





## NEWS: Montagnana

**On 6th of March 2018 all Partners attended seminar and study visit at medieval fortifications of Montagnana. Meeting was organised by Aiccre Veneta Federation.**



*Location of Montagnana (source: maps.google.com)*

Montagnana is a medieval, perfectly preserved city fortifications with a 2-km-long city wall, 24 towers and 4 gates.





In ancient times, Montagnana's strategic position favoured settlements, as the town was located along the original road no.10 Padana Inferiore at about 50 kilometres from important artistic cities like Padua, Verona, Vicenza, Mantua and Ferrara, and at 80 kilometres from Venice. The area was already inhabited in the late Neolithic Age and, in Roman times, Montagnana was the ideal location to control the entire region. In the 13th century the town, like many other cities in the region, was burned down by Ezzelino da Romano, but then fully restored with the medieval fortifications perfectly intact even today.

Within the walls everyone should take a walk through town and see:

- Castle of San Zeno - the most ancient area of the city
- Civic Museum - museum which contains many artefacts from the Bronze and Roman Ages



- Rocca degli Alberi - cleverly-designed military fortress
- Villa Pisana - mansion built in the mid-16th century
- Duono of S.Maria Assunta - the late Gothic cathedral, with a white marble portal traditionally attributed to Jacopo Sansovino

## Partner's meeting was divided to 3 sessions:

### First session - knowledge exchange seminar

Venetian walled cities: history and opportunities

Historical overview of Montagnana and its walls

Conservation and re-use of Montagnana city's wall and castle

The process of "sdemanializzazione" (transfer from state property to Municipalities) of the Rocca





## Second session - training on traditional and modern approach to management of ruins

Montagnana's castle and museum management

Understanding the cultural heritage value of the medieval ruins

Assessing the competitiveness of cultural heritage

Exploring the potential of big data to assess CH attractiveness



## Third session

Guided tour of Montagnana

Conclusions of the study visit

**To get more details about Montagnana and this study visit click**

<https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/report-on-study-visit-Montagnana.pdf>

## NEWS: villa Beatrice d'Este and Castelfranco Veneto

Study visit at the Villa Beatrice d'Este complex and Castelfranco Veneto was held on March 7, 2018.



Location of Baone and Castelfranco Veneto (source: maps.google.com)



**Villa Beatrice** got its name from the Blessed Beatrice I d'Este who lived in this place from 1221 to 1226. In that time there was a small abandoned monastery from X century, previously inhabited by hermits. Beatrice, in May 1221, founded there a Benedictine nuns' monastery with around 10 nuns. In 1657 monastery becomes a private property of a Venetian merchant, who turned it in a private villa. In 1972 the entire site was bought by the Province of Padua. Today some rooms of the ground floor of the main structure of the villa are destined to the naturalistic section of Provincial museums.



In Baone partners had the opportunity to participate not only in a guided tour to the ruins of the former monastery from the 10th century but also in a training session, which was aimed at raising the partners' knowledge on risk management in medieval ruins. The training session was conducted by Prof. Claudio Modena, a former professor at the University of Padua in structural terms engineering, with extensive experience in risk management and restructuring of historical heritage.

In the afternoon the group moved to Castelfranco Veneto in the province of Treviso.





The **Castelfranco** wall settlement was founded between 1195 and 1199. Municipality of Treviso sent there a colony of a hundred families of free men, to whom were granted farms and houses exempt from taxes and burdens, from which the toponym Castelfranco: precisely, a castle "free" from taxes. The castle was made up of a square-based wall enclosure, with four corner towers and four middle doors, each with a tower on top. Since 1824, the municipal council of the castle had become the owner of the walls, having decided to acquire the castle from the state property.



After Partner's visit to the walls, another part of the meeting was held in the main hall of the City Hall. Two professional architects, who were in charge of the restoration and preserving activities of the castle, joined the meeting, as well as a local enterprise that presented a newly - developed technology ICT (Augmented and Virtual Reality) that could be applied to the ruins.



**To get more details about this study visit click**

<https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/DT322-study-visit-report---Baone-and-Castelfranco.pdf>



## ABOUT THE PROJECT

Topic of project are medieval ruins. In Europe there are at least several thousand historical ruins. Owners and managers of these sites struggle with the same problems: protection of ruins is problematic due to ongoing process of destruction, and modern use of ruins is limited. **Project objective is to give “the second life” to medieval ruins** through modern management and attributing contemporary, socially useful functions, while preserving historical value of these sites.

Project aims to develop and disseminate transnational guidelines and integrated model of contemporary use, modern management and protection of medieval ruins in Central Europe in order to enable elaboration of comprehensive management plans for ruined historical sites. Elaborated comprehensive management plans will help owners and managers of historical ruins, local, regional and public authorities exploit economic potential of this heritage in economic development of regions, and to preserve value of medieval ruins as cultural heritage.

Traditional approach to preservation of ruins has been focused on only one issue - how to maintain historical ruins from technical point of view. Innovation of project is to go beyond technical problems and to create integrated model that brings together 3 elements: contemporary use, modern management and sustainable preservation of ruins. Activities undertaken within project will be combination of research tasks concerning documentation and evaluation of technical state of ruins, conservation tasks concerning the form of protection of ruins and, most of all, activities aimed at contemporary use and modern management of historical ruins.

**Cooperation of 6 countries with various traditions and experiences will result in development of universal models that could be applied for management, use and protection of medieval ruins all over Europe, providing European added value.**

## CONTACT

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