

FOR CULTURE CRAVERS

PERUGIA



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Laid out over a vast hill, and cascading down into surrounding valleys, Perugia is the capital of Umbria in Central Italy. The home of many an ancient artist, philosopher and even Roman emperor, nowadays history permeates every building and every pathway.

But modern developments have led to an even greater legacy for the city, where its popular culture has come to the forefront. Visit in July for the Umbria Jazz Festival, or in October for Eurochocolate, a celebration of the world's favourite treat — Perugia is the home of Italy's most popular name in chocolate, Baci.

Finally, for newlyweds, don't miss the stunning romantic squares, where a quick coffee will undoubtedly turn into hours of lost time admiring the setting sun over dreamy spires.

EAT: Try La Taverna for a long list of Italian dishes to desire. A true Umbrian restaurant, traditional food is treated as an art here! ristorantelataverna.com

STAY: We love Chiesa del Carmine, a stunning church and country house surrounded by rolling mountains. The venue is a beautiful escape destination, although Perugia is only twenty minutes away! chiesadelcarmine.com



Top tip

From Perugia train station in the valley, take the 'mini metro' to the centre for charming sights on your way in.



CHIESA DEL CARMINE

Deep in the heart of Umbria, and lying at the foot of Monte Tezio, the Carmine Estate is a beautiful meeting of man and nature, with blooming organic produce, an ancient, magical olive grove and more to discover — not least the Chiesa del Carmine. A wonderfully restored church and old farmhouse await your wedding party as you arrive into this blissful retreat. Dating from the 11th and 18th centuries respectively, these venues provide light yet cosy spaces in which to stage the most intimate and charming of celebrations. While the church forms the communal spaces, eight bedrooms provide a home for fourteen guests in the farmhouse.

And outside of the main spaces, a great many more options await for your reception and photos that will stay with you forever. From landscaped gardens to fountains to the church itself, which comfortably seats a party of 30, your day can become simply magical at Chiesa del Carmine. Their specialist wedding planner can provide all you will need to decorate, cater and beautify your big day, while your ceremony can be performed in a local church or town hall. The service is tailored, offering you the choices that will make your wedding truly all about you.

But for a taste of Italy you won't find anywhere else, take advantage of the most unique offer: a traditional barbecue in the vineyard or olive grove! Arriving via tractor and trailer, and taking your places on comfortable haybales, your food will be prepared fresh from valley produce and local delicacies, allowing you a full appreciation of the timeless beauty of this place. For more information, visit chiesadelcarmine.com

