

The birth of Beatrice

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Beatrice was born at 5.13 p.m. She was over three and a half kilos in weight, and 55 cm long.

At one point, **this story with its happy ending** appeared to be surrounded only by fears and shadows, as a result of that earthquake that had struck part of Emilia.

As we wrote ten days ago, Beatrice will forever be a reminder of those days of fear for her Emilian home. She still knows nothing, blissfully curled, as she was, in the tummy of her mother, Samantha, who had fled Carpi, after the two violent earthquakes, to be able to enjoy her first experience of motherhood in peace.

"It's a surreal situation," said Samantha, with her typical Emilian accent. "I'd never have thought I would give birth to my baby in Varese. She was supposed to be born on 8 June, and I'd already visited the Gynaecology Department of Carpi Hospital, and made arrangements with the gynaecologists and midwives. I was thinking about a water birth ... And then, that terrible earthquake at 9 a.m. last Tuesday upset all of my plans. Carpi Hospital was no longer feasible, and, in any case, the continual shaking of the earth prevented me from facing the first few days of my daughter's life serenely."

Our Del Ponte Hospital, immediately welcomed her and followed her, step by step, in the final days of her pregnancy. "We want to thank the whole of Varese for the reception," said Mum and Dad, Samantha and Andrea, with emotion. Over the last few days, Andrea has had to commute, because his company has already started working again.

To the new parents, and to little Beatrice, a Varesina by birth, all of us who work in Varesenews would like to send our best wishes.

Redazione VareseNews
redazione@varesenews.it

