

Festivals and event

From early spring till late autumn, there are numerous festivals and events to choose from. Most festivals are historic village festivals, concentrated on games and gastronomy (food and drink). While some festivals go back to the Roman days, others, like the 'palios' date from the middle ages or concentrate on the 18th and 19th century. It would be impossible to name them all, so have made a small selection for you and sorted them by the month in which they take place.

May

- In **Tolentino**, the place where a peace treaty was signed with Napoleon in 1815, the annual *festival Tolentino 1815* – a historical military procession - is held on the first Sunday of May. Location: Castelle della Rancia.
- The originally 15th century festival in **Camerino**, focused on food, drink and games, is held during the first 2 weeks of May. The main events are the *Corsa alla Spada e Palio* a race through the town's steep alleys and streets, the *Giostra della Quintana* and the *Corsa all'Anello*.
- During the *Festa della Madonna di San Giovanni* in **Ripatransone** a huge model horse goes up in flames.

June/July

- The *Palio del Castelli* in **San Severino**, set in medieval style, finishes on the third Saturday in June with competitions of Tiro alla Fune (tug of war), Corsa dei Sacchi (sack races) and the Corsa delle Tom.
- The 18th century festival of *Mogliano 1744*, which takes place in the town of the same name **Mogliano**, begins late June and finishes on the first Sunday of July with a procession, the Corsa della Bandiera.

August

- At the foot of the walls of the medieval village of **Treia** the annual games are held during the ten days preceding the first Sunday of August. The festival is called *La Disfida del Bracciale*.
- The *Giostra del Ie Castella* is a festival with bread and circuses set in the middle ages and held on the first Sunday of August in **Camerino**. Go taste the local wines and food and watch the archery games, the *Giostra degli Anello* and the *Corsa alla Papera* procession.
- The *Palio del Serafino* of **Sarnano** starts early August and goes on until the second Sunday of August with processions, a medieval banquet and games in between the four Sarnano districts.
- The *Palio's* of **San Ginesio** are staged in a beautiful medieval entourage. The Palio della Pacca is on 13 August, followed by the Palio degli Anelli on the 15th.
- From mid up to and including the third Saturday of August, the *Palio Storico di San Giovanni* is held in **Porto Recanati**. It dates from the 8th century and finishes with the Sciabbegotti con le Coffe, a wicker basket race from the port to the market.
- Six riders test their horsemanship on the first Sunday of August during the *Giostra della Quintana* in **Ascoli Piceno**. The festival dates from the 14th century.

September

- Between late August and the first week of September, you can enjoy the *Festa Contessa della Margutta* in **Corridonia**, with a large procession in a 15th century setting and a Giostra del Saraceno, a jousting game played on horseback where the riders stride the puppet of an ugly woman.
- Between late August and early September, the *Festa del Mundium Romanum* is held in **Matelica**. A fancy dress Roman festival with a climax on the first Sunday of September: the fascinating Corsa delle Bighe.
- The *Dono dei Ceri a San Nicola* is a medieval festival held in **Tolentino** in honour of Sint Nicolaas. It is held during the first week of August and the first week of September with games, food and drink. At the same time, on and around the Roman bridge in Tolentino is the Festa Sul Ponte del Diavolo, with dance and old crafts.