



- Main cities: **L'AQUILA**, Pescara, Teramo, Chieti
- Historical overview: The original inhabitants were the Sabines and Piceni in the north, the Equi and Vestini in the centre, and the Marsi, Peligni and Frentani in the south. The Romans only conquered the territory in the 3rd century BC. The fall of the Roman Empire led to all sorts of invaders as each attempted to control the region. The Longobards incorporated Abruzzo into the Duchy of Spoleto in the 10th cen. The Spanish got there in 1600 and left the region in rags and famine before the Bourbons arrived in 1738. The region rebelled with Garibaldi's men over 20 years of the 'Risorgimento' until Abruzzo was incorporated into the Kingdom of Sardinia then in Italy itself in 1860.
- Spoken languages: Italian and Abruzzese dialect
- Climate: The Adriatic sea provides moderate Mediterranean climate

«Abruzzo – Strong and kind» – Primo Levi
(Diplomatic)

ABRUZZO – Heritage and Natural Sites

04. THE CENTER





Bonimaco frescoes, L'Aquila



Pompeo di Bernamonte,
pottery

Gabriele D'Annunzio was an Italian writer, poet, journalist, playwright and soldier during World War I. He occupied a prominent place in Italian literature and he was often referred to under the epithets *Il Vate* ("the Poet") or *Il Profeta* ("the Prophet"). D'Annunzio was associated with the Decadent movement in his literary works, which interplayed closely with French Symbolism and British Aestheticism. Such works represented a turn against the naturalism of the preceding romantics and was both sensuous and mystical. His literary production is very wide; among his work it's impossible not to quote "*Il Piacere*", his first novel.



Plot: Andrea Sperelli is a young noble dandy of Rome who lives in Palazzo Zucca although he is originally from Abruzzo. He loves Elena Muti, although she is married to another. Andrea fights a duel with the man, but gets injured, and taken to Francavilla al Mare, where, at Villa Schifanoja, he meets the beautiful Maria Ferres. Andrea, when cured, realizes that he loves both Maria and Elena. At the end of the story, however, he loses both women.