

EVENTS

One of the events not to be missed, is the palio of San Donato which takes place in August. In this occasion people dress up like medieval pageants.



Another event not to miss is the **Mittlefest**. It takes place in July and it is the major middle-European art event with theatre, music and major artist.



LOCAL CUISINE

The Natisone area offers different typical dishes as gubana, a cake which is the symbol of Friuli, and strucchi biscuits made from the delicious filling of the gubana.

The other typical dishes are:

- Corn, pumpking, and chestnuts soups
- The zlicjaki: small gnocchi of flour
- Palacinke, pancakes
- Goat cheeses



The Grave Occidentali (Oriental Hills of the Friuli) are well known all over the world for the production of doc wine.



To taste local dishes you have to go to rustic trattorias like "Al Giro di Boa", fine restaurants like "Al Monastero taverna di Bacco" and food fairs.



ACCOMMODATION

Locanda al castello***

Cividale del Friuli
33043 Via del Castello, 20
tel: 0432 733242– fax: 0432 700901

Hotel Roma***

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CIVIDALE and NATISONE VALLEYS



**A journey into the medieval city of
Friuli Venezia Giulia**

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Cividale is a town located in Friuli Venezia Giulia in the north of Italy, near Udine, on the river Natisone whose valleys create the Natisone Valleys.



A LITTLE HISTORY

Cividale was founded by Julius Caesar in 50 bc but it was already settled by Veneti and Celts.

It was the first major centre of the first Lombard Duchy and in 1077 the city became the seat of the Patriarchate.

The town has always been a meeting point of different cultures: from Celts to Romans and from Carolingian Empire to the Patriarchate of Aquileia.

WHAT TO SEE IN CIVIDALE

Cividale offers a lot of interesting places to visit:



One of the most important is the **Lombard Temple**. It is located next to the Natisone river and it is a notable example of high medieval art: it is characterized by Byzantine frescos and stucco decorations.

The Devil's bridge, the symbol of Cividale is also interesting. There is a legend that tells that it was built by the devil in exchange of the soul of the first person who would cross the bridge. People at first let a dog across and so they saved their self and the devil was angry with their.



Notable is also the Celtic Hypogeum, a mysterious site, situated in the centre of the city. There you can find a subterranean series of halls carved in the rock in ancient times, whose destination remains unclear.



Also worth seeing:

- The Christian Museum, which contains outstanding example of lombard sculpture and relics of the art of the 8th century;
- The National Archaeological Museum, designed by Andrea Palladio;
- The Cathedral, whose interior houses a notable altar dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

THE MAGICAL NATISONE VALLEYS

Cividale is surrounded by the Natisone valleys, an area of outstanding natural beauty, with fascinating villages steeped in tradition.



This is a unique place where you have the possibility to visit numerous small churches of the 15 and 16 century and typical examples of slavic architecture.

You can climb the mount Kolovrat, it was the scene of major battles in the First World War, there you can see the wonderful views. Another interesting mountain is Mount Matajur which is the symbol of the Natisone Valleys.

The cave Sanctuary of **San Giovanni d'Antro** is interesting. It is a naturalistic, historical, religious and cultural point of view. You enter in the cave from a fortified entrance.



In its heart it is possible to visit a chapel and find a wooden altar of the 18th century of Slovenian school and some statues of the 16th century. Sport lovers can practice various sports like trekking and mountain bike in this area.