



TERAMO

GIULIANOVA

# TERAMO & GIULIANOVA

## A DAY ON THE ADRIATIC COAST



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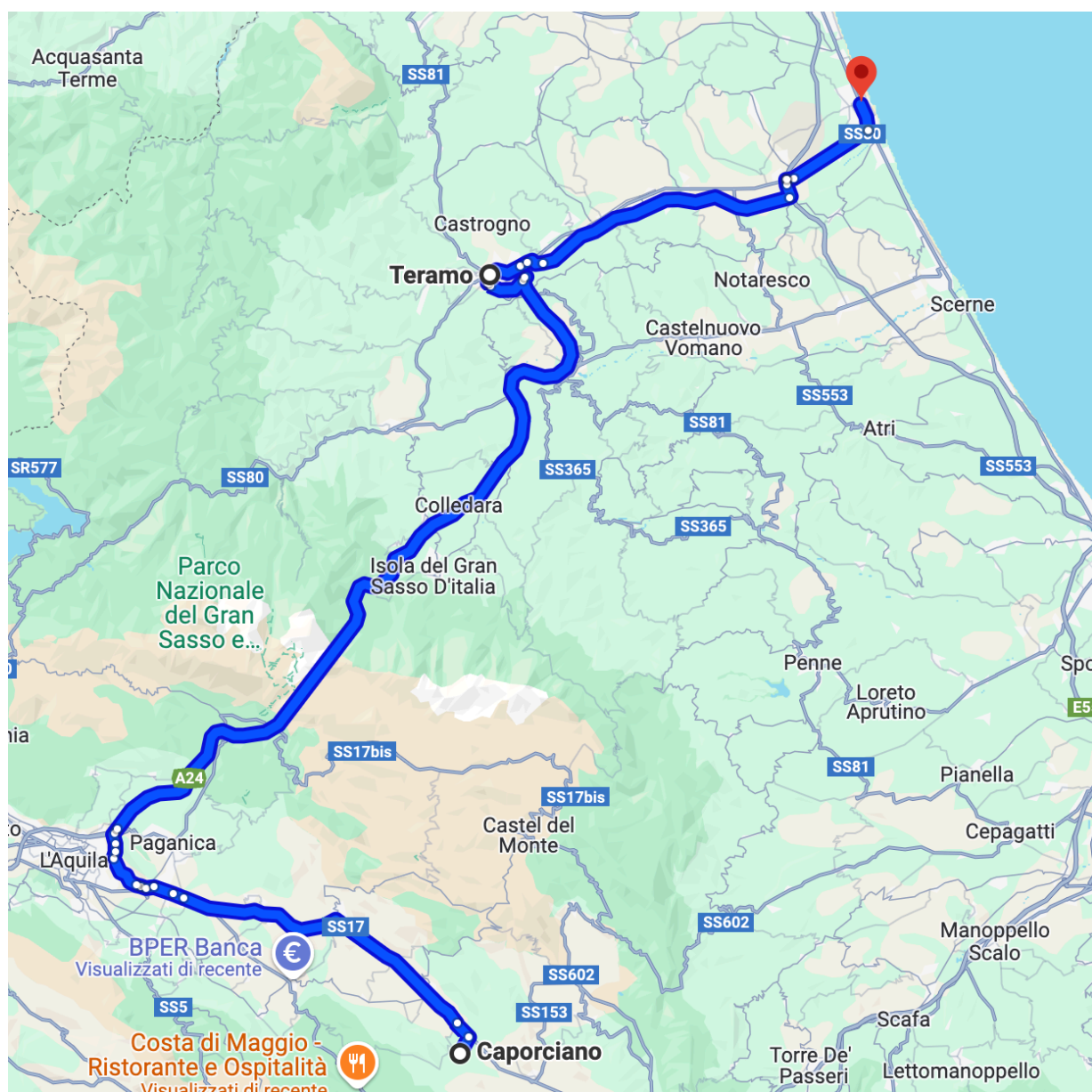
A day on the Adriatic coast of Abruzzo, dedicated to good food. Teramo cuisine is considered, parochialisms aside, the best in the region and in Giulianova, on the coast, you can eat excellent fish. It's up to you to decide how and where to have lunch and/or dinner.

Teramo can be reached by car from Caporciano in about an hour, returning towards L'Aquila, entering the A24 at

Aquila Est and passing under the "famous" Gran Sasso tunnel, where you can see the underground access to the physics laboratories. At the exit there is an exceptional panorama, with the sheer mountain wall.

Teramo is a beautiful town, still not included in tourist itineraries. It actually has a lot to offer,

I'd say there's enough for a whole day, with a short stop for lunch. For the evening, especially after a long summer day, I recommend going down to Giulianova and enjoying first an aperitif and then an excellent dinner by the sea at Novavita Beach, a refined restaurant that also has a beach service.



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Piazza Martiri della Libertà is the heart of the historic center, lined with several important buildings, including the city cathedral, the bishop's palace, the diocesan seminary and the Costantini Pompetti palace.

Next to the cathedral stands the bishop's palace of Teramo. Despite the appearance of its main facade, its origins are between the 13th and 14th centuries. While on Piazza Martiri della Libertà, you can see the beautiful, excellently preserved fourteenth-century loggia and, upon reaching Piazza Orsini, you will find the portico of the Episcopio: stone

pillars that support pointed arches, testimony to the medieval features of the city.

Once you reach Piazza Orsini you will see the fountain of the two lions. Leaning against the portico of the town hall and protected by a metal railing, it dates back to the years between the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century.

Its construction celebrated the expansion of the water network of the city of Teramo and features two lions on a background of rock and vegetation, placed above the oval basin. The lions represent the Vezzola and Tordino rivers which contain the first settlement of the Teramo city.

We leave the center of Teramo through Porta Melatina. This gate is as old as the important old building that incorporates it.

The Porta Melatina complex dates back to 1323 and represented the main psychiatric hospital in central and southern Italy for several decades.

Next to Porta Melatina there is also the Porta della Recluse, which leads into the center through Vico delle Recluse. This entrance dates back to the 14th century and owes its name to the women's wing of the hospital housed here.

The Fonte della Noce stands on the street of the same name, and is generated by the Vezzola river. The fountain system, still visible, was built in medieval times to distribute drinking water in the city. This spring served the city until the 1930s to distribute drinking water throughout the northern area of Teramo. Its name is linked to the numerous walnut plants that have been present in its vicinity for centuries.



Duomo - the rear façade

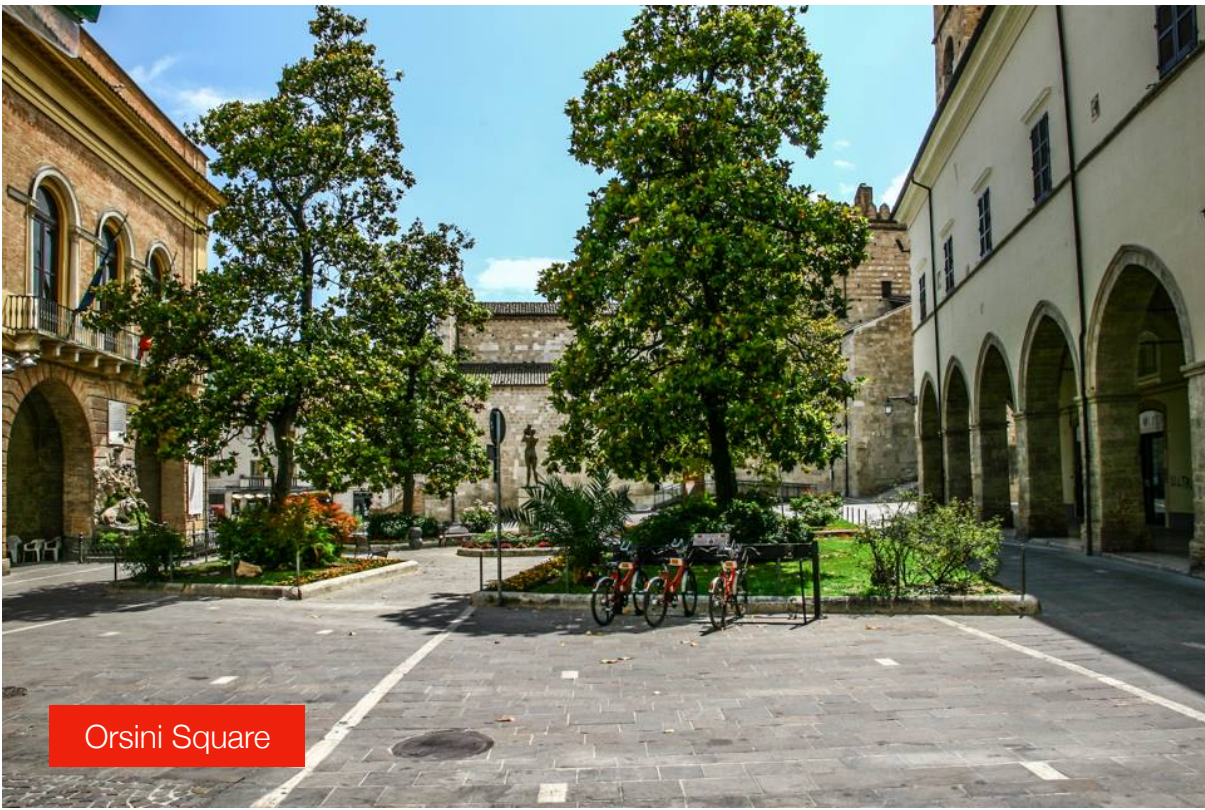


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Orsini Square



Walnut spring (Fonte della Noce)



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Along Corso Carlo de Michetti you come across a low succession of pointed stone arches. These are the remains of ancient medieval homes from the 14th century. In the 18th century, they were grouped into a single complex known as Casa Bonolis.

The arches represent the part of the ground floor that faces outwards, while the rest of the house changed shape several times. In the sixties of the last century, however, the municipal

administration decided to demolish Casa Bonolis to build a more modern building. In their unfortunate choice, at least, they left the arches standing which can still be seen today.

What not many people know is that when visiting the center of Teramo you come across a real Roman theatre, which is in turn flanked by an amphitheatre. What is now the heart of the historic center, at the time of the theater's construction, was only the marginal part to the west. In

fact, the theaters were built outside the centre, in such a way that the numerous people who flocked there could reach them easily without hindering other city traffic.

Over the centuries the structure was incorporated into other buildings and only in 1926 did the slow process of bringing to light what has come down to us begin.



A very short distance from the Roman theater there are the remains of the amphitheatre. This is more recent, in fact it dates back to the 1st century AD and had an elliptical shape with a perimeter of 208 metres. Along the walls, partly incorporated by subsequent buildings, it is possible to see the curvature of the amphitheater, the various entrances and some original architectural elements.

The proximity between the two structures meant that until 1926 scholars thought that both were part of a single element. In reality, more recent studies have shown that the amphitheater played the role of a fortress, as evidenced by the military tunnels found underground.

The Roman amphitheater was also plundered to build nearby buildings, including the Teramo cathedral.

In Piazza Sant'Anna there is a Roman house and the former basilica of the city. The house, of which you can mainly see the base and the mosaic flooring, dates back to the 1st century BC and is 90 centimeters lower than the other finds. This means that there was a progressive stratification of the soil in different periods.

And these are just some of the buildings to see!



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Roman Theatre



Roma Theatre-Rendering of the restoration



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## Giulianova - Novavita Beach



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## GOOD TO KNOW

- a) Find out about the opening status of the tunnel.  
In case of closure or delays in traffic due to works, you can by-pass it, adding just a few kilometers, by taking the A25 in Bussi and in Pescara the A14 for a short stretch.

## CONTACTS

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Teramo- della Monica Castle



Museo Fondazione Tercas



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