

## CAMERINO: MAIN CAMPUS

### CAMERINO: THE TOWN

The wealth of Camerino's historical centre and the sparkle of university life make Camerino a centre of culture and art. Thanks to its position, the town enjoys a healthy climate with brisk winters and warm dry summers. Camerino is just a few miles from the Sibylline Mountains National Park and close to other places of great natural beauty and environmental interest. These include the Nature Reserve of Torricchio (which is owned by the university), the Regional Park of Colfiorito and the Caves of Frasassi. The ski slopes of the Sibylline mountains are nearby, and Camerino is 45 minutes from the beaches of the Adriatic Sea. There is a lively theatre season, an International Summer Music Festival, concerts, cinema, museums and cultural events, all adding to the human dimensions of the town. Camerino is a University town and always has something to offer visitors and students alike.



### HIGHLIGHTS

**Piazza Cavour** concentrates some of the most important monuments of the town: the Cathedral, the Archibishop's Palace, the Ducal Palace and the monument to Pope Sixtus V, an impressive bronze statue from the late 16<sup>th</sup> century. The **Ducal Palace** was built by the de Varano family, rulers of Camerino from the end of the 13<sup>th</sup> century to the beginning of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, in three different phases. This is evident from the façades. The Renaissance part (from the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> century) comprises the still splendid courtyard, large halls and the impressive subterranean construction that today house university halls.

From the great balcony outside the courtyard, one can enjoy magnificent views of the Botanical Gardens, the surrounding hills and the Sibylline Mountains.

The **Archbishop's Palace** (14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> centuries) with its high portico of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, occupies two sides of the square.

The **Cathedral** was re-built at the beginning of 19<sup>th</sup> century in Neoclassic style on the ruins of the ancient Romanesque church. Inside is a 13<sup>th</sup> century crucifix and the majestic group of *Madonna della Misericordia* (Our Lady of Mercy) from 1450. Both are carved in wood.

In the crypt, the monumental 14<sup>th</sup> century Gothic shrine of Saint Ansovino.

#### **Civic Museum and Gallery**

The archaeological museum contains numerous items ranging from the Palaeolithic period up to the time of ancient Rome including inscriptions and inscribed plaques. There is an example of a large mosaic pavement from the second century AD, geometrical in design with medallions containing floral patterns, and fragments of frescos. There is an interesting coin collection and a selection of Greek and Roman pottery.

#### **Also worth a visit:**

**The Diocesan Museum** is housed inside the Archbishop's Palace. It contains an interesting and precious sacred art collection. The sculptures, paintings, silverware and handicrafts exhibited, covering the period from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, come from all over the territory of the large archdiocese.

the **Theater 'Filippo Marchetti'**

The small enclosed courtyard of the Town Hall (Palazzo Bongiovanni, 16<sup>th</sup> century) is the unexpected entrance to the spectacular Filippo Marchetti Theatre built at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century in the traditional horseshoe shape with elegant boxes on three levels and a gallery. The ceiling painted by Ferranti, depicts four scenes from Marchetti's opera *Ruy Blas*.

The theatre, once known as "La Fenice" was renamed in Marchetti's honour in 1881.

the **Basilica of San Venanzio** (patron saint of the town). Under the portico a huge portal considered as the most beautiful example of Late Gothic art of Marche, decorated with statues, pillars and twisted columns.

the **Tempio dell'Annunziata** (15<sup>th</sup>-16th century) in Renaissance style with its monolith sandstone columns on a high plinth, now used as conference and exhibition halls;

the Church of San Filippo in late Baroque style with its huge, impressive canvas by Giovanbattista Tiepolo, the famous Venetian painter of the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

**the Borgia Fortress** (16<sup>th</sup> century). Two large towers and the keep remain. From the gardens a spectacular view of the surrounding countryside across to the Sibilline Mountains.