



Banca Popolare di Sondrio

PRESS RELEASE

BANCA POPOLARE DI SONDRIO ARRIVES IN FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA

THE OPENING OF THE UDINE BRANCH MARKS ANOTHER STEP IN THE EXPANSION INTO THE NORTH WEST OF ITALY TO BE SHORTLY FOLLOWED BY ANOTHER BRANCH IN TRIESTE

Founded in 1871, the Banca Popolare di Sondrio has always strived to be of service to families, SMEs and institutional entities. Its expansion strategy in the North East of Italy pushes forward today with the opening of the new Udine branch, the first in the Friuli Venezia Giulia region. This new branch follows the recent openings in the Veneto region bringing the total number of branches there to ten.

With its entrance into Friuli Venezia Giulia, the Bank has extended its operational presence. At a national level, in addition to the area of Rome, the Bank operates now in seven regions, Lombardy, Piedmont, Val d'Aosta, Liguria, Veneto, Trentini Alto Adige and Emilia Romagna and has now established itself in a strategic area where growth forecasts confirm the dynamic economic performance which makes it one of the most productive areas in the country, not forgetting the proximity to the Slovenian and Austrian borders.

By sharing its own commercial business network and thanks to its prize-winning productivity strategy "best in class", the BPS and its experienced staff are moving forward with its strategic expansion in this important area. We are looking at creating long-term relations to support families and institutional entities as well as assisting in the development of both the local economy and local businesses. The BPS places particular emphasis on SMEs and industrial production chains. In particular, the choice of Udine lies in its cultural and administrative role, having numerous government offices, hospitals and universities as well as the headquarters of several entities and associations not to mention it being a crucial point of reference for business and commerce for all the region.

Mario Alberto Pedranzini, CEO and General Manager of the Banca Popolare di Sondrio commented: *"We are proud to be able to end the year with this inauguration in Udine which marks our entry into the Friuli Venezia Giulia region, a crucial area for the economic development of the whole country. At the same time, we are also able to announce the opening of another new branch in Trieste. The Banca Popolare di Sondrio*

was founded in 1871 and our 100 + years of experience of working within the local economic framework with communities and commercial operators allows us to provide a modern service in an ever-more digital-human context. This is our unmistakable distinctive characteristic which is summed up in our motto 'A bank focussed on banking'

The Udine branch of the Banca Popolare di Sondrio is situated on the busy main street in Piazzale XXVI Luglio 62 and will offer advice and consultancy on loans and investment to both private customers and businesses. The branch also offers an advanced ATM service inside the bank.

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