

Social Events programme for accompanying persons

Thursday 20 September 2007

9.30 Meeting point: Conference desk.

The itinerary will be guided and includes: visit to the Caffè Pedrocchi; visit to Prato della Valle; guided visit to the Orto Botanico; visit to the Basilica of Sant'Antonio; promenade and visit to the old town centre squares: Piazza della Frutta, delle Erbe e dei Signori.

13.00 return in time for the Conference Lunch.

The Conference Information Desk is at disposal to provide informative material to whom is interested into visit the city or its art exhibitions.

Moreover it is possible to ask information on the train and bus schedule to Venice.

Informative notes and brief history of the placet along the scheduled itinerary

Caffè Pedrocchi: the café without doors.. It was called in such way because the caffè Pedrocchi is always opened to everyone. Until the First World War, it was opened day and night.

Its historical importance is due to the fact that on the **8 February 1848** a student was injured inside the café, leading off some of the movements of the **Italian Risorgimento** commemorated in the University hymn "Songs of joy".

Prato della Valle: one of the greatest places of Europe

Orto Botanico Universitario established in 1545, the most ancient in the world and a UNESCO resource

Basilica of S. Antonio

Main monument of Padova, it can be considered one of the greatest architectures of the XIII century: There can be recognised romanico and gothic elements taken from the Basilica of San Marco in Venice. The author – or authors – and the exact time when the building was started are still unknown. It can be said that the XIII century is that of building, the XIV that of decoration, and the XV that of sculpture.

There is a Donatello's monument on the churchyard: it is the monument to Erasmo da Narni better known as Gattamelata; this is the first equestrian statue melted in Italy since the Roman age, and Donatello probably has taken inspiration from the classic examples of that age.

Piazza della Frutta: is one of the two placet symbol of the "mercantile" Padua, on one side of the Palazzo della Ragione. During the day it is full of fruit stands, and the night is quite crowded but never as the other place, Piazza delle Erbe, where young people usually drink the traditional aperitif, the spritz.

Piazza delle Erbe: it hosts a daily fruit market. Every night, usually Wednesday, it is crowded of people meeting for the rite of the aperitif.

Piazza dei Signori: symbol of the governative role that this place had in the past. The clock tower was built under the Venetian domain; the clock is the main characteristic of the place, it indicates the hours, the day of the week, the zodiac signs and the moon phases. The sign of the Libra is missing, since the purchaser paid a lower amount than that agreed upon.

Musei civici agli Eremitani: an anthologic exhibition dedicated to Fulvio Pendini