

Pescocostanzo

Pescocostanzo is located in the "Altipiani Maggiori d'Abruzzo" area, at an altitude of 1400 mt, among gorgeous and silent pastures, which are the natives reason of life.

The ancient center, bornt from a mix of cultures that during years, more on 1440 to 1700, left several examples of baroc and rinascimental monuments.

The artisanal tradition is still alive and is a real proof of the quality, experience and style coming from the past, as Tombolo (the making of lace pillow) and the working of wrought iron and watermarket.

Pescocostanzo, with its unique naturalistic profile, is the right proposal both in summer than in winter time.



- ⊙ In summer there are a lot of chances for visitors as excursions to the Maiella Park and the closed little villages, biking throughout the table-lands, folkoristic feasts, concerts, exhibitions.
- ⊙ In winter the Aremogna, situated at 5 minutes by car, is the best and well equipped mountain location of Italian center area (about 100 km of ski slopes)
- ⊙ Pescocostanzo offers a good range of accomodation for tourists, in addition to the important hotel receptivity of Roccaraso and Rivisondoli
- ⊙ Pescocostanzo is one of the "charming villages" in Italy and you can check on web site : www.iborghiditalia.it
- ⊙ Pescocostanzo, due to the deep cultural contacts with Napoli and Montecassino, is one of the most important european baroc center, where artists as Cosimo Fanzago and Ianzo Da Varallo (Caravaggio school), worked and left important examples of their art.

Festivals and food

Abruzzo is a region rich in religious and gastronomic festivals. On January 17, during Saint Anthony day, the enchanting rite of "light the fires" takes place. Then the "Forty Hours", starting on the 2nd Lent week, from Friday to Sunday. During these 3 days some suggestive masses are celebrated singing ancient musical compositions.

Other religious feasts are : "Madonna del Colle" on May 31, St Anthony from Padova on June 13, The "Lady of Assumption" on August 15, "San Felice" the patron on August 7 and 8.

Really attractive is the "handicraft festival", taking place by the middle of August when Pescocostanzo becomes the village of ancient dressed artisans showing the art of craft in every corner: the knife-grinder, the blacksmith, makers of "pasta" and cookies, as the "scarselle" made with eggs, cheese and citron, and the "pizzelle" with simple ingredients as water, sugar, meal and cooked between two pieces of iron. In the pubs people can appreciate the local wine and the home made cheese and salami. An example of typical local cuisine, usually eating by shepherds, is the "pecora al cotturo": in a big pot a sheep boiling for hours, and after a long time it is served with carrots, onion, celery and stale bread.

The restaurants offer to visitors a large range of natural and good tasting food, still using the old way of cooking with ingredients coming from the fertile land and from the closed sea.



Architecture and Town-planning

The Basilica of Santa Maria del Colle is the most important example of the local architecture. Built on the XII century and enlarged during the XVI century, it hosts masterpieces of art, as the portal and inside the altar with the precious statue of "Madonna del Colle", an excellent wooden lacunar ceiling and many others treasures.

Then there are wonderful places to visit as : Palazzo Falzago, Palazzo Colecchi, Palazzo Grilli, Palazzo Mansi.

The town-planning of Pescocostanzo was realised from Lombard work-people arrived in Abruzzo about the second half of the XV century : stonecutters, ebonists, iron and noble metals labourers, found a large success in the village.

