

‘Condottiere 1300-1500: Infamous medieval mercenaries’

Osprey Warrior series No. 115 (2007)

Text by David Murphy; color plates by Graham Turner

Contents:

- Introduction
- Chronology
- Enlistment
- Training
- Daily Life
- Appearance and Dress
- Belief and Belonging
- Life on Campaign
- The Condottiere in Battle
 - Organization, weaponry and tactics
 - Sforzeschi tactics
 - Bracceschi tactics
 - Realities of combat
 - Sieges
 - Devastation, prisoners and massacres
- Conspiracy and Betrayal
 - The Pazzi plot
 - Conspiracies against condottieri
- Aftermath of Battle
 - Medical treatment
 - Rewards
- Conclusion
- Museums, Collections and Re-enactment
- Glossary
- Bibliography Colour Plate Commentary
- Index

Color Plates:

- Armoured condottiere, Italian style, early 14th century
- Condottieri recruitment, mid-15th century
- Condottieri column on the march, late 14th century
- Condottieri tactics: The Battle of Castagnao, 1387
- Daily life in camp, 15th century
- The Battle of San Romano, 1432
- Aftermath of battle, 15th century
- Armoured condottiere, late 15th century

Comments:

This is a splendid volume focused on the notorious mercenaries who fought in Italy in the years 1300-1500. There are many illustrations besides the color plates: period art work, line drawings, and photos of surviving arms and armor. The text is quite thorough (for a

64-page volume) and should allow the reader who is new to the period to paint colorful and historically accurate figures based on the material in the book

--George Arnold

