

Eremo di San Domenico, Scanno, Abruzzo

In the late 900's (990-996, over 1,000 years ago) San Domenico Abate lived in this "eremo" (hermitage) below the outflow of Lago di Scanno. (San Domenico Abate, monaco benedettino, b.951-d.1031)



Looking South from eremo with Monte Godi in distance



Looking north into the Gole with San Domenico's eremo in the mid-distance.

Note that there is extensive documentation on the life of "Saint Dominic of Sora" as he would be known in English. He played an important role in the renewal of both eremitical and cenobitical monasticism in the early 11th Century.



From a small parking area on the road through the “Gole di Sagittario” you cross a bridge to the small church built above San Domenico’s eremo.



Altar area in church with entrance to grotto to left of altar



The terrace outside the church and grotto entrance is a place of perfect peace and tranquility. It is a very popular place for small weddings

Four frescos inside the loggia illustrate San Domenico's Four Miracles



Saving a boy from a fall from a tree



Calling a wolf to return a baby girl to her mother – We still have wolves all around Scanno in the Abruzzo Park. They pass our little home at night and make our dog crazy with their howling.



A miracle about fava beans – making them sprout and grow instantly to hide him from brigands.



Turning the fish that a greedy lay-person had hidden from his neighbors into serpents.



Entering the grotto from the church



The grotto where San Domenico lived



San Domenico's bed – where he slept and prayed 1,000 years ago.

The Saint's relics are located at the Abbazia cistercense di San Domenico di Sora, in Sora (Lazio) where he died in 1031. He is venerated each year in the Festa dei Serpari in Cocullo (Abruzzo). His Saint's Day in January 22.