

Barocco's masterpieces

Baroque style strongly marks this territory, rich of pictorial, sculptural and architectonic masterpieces of XVII and XVIII century. The reconstruction or the ex novo building of churches and palaces during these two centuries means a certain welfare, and if on the one hand it led to lose some of the most ancient artistic evidences, on the other hand it allowed not to remain isolated from the towns in which culture has been produced and renovated.

In Marche were born artists such as Giovan Battista Salvi called "il Sassoferrato", Simone Cantarini, pupil of Guido Reni, and Giovan Francesco Guerrieri; the last one is among Marche's painters the one who mostly resembles Caravaggio. All these artists worked in this territory. Here paintings have been ordered to the most important artists of the time, such as "il Guercino", Pasqualino Rossi, "il Cavalier d'Arpino", Claudio Ridolfi, "il Pomarancio". Moreover it's not to forget the architect Mattia Capponi, the able wood engravers (first of all the family of Scoccianti from Cupramontana and the French Leonardo Scaglia) and the plasterers (such as the Genoese Lorenzo Bossi). These artists adorned the churches of the territory, and gave them the shape they have now.

This route discovering the treasures of the Baroque art can start from the most little village of the territory, **San Paolo di Jesi**, that in its most important church conserves a work of Pomarancio.

- [Chiesa di San Paolo](#)

From here we can go up to the near village of **Staffolo**. Along the road, on the right, we first find the church of Castellaretta, recently restored. This church is a little jewel of a popular kind. Going up to the old town, it's interesting to see also the collegiate of San Francesco, because of the works here conserved.

- [Chiesa di Santa Maria della Castellaretta](#)
- [Collegiata di San Francesco](#)

Continuing to **Cupramontana**, it's interesting to stop in the two churches of San Leonardo e San Lorenzo. These churches are for their inside and outside among the most important evidences of the Marche's Baroque style.

- [Chiesa di San Lorenzo](#)
- [Chiesa di San Leonardo](#)

Going down to Vallesina and taking the S.S.76 towards Fabriano, you go out in **Serra San Quirico**, where it has been recently restored one of the most precious caskets of Baroque art of the Marche, the church of Santa Lucia. Rich in paintings, engravings, marbles and stuccoes, it is a stop that cannot be lost.

- [Chiesa di Santa Lucia](#)

Reaching the near **Rosora**, we can enter the church that is in the old town to see the precious wooden Crucifix.

- [Chiesa di San Michele](#)

From here, following not very busy by-roads, along which it's possible to enjoy picturesque views, we can go towards **Arcevia**, in the centre of which stand monumental churches such as the San Medardo's one. In this church worked artists such as Cantarini, Ridolfi, and are conserved works of the shop of Guercino, and San Francesco, an elegant rococo style "tripudium".

- [Chiesa di San Medardo](#)
- [Chiesa di San Francesco](#)

Going to the inland, towards the Appennines, our tour arrives at **Sassoferrato**, that conserves precious paintings in the Church of San Francesco and two important paintings in the Church of Santa Chiara, the Salvi's ones.

- [Chiesa di San Francesco](#)
- [Chiesa di Santa Chiara](#)

Going down to the valley of Cesano, we can finish our tour in **Castelleone di Suasa**. The church of San Francesco di Paola and its original front are the evidence of the originality of the Baroque style in this territory.

- [Chiesa di San Francesco di Paola](#)