

ask me

I'm hungry. What should I eat?

Mantova's culture boasts delicious typical dishes. Don't have a sandwich on the run, take the opportunity to taste some specialities. If there are too many good things and you're uncertain about what to choose, ask locals for a tip. They will give you the best suggestions.

And if I wanted to have a packed lunch?

We suggest having it in one of the many parks in the city, not near the monuments, to enjoy your meal in peace. Then remember to throw the rubbish into bins.

And if I were thirsty?

Try to limit the use of small plastic bottles of water. Around the city you can find several drinking fountains, which are marked on the map. Fill and use the same bottle several times and throw it in a bin when you don't need it any longer.

I have small children. Where can I change them or let them play?

If you need to change them, breastfeed them or heat up their baby bottle, you can do it in any of the pit stops around the city, marked on the map. Instead, if your children want to play in the open air, they can do it in the fully-equipped parks shown on the map.

Can I walk my dog in the city centre freely?

Of course! But remember that his/her pee can seriously damage the porticos and the monuments of the city. In case it happens, clean immediately with a little water. Take your dog to a public park for his/her toilet needs. In case your dog leaves some solid waste, collect it. This way you'll avoid turning the pavement into an obstacle course.

Can I drive in the city centre?

Mantova's city centre is a limited traffic area, so you will have to ask for a permit to access it by car. However, our city is small and you can get around easily on foot or by bicycle, enjoying amazing sights. If you have no other option but to drive, be careful of pedestrians. There are many of them around. They are not bowling pins!

Where can I park?

If you arrive by car, take advantage of free car parks. For instance, "Campo Canoa" car park offers a free shuttle bus to reach the city centre. Otherwise you can walk and enjoy the most beautiful skyline in Italy.

One last tip: leave the beauty of Mantova untouched. No padlocks or graffiti! By respecting the city, you'll allow your children and grandchildren to see the same beauty as you did.

legend

- POINTS OF INTEREST
- 1 Complesso di Palazzo Ducale
 - 2 Museo Archeologico Nazionale (Archeologic Museum)
 - 3 Duomo - Cattedrale di San Pietro
 - 4 Area archeologica - Domus Romana (Archeological Area)
 - 5 Teatro Bibiena
 - 6 Biblioteca Comunale Teresiana (Civic Library)
 - 7 Museo Storico Nazionale dei Vigili del Fuoco (Historical Museum of Firefighters)
 - 8 Palazzo Della Ragione, Torre dell'Orologio and Rotonda di San Lorenzo
 - 9 Palazzo della Camera di Commercio
 - 10 Museo Diocesano Francesco Gonzaga
 - 11 Madonna della Vittoria
 - 12 Palazzo d'Arco
 - 13 Basilica di Sant'Andrea
 - 14 Teatro Sociale
 - 15 Casa della Beata Osanna
 - 16 Museo Tazio Nuvolari
 - 17 Casa del Mantenga
 - 18 Biblioteca G. Baratta (Civic Library)
 - 19 Tempio di San Sebastiano
 - 20 Museo della Città - Palazzo di San Sebastiano (City Museum)
 - 21 Palazzo Te

- INFORMATION POINTS
- Infopoint Casa del Rigoletto
IAT - Ufficio Informazione e Accoglienza Turistica
- PARKS - FUN ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS

- NURSING ROOMS
- Infopoint Casa del Rigoletto
Civic Library "G. Baratta"
- DRINKING WATER FOUNTAINS



www.mantovasabbioneta-unesco.it

Translations by: class 4AT school year 2017/2018

Debora, Sorghato Simone, Sternieri Cristina, Vallari Annachiara.
Federico, Modenini Amina, Morandini Sara, Morvillo Chiara, Politi
Di Nardo Carola, Fathi Manal, Feroldi Giulia, Foroni Jessica, Gualta
Capa Filippo, Carnevali Diego, Cremonesi Matilde, Comforini Alice,
Azoni Agata, Battisti Francesca, Belmonte Francesco, Borelli Mara,
(ITES Pitentino - Tourism)

Here are a few tips for you. Please help us!

Site, so we have the responsibility to preserve it as well as we can.
them with us!
history and activities of some different places in the city. Discover
places where these photos were shot.
A name, a reason: the names of the streets help us to trace the
glimpses of the city which have changed in time. Look for the
Snapshots from the past: we selected some photos from historic
archives in Mantova, taken during the last century. They show
who have experienced the city.
most and the reasons. Find out the "heart" places of the people
a few tourists asking them what place in Mantova excited them the
most and the reasons. Find out the "heart" places of the people
The map is divided into four sections:
- A trip down memory lane: we interviewed some citizens as well as
- Snapshots from the past: we selected some photos from historic
archives in Mantova, taken during the last century. They show
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a brief introduction to the project

COMUNE di MANTOVA
Mantova e Sabbioneta
Patrimonio Mondiale
ITES
Mantova e Sabbioneta
Patrimonio Mondiale
United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization
Perimeter of the World
Heritage Site

MANTUA THROUGH OUR EYES

The key to live the city in a more conscious way

MANTOVA CITTÀ D'ARTE E DI CULTURA

snapshots from the past

foto Archivio Storico Comunale di Mantova
fondo raccolta fotografica



1 BROLETTO SQUARE, 1892

This old photo shows the Arengario arch and the facade of the Palazzo del Podestà by Fancelli before the restoration works by Andreani in 1941, through which the openings of the medieval structures were recovered. In the middle of the square, there was the statue by Miglioretti, which was moved to Piazza Dante in 1894. Now in its place we find the fountain of the dolphins, which drew its water from the artesian well, dug in 1890.

journey into memories

1 PIAZZA ERBE

"When I was 18, I often came to Mantua to sell fruit in Sordello square. I used to leave from Goito with my cart and horse for Mantua, where I stayed all morning. In the square there were many merchants who came from other places and they used to buy my peaches."

@Marcello1930

2 TEATRO BIBIENA

"Inside the Bibiena theatre I can feel the magic of music and pianos. I'm a musician and this place is very important to me as I played there as a student of the Conservatoire. This theatre has always hosted the best music, from the past to the present and hopefully this will continue into the future."

@Marino1967

3 PIAZZA VIRGILIANA

"In this square I gave my first kiss, so I feel a lot of emotions: nervousness, happiness, nostalgia and I still smile when I remember it."

@Dasy1992

4 CHIESA DI SANT'ANDREA

The place that I prefer is the Basilica di Sant'Andrea. In particular I remember when Pope Wojtyla came here and celebrated the Mass. I was there and this memory still moves me... Now that they have just restored it, it's even more beautiful.

@Esther1954

5 PIAZZA SORDELLO

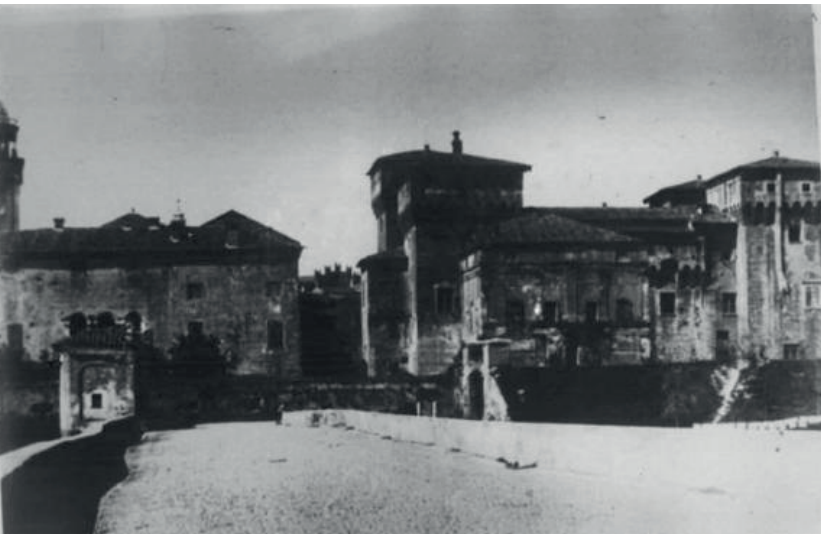
I often went to this place, because I loved seeing the painters who worked in the open air. Among them there was an artist known by the locals as Whisky. He used to paint glimpses of the city in a poetic way. I could stay there to admire him for ages.

@Franco1941

6 ROTONDA DI SAN LORENZO

In my opinion this place represents the city. It is small but it can host a lot of people and inside it you can feel a mystic atmosphere. In the courtyard outside the church there are always many children playing, which reminds me of the time I used to take my grandchildren there.

@Elizabeth1942



2 PONTE SAN GIORGIO - CASTELLO SAN GIORGIO - PALAZZINA DI MARGHERITA PALEOLOGA, 1898

"Ponte San Giorgio" was built after the Second World War using the supporting structure of the previous bridge. In front of the castle there stood the "Palazzina della Paleologa", which was demolished in 1898, and on the left of the bridge there was a small chapel dedicated to San Giovanni Nepomuceno.



3 LUNGORIO - CHIESA DI SAN DOMENICO, 1925

The area has undergone many changes; only the pavement with the flight of steps and the bell tower (campanile di San Domenico) are left. The church, the convent and the adjacent houses were demolished in 1926. Today there is a garden in this place and we can see the statue representing San Silvestro on a pedestal.

7 PIAZZA CANOSSA

"My old school was in Canossa Square: I used to come here every day and play with my friends. Now, thinking about those times, I feel happiness and nostalgia."

@Massimo1965

8 PALAZZO TE

"As a child, I used to play in the courtyard in Palazzo Te; we used the arches of the exedra as goalposts. If I think about it now, I would never do it again."

@Stefano1955

9 CORSO LIBERTÀ

"I witnessed the covering up of the Rio Canal near the central post office. I helped to build that area when I was young, so every time I'm there I feel that it belongs to me."

@Attilio1934

10 IL RIO

"When I was a child, I used to go to the bank of the Rio and I remember there were the "bugandere", washerwomen, who washed heavy clothes in the Rio. At that time there were neither washing detergents nor washing machines, so coal was used and the washing was done only a few times a year. We also used to bathe in the Rio, and one day, while playing in the water, we found a silk parachute. We took it and my mother, who was a dressmaker, made us some blouses."

@Deanna1938

11 PONTE DI SAN GIORGIO

"I remember very well the little chapel dedicated to San Giovannino, which was located on this bridge. I remember it had a plaque written in Latin. Two parents had it engraved to thank the saint, protector of the drowned, as their son had risked dying in the lake but had been able to survive thanks to the saint's help."

@Giancarlo1939

12 CHIESA DELLA MADONNA DEL TERREMOTO

"While I was going to university, there was an earthquake in Friuli. It was 1976 and every time I returned home, I used to stop at this church to pray the earthquake wouldn't happen again. Every time I go past the church, I remember what happened and how frightened I was."

@Tibi1956



4 MANTOVA - STRADA SCARSELLINI CHIESA DI S. FRANCESCO, FIRST HALF OF THE 19TH CENTURY

The Austrians changed the church into an arsenal in 1811. In 1943, it was restored by Aldo Andreani, who removed all the military works. In this photo we can still see the surrounding wall with the moat.



5 CHIESA DEI FILIPPINI AND THE RIDES IN VIRGILIANA SQUARE, 1920/1927

The photo of the square with the funfair was taken from some scaffolding during the construction of the monument dedicated to Virgilio. It wasn't a park at that time and in the background the facade of the Chiesa dei Filippini stands out. This church was bombed and destroyed in 1945.

13 THE GARDENS IN PIAVE STREET

"As a child I went to play around the monument of the Fallen Soldiers, which is still in the gardens. I used to go there with my mother every Saturday afternoon. I learnt to skate there. This memory makes me happy."

@Chiara1963

14 THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

"In this building I had a training experience during the festival "Segni d'Infanzia". Whenever I remember the children I played with and the people I met, I feel happy."

@Martina2000

15 VIA MASSARI

"I like the place around this street because walking on the bridge and looking at the Rio, you perceive the city on the water. The view of the Rio and of the "pescherie" (fish market place) created by Giulio Romano is one of the most outstanding glimpses in the city. It is a quiet area, where you can take in the atmosphere of the Rio."

@Simone1989

16 TEATRO SOCIALE

"Fifty years ago, on New Year's Eve, young people used to meet at the theatre to see famous singers. I remember that one year Giorgio Gaber came and played all night. I also remember that shows lasted from after dinner to late night. We had a great time, we danced and sang and it was an entertaining way to wait for the new year."

@Vanna1940



6 PIAZZA "MARTIRI DI BELFIORE" - A RED CROSS AMBULANCE AND A CARRIAGE DURING THE FLOOD- 1917

Corso Libertà was built only in the 50s; in its place, the Rio once flowed, overlooked by houses, before becoming an underground canal. In this photo we can see the post office building on the right and on the bridge the statue of San Silvestro, which stands now on the opposite side of the square.



7 SORDELLO SQUARE- MONUMENT TO THE MARTYRS OF BELFIORE, 1887/1899

In the centre of the square there was a monument dedicated to the Martyrs of Belfiore, which was placed there in 1872; in 1930 the sarcophagus containing the relics was moved to the Church of San Sebastiano, where it is still kept. Instead, the statue representing the Genius of Mankind by Miglioretti can now be seen at the entrance of Belfiore Park, where it was relocated in 2002.

a name, a reason for it

1 VIA DELL'ACCADEMIA: situated between Pomponazzo Street and Broletto Street, it took its name from the Accademia Virgiliana, still present in this street. Previously it was called "Fossato dei Buoi", because there was a moat overlooked by butchers' shops where oxen were slaughtered.

2 VICOLO AGUCCHIE: it is a closed lane starting from Piazza San Leonardo. Cap-makers worked here: they produced woollen caps and their art was called "agucchieria" (needlework).

VICOLO BINDOLO: situated between Zambelli Street and Pagliaio Lane, it was named after the tool used to spin wool; it is thought that here there were some cap shops.

3 VIA ALBERGO: it is situated between Canossa Square and Cavour Street. It was named after the Grande Albergo Reale, built in 1785, today called Palazzo Barbetta.

4 PIAZZA ARCHE: is situated between Pomponazzo Street and Teatro Vecchio Street; it took this name in 1871. The name comes from storage closets called arche, in which wine containers were kept before being sold in the square.

5 PIAZZA BROLETTO: it is located between Broletto Street and Giustiziati Street. The word Brolo or Broletto refers to a square or a public place, where the magistrates of the "city state" held their meetings in the Middle Ages; the palace of the "city state" was also called Broletto, especially in Lombardy.

6 VIA CANTARANINO: located between Mori Street and Valsesia Street, it is so called because of the continuous croaking of the frogs that lived in the adjacent fields and ponds, not far from the Fossa Magistrale (present in the area till the 1950s.)

7 CASTLE SQUARE: located between Sordello Square and Santa Barbara Square, it was so called because it leads to the main entrance to the castle. From 1827 till last century the yearly cocoon market was held in this square.

8 VICOLO CHIAVICHETTE: situated between XX Settembre Street and Sottoriva Lane, it took its name from some small dams that regulated the flow of the Rio. It was also called "Vicolo San Giovannino" because it ran between two little churches, one dedicated to San Giovanni Battista and the other to San Giovanni del Tempio.

9 VICOLO CHIODARE: it is a closed lane starting from Solferino Street; it took its name from the building where wool, after being washed and cleaned, was hung on nails to dry.

10 VICOLO MAINOLDA: situated between Verdi Street and Cavour Street, it was named after the house owned by the Mainoldi family. This building was then used as small barracks; during the Austrian period it became a jail for political prisoners.



8 MANTOVA-PORTA PUSTERLA-PALAZZO DI S. SEBASTIANO- FOSSA MAGISTRALE- 1905

The photo was taken from the "Te" island. The Fossa Magistrale, filled in 1930, flowed in what is now Risorgimento Street. Once the walls and the gate were pulled down, only Palazzo San Sebastiano was left.



9 PIAZZA ERBE SEEN FROM THE STEPS OF SANT'ANDREA, 1907.

View of the square where the buildings hiding the Rotonda di San Lorenzo were being knocked down. Note as well the dial of the clock on the tower as it appeared before being restored in 1990.

11 PIAZZA ERBE: located between Mantegna Square and Broletto Square, it took its name from the fruit and vegetable market which was held here. In some documents of the 17th century it was called the square of the merchants.

12 VIA GIUSTIZIATI: situated between Concordia Square and Ardigò Street, it was named after the small church where prisoners went to pray before being punished by death. It was built in 1398 by Bartolomeo de'Aliprandi.

13 SOTTOPORTICO DEI LATTONAI: situated between Piazza Erbe and Piazza Broletto, it was so called for the shops of tin sellers present here since the 18th century.

14 VIA MARMORINI: situated between Corridoni Street and Calvi street, it took its name from the shops of stonemasons that could be found in this street.

15 VIA DEI MULINI: situated between Pitentino Street and Verona Street, it was given this name in 1960 to recall the mills of "Ponte Mulini", destroyed by air bombing during the Second World War.

16 VIA OREFICI: located between Corridoni Street and Calvi Street, it took its name from the goldsmiths' shops present here.

17 VIA PESCHERIE: situated between Corridoni Street and Matteotti Street, it was so called because here the fish market was held under the porticos designed by Giulio Romano in 1536.

18 VIA PORTO: located between XXV Aprile Street and Dei Mulini Street, it was so called because it led to the Porta dei Mulini (gate of the mills), through which Borgo di Porto, today's Cittadella, could be reached.

19 VIALE RISORGIMENTO: it is located between Della Repubblica Street and Allende Street. Built on a stretch of the ancient patrol route, it was a military street, closed to citizens. It was named after the Italian Risorgimento.

20 VIA SAN LONGINO: located between Mantegna Square and Cappello Street, it was so called because it is opposite the Basilica di Sant'Andrea, where Christ's blood is preserved. This holy relic was brought to Mantova by a soldier called Longino.

21 VIA SCUOLA GRANDE: located between Calvi Street and Bertani Street, it was so called because it led to "Scuola Grande", that is the Synagogue of the Jews.

22 VIALE TE: it is located between Piazzale Vittorio Veneto and Piazza Porta Cerese. Palazzo Te gave the avenue its name; the island of "Te" was so called because there were two roads that, crossing each other, formed a T. Later the place was called Tejeto or Tejetes, which refers to a cut in the bank of Paiolo Lake in which the island was located. The name could also come from teje or teze, the huts that were probably erected on the island.