

CAPRINO V.SE



Municipality of Caprino Veronese

Piazza Roma n. 6 - 37013 Caprino Veronese (VR)

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www.caprinoveronese.vr.it - Inhabitants 8.417 - Altitude 254 m. a.s.l.

Surface 47,32 km² - Distance from Verona 36 km



Pro Loco Caprino Veronese

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1. THE TERRITORY IN HISTORY

The Caprino valley was once covered by an internal sea and then later by a prealpine lake fed by the water and glaciers of the Adige which it took towards Garda.

In '89 B.C. the Romans arrived in Caprino which in the course of time they valued as the capital of the Monte Baldo area and a collection and production centre for the iron that was mined in Ferrara di Monte Baldo. After the fall of the Roman power the valley was invaded by *Heruli, Goths, Lombards and Franks*.

The Lombard dominion began in the middle of the 5th century with Alboino. Around the year 1000, the entire area was incorporated into the *Marca Veronensis* of the Duke of Bavaria. Only in 1193 did the Municipality of Verona take back the territory of Caprino from the dominion of Henry VI, son of Federico Barbarossa. Thus intensifying the trade between the city and the countryside.

From the middle of the 12th to the end of the 13th century, Caprino remained a dependency of the *Della Scala* family who granted the entire valley in fief first to the *Dal Verme* Lords and then to the *Malaspina*.

At the beginning of the 1400s Caprino became part of the Venetian Republic and remained there for a good 4 centuries. The 1600s was the century of inactivity and crisis and was characterized by a terrible drought and by a violent plague epidemic which in the 1630s decimated the population of the entire valley. During the 1700s, traders and artisans acquired importance along with farmers and pastors, and as a confirmation of this in 1786, the *Serenissima Republic of Venice* granted a weekly market on Saturdays (which is still held today). On 31 May 1796 Napoleon



Bonaparte's troops, following the Austrians, arrived in the valley of Caprino. The administrative reforms unified the pre-existing communities in the Municipality of Caprino, which in July 1801 became the administrative and legal centre of the territory. After the defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo and the subsequent Congress of Vienna (1815), the Austrian regime took over, which, although inquisitorial favoured the economic revival. In 1866 the Veneto Region became part of the *Kingdom of Italy*. From an administrative point of view, Caprino became an increasingly important centre. During the *First World War* (1915-18) Caprino represented the hub of the sidelines of the military front that ran a few kilometres away. During the *Second World War* the Germans occupied Caprino (9 September 1943) and immediately afterwards the Republican National Guard took up residence in the Casa del Fascio (the current INPS headquarters).

The Resistance was born and 1944 was marked by the round-ups of the Nazi-fascists in some hamlets and by the bombing of the Verona-Caprino railway. On April 25th 1945 the partisans attacked Caprino and put the Germans to flight. Two days later the Allies arrived. The post-war period was affected by the serious national crisis with a massive exodus of the population that mainly affected the hilly and poorer areas. The most evident effects were the abandonment of agriculture at high altitude, the depopulation of some districts and the displacement, even commuting, towards the large centres of the plains.

Over the last few years, Caprino has further consolidated itself as a centre of supra-municipal services, making use of the pleasant position of the valley also as a residential area. The Municipality with the numerous Associations promotes a dense calendar of events with the intention of encouraging the flow of tourists from the lake and mountains to make a stop in the area.



2. TO SEE

The Civic Museum of Caprino Veronese is rich in paleontological finds and from the Great War, paintings and a photographic exhibition. The Museum as a whole gives a fairly complete view of the Caprino and Baldo territories .

Spiazzì is a touristic mountain village famous for the sanctuary of the Madonna della Corona. The easiest road to reach the sanctuary (that is located in the municipality of Ferrara) starts from here.

Platano is a town known for the presence of a centuries-old plane tree which is recognized as a national monument. It is the largest in Italy with exceptional dimensions:

25 m in height, 15 m in circumference of the trunk and 300 m² of canopy surface. It is called the “Plane of the 100 Bersaglieri” because in 1937, during a great manoeuvre of the Italian army, 100 bersaglieri were hidden in its foliage.

In Platano you will find **Palazzo Malaspina Nichesola**, which houses the seat of the mountain community of Baldo that coordinates the group activities of 8 Mount Baldo municipalities. In this building there is also the headquarters of our Pro Loco Baldo Garda Association.



3. FOOD AND WINE

There are many local products grouped in the Baldo brand, born and promoted by the Unione Montana del Baldo. The “Baldo products” are promoted at the Black Truffle Festival of Monte Baldo and at the Festival of the Flavours of Baldo held at Spiazzi on the second weekend in October. These are the two most important events for tasting the local Caprino delicacies.

The Black Truffle of Baldo

In the town of Platano at Palazzo Malaspina Nichesola there is the headquarters of the Truffle Association of Monte Baldo Veronese. Baldo truffles were already famous and celebrated in past centuries so much so that, according to a report by the Marquis Ago Pignolati of 1791, they were the favourite dish at the Emperor’s table in Vienna.



Garda D.O.P. **extra virgin olive oil** is obtained from the cultivation of olive trees located in the northernmost latitude of the world. This particular situation is due to Lake Garda which creates a Mediterranean microclimate on the slopes of the Alps. This characteristic makes Garda D.O.P. a unique and unmistakable oil, given that despite being a delicate oil (lightly fruity) that lends itself to many culinary solutions, it offers a persistent and satisfying taste. In Caprino Veronese can be found the Producers Cooperative POG which was founded in 1984 by the desire of 10 partners to pool their skills in the olive sector to transform a product that is part of a centuries-old tradition of the Garda hinterland.

Tourist guide for the Baldo Garda area

Excellent **cheeses** such as: Monte Veronese, Casat in oil, Casatele young and fragrant belong to the great tradition of Monte Baldo. All the cheeses were once produced in the “baiti” (*mountain huts*).



4. EVENTS AND FOLKLORE



Montebaldino Carnival is celebrated on Tuesday, the last of the carnival. There is a great parade through the streets of the town with the numerous participation of people in fancy dress and folkloristic groups from Verona hosted by the King and Queen of Baldo, the official masked characters of Caprino.

Contralonga In May, a non-competitive walk is held, with enogastronomic milestones between the hamlets of Caprino. Typical products and good wine enhance the beauty of the Monte Baldo area.

Baldo Film exhibition in the first ten days of June. Film and video projections about Monte Baldo. Church of S.Dionigi al Platano.



The Montebaldina Fair (late July-early August) is one of the oldest in the Veronese area. Folklore and entertainment with tastings of typical local products. Exhibitions of local craft products, industry and fine agricultural machinery with a parade of vintage tractors.



Festival of San Bartolomeo in Pazon (second half of August)
- Food and wine stands and music.

Baldo's Black Truffle Festival - first weekend of September-
Tastings and music

Caprino-Spiazzi motor race - first ten days of September
-Historical uphill race.

Festival of Baldo products In October, in Spiazzi, there is the Fair of mountain products market with typical gastronomy: chestnuts, music, folklore and activities useful for living and learning about Baldo.



5. ITINERARIES

There are numerous routes for the pursuit of sport and for leisure.

- **On foot** in the territory in contact with nature. There are many paths that connect Caprino to the high peaks on Mount Baldo and to the mountain refuges.
- Recently set up are the routes of the **Water Way**, along the paths of which there are the fountains, the wash houses and mills in memory of a past time.
- **On horseback**: from a simple hack of a few hours to real equestrian treks lasting several days among the baite (mountain huts). See www.paradisoranch.it and www.ranchbarlot.it



- **By bike**: this territory is particularly suitable for mountain biking. The Bus & Bike service is active with a regular bus and the Malcesine cable car connecting the lake to the top of Monte Baldo at an altitude of 1760 m.



Other routes available with more sporting character, are **hang-gliding or paragliding** (info www.vololiberoscaligero.org) and **rock climbing** (www.laac.it).

For those who prefer to sit still, but shoot far, there is a **shooting range** in Caprino (www.tsncaprinovr.it)