

# History of Rimini

#### **Ancient Rimini**

Rimini was founded in **268 a.C.** as a colony and was originally called **Ariminum**, its purpose was to defend and control new territories. Ariminum had the role of an autonomous state **linked to Rome** by treaties that regulated its trades with foreign countries.

#### **How Was the City Built?**

Ariminum became the focal point of the Roman road system as the **Via Flaminia**, coming from Rome, passed through it. Furthermore, the port, located at the mouth of the river, contributed to the development of the city's economy with trade.

# Augustus Arch

The arch of Augustus is the oldest preserved Roman arch in northern Italy. It marks the northern entrance of the city and the end of Via Flaminia which was constructed by the consul Flaminio and it leads from **Rimini** to **Rome**. The arch was built in 27 BC as a triumphal arch in honor of Octavian Augustus as demonstrated by the *inscription* placed above the *tympanum*. The construction coincided with the restoration of Via Flaminia. The monument was part of the oldest city wall but today it's isolated because of a **demolition** during the **1930s**. The arch is 15 metres wide and it's 19 metres tall and it's covered in Istrian stone. The original construction had two polygonal towers and there was an attic with the statue of the emperor on horseback or in a quadriga. Because of the earthquakes during the Middle Ages the top of the arch collapsed and it was replaced by **battlements**. On the arch there are four *clipei* (shields that depict divinities) near the capitals: on one side there are **Jupiter** (with his bolt of lighting) and Apollo (with a lyre and a raven) and on the other there are Neptune (with a trident and a dolphin) and Minerva (with a sword and a trophy).



## Corso D'Augusto



The main street goes from the Arch of Augustus to the Tiberius bridge.

This road is 950 metres long and is full of bars, shops, restaurants and ice cream shops.

By the street there are two squares and a lot of monuments.

The first square that we can see is Tre Martiri square, which is called like this in memory of three young "partigiani" who were hanged here on the sixteenth of August 1944.

The second square that we can see is Cavour square, filled with important buildings: the "Municipio" or town hall , the Theater, the Fountain of the Pine Cone and the statue of Pope Paolo V.



There are also some exhibitions and offices so it is very crowded.

The ground of this square is made of little rocks and there are some of the most popular cafés like Primo Bacio and Le Cantinette.

Then there is the other part of the street that is between this square and Tiberious Bridge.

At the end there is a big park with a lake and a playground.



## Tre Martiri Square

The square is located on the site of the ancient Roman forum of Ariminum, at the intersection between the cardo and the decumanus maximus (the main north-south and west-east oriented Roman roads). The Column of Julius Caesar was placed in the square in 1555 to celebrate the Roman general by his soldiers after they crossed the Rubicon.

In the center of the square there is a big white sun on the ground. Here we can see three important buildings: the small church of Saint Antonio, the clock tower and the statue of Giulio Cesare.

On the side of the square there are lots of arches and under them there are some

shops.







Cavour Square

It's the main square of Rimini in political and economic terms. In 1862 the square was dedicated to Count Cavour and named after him. Rimini has been destroyed several times by earthquakes and bombings during the Second World War.



## The palaces on Cavour Square

#### Podestà Palace

It stands on the left side of **Arengo Palace**.

It was built in the first half of the **14th** century.

Significantly **restored** in the post-war period, today the building appears with a new, much more modern look.

#### **Arengo Palace**

The **General Council** of the city used to meet here in the **13th century**. Between 1600s and 1700s, this space changed its original function, becoming the seat of the city theatre, at least until 1857, the year in which the larger Theatre Vittorio Emanuele II (Galli Theater) was inaugurated.



The Old Fish Market was built in **1747** and it's one of the most symbolic places in Rimini.

It was used for the fish market, but now it's one of the main **meeting points** for evening life.





#### Pigna Fountain

The Pigna fountain was built in **1543**, the beauty and shape of this white marble monument also fascinated Leonardo da Vinci.

The fountain has a polygonal shape and is divided into two bases, also rich in beautiful bas-reliefs from the Roman era.

This monument is now a well-known **meeting spot** for teens like us

#### **Statue of Paul V**

The statue is located in the historic centre of the town, in the center of Cavour Square, next to the Pigna fountain. It was built in the first twenty years of the 17th century (**1613**); it is dedicated to Pope Paul V as thanks for having appointed

Michelangelo Tonti as cardinal.





# The Galli Theatre It's a traditional Italian Theater with a classical influence

### Architect: Luigi Poletti

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#### THE STORY:

1857= First opening 1859= The Theater is dedicated to Vittorio Emanuele III 1916= Earthquake 1945 = The roof is bombed and destroyed 1975 = Repairs 2018 = New opening and period of shows.

> Before: only for rich people and the features of society are represented in the operas. Now: everyone can go to the Theatre and watch ballet, music and comedy shows

#### THE STRUCTURE:

1) Entrance

- 3) Columns room and "Sala Ressi"
- 4) Music room
- 5) Ballet and music studio

#### **MY EXPERIENCE**

I 've performed in the Theater and it's been amazing to see the shows from a different perspective. I took part in a music performance and in a ballet one

