

Discover  
**Florence**

Treasure chest of art and culture



**3**  
**funmaps**  
lots of information  
and more than  
**20 GAMES**

MEDIABOOKS

# Identity Card

Name .....

Surname .....

Age .....

City .....

Province .....

Who came with me to Florence

Mum ..... Dad .....

Family .....

Friends .....

Draw a picture  
of your fellow  
travellers



## Key



Things to do when you get there



Fun facts



Games



Extra stuff



Web



Written by  
Laura Bartolucci

Illustrated by  
Giulia Cregut

Translated by  
Anna Cro

MEDIABOOKS

## Florence from the Etruscans...

The **first village** in the Florence area was built by populations of Villanova civilization on **stilts** in the valley of the Arno River in a very favourable position, at the intersection of the sea and the Apennines, while the **Etruscans** settled in the hills of Fiesole. Later came the Romans who founded the fortified colony of **Florentia**. It was built by tracing two main roads — called **cardo** and **decumanus** — that crossed each other where the forum square was — which is currently Piazza della Repubblica. In the Middle Ages, despite wars against neighboring cities and rivalries among

### By train

Florence Central Station, Santa Maria Novella, is connected to Rome and Bologna; it is also in a strategic urban position from which you can reach all the major attractions of the city.

### By car

Florence can be reached via the A1 motorway, north from Bologna and south from Rome.

### By plane

Peretola Airport, named after Amerigo Vespucci, is located a few kilometres from the centre of Florence and can be reached by the T2 tram line.

- A 305 km
- B 1888 km
- C 47 km

- A 4653 km
- B 191 km
- C 1153 km

- A 275 km
- B 607 km
- C 1978 km

- A 15403 km
- B 6694 km
- C 301 km

- A 5891 km
- B 16358 km
- C 2080 km

## ... to the Medici

powerful families, Florence achieved incredible **economic development** and became one of the most populous cities in Europe with almost **100,000 inhabitants**. Between 1200 and 1300 crafts and commerce flourished and banks became increasingly wealthy. Florence experienced a **golden age** in the XV century, when — thanks to the **patronage** of the noble Medici family — the best artists and architects of the time embellished the city. Since then, Florence has become an **essential destination** for every type of traveller.

### Piazza della Repubblica

Nowadays it is a very lively place, full of street artists who improvise shows especially after sunset. The square is home to the historic cafés of Florence most loved by artists and writers of the past, such as Caffè delle Giubbe Rosse, Caffè Gilli and Caffè Paskowski. Furthermore, there is a large carousel with horses, built in the 1900s and renovated in 1997 by the Picci family.

### St. John's "fochi"

On 24th June, a few days after the summer solstice, Florentines celebrate their patron saint, St. John Baptist, to whom the city's medieval baptistery is dedicated. The celebrations culminate with the fireworks display — the "fochi" as the Florentines call them — which are fired from Piazzale Michelangelo and reflect their glow on the surface of the Arno River.

Find out how far Florence is from the cities on the arrows and choose the right answer.





## Your guides...



1

FUNMAP

**The Medici,  
a family for  
Florence**

from p. 6

Let me introduce myself: I am **Marzocco** and will guide you to discover the glorious and beautiful Florence in the **first Funmap** with the agility and pride that distinguish the king of animals. Where does my funny name come from? Marzocco means small Mars. Mars was the Roman god of war and my name recalls the idea of strength and courage associated with the Latin god. I am the totem animal of Florence and you will often find stone sculptures in the city that portray me, either with a paw on a sphere or on the shield reproducing the coat of arms of Florence.



2

FUNMAP

**Parks and  
gardens**

from p. 24

I am the famous **Piggy**: everyone knows me by this name, but if you watch me carefully, you'll notice that I'm a really nice boar. I will accompany you to discover the small and large nature oases of the city of Florence and some original museums in the **second Funmap**. A bronze portrait of me is located at the Loggia del Mercato Nuovo, not far from Piazza della Signoria. This is actually a copy of the original work made in 1633 by sculptor Pietro Tacca. It was commissioned by Grand Duke Cosimo II de' Medici and is now kept in Stefano Bardini Museum.

## ... to discover Florence!

I am the **turtle** with the sail, the symbol Grand Duke Cosimo I de' Medici loved the most. My natural slowness is connected to the idea of prudence, while the sail inflated by the wind and pushing the ship on my shell is an incitement to action. The Latin phrase associated with my image — “festina lente” — means that we must act without uncertainty but carefully. I will be happy to lead you to the discovery of modern Florence, among particular statues and multi-coloured graffiti, in the **third Funmap**.



3

FUNMAP

**Street & Art,  
the modern  
city**

from p. 40



### Florence Coat of Arms

In a shield, a stylised red flower, popularly called lily, stands on white background. In fact, it is a variety of iris that grows in large numbers in the meadows of the gardens and in the countryside around Florence. This flower has been the symbol of Florence since the XI century.

Originally, the colours of the coat of arms were reversed: the Guelphs, who ruled Florence, changed the colours so as not to be confused with their political opponents, the Ghibellines.



*Florence was made great by...*



Cosimo the Elder



Lorenzo the Magnificent

Cosimo I

Francesco I

Anna Maria Luisa

*... the Medici*

Federico da Montefeltro

Sistus IV

Jacopo Pazzi

Palla Strozzi

Savonarola



*... their enemies*

Donatello

Vasari

Botticelli

Michelangelo

Brunelleschi

*... and many artists!* 7



## The Medici, a family for Florence

You will retrace the history of the city through the events of the Medici family over a period of about three centuries.

You will visit palaces, churches, convents, and many other places in the historic centre of Florence and its surroundings.

You will admire the extraordinary creativity of architects, sculptors, and painters at the service of the Medici: Filippo Brunelleschi, Michelozzo, Benozzo Gozzoli, Sandro Botticelli, Bartolomeo Ammannati, Giorgio Vasari, to name just a few.

You will also get to know the characters who left an indelible mark on the city's political history until the XVIII century: Cosimo the Elder, Lorenzo the Magnificent, Cosimo I, Eleonora of Toledo, Francesco I, Ferdinando de' Medici, and Anna Maria Luisa de' Medici.

- 1 *Santa Maria del Fiore Cathedral*
- 2 *St. John's Baptistery*
- 3 *Palazzo Vecchio*
- 4 *Palazzo degli Uffizi*
- 5 *Palazzo Pitti*
- 6 *Basilica of St. Lorenzo*
- 7 *Palazzo Medici*
- 8 *Piazza Santissima Annunziata*
- 9 *Palazzo della Crocetta*
- 10 *Villa La Petraia*
- 11 *Pratolino, the villa that is no more*



## 1 *Santa Maria del Fiore Cathedral*

### The Pazzi conspiracy

On 26th April, 1478 a really **bloody** happening took place in the Cathedral. During the great **Easter Sunday** Mass, Giuliano de' Medici **was stabbed to death** while Lorenzo the Magnificent was just **wounded in his shoulder** and managed to escape. The ambush had been organised by the Pazzi family to end Medici rule, but things didn't go as planned. The Medici became even **stronger and more popular**, while the opponents lost their lives.



### The reverse-moving clock

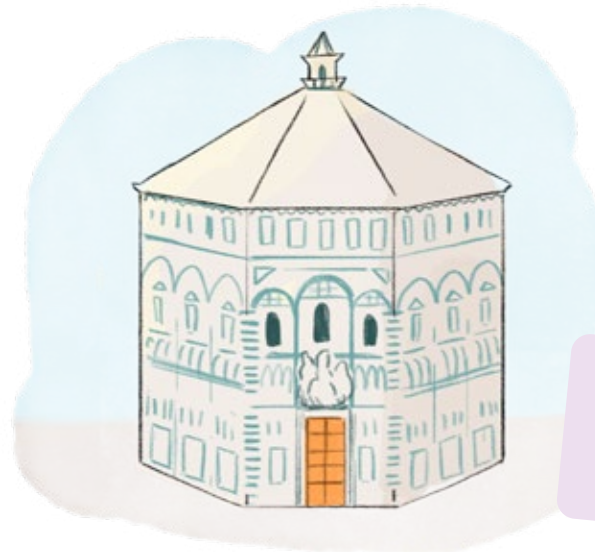
On the counter-façade of the Cathedral there is a **special clock**, designed by Paolo Uccello in 1443. Its hand moves **counterclockwise** (from right to left) like the shadow of the sundials and its **twenty-fourth hour** does not indicate midnight but **the sunset**. Of course, the time of sunset changes depending on the seasons and therefore the clock must always be updated.

It is impossible not to **feel small** in front of Santa Maria del Fiore: it is the **fourth largest cathedral** in the world after St. Peter's in Rome, St. Paul's in London and the Duomo in Milan. The **foundation stone** of the building was laid on 8th September 1296 on the site of the ancient Cathedral of Santa Reparata. Arnolfo di Cambio was commissioned to build it. The Cathedral surprises already from the outside with the **coloured marbles** of the façade, not to mention Giotto's Bell Tower — **85 metres high** — and **Brunelleschi's Dome**, a symbol of the Renaissance. Inside, the immense frescoes of Giorgio Vasari and Federico Zuccari's **Last Judgment** stand out: they feature over 700 figures, including religious characters, angels... and monsters!



## 2 *St. John's Baptistery*

The **octagonal** Baptistery is one of the oldest **religious buildings** in the city. It is located opposite the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore and is dedicated to Saint John the Baptist, patron saint of the city. The origins of this building are uncertain: perhaps it is **early Christian**, or it can be dated around the year one thousand. The **mosaic decorations on the inside of the dome date back to 1200**. Located on the east side, the **Gate of Paradise** was built by goldsmith and sculptor Lorenzo Ghiberti by 1452. The **ten panels** that make up the door feature scenes from the Old Testament. They are copies in gilded bronze, while the originals are in Opera del Duomo Museum.



### Florentine traditions: the explosion of the chariot and the Columbine

Every year, on Easter Sunday, a **wooden chariot**, called **brindellone**, is driven by **flowered oxen** in Piazza del Duomo, in front of the cathedral portal. A **columbine** mounted on a steel cable connected to the chariot is shot from the altar of the church. The chariot lights up with **fireworks** and if the columbine travels without jamming, it is a sign of good luck for the following year.

### GAME

- A medieval novel **A**
- A part to the Bible **B**
- A play **C**

What's the Old Testament?

Answer on p. 48



### 3 Palazzo Vecchio

#### The Hall of the 500 and the private quarters

The impressive hall on the first floor is the place where **official ceremonies** are still organised today. The ceiling decoration focuses on some events in the life of Cosimo I, while the walls are **frescoed** with episodes of Florence military victories over Siena and Pisa and host also six majestic statues, including Michelangelo's **Genius of Victory**. On the second floor, you can visit the rooms where Cosimo I and his wife Eleonora of Toledo lived: the **Quarter of the Elements**, decorated with frescoes depicting water, air, earth, and fire, and the **Quarter of Eleonora** which includes the private chapel with masterpieces by Agnolo Bronzino.

In the **heart** of Florence, in Piazza della Signoria, an imposing building stands. It looks like a **castle**, with battlements and its tower is 95 metres high. It is Palazzo Vecchio, still the seat of the city **government** today. It is called this way because Cosimo I de' Medici moved his entire family and court to a new palace, **Palazzo Pitti**, in 1550 and, as a consequence, this became the old one. On the raised platform — called "Arengario" — that stands in front of **the palace** stop and look at the sculptures: in addition to the copy of Michelangelo's David there is also Marzocco statue, the guide of the first Funmap, holding the symbol of Florence in his **paw**. Going up to the first

floor, you will see the **Hall of the 500**, one of the most sumptuous rooms of the palace, the curious **Studiolo** of Francesco I de' Medici and the other rooms destined for the public life of Duke Cosimo I. They were designed by Vasari and decorated with **frescoes and paintings** that celebrate the glory of the Medici family. Take part in one of the guided tours designed for children to get to know everything about this family, even the most extravagant curiosities. And if you're over 8 you can also explore the palace's **secret passages!**

#### "Studiolo"... Grand Duke Francesco I's secret refuge

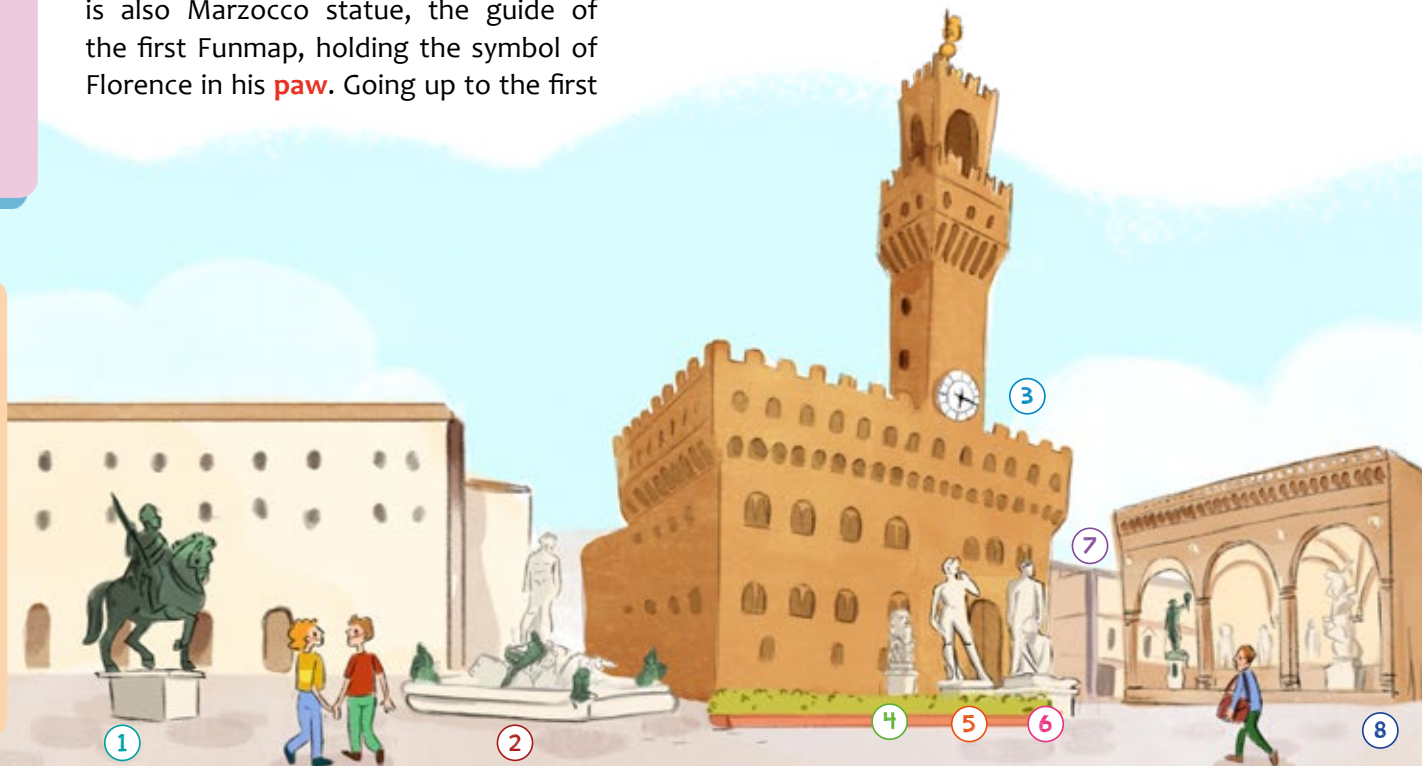
It is a **small room** where Grand Duke Francesco I devoted himself to his studies and collected **precious and rare objects** from all over the world. His collection was contained in **20 cabinets** distributed around the walls and decorated with scenes that somehow depicted their content. Studiolo today is well accessible from **the Hall of the 500**, but only Francesco I could enter it back then, passing through a **secret door** in his bedroom.

#### The square and its sculptures

The whole square around Palazzo Vecchio is a real **open-air museum!** To the right of the Palace, under the XIV-century **Loggia dei Lanzi**, you will be fascinated by the beauty of **statues** such as those of Perseus with Medusa by Benvenuto Cellini and The Rape of the Sabine Women by Giambologna. On the left, you will admire the **fountain** with Neptune — the god of the sea that the Florentines call **Biancone** — in its centre. It was commissioned by Cosimo I to Bartolomeo Ammannati to celebrate the **power of Florence** on the seas and waterways of Tuscany.

#### Piazza della Signoria Discover its beauties

- 1 Equestrian monument to Cosimo I
- 2 Fountain of Neptune
- 3 Palazzo Vecchio
- 4 Statue of Marzocco
- 5 Statue of David
- 6 Statues of Hercules and Cacus
- 7 The Uffizi
- 8 Loggia dei Lanzi

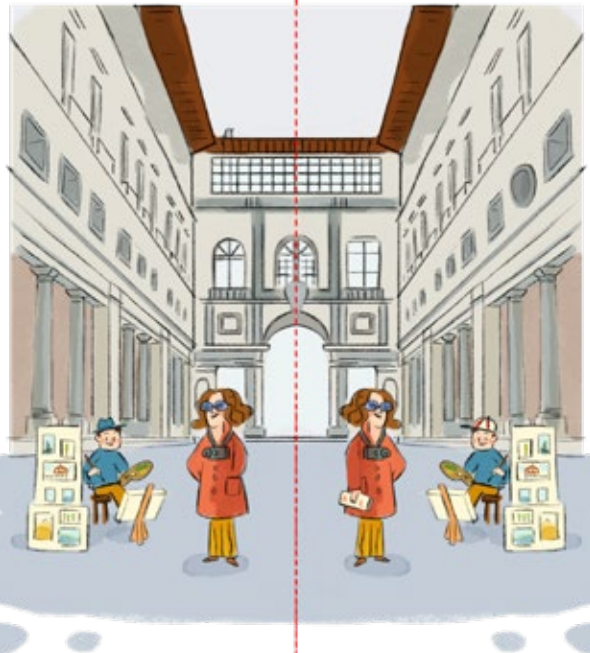






## 4 Palazzo degli Uffizi and its treasures

The large building is located in the **heart of Florence**, between Palazzo Vecchio and the Arno River, and houses one of the **most important and visited museums in the world**, Uffizi Gallery. Initially, in 1560, Cosimo I de' Medici had this palace built as the seat of all the **offices of the city government**, which is why it was called "Uffizi". Over the following centuries, its halls and corridors were filled with **works of art** by the Medici and the Habsburg-Lorraine families. It is impossible to name all the masterpieces that are exhibited between the first and second floors! You can only mention some of the **artists** who made them: Botticelli, Caravaggio,



Answer on p. 48

**Tribuna... the oldest museum in Europe**  
 It is an **octagonal room** that was designed between 1581 and 1583 by Bernardo Buontalenti to contain the **most precious works** in the collection of Francesco I. The decorations recall the **cosmos** with its elements: air is represented by the **lantern**, the mother-of-pearl shells of the dome represent **water**, the upholstery of the scarlet walls is **fire**, while the hard stones of the floor are **earth**. Today Tribuna houses paintings from the Renaissance and ancient sculptures such as the beautiful and shy **Venus of the Medici**.

**GAME**  
 Spot the 5 differences!

Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Mantegna, Giotto, Artemisia Gentileschi, Piero della Francesca, Goya, Rembrandt... a **real art feast!** You can walk freely, going from one painting to another, or follow the **Uffizi Kidz** itineraries to discover child-friendly details (ask the staff wearing the pin with a smiley face for more information).

**Secret passages... the Vasari Corridor**  
 As we know, those in charge must defend themselves from **prying eyes...** and beyond. The elevated road designed by Vasari in 1565 is a **real covered corridor**, that was to allow the grand dukes to **move safely** from the residence of **Palazzo Pitti** to the seat of government in **Palazzo Vecchio**. This **air route**, about 1 km long, starts from Palazzo Vecchio, crosses Uffizi, winds along a stretch of Lungarno, crosses Ponte Vecchio, wedges among the buildings of Oltrarno and emerges into the Boboli Garden.



- Doni Tondo by **Michelangelo**
- Birth of Venus by **Botticelli**
- Head of Medusa by **Caravaggio**
- Diptych of the Dukes of Urbino by **Piero della Francesca**

**GAME**  
 Match each painting with its title.

Answer on p. 48

## 5 Palazzo Pitti from the Medici to the Savoy



### The wrong stone

In the façade of Palazzo Pitti, among the **blocks of stone** about 30 centimetres long, there is a huge one that is **10 metres long!** Why is it so? This stone has no aesthetic nor structural reasons. **It symbolises Luca Pitti**, great and powerful, in the midst of his enemies, small and insignificant.



### Health reasons

**Eleonora of Toledo** chose to leave Palazzo Vecchio because of **health reasons**. She suffered from **tuberculosis**, a serious illness, and Palazzo Pitti featured **brighter and wider rooms**, green areas, and was located in a less crowded neighborhood than the one where she lived before.

If you cross Ponte Vecchio, the most **ancient passage** of the city on the Arno River, you will quickly reach the Oltrarno area, more precisely in the scenic **Piazza de' Pitti** where majestic Palazzo Pitti stands. The square has a **slight slant** as is located on the slopes of the Boboli hill, after which the famous garden, described on page 26, was named. The oldest part of the building dates back to the second half of the 1400s, when the **Florentine banker Luca Pitti** wanted to build a more beautiful and larger palace than Palazzo Medici in Via Larga (see p. 19). After the **crisis of the Pitti family**, the palace was inhabited by

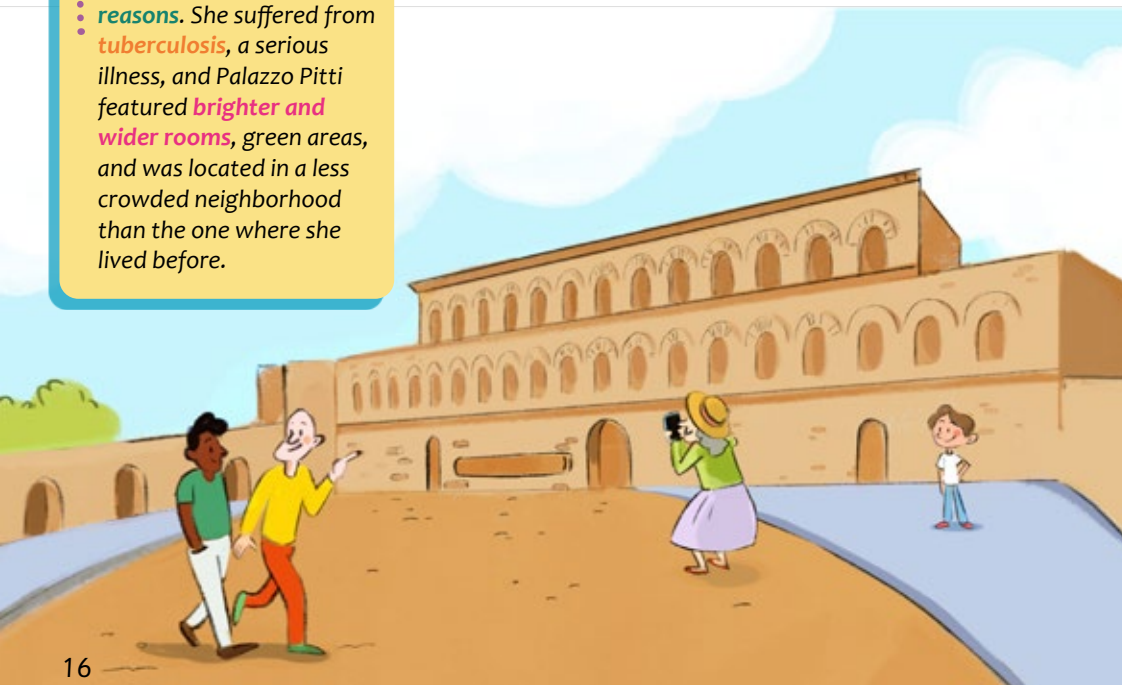
important dynasties such as the Medici, the Habsburg-Lorraine, and the Savoy for about four centuries. Nowadays, the mansion houses important **collections of sculptures, art objects, paintings, porcelain, and clothing**, exhibited in five museums: the Treasury of the Grand Dukes, the Palatine Gallery — a real must see —, the Royal Apartments, the Gallery of Modern Art, and the Museum of Costume and Fashion.

### The Family Pact

In 1737 the Grand Duchy of Tuscany passed from the Medici to the Habsburg-Lorraine dynasty. Anna Maria Luisa de' Medici had the new rulers sign a document, known as **Family Pact**. The contract provided that **all the works of art** belonging to the Medici would be delivered to Francesco Stefano Lorraine on condition that **they would remain in Florence** and in the State of Tuscany forever. Thanks to this gesture you can admire a **cultural heritage** that has remained unchanged over time.

### The white room

If you want to feel like a **princess or a prince**, the right part of Palazzo Pitti to admire is this beautiful **ballroom**: built between 1774 and 1776, it is decorated with stucco. In 1951 Giovanni Battista Giorgini organised the **fashion show** that is said to mark the birth of **Italian fashion**.



**GAME**  
Fashion changes so fast! Match each outfit with its trending period.

 1950s

 1960s

 2000s

Answer on p. 48





### 6 *Basilica of St. Lorenzo, the family church*

At the beginning of the 1400s, the Medici chose and expanded this ancient cathedral that became their **family church**. Its **incomplete façade** should not deceive: its interior is full of sculptures and paintings by important artists such as **Donatello**. On the left side, you will admire the **Old Sacristy** by Filippo Brunelleschi. Here Giovanni di Bicci and his wife Piccarda are buried. Look up and you will see a **dome divided into wedges** and a fresco where the sky of Florence is depicted on a beautiful summer night. On the opposite side of the church is Michelangelo's **New Sacristy** with the tombs of Dukes Giuliano and Lorenzo de' Medici. Only by looking at the front door, will you realise that it is a real **masterpiece**.



**The Chapel of the Princes**  
Walking outside the Basilica of St. Lorenzo, you will reach a **majestic place** that stands in the back of the church. This is the Chapel of the Princes, commissioned to architect Matteo Nigetti to give **dignified burial** to six Medici Grand Dukes. The **octagonal hall** is entirely decorated with **precious marbles** and the coats of arms of Tuscan cities are near the floor. This room and the New Sacristy make up the complex of the so-called **Medici Chapels**.

Answer on p. 48

**GAME**  
Spot the special tourist.

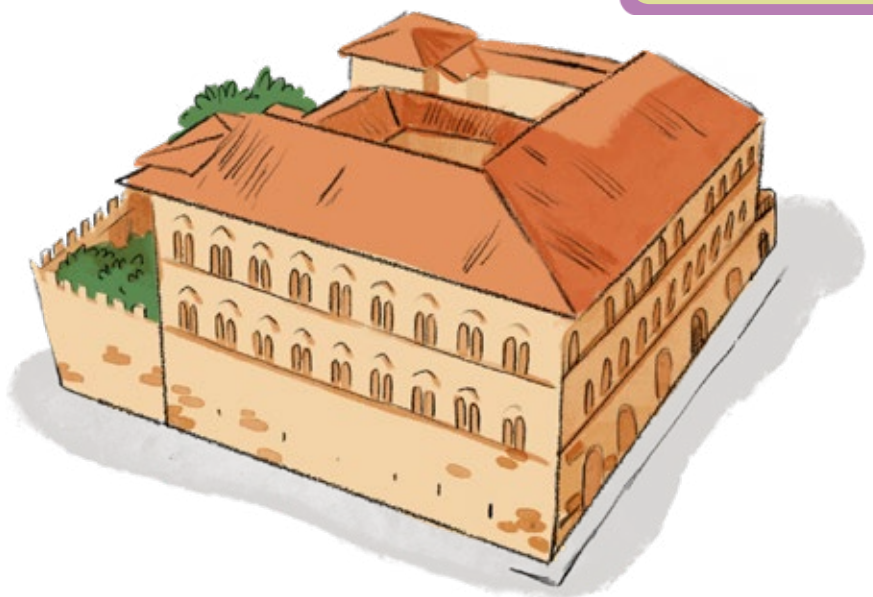


### 7 *Palazzo Medici, an architecture reference*

A stone's throw from Piazza del Duomo, in Via Cavour — formerly called Via Larga — you will find Palazzo Medici, an **emblematic building of Renaissance Florence** and of the Medici family's patronage. Michelozzo built it by 1460 and it became a reference for **Renaissance civil architecture** because of its **cubic shape** and **discreet interior garden**. The private chapel houses the fresco of the **Procession of the Magi** by Benozzo Gozzoli, where the most important **politicians** of the mid-1400s are depicted together with the painter, who portrayed himself among the crowd and seems to be looking straight at you.



**Convent of St. Marco**  
Near the palace is the Convent of St. Marco. The decoration of the cells and common spaces of the monks was commissioned to the convent painter, **Fra Angelico**. The frescoes depict **moments from the life of Jesus** to **stimulate prayer**. The charm of these stories — which seem **suspended in an out-of-time atmosphere** — lies in the simplicity of the compositions and the lightness of the colours.



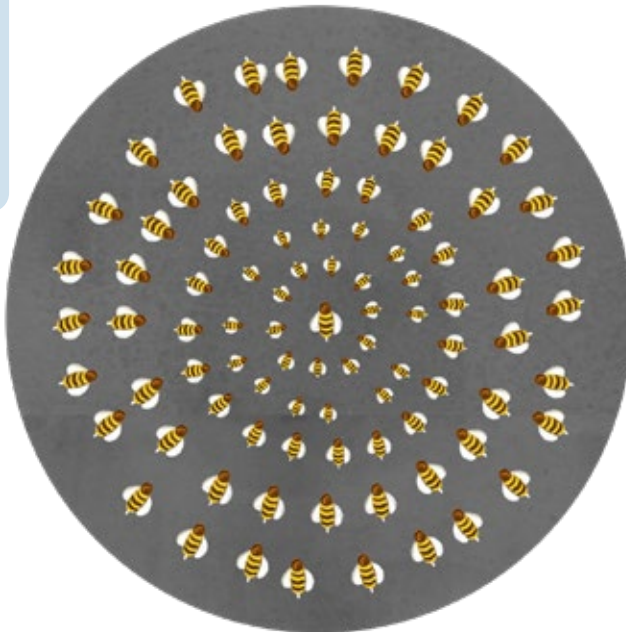


## 8 Piazza Santissima Annunziata

This square, designed by the **best Renaissance architects**, is the most serene and harmonious one in Florence. There are arcades on three sides and on the fourth one, you will see **Brunelleschi's dome** apparently framed by two twin buildings. In the centre of the square are the equestrian **bronze monument** of Ferdinand I de' Medici and two **symmetrical fountains** featuring sea monsters. The square is named after Basilica della Santissima Annunziata, which is definitely worth a visit. At the corner with Via dei Servi there is a building with a window that is always open, because this is where the **ghost of a girl** awaits her husband's return from war, according to legend.

### Spedale degli Innocenti: the ancient orphanage of Florence

On the right side of the square, looking at the church, you will notice an **elegant building** with a loggia decorated with blue and white glazed terracotta rounds depicting **newborns in swaddling clothes**, namely the "innocents". The construction, started by Filippo Brunelleschi in 1419, is one of the **symbolic buildings of the Renaissance**. It is the oldest example of **an institute for the reception of abandoned babies** in Europe. The building still houses the institute today, with kindergarten, playschool, family homes, and a museum that documents the activity of this institution over the centuries.



### GAME

Behind the statue of Ferdinand I, there is a bronze plate containing a queen bee surrounded by worker bees. Can you count the exact number of the bees without using your fingers?

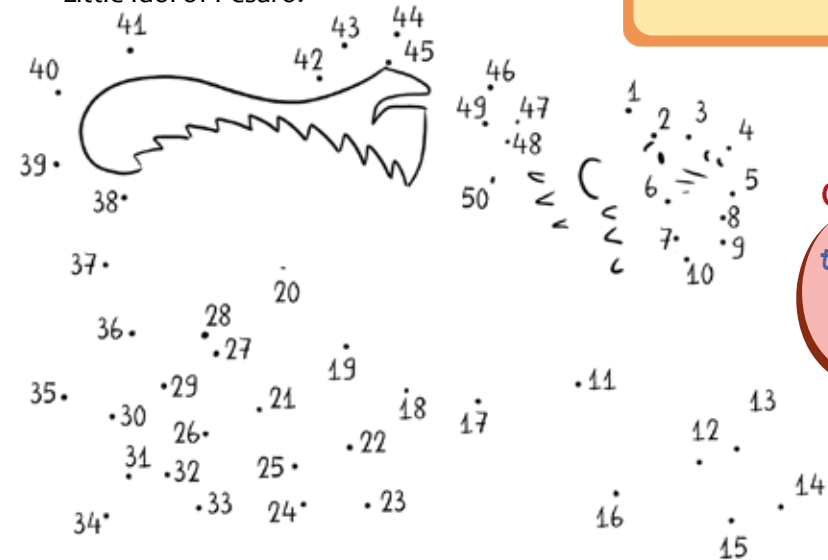
## 9 Palazzo della Crocetta, "Archaeological Museum"

The palace, built in Piazza Santissima Annunziata in 1619 to host Maria Maddalena de' Medici, has been the headquarters of the National Archaeological Museum since 1880. It is an **exhibition space** allowing visitors to learn about the history and art of ancient civilizations. In the **Egyptian section** you will move among sarcophagi, scarabs, pharaohs, and mummies, while in the **Etruscan section** you will focus on two sculptures: the **bronze of Minerva** and the **Chimera of Arezzo**, a mythological animal with the body of a lion, the tail of a snake, and the head of a goat on its back. Among the Greek ceramics, the **François vase** stands out. It is named after the archaeologist who discovered it in 1844. In the room dedicated to Roman art, see the bronze statues of the Orator and of the Little Idol of Pesaro.



### Air Passages

Maria Maddalena de' Medici was born with a **serious physical deformity** and needed to move from her home to nearby environments without climbing stairs and avoiding prying eyes. The building had therefore been equipped with **air passages** that connected it to the Monastery of Crocetta and to the Basilica of the Annunziata, where the princess could **follow masses behind a grate** without being seen.



### GAME

Connect the dots and reveal the Chimera!



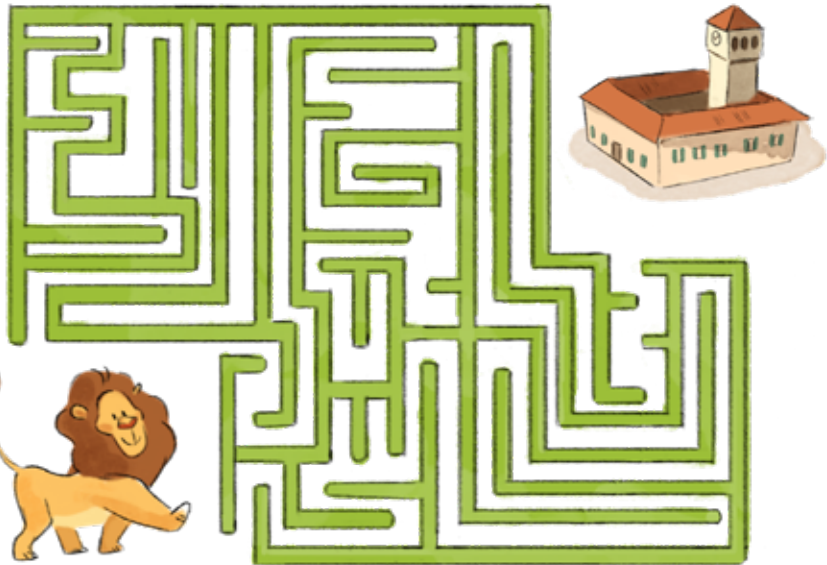
## 10 Villa La Petraia



**Villa di Castello and Accademia della Crusca**  
It is located near Villa La Petraia and was purchased by the Medici family in 1477. Here you will admire one of **the first Italian gardens** — designed by architect and sculptor **Niccolò Tribolo** — with a **huge collection of citrus fruits**. Don't miss the **Cave of the Animals**, where statues of wild boars, horses, dromedaries, and deer seem to come to life! Since 1974, the villa has been home to **Accademia della Crusca**, a prestigious institution that studies and promotes the Italian language.

Declared a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** in 2013, along with all the Medici villas and gardens, the residence is **surrounded by the greenery** of the Castello district and overlooks the entire city of Florence. Cosimo I de' Medici bought this building in 1544 and a few years later his son Ferdinand I made it **princely**. Villa La Petraia will charm you with its characteristic **medieval tower**, terraced gardens and rooms full of works of art. The most surprising place in the villa is the **splendid inner courtyard**, transformed into a party hall in the 1800s. Its walls are decorated with frescoes by Volterrano depicting the Medici Fasti, that is the memorable moments that marked the history of the Medici family.

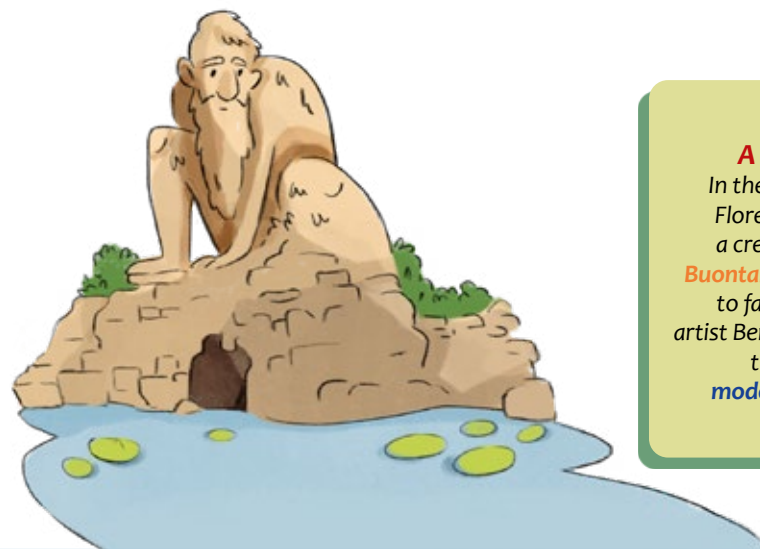
**GAME**  
Help Marzocco reach the Villa.



Answer on p. 48

## 11 Pratolino, the villa that is no more

Villa Pratolino was commissioned in 1569 by Grand Duke Francesco I Medici to architect Bernardo Buontalenti to pay homage to and amaze Venetian **Bianca Cappello**, who was his mistress first and then his wife. At the beginning of the XIX century it was demolished and only some structures and the **vast park covering about 20 hectares** survived. Among the sculptures adorning the park is the majestic **personification of the Apennines**, made of stone by Giambologna — aka Jean de Boulogne in Flemish — in 1580. The old and proud giant is **14 metres tall** and is crouching on the shore of a lake, **crushing the head of a monster**. Other attractions you can visit are the Cave of Cupid, the chapel, the stables, and the shrimp farms.



**Villa Medicea of Careggi**  
It is one of the **oldest villas** belonging to the Medici family and is located in a slightly hilly area of the Careggi district, in the northern part of the city. It was a **meeting place for writers, philosophers, and artists**, home to the Neoplatonic Academy and the preferred residence of Lorenzo the Magnificent where he died in 1492, aged 43.



**A sweet invention**  
In the ice cream shops of Florence, you will notice a cream-like taste called **Buontalenti**. It is dedicated to famous architect and artist Bernardo Buontalenti: they say he invented **modern ice cream** as we know it today.

## Parks and Gardens

You will **stroll through** Oltrarno district in the most beautiful panoramic gardens of Florence such as Boboli Gardens, Villa Bardini Garden, Rose Garden, and Iris Garden.

You will **explore** Villa Strozzi park and learn about the history of all its inhabitants by walking along wooded paths.

**Admire** the Stibbert Museum's fascinating art collections and romantic English garden around it.

You **will be deeply involved** in Cascine Park, the largest green lung in the city with valuable buildings, fountains, and truly unusual monuments.

**You'll visit** museums dedicated to sports much loved by Italians: the Football Museum and the Cycling Museum named after champion Gino Bartali.

Following the footsteps of St. Francis of Assisi and Dante Alighieri, **you will walk along** ancient paths in the midst of the nature surrounding Florence.

- 1 *The Boboli Gardens*
- 2 *Villa Bardini and its garden*
- 3 *The Cascine Park*
- 4 *Villa Strozzi and the Storyteller Forest*
- 5 *The Rose Garden and the Iris Garden*
- 6 *The Football Museum in Coverciano*
- 7 *Historical football in costume*
- 8 *Weapons of the Stibbert Museum House*
- 9 *The Cycle Path on the Arno*
- 10 *The Renaissance Ring*
- 11 *Following the steps of St. Francis. The journey to Assisi*
- 12 *From Florence to Ravenna, the exile of Dante Alighieri*
- 13 *St. Jacopo's Path, from Florence to Lucca*







### Nature walks

Do you want to walk in the shade of trees? From “**viottolone**” start avenues which are called “**Cerchiate grandi e piccole**”. At first glance, they look like plant tunnels covered by a dense tangle of branches. There are also “**Ragnaie**”, paths with high hedges once used to capture birds.



### Such curious names!

In the garden you will find the **Artichoke Fountain**, so called because on its tip there was a flower reminiscent of this vegetable. Then there is the **Monkeys Fountain** featuring **three bronze monkeys** at its base. The **Fountain of Neptune** would have a normal name, but the Florentines call it by a funny nickname, **Fork Fountain**, because of the trident that Neptune holds.

### GAME

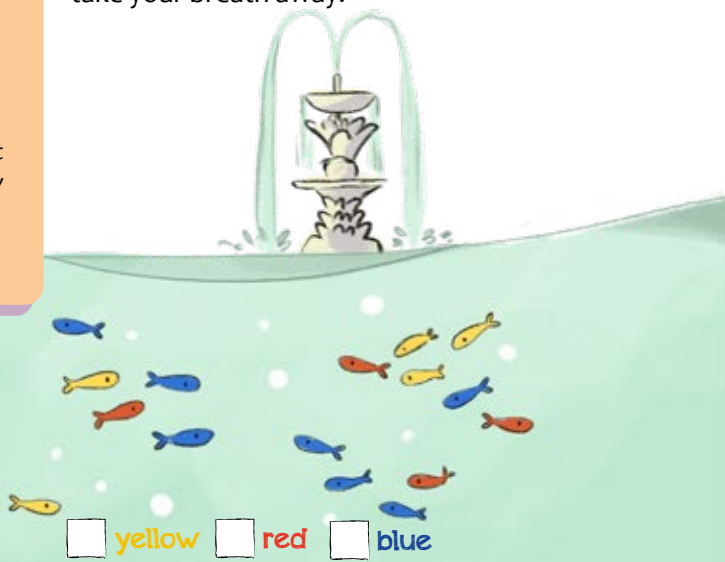
How many colourful fish! Can you count them?

Answer on p. 48

26

## 1 The Boboli Gardens, an open air museum

It is the **most famous garden** in the whole city. From here you can enjoy a **beautiful panoramic view**. It is located right behind Palazzo Pitti and was originally commissioned by Cosimo Medici I to Niccolò Tribolo as a **private garden**, before being expanded over the centuries. Every element of this green area has been designed and created by some of the most influential architects and artists of the time. The Amphitheatre with the statues of the Roman myths features an **obelisk from Egypt!** As you go on strolling, you will realise that this park is a true **open-air museum**, full of ancient and modern sculptures, small temples, fantastic artificial caves, elegant buildings, and fountains. The beauty of nature, with its centuries-old trees, flowers, and rare plants will truly take your breath away!



yellow  red  blue

## 2 Villa Bardini and its garden

This villa and its wonderful garden are located in a spectacular spot in the Oltrarno. From here you can see all of Florence at a glance! It was built in the XVII century with the name of **Villa Manadora** and it belonged to various noble and wealthy families before being purchased by famous art dealer Stefano Bardini in 1913. He enriched it with **many decorative elements**. The Garden of Villa Bardini includes **three areas that differ** by time and style: the Italian garden, the English wood, and the agricultural park. Climbing the **large baroque staircase** you reach Belvedere from where you can admire the view and — during Spring — the spectacular **flowering of wisteria**, a plant with blue and purple flowers.

Answer on p. 48

GAME  
Oops! A monument doesn't belong to Florence! Which one?



### La Specola

A **museum to visit** in Oltrarno is Specola, which is the **Zoology** section of the Natural History Museum. It includes all types of animals and an impressive **collection of waxes** of the human body.

### Piggy and the art collection of Bardini Museum

If you want to see the **original sculpture of Piggy**, you have to go to Stefano Bardini Museum, a stone's throw from the entrance of the villa in Via de' Bardi. **All the rooms feature blue walls** and contain somewhat particular objects of art, just like their owner, antiquarian Stefano Bardini. There are marble sculptures, paintings, furniture, carpets, weapons, porcelain, frames, and even **entire wooden ceilings**.



27

### 3 The Cascine Park



#### The pyramid... a very special refrigerator

Yes, you read that right: in the first section of the main avenue of Cascine, on the left, near Pavoniere swimming pool, you can see a **sandstone pyramid** 10 metres high. It was built in 1796 with the function of a **ice house**, where **pressed snow** and some foods were stored during the hot season.



#### Argingrosso Park

It is the other green area that is part of the **Arno Metropolitan Park**. It develops on the left bank of the **river** opposite the last stretch of Cascine Park. You can go horseback riding, play nine-hole golf, go cycling; it is also equipped with **hiking trails** and **play areas** between lawns and ponds.

Cascine Park features **160 hectares of surface** and **3.5 kilometres length**. Thus, it is the largest public park in Florence and a real green island, surrounded by the waters of both the Arno River and the Mugnone stream. From the city centre you can reach it on foot or by a **tram** that stops at a station inside the park. Back in time, precisely to the mid-1500s, this area was countryside and the Medici family used this land to hunt and farm. In the second half of the XVIII century, the Grand Duke of Tuscany, Pietro Leopoldo of Lorraine, built the "**Grand Duke Farms**", a state-of-the-art farm, and built the elegant **Royal Palace** (now home to the Faculty of

Agriculture of the University of Florence). At the beginning of the XIX century, during the Napoleonic period and under Grand Duchess Elisa Baciocchi, Cascine became a real **public park**. Nowadays the park counts up to about **20,000 trees** belonging to 60 **different species**. You can run, ride a bike, play in the wide meadows, go on a swing or slide, swim in the municipal swimming pool called **Pavoniere** in an area with temples that were used as bird houses, practice sports in one of the facilities, watch a show, or simply walk or rest in the green heart of the city.



#### The building of the former Tobacco Manufacturing and the Tuscan Cigar

A few steps from Cascine Park stands an imposing and extensive architectural complex, once destined for **tobacco processing**. The building, designed by engineer Pier Luigi Nervi, was inaugurated in 1940 and the first factory was used for the production of the famous **Tuscan cigar**.

Some parts of the structure are now used for **musical and cultural events**, others will be used for civil housing. The complex also included the structure that currently houses **Puccini theatre-cinema**.

#### GAME

You can play many games at the park, but not all. Cross the forbidden ones out.

Answer on p. 48







**Palazzo Strozzi in town**

This **imposing building** is located near Piazza della Repubblica and was commissioned by **Filippo Strozzi** at the end of the 1400s. It was meant to celebrate the return of his family to Florence in 1434, after having been exiled their enemies, the Medici. Today it hosts the most important international **art exhibitions**. Looking at the details of the palace, you will notice the Strozzi **coat of arms**, with **three crescent moons** representing the fortunes of the family.

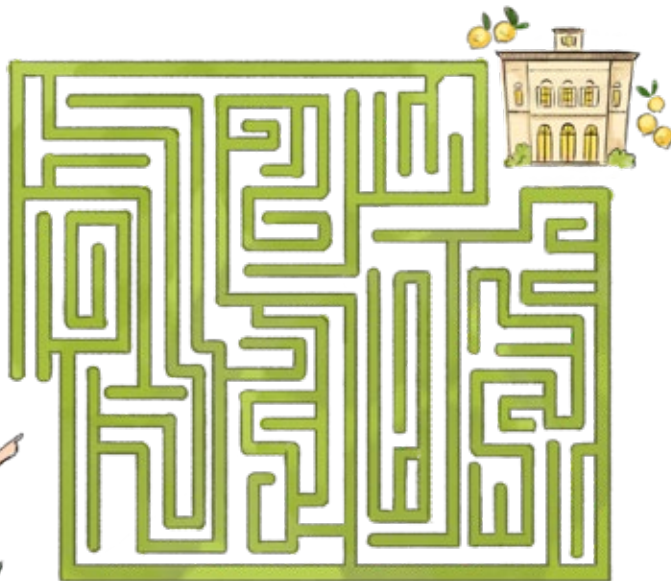


**Villa Vogel**

In the **Isolotto** area you can visit Villa Vogel which is named after its last owners and currently hosts some offices of the **Municipality of Florence**. It is surrounded by a **4-hectare public park** with a beautiful playground, skating rink, trampolines, carousel, go-kart, picnic tables, and many paths for cycling.

**4 Villa Strozzi and the Storyteller Forest**

You will not hear singing trees and bushes, but the **Storyteller Forest** is a project of the Municipality of Florence to visit Villa Strozzi park through **three itineraries: red** (memory), **blue** (science), and **green** (botany). Walking along these paths you can really discover many **plant and animal stories!** The villa was built in Oltrarno in the mid-XVI century by one of the most important Florentine families, the Strozzi. Until the XIX century, the park — rich in **water** features and furnishings — kept a **wild character**. Then architect Poggi redesigned it, arranging the paths of the ancient garden and adding a **lemon grove**, an English garden, and the entrance ramp of Via Pisana.



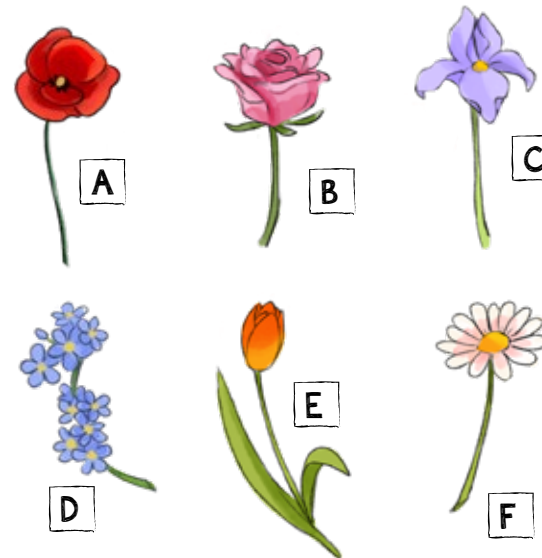
**GAME**

Can you reach the lemon grove?



**5 The Rose Garden and the Iris Garden**

How beautiful it is to walk, smell roses and admire the colours of the **iris**, the **symbolic flower of Florence!** You can live this experience in two gardens on the slopes of Piazzale Michelangelo, the most famous city **viewpoint**. The first one is called **Rose Garden** and boasts 400 varieties of roses, lemons, and botanical rarities. It was built in 1865, when Florence was the capital of Italy. The second floral space is **Iris Garden**, created in 1954 to host an important floral competition. It's only open between April and May, but you will find over **1,500 varieties of iris** from all over the world!



- daisy
- tulip
- Forget-me-not
- rose
- iris
- poppy

**Jean-Michel Folon at the Rose Garden**

Between **rose gardens and hedges** you will see several **bronze sculptures** by this Belgian artist, who died in 2005 and was deeply connected to the city of Florence. They are sculptures that express the sense of **nostalgia of childhood**, the desire for freedom and lightness. While walking, you will meet a **big cat**, strange birds, little men with hats, and a **surreal suitcase-window open** on the city.

**A breathtaking view**

From Piazzale Michelangelo, walking along a stretch of Viale dei Colli, you will reach a place with breathtaking views: **Basilica of San Miniato al Monte**, built around year 1000 in one of the highest points of Florence. Its Romanesque façade is decorated with **white and green marbles** that create **geometric designs**. The interiors include a **large mosaic** with a gold background, and the floor with animals, plants, and a zodiac wheel.

Are you a flower expert?





**Artemio Franchi Stadium**

This is where the home matches of **Fiorentina**, the city's football team, are hosted. The stadium is located in the northeastern district of Campo di Marte. It was designed by architect Pier Luigi Nervi and **inaugurated** with the Fiorentina - Admira Vienna match **in 1931**. Modified over the years, Artemio Franchi Stadium keeps the fully exposed reinforced concrete structures and the **Marathon Tower** that is the fifth tallest building in the city thanks to its **75 metres**.

**6 The Football Museum in Coverciano**

All football fans know that the **Coverciano Technical Centre** — in the homonymous district east of Florence — hosts the training sessions of the **Azzurri**, the Italian national team. The centre was built in the fifties of the XX century on the initiative of Marquis Luigi Ridolfi da Verrazzano, vice-president of the **Football Federation**. He chose Florence because it is located in a central position of the peninsula. In addition to football pitches, it includes facilities for other sport disciplines. Inside, you can visit the **Football Museum**, which collects memorabilia, such as shirts and cups, telling the whole history and the exciting exploits of the **Italian national team**.

**GAME**

Can you name the national teams?



- Argentina
- Germany
- Italy
- The Netherlands
- Cameroon
- Brazil



**7 Historical football in costume, from its origins to modern days**

Surely the **most famous match** was played on **17th February, 1530**, during the siege of Florence by the troops of Emperor Charles V of Habsburg. On that occasion, **54 Florentine nobles** challenged each other to make fun of the enemy in order to demonstrate their superiority. Since then, footballers have played wearing the **liveries** (costumes) of the 1500s. The origins of this game are very ancient and date back to ancient Rome, where a similar sport was practiced with a **leather ball**. Football in costume is a rather **brutal** sport and can be defined as a mixture of football, rugby, and boxing... yes, **footballers** give it their all. The 4 teams linked to the historic districts of Florence still compete on the playing field set up in Piazza Santa Croce in June. The final match is usually played on 24th June.



**The four teams**

The teams consist of **27 players** and represent the **ancient Florentine districts** that correspond to the **main basilicas** of the city. Spectators from all over the world witness a battle: the **Whites** of Santo Spirito, the **Blues** of Santa Croce, the **Greens** of St. John (Duomo), and the **Reds** of Santa Maria Novella.

**GAME**

Do you remember what the Florentines celebrate on 24th June?



- Summer Solstice
- St. John Baptist, saint patron of the city
- The ousting of the Medici



Answer on p. 48





### The Garden of Horticulture

Not far from the Stibbert Museum is the Garden of Horticulture, created in 1859 as **an experimental garden** of the Tuscan Horticultural Society. In 1880 the garden was completed with the construction of the **largest greenhouse (tepidarium) in Italy**. This building, **made of glass and steel**, now hosts cultural events and exhibitions of flowers and plants. The garden also includes an area called **Orti del Parnaso** with the particular **dragon-shaped fountain** that winds along a staircase.



### Villa Favard in Rovezzano

On the other side of the city, in Rovezzano, there is a villa with very ancient origins. Today it houses a detached headquarters of the **Conservatory of Music "Luigi Cherubini"**. The current appearance of the building dates back to the second half of the 1800s. The Villa is surrounded by a hill with a **labyrinth of bushes**.



Answer on p. 48

**GAME**  
Spot the odd one.

## 8 Weapons of the Stibbert Museum House

In the Stibbert Museum House you can experience **curious encounters** with knights, Japanese warriors, and Arab soldiers. In fact, inside there are life-size **mannequins** of horses and men wearing armour, spears, swords, and shields from all over the world. In the **60 sumptuous rooms** there are also paintings, furnishings, and fine objects ranging from the XVI to the XIX century. The villa is located near the historic centre and belonged to antiquarian and collector Frederick Stibbert who donated it to the city of Florence at the time of his death. Don't forget to take a tour of **the romantic English-style park**, including temples, caves, and water features!

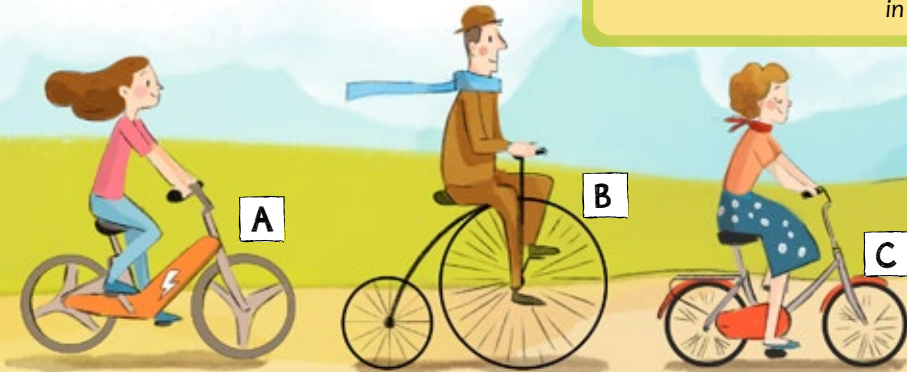
## 9 The Cycle Path on the Arno

Florence is enchanting to explore even by **bike!** It features a large network of cycle paths that you can study on the **Feel Florence** portal map. Try the path that runs along the right bank of the Arno River, starting from **Giardino del Girone**. You'll pass by the **former Tenda Theatre**, the **National Central Library**, and **Ponte Vecchio**. Then you'll reach **Cascine Park** and **Ponte all'Indiano**, named after an Indian prince whose ashes were scattered where the Arno meets the Mugnone. The route ends **8 kilometres** farther away at Parco dei Renai, a large green space in the municipality of Signa.



### The Cycling Museum Gino Bartali

Opened in 2006 in **Ponte a Ema**, a few kilometres from Florence, it exhibits bicycles, trophies, and documents belonging to **Gino Bartali (1914-2000)**, a great **champion of road cycling**. Bartali was not only one of the most beloved sportsmen in Italy, but also a very generous and brave man. During **World War II** he saved many **persecuted Jews**, hiding many important documents in his bike and this is why he was named **"Righteous Among the Nations"** in 2013.



**GAME**  
Can you match each bike with its production date?

- 1870
- 1950
- 2000

Answer on p. 48

## Walking around Florence

In the following pages you will find 6 paths that go through the territory of Florence among villages, woods, traditions, and historical testimonies. So off you go!

## 10 The Renaissance Ring

The **first recommended path** winds, with variations and branches, for **250 kilometres** along an ideal ring that touches the towns and villages that were the **cradle of the Italian Renaissance**, starting from Florence. A unique route of the **Florentine Area** that you can divide into shorter **routes** and enjoy both by bike and on foot. Along the route you will encounter **castles, monasteries, ancient mills, medieval remains, villas**, all immersed in nature among paths, dirt roads, and wonderful woods. The landscapes you will meet are very different: from hills to plains, from rivers to the mountains of the Apennines.



### All the steps of the Ring

- Step 1**  
Calenzano - Monte Morello - Vaglia
- Step 2**  
Vaglia - Alberaccio - Santa Brigida
- Step 2A**  
Bivigliano - Monte Senario
- Step 2B**  
Alberaccio - Fiesole
- Step 3**  
Santa Brigida - Pontassieve
- Step 3A**  
Londa - Rufina - Casabella
- Step 3B**  
Reggello - Saltino - Pelago - Pontassieve
- Step 4**  
Pontassieve - Montecucco  
San Donato in Collina
- Step 4A**  
Rignano sull'Arno - Montecucco  
Bagno a Ripoli
- Step 4B**  
Figline/Incisa - Poggio alla Croce  
San Donato in Collina
- Step 5**  
San Donato in Collina - Impruneta
- Step 6**  
Impruneta - La Certosa
- Step 7**  
La Certosa - Pian dei Cerri - Signa
- Step 7A**  
La Certosa - Florence
- Step 8**  
Signa - Campi Bisenzio - Calenzano
- Step 8A**  
Signa - Florence

## 11 Following the steps of St. Francis. The journey to Assisi

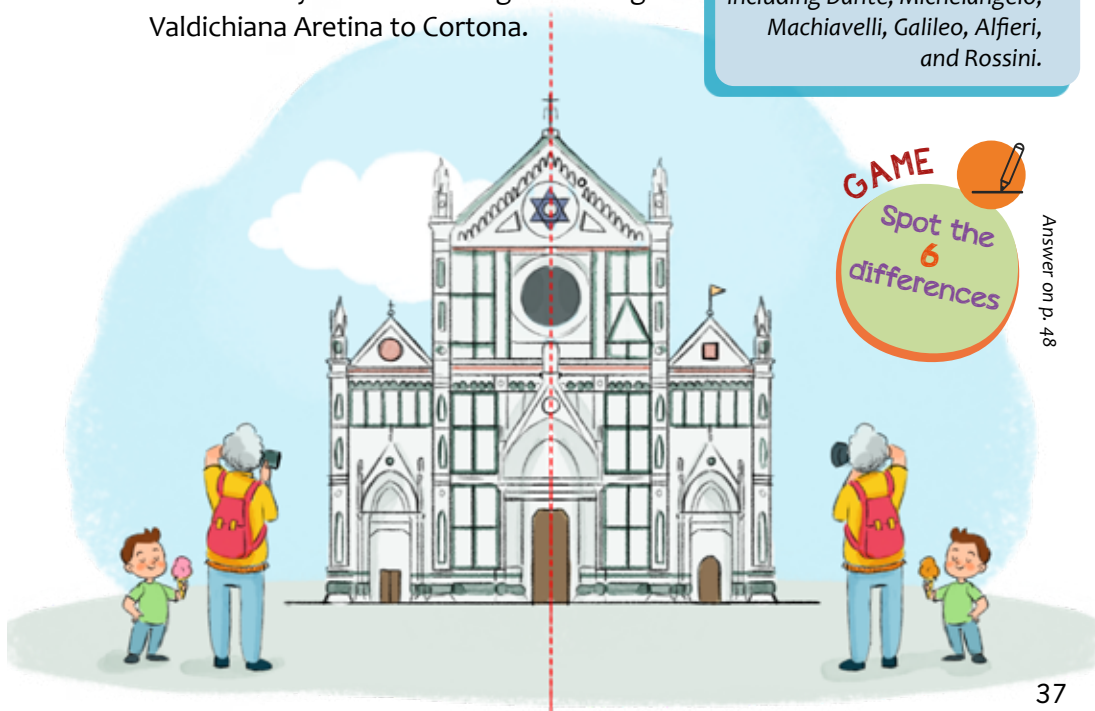
This itinerary connects the places linked to the life of the patron saint of Italy, crossing **breathtaking landscapes**. It extends in several directions and has as its final destination the **Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi**. The Tuscan stretch of the St. Francis' Way starts from Basilica of Santa Croce in Florence towards Santuario della Verna, in the heart of the **Casentino Forests National Park**. The route continues in the Tuscan Valtiberina, where you will find very curious museums in **Anghiari, Monterchi**, and **Sansepolcro**. Then it reaches the medieval city of Arezzo and goes through Valdichiana Aretina to Cortona.

### Basilica of Santa Croce and its treasures

The Florentine Basilica is one of the **largest Franciscan churches** and one of the greatest examples of **Italian Gothic architecture**. Begun at the end of the XIII century, its interior was embellished with **works** by Cimabue, Giotto and students, Donatello, Della Robbia, Brunelleschi, Rossellino, Vasari, Bronzino, and Canova. Along the walls there are **monumental tombs** and **cenotaphs** of the greatest Italian engineers and many more characters, including Dante, Michelangelo, Machiavelli, Galileo, Alfieri, and Rossini.

**GAME**  
Spot the 6 differences

Answer on p. 48





## 12 From Florence to Ravenna, the exile of Dante Alighieri

Dante Alighieri held an **important political position** in 1302, but was later accused of corruption and **sentenced to death** by his opponents. Dante fled Florence, was hosted by many noble dynasties between Tuscany and Romagna, and finally arrived in Ravenna by the da Polenta family. All the significant stages of the human, intellectual, and political experience of the great poet are found in **Dante's Path**, a **ring route** of about 380 kilometres that connects Florence and Ravenna. You will travel along the ancient communication routes of the **merchants**, passing through places rich in history and mysteries. The **woods of the Apennines**, the waterfalls, the villages and the castles where Dante found the calm and inspiration to compose his **Divine Comedy**.



### Dante's House

It rises in the **medieval heart** of Florence, a stone's throw from **Badia Fiorentina** and the famous **Via Calzaiuoli**, and has been home to Dante's House Museum since the early 1900s. We do not know whether it was really the place where **the poet grew up**, however inside it is possible to retrace the stages of his life and learn about the works he wrote thanks to a series of **multimedia installations**.



### From Florence to Bologna through Gods' Path

Gods' Path is a **route of 130 kilometres** that connects Florence and Bologna, joining Piazza della Signoria to Piazza Maggiore. It winds along the **Apennine ridges**, on rural roads and ancient Etruscan-Roman routes, such as the **military Flaminia trans-Apennine road**, among meadows, beech forests, and chestnut trees. It is called this way because of some peaks that bear the names of some **characters in mythology**: Monte Adone, Monte Venere, and Monte Luario.

## 13 St. Jacopo's Path, from Florence to Lucca

This path follows the **ancient routes of pilgrims** who passed through Florence, Pistoia, and Lucca on their way to Spain to the sanctuary of **Santiago de Compostela**. The Tuscan stretch of the journey, from Florence to Lucca, winds along **Via Cassia**, the ancient Roman consular road. The starting point in Florence is the very central **Via San Gallo**, then you go northwards, through the municipalities of Sesto Fiorentino, Calenzano, Prato, Pistoia, Pescia, Collodi, and Lucca. Along the way, following the stylised image of **St. James' shell**, an **ancient emblem of the pilgrimage**, you will find convents, Romanesque churches, villas, tabernacles, and Etruscan settlements. The arrival point is at the **majestic XVI-century walls** of Lucca.



### The medieval route between Florence and Siena

Via Romea Sanese was used in the Middle Ages as a **"shortcut"** from Florence to Siena. It winds for about **80 kilometres** featuring mainly dirt roads. It goes through the territories of **classic Chianti** and the **Chianti Senese**, hilly landscapes among the most **evocative in the world**, characterised by vineyards, olive groves, and rows of cypresses. In **Chianti Fiorentino** do not miss San Casciano in Val di Pesa, Badia a Passignano, and Castellina in Chianti.

## Street & Art, the modern town

Are you curious to find out how and what artists paint and sculpt nowadays? You will **set out** on an unusual travel that will touch some places you have already visited and other modern districts of Florence.

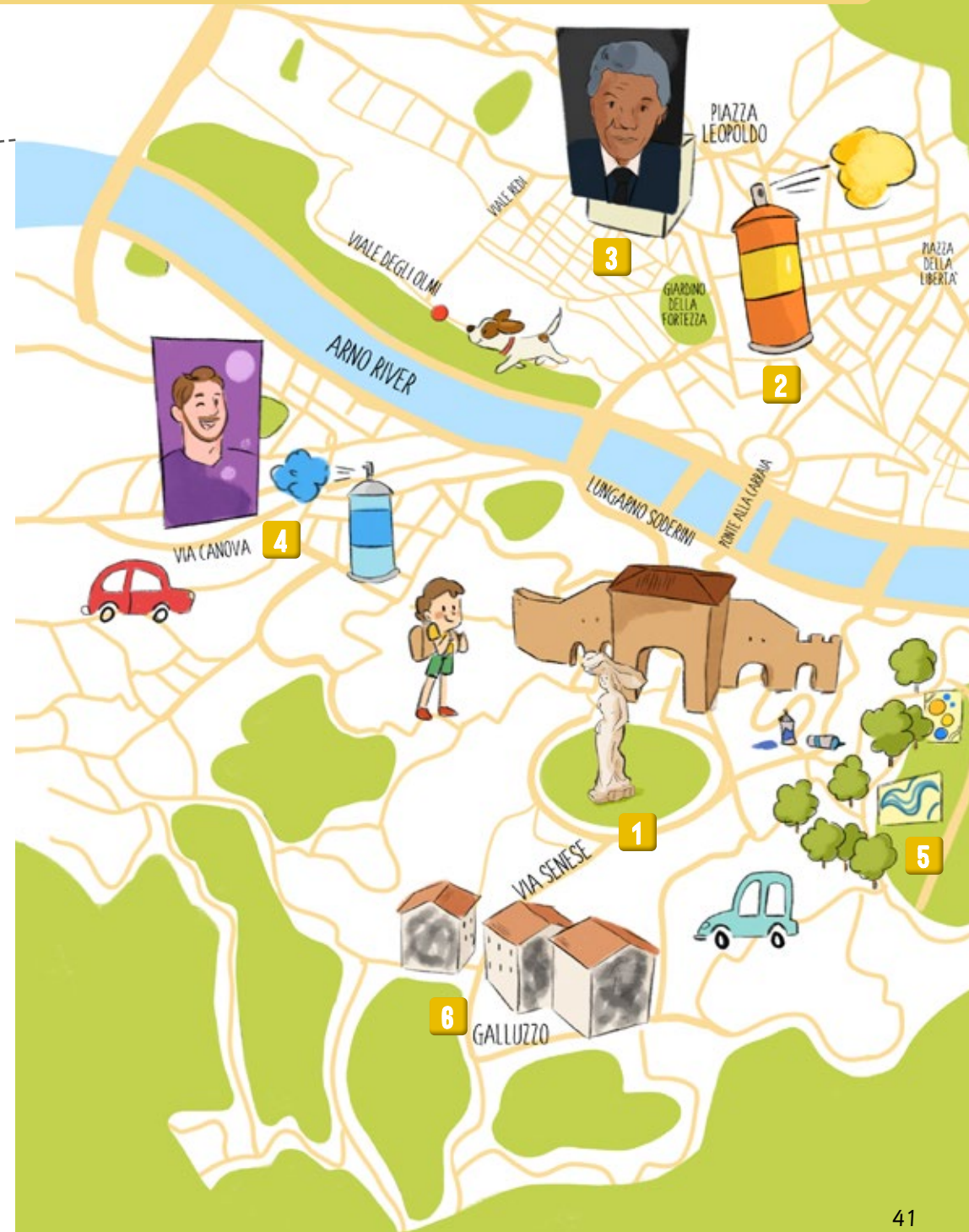
Thinking back to the holiday in Florence, **you can't** help remembering the churches, the squares, the museums, the symbolic works of a one-of-a-kind generation of artists and of course, the art of our past is fascinating, but you **will also be intrigued** by the present, because it interprets the reality around us.

Thanks to this itinerary **you will be able** to understand how art has evolved over the centuries, how both techniques and the subjects represented have changed.

**You will also understand** that the past and the present are linked to each other, because today's artists inevitably draw inspiration from those who preceded them.

**You will deepen** this thought by admiring the square sculpture of Porta Romana, which was made by a contemporary painter and sculptor.

- 1 *Piazzale di Porta Romana*
- 2 *Florentine Street Art*
- 3 *The large wall art of Statuto...*
- 4 *... and of Isolotto*
- 5 *Michelangelo Park*
- 6 *The Last Judgement*





## 1 Piazzale di Porta Romana

Right in the middle of the roundabout of this important square, you'll see a **6-metre-high marble statue**. She looks like a woman with a huge **block of stone balancing on her head**. Actually, that block represents **another woman** with her gaze turned in the opposite direction from the one below. What is the meaning of this enigmatic work? It was the artist himself, **Giacomo Pistoletto**, who explained that it depicts the **contrast** and **circularity** between past and future. The woman looks towards Via Senese and leaves Florence, but at the same time she looks towards Via Romana and projects herself into the town. Like the modernity of the Florentine Renaissance, which spread out of the city to meet the world and then returned to Florence after a long journey.



### Modern Saint John the Baptist by Giuliano Vangi

In the centre of the small square of Santa Maria Soprarno, on a **cubic pedestal**, there is a bronze sculpture representing the patron saint of Florence. The author, Giuliano Vangi from Mugello, was one of the most **important Italian sculptors of the XX century**. St. John is depicted with long hair and an unkempt beard, wearing a worn cloak, as described in the **Bible**. It is immortalised in the act of **preaching energetically**, pointing his index finger as a sign of accusation.



### Enzo Pazzagli Art Park

Born in 2001 from a project by artist Enzo Pazzagli, the park is located a few minutes from the centre, in the area of **Rovezzano**, on the right bank of the Arno. Here more than **200 sculptures and installations were scattered and 300 cypresses** were planted on the lawn, so that — seen from a bird's eye view — they make up a **smiling face and two profiles**.

### GAME

What is on top of her head?

- A A tree
- B The figure of a woman
- C A closet

## 2 Florentine Street Art

Florence is the capital of the Renaissance, but it also hides a more **contemporary** side. Walking around the city, you realise art is also where you least expect it! **Wall art, graffiti, and stencils** appear on the surfaces of suburban buildings, on road signs, in underpasses and on the corners of central streets. You can meet Dante or Botticelli's Venus with a diving mask made by Blub, the shaman by painter **Carla Bruttini**, the superwomen by **LeDiesis**, the men by **Exit Enter**, or the irreverent stickers by **Clet Abraham**. All works that make you smile and think over at the same time.



### From the street to the network

If you want to explore the reality of **street art** in Florence, visit the website **www.firenzestreetart.com** where you will find all the works and bios of the artists. In **Portale Giovani of the Municipality of Florence** there is also a **map** indicating the spaces that are still free!

### The giants

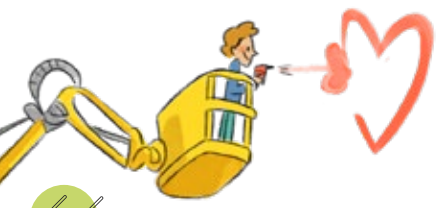
At the end of Lungarno Ferrucci, in Oltrarno, you can't help being struck by the **lost expression** of the **funny giant** who rows dressed in the uniform of the historic Canottieri Society of Florence. Its author **Stormie Mills** — originally from Wales and a naturalised Australian — has created another giant in Via di Villamagna, at the headquarters of the **municipal rowers**. He wears the white and blue striped uniform, does not row but seems to be drifting on his boat.

### GAME

Complete your own wall art. Colour the spaces matching the dot.

### 3 The large wall art of Statuto...

The Statuto area is located just outside the historic city centre, not far from Medici's **Fortezza da Basso** built in the 1500s. In Piazza Leopoldo, on a wall of a four-storey building, **Neapolitan street artist Jorit** has created a portrait of South African politician and activist **Nelson Mandela**, who died in 2013. Like the other portraits by Jorit, this features typical **tribal marks** on the cheeks. The reference is to an ancient practice of some **African tribes** that marked the transition from childhood to adulthood.



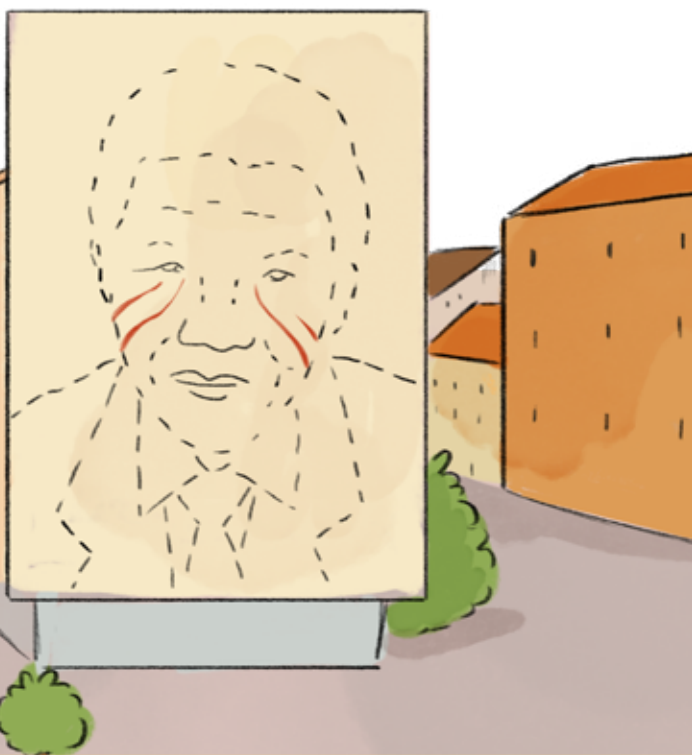
#### The street artist's hard work

In Via Enrico Mayer, on the wall of **Marconi primary school**, brilliant Mr. Wany created the **head of a metal girl** and a **severed arm** holding a **spray can**, the tool of the **writer's** (that is, who creates street art) trade. The two works seem abandoned and thrown on a sidewalk, as if to suggest the **contempt** that many feel for street art.

#### GAME

Which award did Nelson Mandela receive?

- A** The Oscar
- B** The Nobel Peace Prize
- C** The David di Donatello Award



### 4 ... and of Isolotto

Isolotto is a modern district of the town, located in the southwestern suburbs. In via Canova you will come across another wall art by Jorit with the **typical tribal scratches**. Here the artist portrays **Antonio Gramsci**, a politician, philosopher, journalist, and one of the founders of the Italian Communist Party, who was imprisoned by fascists. Also in Via Canova, Giulio Rosk wanted to pay tribute to **Davide Astori**, beloved footballer and captain of Fiorentina, who suddenly died in 2018. Astori is portrayed smiling wearing his purple jersey, **number 13**, with the symbols of the historical Florentine football districts, and the universal message left by him: **"Every child has the right to play his match"**.



GAME What's the meaning of the 4 emblems on the captain's armband worn by Davide Astori?

- A** The teams he played with
- B** The teams he scored a goal to
- C** The symbols of the historical football districts





## 5 Michelangelo Park

### A free art gallery

In **District 2** (Campo di Marte) there is an **underpass** that connects Piazza delle Cure with Via Don Minzoni. It is full of **works of urban art**. There is no artist or writer who either grew up or passed through the city of Florence who has not left their mark. It is a **surprising place**, constantly evolving, where even the ceiling is filled with writings and drawings.

This area near Piazzale Michelangelo and Iris Garden hosted a **panoramic campsite** until 2015. Today it has become an outdoor space for Florentines and tourists, where you can admire breathtaking views of the city, a lot of green patches, and also... **street art**! Indeed, the walls of the old houses have been decorated with **murals** by **40 young artists** working together with the **Street Levels Gallery**, an urban art gallery located in Via Palazzuolo. The park includes picnic areas, a soccer field, trails such as the Path with a View, and the artistic installation at the top that represents a kind of **telescope**.



## 6 The Last Judgement

**Galluzzo** is a hamlet located in the southernmost part of Florence, within District 3. Walking through the Minimal Houses — that is, the social houses of Via Corbinelli and adjacent streets — you will see **6 black and white drawings** of bodies linked by an invisible thread. These 6 façades make up the “**Last Judgement**”, a single large mural by Argentine street artist Francisco Bosoletti. The work was made as a part of the celebrations of the **700th anniversary of Dante Alighieri’s death** and is inspired by the **Divine Comedy** where the characters live a continuous conflict between punishment and forgiveness. The drawings do not have a precise order, everyone can embark on their own personal journey. So start your visit from wherever you prefer!



### Urban Alphabet

In some streets and squares of the city, **newsstands** and **kiosks** have been transformed into canvases available to street artists.

The project, promoted by the Municipality of Florence and called the **Urban Alphabet**, focuses on the **letters of the alphabet**, **words**, and **punctuation marks**, fundamental elements for magazines, newspapers, and any means of communication. The artists chose and used the typical colours of Florence.



# Answers

pp. 2 and 3 Milan A, Paris C, Rome A, Sydney B, New York B

p. 11 B A portion of the Bible

p. 14



p. 15 Doni Tondo D, Birth of Venus A, Head of Medusa B,

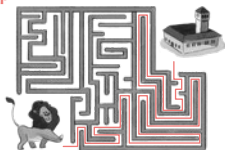
Diptych of the Dukes of Urbino C

p. 17 50s C 60s B 2000s A

p. 18 The special tourist is a cat

p. 20 The exact number of bees is 91

p. 22



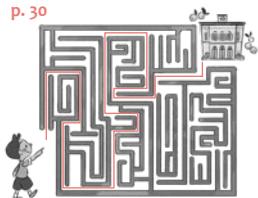
p. 26 Red 4, Yellow 5, Blue 7

p. 27 The Eiffel Tower which is actually located in Paris

pp. 28 and 29 The forbidden games to be marked with the X

are: skiing, motorcycling, horseback riding, golf

p. 30



p. 31 Daisy F Tulip E, Forget-Me-Not D, Rose B, Iris C, Poppy A

p. 32 Argentina E, Germany C, Italy A, The Netherlands D,

Cameroon F, Brazil B

p. 33 St. John the Baptist, patron saint of the city

p. 34 The odd one is the mouse in one of the portraits hanging on the wall

p. 35 1870 B, 1950 C, 2000 A

p. 37



p. 42 B A woman

p. 44 B The Nobel Peace Prize

p. 45 C The symbols of the historical football districts

Follow us on



FB: Feel Florence



IG: @feelflorenceofficial



TW: @feelflorenceoff



YT: FeelFlorence

# What kind of tourist are you?

1. Who founded the fortified colony of Florentia?

- a) The Vikings
- b) The Maya
- c) The Romans

2. How tall is Giotto's Bell Tower?

- a) 85 metres
- b) 24 metres
- c) 37 metres

3. What insects appear in the rear part of the statue of Ferdinando I Medici in Piazza Santissima Annunziata?

- a) Mosquitoes
- b) Bees
- c) Ants

4. What is the name of the garden behind Palazzo Pitti?

- a) Boboli Gardens
- b) Daisy Garden
- c) Medici Garden

Between 1 and 3 correct answers: you are a HARE tourist  
With your long legs you run everywhere, but you don't see well and you don't recognise colours.

Unfortunately you miss out on a lot of the things around you!

Between 4 and 5 correct answers: you are a BLACKBIRD tourist  
You fly from one place to another and you are not afraid of any noise in the city.

Every now and then you stop to sing a happy melody and... you get somewhat distracted.  
Between 6 and 8 correct answers: you are a PIGGY tourist  
Your appearance is often made fun of, but you stand up for yourself because you learn everything quickly and have a long memory.

Solutions: 1) c, 2) a, 3) b, 4) a, 5) b, 6) c, 7) a, 8) c

5. When is the Iris Garden open?

- a) Between December and January
- b) Between April and May
- c) Between July and August

6. What colours were used to create the Last Judgment in Galluzzo?

- a) Red and blue
- b) Purple and orange
- c) Black and white

7. Where can I admire the original Piggy statue?

- a) In Stefano Bardini Museum
- b) In the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore
- c) In the centre of Piazzale di Porta Romana

8. The river of Florence is...

- a) The Tiber
- b) The Adige
- c) The Arno

Project:  
**mediabooks**

Mediamix Pesaro  
info@divertimappe.it  
www.divertimappe.it

Managing Editor:  
**Dario Mezzolani**

Editing:  
**Adele Tangucci**

Texts:  
**Laura Bartolucci**

Translation:  
**Anna Cro**

Illustrations:  
**Giulia Cregut**

Layout and Graphics:  
**Elena Magi\_ ISI-Rife Srl**

Printing:  
**bBold\_September 2024**



*Which family dominated Florence  
in the XV century?*

*Why is Palazzo Vecchio called that way?*

*Which building hosts Uffizi Gallery?*

*What is the Storyteller Forest?*

*How many teams compete at the  
historical football in costume?*

*Who collected armors and weapons  
from all over the world?*

*Where can I admire large  
wall art?*



*Have fun!*

With the financial support of the Ministry of Tourism  
"Fondo siti UNESCO e città creative"



MINISTERO  
DEL TURISMO  
REPUBBLICA ITALIANA



ISBN 978-98-99711-13-9



9 788899 711139