

## **PORDENONE: Monumenti e siti di interesse / PORDENONE: Monuments and Highlights**

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Dopo aver riflettuto in aula sui concetti di "accessibilità" dei luoghi e dei servizi e di "utenza ampliata", la classe si è soffermata sulla condizione di minorazione visiva, cogliendo l'eterogeneità sottesa da questa denominazione (cecità, ma anche diversi livelli di ipovisione) e conoscendo forme e tecniche di accesso agli spazi (mobilità), ai servizi e alla cultura (tecnologie assistive, metodo di scrittura braille, testi ad alta leggibilità..). Si è quindi spesa nella stesura di brevi descrizioni dei principali monumenti e siti di interesse di Pordenone, avendo cura di redigere testi che, pur tenendo conto della sinteticità imposta dalla scrittura braille, fossero massimamente informativi per lettori con disabilità visiva, nonché corretti linguisticamente. La fase successiva è consistita nella realizzazione di un prototipo artigianale, grazie al quale gli alunni hanno appreso alcuni rudimenti del metodo di scrittura in rilievo, a cui ha fatto seguito la stampa tramite stampante braille, che ha consentito la realizzazione di più copie delle due guide.



La classe 4BTB

## **PORDENONE**

### **Monuments and Highlights**

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#### **ST. MARK'S SQUARE**

Saint Mark's square, previously called "Piazzetta di Sotto", developed in length behind the Town Hall, was the original core of the town that began as a port by the river Noncello, from which the city of Pordenone gets its name: Portus Naonis. Here there was the Porta Furlana, at the end of Via San Marco, outside the city walls, from which boats, which transported people or goods, could reach the sea, following the tide of the river. Unfortunately, the door was destroyed during the Napoleonic period. Of all the buildings overlooking the square, the most important is the house and the studio owned by the Renaissance painter Giovanni Antonio de' Sacchis, called "il Pordenone". Unfortunately they cannot be visited now because they are under renovation.

#### **ST. MARK'S CATHEDRAL**

It was built at the beginning of 1200, but the modern building is the result of many architectonic styles that during centuries have been combined. The façade, barren and incomplete, shows a stone portal of 1511 by Pilacorte which is crowned by a fanlight with a valuable statue of Christ. On each side scenes from Genesis and zodiac signs are portrayed. Inside the Duomo there are several frescoes of 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries and important works by the famous painter Il Pordenone.

#### **THE BELL TOWER**

It was opened in 1647 and it was built in Romanesque-Gothic style. It was made completely in bricks with elegant three-light windows and hanging archlets.

## **THE TOWN HALL**

The Town Hall of Pordenone and its ancient Loggia represent the symbolic building of the historical center of the city. Located in Corso Vittorio Emanuele, it was built in the XIII century, between 1291 and 1395 and completely built in bricks, with a trapezoidal plan. Open in the lower part by a porch portico, it is preceded by a tower forepart surmounted by a large astronomical-lunar clock built after 1542 by the Rainieri brothers of Reggio.

## **CONTRADA MAGGIORE**

The old Contrada Maggiore features a succession of elegant and richly frescoed palaces that gave the town the additional name of *urbs picta*, painted town. Along the road there are numerous shops and places of refreshment.

## **RICCHIERI PALACE**

It houses the Art museum situated in Pordenone since 1970. The restorations brought to light all the structural and decorative elements dating back to the original construction. It can be assumed that the building was just the right part of it that, isolated, formed a thick tower with a square base. The building was extended horizontally, reaching the present linear development, and vertically too, rising over the ground floor where two noble floors were added. In the windowsill balcony of the first floor the date "1667" is carved, accompanied by the name "Ferdinando Ricchieri", the creator of the whole operation.

## **MONTEREALE-MANTICA PALACE**

Palace Montereale-Mantica is located at number 56 of Corso Vittorio Emanuele in Pordenone. At the beginning of the 15th century the Mantica family arrived in Pordenone, which merged with the Montereale in the 17th century and it was during this period that this palace was built. In the following century the building underwent a renovation and decorations were also made. In the twentieth century it was used as a military command and later as a school. After a period of neglect, in the 80s of the twentieth century it was returned to the life and culture of Pordenone by an accurate and radical restoration promoted by the Chamber of Commerce to make it its own representative seat. Inside Palazzo Montereale there is an important hall decorated with stuccos by the Ticinese Francesco Antonio Re, made after the middle of the 18th century. It also preserves a picture of the Bolognese

Carlo Cignani depicting the Infancy of Jupiter. The façade of Mantica Palace was obtained from the union of two buildings. On the second floor, in the wide space between two knights to be identified with Valerio Carvino who kills a rooster, at the center of the ribbon that serves as a string course, we can recognize that coat of arms of the Mantica, with the imperial eagle and the lion on the three columns.

### **GREGORIS-BASSANI PALACE**

The facade is of three floors with two window planks and an added garret, sills and cornices in molded stone. The Gothic portico has two arches, central column with capital and pillars on the sides. It is believed that originally it was a low loggia leaning against the houses of the Gregoris. On the panel of columns on the sides, three friezes serve as a string course with masks, dolphins, mermaids, tritons and hippogriffs. In the center stands the arme Gregoris with the initial of Francesco.

### **GREGORIS PALACE**

Built in the 14th century, today's palace is a reconstruction of the 17th century. His façade with large windows, balconies, arches and mascarons, represents one of the major examples of dry land Venetian architecture. It can be recognised among the other palaces of the Corso by its sculptural and pure white image, made of bare stone. Today is the seat of the Societa' Operaia di Mutuo Soccorso ed Istruzione.

### **BISOL PALACE**

The architectural setting of today's front of Casa Bisol, a palace from the 15th century, treated during the 1700s, was hiding underlying decorations which date back to the 15th century. Following restorations that took place in 2001, there are four clear crests, the three above refer to Kingdom of Hungary, to Austria and to Gorizia. There still isn't an explanation for the various crests on the façade, originally seven, since their meaning is still unknown.

### **VIANELLO HOUSE**

Casa Vianello also called Palazzo dei Capitani because in the past people thought that it was the residence of the Capitani family but it has recently been discovered that their residence was a castle near it. The principal façade has three emblems but originally there were 7.

### **BERNARDI HOUSE**

The construction consists of two buildings of the beginning of the fifteenth century, raised by one floor at the end of nineteenth century. The façades are characterised by four rows of windows made rectangular, but in the left one the original bending can be seen from the decorated cornices. It re-emerged after the 2004 restoration. Fourteenth-century polychromatic panels and frescoes reappear in the thick coating layer of the brick wall. A fragment preserves a heraldic shield, perhaps of the city's coat of arms and also an Austrian crest.

### **SIMONI HOUSE**

The original fourteenth-century Casa Simoni is characterised by a façade with two Gothic windows, between them there is the Town's coat of arms and simple mock brick decorations. In the underereavethere are two fascias with floral motifs and with fruit.

### **CONCORDIA COMMUNITY THEATRE**

The old theatre has kept its original graceful façade till these day. It is on two floors on a high portico. It was built in a neoclassical style on a well-planned project by the famous architect Giovanni Battista Bassi. In 1848, the theatre changed its name to Community Theatre and since 1962 the interior spaces have been assigned to shopping services. This site is located at number 18 of Corso Vittorio Emanuele II.

### **DE RUBEIS PALACE**

De Rubeis Palace is one of the pictae houses in the city centre. Initially, the structure was in late Romanesque style and in the Middle Ages it was surmounted by a cant in Gothic style. The front is covered with a fresco which simulates an upholstery with multi-coloured geometric patterns, interrupted just by an unknown baroque crest. What surprises people, beyond the flashy colours as green, red and yellow ochre, is the presence of various small windows inspired by different architectural styles and the representation of human effigies and fantastic beasts from medieval bestiaries.

### **MOTTA SQUARE**

In ancient times there was only the Convent of San Francesco and the place was the parade ground of the castle. It was the only square of Pordenone and it was the place of games and shows. Now it is the site of the market and hosts the ex Convent of San Francesco.

### **EX SAN FRANCESCO CONVENT**

This convent was built by the monks minor of the convent of San Francesco. It dates back to 1424 and it houses some frescoes by the painter Antonio De Sacchis, called il Pordenone. It was closed in 1767 by the Republic of Venice together with the church and then it was acquired by a private citizen. Now it is the property of the municipality of Pordenone and home of exhibitions and conferences.

### **PORDENONE CASTLE**

The kings of Carinthia raised the castle against possible attacks from the Patriarchate of Aquileia, which had destroyed the city's river port. The castle first housed the Habsburg and then the Venetian captains and, in the subsequent Austrian domination, was turned into a prison.

### **CAVOUR SQUARE**

This square, once called "Piazzetta Di Sopra" and later called Piazza Centrale, is situated in the ancient city of Pordenone, between Corso Vittorio Emanuele and Corso Garibaldi. It's a crossroad: one road leads to the train station and one leads to Piazza XX settembre. It's a gathering square where people can have a coffee in one of the historic bars. From there you can admire Badini Palace.

### **BADINI PALACE**

Badini Palace was built in 1400 and then enriched with frescoes in the sixteenth century. Its façade was made at the beginning of the 16th century by Giovanni Badini. In the 18th century it was extended and frescoed by some artists. Today it hosts the Pordenonelegge offices, the Cinemazero's Media library and the Promoturismo FVG.

### **SBROJAVACCA PALACE**

Sbrojavacca Palace is situated in Corso Garibaldi, next to Pera Palace. It was born from the union of buildings at the end of the fifteenth century; at the beginning of the following century it was already on three floors and the façade was decorated with frescoes. Behind the palace there were some

courtyards where manufacturing activities were carried out. Today it is one of the seats of the Regional Administration.

### **HOLY TRINITY CHURCH**

Built in the first half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century on a project by a local architect. The church of the Holy Trinity rises where once there was a small church with a small altar. For many years it had an easy time but later, due to the floods of the Noncello, it slowly went into decay and was recently restored thanks to some associations.

### **ADAM AND EVE'S BRIDGE**

The bridge of Adam and Eve takes its name from the two statues placed at its beginning but which actually represent Jupiter and Juno.

The bridge has been recently restored for the construction of the river port never completed.

### **CHURCH OF St. Mary of the Angels or of CHRIST**

If you leave from Piazza della Motta and you take Ospedale Vecchio alley you'll find Chiesa del Cristo whose original name was St. Mary of the Angels because it belonged to the St. Mary of the Battuti Confraternity. The church was built in 1309. The portal was carved in 1510 by Antonio Pilaconte. The inside of the church was restored in 1700 but you can find remains from 1300. Behind the church you'll find a restored building that housed the hospital. Near it you'll find the statue of San Rocco, that used to protect pilgrims and wayfarers.

### **MUNICIPAL ART MUSEUM**

Donated in the 1949 by Lucio Ernesto Ricchieri, the palace was transformed in a cultural centre and in the 1972 it became the seat of the Art Museum. After being closed for some years for fitting out works, in 1996 is reopened to the public with a new staging of the exhibit rooms that house paintings on canvas, drawings, frescoes, wood carvings, furniture, jewellery and ceramic articles made in the medieval times.

### **MUNICIPAL NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM**

It preserves significant natural collections, a section dedicated to technology and an important collection of naval models of various ages.

## **SCIENCE CENTRE – IMMAGINARIO SCIENTIFICO**

Hamlet of Torre. Interactive and multimedia science museum.

## **ARCHEOLOGICAL MUSEUM OF WESTERN FRIULI**

The museum includes prehistory and protohistory rooms, archaeological finds from the nearby Roman villa of Torre, discovered in the 50s on the left bank of the Noncello river. The park of the museum is, together with the park of the Diocesan Seminary and the Palù of Livenza, international art meeting land denominated "Humus Park"

## **HARRY BERTOIA GALLERY**

The current architectural complex of Palazzo Spelladi, located in Corso Vittorio Emanuele II, is the result of events that occurred over the centuries and that gave rise to demolitions, subsequent mergers, volumetric shapes and alterations.

## **THE MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY GALLERY OF ART**

The Modern and Contemporary Gallery of Art of Pordenone can be found inside the Galvani Park and it's made of a renovated Venetian villa, developed on three floors, with a new extension that houses the principal entrance to the new exhibit rooms, a conference centre and other spaces designed for museum services.

## **XX SETTEMBRE SQUARE**

It's one of the largest squares in Pordenone. Over the years it was used first as a place where the cattle market was held, then, in the 1920s, it became the place of numerous meetings during which people used to listen to Mussolini's speeches on the radio. Significant is the presence of Casa del Mutilato, built in 1936 by Cesare Scoccimano. The building was dedicated to two fascist martyrs, Pischiutta and Salvato. It was used to receive the mutilated of the First World War, this until the 25 July 1943, when Torre's workers rebelled because it was a symbol of the regime.

## **THE LIBRARY**

The Library stands on a ex-convent of Dominican friars. The Library was established in 1935 following a legacy by Alfonso da Porcia. Among the rarest and most valuable books there is the smallest book in the world,



containing a letter from Galileo to Cristina di Lorena. There are also six Japanese books, in rice paper, written in French that are tales of the Far East.

### **GIUSEPPE VERDI MUNICIPAL THEATRE**

The present Teatro Comunale Giuseppe Verdi rises on the ashes of the Cinema Teatro Verdi closed on June 30<sup>th</sup> 1999 and then demolished. The new theatre was strongly awaited by the city, not only for its symbolic value but for the contribution it offers to the dissemination of culture and art and therefore to the quality of life.

**A Braille version of this city guide can be found at PromoTurismo FVG offices of Pordenone**