

Palazzo Ruggiero's Historic Wine Cellar and Terrace

Palazzo Ruggiero is one of the oldest noble buildings in Montefusco, dating back to the XIII century. The current appearance of the building looking out the *Square* is typically Baroque style, characterized by a loggia with Renaissance six arches. A portal decorated with stone lion sculptures leads to the inner courtyard which has a typical cobblestone floor. The courtyard's interior has ceramic decorations and a bas-relief depicting the *Palace's* ancient coat of arms. A cistern and carved stone throne can be found in the beautiful roof garden, which provides a panoramic view over mountains, hills and valleys of Irpinia, accessible from a corridor on the left.

The *Historic Wine Cellar* is located underneath the *Palace* and can be reached via stone staircases close to the building. It is made up of three rooms, and one of them guards a *historic double-screw oil press* from the 18th century. Carved into the living rock, an evocative barrel room is the place where Montefusco's fine wines can still be tasted.