

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

(To be filled in and uploaded as deliverable in the Portal Grant Management System, at the due date foreseen in the system.

 Please provide one sheet per event (one event = one workpackage = one lump sum).)

PROJECT	
Participant:	Municipality of Fossombrone Municipality of Middelburg
PIC number:	Municipality of Fossombrone: 876443307 Municipality of Middelburg: 937840621
Project name and acronym:	PRomoting ExcellenceS of renAissance Glorious twinEd towns - PRESAGE

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	Relative number in WP: D1.3		
Event name:	At Court, Between Art and Play. Historical Reenactments for the Promotion of European Solidarity and the Territory. Fossombrone and the Duchy of Urbino		
Type:	Workshops, Carnival Triumph, Conferences		
In situ/online:	in-situ		
Location:	Italy, Fossombrone/Marche		
Date(s):	7 – 11 May 2026		
Website(s) (if any):	https://visitfossombrone.it/presage-project/ https://www.middelburg.nl/europees-project-presage		
Participants			
Female:	15 + 23 = 38		
Male:	10 + 19 = 29		
Non-binary:			
From country 1 [ITALY]:	25		
From country 2 [NETHERLANDS]:	42		
Total number of participants:	67	From total number of countries:	2
Description			
Provide a short description of the event and its activities.			
Thursday – May 7 2026			
around 13.00	Departure from Middelburg to Charleroi airport		

17.05	Departure from Charleroi to Ancona
19.40	Arrival in Ancona
20.00	Transfer from Ancona to Fossombrone
21.00	Welcome dinner and check-in at the Hotel

Friday – May 8 2026

9.15 – 12.30	Conference on the Italian Renaissance, the Duchy of Urbino and Paul of Middelburg - University of Urbino "Carlo Bo"
12.30 – 13.15	Documentary exhibition "Measured Time and Celestial Predictions" dedicated to Paul of Middelburg
13.30 – 14.45	Free lunch
14.45 – 17.00	Visit to Dukal Palace and Raphael's House
17.20 – 17.50	Departure from Urbino
17.50 – 18.10	Panoramic visit to the Marmite dei Giganti on the Metauro River
18.15 – 20.30	Visit to the cellar and vineyard of a local wine farm, tasting of wines and local products
20.30	Return to the accommodations and free evening in the inns of the Triumph of the Carnival

Saturday – May 9 2026

09.30 – 12.45	Guided tour of Fossombrone – Corte Alta, Corte Bassa, Pinacoteca Civica, Archaeological Museum, Ponte della Concordia
12.45 - 15.15	Typical lunch with "cappelletti" tasting and free time
15.30 – 16.30	Guided tour of the Archaeological Park of Forum Sempronii
17.00 – 19.00	Visit to the Cathedral and Ecumenical Prayer
20.00	Convivial dinner at the local Parish

Sunday – May 10 2026

09.30 – 13.00	Some participants have visited Museo del Balì and others have visited a local Country House
14.00 – 15.00	Fish lunch in Fano, Tasting of "Moretta fanese" and visit to the tourist port of Fano
16.00 – 18.30	Visit to a local Art Gallery in Fossombrone and to the San Filippo church
19.30	Free dinner

Monday – May 11 2026

9.00 - 10.15	Visit to the typical local market and snack in a local caffè
10.30	Transfer to Ancona airport
13.15	Departure from Ancona to Charleroi
around 15.00	Arrival in Charleroi, bus transfer to Middelburg

Summary

The event in Fossombrone, held from May 7 to 11, 2026, has involved a physical exchange of people, with 42 Dutch participants visiting Fossombrone and the Montefeltro area.

Through this initiative, PRESAGE aimed to broaden civic engagement and promote a shared European heritage while building long-term cultural and economic collaboration between the two cities.

Main activities, results and impacts:

Participants, had the pleasure to visit the city of Fossombrone and the environment that surrounds Fossombrone, the typical Marche landscape: rolling hills, harmonious geometry of the cultivated fields, hedges and green areas.

In particular, within Fossombrone, participants visited the following main sites:

- Church of San Filippo: Built between 1608 and 1613, in addition to its magnificent stucco decorations, the Church of San Filippo preserves an outstanding artistic heritage, including remarkable marble and plaster works, paintings, and altarpieces by renowned artists such as Francesco Guerrieri, Claudio Ridolfi, Pierantonio Palmerini, and Giuseppe Diamantini.
- Corso Garibaldi: lined with elegant double arcades, visitors could admire the façades of the noble palaces built by the city's wealthy families along what was once the route of the ancient Via Flaminia, historically the only road connecting Rome with Romagna.
- Concordia Bridge: symbol of the city, the Concordia Bridge is one of the most photographed landmarks in the Marche region. Known by the people of Fossombrone simply as "the Bridge," its single arch of exceptional span is reflected in the waters of the Metauro River, forming a perfect circle that has earned it the nickname "The Eye of Fossombrone."
- Forum Sempronii Archaeological Park: This site is where the history of Fossombrone began, the only archaeological park in the Province of Pesaro and Urbino, located about two kilometres from the modern town. Situated along the ancient Roman Via Flaminia, the Roman settlement once covered approximately 25 hectares. The archaeological site preserves the remains of significant public and private buildings, together with stretches of the original paved Roman road.
- The Archaeological Museum: a remarkable collection of locally discovered artifacts documents the succession of human cultures in the area, from prehistoric times through the Roman era. The collection ranges from the earliest Paleolithic and Neolithic flint tools to the refined Picene civilization, which settled here as early as the 9th century BC, and continues with the countless finds from Forum Sempronii, the prosperous and important Roman town located along the ancient Via Flaminia.
- The Civic Art Gallery: Established in 1901 by Monsignor Augusto Vernarecci, the Civic Art Gallery was initially formed through works donated by its founder and was later enriched by numerous donations, most notably that of the Rocchi Camerata Passionei family in 1906. Additional works came from other bequests, as well as from the city's churches and convents. The gallery displays paintings illustrating the artistic development of Fossombrone and its surrounding area between the 16th and 19th centuries. Among the featured artists are the local painter Francesco Guerrieri (1589–1657), Federico Barocci (1535–1612) of Urbino and several of his followers, Domenico Peruzzini from Urbania, Giuseppe Diamantini from Fossombrone, who worked extensively in Venice, Sebastiano Ceccarini from Fano, the Campanian painter Sebastiano Conca, Gaetano Lapis from Cagli, who trained in Rome, as well as portraits by Francesco Podesti (1800–1895) from Ancona.
- Marmite dei Giganti: spectacular natural canyon carved by the Metauro River. Also known as "Giant's Pots", this name comes from the distinctive shape of the gorge, where powerful floodwaters have sculpted smooth, circular rock basins over thousands of years. These natural formations, resembling enormous cooking pots, gave rise to their popular name and to the local legend that giants once used them to prepare their meals.

Participants had the possibility to visit and tastings wine, extra virgin olive oils and local products at the "Società Agricola La Collina Delle Fate", on the Marche hills, just a few kilometers from the sea of Fano, with the majestic Furlo gorge behind, a local SME managed by five entrepreneurs with an average age of about 30 years old.

Since 2010, "La Collina delle Fate" create and produce quality wines, with full respect for the environment. Tradition and innovation meet every stage of the winemaking process, respecting the nature of local grape varieties, Chardonnay and Pinot Noir, and enhancing their potential in harmony with the unique characteristics of territory.

In addition, with a heritage of 3500 olive trees, divided between 2000 twenty-year-old specimens and the remainder of century-old trees, "La Collina delle Fate" keeps the olive oil tradition alive, enriching it with innovation, producing extra virgin olive oils (EVO) and four flavored oils, the result of a unique process that involves the joint processing of olives and fruits such as oranges, lemons, basil, and chili directly in the crusher.

The University of Urbino Carlo BO organized the first international workshop on Paul of Middelburg, Urbino on 7–8 May and also via Zoom livestream.

Paul of Middelburg (1445?–1534) is notably cited by Copernicus – both as bishop of Fossombrone and as an astronomer – when dedicating *De revolutionibus orbium coelestium* to Pope Paul III.

This workshop offers the first systematic exploration of Paul's scientific profile: his mathematical and astronomical work, his activity as astrologer and physician at the court of Federico da Montefeltro in Urbino, and his role in late-fifteenth and early-sixteenth-century debates where astronomy and

astrology were closely intertwined. Paul vigorously advocated a calendar reform, promoted the study of algebra and mechanics, and produced a substantial corpus of prognostications. By tracing how he connected calculation, observation, and predictive practices, the workshop reconstructs a coherent “science of time” and situates it within the scholarly networks that linked the Duchy of Urbino with the Low Countries, bridging northern and southern Renaissance Europe and placing scientific expertise at the heart of contemporary political life.

In Urbino, participants had also the possibility to visit the city center and the following sites:

- Raphael's House (Casa di Raffaello): the birthplace of Raphael (Raffaello Sanzio), one of the greatest painters of the Italian Renaissance. Located in the historic center of Urbino, the house was built by his father, Giovanni Santi, a court painter and poet who introduced the young Raphael to the world of art. Today, the building is a museum displaying paintings, prints, historical furnishings, and documents related to Raphael's life and artistic legacy.

- Galleria Nazionale delle Marche: Housed within the magnificent Ducal Palace of Urbino, the Galleria Nazionale delle Marche is one of Italy's most important museums of Renaissance art. Its collection features masterpieces by artists such as Piero della Francesca, Raphael, Paolo Uccello, Titian, and Federico Barocci, offering visitors an exceptional overview of artistic production in central Italy between the 14th and 17th centuries. Alongside its remarkable paintings, the museum preserves the elegant ducal apartments, including the celebrated Studiolo of Duke Federico da Montefeltro, one of the finest surviving examples of Renaissance craftsmanship.

Within the project cycle, a “Friendship manifesto” has been signed by the two municipalities, Fossombrone and Middelburg, with the aim to formally establish a stable and lasting relationship between the two towns. The manifesto outlines the future actions to be undertaken after the initial project is completed; the definition of long-term cooperation agreements between the twinned cities will allow the consolidation of relationships built during the project, in order to outline the mutual objectives for future and continuous cultural and economic collaboration, ensuring project sustainability between the two administrations even after the project's conclusion. This document will be particularly useful for dissemination activities and could be transferred to other contexts and types of stakeholders at the European level.

“Guidelines for the promotion of Renaissance destinations and their cultural Heritage” has also been produced. This document contains a description of the best practices analysed and developed during the project events, as well as guidelines to promote Renaissance destinations and their cultural heritage; it will be particularly useful for dissemination activities and could be transferred to other contexts and types of stakeholders at the European level.

The event in Fossombrone and more generally the PRESAGE project, aimed to generate a significant and tangible impact on the citizens of the territories involved, focusing on target groups to bring about positive changes in the short, medium, and long term.

In particular, the project intended to foster the economic and social development of local communities and promote collaboration between the two municipalities involved. The collaboration between Fossombrone and Middelburg, cities united by the figure of a little-known but highly significant historical figure like Paul of Middelburg, has provided an opportunity to reflect on the richness of European cultural heritage and strengthen the sense of European identity and belonging by raising citizens' awareness.

In the short, medium, and long term, PRESAGE had / will have effects on each target group involved as follow:

- For citizens: there was an increased awareness of the cultural heritage and traditions of the twinned cities, with an improvement in understanding and appreciation of different European cultures through events and exchange experiences (short term).

Additionally, the project will foster the development of international networks and friendships, promoting ongoing intercultural dialogue and stimulating a greater sense of responsibility and engagement in promoting their territory (medium term).

Finally, a solid European identity will be created among citizens, translating into more active support for future European initiatives, contributing to a more inclusive and open society that recognizes the added value that the EU provides (long term).

- For local SME entrepreneurs: in the short term, they had access to new skills through workshops and exchanges of best practices, focused on tourism promotion and the enhancement of local excellence. New networking opportunities will be created in both Fossombrone and Middelburg.

In the medium term, there will be increased awareness of the tourism potential of the territories and the visibility of business activities, paving the way for market expansion and attracting more tourists.

Finally, in the long term, sustainable economic growth is expected with the development of a more dynamic and diversified entrepreneurial ecosystem, capable of creating jobs and reducing the depopulation of inland areas.

- For young people: in the short term, they have participated in cultural and training events, developing intercultural skills and strengthening their sense of European identity.

There will be an increase in youth participation in volunteering initiatives and European projects, as well as the creation of a network of young ambassadors of European values in the medium term.

Finally, in the long term, the project will contribute to forming a more aware and engaged generation of citizens, promoting gender and social equality and fostering youth innovation.

- For the administrative staff: in the short term, they had acquired new skills in managing cultural projects and promoting tourism. This strengthened organizational and coordination capabilities, positively impacting the efficiency of services offered.

In the medium term, strategies for promoting cultural heritage and local tourist attractions will improve, with the adoption of more inclusive and sustainability-oriented administrative policies.

Finally, in the long term, an administrative culture based on international collaboration and innovation will be developed, contributing to improving the quality of public services and tourism infrastructure.

The project will not be limited to the duration of funding but will ensure a lasting impact through the creation of long-term partnerships between the two cities.

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).