

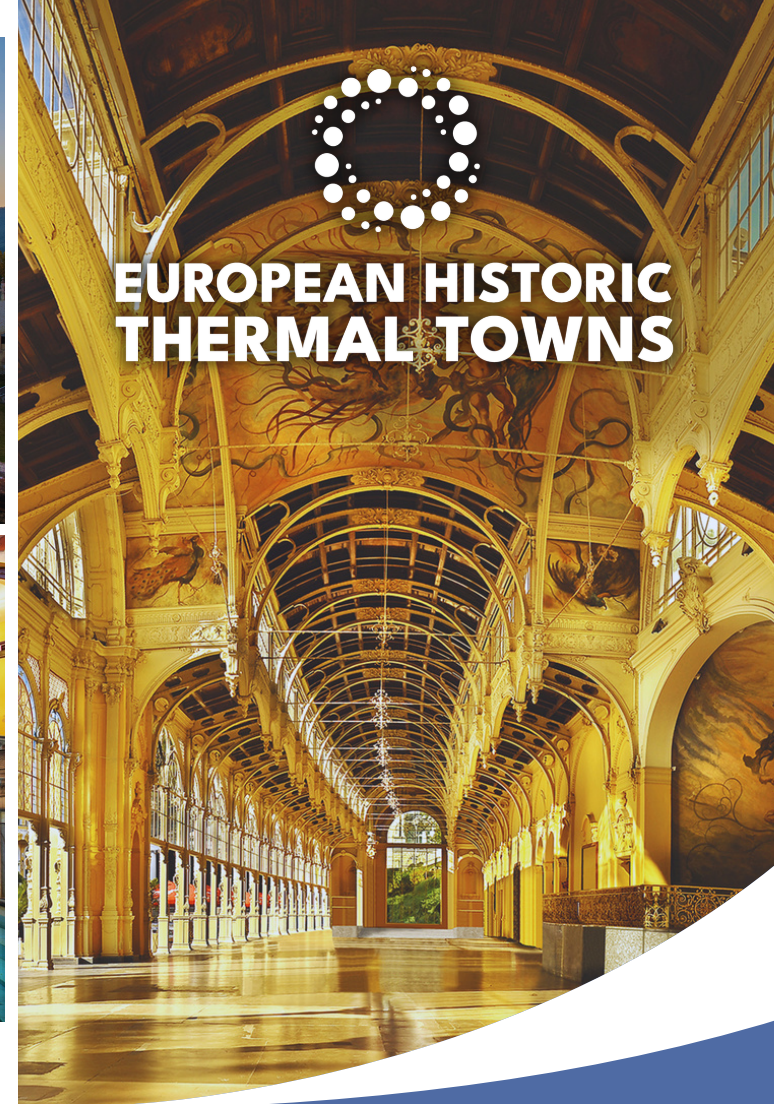
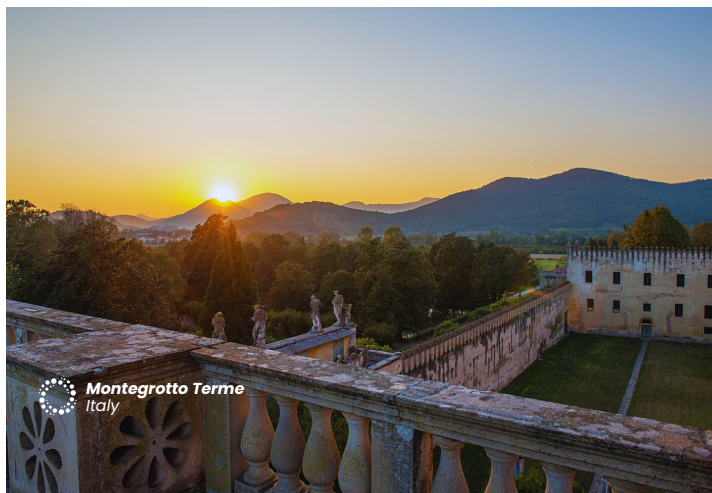
A CULTURAL ROUTE OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

The European Route of Historic Thermal Towns is one of the 49 Cultural Routes certified by the Council of Europe. Since 1987, these routes have highlighted key themes of European heritage and encouraged exchanges between cultures, traditions and territories.

For EHTTA, this certification is important: it provides recognition and visibility, fosters European dialogue and the exchange of good practices.

The story of spa towns is woven into the story of the continent of Europe and its people. It is part of Europe's shared memory, culture and traditions.

As a cultural route we continue to tell this story, to raise awareness of the importance of our towns, in order to protect them for future generations.



**FOR MORE
INFORMATION**



WWW.HISTORICTHERMALTOWNS.EU
@HISTORICTHERMALTOWNS
#HISTORICTHERMALTOWNS

EHTTA is a non-profit association (AISBL) registered at
Hôtel de Ville, Rue de l'Hôtel de Ville 44, 4900 Spa, Belgium.

**DISCOVER EUROPE'S
THERMAL HERITAGE**



**EUROPEAN HISTORIC
THERMAL TOWNS**

Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe



A JOURNEY THROUGH SPACE AND TIME

Explore our
network



THROUGH HISTORY, NATURE AND WELLBEING

For centuries, Europe's hot mineral springs have attracted visitors in search of healing, well-being and social connection. From Ancient Greece and Rome to the Ottoman era, civilizations have built places dedicated to bathing, health and culture.

Later on, spa towns became centres of science, medicine, arts and lifestyle, where "taking the waters" became a European tradition.

At the heart of our member towns are age-old springs, rich in minerals and heat, which have shaped a unique urban model dedicated to care, well-being and social life.

These waters, at the origin of the first visits "to take the waters", have attracted people seeking health since Antiquity, long before the rise of religious pilgrimages.

Around the springs, thermal establishments gradually developed, giving rise to places for welcoming visitors, accommodation and entertainment, turning these small settlements into true spa towns that have played a major historical role in Europe.

