

Euromech Colloquium [562]

Sperlonga, Italy, May 24-28, 2015

Social Programme

Events of the conference (including the reception, conference dinner and excursions) are automatically included with the registration at the conference. All accompanying persons can attend all these events once paid the accompanying fee (either through the dedicated web site or directly on site).

Opening: Grand Hotel La Playa to Sperlonga



Sunday, 7:00 pm

Via Cristoforo Colombo,
04029 Sperlonga, Italia

Welcome drink and opening in charming
hotel with sea view.

Sightseeing tour: Grotta di Tiberio and National Archaeological Museum

Not yet defined

Via Flacca,
04029 Sperlonga, Italia

Pleasure trip in a suggestive and
historical place.



The "Grotta di Tiberio", a wide and deep natural opening at the base of Mount Ciannito, is located along the Riviera di Levante of Sperlonga. It was part of the emperor Tiberius's imperial villa that stretched three hundred meters on each side along the beach, and consisted of barracks for the troops, the imperial residence itself, the thermal baths, and the pools for fish breeding.

The museum, adjacent to the area of the Villa, was specifically designed to accommodate the amazing sculptural artifacts in addition to the furniture and other valuable objects belonging to the ornamental apparatus of the villa, which document the life of the complex at the beginning of the first century.

A systematic patient reconstruction after a series of accidents led to identify the marble groups related to the return of Ulysses to Ithaca.

Conference Dinner: Ristorante Laoconte Da Rocco



Wednesday, 8:30 pm

Via Cristoforo Colombo, 18,
04029 Sperlonga, Italia

Social dinner will be held at a renowned and characteristic restaurant in Sperlonga.

Guided Tour: Discover Gaeta

Wednesday, 3:00-7:30 pm



Gaeta is a picturesque coastal town in the province of Latina, in Lazio, central Italy. In the classical age it was known as *Caieta*, and was famous for its lovely and temperate climate. Like the neighbouring Formia and Sperlonga, it was a touristic site and hosted the seaside “villas” of many important and rich characters from Rome.

Nowadays, Gaeta is an extremely popular summertime destination because of its seven fabulous beaches. Locals and tourists from all over Italy flock to these beaches to soak up the sun and watch surfing events. Visiting Gaeta is a great way to get a feeling for the best of southern Italy - great food, friendly locals, tons of ambiance and a sense of history that ties everything together.

Moreover the town has played a conspicuous part in military history. Gaeta's fortifications were extended and strengthened in the 15th century, especially throughout the history of the Kingdom of Naples (which later became the Two Sicilies). At present, Gaeta is a fishing and oil seaport, and a renowned touristic resort. NATO maintains a Naval base of operations at Gaeta.

The most popular attractions and activities in Gaeta include the massive Aragonese-Angevine Castle, the Mausoleum of Lucius Munatius Plancus, the Sanctuary of *SS. Trinità*, the Church of *Annunziata*, The Cathedral of *Assunta e Sant'Erasmo*, the Church of *San Giovanni a Mare*, the Chapel of the Crucifix, the Medieval Quarter of Gaeta...

A tentative description of the guided tour that will take place on Wednesday afternoon is given in the following.

1. Meeting place in Sperlonga

Wednesday, 2:45 pm
Viale Cristoforo Colombo, 15
04029 Sperlonga LT

Pick up at Hotel Aurora in Sperlonga, from
where we reach Gaeta by bus



2. Discover Montagna Spaccata

Wednesday, 4:00-5:30 pm

Visit to Montagna Spaccata,
Sanctuary of SS. Trinità, Grotta
del Turco and Belvedere on
Separo



To get to **Montagna Spaccata**, or Split Mountain, on Monte Orlando, you will enter **the Sanctuary of SS. Trinità** (Sanctuary of the Holy Trinity), a monastery complex run by the missionary Fathers. The cliffs overlooking the sea are split from top to bottom. Locals say that the mountain was cleaved in two at the moment Christ died on the Calvary. You can take the path down to the Grotta del Turco to visit this cave carved out of the mountain by the sea itself. The grotta ends directly in the sea where the waves create atmospheric effects of light.

3. Discover Gaeta Medievale

Wednesday, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Visit to Medieval Gaeta, the
Cathedral with the great bell
tower, and the
Annunziata church with the
Golden Chapel.





Gaeta's tiny **old city** offers something for everyone. Stroll along the **Lungomare** boardwalk and watch fishermen ply their trade. Look up and see the walls of the **Angevin-Aragonese castle** standing, thick and strong, high above the city (Unfortunately, you can't visit the castle because the Italian military uses it). The **Romanesque bell tower**, tucked away between buildings in the old city, was built in 915. Walk right up to it and look closely at the building materials. Also see **the Capella d'Oro** (Golden Chapel), a chapel in the **Annunziata church**, that was made famous by Pope Pius IX. Be sure to stop for gelato at *Il Molo* or *El Tiburon*, at the far end of the old city in *Piazza del Pesce*.

4. Discover Base Nautica

Wednesday, 6:30 -8:00 pm

Visit to NATO base,
Lungomare Caboto and Via
Indipendenza.



In 1967, a NATO base was established in Gaeta; its support facilities are located on Monte Orland. It is currently used as the home port for the flagship of the United States' Sixth Fleet. The town is used to host the families of the crews who work on the ship. There was a DOD school for American children and the US Naval Support Activity, which provided health care and other services until it was closed down in 2005. In the heart of the Borgo Elena, you will walk through the typical "budello" of Via Indipendenza. Lanes and alleyways, windows and balconies, arches and doors, shops and stalls of products directly grown or packaged by the local farmers ... step by step in a continuous enhancing of all the senses. ...

5. Back to Sperloga

Wednesday, 8:00 pm