



## EVENTS IN FERRARA

MAY 2023

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### 1st of May's Family Picnic on the Farm

*Agriturismo 'La Florida'*

*Via Burana 103, Bondeno (FE)*

La Florida Farmhouse is hosting a picnic in the shade of their delightful orchards. Each family will be designated their own space and a traditional chequered rug where they can relax and enjoy a delicious picnic accompanied by soft music.

#### **Adult menu:**

- 'Pinzini' (a typical Ferrarese fried bead) presented in a picnic basket
- Maccheroni pasta served with bacon and asparagus (brought out to families from the farmhouse)
- '1st of May Grill': bite-sized sausages and spare ribs served with a side dish (brought out to families)
- Water and a bottle of rosé per couple

#### **Child's Menu:**

- Pasta served with a ragù or tomato sauce
- Strips of chicken accompanied by chips
- Water

Guests are asked to arrive at midday. The picnic, which starts at 12.30 p.m., will be followed by afternoon activities. Each child will receive an explorer's box and with the help of a map, they will try their hand at orienteering. Everyone is welcome to visit the animals too.



*In case of bad weather, the picnic will be postponed until the following Sunday.*

*Cost: €27 Adult, €17 Child*

*To book: <https://feshioneventi.it/prodotto/family-pic-nic-1-maggio/>*

## **Palazzo dei Diamanti – Activities for Families**

*Saturday 6th May at 5 p.m.*

*Saturday 11th May at 5 p.m.*

‘Senza titolo’ is holding special guided tour and workshop for families (with children aged 5 – 12) dedicated to the exhibition ‘Renaissance a Ferrara. Ercole de’ Roberti e Lorenzo Costa’. This cultural association worked in collaboration with Smiling’s Early Years last year and together they created our very successful ‘De Pisis’ exhibition. If you are interested in taking part in their new adventure or would like further information, email: [info@senzaititolo.net](mailto:info@senzaititolo.net)

## **Giardini Estense**

*6th & 7th May*

*Parco Massari*

This spring event is perfect for any keen gardener and hosts various stands selling traditional plants as well as historical and unusual varieties. For those of you who perhaps do not possess ‘green fingers’, don’t worry! There are plenty of professional gardeners on hand to give you handy tips as well as stalls selling handcrafts and ornaments for gardens. It is well worth a visit.

## **‘Camminata delle Mamme’ – ‘Mummies’ Walk’ for Charity**

To celebrate Italian Mother’s Day on Sunday 7th May, mummies are invited to take part in a non-competitive charity walk to raise money for the association A.D.O. which helps cancer patients. This non-competitive walk of about 5km around the city, is open to everyone: expectant mothers, mummies with prams and pushchairs, mums with older children, grandmas and of course fathers are welcome too!



If you would like to take part, please book your place online by clicking on the link below. Everyone will meet in front of the Cathedral just before the departure time at 10.30 a.m. On return, at about 11.30, all participants will receive a refreshment.  
<https://feshioneventi.it/prodotto/camminata-delle-mamme/>

*Cost: €12 (adult + 1 child) which includes a cake and t-shirt for mum or dad and a gadget for the child*

## **Testaperaria Bookshop for Children**

*Via de' Romei 16*

A variety of creative workshops are on offer this month at this children's bookshop in the heart of the city:

### **'Un albo tira l'altro' story and craft workshop for children:**

Friday 5th May at 5.30 p.m. - 'Una zuppa di sasso' (A Stone Soup) By Anais Vaugelade

Friday 12th May at 5.30 p.m. - 'Una notte in biblioteca' (A Night at the Library) By Kazuhito Kazeki

Friday 19th May at 5.30 p.m. - 'Bruttina a chi?' (Who are you Calling Ugly?) By Antoine Dole.

*These workshops are suitable for children aged 4 +*

*Cost: €6*

*Please book by telephoning: 0532 202823*

## **Ci Vuole un Fiore – Flower Workshop**

Monday 8th May at 5.30 p.m.

### **'Realizziamo un mazzolino di Fiore a KM 0'**

An interesting workshop for children to discover more about local flowers and herbs. Together, they will create a very special bouquet of flowers.

*Suitable for children aged 5+*

*Duration: 1 hour*

*Cost: €7,50*

*Please book by telephoning: 0532 202823*



Tuesday 2nd May at 5 p.m.

### **‘L’elefante gentile’ – The Kind Elephant**

A fun musical narration about a kind elephant held by the musician and author of this book, Raffaele Maltonini.

*Suitable for children aged 2 – 6*

*Cost: €8*

*To book: 0532 202823*

## **Vegan Festival**

*6th & 7th May*

*City Centre*

This festival is open to everyone and offers an opportunity to get to know and approach an ethical diet and lifestyle, which rejects any kind of animal exploitation.

During this weekend you can sample vegan specialties prepared by the restaurants in the ‘Vegan Food’ area. There is also an exhibition zone dedicated to jewelry and accessories made out of recycled materials, organic products, vegan chocolate and much more. On both days, you can take part in interesting workshops, conferences, seminars and cooking shows.

## **Teatro Comunale**

*Corso Martiri della Libertà, 5*

Thursday 11th May at 8.30 p.m.

### **‘La Musica Dona Emozioni’ – Music Stirs up Emotions**

A concert dedicated entirely to jazz performed by a jazz quartet.

*Tickets cost: €15 and can be bought online at [www.vivaticket.it](http://www.vivaticket.it) or at the ticket office by emailing [biglietteria.teatro@comune.fe.it](mailto:biglietteria.teatro@comune.fe.it)*

## **‘Le Sagre’ – Food Fairs**

From this month until late autumn lots of local villages host food fairs called ‘Sagre’. Look out for signs on the roadside where each village advertises its specialty. These food fairs are an excellent opportunity to taste authentic, homemade dishes made by the locals and to try products from nearby farms. They are also a chance to meet the locals and try out your Italian! Everyone is very friendly.





## **Mesola - Fiera dell'asparago – Asparagus Food Fair**

*25th April – 1st May*

The land around the village of Mesola, which is part of the Po Delta, produces some of the best green asparagus in the Emilia Romagna region thanks to its sandy soil. This fair, which is set up around the historical Estense Castle of Mesola, is an excellent occasion to taste and buy local products as well as explore the nearby woods 'Gran Bosco della Mesola'. Parts of these woodlands can be visited alone on foot or by bike. Some areas must be visited with a guide. It is famous with the locals for its deer as well as birds and fauna.

## **Lagosanto – Fiera delle fragole – Strawberry Food Fair**

*12th, 13th, 14th & 16th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st May*

*Food Stand: Via Donatori di Sangue, 4*

In the month of May Lagosanto becomes the capital of strawberries and produces 90% of Italy's strawberries. At this fair, you will be able to taste not only these delicious strawberries but also a rich variety of dishes 'made in Italy'.

## **Paying Homage to the Duke**

Watch the last two teams of the town's 8 'Contrade' present themselves to the Duke in the Castle's courtyard before the Palio games begin the following week.

**Sunday 30th April at 11 a.m.** – San Giorgio's team

**Monday 1st May at 11 a.m.** – Santo Spirito's team

## **"Il Palio di Ferrara**

Il Palio di Ferrara" is the oldest "Palio" in the world dating back to 1259. This event takes place every year to recall the extraordinary Palio that celebrated the crowning of Borso d'Este as the first Duke of Ferrara in 1471. It is a month of celebrations where the town's eight "Contrade" (8 teams divided by living areas) compete in flag-throwing competitions, dances, parades and horse races to win the precious banner dedicated to Saint George, the Patron Saint of Ferrara.



*The following events are all free to watch except for the actual Palio races in Piazza Ariostea on Saturday 27th May.*

### **Programme of events:**

#### **Saturday 6th May at 4.30 p.m. - The Blessing of the Games**

*San Francesco Church, Via Terranuova*

#### **Saturday 13th May - Junior Flag-waving Competition**

*Piazza Municipale, 3 p.m. and 8.30 p.m.*

#### **Sunday 14th May - Historical Flag-waving Competition at 4 p.m.**

Each team puts on a flag-waving exhibition accompanied by Renaissance-style music.

This is well worth going to. Get there in plenty of time to get a good view.

#### **Saturday 20th May - Historical Street Parade at Night**

*The procession starts at 8.45 p.m.*

An incredible historical procession of all the 'Contrade' starts from Piazza Medaglie d'Oro and proceeds down Corso della Giovecca, Castello Estense, Piazza Castello. It feels as if you have stepped back in time! You can stand on the streets and watch the procession for free or wait in Piazza Castello for its arrival where each team enrolls in the games and swears an oath to the Duke. It is one of the highlights of the Palio events as so many people in Renaissance costume take part and parade the streets by torchlight. Make sure you arrive there in plenty of time to get a good view.

#### **Saturday 27th May at 8 p.m. - The Palio of Ferrara**

The historical parade sets off from the Castle and goes down Corso Ercole I d'Este, Corso Porta Mare until it reaches Piazza Ariostea where the Palio games begin. There are donkey races, children's races and the famous horse race. The competition ends with the winning team being presented with the prized banner.

### **Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band**

*18th May at 7.30 p.m. Parco Urbano*

Bruce is back on tour with the E Street Band and is arriving in Italy. He will be stopping off in Ferrara where he will perform a mega playlist of 28 songs including 'Dancing in the Dark', 'Only the Strong Survive' and 'Letter to You'.

*For further information telephone: 0532 299303 If any are left, tickets cost between €100 and €150. [www.brucespringsteenferrara.it](http://www.brucespringsteenferrara.it) This website has been set up to keep members of the public up to date with concert information and to help with the logistics of parking etc.*