

veronetta

CULTURAL DISTRICT

On the left bank of the Adige river, only a step away from the centre, lies the oldest and liveliest neighbourhood of Verona, whose identity has been built up over the centuries in an interweaving of art, nature, history, and local knowledge: Veronetta.

On the hill where Castel San Pietro stands, with its magnificent belvedere and strategic observation point, the first inhabited nucleus of the city was settled in ancient times, while downstream, the Adige - the waterway - has characterized the identity and appearance of the neighbourhood for centuries. Following the course of the river from north to south, one can grasp the different souls of Veronetta, from the Roman era to the present day, amidst the archaeological remains of the Roman Theatre, the churches and the medieval and Renaissance architecture, examples of 19th- and 20th-century sculpture, art galleries and cultural spaces, the University, museums and theatres, greenways and historic gardens, workshops and taverns.

It is not hard to imagine the life of the neighbourhood before the construction of the large embankments and the silting up of the Acqua Morta canal (today the Via Interrato dell'Acqua Morta), when the Adige was divided into two branches, giving rise to an island (the so-called "Isolo"), where artisan activities were established that exploited the driving force of the water, as well as the river as a trade route. At that time, many buildings such as Palazzo Pompei (now seat of the Museum of Natural History) or Palazzo Giusti were endowed with a direct landing on the river, at times still visible, as in the case of the Antica Dogana (today a cultural and sports centre).

The history of Veronetta is also linked to the wars and to the armies that occupied the city between the 18th and 19th centuries: the fortified architecture and the new defensive walls - today green areas with panoramic walking paths - date back to this period, as does the name of the neighbourhood. In fact, it was the French troops - installed in the city's historic centre with Napoleon Bonaparte in 1801 - who called the area occupied by the Austrians "Veronette" in a derogatory sense.

The itineraries:

Veronetta and the Adige, the waterway APPROXIMATELY 3 KM

15 - 1 - 23 - 20 - 8 - 25 - 19 - 16 - 30 - 26 - 14 - 5

This itinerary leads us upstream along the Adige River flowing through Verona, a source of life and sustenance that for centuries has been at the centre of the city's economy. We thus discover what life was like in the neighbourhood when the Isolo was the fulcrum of commercial activity and of the small industrial enterprises of Verona. Thanks to the numerous mills that characterized this stretch, the river constituted an inexhaustible source of hydraulic energy useful to the numerous factories, leather tanneries and felt manufactures, and to the sawmills that processed the lumber arriving from the Tyrol on enormous barges. Up until the last century, in fact, its great water flow made the Adige navigable from Trentino to the sea, to the point that a steam navigation project was studied with the intention of fully exploiting this important "river highway"! From Piazza Isolo, then, with a short walk, it is possible to reach Colle San Pietro, which dominates the river, and on whose slopes, taking advantage of the natural bend, the beautiful Roman-era theatre was erected.

Veronetta and art, from ancient to contemporary APPROXIMATELY 4 KM

15 - 11 - 23 - 22 - 31 - 29 - 27 - 12 - 4 - 18 - 7 - 20 - 8 - 25 - 17 - 28 - 9 - 21 - 6 - 19 - 16 - 30 - 26 - 10 - 5

This route explores the many souls, from ancient to contemporary, of this authentic and lively district which was the birthplace of the painter Paolo Veronese and is today home to spaces dedicated to art and cultural initiatives. From the historical origins of the city, with the Archaeological Museum and Ponte Pietra, to Palazzo Giusti with its unmissable giardino all'italiana; from hidden treasures such as the Pala Argentea in the Church of San Paolo, to the Monumental Cemetery, a precious point of reference for monumental sculpture of the 1800s and 1900s, and the former Provianda di Santa Marta, now a University centre housing more than eighty works in a contemporary art collection, Veronetta reveals itself as a neighbourhood that has always been linked to the arts and culture.

Fortified and green Veronetta APPROXIMATELY 5 KM

30 - 26 - 14 - 2 - 24 - 13 - 17 - 27 - 3 - 31

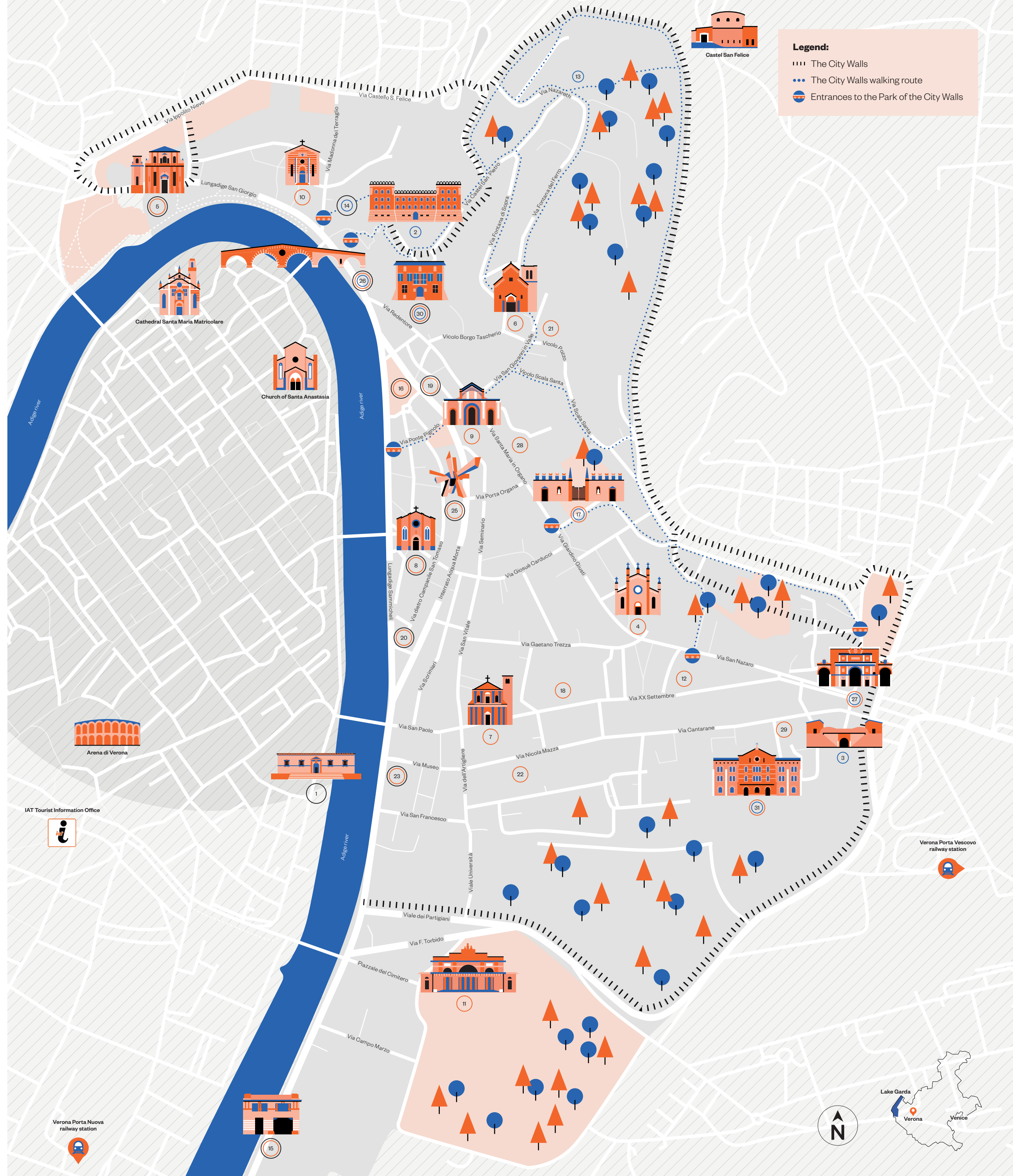
This route, which runs partly through the streets of the neighbourhood and partly along an elevated green path, tells the story of a Veronetta that between the 18th and 19th centuries was crossed and occupied by the great French and Austrian armies: from Castel San Pietro, a former strategic observation point, today a belvedere with an unbeatable view of the city, it is possible to reach, at various points, the defensive walls now transformed into green areas with long panoramic walking paths, passing the Fontana del Ferro and Giardino Giusti, Porta Vesovo and the Bastione delle Maddalene, seat of the Verona Città Fortificata Documentation Center, to finally arrive at the former Austrian Provianda di Santa Marta in the University area.

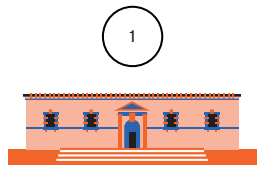
Places to visit in Veronetta:

- 1 Antica Dogana di Fiume 📍
- 2 Castel San Pietro 📍
- 3 Verona Città Fortificata Documentation Centre - Bastione delle Maddalene
- 4 Church of Santi Nazaro e Celso
- 5 Church of San Giorgio in Braida
- 6 Church of San Giovanni in Valle
- 7 Church of San Paolo in Campo Marzio
- 8 Church of San Tomaso Cantuariense
- 9 Church of Santa Maria in Organo
- 10 Church of Santo Stefano
- 11 Monumental Cemetery
- 12 Fonderia 20.9
- 13 Fontana del Ferro
- 14 Castel San Pietro Funicular 📍
- 15 Galleria Studio la Città

- 16 Giardini della Giarina - Monument to Paolo Veronese
- 17 Giardino Giusti and Palazzo Giusti
- 18 Isolo17 Gallery
- 19 La Giarina Contemporary Art
- 20 Lungadige Sammicheli - Monument to Paolo Montanari 📍
- 21 African Museum
- 22 Don Mazza Embroidery Museum
- 23 Museum of Natural History - Palazzo Pompei
- 24 Park of the City Walls 📍
- 25 Piazza Isolo and Via Interrato dell'Acqua Morta
- 26 Ponte Pietra 📍
- 27 Porta Vesovo
- 28 Spazio 6 Galleria d'arte
- 29 Teatro Camploy
- 30 Roman Theatre and Archaeological Museum
- 31 University of Verona - Former Provianda di Santa Marta

📍 Outside visits only/ panoramic viewpoint

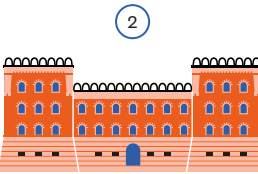




Antica Dogana di Fiume

Via Dogana, 6

Located in the historic Filippini district, the old customs house represents the Venetian Age splendidly, when Verona was in symbiosis with the river, and the city's importance as a crossroads between the Mediterranean and Northern Europe. Divided into the Dogana di Terra - the Superintendent's restoration laboratory headquarters - and the Dogana di Fiume - it is a place for canoes and canoeists, and a cultural, cinema and music venue. Only open for events or during a canoe descent, from Veronetta you can admire the landing on the river from along the Lungadige Porta Vittoria or from Ponte Navi.



Castel San Pietro

Piazzale Castel S. Pietro, 1

This neo-Romanesque military building, built in 1856 by the Austrians, is strategically situated on Colle San Pietro (from 7th-century homonymous church). After the earliest Roman era settlements, it was the residence of Alboino and Rosamund, and of Pepin and Berengar during the barbarian invasions. On the ruins of the fortress built by Berengar, Giangaleazzo Visconti built a castle in 1398 (hence the name "Castel San Pietro"), destroyed by French troops in 1801 when the Adige's left bank fell into Austrian hands. Today, the castle's courtyards are used as public gardens, while the square in front offers a breathtaking view of the entire city.

Verona Città Fortificata Documentation Centre Bastione delle Maddalene

Vicolo Madonnina, 12

A fine example of military architecture, the Bastione delle Maddalene is the result of three different periods: the Scaliger Middle Ages, the Venetian Republic and the Austrian reconstruction. The first pentagonal bastion in history, it is a prototype of bastioned fortification. It owes its name to the nearby former Convent of the Maddalene. Today it is the seat of the Centro Documentazione Verona Città Fortificata, whose exhibit and multi-media tour covers the historical and monumental heritage of Verona's military architecture, which has put Verona on the UNESCO list of World Heritage Sites.

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Church of Santi Nazaro e Celso

Largo San Nazaro, 1

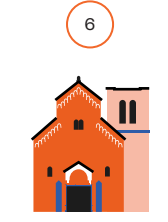
Dating to the 7th century, but consecrated only in 1483, the church is a mixture of Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque styles. Containing works by Veronese painters such as Antonio Badile, Orlando Flacco, Battista del Moro and Domenico Brusaporzi, the vaulted ceilings of the presbytery and apse are frescoed by Paolo Farinati, who also painted two canvases at the sides of the choir. The Chapel of San Biagio (1508) houses the relics of the martyrs St. Blaise and St. Juliana. The portal of 1688 has two pairs of twin columns embellished by sculpted drapery seemingly tied around the shafts.



Church of San Giorgio in Braida

Piazzetta S. Giorgio

A former Benedictine monastery on the northern border between Veronetta and Borgo Trento, founded in 1042, this church owes its current Renaissance appearance to works made in 1442. The majestic dome and bell tower were designed by Sanmicheli. Under Austrian rule, the church was largely demolished, but completely restored in 1938. The apse is home to the Martyrdom of St. George by Paolo Veronese.



Church of San Giovanni in Valle

Via S. Giovanni in Valle, 36

Built on the ruins of a pagan necropolis and Roman temple, it is one of Verona's oldest and most evocative churches. Of the early building, only part of the crypt remains, the rest having been seriously damaged by the 1117 earthquake. The present Romanesque-style structure is the result of three interventions: the first in 1120, the second (to widen the nave and rebuild the façade) in 1300, and the third immediately after the bombings of 1944. Preserved in the crypt are two very valuable sarcophagi believed to contain the relics of apostles Simon the Canaanite and Jude Thaddeus.

Church of San Paolo in Campo Marzio

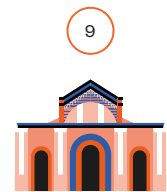
Via dell'Artigliere, 1

Located in a former marshland - Campo Marzio (literally, "trotten field") - on the site of a Romanesque church dedicated to Saints Peter and Paul, in the 18th century it was given a neoclassical structure and dedicated to St. Paul. It houses works by famous Veronese painters including Paolo Farinati, Domenico Brusaporzi, Giovan Francesco Caroto and Girolamo dai Libri. The Marogna Chapel conserves the Pala Argentea altarpiece, by Paolo Veronese.

Church of San Tomaso Cantuariense

Piazza S. Tomaso, 17

During the late Middle Ages, there were two churches in this area: an older one, dedicated to the martyr St. Thomas Becket - murdered in 1170 for his aversion to Henry II of England - which testifies to the strong bond between the Carmelites of Verona and this saint, and one - with an adjoining monastery - dedicated to the Annunciation. Unified by the Carmelites in the 15th century, the present building merges Veronese Romanesque and Late Gothic styles. Under Napoleon, the church was used as an infirmary, while under the later Austrian rule, the cloister was partially demolished and the former convent was used as a military prison. Reopened for worship with the annexation of Veneto to Italy, it conserves works by famous Veronese artists such as Paolo Farinati, Girolamo dai Libri, Alessandro Turchi and Antonio Balestra, as well as a pipe organ built in 1716 by Giuseppe Bonatti and played by the young Mozart in 1770 during one of his trips to Italy.



Church of Santa Maria in Organo

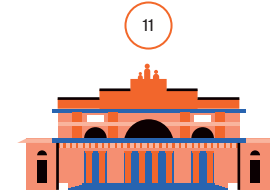
Via Santa Maria in Organo, 1/B

A Benedictine abbey since the 7th or 8th century, Santa Maria in Organo is the oldest monastery in Verona. The church, with its prevalently 15th-century forms, is called "in Organo" for the pre-existing domed building listed as "Organum" in the Raterian iconography (dated 7th century, the first graphic representation of Verona). Not to be missed are frescoes by Domenico Morone, the sacristy wardrobes marquetry, and fine 15th century wooden choir and lectern carved by Fra Giovanni da Verona. The "Muletta," a wooden statue of Jesus on a mule as he enters Jerusalem, is preserved in a chapel.

Church of di Santo Stefano

Vicolo Scaletta S. Stefano, 2

The primitive nucleus of the church dates back to the 5th century when the cult of the proto-martyr Stefano, whose relics were found in 415, arrived in Verona. It was probably the cathedral of Verona until the 8th century. In the lower church is the remarkable Baroque chapel dedicated to the Holy Innocents. The dome is frescoed by Pasquale Ottino, as is the altarpiece depicting the Massacre of the Innocents. In the upper church, there is a splendid Annunciation and a Coronation of the Virgin by Martino da Verona.



Monumental Cemetery

Piazzale del Cimitero, 1

Built in neoclassical style with a square plan starting in 1828, the Monumental Cemetery

doubled its area in 1910. In the 1930s, small chapels and the Tempio Ossario, dedicated to the fallen soldiers of World War I, were added. In the spacious cemetery area, including the Barbieri Cemetery, the New Cemetery and the Garden Cemetery, it is possible to admire funeral monuments by famous sculptors such as Riccardo Cassini, Pino Castagna, Ettore Fagioli and Ugo Zannoni. Umberto Boccioni, the leading artist of Italian Futurism who died in Verona during World War I, and Emilio Salgari, the Veronese author remembered for his cycles of adventure novels (particularly *Sandokan*), are both buried here.

Fonderia 20.9

Via XX Settembre, 67/A

A non-profit exhibition space founded in 2015 dealing with contemporary photography. Exhibitions are accompanied by a work of aggregation on the territory with a small but refined library, a projection room and a printing workshop. It owes its name to the nearby historic Cavadini bell foundry.

Fontana del Ferro

Via Nazareth

Located on the slope of the Torricella, near the Church of Santa Maria di Nazareth, to reach it visitors take a pleasant walk through the Scala Santa and the green hamlet of San Giovanni in Valle. Its name derives from the goddess Feronia, for whom propitiatory rituals were celebrated in Roman times.

Castel San Pietro Funicular

Via Santo Stefano, 12

Colle San Pietro was always a safe place for populations in pre-Roman times as it is close to the river but safely elevated in case of floodings. In the Roman era it comprised numerous villas, later removed to make room, first, for a sacred temple and later for the small early-Christian church dedicated to St. Peter the Apostle. The funicular that climbs up the hill was conceived in the years before World War I but realized only after the second conflict and closed in 1944. Reopened in 2017 and accessible all year round, it allows visitors to reach the nature trails on the hills and the belvedere overlooking the bend of the Adige and the historic centre.

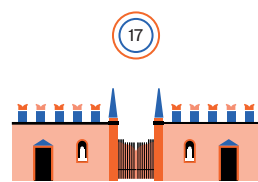
Galleria Studio la Città

Lungadige Galtarossa, 21

Founded in 1969, this art gallery occupies a 900 square-meter space in the former Lungadige Galtarossa railway workshop complex. It has always been known for promoting new artistic languages and operates on a national and international level, boasting historic artists such as Lucio Fontana, David Leverett, Sol Lewitt, Gabriele Basilico, Pier Paolo Calzolari and Giulio Paolini, and young artists like Hema Upadhyay, Shipra Gupta, Tracey Snelling, Arthur Duff and Roberto Pugliese.

Giardini della Giarina Monument to Paolo Veronese

Paolo Callari, better known as Veronese, was a famous Venetian Renaissance painter, active in Venice and the Veneto, known for large-scale religious and mythological subjects. He was born in Veronetta, where he first studied and where he met Michele Sanmicheli. The 1888 marble statue dedicated to him is a work by Romeo Cristani; originally located in front of the Church of Sant'Anastasia, since 1910 it has been in the Giardini della Giarina, so called because they were once made of "ghiana"(gravel), in Veronese "giarina".



Giardino Giusti and Palazzo Giusti

Via Giardino Giusti, 2

The Giusti family moved to Verona from Tuscany at the end of the 1300s to pursue interests in the wool dyeing industry. In the area where the noble palace with its famous garden stands today - a shining example of *giardino all'italiana* - they grew plants used for wool dyeing, laid the wool out to dry and, in the area of Isolo, were able to trade due to quick access to the river. In the 16th century, the factory buildings were replaced by an elegant palace in the style of Sanmicheli, and formal garden with a boxwood maze, cypresses, fountains and artificial caves to impress visitors, as was fashionable. A secret staircase dug into the rock led to the belvedere. As the Grand Tour in Europe became popular, it was an obligatory stop for great travellers such as Mozart, Goethe, Emperor Joseph II and Tsar Alexander of Russia. In 2019, the seven rooms of the 20th-century Apartment were reopened to the public after restoration and refurbishment work.

Isolo17 Gallery

Via Venti Settembre, 31/B

A contemporary art gallery founded in 2012, it presents a selection of young Italian and Cuban artists, with particular attention to new trends and intercultural comparison.

La Giarina Contemporary Art

Interrato dell'Acqua Morta, 82

Since 1987 it works in contemporary Italian and international art research and experimentation relative to 20th century historical avant-garde movements (Futurism, Dadaism, Surrealism, Nouveau Réalisme, Fluxus). It is located in a 16th-century palazzo facing the Giardini della Giarina, its namesake.

Lungadige Sammicheli Monument to Carlo Montanari

Located between Ponte Nuovo and Ponte Navi on the western side of what was once the Isolo, this section of the Lungadige is named for Michele Sammicheli, Venice's historic architect, and author, among other works, of Porta Nuova, Porta S. Zeno and Palazzo Pompei (Museum of National History). Sanmicheli's studio was located in the same neighbourhood, not far from the Church of San Tomaso. In the Ponte Navi area is a bronze monument created in 1910 by Francesco Petroni in honour of Carlo Montanari, patriot and martyr, descendant of an ancient family of Verona, dedicated to science, benefactor and Conservator of the Società Letteraria di Verona (Literary Society of Verona) since 1850.

African Museum

Vicolo Pozzo, 1

Founded in 1938 thanks to Bishop Francesco Sogaro, Daniele Comboni's first successor, to provide a showcase for the activities of the Comboni missionaries in Africa. Open to the public since the early 1970s, the Museo Africano offers an exhibition tour organized according to the cycle of life, in which it is possible to admire traditional African artifacts and multimedia material. Conceived as a place for intercultural dialogue, it promotes numerous educational activities and, thanks to the Nigrizia Library, is also a centre for ethno-anthropological studies.

Don Mazza Embroidery Museum

Via Nicola Mazza, 14

Located inside the women's institute of the same name, since the 1960s it has exhibited embroidery, designs and materials related to lace as well as the preparatory drawings for Don Mazza's vestment, a masterpiece of the Art of Silk practiced in Verona donated by Emperor Ferdinand I to Pope Pius IX in 1862, and today preserved in the Sistine Chapel. A "gem" for lace lovers that can be visited only by appointment.

Museum of Natural History Palazzo Pompei

Lungadige Porta Vittoria, 9

One of the first in Italy to organize educational activities for schools, the Civic Museum of Natural History of Verona is known for its ongoing and consistent research work as well as for its precious collection of fossils (such as the famous fossils from Monte Bolca), zoological and prehistoric materials, dried plants and minerals. It is located in one of the most important buildings of the city from a historical and architectural point of view: Palazzo Pompei, a noble Renaissance building of the 16th century, designed by the famous architect Michele Sanmicheli and built between 1535 and 1540 on commission of the Lavezzola family. In 1579, it was purchased by the Pompei family who lived there for almost two centuries and finally, in 1833, donated it to the City of Verona together with the adjacent Palazzo Carlotti.

Park of the City Walls

Now a UNESCO site of historical significance, the fortifications of Verona include the remains of the early medieval walls built by Theodoric in the 5th century, the city walls and the larger, more structured 14th-century Scaliger fortifications, including adaptations and additions made necessary by the wars between 1800 and 1900. Located in the hilly area above Veronetta and accessible from several points, the Parco delle Mura offers nature trails with lovely panoramic views of the city. The route from Vicolo and Via Scala Santa is particularly suggestive.

Piazza Isolo and Via Interrato dell'Acqua Morta

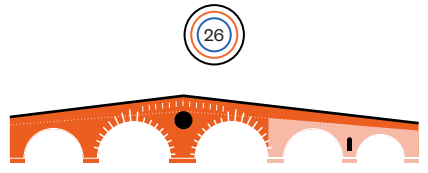
Piazza Isolo

In 1882, the Adige River flooded Verona destroying Ponte Nuovo, bringing down buildings and hindering the activity of many local factories. The ancient mills that had characterized the Veronese landscape since the Middle Ages were swept away by the forceful waters. Since then, Veronetta's appearance has changed radically: the embankments have been raised and the Acqua Morta canal, a secondary branch of the Adige that formed the Isolo (today's Piazza Isolo), has been filled in. The signs of the previous fluvial identity remain in some details, such as the names Interrato dell'Acqua Morta, Via Pte Pignolo, Pizzetta Bra' dei Molinari and Pzza Isolo. The latter still hosts the open-air market and two iconic monuments: *Lo spino del filo spinato* (2009), a bronze sculpture by Pino Castagna dedicated to the victims of the Shoah, and the statue in honour of Daniele Comboni, a Franciscan missionary and founder of the Comboni Missionary Institute, who in 1857 took part in the Mazzanian missionary expedition to Central Africa and was later consecrated Bishop of Central Africa.



veronetta

CULTURAL DISTRICT



Ponte Pietra

Dating back to 89 B.C., this is the oldest and most suggestive bridge in Verona, the only one left from the Roman era. It replaced, a few meters downstream, the previous Ponte Postumio wooden bridge destroyed by various overflowing of the Adige. It survived numerous floods but was demolished during World War II by the retreating Germans and then rebuilt between 1957 and 1959 by Piero Gazzola and Libero Cecchini, recovering stones from the river bed and returning the bridge to its original beauty.



Porta Vescovo

Piazzale Porta Vescovo

As early as the Scaliger era it was the city's eastern access. Its name probably derives from the fact that the Bishop of Verona had certain rights regarding duties on goods entering through this passage. The monument dates back to the Venetian period, when the gate was enlarged, reinforced and embellished with a decorated white stone façade. The structure is that of a triumphal arch, inspired by the many Roman models in the city. During the Austrian period, it regulated access to Veronetta and still today marks the eastern boundary of the neighbourhood, separating it from Borgo Venezia. It currently houses the Radio Museum.

Spazio 6 Galleria d'arte

Via Santa Maria in Organo, 6

An art gallery located inside Palazzo Malfatti, a historic neoclassical building that once housed the Cenigomma warehouse. It has been dealing with Veronese art and artists for 50 years.

Teatro Camploy

Via Cantarane, 32

Originally the Church of S. Francesco D'Assisi, then the Collegio degli Artigianelli (an institute for poor children) and later a night shelter, Teatro Camploy (named for donor Giuseppe Camploy) was built between 1982 and 1998 by architect

Rinaldo Olivieri, inspired by Veneto's traditional theatre architecture (Vicenza's Olympic Theatre, Verona's Roman Theatre) and harmoniously combining the 19th-century structure with modern tastes. Today it hosts theatre and dance performances.

Roman Theatre and Archaeological Museum

Rigaste Redentore, 2

One of the city's oldest buildings (ca.30 B.C.) and largest, best-preserved ancient theatres in Italy, it is part of the homonymous Archaeological Museum complex. Built on Colle San Pietro (once site of a pagan temple) utilising the incline, it is a union of Greek and Roman architecture. After the fall of the Roman Empire, it was completely encompassed by houses, but came to light again at the end of the 19th century together with numerous finds. Only the Church of SS. Siro and Libera was spared by the 19th-century land reclamation and still stands atop the cavea of the theatre. The Museum, whose exhibition area is found in the former Convent of the Gesuati overlooking the theatre, preserves artifacts of Roman Verona from *in loco* excavations and other sites in the city. During the summer months, the theatre features concerts and outdoor performances.

University of Verona - Former Provianda di Santa Marta

Via Cantarane, 24

A former bakery for Austrian troops, the fortified complex of Santa Marta is a shining example of industrial archaeology. Originally used to bake bread and hardtack, and for the storage and administration of other kinds of rations, today - after the masterful restoration in 2015 that earned it the Gold Medal for Italian Architecture at the Triennale di Milano of that year - it is one of the seats of the University of Verona and hosts *Contemporanee/Contemporanei*, a semi-permanent exhibition of contemporary artworks from the AGIVERONA collection.