



SPRINGTIME AT THE RIVIERA

HOLIDAY TIPS FOR MARCH TO MAY

IN THIS ISSUE

PIERO'S NOTE

Springtime at Agriturismo Cà de Runde... After a quiet winter season, it is as if the Riviera awakens.

Spring is a beautiful rainbow of colours and a bouquet of scents. The cities and villages come alive again only this time with even more colour. Seasonal restaurants and cafes reopen, and there is excitement in the air. The days are getting longer and the sun is getting more intense. In our gardens it's time to pick the first Oranges, Pomelo, Grapefruit, Tangerines, Avocados and Kiwis.

The weather conditions are perfect to put on your hiking boots or hop on your bike and discover our region. Spring events bring along a buzzing spirit, roaring engines and lots of flowers.



Come over to Cà de Runde during springtime. Let's enjoy a glass of wine together and watch Liguria blossom.

A presto!

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ALL'AGRITURISMO

SPRINGTIME AT CA DE RUNDE

In the local dialect "Cà de Runde" (casa delle rondini) means "House of the Swallows". Springtime is the busiest season for these swift birds, feeding their chicks in the nests. Fun to witness this festive spectacle in the sky! Let's check out the cosy "nests" of Cà de Runde and discover our range of guest apartments.



CA DE RUNDE

Welcome to Cà de Runde! A Ligurian country house dating back to 1816. This place has a rich history of pilgrims and pirates, about which Giampiero is happy to tell you vivid stories. He himself renovated the house in 2005 with local stones and divided it into 4 characteristic apartments. A two hundred year old underground corridor still connects the different parts of the house and has since been expanded with a well-filled wine cellar. Outside the house are comfortable gardens, terraces and a patio where you can relax and enjoy the view.

The four seaview apartments each have one or two bedrooms (with, where necessary, extra beds), a dining room, kitchen and bathroom. Let's take a closer look!

[More information](#)

IL CUBO

Apartment Il Cubo is perfect for two to three persons. The kitchen-living-room is at the ground floor. A quirky, winding staircase brings you upstairs to the bedroom and bathroom. The bedroom has a double bed and a single one. There's the possibility for another double bed downstairs, in the living room.

This sun-kissed apartment is facing west, with a chance of dreamy sunsets...



LA GALERA

La Galera is our cosiest apartment. Perfect for 2, but even enough space to make 3 extra beds. The kitchen, livingroom, the bedroom and the bathroom (with shower and toilet) are on the ground floor of the house. This apartment remains cool in summer and warm in winter. The bedroom has a double bed of 2,10 m long and a sofa that can be transformed into an extra single bed when necessary. Also in the livingroom, the two sofas can be transformed in two single beds.

Wondering why it's called The Prison (La Galera in Italian)? Check out the prison windows and the narrow but stretched bathroom! A bit particular maybe, but after staying here, you will never want to leave!



ROMEO & GIULIETTA

Romeo e Giulietta must be our most romantic accommodation... This apartment is on the first floor and has a nice small balcony (resembling the one of Romeo & Juliet). It is on the same level of the large colourful seaview patio. Romeo & Giulietta has a well-equipped kitchen with a large dining/livingroom and a bathroom with a shower and toilet. The master bedroom has a double bed of 2,10 m. The second bedroom can have a double bed or two / three single ones.

Who will be serenated on its balcony this season?

PANORAMA

Our largest apartment is called Panorama for a good reason: it's on the highest level of the country house and has a large private terrace with an amazing panoramic view on the Riviera dei Fiori.

The apartment has a sunny living room, a fireplace, a large kitchen, a bathroom with bath and shower, a master bedroom with a double bed and second bedroom with four single beds (two bunk beds). Ideal for families.



THE CONCEPT

The apartments of agriturismo Cà de Runde are rented throughout the year for a minimum of 1 week from Saturday to Saturday. Our formula consists of a well-stocked fridge upon arrival and a garden full of seasonal vegetables, fruit and herbs. Plenty ingredients for a good breakfast, picnic, lunch or dinner are available. You can help yourself and pick whatever you need. All apartments have their own well-equipped kitchen. Guests can use the barbecue and the oven in the patio garden. There you can sit at the long tables, for joined dinners or fun-filled family nights. Just ask Piero!

[More information](#)





RIVIERA DEI FIORI

AN ODE TO THE FLOWERS



RIVIERA OF FLOWERS

Flowers.... More than anything else, flowers announce the arrival of springtime. The coastline on which Cà de Runde is located, is called Riviera dei Fiori or Riviera of Flowers. It owes its name to the classic flower market and vibrant flower fields around Bordighera and San Remo.

The origin of floriculture in Sanremo dates back to the end of the nineteenth century with the production of cut flowers from the field and green foliage. Thanks to the mild climate conditions and the greenhouse's favourable exposure around here, it's possible to obtain a high quality flower production even in winter. Sanremo was able to establish close commercial relations with especially Northern Europe by the development of the railway transport. As a result, at the beginning of the twentieth century, San Remo became known as 'the city of flowers' and the western part of the Ligurian coast as 'the Riviera of Flowers'.

Nowadays the Sanremo Flower Market is still an important flower trade centre in southern Europe and the Mediterranean region. Local growers produce lots of Ranunculus, Brem, Anemone, Ruscus, Mimosa and Eucalytus. In potted plants, a large part consists of aromatic and herbal plants like rosemary, sage, lavender, basil, thyme.



Piero has been working in the floriculture industry for decades. With his passion for nature and attention to detail, he makes sure Cà de Runde is blooming all year round. With exotic Strelitzia, bold Bougainvillea, sweet-scented Lantana, numerous fruit trees and lots of tropical plants and succulents Piero has created a colourful oasis - a charming home-away-from-home for his guests.

True nature lovers can indulge themselves by visiting stunning parks and gardens nearby. The famous [Giardini Botanici Hanbury](#) in Ventimiglia cover an area of about 18 hectares, partly planted with subtropical plants from various climate zones (Mediterranean Basin, California, Chile, South Africa, Australia). The remaining part is occupied by spontaneous Mediterranean vegetation, trees and shrubs. A dreamy location to wander around and enjoy a relaxing break in the midst of history and nature.

In Bordighera you will find the [Giardino Esotico Pallanca](#) where you can discover an extraordinary collection of cacti and succulents. More than 3200 varieties and over 30,000 specimens of marvellous and rare plants are on display on 10,000 square metres of terraces overlooking the sea.

[Villa Ormond](#) is Sanremo's lush city park, where you can walk through palm groves and among cedars and ficus. In the centre you will find an Italian garden with palms and local flora. Make sure to visit the Japanese garden as well, inspired by the Zen philosophy, which celebrates the connection between San Remo and the Japanese city of Atami.

"FIORE DOPO FIORE INIZIA LA PRIMAVERA."





DAY TRIP TIPS

DISCOVER IMPERIA, ONE VILLAGE AT A TIME

For the winter edition of our guest magazine we took you along to the medieval villages of the Nervia valley. We visited Apricale, Dolceacqua and Perinaldo, located west of Agriturismo Cà de Runde. This time we go in opposite direction, by turning east to check out some other marvellous towns and villages of the province of Imperia.

**”BLESSED ARE THE CURIOUS
FOR THEY WILL HAVE
ADVENTURES.”**



SANREMO

Sanremo is an elegant, famous seaside resort and the capital town of the Riviera dei Fiori. Shops, the Casino and Teatro Ariston, the remarkable Russian Orthodox Church, rich gardens and lush villas... Sanremo has so much to offer and much of its belle époque grandeur can still be seen today.

A fun way to start your morning is to visit in the [Mercato di Sanremo](#) on Piazza Eroi Sanremesi. The vibrant market hall bursts at its seams with a broad collection of fruit and vegetables, pastas and pastries, meat and cheeses. Mercato di Sanremo is open every morning, except for Sundays.

TIP: For a delicious lunch, try to find this place with its tiny terrace: [La Porta Verde](#) on Via Francesco Corradi.

RAILWAY: From Sanremo you can also hop on a train to visit Menton, Nice, Ventimiglia or Genoa for a day.

FINALBORGO

As one of 'i [Borghi Più Belli d'Italia](#)' Finalborgo, founded at the end of the 12th century, stands out with its charm, its great heritage of history, art, culture and traditions. For many centuries Finalborgo was the capital of the Marquisate. The historic centre is still surrounded by walls and towers. You enter the village through its impressive main gate. It will lead you to colourful streets full of boutique shops, cosy bars and restaurants. You can discover several churches, museums and monuments by yourself or participate in guided tours. The beautiful Church and former Monastery of Santa Caterina are definitely worth a visit. In the surroundings of the villages there are some challenging mountain bike tracks. You will find plenty bike rental opportunities in and around Finalborgo.

TIP: Osteria Botte Gaia is a fine lunch spot on the main square of the village. They serve some great ligurian specialties.



CERVO

Like, Finalborgo, Cervo is listed as [one of the most beautiful villages of Italy](#), and not without reason. Cervo is a stunning beach town with a labyrinth of picturesque streets and amazing seaviews. They lead you up to its iconic piazza with the majestic and baroque church of San Giovanni Battista, also called "dei Corallini", because of its coral-embellished facade. Make sure to enter the church, as its interior is equally impressive.

Among chamber music enthusiasts, Cervo is famous for its annual Cervo Festival Internazionale da Music di Camera. During this summer festival, this peaceful village is buzzing, and musical tones sound from all angles from rehearsals and performances.

Combine your visit to Cervo's historic centre with a relaxing afternoon on the beach. Enjoy a local fishermen's lunch and make a toast to another fun-filled day.



WEDDING BELLS

AT CÀ DE RUNDE

Warming sunshine, fresh flowers starting to blossom, the symbolism of new beginnings... Springtime is the perfect start of the wedding season. Although Cà de Runde is not an official wedding location, it definitely sends out a romantic vibe. In 2021 Piero made a rare exception for friends and family and Cà de Runde has been the decor for two dreamy weddings, among which the wedding of his own daughter Elisa. Let's take a peek into the wedding albums for some romantic inspiration!



SOFIE & CASPER

EVVIVA GLI SPOSI
LONG LIVE THE BRIDE AND GROOM





ELISA & GIUSEPPE

BRINDIAMO AGLI SPOSI
LET'S TOAST TO THE NEWLYWEDS







MILANO-SANREMO

LA CLASSICISSIMA DI PRIMAVERA



MILANO-SANREMO

On March 19 it's time for Milano-Sanremo! The Spring Classic cycling race marks the traditional opening of the international cycling season, thanks to the favourable climate conditions of the Riviera dei Fiori. The first edition took place in 1907 and it has been run ever since, with the exception for two occasions during war times.

Many cycling legends raced Milano-Sanremo, among which Costante Girardengo, Gino Bartali, Fausto Coppi, Eddie Merckx, Francesco Moser, Laurent Fignon, Eric Zabel and Oscar Freire.

Over the years the track has largely stayed the same, starting from the Sforza Castle in Milan, challenging climbs and its finish line in Sanremo, which has shifted from Corso Cavallotti to Via Roma and Lungomare Italo Calvino.

Not around here on the 19th of March? Make sure to tune in to the sports channel of your TV or follow online, to be here in spirit. Enjoy this exciting race and the magnificent panorama of the Riviera dei Fiori from a distance.

[ALL INFO ON THE MILANO-SANREMO RACE >>](#)

PISTA CICLABILE

Excited to hit the pedals yourself? Down the hill from Cà de Runde you will find several bike rentals and our province offers many tracks on the seaside as well as in the hinterland. Ospedaletti is the start/finish of the Pista Ciclabile. This is an extraordinary 24 kilometers long bike path along the coastline from Ospedaletti to San Lorenzo al Mare. The route is paved on an old railway track. Flat and suitable for cyclists of all ages and levels. Aside from stunning seaviews, springtime ensures you a fresh green route with lots of blossoming flowers along the way.

During the route you can enjoy many places of interest, fun coastal towns, parcs, play grounds and food & drink points. You can also go on foot and follow several detours up hill, to Bussana Vecchia or Cipressa.

The final part of the Milano-Sanremo race runs in several points very close to the cycle path. If you hop on your bicycle and go from Ospedaletti to Sanremo, you will be led through the tunnel with the "Milano-Sanremo Gallery". The tunnel is dedicated to the Spring Classic. Inside the tunnel you will pass collected tweets, fun facts & figures and phrases that celebrate the race.

[DISCOVER THE PISTA CICLABILE >>](#)





PIERO'S GARDENS

TASTE THE SEASONS AT AGRITURISMO CA DE RUNDE



SPRING'S GIFTS

On various locations in Ospedaletti, Piero manages gardens that are largely filled with olive trees. The total surface of Agriturismo Cà de Runde covers nearly 20.000 m2. In the gardens close around the house you will find seasonal fruit, vegetables and herbs. There is also a garden which Piero uses to experiment with new varieties, rare crops and exotics. Ever tasted black sapote (a.k.a. the chocolate pudding plant), guava rossa (strawberry guava) or syzygium (myrtle)? You can ask Piero all about these extraordinary products.

Springtime in the gardens of Agriturismo Cà de Runde brings you lots of exciting gifts of nature. In addition to the lemons that can be picked yearround, spring brings oranges, pomelo, grapefruit, tangerine and kiwi. There is plenty to pick and to make yourself some refreshing juices and mocktails.

On the transition of winter to spring it's time for artichokes. In Ospedaletti this marks a gastronomic event that lasts for several weeks. The events sets the spotlight on the locally grown carciofo spinoso sardo. This thorny artichoke with a fleshy core and a tender, sweet flavour is best eaten raw to fully preserve its health and cleansing qualities.



"NOTHING BRINGS PEOPLE TOGETHER LIKE GOOD FOOD."

In the spring season you will find the first avocados in the trees around the house. Start your day with some delicious avocado on toast or use it to make a tasty pasta or salad.

Another season specialty: fava beans! Fresh favas can be eaten raw or cooked and used in salads, stews, sauces, fillings, snacks, and more. The herb collection of Cà de Runde consists of rosemary, sage, laurel yearround and is supplemented by mint and thyme in spring.

As a guest of Cà de Runde, you are most welcome to enter the gardens around the house and gather what you need. There are enough garden-to-table options to pick and share and make yourselves tasty home-made dishes for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Check out the garden planning to see what Piero's gardens have in store for you, during each season of the year.

[GO TO THE GARDEN PLANNING >>](#)





HIKING & CYCLING

The region of Agriturismo Cà de Runde offers a broad spectrum of possibilities for an active and sportive vacation. All ingredients are there for people who enjoy long and quiet walks, for those looking for family activities and even for the biggest sports fanatics and thrill seekers.

OSPEDALETTI - SEBORGA

Agriturismo Cà de Runde is the starting point of a two-and-a-half hour walk through the woods and mountains to reach the unique and picturesque Principality of Seborga. Although Italy has not officially granted independence, Seborga's inhabitants have chosen their head of state and government - Princess Nina of Seborga. The Principality has its own flag, coins, number plates and passports. In the heart of the village you will find the Parish Church of San Martino and the Palazzo dei Monaci, with the ancient Seborga mint - the place where the local coins were minted.

To reach the village by foot, it all begins with a path at the gate of Cà de Runde. The path leads through scented scrub with thyme, myrtle and rosemary, followed by a climb through the woods. Once you reach the ridge of Bordighera an amazing panoramic view awaits. Continue through the shrub and maritime pine wood leading up to Monte Nero and you will find Seborga across the Ronco Pass.

[More information](#)



MOUNTAIN BIKING

You can find numerous MTB trails in the hinterland of Ospedaletti, from Dolceacqua all the way to Finale Ligure and beyond, including a challenging bike park and circuits in the valley of Diano Marina. Several paths branch off the hills and over 2.000 mt altitude mountains, often with breathtaking seaviews. The variety of trails makes this region challenging and fun for all levels and both up and downhill fans.

Ready for a full day of thrills? Our local MBT expert Marco Carezzana organises all inclusive tours all year round, including bike rental and equipment. He will guide you on the most exciting routes, with amazing landscapes, architecture and culinary stops along the way.

[More information](#)

SPRING EVENT CALENDER

Since these are uncertain times, we advise to always check the "more information button" or contact the community, before planning your day, for the latest updates on the events mentioned.



SANREMO IN BLOOM

The Sanremo Flower Carnival is a impressive, festive event with decorated floral floats parading along the seafront, followed by marching bands, folk groups and costumed figures.

13 March 2022 - to be confirmed

[More information](#)

MILANO - SANREMO

The first great classic of the cycling season! Founded in 1907, Milano-Sanremo is one of the most important cycling races in the world. The teams awake after the winter break, ready to crown their first king.

19 March 2022 - Finish in Sanremo

[More information](#)



COPPA MILANO - SANREMO

Classic car race along an exciting route of over 700 kilometers between Lombardy, Piedmont and Liguria with the same spirit as always and the same passion of the "gentlemen drivers" who initiated the race in 1906.

31 March - 2 April 2022

[More information](#)



SOL&VENTO ENERGIA DI PRIMAVERA - IMPERIA

Kites, sea, sun and parties! This fun spring event features all the best of the world's kite scene and takes place on the beach of Borgo Marina in Imperia.

2 and 3 April 2022

[More information](#)



SETTIMANA SANTA - CERIANA

During the Holy week leading up to Easter (celebrated all over Italy), the village of Ceriana holds its traditional Easter rituals. From Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday, every day one of the episodes of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ is represented. Expect various processions, traditional music and food.

14 to 17 April - Ceriana

[More information](#)



GIRO D'ITALIA SANREMO - CUNEO

Stage 13 of the famous Giro d'Italia will run this year close to our agriturismo. Witness the tour running from Sanremo to Arma di Taggia, Riva Ligure, San Lorenzo al Mare and, once in Imperia, the cyclists will go up to Ceva through the Nava hill and then head towards Cuneo (Piemonte).

20 May 2022 - Sanremo

[More information](#)

GRAND PRIX DE MONACO

Hear those engines roar! It's time for the Formula 1 Grand Prix of Monaco. As this sovereign city-state is just a 45 minute drive from Cà de Runde, you can expect to run into some extravagant cars, boats and jetset during this weekend.

27 to 29 May 2022

[More information](#)





LA PROSSIMA VOLTA

WHAT IS UP NEXT?

SUMMERTIME AT THE RIVIERA

A sun-kissed Riviera dei Fiori! The ultimate summer holiday hotspot.

In the new Summer edition of our guest magazine we will reveal the best beach spots and visit the lakes of Rocchetta Nervina. Water sports enthusiasts can read up on exciting activities and the summer event listing will inform you about all our local feste & sagre. Meanwhile, Cà de Runde's gardens are flourishing with the widest variety of produce.

Summer edition - coming soon!



Cà de Runde

AGRITURISMO

THE GUEST MAGAZINE

Agriturismo Cà de Runde - The Guest Magazine | December '21

This destination magazine aims to inspire you to make the most out of your stay at Agriturismo Cà de Runde and experience the Riviera dei Fiori to the fullest. Every season offers its own unique charm, colours and flavours, and plenty of opportunities to enjoy your holidays.

Editors

Giampiero D'Alonzo, Martine van Went

Image credits

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