

The history of Raveo

Some scholars identify the origin of the name "Raveo" in the root of the Latin word *rapum*, that is "turnip"; however, the reasons for this original connection are elusive. On the other hand, another less imaginative explanation is provided by the scholar of the Friulian Philological Society, *prof. Desinan*, who states that Raveo derives from the prelatin *rava*, that is "Landslide, landslide".

The territory of Raveo has been subject of settlements since pre-Roman times as the recent archaeological excavations on *Monte Sorantri (Monte Castellano)* have demonstrated. They highlighted the existence of a Celtic village, which later became the seat, in Roman times, of a highland settlement defended by a wall and inhabited at least until the 5th century A.C. The excavation campaign, managed by the Superintendence of *Trieste*, highlighted the possible presence of a Celtic sanctuary and the subsequent Roman settlement. Recent findings - datable to the 8th century B.C. from the late Roman age - and the presence in the wood of any regular depressions, probable index of buried structures, had initially allowed to ascertain the archaeological potential of the site. The results of the first researches highlighted the presence of a large high ground settlement with enclosure wall and housing structures still well preserved. In addition downstream, on *Cuel Budin*, archaeological surveys have identified an old town early medieval, surrounded by fortification walls, inside which there are numerous cells houses of reduced size and placed on terraces.

The first documented news dates back to 1234, the period when the village appears subjected to the Parish of *Enemonzo*. The plague that invaded Friuli, between the end of the 14th century and the 15th century, caused a massacre, only 7 people survived, and they became the owners of the seven local stables. Later *Raveo* was part of the Patriarchate of *Aquileia* until 1420, the year of its fall by the Venetians. The village remained under Venice until 1797, when with the Treaty of *Campoformio* Friuli and Veneto were linked to the Hapsburg Empire.

In 1866 Raveo was Italian again, following the Third War of Independence, it was overwhelmed in 1917 from the *rotta di Caporetto*, and many of its inhabitants had to leave their homes and take refuge in the right of the *Pieve* to escape the Austro-Hungarian advance.

During the Cossack occupation of World War II, Raveo was the seat of an important garrison, consisting of about 300 soldiers. Cossacks and Germans, clash in November 1944 with the partisans in one of the bloodiest battles for Carnia liberation. At the end of the battle, the partisans came out victorious, inflicting considerable losses on the enemy.

In 1976 the village was severely damaged by the earthquake, but over the years has faced the period of reconstruction, which gave the village the predominantly modern look it has today and letting it shine through, unfortunately only in some parts, what must have been the original layout of Raveo with its imposing houses in stone and its hidden courtyards. For example, *Via Norsinia* hosts one of the most significant examples: *Casa di Miàn*, which probably preserve a 17th century facade that overlooks the internal courtyard and originally had to bear four arches, while the back facade, which has now become the main one, dates back to the 18th century. *Casa di Ucèl*, presents in the main front, the remains of two lowered arches, it is believed that the rest of the building was built in the 18th century and subjected to subsequent alterations during the 19th century. Not far you can find *Casa del Medili*, dating back to the middle of the 18th century.