

Rides and athletic training

To each his own stable

The stable “*Le Querce*” in *Casorate Sempione* is a true reference point for instructors’ training meetings. Tourists can visit the equestrian facility and maybe try the restaurant which offers a view of the arenas (for information: www.lequerceristorante.com).

Those who love dreaming can go to the stable “*Il Castello*” in *Golasecca*, which is an equestrian facility located near a true castle. Riders who are proficient at the three horse gaits can take a ride (€20 per hour, plus €5 for daily insurance). The *Castello*’s motto is “a stable for everyone”. The president of the organization, Gaia Sorrentino, explains, “We are not an exclusive club. Our goal is to introduce horse riding to the largest number of people. For kids, we have packages of five 30-minute lessons which cost €40.”

In August (from 6th to 10th), the *Castello* houses a 5-day school camp, from 8.30 a.m. to 6 p.m. The stable offers the possibility to drive in a carriage in the Ticino Park.

For information: +39 349 47 72 460.

The stable “*Il Pratone*” in *Somma Lombardo* has the charm of the typical Lombard farmhouses. Marina and Gianluca Pamizi run this quiet place, where horses are at the center of all attention. It is a private stable with horses at competitive levels. The facility is interesting for horse-riding enthusiasts, but it is not for tourists seeking for diversion. It is easy to reach both from Milan and *Varese* by following the A8 Highway (*Autostrada dei Laghi*) direction *Varese*, then the ss336 Freeway (*Superstrada della Malpensa*) exiting in *Somma Lombardo* (www.gianluca palmizi.it).

Also, we indicate Diego De Riu’s farm, “*Vernome*”, in *Castelletto Ticino*. Here, together with getting to meet a true champion of show jumping, there is the possibility to make a reservation in an old, stone farmhouse from the 18th century (www.agriturismovernome.it).

The equestrian facility “*La Fonda*” in *Casale Litta* is also very inviting. Chiara Gagliardi says, “My great passion for horses has brought me to taking care of them full-time. Until no longer ago, I lived in the city, where I got a degree in management engineering, but then I decided to follow my passion. My idea was to create a place where ‘horses could feel really like horses’.”

From this, she has created a “natural” stable where horses spend all day in the paddocks and are taken to the stalls only in the evening. The facility is mainly meant to house trekking horses, horses at the end of their career or riding school horses. Going for a ride costs €25 per hour, horse accommodation is around €13 per day. The facility is about 15 km away from Malpensa airport.

For information: +39 349 83 34 208.

If you are riding in the moorland, you will bump into the *Riding Club Casorate*. This facility is meant for eventing, show jumping, dressage, Paralympic dressage (www.cimina.net/Eventing/Piantine/rcc_hotel.htm).