

**THE HAMLET, BAGNO DI ROMAGNA:
IT CANNOT QUITE MAKE IT INTO THE 21ST CENTURY**

As charming and picturesque as Bagno di Romagna is today, the hamlet is struggling to enter the 21st Century. At every corner, it is losing the battle.

Perhaps, it is for the best, all things considered, otherwise it would cease to be that which it is: A cameo of an ancient hamlet to which one is privileged to view, a hamlet, dating back to the Middle Ages.



There is the open market, selling trousers, skirts, shoes, knick-knacks and what-have-you, the market, being controlled by travelling merchants who have swapped their horses and carts for minivans which open up to resemble tents, their tarpaulins, being stored on the rooves of the minivans.

The one street of the hamlet is, always, dotted with elderly people, sitting on benches, smoking away, incessantly, chatting about this and that while sipping espresso or a glass of Sangiovese .

People, eating and drinking at restaurants that have been doing business, probably for the past few centuries, are not expected to tip the waitresses: It is sufficient that they are friendly to the young ladies who serve them.

Charming?

Indeed!

TARGET (泰達財經) never did locate the Godfather of Bagno di Romagna – sadly – and this medium did not even see a shotgun in the hands of anybody.

But there is a negative side to this hamlet, too.

At Hotel Tosco Romagnolo, which claims to be a 4-star establishment, it is having a great deal of trouble in trying to meet the demands of the modern-day living standards when it comes to accommodating the requirements of the modern tourist.

The hotel's air-conditioning system, for instance, for the most part, does not work, correctly, or at all, in the guest rooms, although, in the dining room, the formula for keeping the room cool has been discovered.

Due to the inability of the hotel to install air-conditioning in the guest rooms in order to keep guests cool, in the heat of the summer, the temperature is, usually, between 24 degrees Celsius and 25 degrees Celsius.

This is a very uncomfortable temperature for most homo sapiens and it is impossible to sleep with sweat, pouring off one's foreheads and running down one's cheeks.

When Management was confronted with this complaint, this was the approximate answer (**TARGET** has taken the liberty of putting the half-English into English-English so as to make it intelligible):

'Yes. It is a little hot. Some guests have suggested this. But Bagno di Romagna is very hot, these days. Very unusual! We did not expect it. And it is humid, too. Don't you think?'

'Our technicians suggest you sleep with the windows open. He says that the weather, because it has been raining, will cool down the room.'

Just wait for the weather to be cooler; then, the room will be cooler and you will be comfortable.'

'Sorry. We cannot help you, more.'

Translation: There is no air-conditioning in the guest rooms, only in the dining room.

TARGET had to move out of the hotel and drive about 90 minutes to the historic town of 130,000 Italian souls of Rimini, on the Adriatic Coast, after paying €648 for 2 nights of discomfort at Bagno di Romagna.

One is advised to watch the film, *'The Godfather'*, rather than experience this part of Italy where, once, Roman soldiers walked and bathed at the turn of 2 millennia past.

As a parting thought, it was noted that quite a number of very young girls and boys, proportional to the resident population of this hamlet, suffer from deformities, ranging from acute and very pronounced physical and mental abnormalities to being very crippled and being unable to function without assistance.

Considering that there are only about 2,000 people, living in Bagno di Romagna, the ratio of handicapped residents of this hamlet to normal residents is extraordinarily high.

In fact, such a high percentage of such physical and mental abnormalities/deformities, within a very small band of homo sapiens, is normally the result of inbreeding.

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