

AGRITURISMO

farm-stay holidays in Italy

taken from www.dolcevita.com



Experience agriturismo the economical Italian farm-stay holiday spent in regionally typical country homes, lovingly restored with hospitality in mind. These charming guesthouses are set in the rural countryside, off the beaten track. Each serves food prepared in the local fashion.

Agriturismo has saved many Italian country homes from eventual ruin; from the inevitable incursion of weeds, as the call of the metropolis claims more and more of the rural population. The term "agriturismo" stands for the opportunity to spend your holiday on an actual farm, in a country cottage or mountain cabin. It's the type of holiday which could only be compared, perhaps, to the "dude-ranches" in the American southwest, the farms of Vermont, the farm trails of California's central valley and so on.

Although the 7,500 establishments in Italy are distributed throughout the country, a full 50% of them are concentrated in the regions around Trentino Alto Adige. A further 15% are located between Umbria and Toscana, often housed in restored antique homesteads which have retained the air of their agricultural past.



The remainder of these unique inns is scattered throughout the land. Set amidst grape vines and almond trees, orchards and alpine pastures, the agriturismo farms continue to produce their own cheese, jams and cold-pressed olive oil. Their kitchens continue to cook traditional meals using locally produced ingredients. Guests receiving full pension (3 meals) can expect to pay something in the neighborhood of Euro 80.00 per day. This, however, is not required.

The Agriturst organization comprises nearly all-available facilities. Classifications have not been awarded stars. But rather regional symbols such as ears of corn, as is customary in Puglia or four-leaf clovers in Lombardia. Agriturst aided our selection of the top twenty guest-houses, selecting one for each region. ●

