

Trieste Town guide.





The monuments on San Giusto hill date back to the remote Roman and Medieval times, bearing witness to Trieste as an ancient town; the beginning of the modern town, however, could be said to date back to 1740, when Maria Teresa rose to the throne of Austria: her reforms and initiatives affected all aspects of Austrian, and therefore Triestine, life. The town stands out against the blue sea and sky at the very tip of the Italian Adriatic Sea and appears like a sort of final Mediterranean mirage to anyone travelling along this northern stretch of coast.



You can see that Trieste is *different and original in the way* its streets and splendid squares are lined up and overlooked by its impressive palazzos of outstanding architecture. There are stately buildings throughout the historic

centre, often with neoclassical style flanking eclectic style, Art Nouveau and neo-Gothic.



Monuments and places of interest

Piazza Unità d'Italia

This is one of the largest and most beautiful squares directly overlooking the sea. It was built in 1870 by architect G. Bruni and renovated in 1999 by architect B. Huet. The impressive palazzos bordering it are, from left to right: Palazzo del Governo (E. Hartmann, 1905) the headquarters of the prefect, Palazzo Stratti (A. Buttazzoni, 1839), Palazzo Modello (G. Bruni, 1873), the Town Hall (G. Bruni, 1875), Palazzo Pitteri (U. Moro, 1790), the only palazzo dating back to the 18^{th} century, the former Palazzo Vanoli (E. Geiringer and G. Righetto, 1873) and the Lloyd Triestino Palazzo (H. Von Ferstel, 1883).

The square is also home to two other 18th century monuments: the baroque *fountain* of the *Four continents* (Mazzoleni, 1751) and Emperor Charles VI's *column* (Fusconi, 1728).



Castello di San Giusto

Built between 1470 and 1630, the castle rises up from the hill in the heart of the ancient town, offering a striking panorama. Its construction began in the late 15th century and was extended in later periods. This can be seen from the irregular floor plan of the castle; the central part was commissioned by Federico II (1471), the round rampart dates back to the Venetian period (1509), the Hovos-Lalio rampart to 1561 and the Pomis, or "flowered" rampart, to 1630. The castle never had a defensive role. The castle museum, the armoury and the lapidario tergestino are all open to visitors.

Cattedrale di San Giusto

This was formed in the 14th century by joining two basilicas erected between the 9th and 11th centuries on a Roman area of worship. Its exterior is embellished with a Gothic

rose window in white stone. Inside, it is a five-aisle basilica with a wealth of art. The mosaics in the apse and on the walls are particularly stunning.

Arco di Riccardo This Roman

This Roman gate dates back

to the first century BC, and was part of the Augustan walls built around the city.

Teatro Romano

This dates back to between the first and second century AD but was only unearthed last century. It was built thanks to the munificence of Quintus Petronius Modestus, emperor Traianus's procurator and



flamen, who was born in Trieste. The theatre seated about six thousand spectators and its fixed proscenium overlooked the sea.

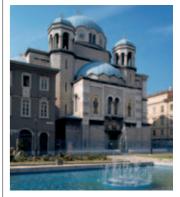
TRIESTE - A CITY OF WORSHIP AND RELIGION

Being a melting pot of peoples and races, the town inevitably has a wealth of different places of worship and religion: **the Greek Orthodox Chiesa**

di San Nicolò dei Greci

It has a neoclassical façade and inside retains its beautifully decorated 18th century structure with rich religious furnishings. **The Serbian Orthodox Chiesa di San Spiridione**

It was opened to worshippers in 1868. Built in a neobyzantine style, with magnificent interiors lavished in gold.



Tempio israelitico

Built to a design by Arduino and Ruggero Berlam in 1912, this is one of the largest synagogues in Europe. **Chiesa di Sant'Antonio Taumaturgo o Nuovo**

An impressive, sober neoclassical building designed by Pietro Nobile, a leading architect in Triestine neoclassicism.

OTHER PLACES OF INTEREST

Faro della Vittoria

The lighthouse was built in 1927 by Berlam and Mayer in Istrian stone. It is surmounted by a lantern and scaled dome, from which a bronze winged Victory soars upwards. Besides lighting the Port of Trieste, it is a commemorative monument to the sailors who died in the First World War.

Tram di Opicina

This rack tram has linked the town centre to the uplands since 1902. The steep journey up offers a marvellous view of the town and the Gulf of Trieste. The tram stop at the Obelisk is at the beginning of a panoramic path leading to Prosecco village.

Castello and Parco di Miramare

Built in white Istrian stone, this was the home of archduke Maximilian

of Hapsburg and his wife Charlotte for a short but happy period. The rooms are sumptuously furnished in varying styles and it was here that the young couple lived their happiest moments before their love was torn apart suddenly by Maximilian's tragic death in Mexico in 1897. The splendid park in front of the castle with its many exotic species was designed by Maximilian himself, a botany enthusiast. National Museum.

DIFFERENT STYLES IN TRIESTE

Neoclassical style

Palazzo Carciotti - Riva III Novembre 13 (M. Pertsch, 1802), Teatro Lirico Giuseppe Verdi -Piazza Verdi 1 (M. Pertsch, 1801), Palazzo della Borsa -

Eclectic style

Palazzo Gopcevic - Via Rossini 4 (G. Berlam, 1850), Central Railway station - Piazza della Libertà (1878), Palazzo della Riunione Adriatica di Sicurtà -Piazza della Repubblica (1912), Palazzo della Posta (1894) and Palazzo delle Ferrovie (1840) -Via Vittorio Veneto.

Art Nouveau Style

Casa Batoli - Piazza della Borsa 7 (M. Fabiani, 1905), other buildings in Art Nouveau style can be seen at Via Commerciale 21, 23 and 25, at Viale XX Settembre 35, at via Tigor 12, and in various other places across town.

HISTORIC COFFEE HOUSES

Tradition, culture and art make the Trieste historic coffee



style of the Venetian coffee shops, but they soon took on their unmistakeable Viennese feel, both in their furnishings and in the services they offered. Their fame is linked to the memory of literary, political and even conspiratorial gatherings. Some have kept their style and furnishing, such as **Caffé San Marco, Caffé Tommaseo**,



Piazza della Borsa 14 (Mollari, 1806), Chiesa di Sant'Antonio Taumaturgo o Nuovo - Piazza S. Antonio Nuovo (P. Nobile, 1842). houses ideal places for socializing, settings where time seems to have stopped in the *Belle Époque*. Their origins date back to the 18^{th} century with the first botteghe da caffé, in the **Caffé Torinese** and the pastry shops **La Bomboniera** and **Pirona**, whereas others, like **Caffé degli Specchi, Caffé Stella Polare, Caffé Tergesteo** and **Caffé Ex Urbanis** have undergone renovation.



LITERARY ITINERARIES IN TRIESTE

The lives of many famous men who were either born in Trieste or who lived there for a while, were spent on the seafront and in the rugged karst hinterland. Walking in their footsteps can prove both intriguing and interesting.

Ettore Schmitz, whose pen name was Italo Svevo, was born in Trieste in 1861 and was a friend of James Joyce. He is one of the greatest writers of contemporary Italian literature. The places in his life and those mentioned in his novels (A life, Emilio's carnival and Zeno's Conscience) can still exert some fascination: the house where he was born at viale XX Settembre 16; the Schmitz family residence at Via Carducci 12: the l'Istituto Commerciale Revoltella (a business school) at Via Battisti 12, which he attended after his studies at the Jewish school at Via del Monte 3; the Berlitz school at Piazza Ponterosso 4, where he studied English and met Joyce, one of the teachers there: the Banca Union at Via

Einaudi 1, his first place of work; Caffé Garibaldi in piazza Unità d'Italia; the Biblioteca Civica (town library) at Piazza Hortis 4, where he read the great European writers discussed in his articles; Villa Veneziani and factory at Via Italo Svevo 22/24; Villa Tika at Via Nazionale 18 and Villa Letizia at Via Basovizza 8 in Opicina.

James Joyce was born in Dublin in 1882 and died in Zurich in 1941. He is one of the most important European writers of the twentieth century. He lived in Trieste twice, from 1904 to 1915 and from 1919 to 1920, where he finished writing the Dubliners and A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man. He composed the short prose-poem Giacomo Joyce and a play called Exiles here and he also began writing his famous work of Ulysses, writing some of its most significant chapters in this town. The Irish writer moved several times during his stays in Trieste and all his homes can be found across the town, as can the myriad places he often visited.

Trieste can also be enjoyed through the eyes of another famous poet, Umberto Saba, the son of Ugo Abramo Poli and Rachele Coen; his pen name was taken from his beloved. nanny's name. He entitled his first collection of poetry "With my eyes" (1912); in this poetry he sees himself through his hometown. Trieste is a constant, important presence in all the poet's work. You can still find the

Saba bookstore the poet ran from 1919 in via S. Nicolò.

Another noteworthy writer, *Scipio Slataper*, was born in Trieste on

of The *Arabian Nights*, published in sixteen volumes from 1885 to 1888 with his title of The Book of a *Thousand nights and a night*.



July 14th 1888 and died on December 3rd 1915, at Podgora, fighting with the Italians. In *Il mio Carso*, he deals with the relationship between Trieste and its Slovenian hinterland and their ensuing peculiarities.

Fulvio Tomizza, who was born in Materada. Istria in 1935 and died in Trieste in 1999, was consciously sympathetic to the heartache of those who lived in these lands (Materada, The Girl from Petrovia. The Acacia Wood). And last but not least, the famous British consul, explorer, translator and orientalist Richard Francis Burton (1821-1890) spent the latter part of his adventurous life in Trieste. Here he wrote a book on the Roman Baths in Monfalcone and his best known book by far: the translation





Major museums in Trieste

Civico Museo di Storia ed Arte and the Orto Lapidario

Piazza della Cattedrale, 1 Tel. 040 308686/310500 The Museum of History and Art is dedicated to local archaeology (prehistoric, protohistoric and the Roman period), and is enriched with Egyptian, Greek, Etruscan and Mayan collections. It includes ancient findings from the town and its surrounding area. The **Orto Lapidario** contains Roman tombstones and monuments and the cenotaph to the famous archaeologist J. J. Winckelmann, who died in Trieste in 1768.

Civico Museo di Storia Naturale, Museo Sveviano, Biblioteca Civica "Attilio Hortis" (town library) and the Joyce Museum Piazza A. Hortis, 4 Tel, 040 6758200 Four institutions in one building. The Civico Museo di Storia *Naturale* presents examples of zoology, mineralogy, botany, geology and palaeontology (display of a complete androsaurus skeleton), African fauna, collections of corals and madrepores, ornithological collections and collections of amphibians, reptiles and mammals, plus a large collection of insects. The Museo Sveviano, a documentation centre. conserves the works of the Triestine writer, Italo Svevo, as well as a private library, recently bequeathed by his daughter. The Biblioteca Civica, the main public library, preserves the town's historical memory

with its collection of 420,000

volumes, newspapers, magazines and manuscripts. The *Joyce Museum* is one of the most complete study centres in Italy devoted to the Irish writer, James Joyce. It promotes knowledge of the writer through works, shows, conferences and multimedia educational materials.

Civico Museo Sartorio

Largo Papa Giovanni XXIII, 1 Tel. 040 301479

An ambience museum housed in a renovated 18th century villa, with all the original furnishings chosen by the Sartorio family. It holds 18th and 19th century paintings, Flemish tapestries, Biedermeier furniture,



18th century Italian majolica, paintings and sculptures ranging from ancient art to the 20th century and a collection of Tiepolo drawings.

Civico Museo del Risorgimento and Sacrario Oberdan

5 Via XXIV Maggio (Piazza Oberdan) - Tel. 040 361675 Documents, photographs, uniforms, relics and paintings relating to the facts and people involved in the local Risorgimento and irredentist events. There is also a memorial chapel to Guglielmo Oberdan, who was executed for making an attempt on the life of the Austrian Emperor Franz Joseph in 1882.

Civico Museo del Mare

Via Campo Marzio, 5 Tel. 040 304885 A science museum narrating the story of marine life in Trieste and the shipbuilding industry



from its origins up to the 19th century. One section is dedicated to fishing, another to J. F. Ressel who invented the propeller.

Museo Ferroviario Via Giulio Cesare, 1

Via Giulio Cesare, 1 Tel. 040 3794185 With its display of fifteen or so electric and steam-powered locomotives, the museum bears witness to the history of the railways in Trieste with models, relics, photographs and documents.

Civico Museo Revoltella Modern art gallery

Via Diaz, 27 Tel. 040 6754350 Baron Pasquale Revoltella donated his splendidly furnished 19th century house to the Trieste city council, for it to become a modern art gallery. 19th century Italian painting (O. Borrani, F. Nittis and A. Mancini) and sculpture (L. Bistolfi, D. Barcaglia, P. Canonica and D. Trentacoste) are both well represented here, as is foreign painting from





between the 19th and 20th centuries (F. von Stuck, L. Zorn, I. Zuloaga and G. Bilbao y Martinez) and art from the twenties and thirties (V. Bolaffio, A. Nathan, P. Marussig, E. Sambo, C. Sbisà, D. Stultus, M. Mascherini and R. Rovan). At the bottom of the staircase is a graceful statuesque group (P. Magni) portraying the cutting of the Isthmus of Suez.

Civico Acquario Marino

Molo Pescheria, 2 Riva Nazario Sauro, 1 Tel. 040 306201

A science museum, housed in the Art Nouveau building of the former fishmarket, the Pescheria Centrale (G. Polli, 1913). It has 25 tanks filled with seawater which is pumped up to a height of 10 metres in the bell-tower and then allowed to drop into the tanks. It houses a wide range of tropical and marine fauna as well as two penguins, which are the real attraction for young and old alike.

Civico Museo d'Arte Orientale

Via San Sebastiano, 1 Tel. 040 3220736 Situated in an 18^{th} century palazzo, this is the only museum in the Friuli Venezia Giulia region specifically dedicated to oriental art. It houses collections of art, travel mementoes, arms and instruments from China and Japan.

Museo della Comunità Ebraica "Carlo e Vera Wagner"

Via del Monte, 5 Tel. 040 633819 The Jewish museum houses items of ritual art belonging to the community, to bear witness to Jewish life in the town.



Civico Museo Morpurgo

Via Imbriani, 5 Tel. 040 636969 Ambience museum in the Borgo Teresiano. It is a splendid example of a bourgeois house from the second half of the 19th century. This magnificently furnished home is particularly interesting thanks to the excellent conservation and wealth of its rooms, each representing a different historical style.



Civico Museo della Risiera di S. Sabba Via G. Palatucci, 5 Tel. 040 826202 National monument since 1965. Built as a rice-husking factory, during the German occupation

during the German occupation the Risiera was first converted into a clearing station for the concentration camps and then into Italy's only extermination camp, equipped with a cremation furnace.

Riserva Naturale Marina di Miramare

Viale Miramare, 349 Tel. 040 224147 Protected marine area, created by the WWF; swimming, sailing and fishing are forbidden.

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It hosts the typical fauna and flora of the Trieste coast. Underwater tours are available.

Science Centre Immaginario Scientifico

Riva Massimiliano e Carlotta, 15 Grignano - Tel. 040 224424 A new form of science museum combining the enjoyment of discovery and knowledge to interactive games and multimedia shows.

Civico Museo di Guerra per la pace Diego De Henriquez

Via Revoltella, 37 Tel. 040 948430 Via Cumano, 24 (heavy duty vehicles, artillery) A display of military relics from the two world wars collected by the Triestine scholar, Diego de Henriquez, designed to help visitors reflect on the outcome of using human intelligence for the purposes of war and peace.



Civico Museo Teatrale Carlo Schmidl Via Rossini, 4 Tel. 040 6754072

The library specialized in music and theatre stems from Carlo Schmidl's personal library. It includes a rich collection of musical items and a newspaper library.

Museo Postale

Palazzo delle Poste Italiane Piazza Vittorio Veneto, 1 Tel. 040 6764264





Museo Commerciale Via San Nicolò 7, Tel. 040 6701234/229 This trade museum was founded by the Chamber of Commerce as part of the celebrations for its 250th anniversary.

Museo Etnografico di Servola

Via del Pane Bianco, 52 Tel. 040 827248 Founded privately, the museum documents the customs and traditions of Servola with photographs, old edicts, and various items. It displays the various rooms of a house, including a kitchen with an oven for baking bread.



In the surroundings of Trieste

Castello di Duino

34013 Duino-Aurisina TS Tel. 040 208120 The elegant residence of the Princes della Torre e Tasso was begun in 1389. This beautifully furnished castle gave hospitality to famous names in international art and literature: Johann Strauss, Franz Liszt, Marc Twain, Gabriele D'Annunzio and Rainer Maria Rilke, whose name is given to the panoramic pathway connecting Duino to Sistiana. In the garden wanders the ghost of the White Lady, among ageold trees and cascades of flowers.

Grotta Gigante

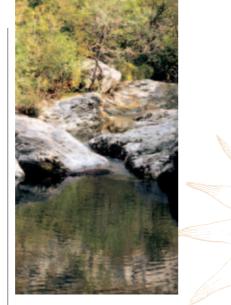
Borgo Grotta Gigante - Sgonico TS Tel. 040 327312



The largest cave in the world open to tourists. It stands out not only thanks to its size, but also thanks to the stunning stalactites constellating its immense vault and to its stalagmites. Inside, the Geophysical Observatory has set up a very sensitive seismograph, the only scientific instrument worldwide for measuring land tides.

Carsiana

Sgonico TS - Tel. 040 229573 Botanic garden. Eight karst environments have been recreated with their own particular forms of vegetation on a surface area of 6000 sq.m.





You can go for a charming stroll in the harbour (Mandracchio) and through the narrow streets, where the typical restaurants offer excellent fish dishes. It is famous for its carnival which marks the local social and cultural life. Muggia Vecchia, the old part of town and the small Basilica dell'Assunta from the 10th century are well worth a visit.





Risorgive del Timavo

The karst river finally sees the light again after flowing underground for 35 km.

Val Rosandra

This typical mountain-like karst area was formed by the rock erosion of the Rosandra creek, which flows into a striking waterfall at Bottazzo. The vertical walls of the eastern crest are ideal for practising rock-climbing.

Casa Carsica

Monrupino TS - Tel. 040 327240 An example of rural architecture in the karst area.

Rocca di Monrupino and shrine

A 14th century fortress where the Nozze Carsiche (karst weddings) are still celebrated every two years in typical traditional costumes.

Foiba di Basovizza

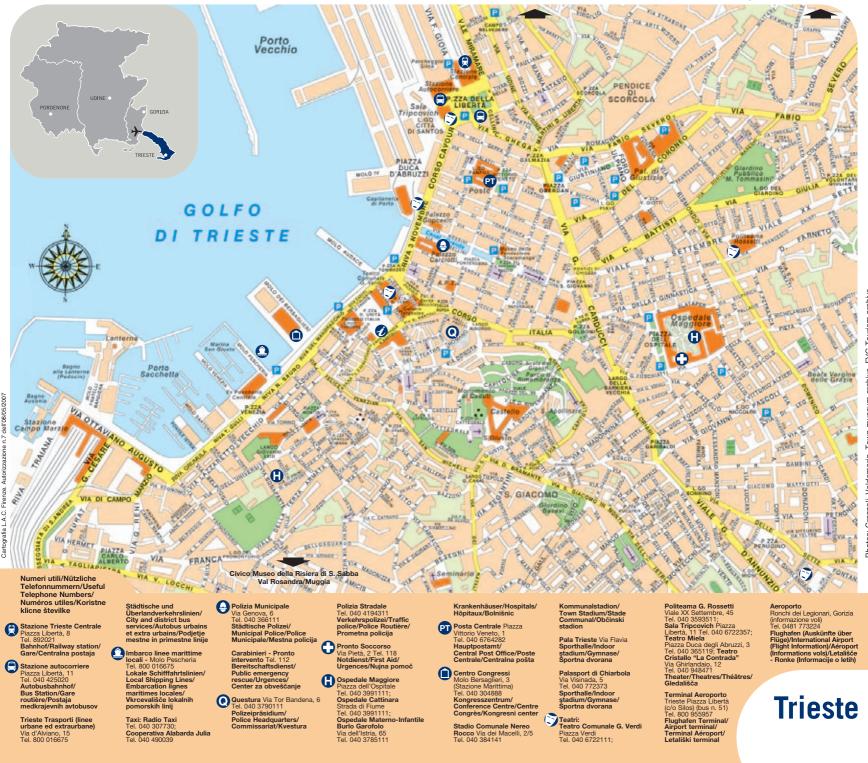
National monument, a sad document of the atrocities of the Second World War. It is the largest common grave in Italy.

Muggia

A small Istrian-Venetian town, the last strip of the Trieste province on the coast. Its historic centre is enclosed by medieval walls and overlooked by the castle.

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