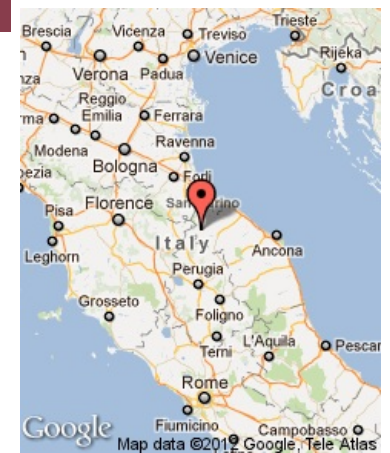


# Romantic Weekend Break in an Agriturismo



## Highlights

The perfect weekend break for a foody couple. Stay in the stone farmhouse of a working farm in the Apennine Mountains and explore the local hills on horseback, take a cooking lesson and enjoy a candle-lit dinner.

This region of Italy, Le Marche, is in central Italy next to Umbria and Tuscany. Not overrun by tourists, Le Marche is said to give a glimpse of the "real" Italy - nothing pretentious here, just regular people going about their lives. Le Marche is perfect for a mix of sight seeing and doing - medieval art and architecture, hiking, horseback riding and sun worshipping at the beach are just a few things you can do. Food of course is very important to the "Marchelinos" and you can tailor your visit to revolve totally around food and drink - visits to vineyards, dairy farms, truffle hunts and hikes looking for wild fruit and veg.

The farmhouse has a mineral water pool to relax by which can rejuvenate and soothe. Besides food, Le Marche is famous for its natural mineral water springs. Even the World Health Organization has recognised the water's power, which has been used since ancient times as an anti-inflammatory and to improve skin.

When you've had enough of relaxing (if that's possible) take a horseback riding excursion in the hills or you and your partner can learn how to make raviolis, pizza and other delicious treats. The surroundings of mountains and sea, beautiful flowers, farms, hills and fields will help you and your partner unwind and focus on each other rather than work, bills and all the other stresses of daily life.

## Is it for me?

If you want a romantic weekend break (or longer) with your partner, then you'll be right at home here. There is no expertise required for the cooking lesson and it is a very relaxed affair.

## Accommodation

The stone farmhouse also houses the cooking school. Your apartment, named Pesca (pear) after the fruit grown on the farm, has a rustic style to match the surroundings - wood beams, tiled floors and stone walls. It is equipped with its own kitchen and espresso maker so if you want a bit of seclusion, pop into town and get supplies to eat in. Outside of the sleeping accommodation, you can relax around the pool outside and enjoy your meals in the large kitchen / dining area.

A candle-lit four course dinner with local wine on your first night is included. The meal is cooked by co-owner, Jason, who was previously a professional chef in New York City. As all cooking uses seasonal ingredients, there's no predicting what will be on the menu. You can get an idea of what is in season when but there are no guarantees as to what crop has had a good year. As long as you are open to trying everything from the region, you'll be happy.

## Itinerary

On the first evening of your romantic weekend break, you will be greeted upon arrival with a glass of local Prosecco and directed to the mineral pool to relax. That night you will be treated to a romantic candle-lit dinner

Prices from

**251** GBP (2 days) per person

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featuring local, rustic dishes using in-season ingredients and locally produced wine. The itinerary can be changed according to how long you want to stay but one afternoon is spent on a horseback riding excursion into the hills at the foot of the Apennine Mountains. Also included is a cooking lesson, again using what happens to be in season. Learn to roll out pasta and pizza dough as well as more exotic culinary tricks like sausage-making. Local wineries abound in Le Marche and owners Jason and Ashley will take you on a mini wine-tasting tour to sample reds, whites and grappas.

## Details

### Getting there

Ancona is the closest airport and you can fly there direct from the UK with Ryanair. The airport is about 109km away from Sant'Angelo in Vado. If you hire a car, the journey from the airport will only take about an hour and a half.

### Price includes

Three nights accommodation, complimentary bottle of prosecco, cooking lesson, candle-lit dinner for two with wine, horseback riding excursion, wine tasting tour.

### Price details

This price will vary according to the time of year.

### Comfort level

Refined (boutique or luxury accommodation and food)

### Experience required

A reasonable interest is all that is needed