



Affidatevi all'esperienza!

AQUILEIA UNESCO SITE and GRADO

Aquileia, founded in 181 B.C., became one of the biggest and richest towns of the whole Roman Empire. This wonderful town has an extremely important archaeological area, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The excavations have brought to light the remains of the Roman forum and of a basilica, of the burial ground, mosaic floors and house foundations, of statues of the Via Sacra (Sacred Road), markets, walls, of the river port, a large

mausoleum and much more. The National Archaeological Museum of Villa Cassis is one of the biggest archaeological museums in Northern Italy with finds coming from Aquileia and surroundings as engraved gems, glass items and ambers, as well as mosaic floors and the rich epigraphic and lapidary treasure.

Grado, the 'Golden Island', stands in a picturesque lagoon amidst a maize of small islands and is a natural beauty spot with two nature reserves. It used to be the port for Aquileia, the 'Second Rome', situated nearby to the north.

Grado, joined to the mainland by a narrow strip of land, has a graceful Venetian style historic town centre where you can wander through the alleyways and squares flanked by picturesquely cluttered fishermen's houses. Definitely to be seen are the Paleo-Christian Cathedral and the very old octagonal baptistery. Up to the beginning of the 19th century, the Hapsburg aristocracy used to come here to bathe and use the excellent seaside thermal springs.

