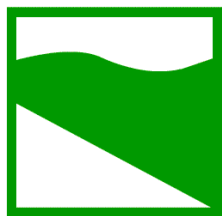


This day we went via Bologna, where we changed train and then further on to Rimini.



The coat of arms of Emilia-Romagna



The coat of arms of Rimini

Rimini lies in the province of Emilia-Romagna.

The first settlers in the area lived on the plains between the nearest hills and the coast for more than 800,000 years ago. In the year 390 BC the area was occupied by Gauls, while the Romans came to the area in the year 295 BC, but it was not before in 286 BC that the Romans established a colony here between the two rivers Ausa and Marecchia. The town, Ariminum, got quickly an important strategic position as a road junction between 3 Roman roads.

- Via Flaminia (220 BC) going to Rome
- Via Emilia (197 BC) going along the foot of the Apennines to Piacenza
- Via Popilia (132 BC) going along the Adriatic to the town Aquileia

The town was involved in the Roman civil war and was all the time loyal to the ruling party and its leader, first Marius and then Caesar. Caesar visited the town after having crossed the river Rubicon (50 BC) and held his legendary appeal in the town's Forum. After him came also Augustus (9 BC), whom the citizens honored by naming the town's gate after him. Augustus started building a bridge over Marecchia. The bridge was later finished by Tiberius, who gave the bridge his name. In this period many prestigious buildings were erected as Amphitheater and the San Stefano church.



We stayed at Hotel Gamma



Here we are at the beach for the first time in Rimini



The coat of arms of the state of San Marino

Then after we went to San Marino

San Marino (Italian: Repubblica di San Marino) has a history stretching back to year 301 AD. As one of the European micro states, the country has the lowest inhabitant number of all the member countries in EU, and one of the largest gross national income per inhabitant in the world. San Marino's constitution from 1600 is the world's oldest constitution still in use.

San Marino claims to be the world's oldest republic, founded in 301 by St. Marinus. The small nation was approved by Napoleon in 1797, and by the other European countries during the Vienna congress in 1815.



The flag of the state of San Marino

Even if San Marino is an independent state, it is very dependent of Italy that has surrounded the country since the unification of Italy in the 1800s.



The coat of arms of the city of San Marino

The town San Marino was founded by the stone cutter Marino, who had converted to Christianity. Together with other Christians he fled emperor Diocletian's persecutions in 301, and the group sought refuge on Monte Titano's slopes. Here they founded a society, which gradually became a state. The state was named after the founder, who later was regarded as a saint. The town was then for a long time a refuge for other Christians who fled from the Roman persecutions. Thereby the town became the oldest republic in Europe, as the territory San Marino at that time equals the town of today.



Here we are sitting, waiting for the bus going to San Marino. Here a guy parked his bicycle.



Here we have arrived at the top and are looking around



Here we are checking when the bus is going back



Kjell is studying the map



This is the bus station



Here is the town gate, Porta San Francesco, which we just have gone through.



Here we are walking uphill. We can see the top of the city hall in the background.



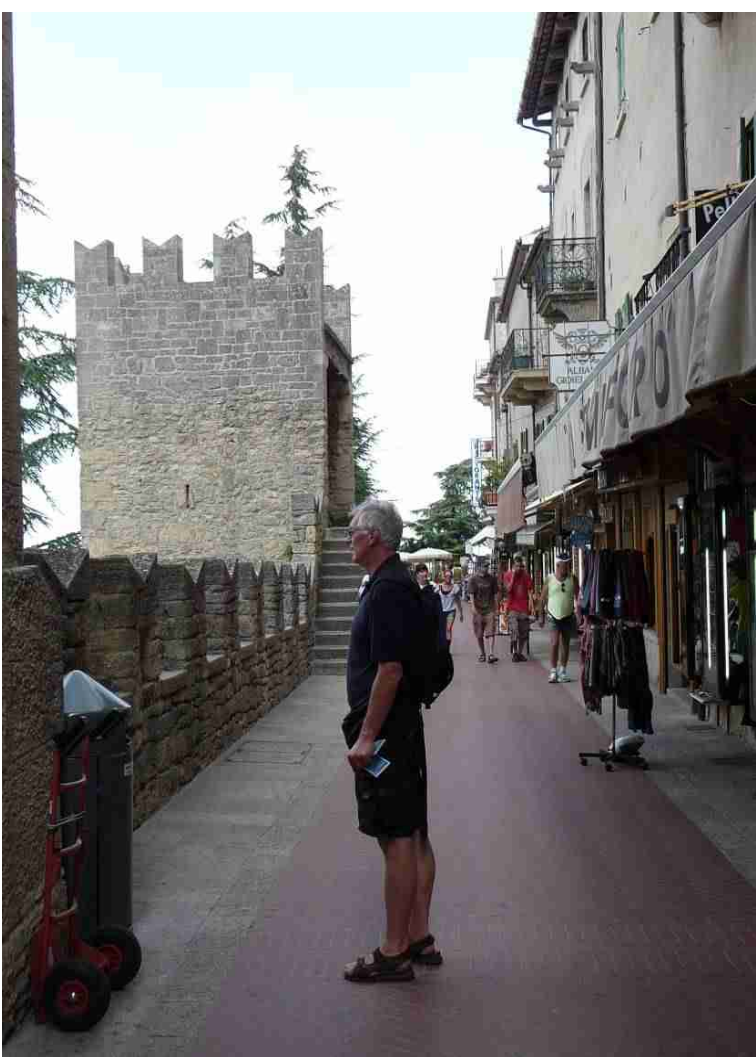
There are fortification walls around the whole city



Here are 3 mosquitoes?



There is a cableway from Borgomaggiore to San Marino



More walls



This is Palazzo Pubblico, which is the city hall and it also the government building.



There are steep street



Pinocchio



Basilica del Santo. The basilica is built in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, but is erected on a place where there was a very old church. It is the home of a urne with the remains of St. Marinus and a monument with a part of his cranium.

In addition one can see a statue of the saint. Chiesetta di San Pietro lies to the right and is from the 1600s.



Here we have a small lunch at this restaurant on the edge of the cliff. Kjell was here many years ago and was sitting at the same table!



Those who run the restaurant had put this old horse plough here. It was not a Kverneland plough.



Here is the first tower



This is the walls just before we came to the first tower.

The town is surrounded and defended by three towers. The first one, Guaita, was erected in 11<sup>th</sup> century and had a reputation to be impossible to get by, which resulted in very few attacks on the town. In connection with the crusades it became necessary to build a new tower, Cesta, in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. The defensive system was finished by erection of the third tower, Montale, in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. Montale is the smallest of the three towers and was positioned on Monte Titano's last summit.



This is the entrance to the museum and the first tower, Guaita.



Here we look across to the second tower



Here we look back. The first tower is behind the walls.



The towers seen from the other side. The third tower is the closest one.



The third tower



Nice view



Here we are coming down into the town again



Systembolaget



Just inside the gate there was a torture museum



This guy was standing here all day, controlling traffic



After coming back from San Marino we went off the bus at Arco d'Augusto. This is a gate in the old city wall. It was built in 27 BC.



Here we are at Piazza Mazzini, looking in direction of a church.



This is Castello Malatestiano



The Tiberius bridge



There were some wildlife at the Tiberius bridge





Here we are at Piazza Cavour, looking at Teatro Galli straight ahead and Palazzi dell'Arengo e Podestà to the right.



We had lunch at the same piazza at this restaurant



Here we are sitting outside at the hotel



A view from our balcony



We had lunch a couple of times at this beach bar





Here is the road to the beach



Here we are almost there

In Rimini, there was a band playing dance music at various locations every evening from 20 to 24 o'clock. There were lot of people, old and young, listening and many were just watching. We were not able to resist the temptation, so we were dancing for a couple of hours. We had not dancing shoes, just sandals, so it became quite strenuous after a while. Despite this, we were dancing everything what was played: tango, swing, polka, waltz, mazurka, foxtrot, linedans, slowfox, salsa, twist ..... so when we returned to the hotel we were sweaty and exhausted.

