



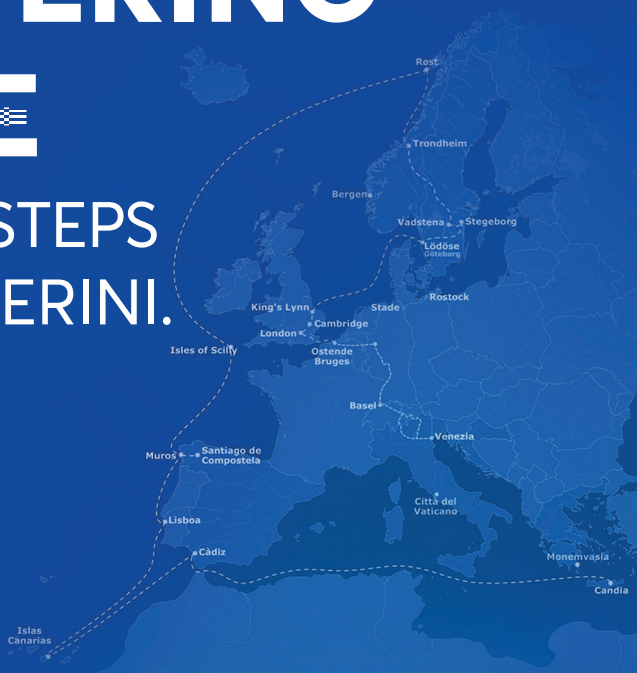
CONSIGLIO
REGIONALE
DEL VENETO

Via Querinissima

Cultural Route

DISCOVERING EUROPE

ON THE FOOTSTEPS
OF PIETRO QUERINI.





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***Discovering Europe on the footsteps
of Pietro Querini***

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DISCOVERING EUROPE

ON THE FOOTSTEPS
OF PIETRO QUERINI.

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Via Querinissima is a dream that was initially conceived between Veneto and Nordland regions in the direct connection linking Venice and the island of Rost.

The project now involves several European countries, all described in this first guide, which aims to provide a snapshot of Via Querinissima and its potential as a cultural itinerary.

The aim is to retrace Querini's historic journey and highlight the cultural, commercial and food and wine connections that still unite these nations today. The project highlights the relevance of Pietro Querini's journey and the power of storytelling that connects Europe far beyond the boundaries of food and wine heritage alone, transforming the route into a cultural experience that crosses territories, traditions and shared histories.

Today, Via Querinissima is an itinerary that speaks of travel and discovery: geographical discoveries, discoveries linked to tradition and the flavours of food; it also speaks of policies for the management of territories and resilience, promoting the sustainability of slow, respectful and regenerative tourism; it speaks of local identities, solidarity and friendship between peoples, history, sea routes, ports and trade; it speaks of connections, of bonds in a forward-looking and multidisciplinary vision that links stories and makes us feel closer.

Via Querinissima
is a Story that tells Stories

Roberto Ciambetti



1 Stage of a journey

Via Querinissima

the route from the European Southern
Shores to the Northern Lights

Via Querinissima is a journey that connects southern and northern Europe, intertwining seas and lands to rediscover the common roots of our identity. Inspired by Pietro Querini's legendary voyage, this route celebrates Europe's rich historical, cultural and gastronomic heritage.

At the heart of the Via Querinissima there are the values of solidarity, hospitality and cultural exchange, **making it more than just a journey: it becomes a living symbol of the connections amongst communities, traditions and history.**

I A voyage of adventure and discovery

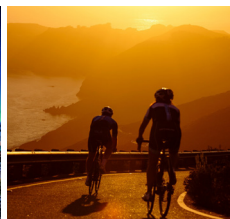
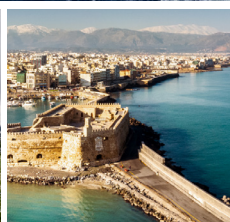
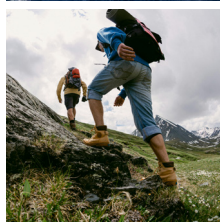


In 1431, Pietro Querini, a Venetian nobleman, sailed from Crete to Bruges in a typical Venetian ship, the 'Cocca', a cog, with its load of precious goods. However, fate changed his course: a shipwreck near the Lofoten Islands in Norway led him to the fishing community of Røst, where he was kindly welcomed. There Querini not only found salvation, but discovered the places, customs and traditions of the peoples of northern Europe, Norway and Sweden, which he meticulously described in his travel report, leaving us a geopolitical treatise that significantly changed the future of European trade and relations.

In his report - and this is why Pietro Querini is so well known across Europe - he gives an account of a novel way of drying cod, using wind and air and without the use of salt, to make stockfish, thus contributing to making this product popular throughout Europe. Indeed, the versatility of this product supported the expansion of its trade throughout Europe, and beyond, creating cultural and gastronomic bonds that continue to last to this day.

Retracing the Via Querinissima today means reliving this extraordinary journey through cities and regions that include *Heraklion, Cadiz, Canary Islands, Lisbon, Muros, Santiago de Compostela, Røst, Trondheim, Vadstena, Söderköping, Lödöse, King's Lynn, Cambridge, London, Bruges, Basel, Rostock, Venice* and many other cities that he passed through on his return journey through *Germany, Switzerland and Austria*.

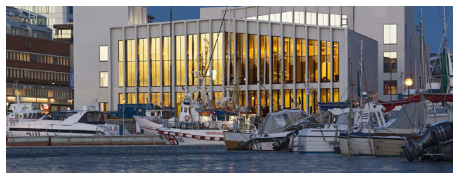
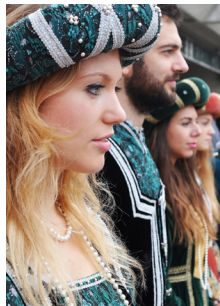
The Via Querinissima therefore leads **the traveller along a journey of great diversity**, where each leg tells a different chapter of European history, offering endless opportunities to celebrate local heritage and strengthen ties amongst different communities.



I Slow Tourism to Discover an Authentic Europe

Via Querinissima invites travellers to rediscover Europe through slow and sustainable tourism, ideal for those seeking authentic and engaging experiences. Each destination becomes an opportunity to delve into local traditions and savour the unique flavours of each region.

From enjoying a glass of Malvasia in the vineyards of Crete, to the scent of the Norwegian coastline and the breathtaking landscapes of the hiking trails through Norway and Sweden, from savouring Venice's famous "cichetti" with bacalà (stockfish) or the traditional recipes of all the countries on this itinerary, such as in Portugal, to exploring deeply spiritual sites such as Vadstena and Trondheim, every moment is a celebration of the authentic beauty of Europe. Furthermore, cultural projects, events and initiatives further strengthen the local communities, turning each stop into a meeting point of tradition and innovation.



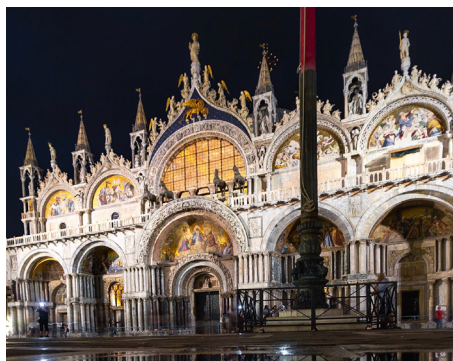
I An Opportunity for Development

This itinerary currently involves partners from Greece, Italy, Spain, Sweden, Portugal, Norway, the United Kingdom and the Holy City, and is a model of international development and cooperation. Events such as the *Via Querinissima Days* allow local actors to promote their excellence, build international networks and develop innovative proposals that enhance the unique characteristics of each region.

By integrating sea and land routes, the itinerary enriches the landscape of the European cultural itineraries by focusing on a distinctive element, the sea, which becomes a metaphor for connection and exchange.



In conclusion, the *Via Querinissima* is much more than an itinerary: it is a bridge between the past and the future, a living testimony to Europe's extraordinary heritage. This extraordinary journey invites us to explore the continent's shared history, culture and traditions, offering us the opportunity to rediscover its treasures and forge deeper bonds, one step at a time.





The voyage:

- **in blue the route** of the Cocca "Querina" and her shipwrecked crew
- **in red the itinerary** of Pietro Querini
- **in orange the itinerary** of Cristofalo Fioravante and Nicolò de Michiele





Greece



2 Stage of a journey

In the 1400s, the Querini family had established a significant presence in Crete, known at the time as Candia. They owned numerous fiefs dedicated to the cultivation of Malvasia, a sweet and aromatic wine that was highly valued in Venetian trade. The production of Malvasia was one of the main economic activities of the family, that contributed significantly to the prosperity of the Republic of Venice. The Querini family's influence was not restricted to agriculture, but extended to the commercial and social spheres. Tangible signs of the Querini family's presence on the island can be seen in the architecture of buildings and is enhanced through cultural and social initiatives.

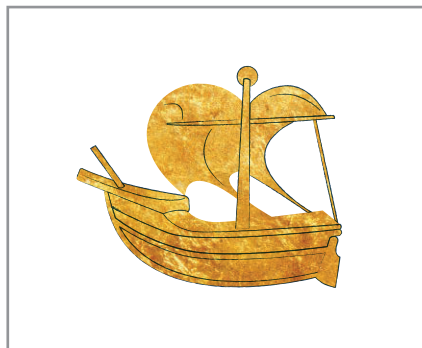
On 25 April 1431, Pietro Querini departed from Candia with his coko (or car-rack) to reach the Flanders, where he intended to sell Malvasia wine and other valuable goods. Candia (today Heraklion) was a thriving city in Crete and an important commercial hub for the Republic of Venice.

On its journey to Spain, the Querina immediately encountered problems. Adverse winds forced the ship to sail along the coasts of North Africa in order to reach Cadiz.

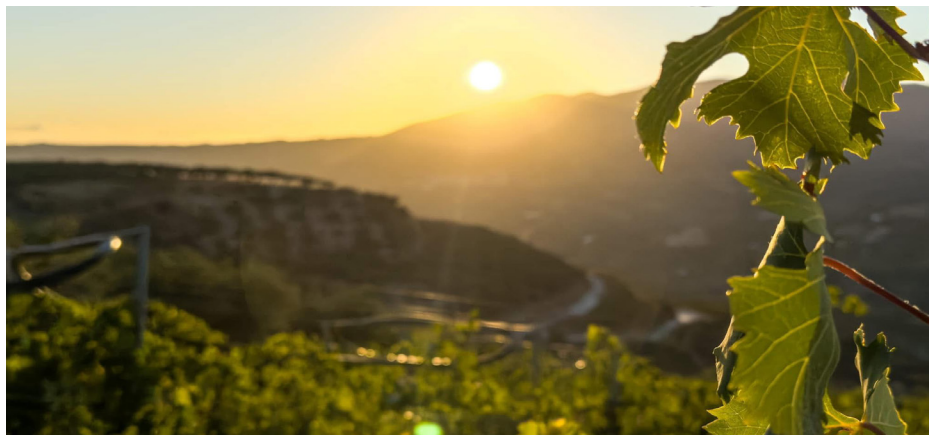


VQ in Greece

"The Querini family, also known as Quirini, arrived in Crete as early as 1204 when Venetian patricians were sent to manage the fiefs after the island of Crete – Candia – was assigned to the "Serenissima" Republic of Venice, which purchased it for 2000 marks of silver from Bonifacio of Montferrat. Bonifacio had obtained it following the Fourth Crusade when Constantinople was conquered and Venice received a part of these territories".



*(from the tales of Pietro Francis Quirini
del ramo di Santa Giustina)*



The origins of Malvasia wine date back to ancient Greece, specifically to the region of Monemvasia in the Peloponnese. This wine, known for its sweet and aromatic flavour, was produced from local grape varieties that were perfectly suited to the climate and soil of the area. During the Middle Ages, the production of Malvasia spread widely thanks to Venetian merchants, who appreciated its quality and imported it into their lands. Candia, today's Heraklion, became one of the main production centres of this precious wine during the Venetian rule on the island of Crete.

Iter Vitis - *The Route of Vines*



Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe



Iter Vitis, a Cultural Route certified by the Council of Europe in 2009, celebrates the millennia-old connection between vines, wine and European civilizations. By combining history, culture, sustainable tourism, and innovation, Iter Vitis promotes the rediscovery of native grape varieties, wine landscapes, and unique oenological traditions, supporting local communities and enhancing European cultural heritage.

In this context, the collaboration with Via Querinissima on the theme of Malvasia is particularly significant. Malvasia, a grape variety symbolizing the interconnectedness of peoples and cultures, played a central role in the history of European viticulture, embo-



dying the dialogue between East and West. Thanks to Venetian trade routes and medieval merchant paths, Malvasia spread from the Mediterranean to Central Europe, becoming not only a prestigious penological variety but also a cultural and geopolitical bridge.

This grape, with its adaptability to diverse territories, demonstrates how wine has influenced politics, economics and cultural identity across Europe. Through its partnership with Via Querinissima, Iter Vitis aims to explore the historical and geopolitical significance of Malvasia, highlighting its contribution to the development of trade and cultural networks that continue to connect European regions today.



Together, Iter Vitis and Via Querinissima work to enhance this extraordinary heritage by creating wine tourism itineraries, exhibitions, conferences, and initiatives that raise awareness of wine as a key element of European cultural identity. Combining historical research, storytelling, and territorial promotion, this collaboration seeks to inspire a new model of cultural tourism—one that is inclusive, mindful and deeply rooted in the shared history of Europe.

MALVASIA MYTH



The Myth of Malvasia is much more than a wine project: it is a cultural journey that connects places, stories, and people through one of the most fascinating grape varieties of the Mediterranean. Born from the collaboration of Local Action Groups in Greece, Italy, and Croatia, and now open to new regions and partners, this initiative tells the story of the wine's Greek origins and its spread across the Mediterranean and Europe, weaving together legends of pirates, tales of artists, and the memory of iconic sites such as the Rock of Monemvasia, which gave the wine its name.

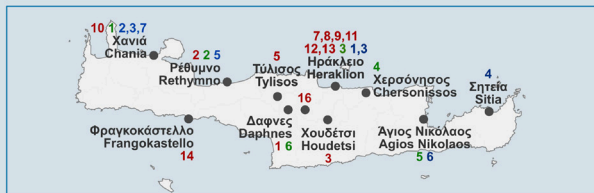
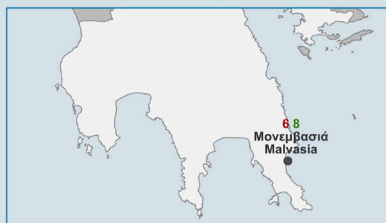
Malvasia carries a unique federative and evocative power: it links distant lands and diverse cultures through a common heritage, creating a golden thread that runs through centuries of history and continues to inspire travelers today. For wine lovers, discovering Malvasia is not only about tasting; it is about becoming a true traveler of Malvasia—a modern “Querini” who can explore dozens of destinations, each offering a distinctive expression of Malvasia and wonderful stories to uncover.

The “Malvasia Myth” project celebrates this legacy, turning wine into a cultural passport that unites regions, promotes sustainable tourism, and offers authentic experiences where the pleasure of tasting is intertwined with the joy of history, storytelling, and discovery.



Crete Peloponnese

Pietro Querini, a Venetian patrician and merchant, set sail from Candia on 25 April 1431 with his Cocca 'Querina' and 68 men on board, a cargo of 800 barrels of Malvasia and other valuable merchandise, with the goal of reaching Flanders.



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2. The Renaissance Festival
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FESTIVALS

The Wine Festival

The Wine Festival of **Dafnes**, held in July, is a popular annual event that celebrates the rich winemaking tradition of Crete. Located in the charming village of Dafnes, nestled amidst rolling vineyards and scenic landscapes, this festival is a haven for wine enthusiasts and cultural enthusiasts alike.



The Renaissance Festival

The **Rethymnon** Renaissance Festival aims at becoming a centre for the revitalization and support of cross-cultural exchange among peoples, as well as between Science and Art in the Mediterranean, the Balkans and Europe. In history, this dialogue has been characterized not only by cultural exchanges, but mainly by contrasts, disputes and conflicts.

Houdetsi Festival

Houdetsi Festival is a 4-day celebration of music, food and art that takes place in the little village of Houdetsi located 23 km south of Heraklion, on the island of Crete. Every night from 21:00 till the morning there are concerts on five stages in the village. The Crafts Market starts every evening at 19:00 and the Luthiers Exhibition is open all day (Choudetsi Nikos Kazantzakis).

National day 25 March

On 25 March, Greece celebrates two events together: the National Day marking Greece's independence from the Ottoman Empire, which began in 1821, and the religious feast of the Annunciation. King Otto chose this date in 1838 to combine patriotic pride with an important religious celebration: the union between spiritual freedom and national freedom.

The typical dish on Greek tables is fried cod with skordalia, a garlic-based sauce. Curiously, it is not known for certain how and when cod arrived in Greece: it is thought to have been in the 15th century, thanks to trade with England and the ease of preserving the product. In addition to parades, the day is marked by celebrations in churches and private family parties throughout Greece.

St. Nicholas celebration 5 December

Every year, on 5 December, the village of **Tylissos** in the Municipality of Malevizi celebrates St Nicholas. **The traditional dish is fried baccalà**, which is prepared by the community that gathers for dinner, after the celebration of mass, together with representatives of the Orthodox Church. This lesser-known feast is evocative of tradition and religion: it is a still genuine festivity, tied to the territory.



The picturesque village of Tylissos is located 14 km west of the city of Heraklion, on the eastern slope of Mount Psiloritis. The area is known for the remains of three Minoan palaces from the early palatial period that were destroyed, as were all the others, around 1400 - 1500 BC.

The ruins of the Minoan palace of Sklavokambos, 8-10 km west of Tylissos, are worth visiting.

Malvasia Festival Monemvasia

A cultural event to highlight the historical, cultural and oenological value of Malvasia wine and its enjoyment. Through artistic actions, wine tastings, historical walks, transnational meetings and visionary actions, Malvasia wine and its culture become the foundations for the development of international outreach, cooperation, scientific research and artistic activities, inspired by the past to create culture for the present.



Archeological Museum

The archaeological museum of Heraklion is one of the oldest and most remarkable museums in Greece, and one of the most important in Europe. Its most impressive pieces are included in the Minoan antiquities collection.



Historical Museum of Crete

The Historical Museum of Crete (HMC) is a private establishment founded in 1953: its mission is to record, preserve, document and promote all forms of material evidence of Cretan history (artifacts, archive material etc.). HMC's activities include designing and holding permanent and temporary exhibitions; running educational programmes; organizing scholarly/cultural activities (lectures, film shows); collecting, recording and digitising archive material.

Domenikos Theotokopoulos Museum

The El Greco Museum is located in the village of Fodele in Crete, west of Heraklion city. It honours the mannerist painter Domenikos Theotokopoulos, who was born and grew up in Heraklion before moving to Venice and Toledo.

Historical archive of Crete

The Historical Archive of Crete is one of the first archiving services of Greece. It was founded in Chania in 1920, as an initiative of the General Governor of Crete; today it is a public inter-prefecture service, a decentralized department of the General Archives of the State and it is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education. It includes approximately 1,000,000 historical documents.

Archaeological sites

Heraklion venetian Fortress and Walls

The castle was built on the site of a pre-existing 7th/8th century Byzantine tower, erected to guard the city against the incursions of Saracen pirates. Eventually, this tower proved to be insufficient and the city was occupied by the Arabs. In 1211 AD, the city was conquered by the Genoese; several years later, it passed under the control of the Venetians, who reconstructed the Byzantine fort.

The walls surrounding the core of the city were built by the Venetians in 1462 and their construction lasted about a century.

The walls are the largest and one of the most flawless fortification projects carried out by Venice in the Mediterranean, which has remained standing and almost intact through the centuries.

A monument of cultural and architectural heritage for the city and for the whole of Europe.

Venetian Fortress "Rocca a Mare"

The "Fortress on the Sea" (Castello a Mare or Rocca a Mare) that secured the port took 17 years to build (1523 – 1540) and required huge sums of money which were raised from the treasury of the Kingdom of Crete, the central treasury of Venice and from private individuals.

Morosini fountain

Morosini Fountain, the heart of Heraklion: built by the Venetians in 1628 based on a design by Francesco Morosini to bring water from the springs of the Archanioti Gorge to the city centre. Its aqueduct system, a true feat of engineering, solved the chronic water shortage. The fountain, adorned with eight basins decorated with mythological motifs and supported by four lions.



Frangokastello (Gate of Castelfranco)

The castle was built by the Venetians in 1371-74 as a garrison to impose order on the rebellious Sfakia region, to deter pirates and to protect Venetian nobles and their properties. The Venetians named it the Castle of St. Nikitas after the nearby church. The locals, however, who never saw it in a positive light, contemptuously dubbed it Frangokastello, meaning the Castle of the Franks (i.e. Catholic foreigners), Castelfranco or Franco Castello.

Minoan sites

The main archaeological sites belonging to the Minoan Civilization are the great Palace of Knossos, the **Palace of Kato Zakros**, the Palace of Faistos and hundred other Minoan Sightseeing all over the island.

Minoan palace of Sklavokambos:

Minoan palaces from the early palatial period that were destroyed, as were all the others, around 1400 - 1500 BC. The ruins of the Minoan palace of Sklavokambos, 8-10 km west of Tylissos, are worth visiting.



Castle Temenos

The Fortress of Temenos or Nikephoros Focas is the most important Byzantine monument on Crete. It is located on a hill 16 km south of Heraklion, near the village of Profitis Elias.

The Querinis were assigned the fiefs of Castle Temenos and the Hamlets of Daphnes, to the north of the island, a few kilometres from the capital city of Candia (now Heraklion), and it was from the products of these lands that Pietro Querini sourced the merchandise to trade in Flanders, where in the city-port of Bruges was the most important market in northern Europe.



TOURIST OFFICES

Info Points

Tourist Information Office, Municipal Of Chania

📍 29, Kydonias St. Chania
☎ +30 28210 36155
✉ info@gnto.gr

Department of Tourism, Rethymno

📍 El. Venizelou Str, 74100, Rethymno
☎ +30 28310 21459
✉ tourism@rethymno.gr

Greek National Tourist Organization (G.N.T.O.) Crete Headquarters Tourist Information Office, Heraklion

📍 Xanthoudidou St. Heraklion
☎ +30 2810 246100
✉ info@gnto.gr

Travel information at Municipality of Chersonissos

📍 Gournes, GR-700 14, Chersonissos
☎ +30 2897340000
✉ dimos@hersonisos.gr

Tourist Information Office, Agios Nikolaos

📍 Xirokampus area, Agios Nikolaos
☎ +30 2841082817
✉ info@dimosagn.gr



FOOD/WINE

Malvazia vineyards of Dafnes

From ancient times to today, Dafnes is one of the major wine growing regions of Crete. During the Venetian times the wines of Crete became internationally known and Malvazia wines are the best-known example.

These vineyards were the same used by the Venetian nobleman Pietro Querini to produce Malvasia. The Casali di Dafnes are located inland from Heraklion and today the owners are the descendants of a branch of the Querini family, the Dolfín. Crete's winemaking has dramatically improved in the last decade, in both quantity and quality. The Wines of Crete association together with several Producers' Unions offer guided tours and tastings all year round.



Monemvasia winery

The vineyards of the Parnonas (Malevos) slopes produced a variety of local grapes amongst which the "Monemvasia" was the protagonist: it yielded a sweet sun-dried wine known as Monemvasios, Monemvasiotis or Monemvasia. According to Stavroula Kourakou, former President of the OIV - International Organization of Vine and Wine, production began before the 13th century in Byzantine Monemvasia. Due to the important



commercial development of the city, the Monemvasians traded their wine, which the Venetian and Genoese merchants sold under the name “Malvasia” flooding Venice, where the wine shops were called “Malvasie”.



Traditional tavernas

Eno-gastronomy plays a fundamental role in understanding the culture and the heritage of Crete. This culinary richness can be enjoyed in thousands of traditional taverns scattered all over the island.



Heraklion Port

The port of Heraklion was built by the Venetians in the 16th century and is dominated by the presence of the Venetian fortress of Koules. This building, originally known as Rocca a Mare or Castello a Mare, was built to defend the city's harbour from enemy attacks.

Heraklion Sailing Club

The Heraklion Sailing Club was founded in 2000 to transmit to residents and the youth in particular the values of sailing and the love for the sea. Its headquarters are in the premises of the modern commercial port and the Marina in the heart of the old Venetian Port of Heraklion, the very place where Pietro Querini set sail in 1431. The Club has hosted international competitions and regularly offers sailing classes for youngsters and adults in different categories.

Neorio Moro

In 1990, a team of sailing sailors founded the Chania Sailing Club with the aim of promoting sailing activities and training courses in Chania, Crete. The Club's boats have successfully participated in races and championships, while training in the open sea is provided by experienced trainers. Furthermore, the Club is proud of having led the establishment of the 'Rally of the Southern Aegean and the Cretan Sea'.

Ports

It was from the port of Heraklion that Pietro Querini left aboard the Cocco Querina, a typical Venetian ship, and a crew of 68 men.

In his manuscript he wrote

" On 25 April 1431, I departed from that place to follow the most bitter and full of anguish journey, and, as each discerning mind can estimate, my soul was shattered by the death of my son and full of sadness and pain and, perhaps because my nature, indicating the theme of ventures, adversities, and unbearable circumstances more than was fitting, I was filled with melancholy.."

(A. Quartapelle)



Spain



3 Stage of a journey

In Cadiz, a sailor erroneously approached the San Pedro sandbank, causing the ship to hit a rock, breaking both rudder and keel and causing water to enter. On June 3, 1431, they entered the port of Cadiz to carry out the necessary repairs. During the stay in Cadiz, Querini learned of a conflict between Venice and Genoa. When they set sail again on July 14 to avoid enemy ships, they changed course, deciding to keep away from Cape St. Vincent. Strong winds push the ship off course to the Canary Islands and with great difficulty, the crew brings the ship back to its route, docking in Lisbon to repair the rudder again.

On September 24, they set sail again and on October 26, they stop at Muros for supplies and visit the Church of Santiago de Compostela. The route taken by Pietro Querini in 1431 is today known as "Camino Marítimo de Santiago de Compostela pola Ría de Muros Noia" one of variants of the Camino de Santiago. This is a recently officialised route (20th December 2020), and offers a unique experience by sea and land through picturesque fishing villages and coastal landscapes of Galicia "In the Footsteps of Pietro Querini."

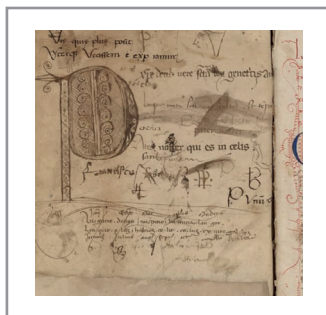


| VQ through Andalusia, Canary Islands, Galicia.

On 28 October, the *Querini Cocca* sets sail, heading towards Flanders, probably Bruges, which in 1431 was one of the major commercial centres of medieval Europe.

On 9 November, near the English Channel, a storm pushes them off course towards the Island of Ushant and then towards the Scilly Isles, southwest of Great Britain. The long shipwreck of the "*Querina*" begins, pushing them off the coast of Ireland and then further north.

On 17 or 18 December, the crew abandons the ship and splits into two smaller boats, one of which, the dinghy, sank almost immediately, while the other continued its wanderings in the northern seas.





Cadiz

Cadiz, located in the Andalusia region, is one of the oldest port cities in Spain and holds a prominent place in European maritime history. In 1431, Cadiz was part of the Kingdom of Castile, under the reign of John II. The city, already known for its natural harbour, was becoming increasingly important in the trade routes between the Mediterranean and the Atlantic. Trade with North Africa, the Canary Islands, and even the coasts of Portugal and Great Britain was frequent, making Cadiz a vital hub for maritime commerce. Today, Cadiz is known as the oldest city in Europe with a history dating back to the times of the Phoenicians.





The Canary Islands

In 1431, the Canary Islands were already known and inhabited by indigenous populations of Berber origin. These islands attracted the interest of European explorers and conquerors, especially the Spanish and Portuguese, as they were an important stop on the maritime routes to Africa and the Americas. In 1402, under the reign of John II of Castile, Spain sent Jean de Béthencourt to conquer the islands. The conquest met with strong resistance from the Guanches, who fought bravely but were gradually subdued by the Spanish conquerors. The resistance continued until 1496, when the last island, Tenerife, fell under Spanish control.

Pietro Querini, due to the strong wind coming from the northeast, was forced to turn around and approach the Canary Islands, which are unknown and frightening places to all mariners specially from our parts of the world.

(Chiampesan-Ramina)



Muros

In the 15th century, Muros was an important commercial port located in the northern part of Spain. Its strategic position and proximity to Santiago de Compostela made it a reference point for both merchants and pilgrims.

Today, Muros is a charming town that preserves its historical and cultural heritage. The port of Muros, while maintaining its traditional function, is also a starting point for boat trips and sea-related activities.

Every year, the city hosts events that attract tourists from all over the world, eager to immerse themselves in Galician culture and discover the riches of the territory.





Discover the maritime route of Santiago in the footsteps of Pietro Querini



There are several ways to complete the Pilgrim's Way to Santiago, the most common being on foot and by bicycle. Since 2019, sailing has been added officially and is recognised by the Church and the Pilgrim's Office of Santiago de Compostela.

The "Camino Marítimo" de la Ría de Muros Noia offers a very special sea route with a historical justification that gives a different perspective of the Jacobean Ways.

At the time of the Second Crusade to the Holy Land, in the first half of the 12th century, it is historically documented that many warriors and soldiers engaged in the holy war came from Northern Europe, and on their journey to the Holy Land they sailed along the coasts of Galicia. This is the case of the 200 ships hailing from Great Britain, Burgundy, Flanders and Germany that arrived on the Galician coast in 1147. Before continuing their journey, they would stop in Galicia to make a pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela and ask the Holy Apostle for help with their

Holy Apostle for help with their risky venture.

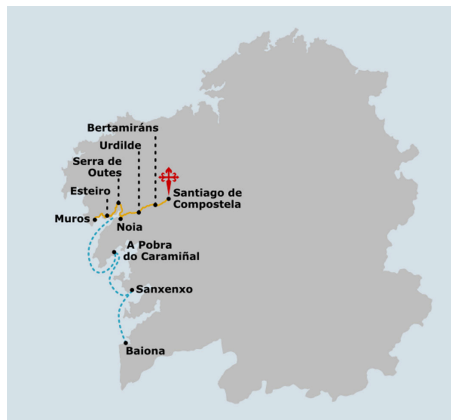
King Ferdinand II of León, whose tomb can be found in the Chapel of Relics in the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, gave the city of Noia the title of Portus Apostoli, thus formalising its Jacobean connection since the end of the 12th century....



And Later, in the 15th century, Pietro Querini opened a trade route to northern Europe, but not before docking in Muros on his way to Santiago de Compostela on a pilgrimage.

Today, Tour operators organise the maritime route from Muros to Noia and also tell the story of Pietro Querini, who in 1431 was a pilgrim on that journey.

the maritime route of the Camino de Santiago and Via Querinissima



V Rotta Rias baixas: is a group sailing crossing in which up to 30 boats can participate. This experience places special emphasis on adventurousness as well as promoting cooperation between crews.

Events and private tastings are organised during the journey.

This route has a deep historical significance: it connects the past of the first pilgrims with the travellers of today, passing on a historical and spiritual legacy.

Departure: Baiona - Real Club Náutico de Yates di Baiona è il punto di partenza

Arrival: Portsìn - Real Club Náutico

90 miles of navigation and a 12 km walk to Santiago



Asnauga: Traversata nautica Xacobeo

North Route: A 4- to 6-day nautical route departing from Ares or Ribadeo

South Route: A 3- to 4-day nautical route



Sailway nautical charter has been operating for over 20 years in all the Rias Baixas offering chartering and boats.



sailway.es



It is a recognised academy specialising in recreational boating training in both theory and practice.



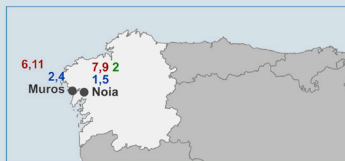
juliovernenautica.com





Andalusia | Galicia

Having set sail from Crete, Querini called at Cadiz to repair the *Cocca Querina*, resuming his voyage on 14 July. Pushed by the wind, he was forced to circumnavigate the Canary Islands before landing in Lisbon, where he had to repair the ship again. Finally, on 24 September, he resumed his navigation towards Bruges, but first stopped at Muros to stock up on provisions and set off on a pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela.



Festivals

1. Fiestas de Carnaval de Cádiz
2. Tio Pepe Festival

Museums

3. Museo Naval de San Fernando
4. Museo de las Cortes de Cádiz
5. Museo do Mar
6. Maritime-Sea Museum of Noia
7. Real Observatorio de la Armada

Libraries

8. Cadiz Provincial Library
9. Biblioteca Pública Municipal de Noia
10. Biblioteca Municipal José Celestino Mutis

Archaeological sites

11. Muros on the Way of Saint James

Tourist Offices

1. Centro de Recepción de Turistas in Cádiz
2. Oficina de Turismo de Noia

Food/Wine

Sailing club

1. Real Club Náutico de Portosín
2. Real Club Náutico de Cádiz
3. Monte Real Club de Yates in Baiona

Ports

4. Port of Muros
5. Puerto de la Bahía de Cádiz
6. Puerto de Testal



FESTIVALS

Fiestas de Carnaval de Cádiz

The Cadiz Carnival is one of the most spectacular events in Spain and is recognised as a Festival of International Tourist Interest. It features parades with themed floats and groups that sing and dance in the streets, with strong popular participation in masks and costumes.



www.andalucia.com



Tio Pepe Festival

An event organised by Bodegas Tio Pepe with the aim of offering a unique cultural setting and privileged meeting place. The Tio Pepe Festival offers an exclusive multiple sensorial experience, closely linked to the winery, sherry, tradition, culture and gastronomy.



www.tiopepefestival.com



Intra Muros Festival for Early Music – Alden Biesen Castle

In 2020 a new music festival was developed within the walls of the 800-year-old Grand Commandery in Bilzen (B) commissioned by the Flemish Government. Intra Muros Festival for Early Music – Alden Biesen Castle is the full name of this annual international music festival that is built on three pillars: young talent, current international top-quality, and exclusive programs.

Gran Prix de Carrilanas de Esteiro

The town of Esteiro, located in Muros (A Coruña), celebrates this particular race of wooden vehicles without engines (carrilanas) during the town's festival in honour of its patroness Santa Mariña. It has been declared a festivity of national tourist interest since 2021.



MUSEUMS

Museo Naval de San Fernando

The San Fernando Naval Museum is located in the restored historical building of the former San Fernando General Navy Harbour Master's Office.

Environments such as the Bay of Cadiz bear witness to extremely important geopolitical events. Authentic underwater archaeological sites (shipwrecks) can be found in the waters of Cadiz, bearing witness to what happened off its coast as a result of battles or shipwrecks.

Cadiz is one of the earliest naval enclaves of the Iberian Peninsula, the main port of antiquity for the Phoenicians, Greeks and Romans and enjoyed an enormous port development thanks to the galleons that sailed to the Indies.



Museo de las Cortes de Cádiz

The Museum of the Cortes of Cadiz was created as a reference point for the initiatives being carried out in the city to celebrate the first centenary of the Constitution of 1812, the first in the history of Spain.

turismo.cadiz.es



Real Observatorio de la Armada

Located in the district of San Fernando, the Royal Institute and Naval Observatory is the oldest Astronomical Observatory in Spain and the fourth oldest in the world. Founded in 1753 by Jorge Juan, this centre is where official standard time in Spain is set and it is one of the most important scientific centres in the world.

Museo do Mar de Galicia

Here you can learn about the long-standing historical relationship of the inhabitants of Galicia with the sea. It is involved in both research and information dissemination, and is currently working on a series of very ambitious projects.

museodomar.xunta.gal



Maritime-Sea Museum of Noia

A museum centred on sea activities, where visitors can get a close-up look at different aspects of this type of work. It is located on the Gasset waterfront, on the banks of the Traba River.



www.noiaturismo.com



Libraries

Cadiz provincial library (CADIZ)

The Provincial Library of Cadiz is a public institution whose purpose is to meet the reading and information needs of the citizens of Cadiz and its province, to promote reading, to guarantee the conservation of its bibliographic heritage, to facilitate research and to be a centre of access to new information technologies. It is managed by the Regional Government of Andalusia, through the Territorial Delegation of Culture, Tourism and Sport of Cadiz. It is currently part of the Andalusian Public Libraries Network.

Archaeological sites

Muros on the Way of Saint James

Officially recognized by the Church as a pilgrimage to obtain the Compostela, provided the entire route is completed. It connects the coastal city of Muros to Santiago de Compostela, passing through historic villages and rural landscapes of Galicia.

The Route: It begins in Muros, follows the shore of the Ría da Estrela, crosses the Serra de Outes, and passes through Noia, Lousame, Rois (Urdilde), Brión (Alqueidón), Ames (Bertamiráns), before reaching Santiago.

Approximately 80 km – Duration: 3-4 days, with daily stages of 20-25 km.

The route is mostly flat, ideal for those seeking peace, nature, and authentic historical sites. It is perfect for anyone who wants tranquility, away from the busiest pilgrimage paths, and allows travelers to discover towns and villages rich in history, with strong maritime and rural charm.



TOURIST OFFICES

Info Points

Centro de Recepción de Turistas in Cádiz

📍 Paseo de Canalejas, s/n, 11006 Cádiz

☎ +30 956 241 001

✉ info.turismo@cadiz.es

www.turismo.cadiz.es



Oficina de Turismo de Noia

📍 Rúa de Galicia 8, 15200 Noia A Coruña

☎ +34 981 821 598

✉ turismoconcellodenoia@gmail.

www.noiaturismo.com/gl



Tour operator Ria de Estrela

📍 r. da porta nova, 8000-138 Faro

☎ (+351) 961 129 977



FOOD/WINE

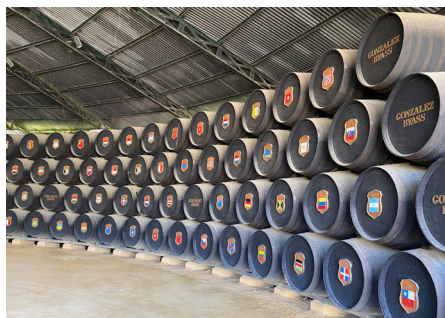
ANDALUSIA does not cultivate Malvasia, but it gave birth to one of Europe's most celebrated fortified wines—Jerez (Sherry). Produced mainly from Palomino, Moscatel, and Pedro Ximénez grapes, it encompasses a spectrum of styles, from the ethereal dryness of Fino and Manzanilla (the latter deeply tied to Sanlúcar de Barrameda), to the complexity of Amontillado and Oloroso, and the luscious sweetness

of PX. These wines are not just accompaniments but form a cultural bridge between gastronomy and history, exported for centuries and immortalized in literature and music.

GALICIA is renowned for its seafood cuisine, with cod playing a starring role in dishes such as Galician-style cod, empanadas, and esqueixada. Wine production focuses on fresh, aromatic white wines made from native grape varieties (*Albariño*, *Godello*, *Loureira*, *Treixadura*), favored by the Atlantic climate. The five main DOs are Rías Baixas, Valdeorras, Ribeiro, Ribeira Sacra, and Monterrei, the latter also known for reds based on *Mencía*. The region's wineries, especially those in the Rías Baixas DO, export widely.

Cadiz Fish Market

The Mercado Central De Abastos is located near the historic center of Cadiz, in Plaza de la Libertad, adjacent to Plaza de Las Flores. The stalls offer fresh produce and daily catch. In the late afternoon, the Gastronomic Corner takes place, a space dedicated to aperitifs with typical products, such as tapas to enjoy with a glass of Manzanilla, a characteristic wine from Sanlúcar de Barrameda.



Real Club Náutico de Portosín

The Real Club Náutico Portosín is located on the Atlantic coast of Galicia in northwest Spain, at the Southeastern point of Cape Finisterre and at the northeastern tip of Cape Corrubedo, in the impressive Muros- Noia estuary. The Real Club Náutico Portosín is the nearest marina to Santiago de Compostela, the region's capital situated 40 km away from Portosín. This entity was constituted to promote nautical sports, especially sailing.



Real Club Náutico de Cádiz

The Real Club Náutico de Cádiz (RCNC) is a private non-profit entity founded in 1868 and registered in the register of sports clubs of the Junta de Andalucía. The RCNC is a forward-looking entity, organising wide-ranging projects for the entity, that has always been characterised by social commitment and the aim of promoting the city.



Monte Real Club de Yates in Baiona

The Monte Real Club de Yates in Baiona, one of Spain's leading yacht clubs, is renowned for its long tradition and the prestigious regattas it organizes, including the Trofeo Principe de Asturias and three historic participations in the America's Cup.



Ports

Port of Cadiz

It is an important port for trade, tourism and fishing, and serves as a departure point for ferries to the Canary Islands and other destinations.

It is a historic port with Phoenician roots and has played a significant role in the development of the city and trade between Spain and America.

The port of Cadiz was an important centre for trade with the Americas after the discovery of the New World.



www.spain.info/en/transport/cadiz-port



Puerto de la Bahía de Cádiz

Due to its geographical position, between the two major maritime traffic flows Europe-Africa and America-Mediterranean, the Port of the Bay of Cadiz has positioned itself as the Southern Gateway to Europe.

Puerto de Testal Noia Galicia

Noia became one of Galicia's main towns due to the discovery of the Apostle's Sarcophagus, known as "Compostela's Port"; it experienced a great boom in its commercial activities.

www.noiaturismo.com/en/conoce-nuestra-villa/nuestra-historia



Port of Muros

It is an important port for trade, tourism. The town is located 71 kilometres from the city of Santiago de Compostela. The historic centre has been declared an Asset of Cultural Interest.

The original urban structure and an architectural and archaeological heritage of great interest led to the designation of Muros as a Historic-Artistic Monumental Complex in 1970. It stands out for its typical maritime porticos, under which fishing gear was once sheltered and fish were salted.



On 26 October, Pietro Querini arrived in Muros to replenish supplies. In this occasion he and thirteen other men visited the relics of Santiago de Compostela.



Portugal



4 Stage of a journey

Pietro Querini, after circumnavigating the Canary Islands and being at the mercy of adverse winds for 45 days, manages to regain his course and arrives in Lisbon on August 29, where he remains until September 14. Pietro Querini's account does not dwell on his stay in Lisbon; the stop was necessary and functional for the repair work on the rudder and to restock supplies.

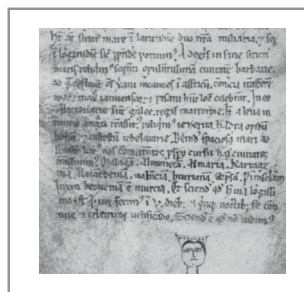
The Port of Lisbon, situated on the Tagus River and the Atlantic, was a strategic commercial crossroads in the Middle Ages. It was an open port that welcomed an international mercantile community.



VQ in Portugal

On 28 October, the *Querini Cocca* sets sail, heading towards Flanders, probably Bruges, which in 1431 was one of the major commercial center. In the Via Querinisima route, Portugal is a strong representation of some of the key elements of the cultural route:

- Ports and Commerce: Lisbon as a historical maritime crossroads, where exchanges forged cultural and economics links that endure today:
- Food and Wine heritage: Cod (Bacalhau) and Malvasia as gastronomic symbols that narrate centuries of traditions, weaving connections between Portugal and the wider European context from the Middle Ages to the present.





"Bacalhau" A Cultural Symbol In Portugal, bacalhau is not simply food but a cultural emblem. Despite not being fished in local waters, North Atlantic cod (*Gadus morhua*) became central to the Portuguese diet and identity. A well-known saying recalls that the Portuguese know "a thousand and one ways" to prepare it. Its history stretches back to Viking techniques of drying fish in the 9th century, passed to the Basques, who spread them across Iberia. The foundation of the Companhia de Pescarias Lisbonense in 1835 marked the start of organized cod fishing, later expanded with large fleets that braved the icy Atlantic.

The Centro Interpretativo da História do Bacalhau (2020) in Lisbon presents this story, highlighting cod as heritage and identity.



The Maritime Museum of Ílhavo, renovated in 2001, immerses visitors in the history of cod fishing through artifacts, models, and personal stories, and even features a cod aquarium.

The Museu de Marinha in Lisbon enriches this maritime narrative with collections spanning centuries.





Malvasia – A Hidden Treasure Alongside cod, Malvasia wine forms part of Portugal's identity as a land shaped by the sea and by exchange. Unlike cod, which arrived from the cold Atlantic, Malvasia came by way of Mediterranean trade. Introduced through routes that linked the Levant, the Italian Peninsula, and the Iberian Atlantic, Malvasia quickly became associated with hospitality, refinement, and the cosmopolitan spirit of Portuguese ports. Malvasia is cultivated in several Portuguese regions, each shaping the grape's character through climate and terroir:



- **Madeira:** Perhaps the most famous expression of Malvasia, locally known as Malvasia Cândida or Malvazia, is used to produce the legendary sweet Malmsey Madeira. These wines, aged through the estufagem or canteiro methods, are rich, opulent, and long-lived, with notes of dried fruits, nuts, and caramel. Malmsey was historically a favourite at European courts and remains a symbol of Portuguese enological prestige.

- **Colares (near Lisbon):** Here Malvasia de Colares, often planted in sandy soils

close to the Atlantic, produces aromatic, full-bodied whites. Protected from phylloxera thanks to its unique terroir, it reflects both resilience and tradition.

- **Mainland Regions:** Malvasia is also found in areas such as the Setúbal Peninsula and the Douro, usually blended with other local grapes to produce aromatic whites or fortified wines. Malvasia's presence in Portugal mirrors the country's historical vocation as a maritime bridge. The grape reached Portuguese shores along the same routes that brought spices, sugar, and silk. Its wines were traded from Lisbon to Northern Europe and beyond, becoming part of the shared vocabulary of Mediterranean and Atlantic commerce. In Madeira, Malvasia gained international renown from the 16th century onwards, carried in the holds of ships that sailed to England, the Americas, and Asia. It was the wine of choice for celebrations and diplomacy.



Pietro Querini set sail from Cadiz on 14 July 1431, and in order to avoid encountering Genoese ships, which were at war with Venice at the time, he decided to sail away from Cape St. Vincent. The winds pushed him off course as far as the Canary Islands. In resuming his course, he broke his rudder. He managed to arrive in Lisbon on 29 August to repair the ship and resupply, and left for Muros on 24 September.



Museums

1. Centro Interpretativo da História do Bacalhau
2. Maritime Museum of Ílhavo
3. Museu de Marinha

Art Exhibitions

4. Casa dos Bicos
5. Murais Almada

Places

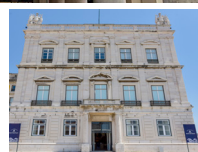
1. Samouco Salt Pans
2. Peniche



MUSEUMS

Centro Interpretativo da História do Bacalhau

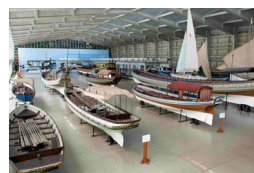
The Stockfish History Interpretation Centre stands as a site of remembrance dedicated to codfish and the connection the Portuguese have to the sea. It points towards a dimension of education and knowledge associated with experiencing discovery and leisure. Stockfish and saltfish as a cultural heritage and a symbol of the identity of the City and the Country.



Maritime Museum of Ílhavo

Nominated for the European Mies van der Rohe Prize and considered by ArchDaily as one of the top 20 most spectacular museums in the world, it was designed by the architects Nuno Mateus and José Mateus – Gabinete ARX. One of the main rooms is that of the Codfish Fishing room with a live replica of a boat used in codfish fishing in the ice-cold North-European seas.”

Museu de Marinha



Art exhibitions

Murais Almada Gares Maritimas-Centro Interpretativo - Port of Lisbon

"The Almada Murals in the Maritime Stations" is an exhibition focused on the mural paintings created by Almada Negreiros for two buildings that served as maritime stations.

The Interpretive Centre presents information about the paintings, their historical context, the artist's work in Lisbon, and details about individuals who used these stations in the latter half of the twentieth century. This content is organized across nine rooms: *Cais, O que conta as paredes, Passagens, Partidas, Chegas, História mural, diz ele, Almada em Lisboa, Almada Negreiros Artista*.

Across nine rooms, the exhibition covers the history of the murals, the artist's role in Lisbon, and the experiences of those who passed through the stations during the second half of the twentieth century.



muraisalmadagaresmaritimas.pt

**Casa dos Bicos**

Once a cod storage warehouse, today an exhibition venue of the José Saramago Foundation, a Nobel Prize winner for literature in 1998. It physically represents the history of spaces that become places of time and memory.

Rua dos Bacalhoeiros 1100-135, Lisbon

**TOURIST OFFICES**

Info Points

Tourist Offices | Visit Lisboa



visitportugal.com



The Codfish Route | Visit Lisboa



The Maritime Way of Muros and Noia | Viajes Camino de Santiago



Centre of Portugal | Codfish Route



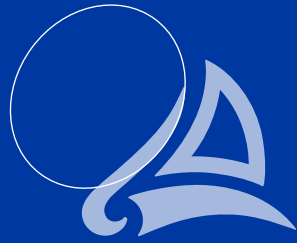
Places

The Samouco Salt Pans

Located at the Palácio dos Pinheirinhos in the Salmouco Salt Pans complex in Alcochete – is an area of sea salt production and a safe haven for migratory waterbirds. Covering an area of 360 hectares, these salt pans were the main salt production centre in the Lisbon region from the 1930s to the 1970s. This area is also significant for its ecological value. This area is also significant for its ecological value, as it provides an essential habitat for numerous species of migratory birds.

Peniche

In the municipality of Peniche, in the region of Estremadura, fish such as sardines, mackerel and tuna were dried and salted for export as early as the Roman Empire. Today, it is renowned for surfing at the mouth of the Sado and throughout the area around the Tejo River.



Norway



5 Stage of a journey

On 6 January 1432, after two months of extreme sailing, the ship carrying Pietro Querini, his ship counsellor Cristofalo Fioravanti, the scribe Nicolò de Michiele and thirteen crew members arrived at the Sandøy Island, south of the Lofoten archipelago, north of Norway, beyond the Arctic Circle.

After weeks of suffering and deprivation, the small group of survivors, led by Querini, was rescued by the inhabitants of the island of Røst. Here, the shipwrecked were received with rare hospitality, assisted, and cared for.



VQ through Norge and Trøndelag regions

In Pietro Querini's travel manuscript the accounts of the peoples and territories of northern Europe take on the characteristics of a veritable geopolitical treatise. It is significant to note that these narratives would influence cartographic representation and trade routes in the years to come, also promoting the opening of the stockfish market to Europe, which is still one of the driving forces of the local economy today.

Fra Mauro's marvellous world map, preserved in the Marciana National Library in Venice. Among his notes, in correspondence with Norway, he mentions the shipwreck of the *Cocca Querina*.





Archipelago Lofoten Islands



In his Manuscript, Querini provides a vivid description of the habits of the local inhabitants, focusing on their lifestyle and the architecture of their homes. He emphasises how the inhabitants of Røst stand out for their pleasant appearance, simplicity and generosity, qualities demonstrated by the welcome they gave him and his companions, hosting them in their homes and sharing their family spaces. Querini also recounts the phenomenon of the midnight sun during the summer, while in the winter months a constant twilight illuminates the nights.

Finally, he adds that fishing is a vital resource, with a surprisingly high quantity of fish caught throughout the year.

So he describes also this new method for drying stockfish:

"The stockfish are dried in the wind and sun without salt, because they are fish with little moisture, fatty, and become as hard as wood. When they want to eat them, they beat them with the back of a cleaver, which makes them stringy like tendons. They add butter and spices to give them flavour, and they are a great and invaluable commodity for that sea of Germans.

(A. Quartapelle)

For the inhabitants of the Lofoten Islands, stockfish was a trading commodity as they did not use currency. Querini and his men were brought in May to Bergen, where ships from England, Scotland, Germany, and Prussia arrived to barter for goods such as food and clothing.



Beginning of the return journey to Venice: Trondheim

On May 14, the return journey to Venice begins. Pietro Querini and his crew departed from Røst heading towards Bergen, which at the time was the most important city and marketplace. In the Middle Ages, Bergen played a crucial role as one of the main trading centres in Northern Europe. Goods, including dried fish, furs and timber were exchanged for items from all over Europe.

When they arrived in Trondheim on 29 May 1432, they were forced to change their destination due to the ongoing conflict between the Hanseatic League and the Norwegian crown.

On the way to Trondheim, Querini recounts meeting Archbishop Aslak Bolt, who was also travelling to visit his friars. The archbishop was so impressed by his stories that he wrote a letter of recommendation to the City of Trondheim, assuring them that Querini and his companions would be warmly welcomed at their next stop. Thus, upon their arrival in the city, the rector of Nidaros Cathedral, dedicated to St. Olaf, welcomed them with great hospitality: he offered them

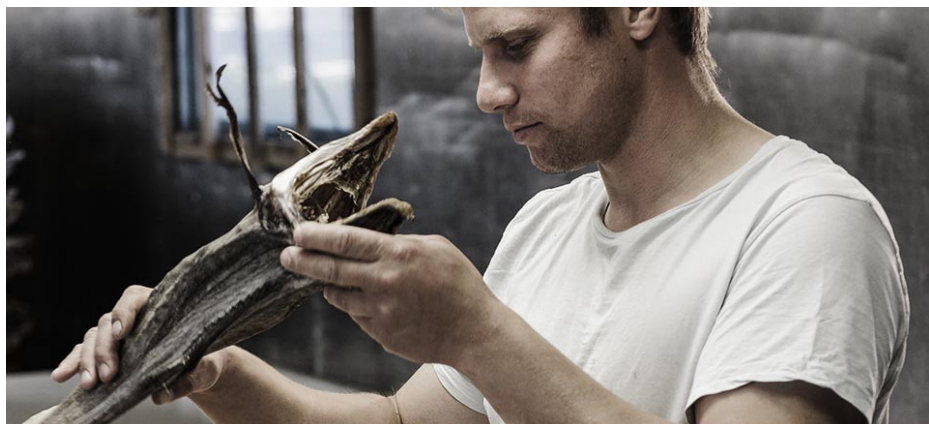
accommodation, a guide, due horses and various gifts to help them continue their journey. As a token of gratitude, Querini gave the rector the fish he had been given by the inhabitants of Røst, as well as a silver seal and a belt.

The group set off on to cross the border into Sweden and join their fellow countryman Zuane Franco who lived in Stegeborg Castle in Söderköping. They left on 14 June for Vadstena along one of the pilgrimage routes, which today can be travelled via the St Olav Ways: the Østerdalsleden.

Querini writes of his meeting with the Archbishop:

We were introduced and, having learned of our vicissitudes, condition and nationality, he condoled with us. He offered to write a letter to the place of his seat called Trondheim, where is laid to rest the body of St. Olav, the late king of Norway, since we were going there, for which we received a good welcome; I was gifted a horse.

(Chiampesan-Ramina)





Norge - Nordland Region

On January 6, 1432, after two months of extreme sailing, Pietro Querini and his men arrived at Sandøy Island, south of the Lofoten archipelago, north of Norway, beyond the Arctic Circle. The island was uninhabited and they were rescued by the inhabitants of Rost who welcomed them into their homes until May, when they began their return journey to Venice.

Festivals

1. The Querini Festival
2. The Winter Lights Festival
3. Nordland Music Festival Week
4. Bodø Biennale
5. Lofoten International Art Festival
6. Bodø Film Festival
7. Norwegian Constitution Day
8. Sami National Day

Museums

9. The Lofoten Museum
10. Lofoten Stockfish Museum
11. Norwegian Fishermen's village Museum
12. Pietro Querini Literary Park
13. Opera Querini
14. Norwegian Jekt Trade Museum
15. Lovundbåten Museum
16. Vega World Heritage Center
17. Bindal Museum
18. Sijti Jarngje
19. Sámi Safari Camp



Libraries

20. Dante Alighieri Committee Library
21. Stormen Library
22. Nordland County Library

Archeological and modern sites

1. Querini's stele
2. The Nest
3. Stormen Concert Hall

Tourist Offices

1. NordNorsk Reiseliv AS
2. Visit Bodø
3. Tourist Information office in Brønnøysund
4. Tourist Information office in Mosjøen
5. Tourist Information office in Sandnessjøen
6. Tourist Information office in Mo i Rana
7. Traditional tavernas

Food/Wine

7. ArktiskMat Symposium
8. Querini Pub and Restaurant
9. Lofoten Cheese Farm
10. Aalan Farm

Ports

1. Bodø Port

The Querini festival



FESTIVALS

NORWAY

5 Stage of a journey

The Querini festival

Is held every year in August on the island of Røst. Three days of culture, food and events organised with the involvement of the entire community of the island of Røst, the place where in 1432 Pietro Querini was welcomed by the local fishing community.



The Winter Light Festival/ Vinterlys Festivalen

Is an annual cultural festival organized in February by Nordland Theatre in Mo i Rana. It was held for the first time in 2000 and has become one of Norway's largest theatre festivals. The festival is also famous in other nations and welcomes many participants from several countries each year. The program extends over 7 days and is aimed at both children, adolescents and adults. Every year the Festival collaborates with different theatres and actors from all over the country.



Nordland Music Festival Week/ Nordland Musikkfestuke

Is an annual music festival that every August performs concerts around Bodø and has its trademark in using nature as an arena. The programme mainly consists of classical music, but jazz, folk music, musical theatre, dance, pop, rock and other genres also have their place in the festival. The biggest goal is to make classical music accessible to everyone and invite to musical arenas that lower the threshold for new cultural experiences.



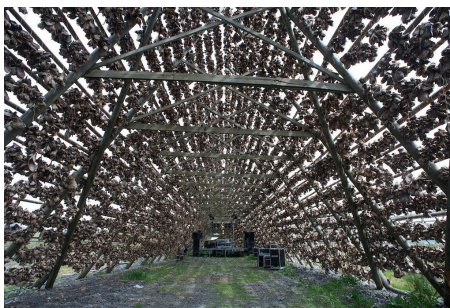
Bodø Biennale

Is a festival for dance and visual arts, and takes place every other year, (usually at the beginning of September). The program consists of performances, site-specific art projects, installations, performances, film, talks, concerts, DJs, seminars, workshops, and more.



Lofoten International Art Festival – LIAF

Is a contemporary art biennial that dates back to 1991. LIAF presents works by international and local artists in a site-aware context. The biennial acknowledges the complexity of places and seeks to be an open, experimental and accessible meeting place for artists, contributors, collaborators, school classes and the public. Since 2009, the festival has been organized and administered by the North Norwegian Art Centre. The festival has no set venue but is recreated every second year by exploring its surroundings in Lofoten and integrating itself into them. Works of art have been displayed at or in locations as diverse as a mountain top, a park, a garage, a library, a fish rack and a private home. The festival's aims are to expand, explore and gain new insight through art. The events are always free.



Bodø Film Festival

Is an annual film festival (October - November) and its purpose is to show films from local, Norwegian and international producers. You can also enjoy seminars and lectures related to film and culture, as well as to raise film interest and expertise in the film industry in Bodø and the surrounding area.

Norwegian Constitution Day May 17th

While many countries celebrate their national day with a military parade, Norway's 17th of May is a party for everyone, especially children. The day is celebrated all over the country, regardless of whether you are in a small village or in a big city. Children's parades take place across the country, as marching bands lead processions through local communities. The day is also an opportunity to show off the *bu-nad*, Norway's traditional costume worn by both men and women.



Sami National Day / Den Samiske nasjo

The day is celebrated in different ways, including activities for children, shared meals, dressing up in traditional clothing, decorating with the Sami flag and singing the Sami national anthem. Held on 6 February, the day is held in memory of the first Sami national convention that was held in Trondheim in 1917. This was the first time that the Sámi gathered to work for common Sámi issues across the nation-state's borders. The day was first celebrated in 1993





MUSEUMS

The Lofoten Museum

Is located in Kabelvåg. The impressive manor house was completed in 1815, when Caspar Lorch owned the fishing village. He was in charge of trading and exporting fish, as well as renting cabins to fishermen who came to spend the winter season. Discover the contrast between life in the manor house and the authentic "rorbu" cabins. You will also find several boathouses with a large collection of traditional wooden boats as well as a fascinating "krambu".



Lofoten Stockfish Museum / Tørrfiskmuseum

Is located in the village of Å, in the municipality of Moskenes in the Lofoten Islands in north-west Norway. It is dedicated to fishing in Norway, with a focus on stockfish fishing. Inside the museum are old boats used for cod fishing and several species of stockfish caught in the Lofoten archipelago.



The Norwegian Fishermen's Village Museum

Is located in the village of Å, on the E 10, the end station of the King's Road and it is one of the best preserved and most complete ancient fishing villages in northern Norway. You can discover and immerse yourself in the harsh and picturesque life of a Lofoten fishing village throughout the year. You will be guided through the daily life of itinerant fishermen, local families, and the squire who controlled the fishing village from about 1840 to 1960.



The Pietro Querini Literary Park

Is located on the island of Røst. It was established in 2017 and is dedicated to Querini's unique description of the landscape and popular life in Røst, and to the writers and artists inspired by Querini's story and the landscape in which he walked. Literary Parks are routes and itineraries along the places where great writers lived and were inspired. Cities and villages, but also landscapes and countryside narrated in a text, become a cultural and environmental heritage to be protected, valorised and made accessible to visitors through a journey into literature and memory by means of cultural activities and events designed to make writers and their places of inspiration known.

The Opera Querini

At the Querini Pub and Restaurant located on the island of Røst, a cinema room showing a film version of the famous Querini Opera is available.

The Norwegian Jekt trade museum/Jektefartsmuseet

Is located in Bodø. This museum, located in a wonderful position, tells the centuries-long history of the stockfish trade from Northern Norway to Bergen where there the merchants of the Hanseatic League were based. The museum provides a description of the story of Pietro Querini's adventure and organises special performances on the history of fishermen and traders in Northern Norway. Finally, visitors have the opportunity to experience special lunches or dinners based on stockfish and ancient recipes!



Lovundbåten museum

Is located in Lovund on the island of Lovund in the municipality of Lurøy. The museum was built around an archaeological boat in the summer of 2017, archaeologists from the Tromsø Museum and the Norwegian Maritime Museum unearthed an archaeological finding of a boat. The find, which has been named Lovundbåten, is dated to the mid-15th century (around the time of Querini's arrival in Nordland).

Biological material was found in the boat that reveals the cargo and its origins. The museum and exhibition and the boat itself, or the remains, are expected to be assembled by 2024.



Vega World Heritage Center

Is located at Gardsøy in Helgeland region (southern part of Nordland County). The cultural tradition of the Vega archipelago reflects a unique interaction between people and nature – and it is the reason UNESCO listed these islands as a World Heritage Site. Consider a visit and you can experience this unique heritage yourself. The Vega archipelago received its UNESCO World Heritage status in 2004, in recognition of the islanders' unique role as guardians of the eider ducks that nest here. In addition, the islanders are fishermen-farmers. Theirs is a unique cultural tradition and a sustainable way of life that dates back at least 1500 years.

Bindal Museum located in Terråk

Documents local forestry, boatbuilding and other wood-working traditions. It contrasts past and present practices. A fine example of local boatbuilding traditions is bindalsfæringen, a four-oared wooden boat often outfitted with a square sail. You can also see other traditional boats of the Nordland region included the ones of Querini's time.

Sijti Jarnge – Center for sami language and culture

Sami language and cultural centre located in Hattfjelldal, where you can experience and learn about Sami culture in Helgeland (the southern region of Nordland).



Sámi Safari Camp

Is located in Drag in the municipality of Hamarøy. The circle of life – Everything is connected. Nature is the centre of Sámi spirituality and humans are an integral part of nature, with a personal relationship with everything that lives and is there. You are invited to visit the Sámi Safari Camp and experience nature through Sámi eyes. During your stay, you will experience nature with all your five senses.



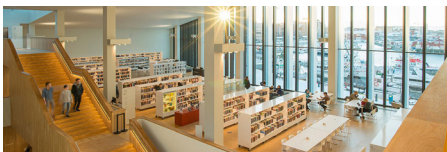
Libraries

The small but varied library of Røst Dante Alighieri Committee

This Committee was established in order to promote, safeguard and spread the Italian culture and language, through the promotion of specific courses or activities of the great and varied Italian cultural heritage, with a focus on Querini's story. The library is located at the Querini Pub on the Island of Røst.

Stormen Library in Bodø

This impressive building situated close to the Stormen Concert Hall in the centre of Bodø, was designed by architects Daniel Rosbottom and David Howarth, who won a competition in 2009 with the project "urban figures". It was inaugurated on 15 November 2014. The outer material choice is mainly plastered concrete, with marble for a lighter colour. There is a large glass façade facing Bodø harbour. The outdoor areas were designed by DARK Arkitekter. The large façade of the library facing the harbour illustrates an open book, and the urban space facing Tollboden is respectfully preserved. Walking along the buildings will give an experience of variety, and you will be tempted to visit the building.



Nordland County Library (NCL)/ Nordland Fylkesbibliotek

It is part of the county administration. NCL aims to be a strong contributor to library development in the whole county, which consists of 41 public, municipal libraries in addition to libraries in schools and universities. Norwegian public libraries are not only repositories of knowledge, but also active centres for debate, meeting places, cultural experiences and inclusion. NCL takes care of regional library tasks, development of professional skills, digital and physical meetings, interlibrary loans, counselling, and guidance, and we have a goal of fostering a learning community within the libraries that continuously increases the quality of the library services will be tempted to visit the building.

Archaeological and modern sites

Querini's Stele on Sandøya Islet

Sandøya is the island where Querini and the other survivors managed to land. Here they were rescued by a fisherman and his two sons who lived on the neighbouring island of Røst. On the 500th anniversary of the arrival of Pietro Querini the inhabitants of Røst decided to commemorate the event with a memorial stele.



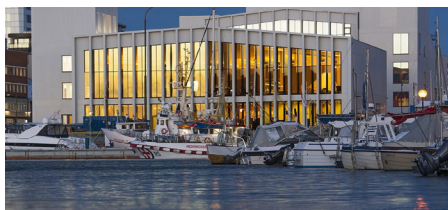
The Nest on Vedøya Islet

It is a sculpture by the Italian artist Luciano Fabro. If you look carefully, in the middle of the lush nature on the island you might be surprised to find this sculpture. Queen Sonja of Norway talked about the first encounter with the sculpture at Vedøya: "midnight, shortly after the terrorist attacks of July 22, 2011, I climbed up to the sculpture. Only a few sheep, birds, sea and wind accompanied the encounter in the night. I was struck by a mystical, almost sacred state of mind. These small eggs, between the marble columns, symbolize how the Mediterranean culture was like a nest for the Nordic. Small sculpture – great thoughts".



Stormen Concert Hall

It is an impressive building situated at the centre of Bodø, inaugurated on November 15th, 2014. It was designed by architects Daniel Rosbottom and David Howarth, who won a competition in 2009 with the project "urban figures". The outer material choice is mainly plastered concrete, with marble for a lighter colour. The concert hall's world-class acoustics ensure optimal conditions for classical masterpieces, pop/rock shows, theatre, dance and conferences. The large hall seats 900 people, while the small hall seats 240, the chamber hall around 80. The foyers are well suitable for concerts and receptions, and legendary club venue Sinus (460 capacity) has the perfect atmosphere for jazz and rock.





TOURIST OFFICES

Info Points

Nordnorsk Reiseliv AS

- 📍 Tollbugata 13, Bodø
- ☎ +47 901 77 500
- ✉ post@nordnorge.com

Visit Bodø

- 📍 Dronningens gate 15 8006, Bodø
- ☎ +47 755 48 000
- ✉ turistinfo@bodo.kommune.no

The Tourist Information office in Brønnøysund

- 📍 Sømnaaveien 92, 8900 Brønnøysund
- ✉ post@visithelgeland.com

The Tourist Information office in Mosjøen

- 📍 Sjøgata 2, 8656 Mosjøen
- ✉ post@visithelgeland.com

The Tourist Information office in Sandnessjøen

- 📍 Torolv Kveldulvsens gate 16, 8800 Sandnessjøen
- ✉ post@visithelgeland.com

The Tourist Information office in Mo i Rana

- 📍 Jernbanegata 15, 8622 Mo i Rana
- ✉ post@visithelgeland.com



FOOD/WINE

Explore the Arctic food in the land of the midnight sun and northern lights.



From stockfish and wild berries to “møs-brømlfse” and reindeer. Local people take much pride in their arctic food and are eager for you to come try it. All around Nordland you will find small places where they sell locally produced food, made from the heart and harvested from the raw arctic nature. Moreover, in recent years Nordland has become a destination for high-quality dining experiences with Arctic ingredients, well-composed menus and genuine Northern Norwegian hospitality. Here you will find chefs, pastry chefs, waiters, bartenders, sommeliers and local producers who have a genuine passion for what they do and who are passionate about providing guests with world-class experiences.

ArktiskMat (Arctic Food) Symposium

Is the important annual food symposium in the picturesque town of Mosjøen. For one weekend in September we meet for talks, workshops, demos, lunches and dinners in and around the historical street of Sjøgata. Enjoy the Arctic food!



The Querini Pub and Restaurant

Is located on the island of Røst. Here you can find the excellent chef Ann Cecile Pedersen. She is able to mix the Italian and International flavours with the typical Norwegian tastes. It was recognized as an official restaurant suggested by the Venerable Confraternita del bacalà alla Vicentina. Also, a small shop containing souvenirs connected to the Querini story and to local history is available at the pub.



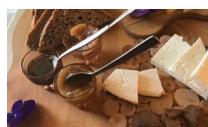
Lofoten Farm Cheese /Lofoten Gårdsysteri

In Bøstad (Lofoten Islands) Here you can make and taste your own homemade cheese at this farm-based cheese factory.



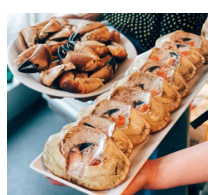
Aalan Farm/ Aalan Gård

Is located approximately 20 kilometres from Leknes in the direction of Svolvær (Lofoten Islands). In this farm you will find the true and natural Lofoten experience, where you as a tourist can actively experience a diverse farm with cheese production, herb garden and many different



Bofisk

A prominent fish market in Bodo linked to the story of Pietro Querini, where you can also enjoy some ready-made traditional Norwegian dishes.





Bodø Port / Bodø Havn

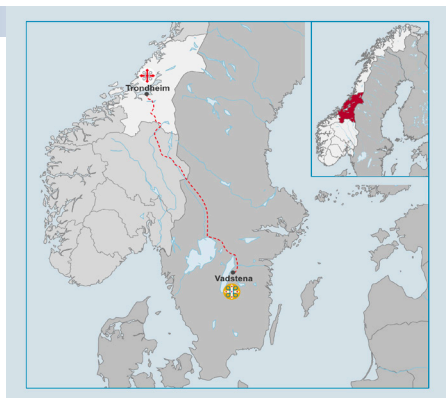
An attractive port in the North! The Port of Bodø is a municipal enterprise wholly owned by the Municipality of Bodø. The Port of Bodø facilitates business and industry needs concerning maritime logistics and transportation of passengers and goods. It ensures good, sustainable and efficient management and positive business operations that provide a sound economy for the port and good framework conditions for the port's clients.





Trøndelag Region
Trondheim

On 14 May 1432, Pietro Querini and his men left Rost on their way to Bergen. On 29 May they arrived in Trondheim on the Norwegian coast. They learned of an ongoing war between the Germans and the King of Norway and decided to leave for Stegeborg Caste, in Soderkoping Sweden following the path that is now one of the St. Olav ways.



ST.OLAV WAYS
THE PILGRIM PATHS TO TRONDHEIM

Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe



Festivals

- Olavsfest (Trondheim Internasjonale Olavsfest)
- Trøndelag Food Festival & Trondheim Brewery Festival
- Trondheim Chamber Music Festival

Museums

- Stiklestad National Cultural Centre
- The Coastal Heritage Museum (Museet Kystens Arv)
- Sverresborg Trøndelag Folk Museum
- The Coastal Museum in Sør-Trøndelag
- Saemien Sijte
- The Norwegian Crown Regalia
- The NTNU University Museum

Archeological and modern sites

- Nidaros Cathedral
- Vår Frue Church
- Archbishop's Palace

Tourist Offices

- Explorer Trøndelag
- Visit Trondheim AS

Food/Wine

About Trøndelag In the Heart of Norway.

Trøndelag is a diverse region, roughly the size of Switzerland, stretching from coast to mountains. At its center lies Trondheim, a historic city and vibrant hub for culture, knowledge, and gastronomy. The region offers a wide range of destinations: the UNESCO World Heritage town of Røros, the coastal islands of Hitra and Frøya, the mountain areas of Oppdal and Dovre, the Fosen peninsula, the historic landscapes of Innherred, and Namdalen in the north. Together, they form a Trøndelag rich in nature, history, culture, and culinary traditions.





FESTIVALS

Olavsfest (Trondheim Internasjonale Olavsfest)

Is a cultural festival organised in Trondheim around Olsok every year (usually between late July and early August). The events take place on stages across the city; among others Nidaros Cathedral, Vår Frue Church and Byscenen, as well as on outdoor stages in Borggården at Erkebispegården and at Kristiansten fortress. Over the course of five days, the festival holds a series of concerts in all genres from pop and rock to classical music and traditional church music. During the festival days there are also a large open-air market and numerous cultural and artistic events.

In addition to music and markets, Olavsfest is distinguished by its socially relevant themes and public dialogue programs, which are among the festival's highlights. These conversations bring together thinkers, artists, and community leaders to explore pressing societal issues, fostering reflection and engagement in the spirit of Saint Olav's legacy.



Trøndelag Food Festival & Trondheim Brewery Festival

These are Europe's leading local food and beer festivals, taking place at the main square in Trondheim. Around 200 exhibitors present the very best in local food, craft beer, and drink culture, alongside culinary experiences, family activities, and inspiring seminars. Internationally recognised, the festivals have become a must-visit event for food and beer enthusiasts from Norway and beyond.

Trondheim Chamber Music Festival

Trondheim Chamber Music Festival, or Kamfest, was established in 1996 and takes place during the last week of September each year. The festival is internationally recognised for its innovative and high-quality programme with a youthful profile, always featuring outstanding musicians from Norway and abroad. In addition to concerts, Kamfest also hosts the Trondheim International Chamber Music Competition and Fargespill Trondheim.



MUSEUMS

Stiklestad National Cultural Centre

At the historic site of the Battle of Stiklestad (1030), where King Olav Haraldsson—the future Saint Olav—was slain and Norway took a step toward Christianisation, this centre brings the past to life. Explore an open-air museum with 30 historic buildings, a medieval church, exhibitions, and cultural events.

The Coastal Heritage Museum (Museet Kystens Arv)

The Coastal Heritage Museum at Fosen tel-

Is the story of Norway's rich coastal culture. Along the dramatic coastline, the sea has always been both a highway and a source of food. Here you can explore exhibitions on coastal life, fishing traditions, and a unique collection of traditional boats. The museum also has an active boatyard, where wooden boats are built the traditional way all year round – living cultural heritage in practice.

Sverresborg Trøndelag Folk Museum

Sverresborg Trøndelag Folk Museum is Norway's third largest open-air museum. The site includes more than 80 historical buildings from the Trøndelag region, among them the stave church from Haltdalen, dating back to 1170. Is located around the ruins of King Sverre's castle.

The Coastal Museum in Sør-Trøndelag

Located on the island of Hitra, the Coastal Museum presents the coastal culture of modern times. The museum has a national responsibility for documenting the rise of the Norwegian aquaculture industry, and visitors are offered guided tours to a local fish farm. At the same time, the museum serves as a local heritage institution for Hitra, focusing on coastal life, fisheries, and the modern use of marine resources.

Saemien Sijte

Saemien Sijte is the South Sámi museum and cultural centre in Snåsa. It carries a national responsibility for documenting, preserving, and presenting South Sámi culture, stretching from Saltfjellet in the north to Engerdal in the south. In addition to exhibitions, the museum includes a restaurant

serving traditional Sámi food based on local produce, and a shop offering Sámi literature, handicrafts, design, and gifts from Sámi producers.

The Norwegian Crown Regalia

At the Archbishop's Palace in Trondheim, you can see the Norwegian Crown Regalia. The collection consists of the King's and Queen's crowns, sceptres, orbs, the Sword of State, the Anointment Horn, and the royal standards from 1818 and 1906. Most of the regalia was acquired for the coronation of King Carl Johan in Nidaros Cathedral in 1818.

The NTNU University Museum

The NTNU University Museum is a Natural and Cultural History museum located at Kalvskinnet in Trondheim. It includes the Department of Natural History, the Department of Archaeology and Cultural History, and the National Laboratory for Age Determination. The museum manages scientific collections and archaeological excavations, and is responsible for cultural heritage management in Central Norway. Ringve Botanical Garden is also part of the museum, providing a green oasis in the city.

Archaeological and modern sites

Vår Frue Church

Vår Frue Church is a medieval parish church of the Church of Norway in the municipality of Trondheim, Trøndelag county, Norway. It is located in the central Midtbyen area of Trondheim, a few blocks north of Nidaros Cathedral.

Archbishop's Palace

The Archbishop's Palace in Trondheim is a castle and palace in the city of Trondheim, located just south of Nidaros Cathedral. For hundreds of years, the castle was the seat, residence and administrative centre of the Archbishop of Nidaros.



FOOD/WINE

At the heart of Norway lies Trøndelag – a region shaped by fjords, mountains, forests, farmland, and the open sea, with Trondheim, Norway's food capital, at its center. The unique proximity to world-class ingredients defines the region's entire food culture, where a thousand years of culinary traditions meet a strong farm-to-table ethos.



From Michelin-starred restaurants to passionate small-scale producers and local eateries, Trøndelag offers unforgettable food experiences rooted in local produce and generations of knowledge. This quality and diversity earned the region the title European Region of Gastronomy in 2022, placing it firmly on the global culinary map.

Since then, Trøndelag has only strengthened its reputation as a natural gathering point for food lovers, hosting the World Cheese Awards in 2023 and Bocuse d'Or Europe in 2024 – further proof that this fertile Norwegian region has become one of Europe's most exciting culinary destinations.



Info Points

Visit Trondheim AS

- 📍 Nordre gate 10, 7011 Trondheim
www.visittrondheim.no

Expore Trøndelag

- 📍 Krambugata 14, 7010 Trondheim
www.trondelag.com



In Querini's Footsteps: From Trondheim to Vadstena



The tale of northern pilgrimage through the words of Pietro Querini, a 15th century witness and storytelling of a spiritual and cultural route across Europe.



The manuscript of Pietro Querini and travel accounts by his officers, Nicolò de Michiele and Cristofalo Fioravante, recount their experiences in Trondheim.

They describe their meeting with Archbishop Aslak Bolt during the journey from Røst to Trondheim, the change in their travel plans and the decision to go to Sweden, the hospitality of the rector of St. Olav, the description of the church, the horses received as gifts from the archbishop and the rector, the guide provided for the journey, the wild landscapes and, above all, the generosity of the people.

Querini's journey from Trondheim to Stegeborg Castle in Söderköping, Sweden, followed the route now known as

Østerdalsleden to Vadstena and continued along what are now the paths of St. Brigitta

The journey lasted 53 days and describes wild landscapes and the hospitality of the people.

National Pilgrim Centre

The Nidaros Pilgrim Centre, also known as Nidaros Pilegrimsgård, is a reception centre for pilgrims and visitors to Nidaros Cathedral and serves as a starting point and information centre for St Olaf's Ways, the pilgrimage routes to the cathedral. It is a welcoming facility and meeting place, offering accommodation and spiritual services for pilgrims travelling the St. Olaf's Ways.

Querini writes:

"There was one thing we found in abundance, and that was charitable and loving hospitality, so much so that wherever we went we were always welcome"

(Chiampesan- Ramina)



Today, Trondheim serves as the headquarters for the St. Olav Ways, a certified European Cultural Route that traces the legacy of Saint Olav, Norway's eternal king. These pilgrimage routes span across Northern Europe, all converging at Nidaros Cathedral.



Nidaros Cathedral

Nidaros Cathedral, built over the burial site of King Olav II Haraldsson (c. 995–1030), who was canonized as Saint Olav, is the northernmost Gothic cathedral in Europe and the most iconic church in Norway. Construction began around 1070 and was largely completed by 1300, although restoration and expansion efforts have continued into the modern era, including a major reconstruction from 1869 to 2001.



The Millennium Celebration of Saint Olav in 2030

Looking ahead to 2030, Norway will commemorate the 1000-year anniversary of the death of Saint Olav, a pivotal figure in the nation's religious and cultural history. This milestone will be marked by a year-long national celebration, encompassing events across the country and involving a wide range of institutions, communities, and international partners. The jubilee will include pilgrimages, academic conferences, cultural festivals, and interfaith gatherings, all aimed at honoring Saint Olav's enduring influence and strengthening Norway's role in the shared European heritage.

Today, Trondheim serves as the headquarters for the St. Olav Ways, a certified European Cultural Route that traces the legacy of Saint Olav, Norway's eternal king. These pilgrimage routes span across Northern Europe, all converging at Nidaros Cathedral.



Sweden



6 Stage of a journey

When Pietro Querini arrives in Trondheim and learns that travel to Bergen is impossible due to hostilities between the King of Norway and German forces, he resolves to seek out Messer Zuan Franco *"knighted by the king of Denmark but from our nation, who lived in a castle of his in the kingdom of Sweden at fifty days distance"* (Chiampesan - Ramina)

In Sweden, the Via Querinissima cultural route is of great historical interest, tracing sites connected to St. Bridget and recounting the period of indulgence at St Bridget's Church in Vadstena. During this time, numerous pilgrims traveled to Vadstena from Germany, Denmark, Sweden and Norway, creating a vibrant hub of religious activity. Pietro Querini learned that ships departed from the seaport of Lödöse, where he was able to arrange passage for his return journey via England, while part of his crew made their way home through Germany.

During his journey from Trondheim to Vadstena, Querini followed today's Østerdalsleden, an ancient pilgrimage route from Trondheim (Ni-daros) to Vadstena. During the Middle Ages, many pilgrims followed this road to visit the grave of Saint Olav and the sanctuary of Saint Bridget.



| VQ through Östergötland and Västra Götaland

In his manuscript, Querini records that the journey from Trondheim to Vadstena lasted 53 days, a route that led them across mountains and valleys with great exertion. The travelers were aided throughout by the kindness of people they met; upon learning of their plight, local inhabitants willingly hosted them, providing both sustenance and rest.

As Querini recounts: *"so twelve people and three horses were fed for the whole journey of fifty -three days with a total amount of four florins that had been given to us at Trondheim"*

(Chiampesan - Ramina)





Sverige - Östergötlands län Västra Götalands län

Querini was warmly welcomed by the Venetian lord Zuan Franco, a nobleman trusted by the King of Sweden and residing near Vadstena. During the Feast of Forgiveness, many pilgrims traveled to Vadstena to receive indulgences at the sanctuary of Saint Birgitta. There, Querini and his companions learned of ships preparing to depart from the city of Lödöse, north of present-day Gothenburg, which was an important port town at the time. Upon reaching Lödöse, the group divided: while three men chose to continue their journey to Germany, Querini and seven others boarded a ship bound for England on 13 September 1432.



Museums

1. Lödöse Museum
2. Göteborg Stadsmuseum
3. Sancta Birgitta
Klostermuseum
4. Västergötlands museum

Libraries

5. Linköping City Library

Archeological Sites

6. Vadstena kloster
7. Stegeborg Castle
8. Vadstena Castle
9. Rökstenen

Tourist Offices

1. Vadstena turistbyrå
2. Göteborgs Turistbyrå
3. Söderköpings Turistbyrå

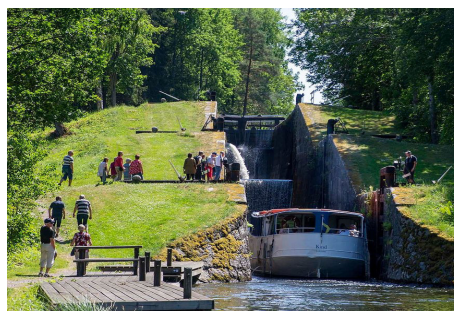
Sailing clubs

1. Rörviks Segelsällskap

Ports

2. Göteborg Port

In Sweden, the cultural itinerary of Via Querinissima holds great historical interest. It describes the places related to Saint Olav and Saint Bridget and recounts the period of indulgence that took place in the Church of Saint Bridget. Thanks to the influx of pilgrims to Vadstena, Pietro Querini easily found ships for his return journey, passing through England, while part of his crew travelled through Germany.



St. Birgitta Ways

At the end of May 1432, Pietro Querini and his surviving men began their journey from the Nidaros cathedral in Trondheim, Norway, to the Monastery of Saint Bridget in Vadstena, Sweden. It is believed that they followed the Østerdalsleden, an ancient pilgrimage route traversing forests, mountains, and valleys. During the Middle Ages, many pilgrims followed this route to visit the grave of Saint Olav in Trondheim and the sanctuary of Saint Bridget, making it a vital spiritual path brimming with faith and history.

In addition to its historical and cultural significance, Østerdalsleden is known for its natural beauty. However, it is also one of the wildest and most challenging pilgrimage routes in this area.



ST.OLAV WAYS
THE PILGRIM PATHS TO TRONDHEIM

Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe



Østerdalsleden

<https://www.pilegrimsleden.no/en/trails/osterdalsleden>



Uppland in 1303, she experienced visions of the Virgin Mary and the crucified Christ from a young age. At thirteen, she was married to Ulf Gudmarsson from Östergötland, with whom she had eight children. After her husband's death in 1344, Bridget received divine revelations instructing her to establish a religious community. This led to the founding of the Order of the Most Holy Savior, or the Bridgettines. She traveled to Rome to obtain papal approval for a monastery with its own rule, which was established in Vadstena. Just 20 years after her death on 23 July 1373, she was canonized in 1393. In 1999 she was declared one of Europe's three patron saints. Since her death, pilgrims have traveled to the Monastery Church in Vadstena, where her relics are preserved.

St. Birgitta Ways

The trail is named after Saint Bridget and is open to anyone wishing to embark on a pilgrimage to or from Vadstena, regardless of their background or purpose.

The routes vary widely, ranging from steep wilderness trails through dense forests to winding gravel roads across diverse plains. Along the way, pilgrims may encounter serene bodies of water inviting rest or a refreshing swim.

In Vadstena, the Pilgrim Centre welcomes visitors during the summer months, offering a warm reception to pilgrims and travelers alike. Approximately 140,000– 160,000 people visit the monastery church annually. The Pilgrim Centre provides prayers and blessings for those arriving and departing, and features a café, shop, pilgrimage information, and lodging. Visitors can also obtain a pilgrimage stamp and a Birgitta Certificate to commemorate their journey. You can start the Birgitta Trail at St. Laurentii Church in Söderköping, at the Cathedral in Linköping or at any other place along S: t Birgitta ways.



S:T BIRGITTA WAYS

THE PILGRIM PATHS TO VADSTENA

<https://stbirgittaways.com/>

St. Bridget is one of the most remarkable and influential figures in Swedish history. Born in



From Söderköping to Linköping

Söderköping has a long and interesting history. In the early Middle Ages, it became one of the country's most important port cities. Stegeborg Castle provides protection from the sea, allowing control over trade well into the 1700s. The city's significance is evident from the many meetings and events held here, such as coronations, lords' meetings, bishops' gatherings and parliaments.

During the 1600s, Söderköping lost its importance as a port. However, when the Göta Canal, Söderköping's well, and the railway were built in the 1800s, the town experienced a revival. Although it remained a small town, Söderköping is today a popular tourist destination known for its idyllic 19th- and early 20th-century atmosphere.



Linköping Cathedral

At Linköping Cathedral, you can receive a pilgrim blessing if you attend a regular service and speak with the priest before the service begins. In most churches, there are also suggested prayers and blessings that you can say on your own.

Linköping Cathedral is Sweden's largest and best-preserved medieval church building after Uppsala Cathedral. Inside, you are welcomed by a bright and spacious interior, where decorations and fixtures from different eras can be seen. Saint Birgitta visited Linköping Cathedral during her lifetime. It is said that she knelt in front of the 14th century medieval crucifix, which still adorns the church today, where she is

thought to have spoken to Jesus. However, there is only evidence that she attended the church once in her lifetime. In the church, you are greeted by a bright and airy church room, where decorations and fixtures from different eras can be seen.



Linköping Castle

Opposite Linköping Cathedral is the fascinating medieval museum where the animated history of Linköping's city, castle, and cathedral development comes to life. The museum is housed in Linköping Castle, Sweden's oldest secular building, with parts dating back to the 12th century. On the second floor, the treasury displays some of the cathedral's remarkable silver objects and unique textiles. Among these are some of the oldest items, crafted by the Birgitta sisters in Vadstena during the 1300s and 1400s.



Vadstena

Here you are surrounded by history, among castles, monasteries and medieval buildings. The picturesque town centre, with its cobblestone streets, shops, studios and well preserved wooden houses, is charming, authentic and vibrant. In Vadstena municipality, nature is both varied and close by.

Here you will find Omberg, Lake Tåkern, the beautiful and fertile Östgöta.



<https://info.vadstena.se/besok-upplev/>



MUSEUMS

Sancta Birgitta Klostermuseum

A fantastic museum located in the former monastery buildings, where you can truly breathe in the spirituality and history of the place. A guided tour is highly recommended to fully appreciate the rich heritage and stories connected to the site.



<https://klostermuseum.se/>



Lödöse museum

Lödöse was once the nation's most significant port town during the Middle Ages. It is widely regarded as the precursor to modern-day Gothenburg, Sweden's second-largest city.

Lödöse Museum, a treasure trove of archaeological wonders, houses an astounding collection of over half a million artifacts unearthed from this ancient urban centre. The extensive exhibits offer a captivating glimpse into the daily lives, triumphs, and tribulations of Lödöse's medieval inhabitants. Among the museum's prized possessions are several remarkable objects that highlight Lödöse's historical and cultural significance, such as Saint Olof's axe, the Skälkniven (a type of knife), and a pilgrim's shell from Santiago de Compostela.



www.lodosemuseum.se



Västergötlands museum

Västergötlands museum, located in the medieval town of Skara, is a rich cultural center that brings to life Skara's significance as one of Sweden's earliest towns and an important religious and political center during the Middle Ages. The exhibitions, based on extensive archaeological excavations carried out in the 1980s, vividly illustrate the life and power structures of medieval society, including the roles of both the Church and the Crown.



<https://vastergotlandsmuseum.se/>



Goteborgs stadsmuseum

Göteborgs stadsmuseum, located in the historic East India House in the heart of Gothenburg, houses an extensive collection of nearly one million objects, two million images, and a vast archive. These collections span over 12,000 years, showcasing the history of Gothenburg and its inhabitants from the Stone Age to the present day.



<https://goteborgsstadsmuseum.se/>



Libraries

Linköping city library

Linköping City Library (Stadsbiblioteket) consists of a main library, nine local branches and a mobile library. The main library is centrally located near the cathedral, serving as a vibrant public space for reading, study, debates and cultural events.

The building also houses Stiftsbiblioteket, the unique Diocesan library which contains nearly a quarter of a million handwritten documents and books dating from the Middle Ages onward.

Archaeological sites

Vadstena kloster

Vadstena kloster is a Cistercian monastery located in the Vadstena municipality near Lake Vättern. It was founded by Saint Bridget (Birgitta), serving as the mother house of the Bridgettine Order. The abbey was active between 1346 until its closure in 1595. On his return journey, Pietro Querini stopped in Vadstena and visited the church, where he noted in his diary the warm hospitality he received. Today, the abbey church houses several mediaeval objects, including altars and statues. The reliquary of Saint Bridget contains her remains alongside those of her daughter, Saint Catherine of Vadstena. These sacred relics have drawn pilgrims for centuries and continue to be a focal point for visitors.

The abbey church is open year-round during designated hours, offering visitors the chance to explore its rich history and spiritual legacy. Guided tours are available on-site, providing insights into the abbey's medieval past as well as its surrounding area.

In addition to the abbey church, visitors can explore Sancta Birgitta Klostermuseum, located on the former monastery grounds in a historic building. The museum showcases medieval artifacts related to Saint Bridget's life, monastic life, pilgrimage traditions, and more. Its exhibits offer an insightful journey through the spiritual and daily life of the medieval abbey.



<https://www.upplevvadstena.se/>



"We arrived at a place called Vadstena, where St Bridget, founder of a religious order for priests and devout women, was born. In her honour, the royal family had a beautiful church built in which I counted no less than forty-two altars and the ceilings were covered with a very shiny metal. In this monastery live pious nuns with their chaplains of the same religious order." (Freely translated in English from Il naufragio della Querina, P.Nelli, 2007).

Stegeborg castle

Stegeborg Castle, now in ruins, is located in the municipality of Söderköping, Sweden. One of the castle's most notable features is its strategic location on a small island in a narrow sound at the bay of Slätbaken, which made it a crucial defensive stronghold in

medieval times. While mostly in ruins today, visitors can still explore the castle grounds, including the impressive round tower and the remains of the castle church. The site also features a beautiful park with an herb garden. Stegeborg Castle ruins are open to the public year-round, offering a fascinating glimpse into Sweden's medieval past along with stunning views of the surrounding landscape.



On the return voyage, Querini and the other sailors stayed with Zuan Franco for about 40 days. From the diary of Pietro Querini (P. Nelli – C.L. de Larivière 2007): "This gentleman inquired about our shipwreck, and comforted and helped us with such fervour that one could not even think of anything better, so courteous was he in nature and in manners. Throughout the 40 days or so that we stayed there, he went out of his way to ensure that we were all treated well, and not even in our own homes could we have received better treatment."

Vadstena castle

Vadstena Castle (Vadstena slott) was originally built as a fortress by King Gustav I (Gustav Vasa) in 1545 to protect Stockholm from enemies approaching from the south. In 1555 the castle was transformed into a Renaissance palace by Gustav I's son. Today,

it houses the International Vadstena Academy, Sweden's smallest opera house, which commissions new operas and revives lost operas from archival scores. During the summer, concerts are organized at the castle, offering a unique cultural experience.

Rökstenen

The Rök runestone, located near the church in Rök, Ödeshög Municipality, Östergötland, is one of the most famous runestones. It features the longest known runic inscription in stone - around 760 characters - and is considered the first known piece of written Swedish literature. The inscription includes references to what is believed to be a lost piece of Norse mythology and mentions Ostrogothic king Theodoric the Great, who was effectively emperor of the western Roman empire. The Rökstenen marks the beginning of Swedish literary history and is a masterpiece of runic expression.



www.upplevadstena.se/en/touristinformation.htm



TOURIST OFFICES

Info Points

Vadstena turistbyrå

- 📍 Storgatan 28, 592 80 Vadstena
- ☎ +46-143 31570
- ✉ info@vadstena.se

Göteborgs turistbyrå

- 📍 Kungsporsplatsen 2 Göteborg
- ☎ +46313684200
- ✉ turistinfo@goteborg.com
- www.goteborg.com/goteborgs-turistbyra



Söderköpings turistbyrå

- 📍 Margaretagatan 19, 614 32 Söderköping
- ☎ +46313684200

Business and Tourism Manager: Therése Eklöf

- ☎ 0121-183 37
- ✉ therese.eklof@soderkoping.se

Visitor coordinator: Petra Östelius

- ☎ 0121-181 72
- ✉ petra.ostelius@soderkoping.se

For more interesting places to visit:

<https://visitsweden.com/>





Nautical activities in Sweden

Sweden offers a wide range of nautical activities including boating, sailing and kayaking, especially in its extensive archipelago and coastal areas.

Sailing is very popular, and it is considered more than a sport, representing a tool for both the individual's and society's sustainable development.

The Swedish Sailing Association is an integral part of the Swedish sports movement, gathering over 100,000 sailors in 320 clubs and 59 class federations and working to make sailing accessible to everyone – regardless of background, age or ambition.

The Association supports clubs, arrange competitions, educate leaders and drive the development of sailing in Sweden and represent Swedish sailing internationally.



Rörviks Segelsällskap

Röss is a dinghy sailing club in western Göteborg with about 500 members. Röss has an active racing programme and participates in many external races in Göteborg, the rest of Sweden and abroad. Röss aims to be a natural meeting place for sailing children and young people in the local area.

Ports

Göteborg Port

The port of Göteborg has a long and rich history, linked to its strategic location at the mouth of the river Göta älv. Founded in 1621, the city soon became an important trading centre, favoured by the foundation of the Swedish East India Company in 1731, which intensified trade with the East. The port played a crucial role in the Swedish economy, becoming the country's main access point for foreign trade.





United Kingdom



7 Stage of a journey

From Lödöse, Pietro Querini and seven other members of his crew took a ship bound for King's Lynn. From there, they travelled towards London: they started on a barge up a river and arrived in Cambridge, which was "an important place for the study of many faculties."

In his diary, Pietro describes attending mass in the Benedictine monastery of Walden Abbey about thirty kilometres from Cambridge (destroyed by Henry VIII and now as Audley End House) and recounts his meeting and conversation with a monk.

He then arrives in London, where a community of Venetians, comprising merchants and bankers, resided and provided them with hospitality.

In the Middle Ages, the river link from **King's Lynn to Cambridge** was of great importance for trade and the transport of people. King's Lynn - *hanseatic town full of maritime heritage and outstanding historic buildings* - located in Norfolk, was a bustling trading port with direct access to the North Sea, while Cambridge, known for its prestigious university, was a centre of learning and culture.

The Great Ouse River, flowing southeast from King's Lynn, was the main waterway connecting the two cities. Barges laden with goods such as wool, grain, and cured meats, as well as students and merchants, regularly travelled this river route.



| VQ through King's Lynn, Cambridge, London

From Cambridge, the journey to London could be continued either by river or by land. The River Cam, which flowed through the city, connected to the Great Ouse River, providing further access to the larger waterways leading to London. However, the most common route involved using the major roads connecting Cambridge to the capital. On foot or on horseback, travellers would pass through the picturesque landscapes of the English countryside, passing through villages and increasingly larger towns as they approached London. Once in London, the Venetian community of merchants and bankers provided a point of reference and

hospitality for anyone coming from Venice or its surroundings, as was the case with Pietro Querini and his crew. From the lively King's Lynn, through the illustrious Cambridge, to the metropolis of London, these connections represented a vital network of trade, culture, and knowledge in the heart of the Middle Ages.

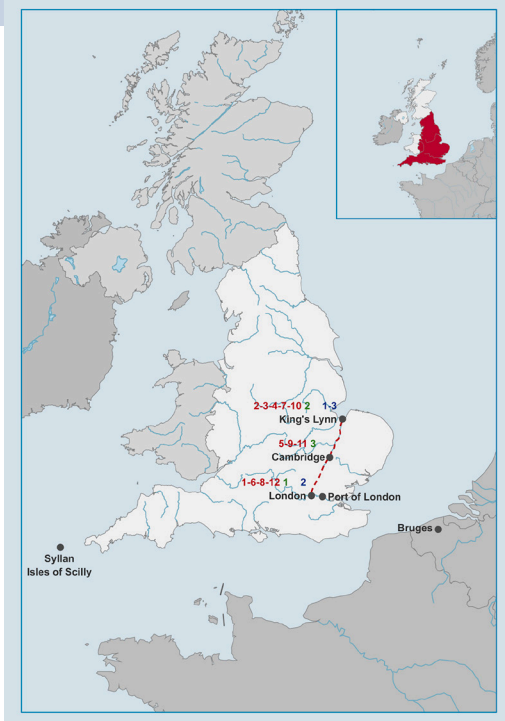
The river was a route for trade, transport, recreation and sport. Rowing in Cambridge has medieval roots, with students and citizens taking part in trips on the Cam. Today, it is still central to university life, with renowned clubs and competitions such as the Boat Race between Cambridge and Oxford.



United Kingdom England

From Lödöse, Pietro Querini and seven other members of his crew took a ship bound for King's Lynn to reach London. From King's Lynn, they took a barge and travelled by river to Cambridge, "an important place for the study of many faculties."

In his diary, Querini recounts attending mass in a Benedictine monastery, Walden Abbey (today Audley End, about thirty kilometres from Cambridge) and meeting a monk. He then arrived in London, where a community of Venetians, consisting of merchants and bankers, resided and provided them with hospitality.



Festivals

1. Billingsgate Fish Festival
2. King's Lynn Hanse Festival

Museums

3. Lynn Museum
4. True's Yard Fisherfolk Museum
5. Scott Polar Research Institute
6. National Gallery

Libraries

7. King's Lynn Library
8. British Library
9. Cambridge Central Library

Archeological Sites

10. King's Lynn Minster
11. Audley End House
12. National Maritime Museum

Tourist Offices

1. City of London Info Centre
2. King's Lynn Tourist Info Centre
3. Cambridge Tourist Info Centre

Food/Wine

4. Denny's Fish & Chips
5. Fish! Borough Market Restaurant
6. The Codfather

Sailing clubs

1. Sail the Wash
2. Little Ship Club

Ports

3. Associated British Ports
4. Port of London



FESTIVALS

Billingsgate Fish Festival

Held at the church of St Mary-at-Hill in the City of London, above the old Billingsgate

Market, where each year the Harvest Festival of the Sea is celebrated – to give thanks for the fish of the deep that we all delight to

eat, and which have sustained a culture of porters and fishmongers here for centuries.



King's Lynn Hanse Festival

A free family event around King's Lynn's historic Quayside: medieval Music and Dancing Guided Walks through King's Lynn, Medieval arts and crafts.



www.kingslynnhansfestival.co.uk



www.visitwestnorfolk.com



stitution so well calculated to improve the taste of the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood, and particularly the rising generation; as well as to afford a source of continued amusement and gratification to those persons who had already paid attention to scientific pursuits'.



True's Yard Fisherfolk Museum

True's Yard is a heritage site and town museum celebrating the fishing community of the North End which made a significant contribution to Lynn's economic and social life for 900 years. The local fishing industry remains important today! The Museum complex has been enlarged and developed through two HLF funded extensions (1998 & 2010); it has become a premier Lynn tourist attraction and education centre as well as a community venue.

truesyard.co.uk/about-us



MUSEUMS

Lynn Museum

The museum opened in its present home, the Union Chapel, in 1904. The museum was founded in 1844 by members of the Lynn Conversazione and Society of Arts who wanted 'the establishment of an in-

Scott Polar Research Institute (Polar Museum)

The Museum is part of the Scott Polar Research Institute, established in 1920 as part of the University of Cambridge, which is a centre of excellence in the study of the Arctic and Antarctic. Research covers both the natural and social sciences and is often interdisciplinary. The Institute also

houses the World's premier Polar Library and extensive archival and photographic collections of international importance on the history of polar exploration.



National Gallery

The National Gallery is an art museum in Trafalgar Square in the City of Westminster, in Central London, England. Founded in 1824, it houses a collection of more than 2,300 paintings dating from the mid-13th century to 1900. The National Gallery is an exempt charity, and a non-departmental public body of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.

Its collection belongs to the government on behalf of the British public, and entry to the main collection is free of charge.



Libraries

King's Lynn Library

Originally formed from the libraries of St Margaret's Church (King's Lynn Minster) and St Nicholas's Chapel, this collection contains some of the most important books printed in early-modern Europe, from the book that helped spark the Reformation to perhaps the greatest poem ever written in English. It contains books which reveal innovative methods of recycling employed by printers and bookbinders.



British Library

The British Library is a research library in London that is the national library of the United Kingdom. It is one of the largest libraries in the world. It is estimated to contain between 170 and 200 million items from many countries. As a legal deposit library, the British Library receives copies of all books produced in the United Kingdom and Ireland, including a significant proportion of overseas titles distributed in the UK. The library is a non-departmental public body sponsored by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.

Cambridge Central Library

Central Library Cambridge is an exciting combination of the latest library technology and the best in traditional library

services. Central Library Cambridge organize regular events and activities including story times, rhyme times and reading games. The Business and Intellectual Property Centre Cambridge shire supports entrepreneurs and innovators from that first spark of inspiration to successfully launching and growing a business.



gland. It is a prodigy house, known as one of the finest Jacobean houses in England. Audley End is now one-third of its original size, but is still large, with much to enjoy in its architectural features and varied collections. The house shares some similarities with Hatfield House, except that it is stone-clad as opposed to brick. It is currently in the stewardship of English Heritage but long remained the family seat of the Barons Braybrooke, heirs to the estate of whom retain a portion of the contents of the house, the estate, and the right to repurchase as an incorporeal hereditament. Audley End railway station is named after the house.



Archaeological sites

King's Lynn Minster

The Minster is situated in the historic surroundings of the Saturday Market Place in the heart of King's Lynn. Founded by the first Bishop of Norwich, Herbert de Losinga, in 1101, the Minster has offered a welcome to pilgrims and visitors for over 900 years.



Audley End House - Walden Abbey monastery

It is a largely early 17th-century country house outside Saffron Walden, Essex, En-

National Maritime Museum

It is a maritime museum in Greenwich, London. It is part of Royal Museums Greenwich, a network of museums in the Maritime Greenwich World Heritage Site.

The museum was created by the National Maritime Museum Act 1934 under a Board of Trustees, appointed by HM Treasury. It is based on the generous donations of Sir James Caird (1864–1954). King George VI formally opened the museum on 27 April 1937 when his daughter Princess Elizabeth accompanied him for the journey along the Thames from London.





TOURIST OFFICES

Info Points

King's Lynn Tourist Information Centre

📍 Saturday Market Place, King's Lynn - Norfolk PE30 5DQ

☎ 01553 774297

Visit West Norfolk: the official guide to King's Lynn & West Norfolk

www.visitwestnorfolk.com



Stories of Lynn: Bringing the history of King's Lynn to life

www.storiesoflynn.co.uk



Cambridge Tourist Information Centre

📍 The Guildhall, 11 Peas Hill, Cambridge CB2 3PP

☎ 0121-183 37

✉ tours@cambridgetic.com

www.infocambridge.com



City of London Information Centre

📍 St. Paul's Churchyard, London EC4M 8BX

☎ +44 20 7332 3456

✉ cic@cityoflondon.gov.uk

www.thecityofldn.com/directory/city-of-london-information-centre/



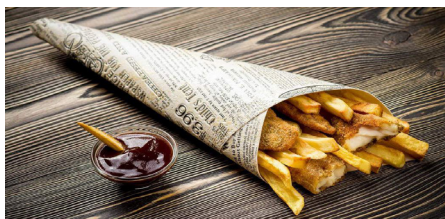
FOOD/WINE

Fish and Chips

Fish and chips is one of the most iconic dish of British tradition, whose history reflects the confluence and evolution of different European gastronomic cultures. Its origins can be traced to the union of fried potatoes, which appeared between Belgium and France in the seventeenth century, and battered fish, introduced to the United Kingdom by Jewish refugees from Portugal and Spain.

Battered fish quickly became popular in England as an inexpensive food accessible even to the poorest population, served by street vendors and in the first dedicated shops, the "fried fish warehouse." The popularity of this dish is documented also by Charles Dickens, who, in works like "Oliver Twist," mentions it among the typical meals of the time. The combination of cod and chips, now widely known as fish and chips, remains shrouded in mystery regarding its exact origin. Until the 1980s, it was customary to serve fish and chips wrapped in newspaper, a tradition later replaced by decorated kitchen paper, which still alludes to the history and charm of the dish.

Today it represents not just a dish, but a real cultural heritage, symbolizing the openness and ability to blend diverse traditions that has always characterized the history of the United Kingdom.





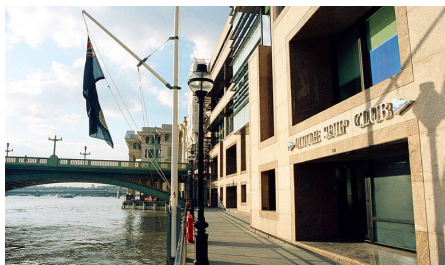
Sail the Wash

Sail the Wash is dedicated to enabling the small craft sailor to explore England's biggest embayment and its adjacent coastline. From Gibraltar Point in the west to Morston, Blakeney and Cley in the east, this last wilderness is one of the outstanding coastal wetlands in Britain, if not Europe. It's also home to the largest UK colony of common seals.



Little Ship Club

It was founded in 1926 by a group of yachtsmen for the purpose of providing training and lectures over the winter months. The club operates from its riverside clubhouse at Bell Wharf on the River Thames and is the only one operating from within the City of London. The training function of the club was so successful that, by 1936, they were training members of the Royal Naval Supplementary Volunteer Reserve Force (RN-SVR). The close link with the RNSVR led to Little Ship Club members taking part in the World War II evacuation of Dunkirk in which the military commandeered hundreds of private "little" ships to bring troops from land to larger navy vessels that could not pull in close to shore.



Ports

Port of London

The Port of London is located on the banks of the River Thames in London, overlooking the North Sea. Historically, it was the largest port in the world and today it is the second largest port in the United Kingdom. The port can accommodate cruise ships, ferries, and various types of cargo vessels.



<https://pla.co.uk>



Associated British Ports

King's Lynn is a town and seaport in the county of Norfolk, in eastern England. The town is located along the estuary of the River Ouse (or Great Ouse) at the point where it flows into the Wash, a shallow estuary of the North Sea.

As early as the 13th century, King's Lynn was one of England's most important ports and part of the Hanseatic League or Hansa. This was a trade alliance between cities in northern Germany and the Baltic Sea that dominated trade in that region in the late Middle Ages and early modern era.



www.abports.co.uk





Belgium, Germany, Switzerland and Austria

The return route across central Europe



8 Stage of a journey

While Pietro Querini arrived in England, Niccolò de Michiele, the ship's secretary, and Cristofalo Fioravante, the ship's counsellor, together with another member of the crew, left for Rostock on 27 August. In their travel account, they mention that they followed the route to Rome.

Similarly, Pietro Querini's account of the return journey becomes less descriptive. It is assumed that he followed already known trade and pilgrimage routes.

During the Middle Ages, the trade routes connecting Ostend to Basel and Basel to Venice were crucial to European trade. Merchants travelled across land and rivers, transporting precious goods and exotic spices.

The first leg of the journey began in Ostend, an important port on the North Sea coast. From there, merchants travelled up the Scheldt River, passing through Antwerp and continuing on to Cologne, an important commercial crossroads.

From Cologne, the trade route followed the course of the Rhine River to Basel. This part of the journey involved challenging river navigation, but it was essential for transporting bulky goods such as textiles and manufactured goods.



IVQ along middle Europe

Alternatively, they could pass through Chur and Chiavenna to reach Bergamo and then Brescia, before crossing the Po Valley and arriving in Venice. The Most Serene Republic of Venice was one of the main commercial centres of the Mediterranean, where goods from Northern Europe were exchanged with those from the East.

These medieval trade routes not only allowed for the continuous flow of goods and wealth, but also facilitated cultural exchange and the spread of ideas, contributing to the economic and social growth of the cities they passed through.

We therefore have no certainty, to date, about the route taken by Pietro Querini, except that he definitely passed through Basel, as he states in his manuscript.



The return routes:

- **in red the itinerary** followed by Pietro Querini - historical research is currently undergoing, this is currently the most accredited hypothesis.
- **in orange the itinerary** followed by Cristoforo Fioravante and Nicolò de Michiele.

Retracing Pietro Querini: a Journey Lost to History

Stefania Montemezzo,
University of Padova
Scientific Committee Via Querinissima

The Middle Ages have long been regarded as a dark period - due more to the difficulty of finding documentation than to any real stagnation - medieval Europe was criss-crossed by a dense network of roads, rivers and sea routes that facilitated the movement of people, animals and goods. Communications developed both by land and by sea, and Venice, a city suspended between these two worlds, integrated both transport systems to connect the Lagoon with the main ports and commercial centres of the time. Thanks to this network, Venetian merchants could easily reach the main European trading centres, guaranteeing a constant flow of goods and wealth.¹ This is the setting for the epic story of Pietro Querini, one of the most extraordinary adventures of Venetian commercial mobility in the 15th century.²

Querini left Candia as patron of the carrack or 'cocca' that bore his name, still mourning the recent death of his eldest son. The voyage was fraught with difficulties from the outset: after sailing around North Africa, the ship arrived in Cádiz, where it suffered serious damage due to an error by the pedotta, the obligatory guide for entering ports. Repairs took almost a month, and when they finally set sail again, Querini was pushed too far offshore in an attempt to avoid the Genoese vessels. The ship was hit by an ea-

sterly wind that caused it to drift as far as the Canary Islands, where it wandered for 45 days before reaching Lisbon on 29 August 1431. After a stop in Muros and a visit by thirteen crew members to the sanctuary of Santiago de Compostela, the ship resumed its journey to Flanders on 28 October. However, a violent storm at the entrance to the English Channel caused the ship to drift as far as the Isles of Scilly. From 5 November, a series of misfortunes befell the crew: the sails and rudder were destroyed, leaving the ship at the mercy of the Atlantic Ocean. On 27 December, in desperation, the crews abandoned the wreck in two boats in an attempt to reach Ireland. One of the boats was never heard from again; the other, with Querini on board, landed on a Norwegian island on 4 January 1432, after weeks of hunger and frost, little knowing that he had just arrived in the Lofoten Islands, in the Arctic Circle.³

From 5 February to 14 May 1432, Querini and his men took refuge with the islanders and learned their customs. Impressed by the harmony with which they lived in contact with nature, Querini left a detailed description. In May, he boarded a ship bound for Trondheim before continuing to Sweden, both to avoid the ongoing conflict between the Alemanni and the Norwegians and to seek the assistance of the Venetian knight Zuan

¹ Rawlinson, 'The Flanders Galleys'; Bolton, *The Alien Communities of London in the Fifteenth Century*; Montemezzo, *Networks in the Early History of Capitalism: Merchant Practices in Renaissance Venice*.

² There are several editions of the story by Querini, including: Fioravante and Querini, *Infelice e sventurata coca Querina*.

³ Fioravante and Querini, 37–59.

Franco, who was staying at Stegeborg Castle. For travellers like Querini, with limited resources, relying on established social networks was crucial for finding support and securing a way back to Venice. Franco proved indeed to be a valuable ally: it was he who suggested the pilgrimage to Vadstena, a place frequented by foreigners and ideal for gathering information. His intuition proved correct: as soon as he arrived, Querini learned that in Lödöse (now Gothenburg), eight days' walk to the south, two ships were waiting, one bound for Rostock and the other for England. On 13 September he embarked for King's Lynn, from where he travelled quickly to Cambridge. Here he visited the university and received financial support from a monk who promised to repay him when he passed through Venice on a pilgrimage to the Holy Sepulchre.⁴

In London, Querini met Vettore Cappello and other Venetians, including Zuan di Marcanova, who cared for the sick in the group, including Francesco Querini and Piero Gradenigo di Candia. He stayed in the English capital for two months at the insistence of the Venetian nobles, who were concerned about his health, and was accommodated by Cappello and Girolamo Bragadin. Only when he had recovered did he set off for Venice via Germany, choosing the route via Basel under the guidance of Bragadin. After a long journey, Querini and his companions finally returned to Venice in January 1433.

Querini's diligence in providing descriptions and data for the outward and re-

turn journey, up to his arrival in England, is indicative of an underlying objective to entertain the public and disseminate information about territories that were previously unknown to the Venetian and Italian worlds. At least for the outward journey, the intention was to talk about unknown lands, and to narrate the dangers and problems that navigation had encountered. Less of an entertainment, however, was the journey from London to Venice, well known thanks to the strong ties that the Rialto merchants had both with Flanders, a safe land of passage for the return journey, and the coveted German region, through which the group travelled to reach Basel (*"ser Andrea Querini, suo nipote Piero Zeno, nobile candioto, che andarono per altra via, mentre loro e noi attraversavamo l'Alemagna, andando ser Ierolimo detto per la via di Basilea"*⁵). It is also noteworthy that Querini explains the choice of the route via Basel was not so much his own decision, but rather that of Girolamo Bragadin. Any hypotheses we propose here, therefore, must be verified through documentary analysis, focusing on the networks and contacts of Bragadin, on whom Querini, fatigued, weakened, and with limited financial resources, placed his trust.⁶

The text reveals that the group split into two, taking different routes through German territory: one led by Girolamo Bragadin with Pietro Querini, and the other consisting of Andrea Querini and Piero Zeno from Candia. After crossing the English Channel, a stop in Bruges—an important centre of Venetian trade and home to a consulate (alongside the

⁴ Fioravante and Querini, 60–64.

⁵ Fioravante and Querini, 66.

⁶ Fioravante and Querini, 65–67.

Florentine consulate, as the Venetians' allies in their conflict with Milan and Genoa)—can be considered almost certain⁷. Given that Venetian interests would not shift towards Antwerp until the end of the century, the best route from there would certainly have been the one following the river Rhine, crossing it at Cologne and passing through Frankfurt, Strasbourg, and finally reaching Basel. This route, frequently used for commercial purposes, was dotted with stopping points, and it would have been possible to travel along it aboard a commercial barge heading upstream⁸.

The return journey from Basel to Venice, on the other hand, is more difficult to trace, with several potential routes that require verification through documentary sources. The main route for reaching the Po Valley from Basel was undoubtedly via the Gotthard Pass, which led directly into the Lombardy region, passing through Ticino⁹. Although more direct, this route posed the uncertainty of the ongoing war with Milan, which had significantly shaped the first half of the Venetian fifteenth century. It is also important to note that war during the Renaissance was not the total war we understand today; only in times of heightened conflict was the passage of merchants obstructed, as they could benefit from exemptions, passes, and

safe-conducts¹⁰. Assuming the merchants opted to avoid Milan in order to mitigate any risks, they could still cross the Alps via the Grisons. This route was favoured by Venetian merchants, who, passing through Chur, could benefit both from the favourable geographic positioning linking the Rhine Valley to northern Italy and from the advantageous customs policies of the Grisons. In this case, two passes were available: the Splügen and the Septimer, both leading to Chiavenna. From there, it was easy to reach Bergamo and Brescia by skirting Lake Como, or alternatively, the Adda could be used to descend via the navigable canals.

Finally, there was the easternmost pass, the Resia Pass. Lower than the Lombard passes, the Resia Pass was particularly popular in the 15th and 16th centuries, attracting, according to estimates, about half of the commercial traffic, sharing this flow with the nearby Brenner Pass, and was well connected to the Grisons. Like the Brenner, the Resia Pass led directly to Merano and from there allowed a fairly direct return to Venice, either through Verona or via the Sugana Valley¹¹. Although the Lombard passes were higher than the Brenner Pass, it is important to note that the group was not transporting goods, and therefore the need to use lower passes was less pro-

⁷ De Roover, *Money, Banking and Credit in Mediaeval Bruges*; Petti Balbi, 'Bruges, Port Des Italiens'; Bolton and Bruscoli, 'When Did Antwerp Replace Bruges as the Commercial and Financial Centre of North-Western Europe?'

⁸ Dickinson, 'The Development and Distribution of the Medieval German Town'; Adelson, 'Early Medieval Trade Routes'.

⁹ Lanaro, 'Venezia e Le Grandi Arterie Del Commercio Internazionale: Strade, Flusso Di Merci, Organizzazione Dei Trasporti Tra '500 e '700'.

¹⁰ Barbieri and Levy, 'Sleeping with the Enemy'; Zenobi, *Borders and the Politics of Space in Late Medieval Italy*, 45–67.

¹¹ Lanaro, 'Venezia e Le Grandi Arterie Del Commercio Internazionale: Strade, Flusso Di Merci, Organizzazione Dei Trasporti Tra '500 e '700'.



Castel Beseno Brenner Pass

nounced. Furthermore, if the goal had been to cross the Brenner Pass and then descend towards Verona or the Sugana Valley, it would have been more efficient to follow that route (mainly via Erfurt and Innsbruck) through Germany, where there were no mountains to cross, rather than going as far as Basel and then having to traverse the central Alps to reach Innsbruck. Taking this longer route would have extended the journey and wasted time crossing the Alps, which had to be done as quickly as possible, given that winter was approaching fast, and it was already December 1432. It is also possible that the Venetians prioritized safety by joining a caravan, adjusting their return route based on the path it followed. Traveling in a group would have provided not only protection from potential threats but also logistical support, such as access to provisions, shelter, and guidance through the Alpine passes.

The voyage of Pietro Querini is an extraordinary testament to the resilience and adaptability of Venetian merchants in the 15th century. His story, suspended between drama and discovery, not only highlights the challenges of medieval navigation, but also provides insight into the commercial and cultural networks that linked Europe at a time of great change. Through his account, Querini gives us a vivid picture of distant lands, dangers faced and unexpected encounters, showing how trade was not only a matter of economic exchange but also of human connections and knowledge of the world. Despite the richness of Querini's account, however, many questions remain unanswered and require further verification at the archival level. The analysis of merchant networks, travel documents and correspondence could provide new perspectives on this extraordinary voyage and on the commercial and diplomatic dynamics of the time.



Italy



9 Stage of a journey

Pietro Querini's return to Venice in January 1433

Just 11 members of the crew made it back to Venice. The survivors included Niccolò de Michiele, the ship's scribe, and Cristofalo Fioravante, the ship's Councillor, in addition to another sailor who returned to Venice via Rostock.

The remaining crew returned through England with Pietro Querini, and included:

- Francesco Querini son of Jacopo
- Pietro Gradenigo, son of Andrea, family of merchants, just 18 years old
- Bernardo da Vagliari the ship's pilot
(whose wife had remarried believing she had been widowed and who, on his return, locked herself in a monastery to prove that her soul was in good faith)
- Alvise da Nassi, hold-keeper
- Andrea di Piero
- Nicolò da Otranto, mariner
- Nicolò Querini, servant of Pietro
- Urialo Anisso Lapello



VQ in Veneto region and Roma

The figure of Pietro Querini, a Venetian patrician and the protagonist of one of the most extraordinary maritime adventures of the 15th century, is deeply intertwined with the history and traditions of Venice.

The Querini family played a significant role in the history of the Venetian Republic, actively participating in the city's political, economic and cultural life. There were several branches of the Querini family and their names recalled the fiefdoms or contrade where they lived. One of the most famous is today recalled in the name of the **Fondazione Querini Stampalia**. Of the various buildings that can be connected to the Querinis, none

can be directly linked to the branch that Pietro Querini belonged to, as it died out with him. His family's palace was located in the area where the Rialto fish market stands today.



Their presence in Venice was interrupted by the exile imposed after Bajamonte Tiepolo's conspiracy in 1310 against the government of the Most Serene Republic, which some of the family's members participated in.

Nevertheless, the legacy of Pietro Querini and his epic voyage continues to live on in Venice today, with tangible cultural traces that reveal the bond between the lagoon city and the adventure that took him across southern and northern Europe.



Important documents related to Pietro Querini's voyage are preserved in the **Biblioteca Marciana in Venice**, including a fragment of the report written by the merchant himself and the account written by Antonio di Corrado de Cardini on behalf of his officers, Cristofalo Fioravanti and Nicolò de Michiel. These texts not only describe Querini's odyssey, but offer insight into the cultural exchanges of the time.

Another fundamental testimony can be found in **Fra Mauro's famous Mappamondo**, also preserved at the Marciana, which explicitly mentions Querini's voyage to Norway, demonstrating the importance of his journey not only for Venice, but for the whole of 15th century Europe.

One of the most visible legacies of Querini's voyage is stockfish: Querini became acquainted with this method of preserving cod in Norway, and in the Veneto region it is known as *bacalà*.

In Venice, stockfish is the protagonist of

traditional dishes such as *bacalà mantecato*, an emblem of the local cuisine that celebrates the link between northern and southern Europe.

This gastronomic tradition is linked to a broader network of **confraternities and academies spread throughout Italy**, of which we will only mention the most famous: the Venerable Confraternity of the *Bacalà alla Vicentina*, linked to the *bacalà* festival that is well known throughout Europe and has been organised since 1987; the Dogale Confraternity of *Bacalà Mantecato*; the Accademia dello Stoccafisso in Ancona; the Vulnerabile Confraternita dello Stofiss of the Friars of Rovereto; Accademia dello Stoccafisso di Calabria; the Neapolitan Academy, Accademia Campana dello Stoccafisso e del Baccalà (Campania Academy of Stockfish and Salt cod); they all testify to the importance of this food in Italian culture, as do the many festivals and festivities that testify to the food's link with the territory.

Querini's journey is also linked to one of the iconic wines of Venetian history, the **Malvasia wine**, which he transported on board his ship to trade in the markets of the Flanders. This link between Venice and Malvasia is still evident today, both in the city's food and wine culture and in the city's toponymy, as recalled, amongst others, in the names of Calle Malvasia, Sottoportego Malvasia or Malvasia Bridge, all places that hint to the historical importance of the trade in this prized wine in centuries past.





Lake Garda to Venice Slow Bike Route

The cycle route from Lake Garda to Venice, identified as route I1, is a 200 km route that runs mainly along secondary roads with little traffic, many of which are dirt or pebble roads. The route passes by Garda, Bardolino, Verona, Vicenza, Padua and finally reaches Venice: it offers a combination of lake, hill and river landscapes, calling in cities of art and areas of historical and cultural interest. The main legs of the itinerary of Route I1, "From Lake Garda to Venice", are listed below:

Lake Garda: the route starts from Lake Garda: here you can explore picturesque lakeside towns such as Malcesine, Brenzone, Torri del Benaco, Garda, Bardolino, Lazise, Castelnuovo del Garda and Peschiera del Garda.



Lake Garda - Venice

Verona, Vicenza, Padua, Riviera del Brenta.

- ▶ Stage 1.1
Adige river - Verona
Km 49 (Lago di Garda - Verona)
- ▶ Stage 1.2
Lake Garda - Verona
Km 50 (Peschiera del Garda - Verona)
Km 27 (Garda - Verona)
- ▶ Stage 1.3
Verona - Vicenza
Km 63
- ▶ Stage 1.4
Vicenza - Padua
Km 45
- ▶ Stage 1.5
Padua - Venice
Km 40



Verona: from Lake Garda, the route continues towards Verona, passing through the lands where the wines of Verona are made and calling in places linked to the story of Romeo and Juliet.

Vicenza: the route continues towards Vicenza, the city of Palladio, where you can explore the Riviera Berica and Bacchiglione River cycle path.

Padua: after Vicenza the route leads you to Padua, and from here it continues in the direction of Venice.

Venice: the final section of the route leads to Venice, crossing the Riviera del Brenta and offering panoramic views of the lagoon.

www.veneto.eu/IT/Garda-Venezia





Italia Veneto | Città del Vaticano

On his way back to Venice from England, Pietro Querini most probably followed the course of the Rhine River from Cologne to Basel.

On 25 January 1433, Querini triumphantly arrived in the Republic of Venice, known as “La Serenissima” at that time.

The texts written by Pietro Querini, Nicolo de Michiele and Cristofalo Fioravante are among the first written accounts by Venetians who arrived in northern Norway. They are among the first Venetian references to the famous stockfish, the air-dried cod that would soon become a staple food in Europe and Italy, and one of the rare texts that mention medieval Norway.



Festivals

1. Bacalà Festival Sandrigo
2. Chioggia Fish Festival
3. Roma Baccalà
13. Stockfish in Ancona

Museums

4. Querini Stampalia Foundation
5. Naval History Museum of Venice

Libraries

6. Marciana National Library
7. Vatican Apostolic Library

Places

8. Venice, the places of Malvasia
9. Chioggia
10. Sandrigo
11. Venice, Calle della Malvasia
12. Venice, campo de le Beccarie - the fish market

Food/Wine

Ports

1. Venice-Chioggia Port Authority

Visitor Experiences

2. San Marco Fisherman of Burano Cooperative Society



FESTIVALS

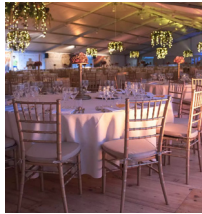
Bacalà Festival in Sandrigo

Sandrigo (Vicenza) has organised a Bacalà Festival, featuring IGP stockfish from the Lofoten Islands, since 1987.



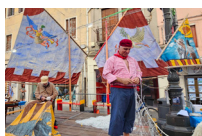
This internationally-renowned festival includes a rich program of culinary proposals based on *bacalà*, food and wine, in addition to events, exhibitions, concerts and shows for adults and children, and food stands, with the main dish being **Baccalà alla Vicentina**.

festadelbaccala.com



Chioggia Fish Festival "Sagra del pesce"

In the month of July, for 10 consecutive evenings, a Fish Festival is organised in the centre of the town of Chioggia. This tradition is more than 80 years old and showcases the best of the local produce, savoured in a festive, fun and cheerful atmosphere. Market, where each year the Harvest Festival of the Sea is celebrated – to give thanks for the fish of the deep that we all delight to eat, and which have sustained a culture of porters and fishmongers here for centuries.



Stockfish in Ancona

Ancona boasts a rich tradition centred on **Stoccafisso all'Anconetana**, a dish with a history dating back over 400 years. This culinary gem is deeply linked to the city's commercial and maritime activities, which facilitated the arrival of dried cod. To preserve the authenticity of this beloved dish, the **Accademia dello Stoccafisso** (Stockfish Academy) was founded, which every year in September awards the four best restaurants that prepare it in an event called *Stoccafissando*. Recognised as a traditional Italian food product, Ancona-style stockfish is the star of the **San Ceriagio Stockfish Festival** in the first ten days of May and the **Sea Festival** in September.

Roma Baccalà

For the past six years, Roma Baccalà has organised an annual event in September featuring a series of events, presentations, stories and live cooking shows themed around one of the most loved and cooked foods in the world: *baccalà*, or stockfish or cod.

romabaccala.it



MUSEUMS

Querini Stampalia Foundation

At the Querini-Stampalia Foundation you can discover the less touristic side of Venice: it includes a museum area with the art collections acquired by the family over the course of time.

Founded in 1869 by Count Giovanni Querini of the Querini Stampalia branch of the family, it is now a museum, library and archive, and features a garden designed by Carlo Scarpa. An architectural combination of past and present, it is a unique cultural reality in Venice, where old and new, past and present are in constant relation. It owns the most extensive pictorial documentation of 18th-century Venice.

www.querinistampalia.org



Vatican Apostolic Library



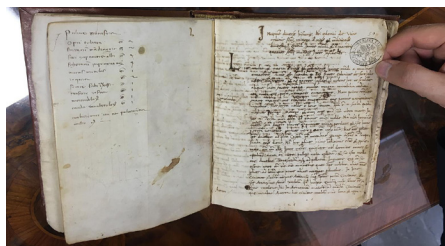
Vatican
Apostolic
Library



Anna Alberati, author of "Bacalà: una storia Veneziana dal 1431 – 1433 e la metamorfosi Sublime: il Bacalà Mantecato", writes:

'The manuscript conserved in the Vatican Apostolic Library: MS. Vat. Lat. 5256, ff 42r-55v, is collected in a booklet that is part of a miscellaneous manuscript and is probably also by Querini himself. It is a text written without much care and with a certain syntactic instability, which at the begin-

ning has some corrections... 'It looks like a draft, subject to corrections, so that a correct and elegant copy could be drawn up later, perhaps...'



The manuscript is available for consultation at https://digi.vatlib.it/view/MSS_Vat.lat.5256

Naval History Museum of Venice

The Naval History Museum of Venice, also known as MUNAV, is an institution that showcases the history of the Venetian and Italian navy, with a vast collection of models, memorabilia, and historic vessels. Housed in a 16th-century building, formerly the Serenissima's granary, the museum offers a journey through naval history, from the Republic of Venice to the Italian Navy.



Places

Venice, the Places of Malvasia

Many streets in Venice recall the name of the Malvasia wine which has such an important role in the centuries-old history of the Most Serene Republic.



of Venerable Confraternity of Bacalà alla Vicentina. In Sandrigo you can also visit the headquarters of the Pro Loco and the Confraternity of Bacalà, and discover many interesting facts about Pietro Querini.



Chioggia

The historic centre of the city lies at the southern end of the lagoon, on a group of small islands divided by canals and connected by bridges; when viewed from above, it appears fishbone shaped. The city is called Little Venice and like Venice, Chioggia has calli, campi and canals.



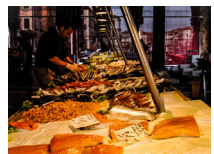
Sandrigo

The town of Sandrigo is strongly linked to Norway, in fact, it is twinned with the town of Røst.

In September, Sandrigo's tourist board (Pro Loco) organises the "Festival del baccalà" – Baccalà Festival, which attracts thousands of tourists and stockfish enthusiasts every year. During the festival, events and initiatives related to stockfish culture and gastronomy are promoted; moreover, in the last weekend of September the investiture ceremony is held to appoint the new members

Venice, campo de le Beccarie – the Fish Market

The Querini palace, known as "Ca' Mazor" or "Ca' Granda", stood on this site. After the Tiepolo-Querini conspiracy of 1310 against the government of the Most Serene Republic, two thirds of the palace, belonging to the conspirators Marco and Pietro Querini, were demolished, while the remaining third, owned by the innocent Giovanni Querini, was left intact.





They call it Bacalà

Air-dried and transformed into stockfish, or preserved in salt as baccalà, cod is the star of traditional Venetian cuisine. Here it is called "bacalà," losing one "c."

The richest interpretation, despite the simplicity of ingredients such as soaked stockfish, milk, onion, sardines, a handful of flour, parsley, Parmesan cheese, and plenty of olive oil, but demanding in its execution, is "bacalà alla vicentina."

More versatile, so much so that it has become an undeniably successful finger food, is the creamy spread made from soaked stockfish, quickly boiled and emulsified with oil: "bacalà mantecato," now also called "alla veneziana." In addition to these two gastronomic monuments, there are other traditional recipes such as "bacalà alla contadina" with tomato, "bacalà conso (condito)" or bacalà salad, with a sprinkling of parsley and oil, always using stockfish.

Salted cod, cut into pieces, breaded, and fried, makes a very popular "cicheto", a Venetian tapas-style snack, known as "bacalà fritto."

In the past, bacalà was always served on Fridays, when abstinence from meat was required and people could eat inexpensive fish that did not spoil easily. Today, preserving and processing cod requires a lot of work, so a dish of bacalà in its various forms has become highly prized and therefore expensive, but it is a must-try experience for those who want to taste the authentic flavors of a region that was an independent republic for over a thousand years, the Serenissima.

Tiziana Agostini

*President of the Venerable Confraternity
of Bacalà alla Vicentina*



Pietro Querini and Malvasia

Malvasia is a prime example of how a grape variety can become a legend, a symbol of cultural diplomacy and a shared identity. Originally from the Peloponnese, it took its name from the port of Monemvasia and embarked on a journey that made it famous throughout the Mediterranean. From there, it spread to the Aegean islands, finding privileged landing places in Crete and Paros. In Crete, thanks to the long Venetian domination, it managed to survive the difficulties brought about by Ottoman rule for longer, keeping alive a tradition that was dying out elsewhere. Its fortune was linked to the vast Venetian trade network, an intricate web of galleys

and merchant ships that for centuries connected the ports of the eastern Mediterranean with the Adriatic and central Europe. The sweet and fragrant Malvasia wines, known for their resistance to long journeys and sumptuous taste, conquered both the taverns of Venice and the courts of Northern Europe. The episode of Querini, who brought back a cargo of Malvasia from Venetian Crete, remains emblematic: he carried not only barrels and amphoras, but also the prestige of a wine capable of embodying the wealth and cosmopolitan refinement of the Serenissima. From Venice, Malvasia spread along the Adriatic coast, reaching the ports of Dalmatia, Istria and as far as the mouth of the River Po, where it accompanied noble banquets and guild celebrations. Today, the legacy of that trade is still recognizable: in Istria, Dalmatia and along the coast of Albania, local versions of Malvasia are produced, sometimes golden and honeyed, sometimes fresh and mineral, recalling their Greek origins but reflecting centuries of adaptation to new climates and soils. In Italy alone, there are 19 varieties. In Venice itself, streets and squares still bear the names of ancient Malvasia wines, taverns that were meeting places for merchants, sailors and nobles, transforming wine into a vehicle for relationships and identity. The journey of Malvasia, from the terraces of the Peloponnese to the Adriatic routes and beyond, is more than a commercial story: it is proof of how a grape variety has been able to shape tastes, cultural landscapes and even urban geography, anticipating the logic of modern wine marketing and leaving a legacy that continues to excite today.



PORTS

Venice-Chioggia Port Authority

The North Adriatic Sea Port Authority, which manages the port of Venice, promotes various cultural and educational projects, often in cooperation with the Municipality of Venice, other institutions and, **above all, Via Querinissima!**

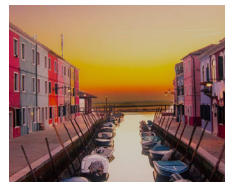
These projects aim to enhance the history and role of the port, involving both the port community and the city community, with a special focus on the new generations.



Visitor Experiences

San Marco Fisherman of Burano Cooperative Society

The cooperative has a range of guided fishing itineraries in the lagoon and promotes fishing and sustainable tourism.





This is the picture of **Via Querinissima today**:
the story of a medieval journey that still speaks to **contemporary Europe**.
It's just the beginning of a path made of **intertwined stories**,
where cultures connect and identities resonate.
A journey that brings our **wonderful countries** together through memory,
beauty, and the will to move forward together.

FIRST EDITION.1 - October 2025

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Veneto Region Council and "Via Querinissima, from myth to history" International Cultural Association.

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