

- Main cities: **VENEZIA**, Padova , Vicenza, Verona, Belluno
- Historical overview: Veneto was part of the Roman Empire until the 5th century AD. Later, after a feudal period, it was part of the Republic of Venice until 1797. Venice ruled for centuries over one of the largest and richest maritime republics and trade empires in the world. After the Napoleonic Wars and the Congress of Vienna, the Republic was annexed by the Austrian Empire, until it was **ceded to the Kingdom of Italy in 1866**.
- Spoken languages: besides Italian, most inhabitants also speak **Venetian dialect**.
- Climate: it changes significantly from one area to another, while it is continental on the plains, it is milder along the Adriatic coast; around the Lake Garda and in the hilly areas. The lowlands are often covered by thick fog.

« *There is no world without Verona walls...* » - from Romeo and Juliet, W. Shakespeare

# VENETO— Heritage and Natural Sites

## 02. THE NORTH-EAST



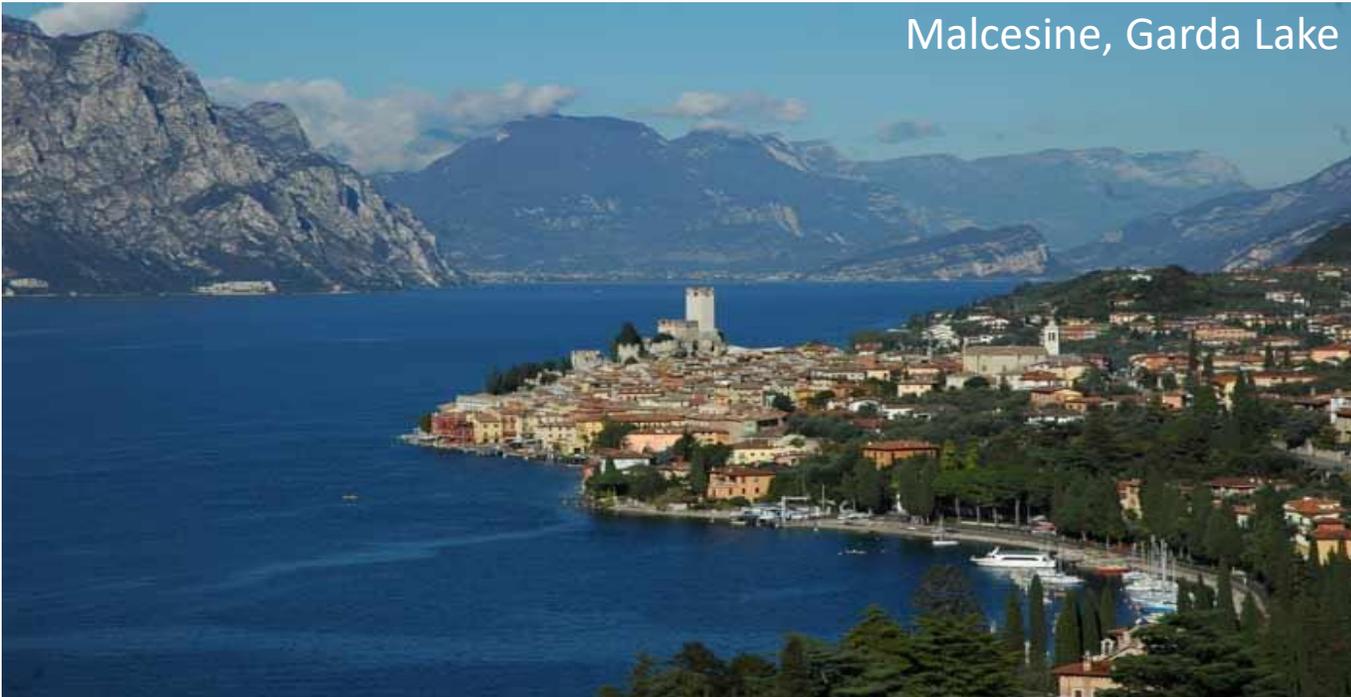
Arena di Verona



Canal Grande, Venezia



*Villa Pisani*, Riviera del Brenta



Malcesine, Garda Lake



*Amore and Psiche,  
Canova*



*Venere di Urbino,  
Tiziano (detail)*

**Petrarch** was an Italian scholar and poet in Renaissance Italy, who was one of the earliest humanists. His rediscovery of Cicero's letters is often credited with initiating the 14th-century Renaissance. Petrarch is often considered the founder of Humanism. In the 16th century, a model for the modern Italian language was created based on his works. Petrarch's sonnets were **admired and imitated throughout Europe** during the Renaissance and became a **model** for **lyrical poetry**.



His masterpiece, ***Il Canzoniere*** (Scattered Rhymes), is a collection of poems with the most evident purpose of praying Petrarca's beloved **Laura**. It also involves other themes such as **religion, poetry, politics, time** and **glory**. The love theme itself should be considered as the nucleus around which Petrarca develops his deep **psychological analysis**: questions concerning the virtue of love in relation to the Christian religion and the always present **desire**.