



CHRISTMAS IN FERRARA

DECEMBER 2023

Ferrara's Christmas Market

Saturday 18th November

Piazza Trento Trieste

Open every day from 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Ferrara Winter Park

25th November – 31st January

Parco Colletta

10.30 a.m. – midnight

Opening ceremony on 25th November at 6 p.m. (Closed on Sunday 26th November)

There are lots of attractions at the Winter Park this year including a 40 metre panoramic tower, food & drink, an ice rink, a free concert on 8th December with the international star Amii Stewart and entertainment for all the family.

On 10th & 17th December there will be a free puppet show for children from 2 p.m. – 7 p.m. plus music workshops on Friday 1st December from 4.30 p.m. – 6.30 p.m. and on Saturday 2nd December at 7 p.m. with a concert to conclude this event.

Ferrara's Christmas Lights

Saturday 2nd December at dusk

Piazza Trento Trieste

The Christmas lights will be turned on for the first time on Saturday 2nd at dusk. This year over 1000km of energy efficient Christmas lights will decorate the centre of Ferrara bringing festive cheer to our pretty town. Special features include an enormous star in Piazza Municipale and a nativity scene in Piazza Ariostea.



Amii Stewart in Concert

Friday 8th December

Parco Coletta at 8.30 p.m.

This American singer rose to fame in 1979 with the hit 'Knock on Wood' that made her an international star. In the 80s she moved to Italy where her career continued and led to successful collaborations with a variety of Italian musicians. She also starred in musicals and theatre production and performed in front of the Pope and Queen Elizabeth.

This event begins at 6.30 p.m. with the Jubilation Gospel Choir.

Further information about tickets will follow shortly.

Switching on the Christmas Tree Lights & Gospel Choir

Friday 8th December at 6 p.m.

Piazza Cattedrale

The Christmas tree lights will be officially turned on in the town centre accompanied by a Gospel Choir concert in the square.

Natale Sta Arrivando – Christmas is Coming!

'Testaperaria' Children's Bookshop

Via De' Romei, 19/A

Fun Christmas craft workshops for children will be held on the following days:

Monday 27th November at 5.30 p.m.

Monday 4th December at 5.30 p.m.

Monday 11th December at 5.30 p.m.

Cost: €7,50

Duration: 1 hour

Suitable for children aged 4 +

To book: 0532 202823



‘Il Castello dei Balocchi’ – ‘Toy Castle’

Castello Estense

8th, 9th & 10th December

A magical journey around the Castle dedicated to Christmas for all the family to enjoy with games, music and mysteries to solve.

Entrance times: 10 a.m. 11 a.m. 12 p.m. 2 p.m. 3 p.m. 4 p.m. 5 p.m. 6 p.m. 7 p.m. (Please arrive 10 minutes before you turn)

Tickets cost: €11 children aged 11+ €9 children aged 2 – 11, Free for children up to 2

Tickets include:

- Admission
- A show
- A craft workshop with a gadget to take home
- Hot chocolate for children and mulled wine for parents

N.B. Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult

To book: <https://feshioneventi.it/prodotto/castello-dei-balocchi-23-pp/>

‘Incanto di Natale’ – Concert for the family

8th December

Castello Estense 8.30 p.m.

Everyone is invited to join the three elves Ginger, Alabaster and Pepper for a festive party at the Castle where there will be an exciting show entitled ‘A Fairytale Christmas’ with music from Disney’s most famous songs.

Tickets cost: adults €10. Children €8

Places are limited so you need to book soon:

<https://feshioneventi.it/prodotto/incanto-di-natale/>

‘Cena dei Balocchi’ / The Toys’ Dinner

The North Pole’s Big Secret

9th December

Castello Estense

It is the busiest time of the year in the North Pole as the elves rush to get all the presents ready for Christmas Eve but on the morning of 9th December the toy factory



will come to a halt. Something strange is about to happen! With the help of mums and dads, it is your turn to discover the big secret is that shrouds the North Pole and to help the elves save Christmas around the world!

Entertainment & Dinner: €35 adults, €25 children

Adults Menu:

Appetizer – pumpkin flan with cheese fondue

Starter: ‘Drops of Gold’ Lasagna

Main Course: Roast meat with apples accompanied by potatoes

Dessert: ‘Tenerina’ chocolate cake

Children’s Menu:

Starter – Pasta with tomato sauce

Main course – Cooked ham with potatoes

To book: <https://feshioneventi.it/prodotto/la-cena-dei-balocchi-ferrara/>

Teatro Nuovo

Piazza Trento Trieste, 56

14th December at 9 p.m. - **Virginia State Gospel Choir**

16th December at 9 p.m. - **The Nutcracker ballet – Lo Schiaccianoci**

29th December at 5 p.m. & 9 p.m. - **A Christmas Carol Musical**

*The ticket office for Teatro Nuovo is inside the actual theatre and is open on:
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays & Saturdays from 11 a.m. – 1p.m. & 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Thursdays 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.*

As well as 1 hour before the show (you may be lucky and find last-minute seats)

Email: biglietteria@teatronuovoferrara.com

Teatro Comunale

Corso Martiri della Libertà, 5

2nd December at 8 p.m. - Le Guerre di Ulisse

A modern opera which brings together literacy, music and acting to tell a mythical story ‘The Wars of Ulysses’.



3rd December at 6 p.m. - Air Force Band – Charity Concert

The traditional, annual concert performed by the Military Air Force Band to raise money for charity is taking place inside the town's beautiful theatre.

*Tickets can be booked online, by email, from the ticket office (a few doors along from the theatre) or by telephoning **0532 202675**. Free entry. Please make a donation.*

29th & 30th December at 8.30 p.m. - La Bella Addormentata - Sleeping Beauty

Russian Ballet Company

Tickets can be bought online: <https://www.teatrocomunaleferrara.it/biglietti/>

Email biglietteria@teatrocomunaleferrara.it

Ferrara in Jazz

Jazz Club, Torrione San Giovanni, Via Rampari di Belfiore, 167

<http://www.jazzclubferrara.com>

The jazz season continues. Here is the programme for December:

Friday 1st at 9.30 p.m. – Simone Alessandrini Storytellers

Saturday 2nd at 9.15 p.m. - Alessandro Presti Quintet

Sunday 3rd at 9 p.m. – Serico-Tonale edited by Istantanea

Thursday 7th at 9.15 p.m. – Vadim Neselovskyi Odesa

Friday 8th at 9.30 p.m. - Francesca Tandoi Trio

Saturday 9th at 9.15 p.m. – Roberto Gatto Lifetime

Sunday 10th at 9 p.m. – Ensemble Snapshot

Friday 15th at 9.30 p.m. – ‘Empty Music’

Saturday 17th at 9 p.m. - Senico Tonale edited by Istantanea, Snapshot

Friday 22nd at 9.30 p.m. - As Madalena

Saturday 23rd at 9.30 p.m. – Itaparica

N.B. You need a guest pass to enter the club, which can be bought on the door before the event.

Grand Gala Dinner at the Theatre

Sunday 31st December

At the ‘Ridotto’ music rooms of Teatro Comunale

A magical evening to welcome in the New Year held in the elegant music rooms overlooking the Castle.

For information and reservations: **0532 067347**

Email: capodanno@ferrarexpo.com



New Year's Eve at the Castle

31st December

'I want to go back to the 90s' concert around the Castle will keep you warm until the impressive firework display begins.

Il Paese di Babbo Natale – The Land of Father Christmas

Piazza Municipale

25th November 2023 – 7th January 2024

Saturdays, Sundays & holidays (except for 25th December) 3 p.m. 8.30 p.m.

Visit Piazza Municipale and the land of Father Christmas where children can write their wish list while sipping hot chocolate and eating a cake. Meet magical characters and if you are lucky, even catch a glimpse of Father Christmas himself!

On **6th January**, 'Befana' arrives in the square. She is a dear old lady who flies on a broomstick and brings all the children in Italy a stocking filled with sweets on the Eve of the 6th while they are sleeping. Beware though, as for children who have been naughty, Befana will bring them a piece of black coal!

Programme in Piazza Municipale:

Sunday 26th at 5 p.m. Opening Ceremony Show

Saturday 6th January at 3.30 p.m. Baby dance

At 4 p.m. Children's entertainment

At 5 p.m. Befana arrives and hands out stockings

At 6 p.m. in Corso Porta Reno - Following tradition, an enormous Befana doll is put on a bonfire and burnt to get rid of horrible thoughts and to end the old year.

Sweet Christmas Lab

2nd & 16th December

4 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.

C/O Caravanilia Home, Via Mortara 63

A fun Christmas biscuit decorating workshop for children aged 7+ where they will learn different techniques and the secrets of using sugar paste effectively. There will be a short break with something to eat for each participant and accompanying adult. This workshop can be held in English and Italian, just let the organizer know when you book.

Cost: €28 **Duration:** 1 hour aprox. **Max:** 8 participants

For further information or to book telephone: [3475816962](tel:3475816962) or [3295365533](tel:3295365533)



Cake Design: Topper Cake

3rd December, 3.30 p.m. – 6.30 p.m.

A creative workshop for adults (and children aged 12 +) to learn how to make 3D sugar paste decorations and compositions which you can then use during the Christmas period to decorate a cake and impress your family and friends! This course lasts about 3 hours and includes a break with a snack. It can also be held in English and in Italian, just let the organizer know when you book.

Cost: €62 **Max.** participants: 8 people

Cake Design: Tiny Christmas Cake

17th December, 3.30 p.m. – 6.30 p.m.

During this cake design workshop for adults (and children aged 12 +), you will learn basic and effective techniques for filling and decorating cakes which you can then apply at home to your own cakes. This course lasts about 3 hours and includes a well-deserved break with something to eat. It can be held in English and Italian, just let the organizer know.

Cost: €62 **Max.** participants: 8 people

‘Il Castello’ Shopping Centre (Ipercoop)

Via Giusti, 4

At the shopping centre ‘Il Castello’ there is an ice rink and ferris wheel. The ice rink is open from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. during the week and from 10.30 a.m. – 12.30 & 3 p.m. – midnight at the weekend with 1 hour sessions.

