



## **Jews and their Italian Renaissance**

**(Padua, Mantua)**

**June 13<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> 2013**

### **Itinerary**

#### **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June          Padua**

Nothing could be more appropriate than to start this renaissance Jewish journey between the extremities of a unique piece of European religious art and the echo of a ghetto landscape.

1630 Meet hotel, introductions

1700 Renaissance and the Jews

1745 / 1800 Capella degli Scrovegni

Sites of the former Padua Ghetto

2000 Dinner Pizzeria al Duomo <http://www.pizzeriaduomo.it/index.html>

#### **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June                  Padua**

The contrast between the stories could not be starker today with the Jewish community diminished by the impact of modernity and Holocaust. Padua's rich renaissance sites contrast with the hidden and closed world of Jewish memories, a community that comprised scholars, artists as well as physicians and intellectuals ahead of their times. Padua was, in its time, a small but influential hub of Jewish creativity.

0900 'Hidden' - Behind closed gates, the Jewish highlights of Padua

1100 Break, Café Pedrocchi

1130 'Seen' – Classic Renaissance treasures of Padova, Eremitani Church, Market squares, the Palace of Justice, Basilica of St. Anthony, Oratory of St George Scuola del Santo

1345 Lunch break

1800 Walk to synagogue

'Nusach Italia', meeting with Rabbi Adolfo Locci

2000 Dinner La Vecchia Enoteca,

(<http://www.lavecchiaenoteca.com/ing/home.html>)

### **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June                      Mantua**

In 2008 Mantova became a UNESCO World Heritage Site based on its Renaissance planning and architecture. What better location for a Shabbat experience seeking reflections of Jewish renaissance artists and thinkers, with its star player, the musician Solomon d' Rossi who, from this small Italian court, established a modern school of Jewish art.

0900 Bus departs Padova for Mantova

1100 Check in Hotel, introduction to Mantua

1130 Walking tour of the Jewish quarter

1300 Lunch

1400 Jews in the Court of Gonzaga

1800 Jewish in the town square: Solomon Molcho and the 'end of history'.

2200 Havdalah

### **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June**

Our final day is something of a magical mystery tour, seeking out hidden and almost lost treasures of the Italian Jewish legacy. So far away from the regular Jewish tourist route and with hardly any local Jews left to preserve them, this is a journey of real discovery. The four Jewish sites Mantua, Sabbioneta, Rivarolo and Viadana offer fascinating commentaries on the contemporary Jewish world.

0900 The Jewel in the crown, Mantua and its Synagogue, meeting with local Jewish community

1000 The Hidden treasures: (almost) synagogues and stories of the Mantuan Jewish 'diaspora', Sabbioneta, Rivarolo and Viadana

1500 Arrive Verona airport, conclusions and goodbyes