

## The Walled Towns Montagnana & Este



*The walled cities of the Veneto play a major part in the history of the area, places where art and tradition shine, surviving and thriving to the present day. Our tour takes us to the most representative and most well-preserved Medieval towns among the hills and plains.*

### MONTAGNANA

Any visit to Montagnana will start with a look at the walls - almost two kilometres long and among the most impressive medieval defensive walls to be found in Italy, perhaps Europe, and the main reason why visitors come to Montagnana. Start from the Castle of San Zeno, erected by Ezzelino da Romano, with its large rectangular courtyard and rectangular towers, which is now also home to the Civic Museum and contains many artefacts from the Bronze and Roman Ages. Nearby we can see the magnificent Palace of the nobles Pisani, built by Palladio in the mid-sixteenth century. Following Via Marconi and Via Carraresi we enter the heart of the city, where we will see the Hall by Michele Sanmicheli [1484-1559] (mid-sixteenth century) in ashlar-work, and enter into Piazza Maggiore, where we will see Montagnana Cathedral.

### ESTE

Is situated at the foot of the Euganei Hills. The town is a centre for farming, crafts and industry worthy of note. Este is full of buildings of remarkable historic and artistic value: The Castle, The Civic Tower of Porta Vecchia, The Town Hall and the Palazzetto of The Scaliger. Short walking in the historical centre to admire these elegant buildings.