

What is an eco-museum?

First of all, it is not a museum of ecology; the concept of an ecomuseum was born around 1970 in France, and has two innovative elements: the idea that the aim of the museum encompasses the entire environment and not just a building where a collection is kept, and the conviction that the fundamental resource of the ecomuseum is the living elements of the environment it interprets: humans, animals or plants.

Today, there are several ecomuseums throughout Europe.

The Argenta Ecomuseum was formed between 1991 and 2002, with three museum stations: the Museo delle Valli (Museum of the Valleys), the Museo della Bonifica (Museum of the Land Reclamation) in Saiarino and the Museo Civico (Civic Museum) in the centre of Argenta, as well as an open-air nature section, the Oasi di Val Campotto.

In these places you will be able to discover the historical and artistic heritage of the Argenta area, experience life in the reclamation plants (an essential aspect of water management in the territory), and learn directly about the natural landscape, its protagonists, and the community of Argenta.

The Argenta Ecomuseum is increasingly understood as a venue for the expression of citizenship and the identities of places, in support of choices for local development.

This means, for those who 'inhabit' it, experiencing the territory and developing a sense of belonging, while for those who 'visit' it, being able to grasp the atmospheres, knowledge and pleasures that characterize these places.