

# Venice: info & city walks



AF TRAVEL IDEAS

Venice is a city that captures the imagination and inspires the soul. With its winding canals, stunning architecture, and rich cultural heritage, it is a place that has enchanted travelers for centuries. As you explore the city, you will be surrounded by a sense of history and beauty that is unlike any other place on earth. Venice is a city of contrasts, where ancient palaces stand alongside modern art installations, and the vibrant energy of the streets is juxtaposed with the peaceful tranquility of the canals.

But perhaps the most enchanting thing about Venice is its unique atmosphere. There is a sense of magic and romance that permeates the city, a feeling that anything is possible and that anything can happen. It is a place where dreams come true and where memories are made, a place that will stay with you long after you have left.

If you are looking for a place that will capture your heart and inspire your soul, look no further than Venice. With its beauty, history, and charm, it is a city that will make you fall in love with life all over again.

## FIVE Fun facts

Venice has **436 bridges**, consists of **118 islands,** there are **137 churches**, the highest street number is **6828** and the smallest street is Calle Varisco **53 cm (20.9 inches)**

## FOUR Recommendations

1. **Take a vaporetto on the Canal Grande**
   Marvel at the beautiful palaces, bridges, and churches that line the canal, and get a unique perspective of the city's architecture and daily life as you glide along the water.

2. **Lose yourself in Venice**
   Wander off the beaten path and explore the narrow streets and hidden corners of Venice, as they often reveal charming squares, local shops, and unexpected surprises and labyrinthine streets.

3. **Wake up early and go to bed late to have Venice all for yourself**
   Enjoy the serene atmosphere during the off-peak hours, the golden hours to take the perfect picture and see the authentic local life and get a glimpse of the everyday rhythms of Venetian life.

4. **Cross the Canal Grande on a gondola traghetto**
   The gondola traghetto is a common, cheap and ecological means of transport. It consists of a gondola maneuvered by 2 gondoliers that shuttles from one side of the Grand canal to the other in a couple of minutes.

## THREE Promenades

1. **Zattere**
   The Fondamenta delle Zattere is a promenade located in the Dorsoduro district. It is a long and wide walkway that runs along the southern shore of the Giudecca Canal, offering stunning views of the lagoon and the island of Giudecca. The Fondamenta delle Zattere was built in the early 16th century and was used as a landing place for rafts (zattere in Italian) carrying goods and materials to the city. Today, it is a popular destination for tourists and locals alike, who come to enjoy the beautiful views and the many cafes, restaurants, and gelaterias along the promenade.

2. **Fondamente Nove**
   The Fondamente Nove is a promenade located in the Cannaregio district. It is a wide walkway that runs along the northern edge of the city, facing the lagoon and the islands of Murano, Burano, and Torcello. The promenade was built in

the early 19th century and replaced an earlier structure that was destroyed by a fire in 1789. The name "Fondamente Nove" means "New Foundations" in Italian, referring to the fact that the promenade was built on newly reclaimed land.

The Fondamente Nove is an important transportation hub in Venice, with several vaporetto (water bus) stops and connections to the nearby islands. It is also a popular destination for locals and tourists alike, who come to enjoy the beautiful views of the lagoon and the surrounding islands.

3. **Riva degli Schiavoni**
   Riva degli Schiavoni is a promenade in Venice, on the waterfront of the Bacino di San Marco. It is a wide walkway that runs from the Doge's Palace to the Giardini, offering stunning views of the Grand Canal, the island of San Giorgio Maggiore, and the lagoon.

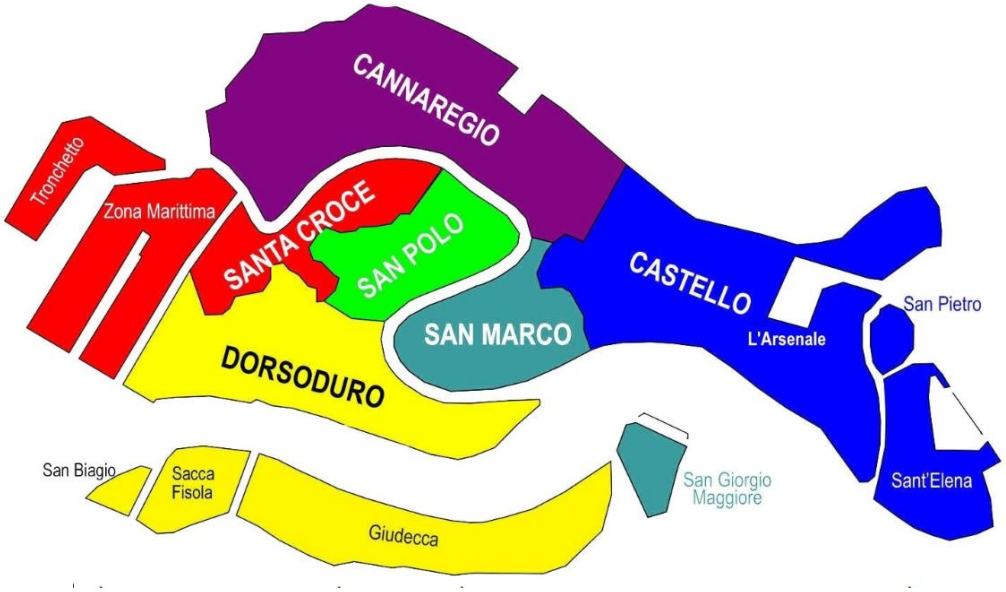
   The name "Riva degli Schiavoni" means "Quay of the Slavs" in Italian, referring to the fact that the area was historically a gathering place for Slavic merchants and sailors. It is also a hub for transportation, with several vaporetto (water bus) stops and connections to other parts of the city.

## TWO Bars

1. **Caffè la Serra**
   This bar is a café located in the Serra dei Giardini, a historic greenhouse complex in Venice, Italy. The café is situated within the greenhouse, surrounded by lush greenery and exotic plants. It offers a range of food and drinks, including coffee, tea, pastries, sandwiches, and salads. The café has a relaxed and peaceful atmosphere, making it a popular spot for locals and tourists alike to enjoy a quiet break from the hustle and bustle of the city.
   www.serradeigiardini.org

2. **Sulla Luna**
   This bar is a unique space that combines a bistrot, bar and libreria (bookstore) all in one. The bistrot serves a range of delicious natural products, including coffee, pastries, cheeses, wines, and a special Prosecco, all sourced from small local producers. The space is a popular meeting place where people can enjoy good food and drinks and exchange moments of conviviality. It has become a reference point in the city, attracting a certain type of tourist interested in sustainable and local products.

## SIX Sestieri




The sestrieri are the six districts that divide the city. Each sestiere has its own unique character, landmarks, and history.

1. **San Marco**, the most famous sestiere, is home to St. Mark's Basilica, Doge's Palace, and the iconic St. Mark's Square. It is considered the heart of the city.

2. **Cannaregio** is the largest sestiere, and it is a residential area with many shops, restaurants, and bars. It is also home to the Jewish Ghetto, one of the oldest in Europe.

3. **Castello** is located on the easternmost part of Venice and is known for its historic landmarks such as the Arsenale, which was the largest shipyard in Europe during the Middle Ages.

4. **Dorsoduro** is a popular area for tourists, and it is home to many museums, art galleries, and universities. It is also the location of the famous Accademia Bridge.

5. **Santa Croce** is located in the western part of Venice and is known for its transportation hubs, including the Santa Lucia train station and the Piazzale Roma bus terminal.

6. **San Polo** is the smallest sestiere and is located in the heart of the city. It is known for its lively atmosphere, historic landmarks, and popular markets such as the Rialto Market.

# TWELVE Must-see's

1. **St Mark's Square**

   St. Mark's Square, or Piazza San Marco, is the main public square in Venice and one of the most iconic landmarks in the city. It serves as the heart of Venice and is often referred to as "the drawing room of Europe." The square is bordered by important historical buildings, creating a captivating atmosphere of grandeur and history.

   At the center of the square stands the magnificent St. Mark's Basilica, a stunning example of Byzantine architecture. Its intricate mosaics, domes, and marble facades are a testament to the city's rich artistic and cultural heritage. The basilica is flanked by the iconic Campanile, a tall bell tower that offers panoramic views of the city.

   The square is also home to the Doge's Palace, a masterpiece of Gothic architecture and the former residence of the Venetian rulers. The palace boasts exquisite artwork, grand halls, and the infamous Bridge of Sighs, which connects the palace to the prisons.

   Cafés and restaurants line the square, offering visitors the opportunity to relax and soak in the atmosphere while enjoying a coffee or a meal. Pigeons are a common sight in St. Mark's Square, and feeding them has become a popular activity for tourists.

   St Mark's Square has been referred to as the "drawing room of Europe" because in the past, it served as a meeting place for influential figures from all over Europe, including artists, writers, politicians, and merchants. The square was a hub of cultural exchange and a symbol of Venetian power and prestige.

2. **Doge's Palace**

   The Doge's Palace, or Palazzo Ducale, is a magnificent Gothic palace located on St. Mark's Square in Venice, Italy. It served as the official residence and seat of government for the Doge of Venice, the city's elected ruler. The palace is a masterpiece of Venetian architecture, featuring intricate arches, elegant balconies, and ornate sculptures.

   The exterior of the palace showcases a blend of Byzantine, Gothic, and Renaissance elements. Its pink and white marble facade is adorned with delicate tracery and decorative motifs. The famous Bridge of Sighs connects the palace to the adjacent prisons and offers a picturesque view of the city.

   Inside, the palace boasts opulent chambers, grand halls, and lavish decorations. Visitors can explore the magnificent council chambers, the Doge's apartments,

and the Senate Hall, adorned with impressive artworks by renowned Venetian painters such as Tintoretto and Veronese.

The palace also houses the Armoury, which displays an extensive collection of medieval weapons and armor, offering a glimpse into Venice's military history. The palace's courtyard, known as the Courtyard of the Giants, features towering statues of mythical figures.

The Doge's Palace is not only a symbol of Venetian political power but also a testament to the city's cultural and artistic achievements. Today, it serves as a museum, allowing visitors to immerse themselves in the rich history and grandeur of Venice.

The Doge's Palace was connected to the prisons by the Bridge of Sighs, named after the sighs of prisoners who caught their last glimpse of Venice before being incarcerated. The bridge has become a symbol of romance, and it is believed that if two lovers kiss while drifting under the bridge on a gondola at sunset, eternal love will be granted to them.

3. **Canal Grande**

The Grand Canal is the main waterway in Venice and is often referred to as the "most beautiful street in the world." It stretches for about 2.4 miles (3.8 kilometers) in a reverse-S shape, dividing the city into two parts. Lined with elegant palaces, historic buildings, and iconic Venetian architecture, the Grand Canal is a stunning showcase of the city's rich history and cultural heritage.
The canal is a bustling water highway, with various types of boats and gondolas constantly navigating its waters. It serves as the primary means of transportation in Venice, connecting different neighborhoods and providing a captivating view of the city's vibrant life.

Along the Grand Canal, visitors can admire magnificent structures such as the Palazzo Dario, Ca' d'Oro, Rialto Bridge, and the stunning Gothic-style Ca' Rezzonico. The palaces and buildings showcase a range of architectural styles, including Byzantine, Gothic, Renaissance, and Baroque.

The canal is also home to several important historical landmarks, including the Peggy Guggenheim Collection, the Accademia Bridge, and the Fondaco dei Turchi. These landmarks add to the allure of the Grand Canal, making it an essential destination for tourists and locals alike.

The best way to experience the Grand Canal is by taking a vaporetto (water bus) or a romantic gondola ride. As you glide along the canal, you'll be treated to breathtaking views of the city's stunning architecture and the comings and goings of Venetian life.

The Grand Canal is spanned by four major bridges: the Rialto Bridge, the Accademia Bridge, the Scalzi Bridge, and the Constitution Bridge. Each bridge has its own unique architectural style and offers fantastic panoramic views of the canal and the city.

4. **Rialto Bridge**

The Rialto Bridge, or Ponte di Rialto, is one of the most recognizable landmarks in Venice, Italy. Spanning the Grand Canal, it is the oldest and most famous bridge in the city. The bridge is a bustling pedestrian thoroughfare, connecting the districts of San Marco and San Polo.

Built in the late 16th century, the Rialto Bridge is an architectural marvel. It features a single marble arch that rises gracefully above the canal, flanked by rows of shops and stalls. The bridge's elegant design and picturesque setting make it a favorite spot for photographers and visitors.

From the bridge, visitors can enjoy panoramic views of the Grand Canal, with gondolas and vaporetto's gliding beneath. The bustling Rialto Market, known for its fresh produce and seafood, is located nearby, adding to the vibrant atmosphere of the area. It has long been a bustling commercial hub, lined with shops selling jewelry, souvenirs, and Venetian glassware. It has been a vital link for trade and commerce in Venice for centuries.

The bridge's central location and architectural beauty have made it a symbol of Venice's rich history and cultural heritage. It is a must-visit attraction for tourists, offering a glimpse into the city's past and a chance to experience its enchanting atmosphere.

The Rialto Bridge has undergone several reconstructions throughout its history. The current bridge, designed by Antonio da Ponte, was completed in 1591. Its innovative design and engineering techniques were considered groundbreaking at the time, and it became an inspiration for other bridge constructions around the world.

5. **Accademia Bridge**

The Accademia Bridge spans the Grand Canal, connecting the Dorsoduro district with the San Marco district.

The bridge was originally built in the 16th century as a wooden structure and it offers stunning views of the Grand Canal and the surrounding cityscape.

The Accademia Bridge is named after the Gallerie dell' Accademia a prestigious art academy that is located near the bridge. The academy is home to a vast collection of artworks by some of the greatest artists in Venetian history, including Tintoretto, Veronese, and Titian.

Today, the Accademia Bridge is a popular destination for tourists and locals alike. Visitors can stroll across the bridge and enjoy the views of the Grand Canal, or they can explore the nearby art galleries, museums, and historic landmarks. The bridge is also a popular spot for photographers, who come to capture the beauty and grandeur of Venice's most famous waterway.

6. **Bridge of Sighs**

The Bridge of Sighs, or Ponte dei Sospiri, is an iconic bridge in Venice, Italy, connecting the Doge's Palace to the prisons. It is a symbol of romance, mystery, and the city's rich history. The bridge's name originates from the sighs of prisoners who would pass through it, getting their last glimpse of Venice before being incarcerated.

The bridge, constructed in the 17th century, is a masterpiece of Baroque architecture. It features elegant white limestone arches and small windows with stone bars. The design of the bridge is said to evoke a sense of melancholy and reflection.

Legend has it that if two lovers kiss under the Bridge of Sighs at sunset while drifting on a gondola, their love will be eternal. This belief has made the bridge a popular spot for couples and romantics visiting Venice.

The Bridge of Sighs offers a picturesque view from both sides, with the canal waters and the beautiful facades of the buildings reflecting on its windows. It has become one of the most photographed landmarks in Venice.

Despite its romantic reputation, the Bridge of Sighs served a practical purpose in the past, connecting the courtrooms in the Doge's Palace to the New Prisons. It allowed prisoners to be escorted from the courtroom to their cells without being seen by the public.

Today, the Bridge of Sighs continues to captivate visitors with its architectural beauty and intriguing history, reminding us of the romantic allure and hidden stories that Venice holds.

7. **Jewish Ghetto**

The Jewish Ghetto of Venice is one of the most historic and significant Jewish communities in the world. The ghetto was established in 1516 by the Venetian Republic, which mandated that all Jews in Venice live in a designated area of the city.

The ghetto was located on the site of a former foundry, and it was surrounded by walls and gates that were locked at night. Despite these restrictions, the

Jewish community in Venice thrived, and it became a center of Jewish culture, learning, and commerce.

Over time, the ghetto grew and expanded, and it became home to a diverse community of Jews from many different backgrounds and traditions. The ghetto was known for its synagogues, schools, and cultural institutions, and it played an important role in the development of Jewish culture and identity in Europe.

8. **Teatro La Fenice**

Teatro La Fenice is one of the most famous and historic opera houses in the world. Located in the heart of Venice, the theater has a long and storied history, dating back to the 18th century.

The original theater was built in 1792, but it was destroyed by fire in 1836. The theater was rebuilt in just one year, and it quickly became one of the most important cultural institutions in Italy. The theater has hosted many of the world's greatest opera singers and composers, including Giuseppe Verdi, Richard Wagner, and Maria Callas.

Over the years, Teatro La Fenice has undergone several renovations and restorations, but it has maintained its original grandeur and beauty. The theater features ornate decorations, gilded balconies, and a stunning chandelier that hangs over the main auditorium.

9. **Scala Contarini del Bovolo**

The Scala Contarini del Bovolo is a unique and beautiful staircase located in the San Marco district of Venice. The staircase was built in the 15th century as part of the Palazzo Contarini del Bovolo, a grand palace that was owned by the Contarini family.

The Scala Contarini del Bovolo is known for its distinctive spiral design, which features a series of arches and columns that wind up to the top of the palace. The staircase is made of Istrian stone and is decorated with intricate carvings and details.

The staircase was originally built as a functional element of the palace, providing access to the upper floors. However, over time it became a symbol of the Contarini family's wealth and power, and it was decorated with elaborate frescoes and other decorative elements.

Visitors can climb to the top of the staircase and enjoy stunning views of the surrounding cityscape, or they can explore the palace and learn about its rich history and cultural significance.

**10. Arsenale**

The Arsenale di Venezia is a historic shipyard and naval depot located in Venice, Italy. It was established in the 12th century and expanded over the centuries to become one of the largest and most advanced shipyards in the world. The Arsenale played a significant role in the naval power of Venice during the Republic of Venice era, producing warships, galleys, and other vessels.

In addition to shipbuilding, the Arsenale also had facilities for the production of weapons, sails, and other naval equipment. Today, the Arsenale is no longer used for shipbuilding and has been converted into a center for contemporary art and architecture exhibitions during the Venice Biennale.

**11. Clock Tower**

The Torre dell'Orologio, also known as the Clock Tower, is a magnificent landmark located in the Piazza San Marco in Venice, Italy. Built in the late 15th century, the tower features an impressive clock face and bell tower, which are famous for their intricate mechanics and artistic details. Visitors can climb to the top of the tower for stunning panoramic views of Venice. The clock also features two bronze figures called "I Mori", which strike the hours on a bell. The figures are believed to represent the two races of people known as Moors, who were often depicted as exotic and mysterious in medieval art.

**12. Scuola San Giorgio degli Schiavoni**

The Scuola di San Giorgio degli Schiavoni is cultural institution, established in 1447, it was originally founded as a confraternity for Dalmatian and Slavic merchants and sailors in the city. Today, the building houses a collection of artworks, including a series of paintings by Vittore Carpaccio depicting scenes from the lives of St. George and St. Jerome. The paintings are considered some of the masterpieces of Venetian Renaissance painting. The building is a beautiful example of Venetian architecture, with a Gothic-style facade and interiors decorated with frescoes and sculptures.

## FOURTEEN museums and art galleries

**1. Gallerie dell’Accademia**

The Gallerie dell'Accademia is a prestigious art museum and renowned for its impressive collection of Venetian art from the 14th to the 18th centuries.

You can admire masterpieces by renowned Venetian artists such as Giovanni Bellini, Titian, Veronese, Tintoretto, and Canaletto. The collection includes exquisite paintings, sculptures, and drawings that showcase the artistic brilliance and cultural heritage of Venice.

The museum's displays are organized chronologically, allowing visitors to trace the evolution of Venetian art across different periods. It offers a comprehensive overview of the Venetian Renaissance, Baroque, and Rococo styles, providing a valuable insight into the city's artistic legacy.

2. **Ca' d'Oro**

   Ca'd'Oro is a splendid palace located on the Grand Canal in Venice, Italy. Built in the 15th century, it is renowned for its exquisite Venetian Gothic architecture and its stunning facade adorned with intricate decorations and golden accents.

   The name "Ca' d'Oro" translates to "House of Gold," referring to the palace's former lavish decoration of gold leaf and polychrome details. Though the gold has faded over time, the palace still retains its enchanting charm and elegance.

   The palace houses the Galleria Giorgio Franchetti, which displays a collection of art, including sculptures, paintings, and decorative objects from different periods. Visitors can admire masterpieces by renowned artists such as Titian, Mantegna, and Carpaccio. One of the highlights of Ca'd'Oro is its beautiful courtyard, featuring a well-preserved Renaissance-style loggia with arches and delicate marble columns. The courtyard offers a tranquil retreat from the bustling streets of Venice.

3. **Scuola Grande di San Rocco**

   The Scuola Grande di San Rocco is a magnificent building, an example of Venetian Renaissance architecture and is renowned for its stunning interior adorned with elaborate artworks.

   The Scuola Grande di San Rocco was founded in the 16th century as a confraternity dedicated to charitable and religious activities. The building served as a meeting place for members and a venue for religious ceremonies.

   What makes this scuola particularly remarkable is its extensive collection of artworks by the famous Venetian painter Jacopo Tintoretto. The walls and ceilings of the scuola are covered with his masterful paintings, depicting scenes from the Bible and the lives of saints.

   Visitors to the Scuola Grande di San Rocco can marvel at Tintoretto's breathtaking works, which showcase his exceptional talent for dramatic compositions and vibrant use of color. The grand hall, known as the Sala Superiore, is especially awe-inspiring, with its richly decorated ceiling and walls adorned with Tintoretto's masterpieces. The scuola also houses a treasury that contains a collection of precious relics, liturgical objects, and historical artifacts.

4. **Scuola Grande di San Giovanni Evangelista**
   The Scuola Grande San Giovanni Evangelista di Venezia is a monumental complex in Venice with illustrious examples of Gothic, Renaissance, and Venetian Baroque art and architecture. It has been the seat of the confraternity for over seven centuries and also functions as a public museum hosting events, conferences, concerts, exhibitions, weddings, and gala evenings. Visitors can explore the museum, which showcases the historical building, artistic works, and architectural interventions spanning centuries.

   The facade of the Scuola Grande San Giovanni Evangelista di Venezia is a magnificent example of Venetian Gothic architecture. It features intricate stone carvings, delicate tracery, and ornate decorations that showcase the skilled craftsmanship of the time. The facade is adorned with statues, reliefs, and bas-reliefs depicting biblical scenes, saints, and symbolic figures. It serves as a testament to the grandeur and beauty that awaits visitors as they step inside this remarkable cultural institution.

5. **Peggy Guggenheim Collection**
   The Peggy Guggenheim Collection is an art museum, it showcases the personal collection of Peggy Guggenheim, a prominent American art collector and patron.

   The museum features a remarkable collection of modern art, primarily focused on European and American artists from the first half of the 20th century. Visitors can admire works by renowned artists such as Picasso, Pollock, Dalí, Ernst, and Kandinsky, among many others.

   The extraordinary collection spans various artistic movements, including Cubism, Surrealism, Abstract Expressionism, and beyond. It offers a comprehensive overview of the avant-garde and experimental art of the time.

   The museum's setting in the Palazzo Venier dei Leoni, with its beautiful garden overlooking the Grand Canal, adds to the enchanting atmosphere. The scenic location is a perfect backdrop for appreciating the art and enjoying the serene ambiance. The Peggy Guggenheim Collection is not only a treasure trove of modern art but also a testament to Peggy Guggenheim's influential role in supporting and promoting groundbreaking artists of her time. It is a must-visit destination for art enthusiasts and anyone interested in exploring the vibrant world of 20th-century art.

6. **Naval Historical Museum**
   The Naval Historical Museum is a captivating institution located in the Arsenale complex. It showcases centuries of naval history through its collection of artifacts, ship models, navigational instruments, and weaponry. Visitors can

explore the lives of naval officers and sailors through displays of uniforms, armor, and weapons.

The museum brings history to life with interactive exhibits, multimedia presentations, and depictions of naval battles and historical events. A highlight of the museum is the opportunity to board a replica of a Venetian galley, providing a unique hands-on experience. Overall, the Naval Historical Museum offers a fascinating glimpse into the maritime heritage of Venice.

7. **Ca' Rezzonico**

Ca' Rezzonico is a magnificent palace overlooking the Grand Canal. It is a splendid example of Venetian Baroque architecture and is renowned as a museum that offers a glimpse into the city's opulent past.

Originally built in the 17th century was later acquired by the Rezzonico family, from whom it derives its name. Today, it houses the Museum of the 18th Century, showcasing the art, furnishings, and lifestyle of Venice during the 18th century.

Visitors to Ca' Rezzonico can explore the luxurious rooms and salons adorned with ornate decorations, frescoes, and stuccowork. The museum's collection includes paintings, sculptures, and decorative arts by renowned artists of the time, providing an immersive experience of the grandeur and elegance of Venetian aristocracy.

Fun fact: Ca' Rezzonico gained international fame as the filming location for the sumptuous ballroom scene in the 1983 film "Don't Look Now," directed by Nicolas Roeg and starring Julie Christie and Donald Sutherland. The film's haunting atmosphere and the palace's grandeur created a memorable combination that further enhanced Ca' Rezzonico's reputation.

8. **Museo Correr**

The Museo Correr is an important museum situated in the iconic Piazza San Marco. It is housed in the monumental Venetian Gothic-style Palazzo Correr, which was once the residence of the aristocratic Correr family.

The museum offers a comprehensive exploration of the history, art, and culture of Venice. Its collection includes a wide range of artworks, historical artifacts, and documents that showcase the city's rich heritage.

Visitors to the Museo Correr can admire paintings by Venetian masters such as Carpaccio, Bellini, and Titian, as well as sculptures, decorative arts, and historical objects that span different periods. The museum's displays provide insights into the social, political, and artistic aspects of Venice throughout the centuries.

In addition to its art collection, the Museo Correr encompasses the Neoclassical-style Royal Apartments, which were once the residence of the Austrian Emperor Franz Joseph during his visits to Venice. These lavishly decorated rooms offer a glimpse into the luxurious lifestyle of the ruling elite.

The museum also houses the vast Napoleonic Wing, which explores the period of French occupation in Venice and its impact on the city's history.

9. **Palazzo Grassi**

Palazzo Grassi is a magnificent palace renowned as a major cultural center and art museum. Situated along the Grand Canal in the San Marco district, the palace is a stunning example of Venetian architecture. Originally built in the 18th century, Palazzo Grassi underwent extensive renovations and restorations in the 20th century to transform it into a renowned exhibition space.

Today, Palazzo Grassi is known for hosting a diverse range of contemporary art exhibitions and installations. Its spacious galleries, adorned with ornate decorations and grand chandeliers, provide an elegant backdrop for showcasing works by both established and emerging artists. The museum's curatorial approach encourages dialogue and exploration, offering visitors a thought-provoking and immersive experience.

Beyond its art exhibitions, Palazzo Grassi also features a stylish bookstore and a charming café, where visitors can relax and soak in the unique atmosphere of the palace. The rooftop terrace offers breathtaking panoramic views of Venice, including the picturesque Grand Canal and the city's iconic architecture.

10. **Punta della Dogana**

Punta della Dogana is situated at the convergence point of the Grand Canal and the Giudecca Canal, it offers breathtaking views of Venice's iconic waterways. Its strategic position makes it a prominent and easily recognizable landmark.

The building itself is a masterpiece of architecture, blending elements of Venetian Gothic and Renaissance styles. It was originally a customs house and dates back to the late 17th century.

In recent years, Punta della Dogana underwent an extensive restoration process. The restoration aimed to preserve the building's historical integrity while transforming it into a contemporary art exhibition space.

Today, Punta della Dogana is home to the Punta della Dogana Contemporary Art Center, which is part of the François Pinault Foundation. The museum hosts rotating exhibitions of modern and contemporary art, showcasing works by renowned international artists. The museum's interior offers vast, open spaces

with minimalist design, allowing the artworks to take center stage. The combination of the historic architecture and contemporary art creates a unique juxtaposition, enhancing the overall experience for visitors.

The exhibitions at Punta della Dogana feature a diverse range of artworks, including paintings, sculptures, installations, and multimedia pieces. The curatorial approach emphasizes thematic and conceptual exploration, often presenting thought-provoking and challenging contemporary art.

**11. Querini Stampalia Foundation**

The Querini Stampalia Foundation museum is located in Venice, Italy and houses a collection of paintings, sculptures, and decorative arts from the 18th and 19th centuries. The museum was founded by Count Giovanni Querini Stampalia in 1869 and is housed in a historic building that was renovated by architect Carlo Scarpa in the 1960s. Scarpa's renovation transformed the space into a modern, functional museum while preserving the historic elements of the building.

The museum's collection includes works by artists such as Pietro Longhi, Francesco Guardi, and Canaletto. The museum also has a section dedicated to contemporary art, with exhibitions by Italian and international artists. The Querini Stampalia Foundation museum is an important cultural institution in Venice and offers visitors a unique glimpse into the city's rich artistic heritage

**12. Palazzo Grimani**

A magnificent Renaissance palace. Built in the 16th century, Palazzo Grimani showcases the distinctive architectural style of the period, blending elements of classical and Venetian Gothic design. The façade of the palace features ornate decorations, intricate details, and elegant symmetry, reflecting the grandeur and wealth of its original owners.

Today, Palazzo Grimani houses the Museo di Palazzo Grimani, which offers visitors a fascinating journey through history, art, and culture. The museum's collection includes an array of archaeological artifacts, sculptures, paintings, and decorative arts that highlight the rich cultural legacy of Venice.

One of the highlights of the museum is the breathtaking frescoed interior of the palace. The walls and ceilings are adorned with intricate and vibrant frescoes depicting mythological scenes, allegorical figures, and historical events. These exquisite artworks provide insight into the artistic prowess of the Renaissance period. As visitors explore Palazzo Grimani, they can also admire the stunning views of the surrounding area, including the nearby Campo Santa Maria Formosa and the picturesque canals of Venice.

## 13. Biennale

The Venice Biennale is one of the most prestigious and celebrated international art exhibitions in the world. It takes place every two years and attracts artists, curators, and art enthusiasts from around the globe.

The Biennale encompasses various art disciplines, including contemporary art, architecture, cinema, dance, music, and theater. It serves as a platform for artists to showcase their work, pushing boundaries and engaging in critical dialogues about art and society.

The event is spread across different venues throughout Venice, with the historic Giardini and the Arsenale being the primary exhibition spaces. The Giardini houses national pavilions, each representing a different country, while the Arsenale features curated exhibitions and thematic presentations.

The Venice Biennale is known for its diverse and thought-provoking exhibitions, often curated around a central theme chosen by the Biennale's organizers. It provides a unique opportunity for artists to present their work on an international stage, fostering cross-cultural exchange and artistic exploration.

The Venice Biennale has played a crucial role in shaping contemporary art and has been instrumental in recognizing emerging talent and showcasing established artists. It continues to be a major highlight on the global art calendar, attracting art enthusiasts, collectors, and professionals from all over the world.

## 14. Fondazione Prada Venezia

The Fondazione Prada is an art gallery located in Venice, Italy. It was established by the Prada fashion brand and is housed in a historic palazzo that was renovated by architect Rem Koolhaas. The gallery showcases a variety of contemporary art exhibitions, installations, and events. The exhibitions include works by established and emerging artists, as well as thematic exhibitions that explore various artistic, cultural, and social issues.

The Fondazione Prada also hosts lectures, workshops, and performances, making it a hub for cultural events in Venice. The building itself is a work of art, with a mix of historic and modern elements that create a unique and dynamic space for art exhibitions.

# ELEVEN Churches

1. **St Mark's Basilica**
   St. Mark's Basilica, or Basilica di San Marco, is one of the most remarkable architectural gems in Venice, Italy. Located on St. Mark's Square, it is a stunning example of Byzantine architecture with a mix of Gothic and Romanesque influences. The basilica dates back to the 11th century and has served as the city's cathedral since 1807. The exterior of the basilica is adorned with intricate marble facades, intricate arches, and decorative mosaics that depict biblical scenes and historical events. The building's domes and spires create a distinctive silhouette that is recognizable from a distance.

   Inside, the basilica is a treasure trove of art and religious relics. The main attraction is the stunning Pala d'Oro, a golden altarpiece adorned with thousands of precious gems and enamels. The interior is filled with dazzling mosaics that cover the walls, ceilings, and floors, depicting religious figures and stories.

   The basilica houses the remains of St. Mark, the patron saint of Venice, in the crypt below the main altar. Visitors can also climb to the top of the basilica's Campanile for breathtaking panoramic views of Venice. Due to its historical and artistic significance, St. Mark's Basilica attracts a large number of tourists. It is a symbol of Venice's rich cultural heritage and religious devotion, and a testament to the city's status as a major trading power in the past. Many of the treasures and artworks inside St. Mark's Basilica were acquired through trade and conquest during the height of Venice's maritime empire. The basilica became a showcase of the city's wealth and power, with precious materials and artwork from around the world adorning its halls and chapels.

2. **Basilica di Santa Maria della Salute**
   This church is a stunning Baroque masterpiece located at the entrance of the Grand Canal in Venice. Its iconic domed structure and elegant marble facade make it one of the city's most recognizable landmarks. Built in the 17th century, the basilica is dedicated to the Virgin Mary and is a symbol of gratitude for the city's deliverance from the plague.

3. **Basilica di Santa Maria Gloriosa dei Frari**
   The Basilica di Santa Maria Gloriosa dei Frari, commonly known as Frari Church, is a prominent Gothic church in Venice. It is renowned for its grandeur and artistic treasures, including masterpieces by Titian, Bellini, and Donatello.

4. **Basilica dei Santi Giovanni e Paolo**
   The Basilica dei Santi Giovanni e Paolo, also known as the Basilica of St. John and St. Paul, is one of the largest and most important churches in Venice. It is a prime example of Venetian Gothic architecture and houses numerous

monumental tombs of Doges and other illustrious figures. The interior is adorned with beautiful artworks, including paintings and sculptures.

5. **Santa Maria dei Miracoli Church**
   Santa Maria dei Miracoli is a very charming Renaissance church located in the heart of Venice. Known for its exquisite marble facade adorned with intricate patterns and delicate pink hues. Inside, visitors can admire the beautiful frescoes, decorative details, and a serene atmosphere that adds to its allure as a hidden gem in the city.

6. **Madonna dell'Orto Church**
   This is a historic church in Venice, known for its association with the renowned artist Tintoretto. It houses several of his masterpieces, including the famous "Last Judgment" painting. The church's serene atmosphere, elegant architecture, and rich artistic heritage make it a must-visit destination for art lovers and history enthusiasts in Venice.

7. **Santa Maria Assunta Church**
   The Chiesa Santa Maria Assunta, also known as Gesuiti, is a stunning Baroque church located in Venice. It is renowned for its elaborate marble facade and opulent interior adorned with intricate stucco work, gilded details, and beautiful artwork. The church's grandeur and artistic richness make it a remarkable example of Baroque architecture in Venice.

8. **San Pantalon church**
   This Church is a remarkable architectural gem located in Venice. Its striking facade features a harmonious blend of Renaissance and Byzantine influences, captivating visitors with its intricate details and elegant proportions. With a serene interior adorned with magnificent artworks and a peaceful atmosphere, the Pantalon Church offers a place of contemplation and spiritual solace in the vibrant city of Venice.

9. **Basilica di San Pietro di Castello**
   The Basilica di San Pietro di Castello is a historic church located in the Castello district of Venice, Italy. The church was originally built in the 7th century and was the cathedral of Venice until the 19th century. The church has undergone several renovations and additions over the centuries, with the current facade dating back to the 16th century.

   The interior of the church features a mix of styles, with elements of Gothic, Renaissance, and Baroque architecture. The church also has a number of notable works of art, including a painting of the Virgin Mary attributed to Giovanni Bellini.

**10. San Giorgio dei Greci Church**

The church of San Giorgio dei Greci is a religious building located in Venice, Italy. It is the oldest Greek Orthodox church in the city and was built in the 15th century for the Greek community in Venice. The church features Renaissance-style architecture, with a red and white brick facade and a tower-shaped bell tower. The interior of the church is richly decorated with frescoes, icons, and mosaics, and houses a vast collection of Greek artworks. The church has been an important center of prayer and culture for the Greek community in Venice for centuries, and has played a significant role in preserving and spreading Greek culture in Italy.

**11. Basilica di Santa Maria e Donato**

The Duomo of Murano is a beautiful cathedral and is also known as the Basilica di Santa Maria e San Donato and is dedicated to the Virgin Mary and Saint Donatus of Arezzo. The cathedral features a mix of architectural styles, with the original structure dating back to the 7th century and incorporating both Byzantine and Gothic elements. The exterior of the cathedral is adorned with intricate mosaics and stunning rose windows.

Inside, visitors can marvel at the intricate marble floor and beautiful altar, which features a stunning 12th-century mosaic of the Virgin Mary and Saint Donatus. The cathedral also houses a number of important relics, including the supposed bones of Saint Donatus and a fragment of the True Cross.

## TEN Restaurants

1. **Ristorante al Covo**
   The restaurant offers a variety of traditional Venetian dishes made with fresh, locally sourced ingredients, as well as an extensive wine list featuring wines from the Veneto region and beyond.
   www.ristorantealcovo.com

2. **Trattoria da Jonny**
   A rustic-chic restaurant with a terrace that serves seasonal Venetian dishes and boasts an extensive wine list.

3. **Osteria alle Testiere**
   A charming seafood restaurant in Venice, Italy that serves delicious, traditional Venetian cuisine made with fresh and high-quality ingredients. With its cozy atmosphere and friendly service, it is a must-visit spot for foodies and tourists alike.
   www.oateriaalletestiere.it

4. **Trattoria Antiche Carampane**
   A focus on fresh seafood and homemade pasta dishes, this cozy spot offers a warm and inviting atmosphere and is a popular choice for both locals and visitors.
   www.antichecarampane.com

5. **Osteria la Vedova**
   Famous for their mouth-watering meatballs, served in a cozy and traditional atmosphere that transports guests back in time to old Venice.

6. **Osteria la Zucca**
   The menu features a variety of vegetarian and seafood dishes made with fresh, locally sourced ingredients in a cozy and rustic atmosphere.
   www.lazucca.it

7. **Ristorante Algiubagio**
   A wide selection of fresh seafood dishes with a creative twist, served in a charming and elegant atmosphere with stunning views of the Venetian lagoon.
   www.algiubagio.net

8. **Orient Experience**
   A Middle Eastern restaurant located in the Cannaregio district of Venice, Italy. They serve traditional Middle Eastern dishes such as falafel, hummus, kebabs, and other specialties of the region in a cozy and welcoming atmosphere.
   www.orientexperience.it

9. **Birraria la Corte**
   A restaurant on Campo San Polo that offers a unique fusion of Venetian contemporary cuisine and Neapolitan pizza. Their menu features a variety of delicious dishes made with locally sourced ingredients.
   www.birrarialacorte.it

10. **Antico Gatoleto**
    Typical Venetian food and pizza's in a nice atmosphere.
    www.gatoleto.com
    www.sullalunavenezia.it

## FIVE Typical drinks and snacks

1. **Spritz**
   The Spritz is a popular aperitif that originated in Venice. It is made with Prosecco, Aperol (or Campari or Select), and a splash of soda water. It is typically served with a slice of orange and a green olive.

2. **Bellini cocktail**
   A classic Venetian cocktail made with Prosecco and peach puree. It was invented in the 1940s at Harry's Bar in Venice and is named after the famous Italian painter Giovanni Bellini.

3. **Tramezzini**
   Small sandwiches that are typically made with soft white bread and a variety of fillings, such as prosciutto, cheese, and vegetables. They are a popular snack or lunch food in Venice and can be found in many bars and cafes throughout the city.

4. **Cicchetti**
   Small snacks or appetizers that are typically served in bars and restaurants throughout Venice. They can include a variety of different foods, such as crostini, bruschetta, olives, cheeses, and cured meats.

5. **Fritto misto**
   A mixed fried seafood dish that is popular throughout Italy, including in Venice. It typically includes a variety of seafood, such as shrimp, squid, and small fish.

## NINE Souvenirs

1. **Carnival Masks**
   Carnival masks are a traditional feature of the annual Carnival of Venice, a festival that dates back to the 13th century. The masks are known for their elaborate designs, featuring intricate patterns, bright colors, and ornate decorations. They are worn by participants during Carnival events, such as parades, parties, and masquerade balls, and have become an iconic symbol of Venetian culture.

2. **Murano Glass**
   Murano glass is a type of glassware produced on the Venetian island of Murano, known for its stunning beauty and fine craftsmanship. The glass is made using traditional techniques that date back hundreds of years, including blowing and molding. ‘‘Murrini” is a technique used to create intricate patterns in Murano glass. This involves layering different colors of glass, then slicing the resulting "cane" to reveal the pattern. Murrini can be used to create a wide range of designs, from simple geometric patterns to complex floral motifs. Overall, Murano glass and murrini are highly prized for their beauty, craftsmanship, and historical significance.
   www.davidepenso.com
   www.collectionmuranero.art
   www.ferrotoso.it

3. **Burano Lace**
   Burano lace is a type of delicate lacework that originated on the island of Burano in the Venetian lagoon. It is characterized by its intricate patterns, fine threadwork, and delicate beauty. Burano lace is traditionally made by hand using techniques that have been passed down through generations, and is highly valued for its quality and craftsmanship.

4. **Fine Fabrics**
   Venice is known for its production of fine fabrics, which are highly valued for their quality and beauty. These fabrics are often made using traditional techniques that have been passed down through generations, and are crafted from the finest materials available. Fine fabrics from Venice can be found in a range of colors, patterns, and textures, and are used in a variety of applications, from fashion and upholstery to decorative arts and more.
   www.luigi-bevilacqua.com

5. **Books**
   A book is a nice souvenir to take a piece of Venice home. There are books with stunning photographs and illustrations of the city's landmarks, canals, and architecture, as well as information about its history and culture. They make great gifts and serve as a reminder of the unique experience of exploring the winding streets and hidden corners of Venice. Libreria Acqua Alta is a unique bookstore in Venice that offers a wide selection of books, maps, and souvenirs. The store is known for its quirky decor, which includes books piled in gondolas and bathtubs to protect them from the frequent flooding that occurs in the city.

6. **Venetian Biscuits**
   Biscuits are a traditional sweet treat that are enjoyed throughout the city of Venice, perfect for enjoying with a cup of coffee or tea. Types of biscuits: bussolai, zaleti, buranei, esse, baicoli.

7. **Venetian Wine**
   The wine l'Orto is actually produced in Venice on the island Erasmo. Try this unique flavor of a white wine from the lagoon.

8. **Handmade Paper**
   Handmade paper is a traditional craft in Venice, Italy. Venetian artisans use a variety of techniques to create exquisite paper products, including decorative sheets, journals, and cards.
   www.arzanart.com
   www.albertovalese-ebru.it

9. **Made in Jail products**
   The Malefatte cooperative manages workshops in prison where inmates learn create handmade bags and accessories, printed t-shirts, and cosmetics. Everything is made in the female prison of Venice. By supporting Malefatte, customers are contributing to the rehabilitation and reintegration of inmates into society.
   www.malefattevenezia.it

## NINETEEN Fascinating details

1. **Supermarket in an old theater**
   In Campiello de l'Anconeta 1939 there is a DeSpar supermarket in a former theater. Despar Supermarket, housed in the historic Teatro Italia, is a unique because it combines modern convenience with a rich history. The building's stunning neogothic architecture and original theater signage make it a must-see spot for architecture and history enthusiasts. With its free entrance and modern amenities, Despar Supermarket offers a one-of-a-kind shopping experience that is both convenient and culturally rich.

2. **Caffe' Florian**
   The oldest bar in the world, and a historic landmark in Venice that has been serving customers since 1720. The bar's ornate interior, with its frescoes, chandeliers, and marble floors, transports visitors back in time to the heyday of Venetian café culture. With its prime location in Piazza San Marco and a menu that includes coffee, cocktails, and light bites, Caffè Florian is a must-visit destination for anyone looking to experience the rich history and culture of Venice.

3. **El Frutarol de San Barnaba**
   El Frutarol de San Barnaba is fruit and vegetable shop located on a boat near Ponte dei Pugni. This activity was started back in 1947 by the Tiozzo family and is certainly the most photographed fruit and vegetable stand in Venice!

4. **The hidden church**
   The entrance of the Santa Sofia church looks like a normal door of a house placed between shop windows. The church and its bell tower were incorporated among the houses after the construction of Strada Nova in the 19th century.. Only the bell tower and the upper part of the facade are visible from the square Campo Santa Sofia in front of the church.

5. **Palazzo Tetta surrounded by water**
   Palazzo Tetta is a unique and highly photographed house in Venice, as it is surrounded by water on three sides, visible from the Conzafelzi bridge. Its

inhabitants can only access the palace through a small private foundation that starts directly from Ponte Tetta.

6. **The cursed Palazzo Ca' Dario**
   Ca' Dario is a Venetian palace with a dark reputation, as many of its inhabitants have suffered tragic fates. Its first owner, Giovanni Dario, saw his daughter die of a broken heart and subsequent owners met similarly unfortunate ends. The palace has changed hands many times, but its history of misfortune and tragedy continues to fascinate and haunt those who know it. The facade is visible from the "Giglio" ferry stop at the end of Calle Gritti in the San Marco district.

7. **The house of the five heads**
   This house is located in Rio delle Muneghete and has five exquisitely carved heads, four female and one male that surround the water door. It is believed that these heads were taken from keystones of ancient buildings that were demolished.

8. **Palazzo Flangini, the half palazzo**
   This Palazzo's asymmetrical appearance has many intriguing stories surrounding it. One theory suggests that the Flangini family couldn't acquire the adjacent house to continue building the palace, while another claims that one of the brothers demolished the other's half after inheriting it. However, building a palace required significant funds and time, during which the commissioner's financial stability and health could change. Construction could be interrupted, slowed down, or downsized, resulting in an incomplete appearance. You can see Palazzo Flangini from Riva de Biasio.

9. **Graffiti from Banksy**
   On the opening days of the Art Biennale in 2019, a stunning mural emerged from a shabby Venetian wall near Campo Santa Margherita. Flush with the water, the mural depicts a child holding a signaling rocket, sounding the alarm of his escape from poverty with a life jacket on his back. The tragedy of clandestine landings and the Italian government's policy of closed ports are undoubtedly among the hot topics dear to Banksy, whose identity remains shrouded in mystery.

10. **Twin Lions**
    In the square to the left of San Marco's facade, you can find two magnificent red stone lions, which despite their worn appearance, are still impressive relics. They have been created in 1722 to characterize the small square they are in. In fact, they are so iconic that the square has since become known as Piazzetta dei Leoncini, the square of the Lions. The Venetian-born sculptor Giovanni Bonazza carved these lions from red marble.

### 11. Birthplace of the world's first woman with a university degree

Elena Lucrezia Cornaro Piscopia, born in Venice in 1646, became the world's first woman with a university degree in 1678. She was awarded the title of "magistra et doctrix in philosophia" for her compelling thesis on Aristotle. Despite facing obstacles, she gained recognition in various European academies and dedicated herself to charitable works. Elena died young at the age of 38 due to tuberculosis, but her legacy continues to inspire women to pursue their dreams. On the side facade of Palazzo Ca' Loredan, there is a plaque in memory of Elena Lucrezia Cornaro Piscopia.

### 12. Ponte Chiodo

This bridge is a unique because it is one of the few remaining bridges without railings in the city, leading to private residences. Despite its private nature, it is a popular attraction for a nice picture.

### 13. La Porta Blu

Located on a small side street of Ruga Giuffa in Venice, there is a striking blue door that has become one of the most photographed in the city. Despite its lack of ornate details, its Gothic shape and unique blue color make it an enchanting sight, especially when viewed at the end of the tall and narrow calle. The surrounding area is also quintessentially Venetian, with a small "sotoportego" leading to a continuation of the calle to the left.

### 14. Statues of Campo dei Mori

In Venice's Cannaregio district, there's a charming small square called Campo dei Mori, where unique stone statues are located. According to legend, three Greek brothers named Rioba, Sandi, and Afani lived at Palazzo Mastelli del Cammello and worked as skilled cloth merchants. However, they were also infamous for their swindling tactics, deceiving anyone who came to them for business.

One day, Saint Mary Magdalene disguised herself as a Venetian merchant's widow and visited the three brothers to purchase some fabrics. They were eager to deceive her, but she was onto their tricks. She thanked them for their "finest" quality fabrics and wished the Lord to have the same care and attention for them as they had shown to her. With these words, the three brothers and their servant were turned into stone.

Of the four stone statues in Campo dei Mori, the most famous is "Sior Rioba," which stands out for its unique Venetian Gothic style. Unfortunately, the statue's nose was lost in the 1800s and replaced with an iron one. Today, it's believed that touching the nose brings good luck, but we advise against it to ensure the statue remains intact for future generations to enjoy.

### 15. Origin of the word ''Ciao''

The word "ciao" is an Italian word that is commonly used as a greeting or farewell. The origin of the word is from the Venetian dialect, where it was used as a shortened form of "s-ciào vostro", which means "I am your servant" or "at your service". Over time, the word "ciao" became more widely used throughout Italy and is now a popular greeting that is recognized around the world. It is often used in informal settings and is considered to be a friendly and casual way of saying hello or goodbye.

### 16. Ponte delle Tette

The Ponte delle Tette (Bridge of Tits) is a bridge in the San Cassiano area of Venice, known for its history of prostitution. In the past, prostitutes were required to work in specific areas of the city, and the Carampane area was one of them. In 1421, a block of inherited houses was turned into brothels, and the prostitutes were moved there. The name "Rampani" was associated with prostitution, and the bridge became known for women sitting topless or naked in the windows to attract clients. The reason behind the strict laws was to discourage homosexuality, which was considered a problem at the time.

### 17. Only 1 Piazza

Piazza San Marco is the only public square in Venice that is called a "piazza." All other public squares in Venice are called "campo," which means "field" ore “campiello”, which means little field in Italian. This is because they were originally open spaces used for agricultural purposes, such as grazing animals or growing crops. Over time, these fields were transformed into public gathering places and markets, which became known as "campo/campiello." Despite not being called a "piazza," these campos are still important landmarks in Venice and often have historic buildings and monuments.

### 18. Statue of Garibaldi

The Statue a Garibaldi is a monument located in the Castello district and was erected in 1884 to honor the Italian general and patriot Giuseppe Garibaldi, who played a key role in the unification of Italy in the 19th century. The monument is located in the Campo dei Falegnami, near the Arsenale.

### 19. Bepi’s House

Giuseppe Toselli, known as Bepi Suà or Bepi of the candies, worked as a cinema operator in Burano until the end of the 1950s. He later obtained a license to sell candy on the street, and with a film camera he opened a kind of open-air cinema in front of his house. In the 1960s Toselli began to decorate the façade with geometric patterns, using the vibrant colors of Burano. He painted and repainted the house without stopping, constantly changing the look of his home.

## THREE Historical facts

1. **Powerful maritime republic with a dominant role in Mediterranean trade**
   The city of Venice has a long and rich history of openness and exchange with other cultures. Located at the crossroads of Europe and the Mediterranean, Venice was a hub of trade and commerce, and its cosmopolitan population included people from many different backgrounds and cultures. From its earliest days, Venice was known for its tolerance and openness to different cultures and religions. The city's rulers recognized the economic and cultural benefits of welcoming foreigners, and they encouraged the development of a vibrant and diverse community. Over the centuries, Venice developed close ties with many different cultures, including Byzantine, Islamic, and Jewish cultures. The city's merchants and diplomats traveled throughout the Mediterranean and beyond, establishing trading networks and diplomatic relationships with other powers.

2. **Center of art, architecture and culture during the Renaissance**
   Venice was also a center of artistic and intellectual exchange. The city's painters, writers, and musicians drew inspiration from many different sources, and they incorporated elements of other cultures into their work. Venice was particularly famous for its music, which was influenced by the traditions of both Italy and the East. From Byzantine-inspired gold mosaics and monumental Renaissance paintings to famous works of modern art, throughout its millennial history, Venice has accumulated masterpieces in many different forms and shapes.

3. **Carnival and masks**
   The Venice Carnival, or "Carnevale di Venezia," is one of the most famous and celebrated festivals in the world. The Carnival has its roots in the medieval period, when Venice was a powerful city-state and a center of trade and commerce. During the Carnival, which typically takes place in February or March, the streets and canals of Venice come alive with colorful costumes, masks, and festive music. The Carnival is a time of celebration and revelry, and it is known for its elaborate masquerade balls, parades, and other festivities. The tradition of wearing masks during the Carnival dates back to the 13th century, when Venetians would were masks and costumes to enjoy a brief period of anonymity and freedom from the strict social hierarchies of the day.

## SEVEN Bars for a Spritz

1. **Cantina Aziende Agricole**
   A glass of wine or a spritz and some cicchetti for lunch or dinner. Spend some time with friends or simply breathe a moment of Venetian life.
   www.cantinaazieneagricole.com

2. **Terrazza Aperol**
   Colour your aperitive orange with Aperol Spritz! This bar is in the heart of Venice.
   www.terrazza.aperol.com

3. **Osteria da Filo**
   A charming and welcoming spot in Venice, with friendly owners and a cozy atmosphere. Try their delicious and varied cicchetti and spritz. Located off the beaten path.

4. **Combo**
   In this place you can meet locals, students and travelers and enjoy a spritz.
   www.thisiscombo.com

5. **Bacarando Corte dell'Orso**
   Try a spritz in this typical and authentic place.

6. **Skyline Rooftop Bar**
   This bar is located on the eighth floor of the Hilton Molino Stucky, offers an unparalleled view of Venice from its panoramic terrace. Sipping on a refreshing spritz while taking in the breathtaking skyline is an experience not to be missed. Located on the island of Giudecca

7. **Time Social Bar**
   A trendy and intimate spot in Venice that offers original cocktails, spritz and delicious snacks. The bar's cozy atmosphere makes it the perfect place to unwind with friends or enjoy a romantic evening out.

## SIX Famous Venetians

1. **Marco Polo**
   Marco Polo was a Venetian merchant, explorer, and writer who lived in the 13th and 14th centuries. He is best known for his travels to Asia, which he documented in his book "The Travels of Marco Polo". He was born in Venice in 1254 and was the son of a wealthy merchant named Niccolò Polo. In 1271, Niccolò and Marco, then 17 years old, embarked on a journey to China. They traveled along the Silk Road and eventually arrived at the court of Kublai Khan, the Mongol ruler of China. Marco Polo served as a diplomat and advisor to Kublai Khan for many years and traveled throughout China, as well as to other parts of Asia such as India and Southeast Asia.

   After spending 24 years in Asia, Marco Polo returned to Venice in 1295. He was captured during a war with Genoa in 1298 and was imprisoned for several years.

During his imprisonment, he dictated his stories and experiences to a fellow inmate, Rustichello of Pisa, who helped him write his book "The Travels of Marco Polo". The book became popular in Europe and introduced many Europeans to the wonders and exotic cultures of Asia. Marco Polo died in Venice in 1324 at the age of 70. He is remembered as one of the greatest explorers and travel writers of all time and is celebrated for his contributions to the history of travel and exploration.

2. **Jacopo Tintoretto**

   Jacopo Tintoretto was an Italian Renaissance painter who lived in the 16th century. He was born in Venice in 1518 and was one of the most prominent artists of the Venetian school of painting.

   Tintoretto's real name was Jacopo Robusti, but he was called Tintoretto, which means "little dyer", because his father was a dyer. Tintoretto was largely self-taught as a painter and was heavily influenced by the work of other Venetian painters such as Titian and Veronese.

   Tintoretto is known for his dramatic and dynamic style of painting, which often featured large-scale, complex compositions with dramatic lighting and bold colors. He was particularly skilled at portraying movement and emotion in his figures, which gave his paintings a sense of energy and vitality.

   Some of Tintoretto's most famous works include "The Last Supper" in the church of San Giorgio Maggiore in Venice, "Paradise" in the Doge's Palace in Venice, and "The Miracle of the Slave" in the Gallerie dell'Accademia in Venice. Tintoretto was highly regarded during his lifetime and was considered one of the greatest painters of his time. He died in Venice in 1594 at the age of 75. His work had a significant influence on later artists, particularly those of the Baroque period, and he is now regarded as one of the most important painters of the Renaissance.

3. **Antonio Vivaldi**

   Antonio Vivaldi was an Italian Baroque composer and virtuoso violinist who lived in the 17th and 18th centuries. He is best known for his instrumental concertos, particularly his violin concertos, which were among the most popular and influential of his time.

   Vivaldi was born in Venice in 1678 and was trained as a musician from a young age. He was ordained as a Catholic priest in 1703 and became known as the "Red Priest" due to his red hair. He worked as a music teacher and composer at the Ospedale della Pietà, a charitable institution in Venice that provided musical training to orphaned and abandoned girls.

Vivaldi's music was popular during his lifetime and he was regarded as one of the most important composers of his time. He composed over 500 works, including operas, chamber music, and sacred choral music, in addition to his concertos. His most famous work is "The Four Seasons", a set of four violin concertos that depict the changing seasons of the year. Despite his success as a composer, Vivaldi struggled financially throughout his life and died in poverty in Vienna in 1741. His music fell out of favor in the decades following his death, but experienced a revival in the 20th century and is now regarded as some of the most important and influential music of the Baroque era.

4. **Canaletto**

Canaletto was an Italian painter who lived in the 18th century and was known for his landscapes and cityscapes of Venice. He was born Giovanni Antonio Canal in 1697 in Venice and later took the name Canaletto due to his father's occupation as a maker of canals.

Canaletto began his career as a theatrical scene painter, but he soon turned his attention to painting landscapes and cityscapes. He was particularly skilled at portraying the architecture and atmosphere of Venice, and his paintings captured the city's unique beauty and character.

Canaletto's paintings were highly detailed and realistic, but he also used vivid colors and dramatic lighting to create a sense of drama and atmosphere in his works. He was particularly interested in the effects of light and shadow on the buildings and waterways of Venice, and his paintings often feature the city bathed in warm, golden light.

Some of Canaletto's most famous works include "The Grand Canal with S. Simeone Piccolo" and "The Piazza San Marco with the Basilica" which are both in the National Gallery in London. Other notable works include "The Rialto Bridge with the Palazzo dei Camerlenghi" and "The Doge's Palace and the Riva degli Schiavoni". Canaletto was highly regarded during his lifetime and his work had a significant influence on later artists, particularly those of the Romantic period. He died in Venice in 1768, but his legacy lives on in his beautiful paintings of the city he loved.

5. **Giacomo Casanova**

Giacomo Casanova was an Italian adventurer, author, and seducer who lived in the 18th century. He was born in Venice in 1725 and is best known for his memoir, "The Story of My Life", which recounts his many romantic escapades and adventures.

Casanova was a charismatic and charming man who traveled extensively throughout Europe, often working as a spy, gambler, or courtier. He was fluent

in several languages and had a talent for ingratiating himself with people in positions of power and influence.

Casanova was also notorious for his numerous love affairs and sexual conquests. He claimed to have seduced more than 100 women throughout his life, including many famous actresses, nobles, and courtesans.

Despite his reputation as a libertine and rake, Casanova was also a man of great intelligence and wit. He was a prolific writer and his memoir, "The Story of My Life", is considered one of the most important works of its kind in literature. Casanova spent his later years as a librarian in Bohemia and died in 1798 at the age of 73. He is remembered as a colorful and fascinating figure of the 18th century, who embodied the spirit of adventure, romance, and intrigue of his time.

6. **Carlo Goldoni**

Carlo Goldoni was an Italian playwright who lived in the 18th century. He was born in Venice in 1707 and is known for his comedies, many of which were written in the Venetian dialect.

Goldoni began his career as a lawyer, but he soon turned his attention to writing plays. He wrote over 150 plays during his lifetime, many of which were comedies that satirized the social conventions and customs of his time.

Goldoni's plays were popular in Italy and throughout Europe, and he is credited with helping to establish a new style of comedy known as "commedia dell'arte". This style of comedy was characterized by its use of stock characters and improvisation, and it had a significant influence on later forms of theater.

Some of Goldoni's most famous plays include "The Servant of Two Masters", "The Venetian Twins", and "The Mistress of the Inn". These plays are still performed today and are regarded as classics of Italian theater.

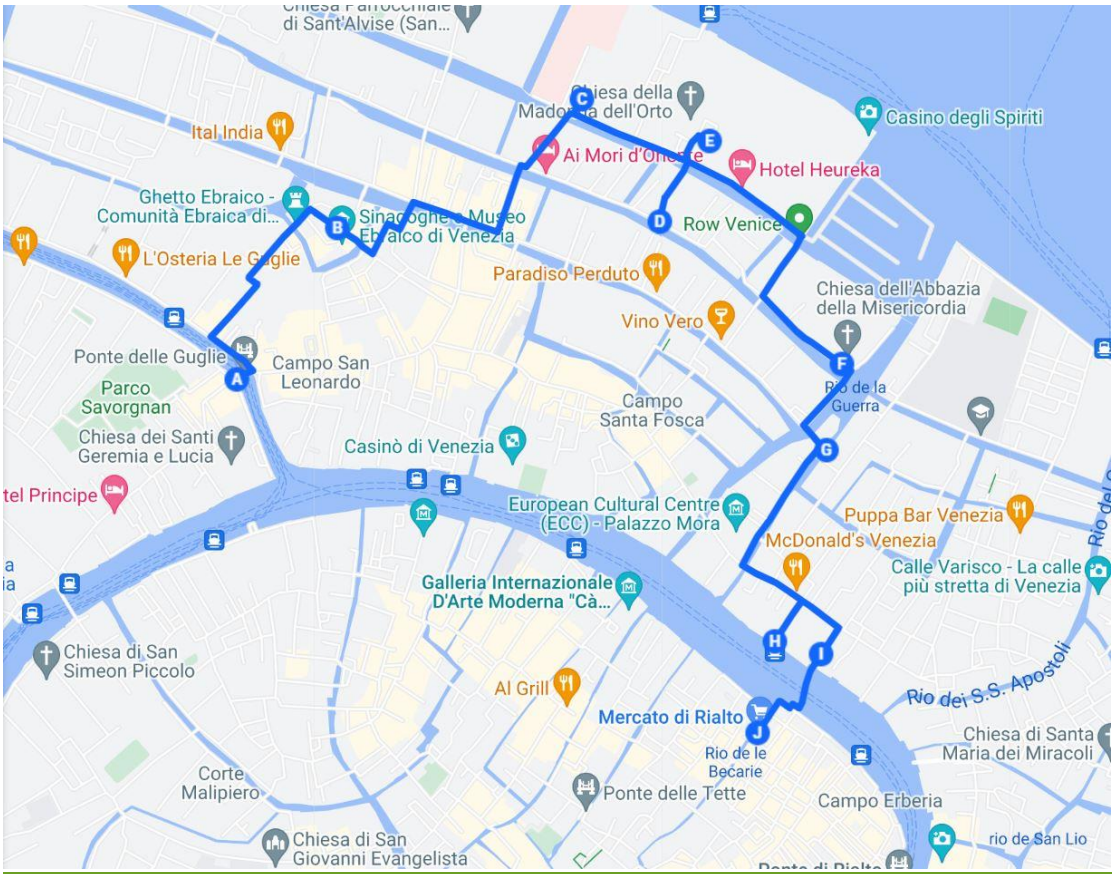
Goldoni spent much of his life traveling and working in various cities throughout Italy and Europe. He died in Paris in 1793 at the age of 85. He is remembered as one of the most important playwrights of the 18th century and as a key figure in the development of modern theater.

# SIX city walks

## 1. City walk in Cannaregio:

https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=17fToqOF3F_YD8UTMvwfG4hOBiSjk1yo&usp=sharing

This walk goes through the Jewish ghetto. Around 1500, Jews were forced to settle here. The houses here are higher than in the rest of Venice. This allowed more people to be housed. Some Jewish stores and kosher restaurants and synagogues can still be found. The walk ends in Campo Santa Sofia where you can take a gondola traghetto for a few euro to the other side.




A. Ponte delle Guglie

B. Jewish Ghetto

C. Corte del Cavallo

D. Chiesa della Madonna dell' Orto

E. Sior Antonio Rioba

F. Chiesa dell'Abbazia della Misericordia

G. Chiodo bridge

H. Palazzo Ca' d'Oro

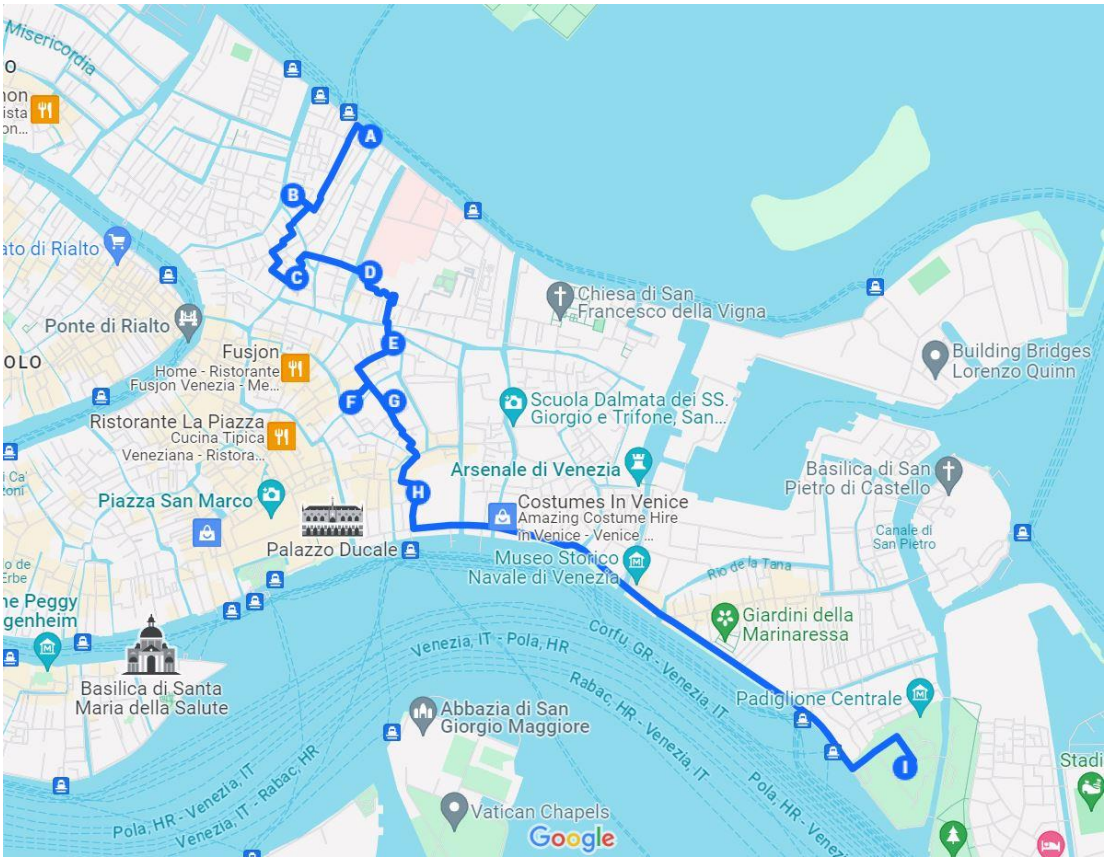
I. Campo Santa Sofia

J. Mercato di Rialto / Rialto market

## 2. City walk from Fondamente Nove to the Giardini:

https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1F3X46Pq1j-NpCsYUpvqSsSh07YksI8A&usp=sharing

Fondamente Nove or Fondamenta Nuove is on the shady side of Venice. From this quay, several boats leave for the islands of Murano, Burano and Torcello. There is always a fresh breeze. The walk ends in the Castello district, the Giardini, a place where you can rest for a while.




A. Fondamente Nove

B. Calle Varisco

C. Santa Maria dei Miracoli church

D. Chiesa dei Santi Giovanni e Paolo

E. Libreria Acqua Alta

F. Fondazione Querini Stampalia

G. Porta Blu / Blue door

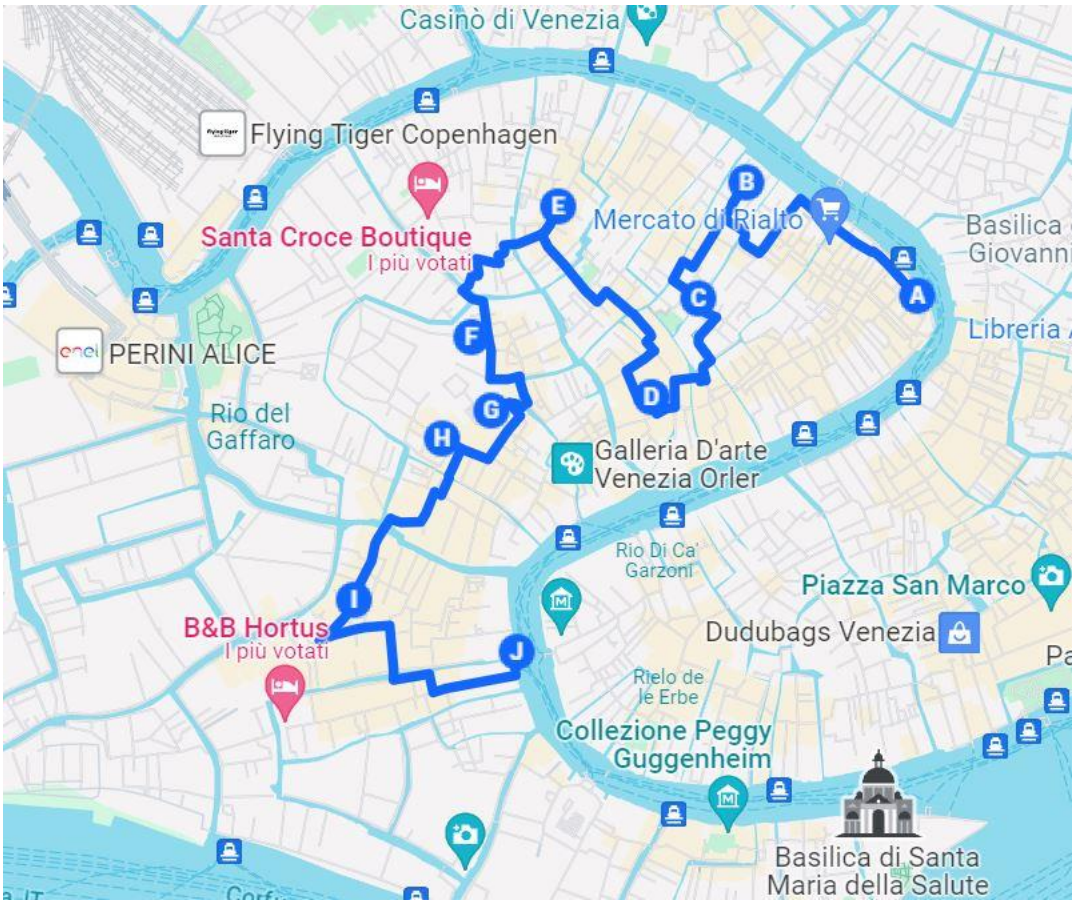
H. Campo San Zaccaria

I. Giardini

## 3. City walk in Santa Croce - San Polo:

https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1agDZxVRcEzwewU211igyahUO3PAGwbM&usp=sharing

This walk begins in the vicinity of the iconic Rialto Bridge, where the lively daily fish, fruit, and vegetable market unfolds. From there, the path winds through charming squares and introduces you to beautiful churches, each full of history and architectural splendor. Finally, the walk leads you to the enchanting Campo Santa Margherita, with bars and restaurants. Here, you can unwind and immerse yourself in the cozy ambiance.




A. Ponte Rialto

B. Fondazione Prada Venezia

C. Ponte delle Tette

D. Campo San Polo

E. Campo San Giacomo

F. Scuola Grande San Giovanni Evangelista

G. Basilica dei Frari

H. Scuola Grande di San Rocco

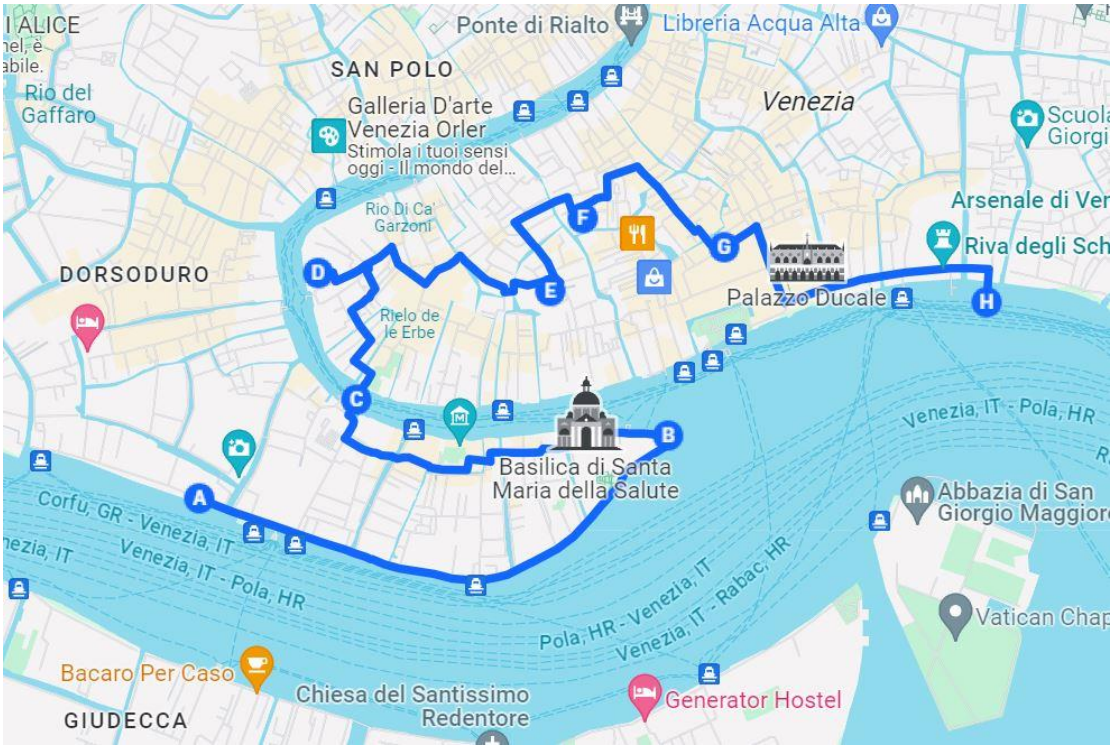
I. Campo Santa Margherita

J. Ca' Rezzonico

## 4. City walk from Zattere to San Marco district:

https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=18_kQkyNLATGG2ZxqDCYCKXkBClHn6yY&usp=sharing

This walk takes you from the sestiere Dorsoduro, past the iconic Punta della Dogana with a nice view and over the Ponte dell'Accademia bridge, to the magnificent San Marco district. Along the way, you'll discover exquisite churches, stunning architecture, and magnificent artwork before ending at the famous Piazza San Marco, where Venice's most iconic monuments await.




A. Zattere

B. Punta della Dogana

C. Accademia Bridge

D. Palazzo Grassi

E. Teatro la Fenice

F. Scala Contarini del Bovolo

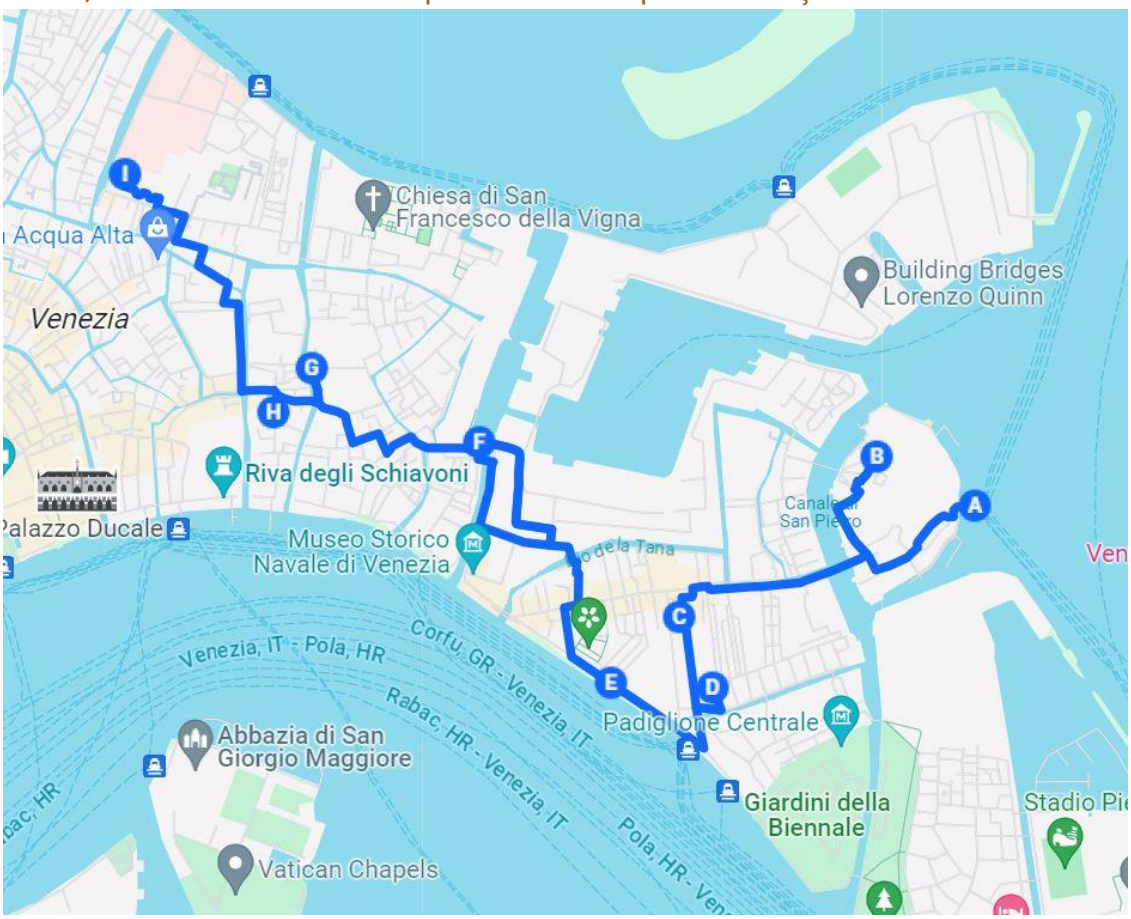
G. Piazza San Marco

H. Riva degli Schiavoni

## 5. City walk in Castello:

https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1cgQ7QpDe8Gw5WomWvtcnSCc2yNE8rQw&usp=sharing

This walk start on the San Pietro island which can be reached by busboat. Stroll through Campo San Pietro, admire the historic Arsenale and stunning views of the lagoon and end your tour at the magnificent Basilica dei Santi Giovanni e Paolo, located next to the hospital with its impressive façade.




A. San Pietro di Castello

B. Basilica di San Pietro di Castello

C. Garibaldi Monument

D. Caffe la Serra

E. Riva dei Sette Martiri

F. Arsenale

G. Scuola Dalmata dei SS Giorgio e Trifone

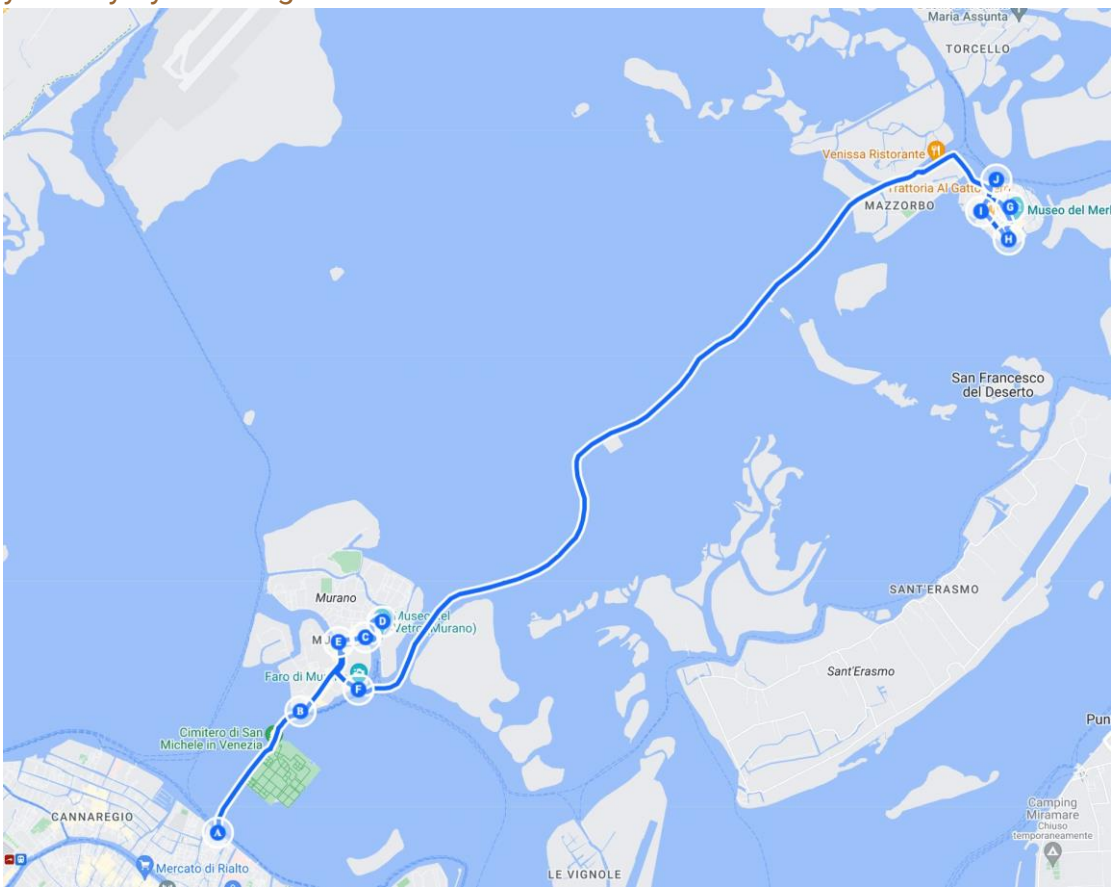
H. Chiesa di San Giorgio dei Greci

I. Basilica dei Santi Giovanni e Paolo

## 6. City walk in Murano and Burano:

https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1c009QibIcohzGVTOxI3KlES1IUH8kZA&usp=sharing

Explore the wonders of Venice's lagoon by taking a busboat to Murano, known for its glass-making. From there, catch another busboat to Mazzorbo and visit the vineyards of Venissa Wine Resort before heading to the colorful island of Burano for a stroll among the brightly painted houses and lace-makers. Finish your day by catching a busboat back to Venice.




A. Zattere (take the vaporetto/busboat to Murano)

B. Murano Colonna B

C. Davide Penso Artstudio

D. Duomo Basilica dei Santi Maria e Donato

E. Ponte Longo

F. Faro di Murano (take the vaporetto/busboat to Mazzorbo/Burano)

G. Bepi's house

H. Fondamenta del Pizzo

I. Tre Ponti

J. Burano C (take the vaporetto/busboat to Venice)

## Useful links:

Buy online ticket for museums and churches in Venice:

https://www.veneziaunica.it/en/e-commerce/services

Buy online ticket for public transport -> ACTV 1 day Transport Daily Pass (2 days, 3 days or 7 days) are the best deals, check the section "book in advance and save" and the tickets from/for airport, possible by bus or boat:

https://www.veneziaunica.it/en/e-commerce/services

Map of the Vaporetto (waterbus):

https://muoversi.venezia.it/en/content/consult-map

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