



CARNEVALE

FEBRUARY 2023

It is Carnival Time - one of Italy's most loved and celebrated festivals. The shops are filled with costumes and tricks, confetti and streamers. 'An Extra Smile' members can check out our Carnival Cake Guide too and learn about the delicious traditional pastries during this festive period.

Below you can find just some of the main nearby Carnivals taking place but lots of local villages and small towns put on their own Carnivals too, creating a fun and welcoming atmosphere for all the participants.

This year Carnevale **starts on 5th February** with Thursday 16th February ('Giovedì Grasso'), Sunday 19th February ('Domenica di Carnevale') and Tuesday 21st February ('Martedì Grasso') being the main dates. In case of bad weather, most Carnivals are postponed to the following weekend.

VENEZIA

Carnevale di Venezia – 'Take your time for the Original Signs'

4th – 21st February

<https://www.carnevale.venezia.it/>

The Venice Carnival is famous worldwide and it is steeped in history and traditions. Like most Carnivals, it can get very crowded, but it is a once-in-a-lifetime experience while you are staying in Ferrara and well-worth a visit.



Opening Parade

Saturday 4th February, 8 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Along the Grand Canal

This year the Carnevale di Venezia is opening with a water parade along the Grande Canal by night. Music, special lighting effects, mysterious characters in historical costume and a touch of theatrics makes this a magical evening never to forget!

Corteo Acqueo di Carnevale

Sunday 5th February, 11 a.m. - midday

Watch this spectacular boat parade which starts from Punta della Dogana and travels along the Canal Grande all the way to Rio di Cannaregio..

‘Original Signs’ Night Show

10th, 11th, 12th February & from 16th to 21st February

At 6.30 p.m. & at 9.30 p.m.

Dock area - Arsenale Nord, Accesso Bacini, Venice, 30121

After last year’s success, this amazing ‘floating’ show will bring the dock area to life with a magical performance which explores the 4 elements and the evolution of mankind. The show lasts about 30 minutes and is repeated later in the evening.

Visit Ca’ Macana Mask-making Workshop

4th – 21st February

Dorsoduro 3172, Venice, 30123

During the Carnival, one of the oldest mask-making workshops in Venice will open its doors to the public to reveal some of its secrets! Tours are free of charge and can be conducted in English or Italian. Places are limited so start booking now! Go to the main website and click on ‘Prenota qui’:

<https://www.camacana.com/it/>

‘Festa delle Marie’

Saturday 11th & 20th February

Piazza San Marco, 10 a.m. – midday

Following a special Venetian tradition, twelve of the most beautiful Venetian ladies will travel along the Grand Canal until Piazza San Marco where they will be presented to the public in the main square. The winner will be announced on Tuesday 21st February in Piazza San Marco.



Campo San Giacomo dell'Orio

Sunday 19th February Midday – 1p.m.

,Campo San Giacomo dell'Orio, Venezia 30135

<https://www.carnevale.venezia.it/evento/frittelle-galani-e-vin-brule/>

Join this neighbourhood in the heart of Venice to celebrate Carnevale for mulled wine, pastries and entertainment for children. Everyone is welcome!

MESTRE (Venice)

Mestre's Carnival Street Show

4th & 5th February - Piazza Ferretto, streets and piazze of Mestre

11th, 12th, 16th – 21st February – Mestre's historical city centre, Venice's mainland and lagoon islands

Mestre's Carnival begins with two exciting days dedicated to street art. From the 11th February onwards, musicians and clowns will join the other artists animating this town in true Carnival style.

No times are mentioned on the website but events and parades usually start at around 2.30 / 3.30 p.m.

CENTO

Cento's Carnival

5th, 12th, 19th, 26th February & 5th March

2 p.m. – 6.30 p.m.

<https://www.carnevalecento.com/en/>

This is an exciting Carnival and one of the most important in Italy and in Europe. Its impressive papier-mâché floats move slowly around the main streets of city and prizes and sweets are thrown to the crowds below. There is music and dancing, colourful and imaginative costumes and displays. On the last Sunday of the Carnival the winning float is announced in the main piazza and there is a spectacular firework display to bring celebrations to an end.

You need tickets for this event which cost €16 per person. Children under 1m20 enter for free. Tickets can be bought in advance on-line or directly at the various entrances to the Carnival.



COMACCHIO

Comacchio's Carnival

12th & 19th February 2023

www.carnevalecomacchio.it

Comacchio's Carnival is full of events for children. **Here is the programme:**

Sunday 12th February

10.30 a.m. Piazzetta Trepponti

Watch the carnival boats travel along the canals and a costume parade organized by the local Nursery Schools. The winner will be announced at 11 a.m. in the historic city centre in Via XX Settembre. This will be followed by a bubble show 'Bolle Strabelle'.

In the city centre there will be music, street entertainers, games and fairground rides.

At 2.30 p.m. Via Cavouor – The Arrival of the Clowns

The circus 'Magicherie' will perform at 3 p.m., 4 p.m. and again at 5 pm with a percussion show and a bubble show. There will be games, face painting, balloons and a snack with bread and nutella.

At 2 p.m. Piazzetta Trepponti

Presentation of the main carnival boats and crews.

At 2.30 p.m. the boat parade begins with music, masks and dancing.

At 4 p.m. Piazzetta Trepponti

Various performance by local dance schools.

Via XX Settembre from 10 a.m. – 6.30 p.m.

Entertainment, dance shows, face painting, refreshments stands with cakes and hot drinks.

At 5 p.m. – Award ceremony for the most original adult's mask and the most original children's mask

(If you would like to take part email info@carnevalecomacchio.it by 8th February)

Via Zappata at 3.30 p.m. & 4.30 p.m.

Puppet Show 'Sganapino e Fagiolino'



Sunday 19th February

Historic city centre: fairground rides, market, refreshment stalls & entertainment

At 10.30 a.m. Watch the local Primary School children parade in Carnival costume. The winner will be announced in the main piazza in Via XX Settembre at 11 a.m. Small Carnival boats will parade along the canals.

At 2.p.m. Piazzetta Trepponti

Presentation of the main Carnival boats and crew.

At 2.30 p.m. The boat parade starts accompanied by music and dancing.

At 3.30 p.m. Piazzetta Trepponti

Dance performances by local dance schools.

At 2.30 Via Cavour The Arrival of the Clowns

‘Leo Magic Show’ at 3 p.m. 4p.m. and 5 p.m.

Percussion show

‘Bolle Strabelle’ show, games, face painting and balloons.

Snack with bread and nutella.

Via XX Settembre from 10 a.m. – 6.30 p.m.

Entertainment, dance shows, face painting, refreshment stands with cakes and hot drinks.

At 3.30 and 4.30 p.m. Via Zappata

Puppet Show ‘Sganapino e Fagiolino’

Historic city centre: fairground rides, market, entertainment and refreshment stands.

At 5.30 p.m. Piazzetta Trepponti

Awards given to the best Carnival boat, dance school and street parade.

At 6 p.m. – Music, dancing and a Carnival surprise for everyone!

In case of bad weather the Carnival will be postponed to 26th February & 5th March.