

Once we had climbed out of the valley where our B & B was it was a nice walk down a ridge until the inevitable climb up into the Village of Todi.

As we only had a short walk today we decided to have a good look at the village of Di Doglio, a rather grand village overlooking Monte Castello di Vibio. The village has a population of eighty-eight and when we went through the village nearly all of them were out for their morning coffee and chat at the two local bars. One person who wasn't, was this old lady who was sitting on the



small rampart plucking several chooks. I suspect she has been doing this at the same spot for a very long time. She was friendly to us but communication was difficult. I was keen to know how many chooks she has plucked in her life. Carol offered to help with the plucking but the old woman indicated that Carol's hands were not strong enough to pull the feathers out and she didn't have an apron on. I thought Carol would look good in the blue plastic hat though. Out of interest's sake the chooks were very young (or small) birds that looked a little like a cross between a Rhode Island Red and a Leghorn. This was the view she had, not a

bad place to spend your working life, I think she had found her purpose in life and given her whole heart and soul to it.

The village overall was very well maintained with paved streets and beautiful wooden doors on most of the houses. The stunning church was open and we could see that it would fit about three hundred people so quite big for a village of eighty-eight people. They must do a roaring trade in weddings, as while we were staying at the B & B several couples checked out the facilities for its suitability for having wedding receptions.

There was one curious thing, some of the chimneys had smoke coming from them, temperatures had dropped to under twenty-five but it wasn't cold enough to light a fire for warmth perhaps they were using a wood fired pizza oven to cook morning tea.

In the town was a plaque commemorating the liberation of the village on the 7th of March 1944. I was curious about how WWII affected a small community like Di Doglio, did they just carry on their lives as normal or were there German troops stationed in the village to keep control. When you look at where the village is situated it doesn't seem to have any strategic significance I rather suspect things went on pretty well as normal. A quick search around the web doesn't show anything happening in the village other than the liberation.

We headed on down the ridge enjoying the views over the countryside, which are farms with mainly Vines and Olive trees, and they all look very well run, particularly those on the Todi side of the ridge. There were a couple of villas looking down on this view of Todi which would be wonderful places to live if there was somebody to attend to all the farm work leaving the rest of us to drink or eat the output. We made it up the hill into Todi averting our eyes as we passed the cemetery just in case it was our time.

