

sun as far as the eye can see, and is an example of environmental regeneration and conservation. The silence of the mountains, the solitude of the villages perched on them, the endless expanses of clay, the slow, shifty Agri and Sauro rivers and even more the legends of the bandits, fairies, werewolves and witches, are all elements that tell of and evoke the same emotions of wonderment and awe felt by Levi at the start of his confinement there.

#### I Parchi Letterari® Albino Pierro **TURSI (MATERA)**

*The dialect of Tursi, my town in the province of Matera, was one of many regional accents that were destined to disappear. I had to find a way of committing the sounds of my people to paper.* This is how Albino Pierro (1916 -1995) explained the turning point for his dialectal poetry for which he was repeatedly nominated for the Nobel Prize for Literature. In dialect he describes Tursi, an incredible example of spontaneous architecture rich with vaults, alleyways, caves and stairs, including the petrizzate, a type of steep road built in the 17th century by Carlo Doria. From above, it dominates the district of Rabatana (from the Saracen Rabat), surrounded by the ravines, or *Jaramme* as the poet refers to them. The park's headquarters, once the home (known as *'u paazze*) of Albino Pierro, provides picturesque views of the badlands towards the Sanctuary of Anglona (VII - XII century), built on the ruins of the Greek colony of Pandosia.

#### CAMPANIA

#### I Parchi Letterari® Francesco De Sanctis **IRPINIA (AVELLINO)**

Writer, literary critic, politician, Minister of Education and philosopher, Francesco De Sanctis (1817-1883) was among the leading critics and historians of the Italian literature in the nineteenth century. Lacedonia, Bisaccia, Calitri, Andretta, Guardia Lombardi, Morra De Sanctis and S. Angelo dei Lombardi are among the places in Irpinia described in *Un viaggio elettorale* - the famous account inspired by the journey to the electoral constituency of Lacedonia, which De Sanctis completed to support his candidacy in the elections of 1874/75 - and in the unfinished book of recollections which was entitled *Giovinezza* and published posthumously. The landscape in Irpinia that accompanied De Sanctis throughout his infancy and childhood was one that was centred on family and village life and that left its vivid impression in his memory: "(...) *There is almost no home that does not have its beautiful view, and there is almost no inhabitant of Morra, that cannot say: "I own wide-open spaces of land with my gaze."*

#### CALABRIA

#### I Parchi Letterari® Pitagora **(CROTONE)**

*...Cross the vast sea and next to the Esaro you will come across Kroton...* (Oracle of Delphi, VII century BC). Founded by Hercules (according to Ovid) at the temple of Hera to the north of Cape Lacinio, Croton soon became famous for its healthy climate, the beauty of its women and the strength of its men, like the many times Olympian, Milone (VI century B.C.). Pythagoras (Samos around 572 BC – Metapontum around 495 BC), the man who created the renowned school that conquered the political power of the city moved here in around 530 BC. "Lands of the Apocalypse" for Pasolini, today the majesty of the forests and the extraordinary beauty of the landscapes of the Sila Mountains still dominate the beautiful Ionian coastline, the archaeological treasures of Cape Colonna, the Marine Protected Area of Capo Rizzuto and Le Castella, the Byzantine fortress, birthplace of Uluç Ali Pasha (Giovanni Dionigi Galeni), (Le Castella, 1519 - Istanbul, 1587), commander of the Turkish imperial fleet at the Battle of Lepanto.

#### I Parchi Letterari® Franco Costabile **LAMEZIA TERME (CATANZARO)**

The poetry of Franco Costabile (1924-1965) has its natural setting in the historic centre of Sambiasi, the neighbourhood where the poet was born, but also in the most picturesque locations of Calabria that he often refers to in his poems: the *Magna Graecia* town of Terina, the ruins of the Benedictine Abbey of St. Euphemia founded by Robert Guiscard and the Norman-Swabian Castle of Nicasastro that played a primary role in Frederick II's military and territorial policies. The verses of the poet are so imbued with reality and impregnated by Calabria, that they paint an incredible picture of the region's recent past, with stories of the daily lives of the people that lived just as they lived a hundred, a thousand or two thousand years ago.

#### I Parchi Letterari® Ernst Bernhard **FERRAMONTI DI TARSIA (COSENZA)**

*...he went with his I CHING and his diary, determined to face what fate was going to*

*bring him in a mindful and meaningful way.* Ernst Bernhard (Berlin, 1896 - Rome, 1965) was a pioneer of Jungian thinking. A few celebrated personalities of the Italian culture gravitated around the group of patients and students, "almost like a Pythagorean school": Natalia Ginzburg, Federico Fellini, Adriano Olivetti and others. Between 1940 and 1941 he was imprisoned as a "foreign enemy" in the Internment Camp in Ferramonti, the largest Italian camp for Jews, most of whom were foreigners, and political deportees. After 1945, very little of the 92 huts was preserved and the memory of the people who were forced to stay there was in danger of disappearing. Documents, photographs, testimonials and part of the camp are now accessible thanks to the work of the Fondazione Museo della Memoria Ferramonti di Tarsia that manages the Parco Letterario®, set in an area of unique historical recollections, traditions and environmental treasures.

#### SICILIA

#### I Parchi Letterari® Salvatore Quasimodo **MODICA (RAGUSA)**

Coming into contact with *Quasimodian* poetry means discovering the roots of Quasimodo (1901-1968, a Nobel Prize Winner in 1959), of that mythical world in which the secret of a mysterious, charming, cruel and life-giving kinship pulsates between man, the Greek myths and the charm of the land of Sicily, which he called *the incomparable land*. Starting from Quasimodo's birthplace, in the heart of the historic centre of Modica (*Unesco World Heritage*), below the cliff of the Castle, next to the baroque Cathedral of Saint George and opposite the old Jewish quarter of Cartellone, a spectacularly laid out path opens up to allow a virtual immersion into poetry. From the baroque of Val di Noto and Modica, to the river valley of Cava Ispica and Scicli. Here history, archaeology and nature coexist in an energetic and emotive landscape.

#### I Parchi Letterari® Giovanni Verga **VIZZINI (CATANIA)**

An incredible journey through existing and living places that transform the traveller in an incredulous character of *Mastro Don Gesualdo*, *Jeli il pastore* and *Cavalleria Rusticana*, from which *Pietro Mascagni* drew his inspiration for his masterpiece. A revival of wonderful flavours and reminiscences that violently opens up age-old landscapes and throws a bridge between nature and culture. The language used by Verga (1840-1922) can be enjoyed in its dramatic reality with a walk through his world of narrow streets and engaging picturesque landscapes. *The Palazzo Trao* of *Mastro Don Gesualdo*, the *Cunziria* of *Cavalleria Rusticana*, the photographs taken by Verga himself depicting the characters and places he told us about, open the way to Catania, Etna, Acitrezza and Taormina, the pearl of the Mediterranean, where Dumas, Maupassant and Lawrence felt as *if life had been lived for a thousand years*.

#### SARDEGNA

#### I Parchi Letterari® Grazia Deledda **GALTELLI (NUORO)**

*Canne al vento*, the novel that more than any other contributed to the awarding of the Nobel Prize to Grazia Deledda (1871-1936) in 1926, seems to revive glimpses of the ancient Galte, in its colours, its flavours, the archaeological sites and in the suggestive views of Mount Tuttavista and Gulph of Orsei. A simple walk transforms into a hunt for the many treasures of an enchanted land rich in old restored houses that are now open to visitors who can rediscover the green courtyards and the many day-to-day objects, vestiges that live on in the memory. Between the Pisan Cathedral of Saint Peter's (11th century), the *home of the Pintor ladies*, the *garden of Efix* and the small elegant buildings of the impoverished rural nobility that inspired Deledda, it still happens often in Galtelli that you will come across almost spontaneous performances of *Canto a tenore* - Sardinian pastoral songs - a timeless art recognised by UNESCO as an "Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity".

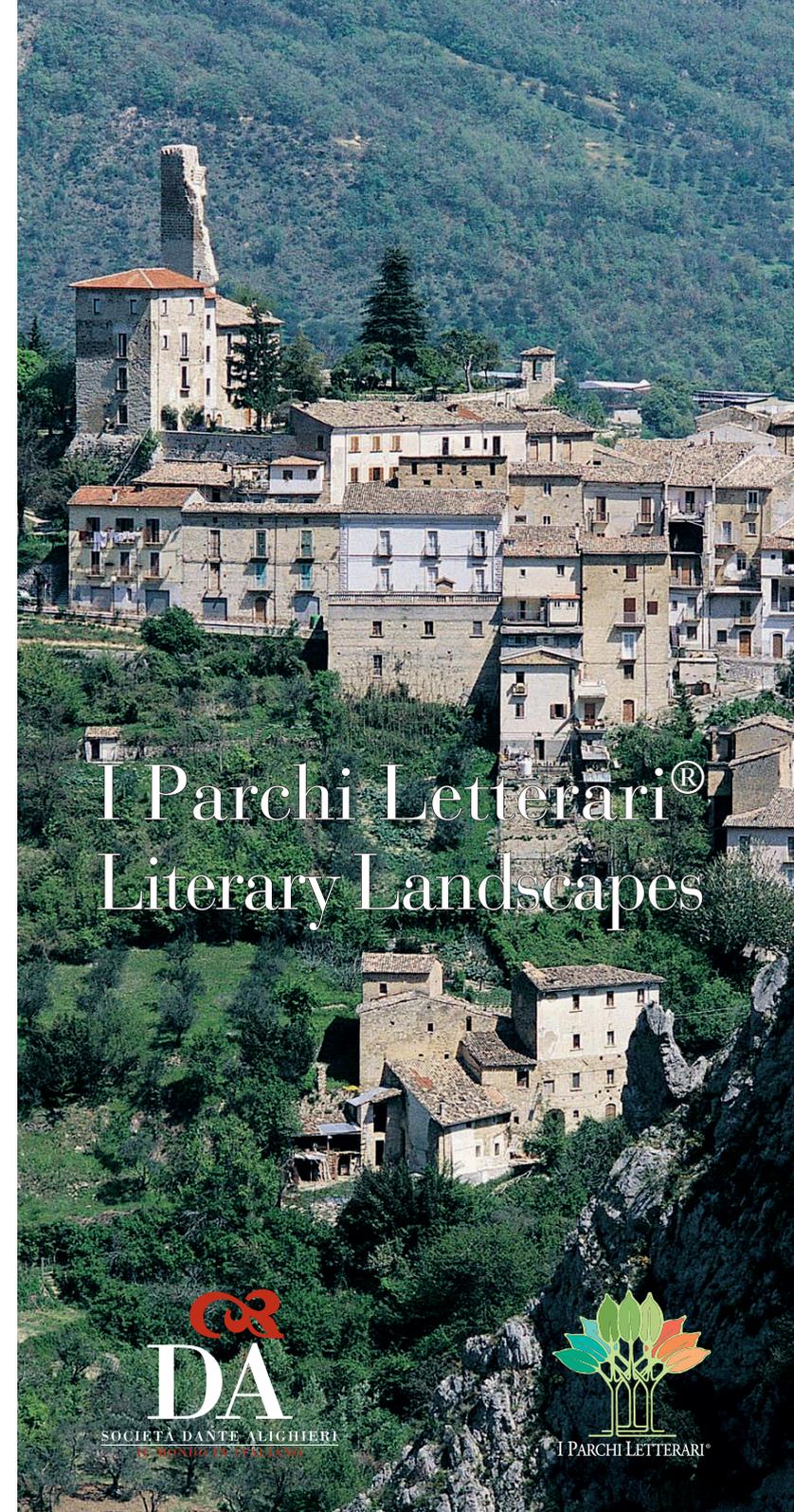


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On the cover: Anversa degli Abruzzi (L'Aquila)



# I Parchi Letterari® Literary Landscapes



## I PARCHI LETTERARI®



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Sometimes we dream of taking a walk among the pages of a book; but what if, for once, where a whole “Literary Landscape” to envelop you? An entire Literary Park reproducing those exact sensations, those very same views, ruins, palaces, sounds and tastes of a literary work we read at school or rediscovered after so many years?

Literary Parks are a journey through the places that have inspired and marked the lives of great writers. Itineraries include cities and piazzas, as well as walkways, country trails and any other sites described in the literature, becoming a cultural and environmental heritage to be protected, valorised and made accessible to visitors, through a sort of voyage in literature and memory, with cultural activities and imaginative events created to raise our awareness of great writers and the places that inspired them. The proposal aims to revive the memory of various historical men and women of letters through sensory pathways; experiencing, tasting, hearing, touching and observing everything that led these authors to write some of the greatest pages of literature.

Literary Parks allow us to get to know the human side of historical authors: the qualities, faults, affections and weaknesses that make them closer to the general public.

A Literary Park provides hospitality, guided tours, with events and shows, food and wine tastings, and handicrafts. An ideal vehicle for the promotional development of a territory and the networking of activities targeting the safeguarding and enhancement of our cultural, natural and intangible heritage, fostering expressions of cultural diversity, in line with UNESCO conventions.

Literature becomes a further means of safeguarding our environment, as a place of inspiration. By means of an innovative approach, a territory as a whole entity is interpreted through the works of authors, with its environmental, historical and artistic resources, and the traditions of ancient and contemporary civilisations.

## SOCIETÀ DANTE ALIGHIERI



Founded in 1889 by a group of intellectuals guided by Giosue Carducci, for over a century the Dante Alighieri Society has upheld and promulgated Italian language, art and culture both in Italy and abroad, through an articulated information and dissemination network that encompasses all continents.

Africa, America, Europe, Asia and Oceania can count on the tireless activities of the many branches of the Società Dante Alighieri, not just through its language courses, but also in the numerous and diverse cultural events organised for thousands of members and students with a passion for our Italian heritage and eager to discover it in all its facets; from fine art to music, sports, film, theatre, fashion and literature.

## LITERARY LANDSCAPES IN ITALY\*

I PARCHI Letterari® Francesco Petrarca e dei Colli Euganei (PADOVA)

I PARCHI Letterari® Franco Antonicelli VILLA CERNIGLIARO, SORDEVOLO (BIELLA)

I PARCHI Letterari® Giosue Carducci CASTAGNETO CARDUCCI (LIVORNO)

I PARCHI Letterari® Gabriele d'Annunzio ANVERSA DEGLI ABRUZZI (L'AQUILA)

I PARCHI Letterari® Pier Paolo Pasolini OSTIA (ROMA)

I PARCHI Letterari® Grazia Deledda GALTELLI (NUORO)

I PARCHI Letterari® Francesco De Sanctis IRPINIA (AVELLINO)

### PIEMONTE

I PARCHI Letterari® Franco Antonicelli VILLA CERNIGLIARO, SORDEVOLO (BIELLA)

Villa Cernigliaro is the headquarters of Parco Letterario® Franco Antonicelli, located in the midst of unspoiled nature and a setting that is rich in natural parks, religious shrines and popular excursion destinations. Today, the Villa is a historical residence and hosts numerous highbrow cultural events. It was thanks to the writer and politician Franco Antonicelli (1902-1974) *that every summer from 1935* the ethical and spiritual collective made up of, among others, Augusto Monti, Leone Ginzburg, Norberto Bobbio and Cesare Pavese was able to meet with friends such as Benedetto Croce and Einaudi. A good retreat for the early 20th-century's greatest Italian intellectuals, the Parco Letterario® now celebrates by also introducing the territorial context within which it stands.

### VENETO

I PARCHI Letterari® Francesco Petrarca e dei Colli Euganei (PADOVA)

A source of inspiration for generations of writers, poets and artists, the enchanting beauty of the Euganean Hills is still today a major allure of the province of Padua. From the courtly love of the Provençal troubadours, the bards of the beauty of Beatrice and their host Azzo VI d'Este, to the decadent atmosphere of Bruce Chatwin, together with Shelley, Byron and Foscolo, there are places to be discovered that were once the inspiration behind the unrivalled pages of much-loved classics and the passionate letters of the romantic poets and writers. Unique colours, flavours and fragrances introduce environmental oases, ancient abbeys, castles, villas, rural retreats and other great locations including the home of Francesco Petrarca (1304-1374) in Arquà, the poet's last beloved dwelling place, the spas (thermae) that Claudius Claudianus already celebrated in the 4th century and the “*Villa dei Vescovi*” so admired by Dino Buzzati.

### TOSCANA

I PARCHI Letterari® Giosue Carducci CASTAGNETO CARDUCCI (LIVORNO)

*That stretch of the Maremma that goes from Cecina to San Vincenzo, is the ring of my childhood... I lived there, or, to be more precise, I played there from 1838 to April 1849.* The gentle rolling hills, the *Wine Road*, the woods, the olive groves, the shady pine forests, the song of the cicadas, the vast beaches leading down to the crystal clear water, the Della Gherardesca castles. This is the scenario that characterises the historical villages surrounding Castagneto Carducci, Bolgheri and *the proud Tower of Donoratico at whose black door Count Ugolin knocked.* A preserved environment where Carducci (1835-1907), winner of the Nobel Prize in 1906, acknowledged the essence of a proud and courteous nature along Italy's most famous boulevard of cypresses.



I PARCHI Letterari® Carlo Levi ALIANO (MATERA)

I PARCHI Letterari® Albino Pierro TURSI (MATERA)

I PARCHI Letterari® Ernst Bernhard FERRAMONTI DI TARSIA (COSENZA)

I PARCHI Letterari® Franco Costabile LAMEZIA TERME (CATANZARO)

I PARCHI Letterari® Pitagora (CROTONE)

I PARCHI Letterari® Giovanni Verga VIZZINI (CATANIA)

I PARCHI Letterari® Salvatore Quasimodo MODICA (RAGUSA)

\*at May 2013

### LAZIO

I PARCHI Letterari® Pier Paolo Pasolini OSTIA (ROMA)

The site where the sculptor Mario Rosati created a monument in memory of the tragic event that robbed Pasolini (1922-1975) of his life, is located in a large area that is packed full of contradictions. That work, which over the years became the symbol of an area that had been reduced to a state of total abandonment, is now at the heart of a protected natural oasis of international interest (CHM-Lipu). Starting from the historical seaplane base, one crosses the “Litorale Romano” State Natural Reserve and arrives at the centre of locations of interest that are unique from a historical, architectural and environmental perspective. Places like Ostia Antica, the mouth of the Tiber River, the medieval papal town of Gregoriopolis, the Art Nouveau villas and the rationalism of Adalberto Libera. The Park is filled with suggestions that trace, highlight, promote and denounce the social and environmental realities of the urban fringe, using the abundant literature that tells their story and about which Pasolini has been one of the finest writers.

### ABRUZZI

I PARCHI Letterari® Gabriele d'Annunzio ANVERSA DEGLI ABRUZZI (L'AQUILA)

The old hamlet of Anversa is perched on a rocky outcrop, 660 meters above sea level, and dominates the last stretch of the picturesque Sagittarius Gorges (Gole del Sagittario), now a WWF Nature Reserve. Anversa was chosen by Gabriele d'Annunzio (1863-1938) as the setting for his work *La Fiaccola sotto il moggio* that he called: “*my most perfect tragedy.*” Forever a place that has attracted writers, botanists, artists and travellers, Anversa also provided inspiration for *Richard Keppel Craven*, *Edward Lear* and *Maurits Escher* who, from the small old village of Castrovalva, 820 meters above sea level, admired the scenery of the gorges up to Cocullo. This was the town that San Domenico Abate donated one of his own teeth to, bringing faith to the population who then christianised their pagan worship of the goddess Angizia, who guarded against poisons, including snake venom and tooth ache.

### BASILICATA

I PARCHI Letterari® Carlo Levi ALIANO (MATERA)

By emotionally reliving the places and events described in Christ stopped at Eboli, the work by Carlo Levi (1902-1975) captures the poetic sentiment and his deep love for the lands and people of Lucania. Aliano, *and its houses with their magical façades from whose small windows, spellbound eyes that look out over immense arches like mouths,* stretches out across the infinite expanses of dry clay, undulating in the