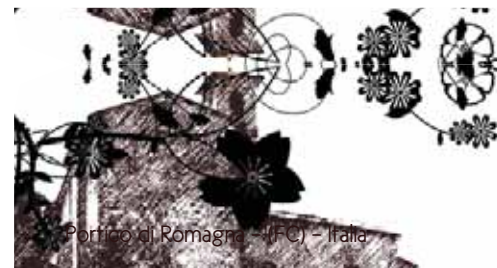


Represented in New Zealand by:

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al vecchio convento

albergo***
ristorante
albergo diffuso

How to reach us!

BY CAR: From Bologna or Ancona: follow the A 14 motorway Bologna-Ancona or Ancona-Bologna. Take the exit Forlì after about 75 km from Bologna or about 170 km from Ancona.

From Forlì: follow the SS 67 in the direction of Florence passing through Castro Caro Terme; Portico di Romagna is about 35 km from Forlì.

From Rome: take the E 45 Orte-Perugia-Ravenna and exit at Cesena. Then go in the direction of Forlì; the last leg of the journey just follow Florence as described above (the SS 67 Forlì-Florence). Rome/Orte-Forlì is about 340 km.

From Florence: follow the A 1 motorway Florence-Bologna (115 km); then follow the A 14 motorway direction Bologna-Ancona as described above. Or take the SS 67 Florence-Forlì crossing the appennines and the "Muraglione" pass; this journey is about 75 km.

By train: From Bologna or Ancona most of the trains stop in Forlì. From Bologna it is about one hour by train; from Ancona it is less than 2 hours. From Milan, Rome or Florence take the high speed trains (freccia rossa) to Bologna and then change to a local train to Forlì.

Bus services: A regular local bus service operates from Forlì bus station (next to Forlì train station) to Portico di Romagna with a change-over in Rocca San Casciano; see www.atr.fc.it

By air: Any flight to Bologna, Florence, Rimini or Forlì. Check the airlines available. We can give suggestions about any transfer including car rental from any airport to Portico.

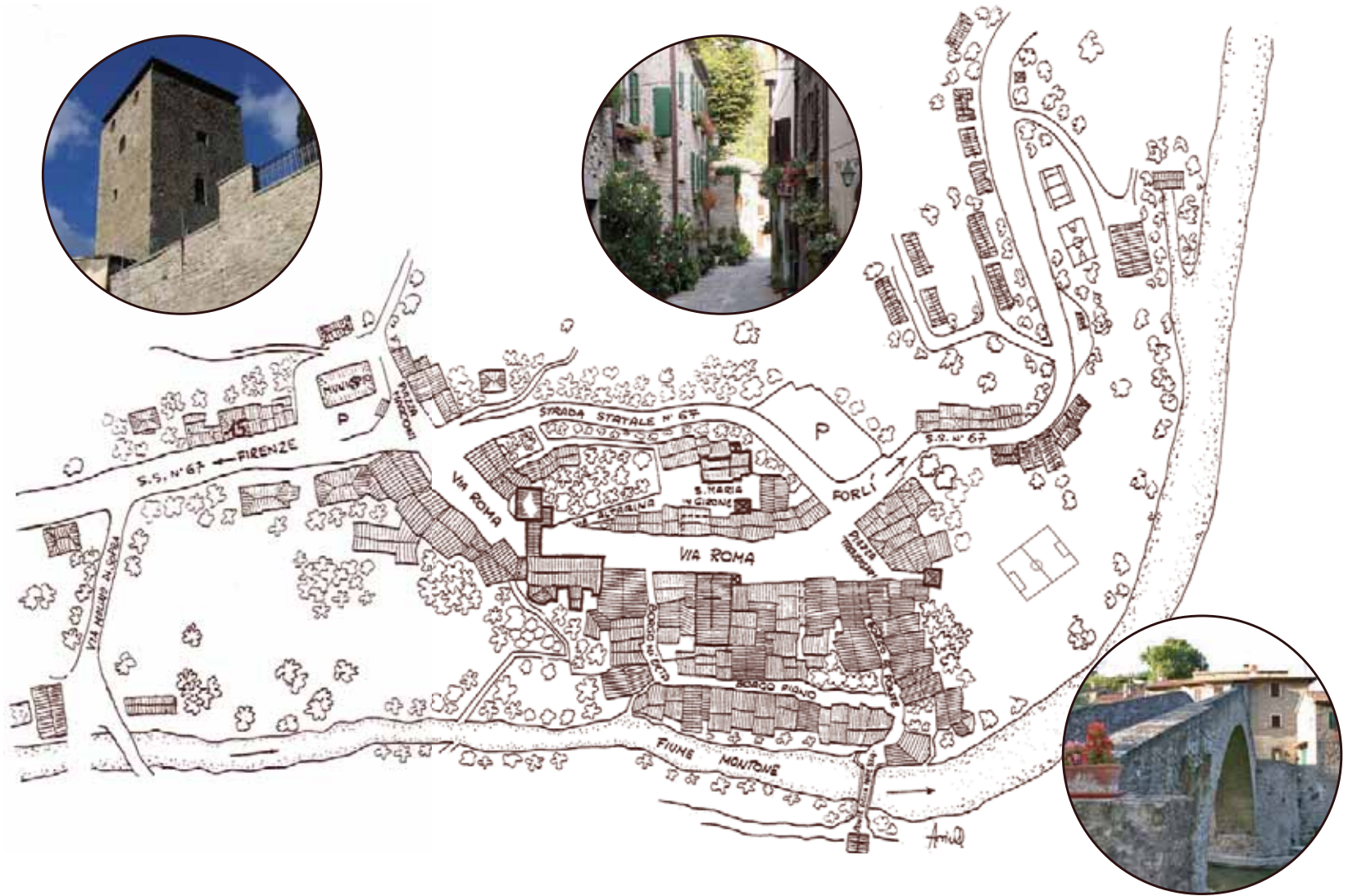


Portico di Romagna is situated in the appennine mountains between Ravenna and Florence in the Romagna-Toscana area.

Actually it is a small medieval village with its castle, towers, bridge and buildings which are still more or less intact from medieval and renaissance times.

Quite interesting is the legend that the family of Beatrice Portinari, muse of the famous poet Dante Alighieri, came from Portico.

Enjoy the walks in the village, in the woods or just walk to our local river where you can have a refreshing swim with the locals of the village in the natural swimming pool of the river. Actually the woods are part of the national park "Foreste Casentinesi" where one can, if lucky, see wild animals such as boars, deer, porcupines and where high in the mountains even wolves have been re-introduced. One can also admire the rich flora.





Hotel 'Al Vecchio Convento' ★★★

The hotel is situated in the centre of Portico di Romagna. The building is an old 18th century "palazzo" which used to belong to one of the ancient families of the of village.

We offer all the comforts of modern times even though the hotel has maintained its old style from bygone times such as the original furniture of the old palazzo, cast iron doors, windows and other fittings, local ceramics from Faenza and other artifacts.



Services

- Restaurant
- Garden
- Breakfast up 11 AM
- Wireless internet
- Animals admitted

The 'Albergo Diffuso'

Partly a house and partly a hotel, dedicated to those people who do not like hotel stays; in short, this is a new form of hospitality that takes the name of "Albergo Diffuso" (hereafter AD). Its main components are distributed in different buildings, all located in the same village/town. The term "diffuso" (diffuse) denotes a structure that is horizontal, and not vertical like the one pertaining to traditional hotels, which often do not constitute a pleasant sight, reminding us of blocks of flats. ADs satisfy the tourists' demand of stays in renowned and famous areas and towns, of contact with residents and local people rather than only with other tourists, and of the traditional comforts offered in hotels, such as room service or a restaurant. This form of hospitality has showed to be very efficient for the valorisation of towns and villages that are artistically or architecturally peculiar and interesting; through ADs we can valorise old and dismissed buildings and, at the same time, we can avoid to solve the problems of hospitality only through the construction of new structures





The Restaurant

At "Al Vecchio Convento" the same good spirit that livens up the atmosphere, has been put also in the cooking; you will taste a kind of cookery that mixes traditions with healthy foods, in full obedience of the environment and of the seasons. The term "creative cooking" indicates at best the features of this kind of cooking, in which the typical seasonal dishes are revised with imaginative simpleness and fast-cooked, to enhance every single flavour at his best.

You will savour the real taste of our country through a lot of local products such as mushrooms, truffles, strong cheeses, sheep's milk cheeses, aromatic herbs, soft fruits, honey...

From spring to autumn our own vegetable garden and greenhouses supply the Restaurant with plenty of first-rate biological products used for the preparation of our dishes.

The wine-cellar counts a choice of about 150 wine-labels, that represent a wide range of the Italian wines, with particular prominence to the ones of Romagna. Soprattutto Sangiovese di Romagna.



Italian School



Founded in 1989 in collaboration with the city council, the Italian School started as an Italian Language and Cultural Centre. In 2000, a new management took over and the Cultural Centre became a school of Italian (language) for foreigners, even officially recognised by the Italian State.

The Italian School is situated in a modern and cosy building. Just below the school a lush green garden can be found actually quite close to the Montone river where often lessons take place, mostly during the summer, in a relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere. The Italian School employs teachers with a degree and a long experience in the field of Italian language teaching.

The school Olmo Verde (Green Elm) constantly organizes free time activities both for the students and their partners or travel companions



Courses and excursions

In collaboration with the Olmo Verde school, the hotel and restaurant Al Vecchio Convento organizes various activities such as:

- Cooking courses and classes
- Drawing courses and classes
- Wine tasting
- Olive oil tasting
- White truffle hunting
- Guided excursions to the national park
- Guided excursions to the nearby art cities

