

The small village of Tremona, located on the southern slope of Monte San Giorgio, a short distance from Mendrisio, has become famous for its excavations which have been carried out since 2000. Teams of archaeologists and volunteers have uncovered well preserved remains of a hilltop settlement which with its remarkable finds provide unique insights into the past of the region. But most of all, archaeology shows what life was like in a medieval village. Ex-

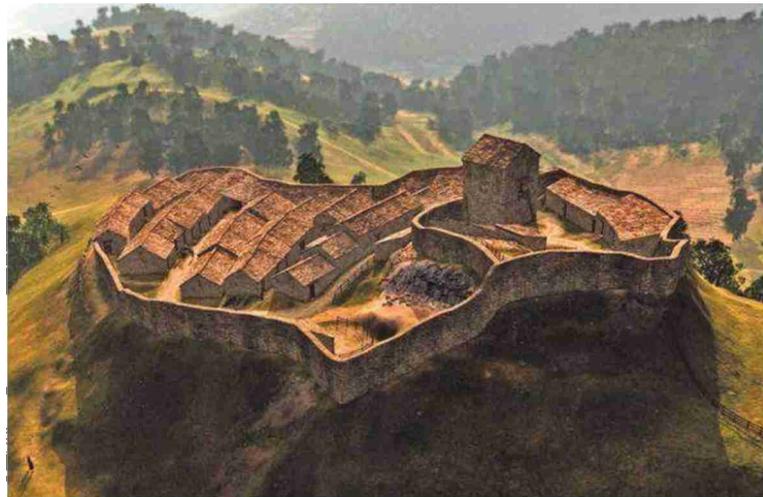
cavations have revealed how the villagers lived and died, how their houses were built and what conditions were like for both peasants and the lord of the castle. The remains of the medieval settlement which we can see in the Archaeological Park help us understand in minute detail the daily life of a rural community of the Middle Ages. It is believed that the settlement was inhabited by artisans and farmers who travelled widely and traded their goods. They made widespread

use of money and owned beautifully handcrafted ornamental items. In short, it was much more than just a rural village. Interpretation in the Park is provided using display panels at key points. Information is given using photographs and illustrations of archaeological finds of extraordinary and ordinary objects, artists reconstructions and text.

To make the findings accessible to the



Previous pag, top, an aerial view of the Archaeological Park; bottom, the 3D glasses enabling to discover what life was like in an ancient medieval village. Right, the ancient village as it probably appeared in the Middle Ages.



public, the Mendrisio Town Council worked closely with ARAM, Mendrisotto Tourist Office, the Monte San Giorgio Foundation and the owners of the premises to design an archaeological park.

The Tremona-Castello site was occupied for more than 6000 years, from the fifth millennium B.C. to the fourteenth century A.D. Its privileged geographical location on one of the first hills at the edge of the Lombard plain, favoured early settlement and later

became a key administrative centre for the region. Between the Castello hill and the overlooking hill of Sant'Agata, lies the current settlement of Tremona. These two hills were used to monitor the main route from Como and Varese towards Riva San Vitale, the Monte Ceneri and passes of the central Alps, a key route for people and goods since Roman times. The panorama from the summit is stunning and, on clear days, you can see the skyline of Milan's skyscrapers. the site was chosen as a residential area

mainly due to its strategic position. At some point in the Middle Ages Tremona-Castello was thought to be the ideal site for the construction of a castle which would act both as a refuge for the local population and a stronghold from which to exercise noble power. The first mention of this castle, the local castrum, dates to 1033. Thanks to many years of research coordinated by archaeologist Alfio Martinelli and the work of numerous vol-



Evolution- Darwin Airline
6932 Breganzona
091 610 29 29
<https://www.etihadregional.com/de-de/...>

Medienart: Print
Medientyp: Spezial- und Hobbyzeitschriften
Auflage: 28'000
Erscheinungsweise: 4x jährlich



Seite: 82
Fläche: 76'360 mm²



Auftrag: 1093886 Referenz: 67090119
Themen-Nr.: 278.010 Ausschnitt Seite: 3/3

unteers of the Associazione Ricerche Archeologiche del Mendrisiotto (ARAM), excavations have revealed that the hill was settled as early as the Neolithic period, with occupation continuing in the Bronze Age, the Iron Age, the Roman period and the Middle Ages. Numerous excavations have brought to light a labyrinthine and well-fortified settlement that offered its inhabitants refuge from Barbarian invasions and the skirmishes between Como and Milan.

The illustrated panels provide information about the blacksmith and his workshop, food, women and their ac-

tivities, the dwellings and other interesting details, allowing you to understand what life was like, how houses were built, how the rich and poor lived in medieval times. Abandoned in the 14th century for reasons that are still unknown (it is believed that this might have been due to an unexpected military attack) the Tremona Castello location disappeared into the woodland, is now revealed as an important part of our cultural heritage. Today, excavation after excavation, Tremona-Castello reveals its storied past, enriched by a number of interesting and vivid details that have al-

lowed archaeologists to have a clearer understanding of the conditions and lifestyles of its inhabitants in the Middle Ages, the era of its greatest splendour. Whilst walking through the ruins of the archaeological site wearing 3D glasses, you will see the surroundings as they once were.

The site can only be accessed on foot and involves a 10-minute walk along the trail that starts in Tremona (via al Castello). Visitors are welcome to discover this fascinating world, an intriguing site which is still to reveal all its secrets.

Chicca Magri

6000 ANNI DI STORIA

L'insediamento di Tremona-Castello fu abbandonato nel Trecento e in seguito inghiottito dal bosco. Tutto rimase intatto per secoli finché fu scoperto negli anni Ottanta dall'archeologo ticinese Alfio Martinelli. L'interesse del sito è notevole in quanto vi sono rappresentati 6000 anni di storia ticinese.

6000 ANS D'HISTOIRE

Abandonné au 14^e siècle, l'emplacement de Tremona-Castello demeura intact pendant des siècles, et fut progressivement englouti par la forêt. Dans les années '80 il fut découvert. L'intérêt du site archéologique est remarquable, car on y trouve représentées les époques de 6000 années d'histoire tessinoise.