## **ABOUT CESENA**



## Why visit

One of the most important artistic points of interest in Romagna, Cesena is a must for good food and wine lovers. The lordship of the Malatesta family brought Cesena to the apex of its culture and history, with some architectural and artistic treasures that can still be visited today. Cesena's important international position in the agri-food sector and its culinary traditions place the town among the most important destinations of the Romagna hinterland.

## Where to visit and what to see

Cesena is an interesting destination all year round. Among its treasures is the Malatestian Library, one of the most important examples of an Italian fifteenth century library. The reason why the library is so precious is that it has remained completely unchanged, as it was five centuries ago. Due to its extraordinary heritage, it was included in the Unesco "Memoire du Monde" list. The Malatesta Family, also built the fortress of Cesena, one on the most impressive of Romagna. It can be seen from its bastions, with its two buildings: the 'male' and 'female' towers. The latter hosts the museum of agricultural history which offers visitors an insight into the rural areas of Romagna over the years. The walkways inside the walls are also extremely mysterious and charming. If you visit Cesena, you can't miss a walk in the lively streets of the old town, from Piazza del Popolo to Palazzo del Ridotto, with the bronze statue of Pius VI, from the Cathedral of S. Giovanni Battista, with the chapel of Madonna del Popolo and the Museum of Sacred Art, hosting the precious painting of Madonna della Pera by Francia, to the "Alessandro Bonci" theatre, a true neoclassical jewel. The culture offered is complemented by the museum of Natural Sciences, the Municipal Art Gallery, the Archaeological Museum and the Museum of Centuriation. On a hill, visible from everywhere in the town, is the Abbazia of Santa Maria del Monte about a thousand years old. The Abbey is famous for its internationally known collection of 'ex-votos' (wooden votive tablets), some of which were painted more than five centuries ago, and for the impressive dome painted by Giuseppe Milani. The Abbey also hosts some important and precious paintings and a laboratory for the restoration of ancient books.

## Nearby

Visiting Cesena also means discovering a whole area where, along with its bathing areas and spas, has great historic villages and small towns such as **Longiano** (km. 15), **Bertinoro** (km. 10), **Sarsina** (km. 30), **Monteleone** (km. 15) and **Roncofreddo** (km. 20). They are places full of examples of ancient artistic and cultural heritage, in addition, of course, to a famous production of food and wine.