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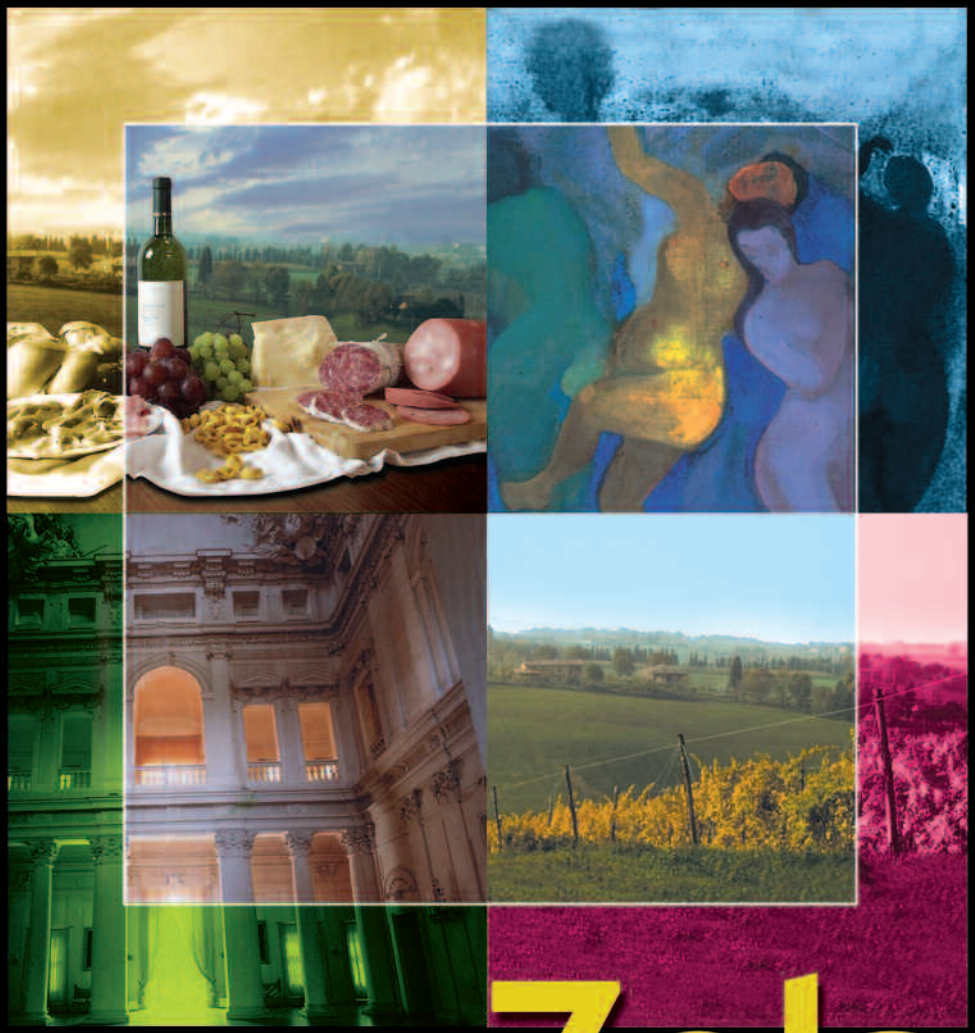

COMUNE DI ZOLA PREDOSA

Amministrazione Comunale

Provincia di Bologna

Città sostenibili dei bambini e delle bambine

Proloco Zola Predosa

CITTÀ DEL VINO

Zola Predosa

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The City of Zola Predosa
The Pro Loco of Zola Predosa
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Translation: Elizabeth Bernhardt
Graphics: Pablo Bologna

This booklet aims to be a useful guide, a popular resource offering information about the wealth of Zola Predosa's art, architecture, nature, wine and gastronomy. With membership in the *Associazione Nazionale Città del Vino* (National Assocation of Wine-Producing Cities) and the *Associazione Strada dei Vini e dei Sapori* (Association of Wine and Food Routes), the development of the *Parco Fluviale* (Riverside Park), the preservation of nature parks at Monte Capra and Monte Rocca, and the activities of Palazzo Albergati and of Fondazione Ca' la Ghironda, Zola Predosa has become a site frequented by tourists, a privileged place where one can enjoy cultural, artistic, athletic and gastronomic delights.

Adolfo Belletti's book entitled *Zola Predosa* is the most important book on the bibliography of this city's history and art sections (see below) and Belletti deserves special thanks for this work which serves as the classic reference for our local history.

The City of Zola Predosa's Departments of Civic Administration must be thanked for having kindly offered much information for this text.

Laura dell'Aquila and Laura Gavioli must be thanked as well for their contributions to the pages dedicated to the environment and to the gardens of the villas of Zola.

Eliana Scarabelli

Zola Predosa has never been on the Italian tourist track. However, what can be found on the pages in this booklet proves the contrary. There are in fact many interesting places and events in Zola that can attract visitors, that can lengthen one's stay in the area, and for those of us who live near or in Zola, this booklet can help us rediscover the city and its surrounding territory in a different light.

Much of the city's time and energy in the past had been dedicated to the industrial development and progress. We devoted less attention to our environmental, historical and artistic patrimony. Our prior focus was not a mistake, but it was a wrong made against the land and that deserves to be taken into account, understood and remembered.

In its own way, Zola became an important centre in the province of Bologna. And thanks to everything that has taken place here, today it is our goal to recover and to enhance the value and promotion of our traditions and uniqueness.

Over the course of time, thanks to good luck (and to other reasons too!), we never lost our patrimony and today what has been marked most by time has become the focal point for projects and activities of recovery and revitalization. The aim to revitalize is what we now see at the Villa Edvige-Garagnani and at Palazzo Albergati's *giardino-campagna* (Bolognese landscape garden) — both areas have been a theme in a "Contest of Ideas" leading to their re-development.

The desire to revitalize describes what is happening with the land around the Lavino River and its Riverside Park, the area of Gessi, the Monte Capra, and the Old Gunpowder Depot of Madonna Prati. These places have now been developed into parks which we have chosen to preserve indefinitely as they are currently designated as public patrimony for daily use and fully eliminated from any privatisation schemes.

Palazzo Albergati and Villa Pepoli have instead been restored by private individuals whose goal is to maintain their active and integral presence in the territory. The Ca' La Ghironda, originally a traditional farm, has now become a "Farm of Wonders" thanks to ingenuity and creativity. Here art and objects mix with and transform themselves in nature, the materials from which nature gives life. Our Pro Loco is a model for us as well, a vitally important presence in our town which has extensively worked to research, to repropose, to invent and to develop activities. The revival of Zola's Old-Style Market, for example, focuses on the revival of traditional crafts and digs deeply into our memory, restitching a thread to the past that makes us conscious and proud of our origins. Our food production and especially our wine-making industries are tied to important traditions known well beyond Zola itself. We are now moving ahead, as if just re-born, towards the rediscovery of our territory. We are relearning as if we were once again children in the traditional homes of our grandmothers and grandfathers who cared for us on Sundays and holidays when we were young among the many tastes and smells of another time. Perhaps at the start everything mentioned from the past here seems distant to us and from the lives we lead today which tend to take place elsewhere and to move to alternative rhythms.

But at a certain point, thanks to clues from time and from nature which catch our attention, we find ourselves curious about how people once lived here, what led them to these ways, and if these people embrace dear memories of their past or carry with them consuming regrets.

This guide thus invites you, in our company, to take a look around.

Mayor
Giacomo Venturi

historical background

Zola Predosa is a town within Bologna's metropolitan area bordering on the towns of Casalecchio di Reno, Sasso Marconi, Monte San Pietro, Crespellano and Anzola Emilia. Since 1997 Zola has been part of a Sister-City Program with the Swedish town of Timrå and the two towns today share a variety of economic, administrative, natural, cultural and athletic activities. The territory of Zola covers 38 km^2 and is developed along the Via Bazzanese, the old Roman Via Claudia whose course has remained about the same since ancient times. It was superimposed on the even more ancient Via Petrosa dating to Villanovian times and connecting Bologna to Modena. Besides the territory's township at Zola, the area is further divided into the hamlets of Gesso, Gessi, Lavino, Zola Chiesa, Rivabella, Ponte Ronca, Tombe, Riale, and Madonna Prati. Today 16,000 people live in this area. And thanks to archaeological finds, we know that human beings have lived here from the time of the Bronze Age. Material culture from Villanovian, Etruscan and Roman eras can be admired today at Bologna's Civic Archaeological Museum. Objects of particular interest include funerary trousseaux from the Villanovian period and beautiful vases and bronze statues from Etruscan times (e.g. the famous Efebo found on the Fruga farm at the foot of Monte Capra). From the Medieval communities of Gesso, Zola and Predosa, documents survive at Bologna's State Archive as well as the Archive of the Abbey of Nonantola. Before becoming part of

the metropolitan area of Bologna, these towns were part of Matilda of Canossa's property.

Foreign invasions, long wars between Guelphs and Ghibellines, and especially the growing political importance of the city of Bologna eventually dominating its surrounding territory, all touch upon the medieval history of Zola Predosa from which we have only few traces. The castles of Gesso and Zola as well as many churches were destroyed in this period—but some of the destroyed Medieval churches were rebuilt in later centuries. From the sixteenth century, Bologna became part of the Papal State and from that time its government remained stable for three successive centuries. Thanks to architectural, artistic and environmental traces, this stability permits us to see the various steps of economic, social and cultural development in the city. In this long time period Bologna was governed by a papal representative called the Cardinal Legate and by a Senate formed by representatives from local aristocratic families. Among these families, the Albergati, Magnani and Pepoli built gorgeous residences in Zola which we can still admire today.

In Medieval times, members of these families were merchants, artisans, and legislators. They came to Bologna from the countryside and made their fortunes, changed their social positions and built palaces within the city's walls. From the sixteenth century they began to build luxury residences in the countryside, often on land from their family's place of origin. Until the end of the eighteenth century, the country residences served not only as beautiful and comfortable vacation settings but also as the administrative centres for these families' landed properties. The *loggia passante* (a through gallery) and the landscape garden are characteristic elements which mark villas of this period, elements which compose a dialogue between architecture and landscape. Then later in the nineteenth century, country homes were built in a different spirit. They became bourgeois vacation spots, their dimensions were reduced, their gardens were grown with an eye toward aesthetic pleasures and were cut off from the cultivated land of the country. The later villas however still incorporated the traditional architectural element of the *loggia passante*. At Zola Predosa there are a few examples of famous contemporary architecture. The church of San Luigi at Riale was built by Glauco Gresleri in 1975. The City Hall was designed by Ivo Tagliaventi in 1982. In the industrial zone, the D&C building was constructed by the architects Adolfo Natalini and Roberto Magris in 1980. The Montenegro factory (which produces a well-known digestive liqueur) was also built in 1980 by the architects Carlo Gresleri and Ezio Segrelli. The industrial architectural form surviving from the old Serenari factory was designed by the architectural firm Città Nuova in 1970 and the FAAC factory was built by engineer Paolo Andina in 1978. Ca' La Ghironda has been recently enlarged thanks to projects presented by architect Mario Trenti and engineer Paolo Sorba.

Many churches built in medieval times in Zola Predosa have left us with mere archival traces. The oldest standing church, dating from the sixteenth century, is that at Ponte Ronca dedicated to Young Mary's Temple Presentation. Other churches we see here today have been rebuilt or built in subsequent eras. The Abbey of Zola was built in the late eighteenth century and the Church of Santa Maria at Gesso, dating from the end of the seventeenth century, was built according to a plan of a center nave with small lateral chapels. The church of Cristo Re (Christ the King) at Tombe and that of Saint Luigi Gonzaga at Riale (which technically stands within the territory of Casalecchio di Reno but falls under the parish of Riale) were both built in recent times despite their misleading architectural styles. A very recent parish centre and the church of San Tommaso have been built in the area as well.

Private churches, i.e. chapels incorporated into villas or built on private property, were once numerous and permitted people (even until relatively recent times) a nearby place of worship when the main churches were too far away.

The ancient human necessity to mark places with religious symbols lets us admire numerous sacred pilasters from various eras present across Zola's territory.

Today Zola Predosa is conscious of its environmental, artistic and architectural wealth. The upcoming redevelopment of the city centre, its churches, villas, numerous examples of intriguing rural and urban architecture, important environmental and gastronomic itineraries, the active presence of the Cultural Center and the Museum of Early Modern and Contemporary Art at Ca' la Ghironda and the activities of Palazzo Albergati all make this city an increasingly important cultural centre.

villas&palaces

Palazzo Stella

Palazzo Stella once housed City Hall. Many stone tablets have been placed onto the outside facade of this building in remembrance of important events and famous people from Zola Predosa, including that of Renaissance painter Francesco Raiboldini called il Francia (1450-1517).

Torre delle Tombe

Dating from Medieval times, this tower served as a safeguard for a court, its mansion, and the more rustic buildings around it.

Palazzo Bentivoglio-Pepoli

This palace was built in the beginning of the sixteenth century by Alessandro Bentivoglio (the son of Bologna's civic leader Giovanni II Bentivoglio and his wife Gynevera Sforza) and then changed hands, passing first into those of the Marescotti family and then into those of the Pepoli. This structure has been restored so that both its Renaissance architectural elements (which can be seen in its double loggia) as well as its Neoclassical editions (added by Angelo Venturoli between the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries) can be admired. The structure's tympanum is decorated with two angels holding the family's escutcheon surmounted by an eagle. Inside the palace there are painted wooden ceilings, friezes, and numerous decorations while outside in the garden the remains of decorative pools from past centuries are located next to the two-floor stable structure (which is divided into three large naves with cross vaulted ceilings).

Wrought iron gate at Palazzo Albergati

Palazzo Magnani Guidotti

In the beginning of the seventeenth century Enea Magnani began to transform a small rustic buiding on old family property into a luxury residence. His palace, characterized by a *loggia passante*, has undergone many changes over the course of the centuries. Inside, it boasts a dowelled ceiling covered with painted friezes. Ernesto Sambuy (who also designed Bologna's famous municipal park, the Giardini Margherita) also planned this garden in the nineteenth century. Despite heavy damage to the garden over the course of the Second World War, some examples of centenary trees survive.

Palazzo Albergati

Commissioned in the second half of the seventeenth century by Girolamo Albergati Capacelli based on the design by Gian Giacomo Monti, the dominating form and immense dimensions of this structure constitute a reference point for the entire area. An austere facade contrasts with an unimaginably elegant baroque-style interior. The vaulted ceilings are frescoed with mythological themes and exemplify an important era in Emilian art history between the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Alboresi, Colonna, Burrini, Pesci, Valliani, Bigari and Orlandi were the artists who painted here. This palace has been visited by many famous European politicians and men of culture. In the eighteenth century, its large rooms were used by the playwright and actor Francesco Albergati as a theatre for music and prose performances. The original structure has survived in its integrity and the building represents one of the greatest examples of baroque architecture in Italy. Today the palace is used to host conferences, exhibits, musical and theatrical performances. The landscape garden surrounding the structure

Palazzo Albergati

is an extension of geometrical spaces delineated by ditches, bridle paths and retting-pits. These elements represent the dual function attributed to the palace as it served not only as a vacation residence but also as an administrative seat for this family's properties. A modern addition to the estate of a double driveway around the palace is lined with linden trees and frames the garden facing north. The City sponsored a "Contest of Ideas" culminating in an exhibit of plans submitted for the historic restoration of this villa's landscape garden.

Villa Zanchini Garagnani

This villa was built in 1679 by Edoardo Zanchini. Its originality consists in the pronounced covered walkway which protects the ramps leading to the entry loggia in a dramatic way, visually multiplying the size of the structure. The garden has been built with the help of visual illusions as well. For example, the two approaching driveways arrive at an asymmetric building creating an optical illusion which sets the oblique orientation of the garden itself into a relationship with the villa's main doorway. The cisternice house ipogea, of spherical form, probably dates to the sixteenth century and is located in front of the villa.

Villa Edvige - Garagnani

This villa has been owned by the city since 1971 and is currently under restoration. It was probably built in the second half of the eighteenth century and is an example of a vacation home for the bourgeoisie. It is characterized by a *loggia passante*, and inside, remains of frescos depicting pastoral scenes by Basoli survive. Large trees of the species Cedrus deodara standing in front of the villa and the fake grotto located behind the villa are the only original elements dating from the original garden.

Palazzo Albergati *The Fall of Phaeton*

Tower of Tombe

Villa Socini Portoni Rossi

This much older villa was rebuilt in the nineteenth century. Two brick archways on its property delimit the old Via Sant'Isaia which led toward Bologna. Inside there is a loggia passante repeated again in the design of the two upper floors which can be reached by a large oval staircase. The villa's Oval Room was planned by Ravegnani in 1870. Many types of trees, including a monumental Sequoia, grow in the large park outside the villa.

Villa Quattro Torri

It stands along the Via Risorgimento in front of the old Via dell'Osteriola which is still lined by tall hedges serving as walls but is now named after Luigi Pirandello. Seventeenth century documents demonstrate that this villa once had four towers incorporated into its structure, hence its name *Villa Quattro Torri*, i.e. the Villa of Four Towers. Its *loggia passante* with barrel vaults is again repeated on the upper floor.

Villa Balzani

This farmhouse was transformed in 1860 by Andrea Balzani into a noble country residence. Its *loggia passante* is repeated on three floors. In 1797 a chapel was built next to the home which is open to the public once every three years on the occasion of festivals held in honour of the Holy Trinity. Some centenary trees grow in the villa's surrounding park including a beautiful example of a Taxus baccata. The Balzani family continues to take great care of this park and they currently grow some of Italy's finest examples of roses.

Villa Maccaferri

This villa was built in the beginning of the twentieth century by the family who founded the workshops of the same name, one of the most important industries of the region. Next to the villa near the railway tracks is the Maccaferri Factory with its brick chimney.

Villa Virginia

This villa is a bourgeois nineteenth century home owned by the famous botanist Antonio Bertoloni known for his Flora Italica. A wide variety of trees and plants grow in the park around the villa.

Villa Ricci Signorini

Originally constructed in the seventeenth century, its nineteenth century owners, the Dal Bello family, built a Neoclassic façade onto the structure.

Portoni Rossi

New City Hall

Designed by Ivo Tagliaventi between 1982 and 1989, this structure today serves as City Hall (previously located in Palazzo Stella). In 1998 a "Contest of Ideas" for the restoration and redevelopment of the City Hall was completed and the winner of the project was architect Claudio Zanirato. The area between Piazza Di Vittorio, Piazza della Repubblica, the old movie theater and all of the inhabited section of Via Risorgimento are included in his project. The main square presents itself as a large open space facing the main street and housing the most important public offices.

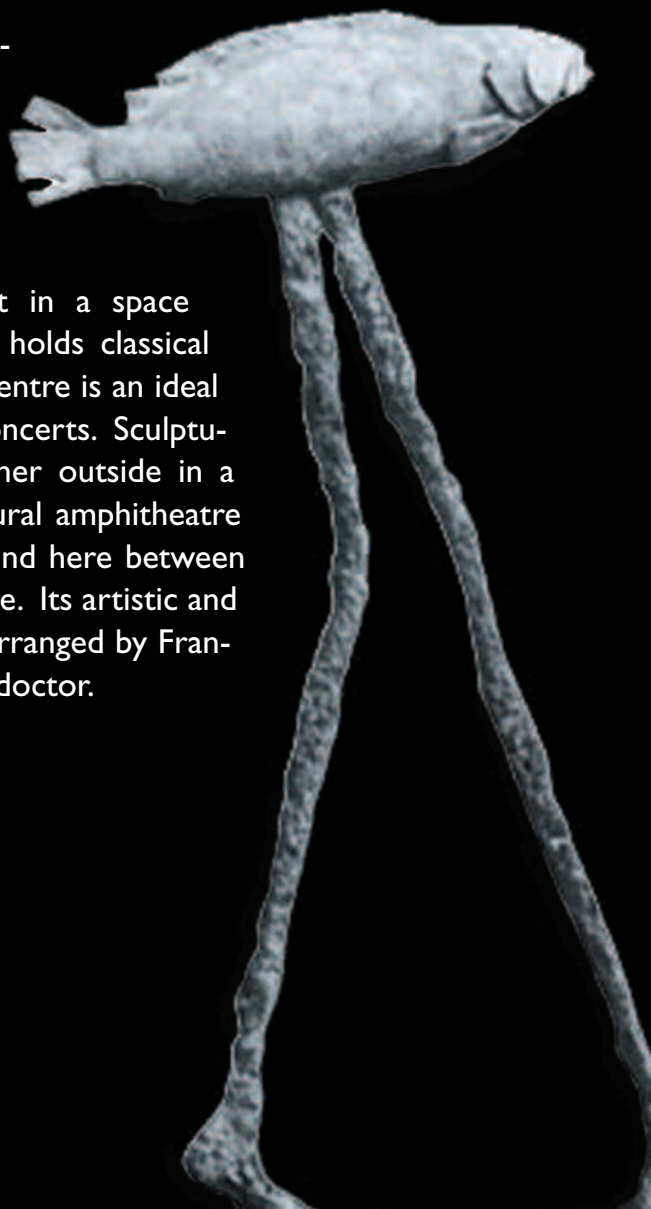
Sculptures

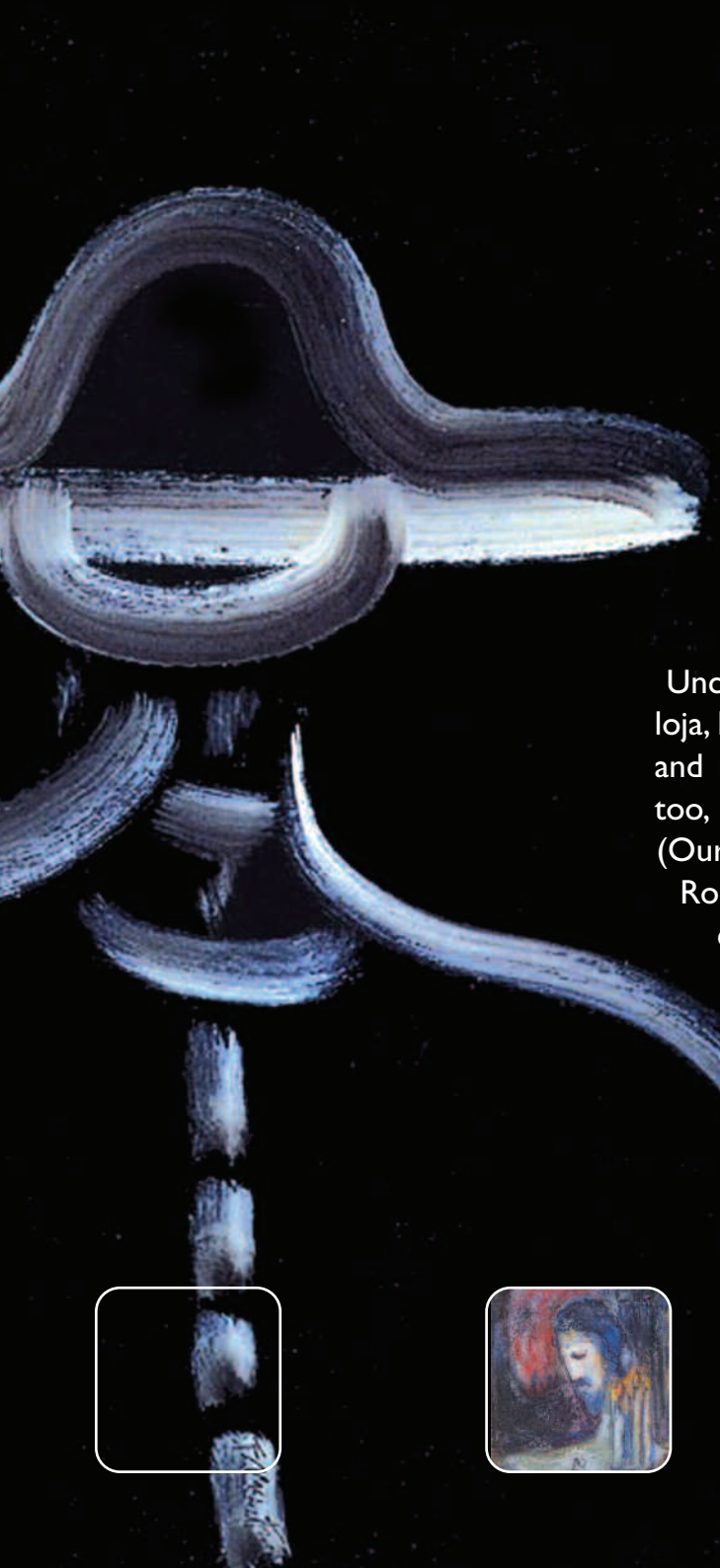
Works by **Nicola Zamboni** are shown in the **Respighi Park** and in the area outside the elementary and middle schools of Via Albergati. A bronze sculpture by **Francesco Martani** entitled *Il nostro puledro* (Our Colt) stands in front of the Police Station in Via Roma and a big marble statue of Saint Thomas stands in front of Gesso's new parish centre on Via Tasso. At Riale a representation of maternity in white marble by Francesco Martani stands in the middle of the roundabout recently named in honour of **Massimo D'Antona**.

Ca' La Ghironda

Cultural Centre and Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art at Ca' La Ghironda

This museum space consists of a ten-hectare park where a huge variety of plants grow on the hills of Ponte Ronca. The centre has been enlarged by architect Mario Trenti and engineer Paolo Sorba to allow the exposition of contemporary art in a space alongside the existing building which holds classical and early modern works of art. The centre is an ideal place for conferences, meetings and concerts. Sculptures are exhibited in an original manner outside in a splendid park, which also hosts a natural amphitheatre with 250 seats. The special union found here between art and nature renders the place unique. Its artistic and natural patrimony was collected and arranged by Francesco Martani, a painter, sculptor and doctor.





His art collection is of great worth and includes works by artists such as Manzù, Colla, Vangi Guidi, Uncini, Depero, Fontana, De Kooning, Bacon, Guttuso, Scialoja, De Chirico, Campigli, Pomodoro, Mastroianni, Cascella and many others. Martani's own sculptures can be seen too, including that of a small horse called *Il nostro puledro* (Our Colt) currently exhibited near Palazzo Stella, in Via Roma 20. Besides sculpture, the collection contains many classical, early modern and contemporary paintings.

Since January 2000 it has been possible to admire a painting entitled Lucrezia by Francesco Raibolini (il Francia). This work comes from Francia's golden twenty year period (1490-1510). Previously held in a private home abroad, the painting is attributed to Francia and was purchased by Francesco Martani for his collection. Francia's family came from Zola Predosa and with particular pride this painting is now held and shown here at Ca' La Ghironda.

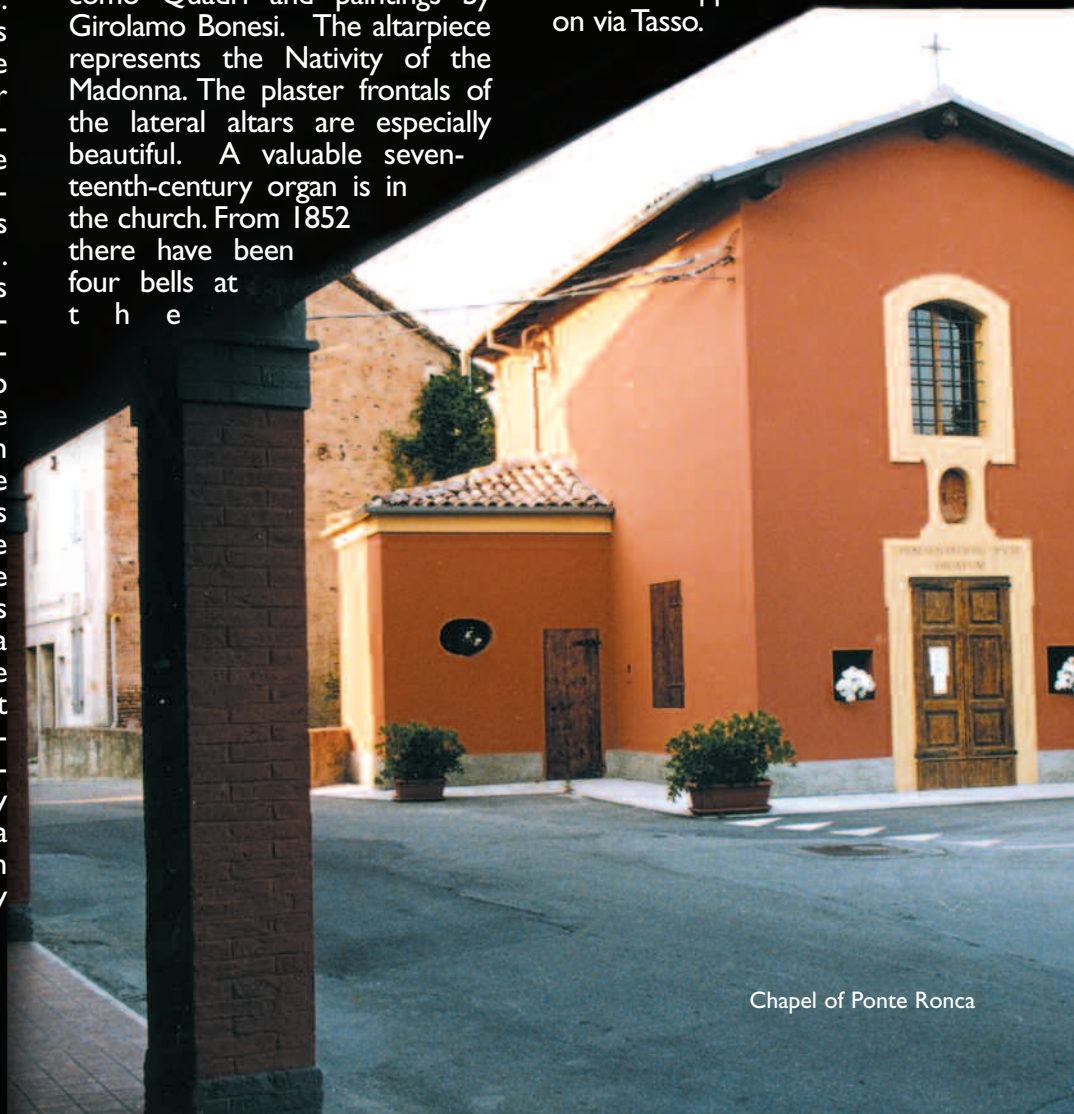
churches, chapels
& sacred pilasters

Abbey of Saints Nicholas and Agatha

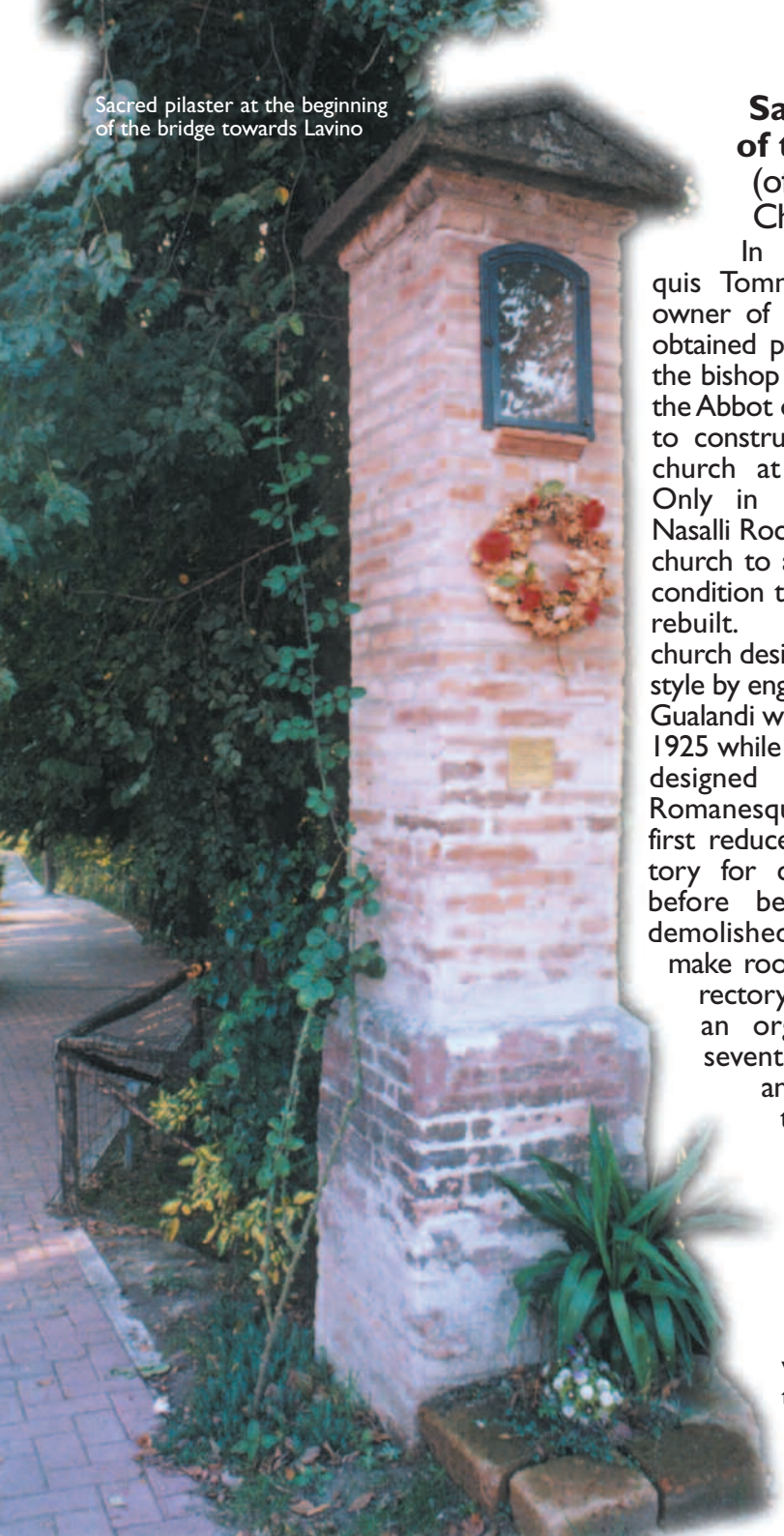
This abbey is a result of the fifteenth-century unification of two separate pre-existing churches. The church we see today stands on land once owned by the Albergati family. The bell tower was designed by architect Giuseppe Jamorini in 1780 while the complex was designed by architect Cosimo Morelli and was inaugurated on 24 July 1781. Outside can be seen large statues of Saint Nicholas and Saint Agatha made by Alessandro Barbieri. Inside, interesting stucco decorations and sculptures were created by Giuseppe Callegari. In the vault of the main chapel there is a fresco of the Glory of Saints Nicholas and Agatha; the apse holds a chapel dedicated to the Assumption of Mary and was painted in 1842 by Luigi Samoggia and Alessandro Guardassoni. The altarpiece representing Saint Nicholas is attributed to Alessandro Maria Trocchi while the painting representing Saint Agatha by Alessandro Calvi is on display at a lateral altar. There is also an important nineteenth - century organ in the church.

Saint Mary of Gesso

This church exists from the twelfth century but has been rebuilt several times since then. What we see today is the result of a 1685 project by architect Agostino Barelli, appointed by the Bolognese Senate whose wish it was to reconstruct the church. The floor plan is of a single nave, and inside the church are sculptures by Giacomo Quadri and paintings by Girolamo Bonesi. The altarpiece represents the Nativity of the Madonna. The plaster frontals of the lateral altars are especially beautiful. A valuable seventeenth-century organ is in the church. From 1852 there have been four bells at the church made at the Brighenti Foundry of Bologna. In 1908 a nursery school was annexed to the church and in 1927 the chapel also used as a theatre was reconstructed and which is where the Zolese Philharmonic now plays. Recently the entire building has been completely restored. The parish seat is at the new church of Saint Thomas, designed by engineers Giuseppe e Pietro Coccolini on via Tasso.



Chapel of Ponte Ronca



Sacred pilaster at the beginning of the bridge towards Lavino

Saint Mary of the Tombe

(of the Parish of Christ the King)

In 1357 the marquis Tommaso Magnani, owner of land at Tombe, obtained permission from the bishop of Bologna and the Abbot of Zola Predosa to construct a subsidiary church at this location. Only in 1924 Cardinal Nasalli Rocca elevated this church to a parish on the condition that it would be rebuilt. The present church designed in a gothic style by engineer Giuseppe Gualandi was completed in 1925 while the old church, designed in authentic Romanesque style, was first reduced to a laboratory for cement casters before being eventually demolished in 1960 to make room for the new rectory. Inside there is an organ from the seventeenth century and a few paintings by artists active in Zola Predosa including Teresa Comastri and Francesco Martani. The church bells which sound the double Bolognese ring hang from a wooden structure located outside the church since there is no bell tower per se.

The Church of Saint Luigi Gonzaga

This church is one among many that Cardinal Lercaro wished to construct in the Bolognese periphery after World War II. It rises on ground technically part of the township of Casalecchio di Reno but the parish is within the district of Riale. It was designed by architect Glauco Gresleri in 1975 and is one of the most interesting examples of contemporary sacred architecture in the Bolognese hinterland. Provided with only a small space for a façade, this church manages to include the traditional architectural elements of a bell tower and sacristy-yet instead of developing them horizontally the structure is developed vertically rising from below street level. The floor plan is that of a three-leaf clover. The inside light, an element of design in itself, filters from skylights and beautiful coloured glass. The altar and the presbytery area are built from red tuff and the seat is made of elm wood. A valuable tabernacle was created by Tirelli. The Via Crucis by Claudio Pacetti was fused in bronze by Leonino Medici of Riale and the stained glass windows by Father Costantino Ruggeri develop themes related to sun and blood.

Chapel of Saint Mary

This chapel is dedicated to Mary's Temple Presentation and has been recently restored. It stands in the oldest part of the town of Ponte Ronca. It used to be owned by the Ospedale degli Esposti di Bologna (Bologna's Hospital for Abandoned Children) and a painting of the Madonna and Child is kept inside. The parish seat is at the nearby Ponte Ronca Church in via Leonardo da Vinci.

Chapel of the Holy Virgin of Loreto at Fontanelle

This chapel was built within the older part of town at the end of the eighteenth century by the Fontanelli family. It has been recently restored as part of a larger project to restore the entire hamlet of Fontanelle.

Chapel of Saint Catherine de Vigri at Zola

This chapel was originally owned by the Theodoli family and is still used as a place of worship.

Chapel of Villa Balzani at Rigosa

This eighteenth-century chapel is part of the Villa Balzani complex and is opened once every three years on the occasion of the festival of the Holy Trinity.

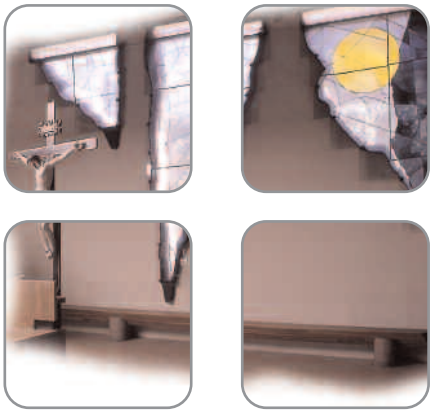
Chapel of Saint Gaetano of Casa Minelli at Riale

Before the church of Saint Luigi Gonzaga was built, this chapel was open by its proprietors, the Minelli family, to the people of Riale who found the commute to the church of Saint Mary at Gesso too inconvenient. It is technically part of the municipality of Casalecchio di Reno.

Pilastrini (Sacred Pilasters)

At Zola Predosa there are many pilastrini alongside roads that mark the way to churches, the cemetary, and entries to hamlets within the territory of Zola Predosa. They serve as reference points in a spiritual geography. *Pilastrini* can be seen at the following places:

- An image of the Madonna and Child stands at the beginning of the bridge towards Lavino, on one's left heading from the direction of Bologna. This image was made by painter Lina Osti and it welcomes you to the heart of the community of Zola. It substitutes another votive shrine dedicated to the Madonna which once stood in the niche of an elm tree cut down when the bridge was expanded in 1822.
- Another sacred pilaster is at Osteria Nuova in front of the church of Saint Mary of Gesso. It has been decorated with ornamental iron in 1903 by blacksmith Angelo Predieri.
- Another *pilastrino*, surrounded by a wooden prie-dieu, stands at the beginning of the tree-lined road leading to the Abbey of Zola.
- A sacred pilaster with a picture of the Madonna can be seen at the start of the road leading to the city's cemetery.
- A very old *pilastrino* is in via Predosa, in front of grape vines and protected behind a gate.
- Next to Villa Bertoloni on Via Bertoloni there is a stone *pilastrino* dedicated to Saint Julius.
- Before coming to the hamlet of Ponte Ronca, there is a brick *pilastrino*. A second brick *pilastrino* with an iron cross on top stands after passing through the town at the corner of Via Prati.
- At the start of Via Matilde di Canossa there is a sacred pilaster dating from 1948.
- In Via Madonna dei Prati there is a work by Francesco Martani: a block of marble contains a sculpture representing the Madonna and Child, a modern version of a traditional *pilastrino*.
- One last *pilastrino* stands in via Gesso just before reaching the hamlet of Rivabella.



Church of Saint Luigi Gonzaga; *interior*

flora&fauna

Plains, hills, the Lavino River, various streams, the selenitic formations of Monte Castello, Monte Rocca and Monte Capra together help represent the great varitey of landscapes which are part of the territory of Zola Predosa. South of the Bazzanese Road there is a hilly area and here the structure and composition of the woods tell the history of their past use as a source of timber. There are many wooded areas full of hornbeam, oak, laburnum and diverse varieties of maple trees. Chestnut trees now grow at higher attitudes and were once introduced for their fruit which served as an ancient means of winter sustenance for humans. Exquisite flowers such as red lilies and rare varieties of orchids grow in the woods here too.

Vestiges of bygone cultivation can be detected in surviving traces of wild plum bushes, brier roses, broom, hawthorn, dogwood, and wild asparagus plants. The low hilly slopes were areas once cultivated but have degenerated into ravines and are now covered by a vegetation that typically grows in this type of environment, including clover and broom, and when in flower they colour the landscape entirely red and yellow. On the plain among fruit trees and fields, ancient cultivation techniques can still be observed, e.g. plantings of English oak trees and rows of hedges still grow here, survivors from past forests that once covered these plains.

An intermediary sheltered vegetation composed of mixed willow shrubs and poplar trees extends along the Lavino River bed. Besides the black poplars and white willows, wild maple, locust, elder and other varieties of poplar trees grow in these parts.

This band of woods along the Lavino River bed continues into the claylike stretch of land on the plain and constitutes a kind of green belt that separates and interrupts cultivated fields. It puts the plains and the mountains into direct communication and allows some species of animals to roam down from the mountains and onto the plains.

There is a vast fauna present in the area. Among amphibians, we have frogs, toads, salamanders and newts and among reptiles, there are lizards, green lizards, snakes and marsh turtles. The most common species of birds are blackbirds, blackcaps, robin redbreasts, great titmice, starlings, sparrows and nuthatches while birds of prey here include buzzards, sparrow hawks, owls, barn owls and horned owls. Dormice, badgers, squirrels, stone martens and foxes represent Zola's mammals. This list of plants and animals is not complete but serves merely to underline the complexity of the ecosystems present in this variegated territory.

The land around Monte Capra (which is part of both Zola Predosa and Casalecchio di Reno) is a very famous natural and speleological area. A chalky sulphurous vein in the earth gives rise to gessi (chalky areas) which lends a name to the stream and to the town on one side of the Lavino River at the foot of Monte Capra.

The rocks here are called evaporative and originate from the Messinian period following the evaporation of a briny lagoon that once extended over the area. Since this kind of rock allows water to eventually permeate it, the Karst phenomena takes place, i.e. dolinas and sinkholes with underground caves are continually forming. The Gortani Cave is the most developed example of these caves in which bats live as well. It is the nature of these chalklike rocks which in part reflect and in part retain the sun's radiation that attracts a special kind of vegetation including succulent plants, stonecrop, and aromatic herbs such as thyme, rocket, and calaminta. The presence of surfacing gypsum has had an important economic role in the history of the Zolese economy. For centuries gypsum was extracted and baked in the many kilns of the Zolese territory yielding various kinds of construction materials.

Le Scuderie Orsi-Mangelli

Nature excursions:

Many places in Zola Predosa serve as ideal places for walks in parks, horse back riding, bike riding or mountain biking. For example:

- Nature trails at Monte Capra and Monte Rocca.
- The Orsi Mangelli stables at the hamlet of Madonna Prati and the Old Gunpowder Depot are near Ponte Ronca and can be reached by bike path.
- From Gessi a path heads for Ducentola and passes through an area dotted with abandoned quarries.
- The Lavino River Park extends across the entire communal territory before reaching Monte San Pietro, just beyond the hamlet of Rivabella.
- Bike and walking paths begin near the overpass of the Lavino River at Respighi Park.

Stations equipped for gymnastic activities dot the path along the river bed leading to the Lavino River Park and the Rio Cavanella Park below the Abbey of Zola Predosa.

At Zola Predosa many community centres play an important social role, that of bringing people together for cultural and recreational activities. The Torrazza Centre, for example, is available to groups and individuals for recreational, cultural and educational activities. A project has been designed which will offer a permanent *Laboratorio di Antichi Mestieri* (Traditional Craft Laboratory). It will be run by the Pro Loco and aimed especially at elementary and junior high school students. The centre actively collaborates with schools and also offers a music room and a theatre.

Zola Predosa is an ideal place for those who love sports with its numerous gyms, soccer fields, basketball courts, covered tennis courts and multipurpose tracks for skating and running. A swimming pool is open in the summertime in Gesso while a covered pool is in Zola. The present Athletic Centre will soon be remodelled to make room for 400 spectators around its track. Zola also has an archery field and a field where small planes can take off and land.

La Fira 'd Zola
(Zola's Old-Style Market)

From the beginning of the nineteenth century, a market for agricultural products was held annually every summer at Palazzo Albergati.

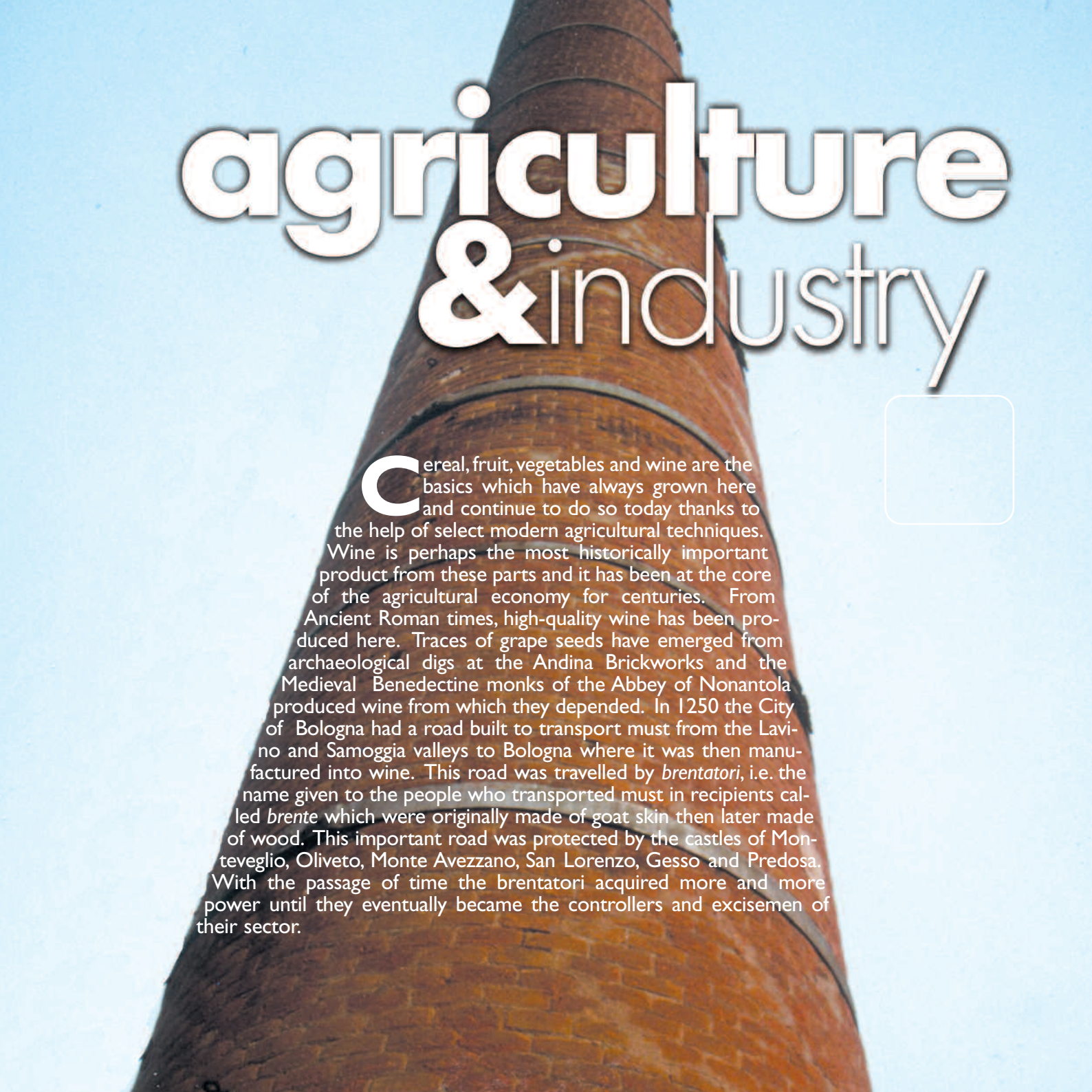
The Pro Loco of Zola Predosa has recently decided to revive the event and it is now held during the third week of July on the streets in the heart of town. The fair is one of the most important initiatives organized by the Pro Loco as it focuses on transmitting the richness of local traditions into the future. The Fira 'd Zola is the perfect occasion to present the history, the art and the craft of Zola Predosa. The representation of traditional crafts is held in Vicolo Marchi and the creation of a farm with farm animals within Respighi Park offers an occasion, especially for children, to confront a traditional and ancient way of life and work.

The three days of fair activities include theatrical productions in local dialect and traditional and contemporary dance and music. Food and wine have a very important role and this fair represents a fantastic occasion to promote the local production of pork products, wines, cheeses, cakes, and all kinds of Bolognese dishes.

Festivals

- The Befana: 6 January in all community centers.
- Carneval at the Palace: at Palazzo Albergati, in mid-February, with theatrical productions and games for children.
- May Fair: at Madonna Prati the first Sunday in May.
- Family Festival: in May at Ponte Ronca.
- Zola in May: art, music, fashion and plays in the Municipal Park.
- Zola in Flower: end of May, beginning of June.
- Open Wine Cellars: the third Sunday of May with wine tastings and cultural events at local wineries.
- Old Organs: sacred concerts at the Church of Saint Mary at Gesso.
- Zola Jazz & Wine: concerts and wine tastings at the cellars and at Ca' La Ghironda.
- Courts, Churches and Courtyards: from June to August, a variety of cultural events.
- Fira 'd Zola: mid-July
- Festival of San Luigi: in September in Riale.
- Sports Festivals: second half of June and first half of September.
- Patron Saint Festival: 6 December (Saint Nicholas).
- Christmas Concert: at the churches and at Ca' La Ghironda, sacred and profane music.
- Christmas market.

agriculture & industry



Cereal, fruit, vegetables and wine are the basics which have always grown here and continue to do so today thanks to the help of select modern agricultural techniques. Wine is perhaps the most historically important product from these parts and it has been at the core of the agricultural economy for centuries. From Ancient Roman times, high-quality wine has been produced here. Traces of grape seeds have emerged from archaeological digs at the Andina Brickworks and the Medieval Benedectine monks of the Abbey of Nonantola produced wine from which they depended. In 1250 the City of Bologna had a road built to transport must from the Lavino and Samoggia valleys to Bologna where it was then manufactured into wine. This road was travelled by *brentatori*, i.e. the name given to the people who transported must in recipients called *brente* which were originally made of goat skin then later made of wood. This important road was protected by the castles of Monteveglio, Oliveto, Monte Avezzano, San Lorenzo, Gesso and Predosa. With the passage of time the brentatori acquired more and more power until they eventually became the controllers and excisemen of their sector.

Methods of cultivation and pruning have changed with time. The old way of planting, a method unique to all of the Padanian plain, consisted in growing vines onto elm and mulberry trees, but the method has been substituted by a cultivation technique requiring cement or wooden poles used to uphold the vines. The current form of cultivation of vines is termed "espalier" or "Guyot" which refers to the particular bending of vine stems along the rows.
Vine species cultivated here include Pignoletto, Pinot noir and blanc, Cabernet-Sauvignon, Sauvignon, Riesling (Italic and Reno), Chardonnay, Albana, Merlot, Lambrusco, Barbera, Negretto (a local grape nearly in extinction), and Malvasia. These wines, mostly DOC (denominazione di origine controllata) carry the label *Colli Bolognesi* (Bolognese Hills). The wine producing industries of Zola are run by mixing together traditional and modern means of production while guaranteeing the wines' quality and functioning with a deep respect for the environment and for the health of consumers. From 1998 the city of Zola Predosa has been a member of the *Associazione Nazionale Città del Vino* (National Association of Wine Producing Cities). In 1999 the *Associazione Strada dei Vini e dei Sapori del Territorio Città-Castelli-Ciliegie* (The Association of Wines and Foods in the Territory of Cities, Castles and Cherries) was founded in the area and Zola Predosa, its local wine and food producing industries, Ca' La Ghironda and Palazzo Albergati were all founding members of this latter organization alongside many other cities in the province of Bologna and Modena. The goal of the association is to enhance the value of the agricultural and environmental aspects of the territory, to promote local foods and wines, to honour entrepreneurial culture, and to spread local culture.
Livestock breeding in particular has undergone the larger agricultural, economic and social changes of the past decades and has lost much of the importance it once enjoyed in the past. On the other hand, the breeding of thoroughbred horses has become an important activity here.

The first industries appeared at Zola Predosa after 1870. The Anonymous Weaving Company of Zola, founded by a group of Zolese land owners, produced manufactured products made of hemp, linen and juta while offering work to many women in their homes.
In this same time period the blacksmith Raffaele Maccaferri set up his *chioderia* (nail manufacturing factory). The Maccaferri and Pisa Workshops were later founded, and besides nails they began produce various iron goods such as wire nets, greenhouses, gates and bedsprings. With the invention of a special "large cage" built with zinc-coated iron and filled with stones, Maccaferri contributed an important component to many projects of river defense first in the Lavino valley and then at the Dam of Casallecchio before spreading throughout Italy and abroad. By 1950 the industrial activities active at Zola Predosa included the Quarry at Gesso, the Andina Brickworks, and the Maccaferri Workshop. But the prevailing economic activity was agriculture until 1960 when industrial and residential developments began to change the face of the region. Today Zola is active not only in the food production sector but also in mechanics, chemistry, building activities, installations of systems, and the wholesale business. Zola also boasts one of the largest European companies that translates and distributes videogames.

gastronomy
&local products

Pork products, cheeses, wines and liqueurs are produced in Zola Predosa. The gastronomic specialties here are part of the larger Emilian traditions and include tortellini in capon broth, lasagna and taglietelle with meat sauce, tortelloni stuffed with ricotta cheese, roast pork and beef, boiled meats with vegetable sauce, spiced sausage, fried vegetables and small squares of fried cream. All of the above specialties are part of a traditional menu prepared for important occasions. A more rustic menu might include fried crescentine (small fried rectangular breads) or tigelle (small toasted circular breads similar to English muffins) served with sliced deli meats, ham, pork products, bologna, cheeses and pickled vegetables. Desserts include torta di riso (rice pudding cake), fiordilatte (fresh cheese cake), mascarpone (fresh cheese pudding with chocolate and coffee flavors), raviole (ravioli shaped cookies filled with fruit jam), panoni di Natale (Christmas fruit cakes), sfrappole di Carnevale (Carnevaltime cookies, fried and sprinkled with powdered sugar) and salame di cioccolato (chocolate with nuts and marshmallows resembling a meat-based salame). There is also a traditional dessert from Zola called *torta zolese* which is a cake filled with chocolate, cream, jam or fruit.

The wide variety and high quality of locally-produced wines make the perfect accompaniment for any of the above dishes.

DOC Wineries

- **Bortolotti Maria**
  Via Risorgimento, 327
  Tel. 051.756.763
  Open from 9am-12 noon and from 2-6:30 pm.
  Wine cellar open to the public (but please call for reservation). In the summer we offer wine tasting on our loggia, and in the winter, in our living room. Production includes Pignoletto Zola Predosa, Cabernet-Sauvignon, and Dolcedò which is a vino passito (a dessert wine) obtained from the vinification of white grapes (Albana and Pignoletto) picked in the middle of September but left to dry on lattice until mid-December.

- **Bagazzana**
  di Gaggioli Maria Letizia
  Via Raibolini, 55
  tel. 051.753.489
  Open Saturdays from 8am-12 noon and from 3-5 pm. Open other days with reservation. Production includes: Pignoletto Superiore, Pignoletto Frizzante, Crilò, Pinot Bianco, Lavinio, Chardonnay, Sauvignon Superiore, Bagazzino, Cabernet-Sauvignon, Il Francia (Bianco, Spumante Brut, Rosso) Merlot, Rosso Bagazzana, Rosato Letizia. Besides wine, we also produce Saba (cooked must). We offer summertime wine tastings on our outdoor loggia.

- **Lodi Corazza**
  Via Risorgimento, 223
  Tel. 051.756.805
  Open daily from 8am-12 noon and from 2-7 pm.
  Saturdays, 9am-1pm and 2-7 pm.
  Production of Pignoletto Frizzante, Pignoletto Classico, Sauvignon Superiore, Cabernet-Sauvignon, Merlot, Barbera Frizzante. Wine Tasting room, guided visits to the vineyard, small wine and local history library, a display of old tools and machines used in cellars.

- **Santa Caterina**
  Via Risorgimento, 209
  Tel. 051.756.089
  Open 8am-12 noon and 2-7 pm.
  Closed Sunday and Monday.
  Reservations required.
  Production: Sauvignon, Riesling Italico, Pinot Bianco, Cabernet-Sauvignon, Bianco, Barbera, Pignoletto, Chardonnay.

- **Terre Rosse**
  di E. G. Vallania
  Via Predosa, 83
  Tel. 051.755.845 - 759.649
  Open daily from 9am-12 noon and from 2:30-6pm.
  Reservations required.
  Production: Malagò and Malagò Tarda Vendemmia, Chardonnay, Pinot Bianco e Pinot Grigio, Sauvignon, Cabernet in Rosa, Cabernet-Sauvignon, Merlot and Malvasia. Our Malvasia is made from a rare autochthonous vine of aromatic Malvasia which fortunately survived the wine louse crisis and has been newly grafted to older vines.

Food-production companies

- **ALCISA s.p.a.**
  Via Roma, 73
  tel. 051.617.55.55
  Production of pork products and Bolognese mortadella (bologna) with the label "Due Torri".

- **Berni's Foodstuffs**
  Via Risorgimento, 115
  tel. 051.759.452

- **Lavino Foodstuffs**
  Via Alfieri, 1/b
  tel. 051.755.329

- **D&C s.p.a.**
  Via Nannetti, 1
  tel. 051.617.27.77
  Distribution of important international brands of wines and candies.

- **Felsineo s.p.a.**
  Via Masetti, 8
  tel. 051.75.87.37
  Production of local pork products and mortadella (bologna).

- **Forno Marsigli**
  Via Risorgimento, 185
  tel. 051.75.01.55
  For over a century, production of bread, handmade pasta and bakery goods. Specialties include sfrappole (traditional Carneval cookie) and Zolese cakes.

- **Gelateria K2**
  Via Risorgimento, 175
  Tel. 051.751.802
  Home made ice cream.

- **La Mozzarella s.r.l.**
  Via Roma, 55/a
  tel. 051.616.66.87
  This company distributes some of the best national cheeses with its own brand name. It produces in its own laboratory called *Officina dei Formaggi* a wide varieties of cheese cakes and various dishes based on cheese. In the adjacent shop, "La vecchia Malga", tastings and sales of Emilian and Italian cheeses.

- **Montenegro s.p.a.**
  Via Fermi, 4
  tel. 051.617.04.11
  Liqueur production.

- **S.A.ROM s.r.l.**
  Raimondi Vini
  Via Roma, 34
  tel. 051.758.498
  Sales of white and red wines. From Monday to Friday, 8am-12 noon and 2-6pm, with reservation.

- **Az. Agricola**
  Meteori e Manaresi
  Via Bertoloni, 14
  tel. 051.750.153
  Sales of grapes to cellars.

Where to eat in Zola Predosa

- **Trattoria Ai Gessi**
  Via Gessi, 15 - tel. 051.758.136
  Closed Sunday evenings and Mondays. This establishment has been around for 50 years. Today it proposes a varied menu, a menu not written on paper but instead recounted orally to clients by the owner. With knowledge and fantasy, dishes from a repertoire of popular Italian cooking (and more!) are prepared. Particular attention is paid to seasonal products. Local and national wines.

- **Trattoria Amedea**
  Via Mincio, 32-tel. 051.404.802
  Closed Thursdays and Sunday evenings.
  In 1943 this trattoria was a bakery and workshop offering bread and deli products as snacks. The same family still runs it today, paying great attention to Bolognese culinary tradition, including the production of hand-made tortellini, tagliatelle and tortelloni. Boiled Bolognese meats such as hen, beef, tongue and veal guarantee a delicious broth for tortellini and passatelli. Another specialty is roast rabbit stewed with herbs. Crescentine (small fried breads) and tigelle (small toasted breads) are also served with meats, cheeses and pickled vegetables. Local desserts include torta di riso (rice pudding cakes), fiordilatte (a type of fresh milk cheese) and mascarpone (a fresh cheese mixed with chocolate and coffee). Local wine list.

- **Trattoria Da Titì**
  Via Gesso, 133/a-tel. 051.751.550
  Closed Wednesdays.
  Open since 1890 and run by the same family for three generations. Bolognese country cooking including home-made pasta, crescentine (small fried breads) and tigelle (small toasted breads) with home cured deli meats, sausages, bologna, fried scraps of pork fat. Grilled Florentine steaks. Local wines and desserts.
- **Ristorante Il Rifugio**
  Via Risorgimento, 184
  tel. 051.751.154
  This restaurant is always open for those who want to eat in a special place. Live music and candle-lit dinners. Emilian cooking and classic fish dishes. Pizza in the evenings. Local and national wines.
- **Trattoria La Furzeina**
  Via Scuderie, -tel. 051.756.068
  Chiuso il lunedì.
  Closed Mondays
  Trattoria open for 30 years but recent change of owner. Bolognese pasta dishes as well as variations such as lasagne goccia d'oro. Grilled beef and pork, poultry and rabbit. Traditional desserts such as torta di riso (rice pudding cakes), apple cakes, panna cotta (creme brulé), English truffle, and fiordilatte (fresh cheese dessert). Local wine list.
- **Pizzeria La Roda**
  Via Risorgimento, 171
  tel. 051.755.312
  Closed Mondays and Tuesdays
  Pizzeria, bar, pasta and meat dishes.
- **Trattoria Masetti**
  Via Gesso, 70-tel. 051.755.131
  Closed Fridays and Saturday at noon.
  Open for 50 years, this establishment proposes a traditional Bolognese menu of home made pasta dishes. A large fireplace in the dining room is used to grill meats. Barbecued livers set within Tuscan laurel is a popular dish. Crescentine (small fried breads) with deli meats, mushrooms, and truffles when in season. Bolognese desserts; local and national wine list.
- **Nuovo Parco dei Ciliegi**
  Via Gessi, 2 - tel. 051.750.759
  Closed Monday nights and Tuesdays.
  Traditional Bolognese cooking, crescentine (small fried breads), tigelle (small toasted breads), deli meats, grilled meats. Pizza at lunch and dinner. Gluten-free pizza is available upon request. Bolognese desserts and local wines.
- **Ristorante La Battigia**
  Via Risorgimento, 261
  tel. 051.757.411 - Closed Mondays.
  Traditional cooking, fish specialities, pizza.
- **Ristorante Re Pescatore**
  Via Capuzzi, 4/a-tel. 051.750530
  Closed Mondays
  Tirrenian cooking, classic fish dishes and country cooking. Grilled crustaceons. Desserts such as pastiera (Neapolitan cake made with ricotta cheese, pine nuts, and more) and babà (a kind of doughnut soaked in rum) from the region of Campagna. Local and national wines.
- **Trattoria Rivabella**
  Via Gesso, 199-tel. 051.758.150
  Closed Thrusdays and open at lunchtime only on Saturday and Sunday.
  Trattoria run by the same family for 23 years. Traditional Bolognese cooking, crescentine (small fried breads), tigelle (small toasted breads), deli meats, grilled meats, frog, mutton of castrated sheeps. Bolognese desserts, local and national wines.
- **Ristorante Sandokan**
  Via Risorgimento, 68
  tel. 051.61.66.602
  Closed Mondays. Malaysian cooking.
- **Ristorante Tsing Tao**
  Via Risorgimento, 115
  tel. 051.750.46
  Open daily. Chinese cooking.
- **Trattoria Volo a Vela**
  V.le della Pace, 7-tel. 051.753.057
  Closed Tuesdays.
  This trattoria takes into consideration Bolognese cooking traditions yet adds playful and creative touches. The owner collects wild herbs in the nearby countryside and uses them to prepare vegetable soups, wild chicory with bacon and many other vegetable-based rustic dishes. Particular importance is given to seasonal products. Home made pastas and desserts. Local wine list.

Agriturismi
Farm homes available for room and board

- **Azienda Sola Sergio (Sergio Sola's Farm)**
  Via Montebudello, 36
  tel. 051.831.952 - Bazzano
- **Azienda Le Ariette (The Breezes Farm)**
  Rio Marzatore, 2781
  tel. 051.670.43.73
  Castello di Serravalle
- **La Tintoria (The Dyeworks)**
  Via Valle del Samoggia, 5906
  tel. 051.670.87.43
  Castello di Serravalle
- **Cà Soave (Sweet House)**
  Via Sant'Andrea, 827
  tel.051.670.33.02 - at Fagnano
  near Castello di Serravalle
- **Fattoria Quercia (Oak Tree Farm)**
  Via Mulino, 909 località Fagnano
  tel. 051.670.32.18
  Castello di Serravalle
- **Tenuta Bonzara (Bonzara Estate)**
  Via San Chierlo, 37/a
  tel. 051.676.83.24
  Monte S. Pietro
- **Malacarne**
  Via Bettini, 2
  tel. 051.675.93.86
  Monte S. Pietro
- **Malandato ("Run-down")**
  Via Bettini, 5
  tel. 051.675.90.30
  Monte S. Pietro
- **Cantina Al Pazz (The Crazy Wine Cellar)**
  Via Montebudello, 57
  tel. 051.831.330 - Monteveglio
- **La Stadira**
  Via Acqua Fredda, 17
  tel. 051.83.14.29
  Monteveglio
- **Corte D'Aibo (D'Aibo Court)**
  Via Marzatore, 15
  tel. 051.832.583 - Monteveglio
- **La Cavaliera (The Knightess)**
  Via Matilde di Canossa, 13
  tel. 051.832.595 - Monteveglio
- **CO.P.A.P.S. Il Monte**
  Via Castello, 59
  tel. 051.675.54.22 - Sasso Marconi
- **Le Conchiglie (The Shells)**
  Via Lagune, 76
  tel. 051.675.07.55 - Sasso Marconi
- **Prati San Lorenzo (San Lorenzo Fields)**
  Via Gamberi, 5/3
  tel. 051.841.175 - Sasso Marconi
- **Cà Mongiorgi (Mongiorgi House)**
  Via Ansella, 1771
  tel. 051.670.87.09 - Savigno

Bed and Breakfast establishments

Comune di Zola Predosa

- **In the home of Ida Bergonzini**
  Via Fratelli Bandiera, 5
  tel. 051.75.33.47 - 3333978310
- **In the home of Romano Bisognin**
  Via Montevecchio, 16
  tel. 051.75.70.07
- **In the home of Claudia Falzoni**
  Via S. Pancrazio, 10
  tel. 051.75.61.32

Alberghi

Township of Zola Predosa

- Zola Hotel ****
  Via Risorgimento, 186
  tel. 051.751.101

Township of Anzola Emilia

- Hotel Alan ***
  Via Emila Ponente, 46/b
  tel. 051.733.562
- Albergo Rist. Santa Maria **
  Via Emilia Ponente, 309/e
  tel. 051.739.763
- Albergo Ristorante Palazzina *
  Via Emilia Ponente, 281
  tel. 051.733.112

Township of Casalecchio di Reno

- Albergo Pedretti ***
  Via Porrettana, 255
  tel. 051.578.286
- Hotel Calzavecchio ***
  Via Calzavecchio, 1
  tel. 051.571.226
- Hotel San Martino **
  Via Bazzanese, 7
  tel. 051.572.129
- Albergo Naxos
  Via Bazzanese, 95/3
  tel. 051.613.16.16

Township of Crespellano

- Hotel Garden ****
  Via Nazionale, 139
  tel. 051.735.200
- Hotel Nazionale ***
  Via Emilia, 17
  tel. 05.733.311
- Albergo Rist. La Chiesaccia ***
  Via Chiesaccia, 3
  tel. 051.739.580
- Albergo El Cacique ***
  Via Cassola, 64
  tel. 051.962.734
- Hotel Samoggia ***
  Via Samoggia, 92
  tel. 051.739.411

Township of Monte San Pietro

- Albergo Palmieri ***
  Via Lavino 89
  tel. 051.676.03.71
- Albergo Ristorante Marchi **
  Via Libero Grandi, 6
  tel. 051.676.01.09
- Locanda Irene *
  Via Lavino, 312/a
  tel. 051.675.90.78

Select sight-seeing itineraries:

1 Tour: Riale and Zola

Chapel of San Gaetano (18) Church of San Luigi of Riale (19), the Maternity sculpture by Martani (87), Villa Quattro Torri (73), Madonna of Pilastrino (74) (at the hamlet of Pilastrino), Villa Socini and Portoni Rossi (49), "Il nostro puledro" (69) sculpture by Martani in Via Roma, Palazzo Stella (68), Madonna del Ponte (82) at the sacred pilaster of the Lavino River, Vicolo Marchi (83), Respighi Park and school area with sculptures by Nicola Zamboni (85 e 86); Sacred pilaster of Via Predosa(28), Villa Virginia (29) and Sacred Pilaster of Saint Julius (57), sacred Pilaster of the Abbey (66) and Church of Saints Nicholas and Agatha (81).

2 Tour: Gesso, Gessi and Rivabella

Zola Hotel (71), hamlet of Pilastrino, Villa Zanchini Garagnani (76), sacred pilaster of Gesso (51), Church of Santa Maria (53), Villa Ricci Signorini (77), hamlet of Gessi, swimming pool (56), nature trails of Gessi, Ducentola (20), Monte Capra (21), Monte Rocca (22), sacred pilaster of Rivabella (27), Chapel (25) and hamlet (24) of Fontanelle.

3 Tour: Madonna Prati and Ponte Ronca

Via Madonna Prati, Madonna with Child (3) (sculpture by Martani), Orsi Mangelli Stables (1), Old Gunpowder Depot (bike path), Via Prati, sacred pilaster with the Crucifix (36), sacred pilaster of Via Canossa (37), Old town of Ponte Ronca, Chapel of Santa Maria (38), Park of Young Trees (34), Cà la Ghironda (33) (which merits a visit in itself), Molinetti (32), sacred pilaster with the Madonna of San Luca (41).

4 Tour: Zola - Via Masini - Tombe

Abbey of Zola (81) and sacred pilaster of the Abbey (66), Villa Maccaferri (44), Villa Edvige-Garagnani (45), Bolognese landscape garden (46), Palazzo Albergati (47) (which merits a visit in itself as well), Tower (5) e Church of Santa Maria (4) of the Tombe, Villa Magnani (6), Palazzo Bentivoglio-Pepoli (7).

5 Tour: The Industrial Zone and Rigosa

Zola Hotel (71) , Portoni Rossi and Villa Socini (49), Industrial Zone: Alcisa Factory (13), (14) Montenegro, Felsineo (11), FAAC (12), D&C (15), La Mozzarella (16). In Via Rigosa there is Villa Balzani (10) with the chapel (9) and the Old Serenari factory (48).

6 Tour: The Wine region

Along one of the roads once used by brentatori (Via Predosa) is the Terre Rosse vineyard (59); another road once used by *brentatori* (Via Raibolini) leads to the vineyards of Bagazzana (30) of Gaggioli. In Via Risorgimento in the direction of Ponte Ronca are the following wine producers: Santa Caterina (42), Lodi-Corazza (40) and Bortolotti (35).

7 Nature walks:

- The chalk trails of Monte Capra (21) and Monte Rocca (22).
- The Ducentola (20) can be reached from Gessi across a path which runs along old quarries.
- Orsi Mangelli Stables (1) at the hamlet of Madonna Prati and the Old Gunpowder Depot can be arrived at from Ponte Ronca by bike trail.
- The Lavino River Park (58) extends across the entire territory of Zola Predosa until its border with Monte San Pietro; almost the entire length of the park falls within land owned by the city.
- The "Life Trail" (78) begins at the walkway over the Lavino River at Respighi Park (84) with stations equipped for gymnastic activities; it runs from the Lavino River Park to the Rio Cavanella Park (61) under the Abbey.

The numbers in parentheses refer to those of the Cartoguida published by the city of Zola Predosa.

Useful addresses:

City Hall, Zola Predosa
Piazza della Repubblica, 1
U.R.C.A. Office of Public Relations and Administration
tel. 051.61.61.611- fax 051.61.61.711
Internet: www.comune.zolapredosa.bo.it
e-mail: urca@zola.provincia.bo.it

Pro Loco
Via Risorgimento, 91/c
tel. 051.752.472
Internet: www.prolocozola.it

Ca' La Ghironda Cultural Center:
Via Leonardo da Vinci, 19
Ponte Ronca.
tel. 051.757.419 - fax 051.61.60.119
Internet: ww.ghironda.it

Palazzo Albergati Conference Center
Via Masini, 46
tel. 051.750.247
Internet: www.albergati.com

Palazzo Bentivoglio-Pepoli Conference Center
Via Tevere, 8
tel. 051.750.211

Torrazza Centre
Viale della Pace, 2
tel. 051.752.580

Public Library
Piazza Marconi, 4
tel. e fax 051.61.61.800

Athletic Centre and Indoor Swimming Pool
Via Risorgimento, 370
tel. 051.61.66.834

City of Bologna Tourist Information
tel. 051.239.660/051.246.541

How to arrive at Zola Predosa

By bus

The following bus lines pass through Zola Predosa:
671 Vignola-Bologna
94 Bazzano-Bologna-Castel S. P.
93 Calderino-Bologna-Baricella
Bus informazioni ("ATC"):
tel. 051.290.290
(telephone lines open from 7 am to 8 pm)

By train:

A train line (Bologna-Casalecchio-Vignola) will be available in the near future and will make the following stops in the area of Zola Predosa:

- at Riale in Via IV Novembre, with an underground pedestrian walkway from the Shopping Center Complex and from the Athletic Center at Casalecchio di Reno.
- at Piastrino, near the Zola Hotel
- at Lavino, at the Train Station, near City Hall
- at Zola, in front of the old Andina Brickwords
- at Ponte Ronca, in Via Bortolotti at the old Train Station

By car:

From Bologna:
Take highway exit A1 at Casalecchio di Reno in the direction of Via Bazzanese; or, alternatively, from the Bologna-Maranello road, exit at Zola Predosa.
From Modena:
Take highway exit A1 at Borgo Panigale then follow the Bologna-Maranello road and exit at Zola Predosa.

Large parking lots:

Piazza Lombardi in Riale
Via Risorgimemto, in front of the Zola Hotel.
Piazza della Repubblica in Zola.
Piazza 2 Agosto1980 in Zola.
Via Garibaldi, at the City Cemetery in Zola.
Via Carducci at the corner of via Risorgimento in Ponte Ronca.
Via Matilde di Canossa at the corner of Via Risorgimento in Ponte Ronca.
Via Leonardo da Vinci, at Ca' la Ghironda in Ponte Ronca.

COMUNE DI ZOLA PREDOSA
Amministrazione Comunale