

# Zafferano Montefeltro

Saffron from Montefeltro

## Visit a saffron farm near Urbino



Saffron cultivation was introduced in Le Marche by the Duke Federico da Montefeltro and was cultivated in the Ducal Palace's kitchen garden.

We are a very active and resourceful couple, trying to revive this old tradition in our small farm near Urbino and we would like to organize visits to our zafferaneto (lit. saffron field).

### When to visit Zafferano Montefeltro?

Easy, read the calendar of saffron cultivation below:

**May/June:** bulb harvesting. Saffron bulbs produce mitoses and differentiate themselves. The bulbs are removed using a breast plow and are collected by hand.

**July and August:** bulb planting. The bulbs are in the dormant period. During dormant period, the bulbs remain unchanged once they have reached maturity. The planting depth/density and the size of the bulbs has an influence on the number of shoots.

**September:** the activity period begins. The soil is prepared before the flowering period: the surface grubbing is carried out in order to break the crust, aerate the soil and remove the weeds by hand on the cultivation lines.

**15/30 October to 15/30 November:** harvesting of saffron flowers and saffron treatment. Flowering is usually slow during the beginning and the end of the flowering period. The flowering period is very short and flowers lose their properties if they remain exposed in bad weather conditions for a long period of time.

**15/30 November to Spring:** high development of leaves.

**Spring:** leaves fall down. The energy of bulbs is concentrated on mitoses.

### How to visit Zafferano Montefeltro?

Booking is possible through **Locanda della Valle Nuova** [www.vallenuova.it](http://www.vallenuova.it)

We organize visit only on appointment. Sorry, but smoking is not allowed in all our property and grounds.

### How to reach Zafferano Montefeltro?

Our farm is located in the Montefeltro countryside.

Address: Castellina via Palazzo di Ferro, 4 IT61023 Macerata Feltria (PU) Italy.

GPS: 43°49'49.94"N, 12°27'54.48"E Website: [www.zafferanomontefeltro.com](http://www.zafferanomontefeltro.com)

Driving directions: coming from Pesaro or Urbino, direction Mercatale (Carpegna/Lunano), after the city of Casinina, turn to the right: direction Bronzo/Valle di Teva. About 1 km. after Bronzo, turn to the left following the little road signs for "Zafferano Montefeltro" (4 km. of paved road). We're the last farm on the hill. Are you lost? Please, stop in Bronzo and call us: +39 0722 728087.

