











COMUNE  
DI GUBBIO

## LEGENDA

-  The "Alzata" (11 a.m.)
-  Start of the race (6 p.m.)
-  Route of the race (from 6 p.m.)
-  Pause
-  Take special care here
-  Giant viewing screen (in the Piazza 40 Martiri)
-  Funivia (Cable lift to the top of the hill)
-  Tourist Information Office

## INFORMATION

**The Ceri race runs without stopping.**

Do not obstruct or impede the runners, please maintain a safe distance.

Take care to keep your children close to you and supervised at all times.

Wear comfortable shoes and suitable clothing. Do not bring umbrellas.

The "Alzata" is an energy filled moment, when the crowd is packed.

Please respect the city and the environment.

## USEFUL CONTACTS

**Tourist Information Office**  
Via della Repubblica, 15  
Tel. 075 922 0693

**Associazione Maggio Eugubino**  
Piazza Oderisi, 50  
Tel. 075 927 3912

**Police emergency**  
Tel. 112

**Traffic Police**  
Largo Pentapoli, 3  
Tel. 075 927 3770

**Fire Brigade**  
Via dell'Arboreto  
Tel. 075 927 3722

**Hospital A&E**  
Largo Unità d'Italia  
Loc. Branca  
Tel. 075 927 0801





## PUBLIC SAFETY RULES

### IT IS NOT ALLOWED TO ENTER THE SQUARE:

- With prams or pushchairs
- With umbrellas of any size, walking sticks, tripods or stands for photography
- With animals of any size or breed, either on a lead or in a bag
- With glass bottles or metal containers
- With bicycles, scooters, drones, toys, remote-control devices
- With helmets or helmet bags
- It is forbidden to place small ladders, chairs or stools all around the perimeter of the square

## PUBLIC SECURITY RULES

### IT IS NOT ALLOWED TO ENTER THE SQUARE:

- With rucksacks, handbags, pouches, camera bags
- With bulky items, like trolleys, coolbags, suitcases, trolley cases
- With weapons, knives, sticks, instruments of offence, fireworks

## USEFUL INFORMATION

- In case of health emergency or in case of loss of contact with people, especially children, you can get assistance from the police officers or the urban police assistants present in the square
- Only men and women wearing the uniform of "ceraioli" (Ceri bearers or supporters) will be allowed into the Great Hall of the Palazzo dei Consoli

**For public safety and security, before the beginning of the events in Piazza Grande police officers will carry out accurate checks along the streets leading to the square, to make sure the rules are respected. We rely on everyone's civility and responsibility to enjoy the participation in one of the most beautiful and exciting festivals of Italy together.**

## GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- It is recommended not to bring children under 12 into the square
- People suffering from heart disease or from pathologies requiring the avoidance of crowded places are advised not to enter the square
- Pregnant women and people with walking difficulty are advised not to enter the square
- A number of spaces will be reserved to people with disabilities
- with special permission provided by the Tourist Information Office ([info@iatgubbio.pg.it](mailto:info@iatgubbio.pg.it)). It is recommended not to go to places other than those allocated
- Remember that during the morning events moving in the square or leaving it will be very difficult
- In case of emergency, it will be necessary to follow the instructions given by loudspeakers and by the easily identifiable civil defence staff present in the square to leave the place safely by using the nearest exit (the exit signs are clearly visible)
- It is advisable not to bring valuable objects and to look after one's own papers
- It is advisable to have some water, but only in plastic containers

## PROGRAMME

- h. 6.00** Drums wake up the Ceri Captains
- h. 7.00** Commemoration ceremony for dead "ceraioli" at the cemetery
- h. 8.00** Holy Mass is celebrated in the Stonemasons' Church and the names of the Ceri captains for the next two years are drawn
- h. 9.00** The statues of the three saints are taken in procession
- h. 9.30** Ceraioli (Ceri supporters) gather at Borgo Santa Lucia and are given small bunches of flowers
- h. 10.00** Ceraioli parade through the streets of the town centre
- h. 11.00** Raising of Ceri in Piazza Grande
- h. 17.00** A procession with St Ubaldo's relic starts from the Cathedral
- h. 18.00** Ceri race
- h. 20.00** Arrival at St Ubaldo's Basilica
- h. 20.30** The statues of the saints are taken down to the town in procession

Our town is happy to welcome visitors to the *Ceri Festival*, heritage of our community, and invites everyone to participate as protagonist, not just as spectator.

Our festival transmits universal values, and we wish you to catch its deep meaning, beyond exteriority. So enjoy it serenely with the citizens of Gubbio, who open their hearts to visitors, as well as the gates and the streets of their town, so, if you want to be a protagonist of the festival, let its message become part of you.

Use the map to get to know the plan of the town and the route of the Ceri. If you like, or if you cannot do differently, you can follow the festival from a large screen signalled on the map.

Remember that the festival is also **a race** and some attention is required to avoid either being in the way or being knocked down.

Do not complain about a push or the throng and give assistance if someone near you is in difficulty. It will be the best way to prove you know how to enjoy the festival.

*The citizens of Gubbio*

(Gustave Le Boon)

*Traditions are the real guidance of peoples... no civilization is possible without traditions*

turns into a sort of purifying fervour. Gubbio, who, on May 15th, share love, joy, pain with passion which have always cemented the sense of community of the people of The Ceri, in their deepest significance, are sacred offers which belong to him.

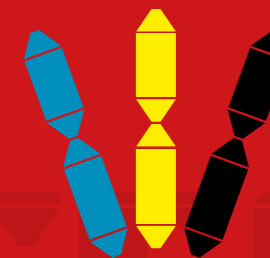
be of no importance: since Gubbio has had St Ubaldo, the Ceri even if the Ceri had had pre-Christian origins, this fact would controversy, but we cannot but agree with Don Angelo Fanucci: It is not appropriate to go more deeply into this awkward town lit up.

and lights, held a wake or prayer for their bishop and the whole the death of St Ubaldo, when the citizens of Gubbio, with candles theory (Pio Cenci 1906 - Piero Luigi Menichetti 1962) is linked to Ubaldo", quoted in the 11th Canto of Dante's *Purgatory*. The other policy was implemented in relation to the worship of the "Blessed wipe out such rites, but preferred to Christianize them and this kept in the magnificent Palazzo dei Consoli. Christianinity did not of the numerous gods mentioned in the seven Engubine Tablets, propitiatory rites that the Ikuvini celebrated to obtain the favour - Anita Sappilli, 1972) claim their origins go back to ancient always been two theories: some scholars (Herbert Bower, 1897 What shall we say about the origins of the Ceri? There have but they cannot help beating an extraordinary atmosphere: after, the Ceri are raised to the sky at the tolling of the Big Bell. The thrill will get even stronger during the afternoon race, when the three Ceri, with the statues of St George and St Anthony at their top, run along Corso Garibaldi: shouts of joy and applause merge into a deafening roar that rises up to the sky. The spectator is caught by a sudden excitement and becomes an actor. In the 1950s, journalist Franco Cremonese wrote: "The people who cram the streets on May 15th are not a public of spectators, but a delirious crowd, floating, shouting, crying, sharing the Ceraioli's passion. When the Ceri run, nobody can be just a spectator: for a few moments, perhaps for a few minutes, that makes one either laugh or cry". These few words express the unique charm of the festival, which cannot be explained in detail, but must be experienced by running after the Ceri. To have a closer look at them and even touch them, it is necessary to follow one Cero (the one that arouses sympathy at first sight) During the so-called "show" when it is carried along the streets to visit old "ceraioli", who touch the saint from the window and the Cero circles three times in their honour.

The tourist arriving in Gubbio for the Ceri festival, an ancient folk tradition, is surprised by the morning ceremonies (Holy Mass, procession with the saints' statues, parade of "ceraioli") but they cannot help beating an extraordinary atmosphere: festive, excited and passionate. And they cannot restrain a thrill of excitement in Piazza Grande, when, after the medieval ceremony of investiture, the "ceraioli" plunge down the staircase of the Palazzo dei Consoli like a colorful cascade and when, soon after, the Ceri are raised to the sky at the tolling of the Big Bell. The thrill will get even stronger during the afternoon race, when the three Ceri, with the statues of St George and St Anthony at their top, run along Corso Garibaldi: shouts of joy and applause merge into a deafening roar that rises up to the sky. The spectator is caught by a sudden excitement and becomes an actor. In the 1950s, journalist Franco Cremonese wrote: "The people who cram the streets on May 15th are not a public of spectators, but a delirious crowd, floating, shouting, crying, sharing the Ceraioli's passion. When the Ceri run, nobody can be just a spectator: for a few moments, perhaps for a few minutes, that makes one either laugh or cry". These few words express the unique charm of the festival, which cannot be explained in detail, but must be experienced by running after the Ceri. To have a closer look at them and even touch them, it is necessary to follow one Cero (the one that arouses sympathy at first sight) During the so-called "show" when it is carried along the streets to visit old "ceraioli", who touch the saint from the window and the Cero circles three times in their honour.

# FESTA DEI CERI

## *public security rules*



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