

Shopping

Shops normally open around 8.00 a.m., shutting for lunch around noon/1.00 p.m. Afternoon opening times are very variable; the shops then stay open into the early evening. Some larger supermarkets open on Sundays. But many shops close for holidays (*ferie*) in August! Beware also of the many public holidays in Italy.

Food shops

The closest are a small *alimentari* (La Bottega) in Castiglione Fosco, a Despar at the Y-junction to Oro on the way from Castiglione Fosco to Tavernelle and a small Coop in Pietrafitta.

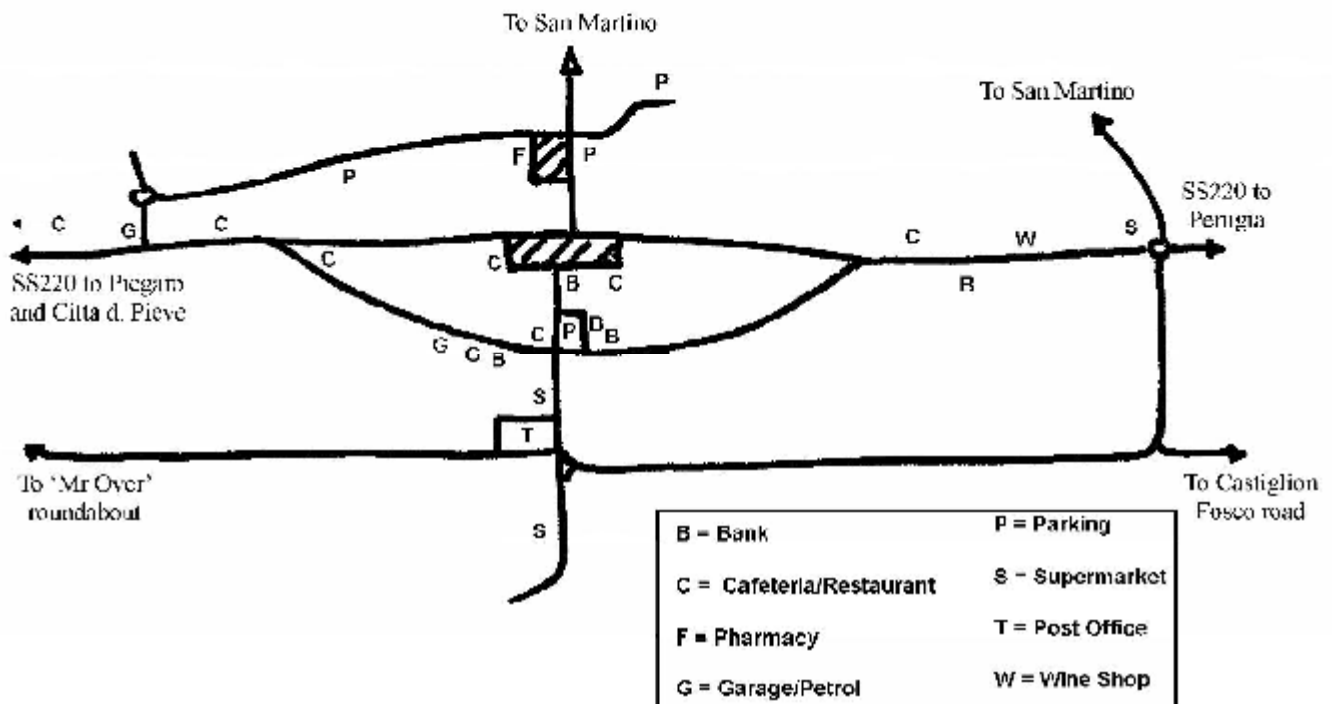
Tavernelle has several supermarkets:

- A substantial Sidis in the Centro Genesi, Via Palmiro Togliatti (south of the town centre, off the loop road);
- A EuroSPIN just north of the Sidis, towards the town centre;
- Two smaller Conads, one at either end of the town on the main road. Opening times (2005) are 8.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. (4.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. in winter), closed Thursday afternoons.

Tavernelle also has a range of smaller individual shops . grocers (*alimentari*), greengrocers (*fruttivendolo*), butchers (*macelleria*), etc.

There is a larger Coop in Castiglione del Lago, on the right as you enter from the south-west, which is open on Sundays during the summer. The nearest hypermarket is at Collestrada (see below).

Tavernelle map



Pharmacy

There is a small Pharmacy in Castiglion Fosco, but larger ones can be found in Tavernelle (main one just north of the town square).

Post Office

There are small post offices (*postale*) in Castiglion Fosco and Pietrafitta, and a larger one in Tavernelle (Piazza G. Amendola, opposite the EuroSPIN). All have post-boxes; the one in Castiglion Fosco is emptied at midday.

Doctor and Hospital

Hospitals are located at Città delle Pieve (just as you reach the old town coming from Piegaro) and San Sisto (on the right within the one-way system on the way to Perugia. see directions).

Public telephone

Many bars and cafés have public telephones. There are street-side public phones in Tavernelle. Italian phones only take phone cards.

Petrol and car repairs

Petrol pumps can be found in Castiglion Fosco (inc. diesel) however, larger petrol stations and repairs in can be found in Tavernelle. Car Dealers can be found in Perugia.

Banks

Tavernelle has many banks (inc. bancomat), several concentrated around the car park just south of the town square by the traffic lights. There is a Banca dell.Umbria just before you reach the town from the Castiglion Fosco road. It is open from 8.20 a.m. to 1.20 p.m. and 2.45 p.m. to 3.45 p.m. (2005).

Wine

All supermarkets sell wine. On the right-hand side of the road as you go into Tavernelle (between the Castiglion Fosco turning and the town) is a Colli Perugini outlet. This sells a variety of red and white wines, as well as olive oil. It will also sell wine on tap, into any bottles or containers you take in!

Hypermarket (Ipermercato)

Ipercoop . at Collestrada, east of Perugia, just off the junction between the dual carriageway north to Umbertide (SS3) and the road towards Assisi (SS75). Awkward to find your way in, and worse getting out! See directions in .Routes around Gaiche.. Come off the E15/SS3 dual carriageway at the Collestrada junction. Turn immediately left, and then left again to go under the dual carriageway (follow signs to .Centro Commerciale. at this point rather than Collestrada . the latter will take you out to the village). Bear right to enter the Collestrada shopping centre and park where you can. When leaving, follow the signs to 'Tutte le direzioni' and then to Perugia or Cesena, depending on the direction you wish to go, to rejoin the E15/SS3. (You run parallel to the dual carriageway for about 1 km before you can join it going in the Perugia direction.)

Pietrafitta power station

The Pietrafitta power station is visible in the Nestore valley as you descend from Gaiche (but not from the apartment or grounds). It is owned and run by the state electricity company, ENEL. For the technically-minded, it is a gas-fired combined cycle power plant; the two large cooling towers draw water from the river. The remains of an earlier, lignite powered station are visible to the west of the newer station. Lignite was extensively mined but is no longer used for environmental reasons. A palaeontological museum, containing items found during the lignite mining, is currently being built in Pietrafitta.

There are possible power shortages on a national scale and ENEL have instituted plans for cutting power at defined times. Italy imports a substantial amount of its power from France and Switzerland (it closed its few nuclear power stations some years ago).