



ITALY 2022

Amelia

Amelia was in existence in the 11th century BC. Yes BC!! It is the oldest, steepest, liveliest hill top town we have been to. We managed to get a free park outside the “Porta Roma” — the main entrance to this walled village of about 11,000 people. Flags of all colours fluttered from many buildings that make up the inner circle. There are very few standalone buildings. All seem to support one another in this unlikely location at the top of a very steep crag. This town seems to be a living one - a funny statement maybe, but many of the villages we have strolled through over the last week have seemed almost abandoned with few inhabitants in sight.



In this one, the everyday activities of hairdressers, real estate agents, photographers and many others were evident. They sat and chatted in their offices or were busy with clients as we walked past their open doors. At the start of the main road, inside the Porta Roma, there were quite a few people roaming looking at the shops and sitting at one particularly busy cafe. But as we climbed up, we had the place to ourselves.

As usual Sig wanted to immediately climb up to the big Duomo (church) at the top. I resisted a bit, but, as is my way, went most of the way with him, but ever so slowly. As per usual, the streets were very narrow and we had to stand in doorways to allow cars to pass us. On one occasion, a small truck was coming toward me. I shrank back against the wall and the side mirror just missed me by centimetres.

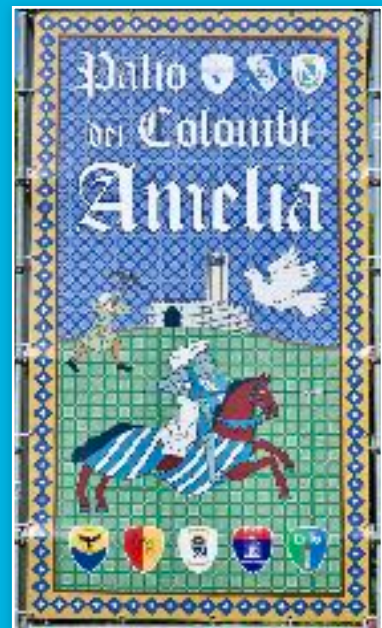
After a pleasant 90 minutes of wandering around we arrived back at our car and drove via a different route - some very open country - back to our little home near Massa Martana.

One question. Where are all the beasts - cows, sheep? We came across lots of hay bales stored away covered or standing individually in paddocks waiting to be bought in. Crops of sunflower, corn and even some sugar cane on show everywhere. But no animals! We searched for barns where animals would be kept and found none. Besides, why would you keep animals in a confined stuffy place where no air flows with this oppressive weather? Where are the animals?

Tomorrow we move on to two nights in a boutique hotel in yet another hilltop town nearby, Spoleto, and then finally, one night in an AirB&B close to Rome airport prior to departure for good ole home, and much cooler weather it seems.



*What goes up
must eventually
come down!!*



Like all of the hilltop towns in Italy Amelia had a surprising number of churches and lots of alleyways that are steeply sloped.



A wide selection of ancient artefacts.



Duomo

