

Trento

Trentino-South Tyrol · Italy

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Trento is a compact university city in the Adige valley, ringed by mountains on every side. For nearly eight centuries it was ruled by prince-bishops, and from 1545 to 1563 it hosted the Council of Trent, which reshaped the Catholic Church. The old town still shows this past in its cathedral square, its frescoed Renaissance houses and the large castle of the bishops.

The city sits where Italian and Central European culture meet. It was part of Austria until 1918, and you can see this in the food, the forts on the hills and the wine. Trento suits a two- or three-night stay with museums and good food. It is also an easy base for Lake Garda, the Dolomites and the lakes and castles of Trentino.

When to visit

May, June, September and October are the best months, with warm days and mild evenings. July and August are hot and humid in the valley, with frequent afternoon storms, but the mountains above the city stay cooler. Winters are cold and mostly dry, with snow on the surrounding peaks rather than in town.

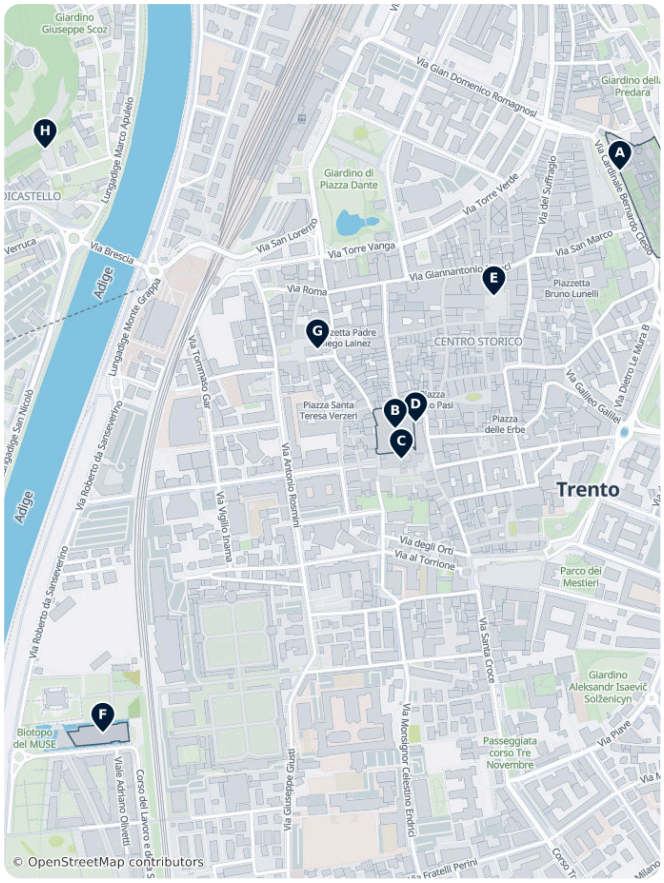
The biggest event of the year is the Christmas market, held from late November until early January. Wooden stalls fill Piazza Fiera and Piazza Cesare Battisti, selling crafts, mulled wine and local food, and the old town is lit up in the evenings.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	8° / 13° Feels like 5°	-1° / -9°	Dry air · Calm winds
February	Good Good for cycling	10° / 16°	1° / -8°	Dry air · Calm winds
March	Great Great for cycling	14° / 21°	5° / -3°	Dry air · Calm winds
April	Good Good for hiking	18° / 24°	8° / 3°	12 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
May	Good Good for sightseeing	22° / 28°	13° / 8°	17 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
June	Good Good for sightseeing	26° / 32°	17° / 11°	16 rainy days · Humid air · Calm winds
July	Fair Fair for sightseeing	28° / 33°	19° / 13°	17 rainy days · Muggy, humid air · Calm winds
August	Fair Fair for sightseeing	28° / 34°	19° / 13°	16 rainy days · Muggy, humid air · Calm winds
September	Great Great for sightseeing	24° / 29°	14° / 9°	12 rainy days · Calm winds
October	Great Great for sightseeing	19° / 25°	11° / 5°	Dry air · Calm winds
November	Good Good for cycling	13° / 19°	6° / -2°	Dry air · Calm winds
December	Fair Fair for cycling	8° / 13°	1° / -7°	Dry air · Calm winds

Best months: September, October

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Top sights



A Buonconsiglio Castle was the home of Trento's prince-bishops for centuries. It joins a medieval castle with a Renaissance palace full of frescoes. In Torre Aquila, the Cycle of the Months shows daily life around 1400; it needs an extra timed ticket, so book ahead.

B Piazza del Duomo is the heart of the city. The 18th-century Neptune Fountain stands in the middle, surrounded by the cathedral and houses with painted façades.

C Cattedrale di San Vigilio is a Romanesque church begun in 1212, where the Council of Trent opened in 1545. Below the floor you can visit the remains of an early Christian basilica.

D Museo Diocesano Tridentino fills the old bishops' palace next to the cathedral. It shows church art, the cathedral treasury and a set of Flemish tapestries.

E S.A.S.S. – Spazio Archeologico Sotterraneo del Sas lets you walk on a paved street of Roman Tridentum, several metres under Piazza Cesare Battisti. You also see the city walls, house foundations and mosaic floors.

F MUSE is the science museum, in a building by *Renzo Piano*. Its floors follow the Alps from glaciers to valley floors, and it is very popular with children.

G Santa Maria Maggiore is a Renaissance church that hosted later sessions of the Council of Trent. It is a short walk from the cathedral.

H Le Gallerie are two former road tunnels in the Piedicastello district. They now hold free exhibitions on the history of Trentino.

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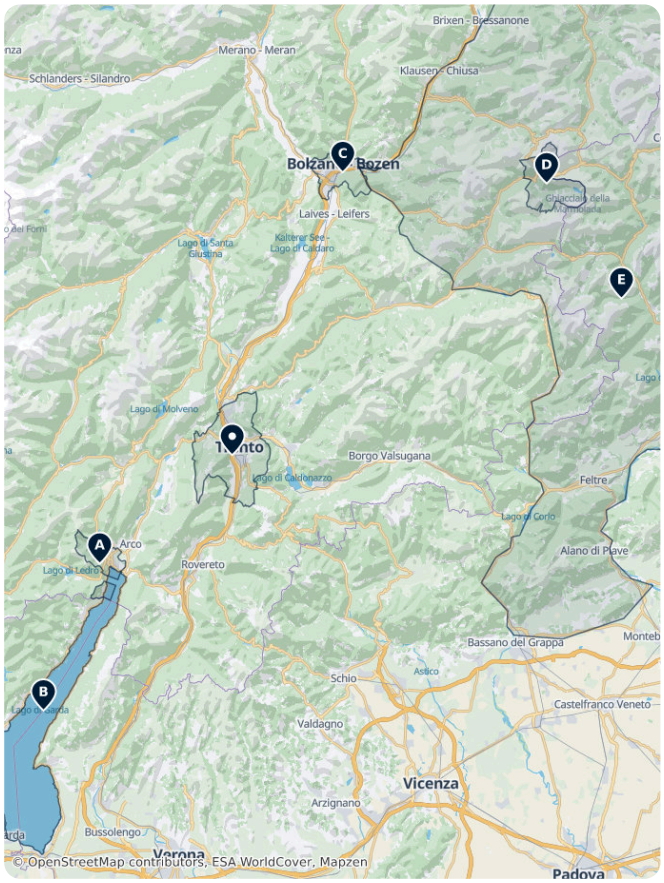
What to experience

- Ride the cable car to Sardagna: The trip from the riverbank takes only a few minutes. From the terrace at the top you look straight down on the city and the Adige valley. Go before sunset for the best light.
- Climb Doss Trento: A short path climbs this rocky hill west of the river to Mausoleo di Cesare Battisti. There are wide views over the rooftops and the valley.
- Spend a day on Monte Bondone: The city's own mountain rises above the valley, with ski slopes in winter and meadows for walking in summer. In summer, visit Viote Alpine Botanical Garden, with plants from mountains around the world.
- Cycle to the Austro-Hungarian forts: The hills around Trento hide a ring of 19th-century forts. Bus de Vela Fort, on the road west of the city, is restored and makes a good goal for a ride or a walk.
- Join the Feste Vigiliane: In late June, around the feast of Saint Vigilius, the city celebrates its patron saint. Expect costume parades, music in the squares and a raft race on the Adige river.

Day trips

Trento is surrounded by castles, lakes and mountains, and many are close enough for half a day.



- Castel Beseno — about 25 minutes south by car. A huge medieval fortress on a hill above the Adige valley, run by the same museum as the Buonconsiglio Castle.
- Rovereto — about 15 minutes by train. See the MART museum of modern art and the castle with its museum of the First World War.
- Levico Terme and Lake Caldonazzo — about 45 minutes by train on the Valsugana line. A spa town with a large park and two lakes for swimming in summer.
- Molveno — about 45 minutes by car. A lake town below the peaks of the Brenta Dolomites, with walks and a cable car into the mountains.
- A Riva del Garda — about 45 minutes by car, or about 1 to 1.5 hours by bus. A lakeside town at the northern tip of B Lake Garda, with a harbour and a medieval old town.
- C Bolzano — about 30–50 minutes by train. A bilingual Italian and German city with arcaded streets. Its archaeology museum shows Ötzi, the Iceman, who lived more than 5,000 years ago.
- D Canazei — about 1 hour 30 minutes by car. A base in the Val di Fassa for cable cars and high mountain walks in the E Dolomites.

Where to explore

Trento is the capital of Trentino-South Tyrol, a region of mountains and lakes.

Lake Garda and the Dolomites have their own guides. On the lake, Riva del Garda is the closest town to Trento.

To the north, Bolzano, Merano and Brixen are the main towns of South Tyrol. For mountain villages, look at Canazei and Ortisei in the Dolomites.

Getting there

- **By air**: Trento has no airport with scheduled flights. Verona Airport (VRN) is the closest, about 1 hour by car on the A22 motorway. By public transport, take the airport shuttle bus to Verona Porta Nuova station (about 15 minutes), then a train to Trento. Milan Bergamo (BGY) and Venice Marco Polo (VCE) are 2 to 2.5 hours away by car. Verona Airport
- **By train**: Trento station is on the Brenner line, a 5-minute walk from the old town. Trains reach Verona in about 1 hour and Bolzano in 30–50 minutes. High-speed trains continue south to Bologna and Rome. Several direct trains a day run to and from Munich in about 4 hours 40 minutes. Trenitalia
- **By bus**: FlixBus and other long-distance coaches stop on Lungadige San Nicolò, near the station. FlixBus also runs from Milan Bergamo Airport.
- **By car**: Leave the A22 Brenner–Modena motorway at Trento Nord or Trento Sud. See the driving section, because the old town is closed to most traffic.

Getting around

- **On foot**: The old town is small and mostly flat, and most sights are within a 15-minute walk of each other and of the station.
- **City buses**: Trentino Trasporti runs the urban buses. Buy a ticket before boarding at ticket offices, machines, shops or in a ticket app. You can also buy one on board for 2 euros. Validate your ticket every time you board. Trentino public transport tickets
- **Guest card**: Many hotels in Trentino give guests the Trentino Guest Card. It includes urban buses and regional trains in the province, so ask about it when you check in.
- **Cable car**: The cable car to Sardagna is part of the local network. It closes from time to time for maintenance, when a replacement bus runs.
- **Cycling**: The Adige valley cycle path passes the city and is flat and easy. Bike-sharing stations are near the station and in the centre.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The compact, mostly flat old town is easy to explore on foot, and most sights are within a 15-minute walk of the station.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

High

The flat Adige valley cycle path passes the city, and bike-sharing stations are near the station and in the centre.

Driving

- Is a car worth it?: Not for the city, which is easy on foot and by bus. A car is useful for mountain valleys, castles and lakes that have few buses.
- Parking: Use the covered car parks near the centre, such as the Buonconsiglio car park or Piazza Fiera. Street parking inside the blue lines is paid from Monday to Saturday, and you can pay with the myCicero app. Free park-and-ride areas outside the centre have shuttle buses into town.
- Restrictions: The old town is a limited traffic zone (ZTL), open only to authorised vehicles. Unauthorised entry is fined, so ask your hotel before you drive in.
- Winter: On all roads in Trentino, winter tyres or snow chains on board are required from 15 November to 15 April.

Food & drink

Trento's cooking is mountain food with an Austrian touch. Try canederli, bread dumplings served in broth or with butter, and strangolapreti, soft gnocchi of bread and spinach. Polenta comes with mushrooms, cheese or game, and apple strudel is the classic dessert. Local cheeses include Puzzone di Moena and Trentingrana.

Trentino makes Trentodoc, a sparkling wine made with the same method as champagne, and it is the usual drink before dinner. Look also for Teroldego, a deep red wine, and Nosiola, a light local white. The best areas to eat are the lanes around Piazza del Duomo, Via Suffragio with its arcades, and the streets near Piazza Fiera.

What to eat & drink

LUNCH

Pizza Margherita
Thin-crust pizza topped with tomato, mozzarella, and basil, invented in Naples and still best there.

DINNER

Spaghetti alla Carbonara
Pasta with egg, cured pork cheek (guanciale), pecorino cheese, and black pepper, a Roman classic.

Risotto alla Milanese
Creamy saffron-infused rice dish from Milan, often served alongside braised veal shank.

Lasagna · Lasagne al Forno
Layered baked pasta with ragu, bechamel, and cheese, a staple of Emilia-Romagna cooking.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Prosciutto and Cheese · Prosciutto e Formaggio
Cured ham paired with regional cheeses, a common antipasto plate found nationwide.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Gelato
Dense, slow-churned Italian ice cream, traditionally lower in fat and air than American-style ice cream.

Tiramisu · Tiramisù
Layered dessert of coffee-soaked ladyfingers and mascarpone cream, dusted with cocoa.

DRINKS

Espresso · Caffè
A short, strong shot of coffee drunk quickly, usually standing at a bar counter.

Wine · Vino
Italy is one of the world's largest wine producers, with regional styles from Piedmont's Barolo to Tuscany's Chianti.

Aperol Spritz
A bittersweet orange aperitif mixed with prosecco and soda water, a staple of the early-evening aperitivo.

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Safety & health

Trento is a very safe city, with little crime that affects visitors. Take normal care with bags in the station area and at the Christmas market, where crowds are thick.

Tap water is good to drink. In the mountains, the weather changes fast. Summer afternoons often bring thunderstorms, so start hikes early, carry a jacket and check the forecast. In July and August the valley can be very hot, so plan walks for the morning or evening.

History

The Romans founded Tridentum on the road over the Alps, and its streets now lie under the modern city at S.A.S.S. – Spazio Archeologico Sotterraneo del Sas. In 1027 the emperor gave power over the city to its bishops. They ruled as prince-bishops until 1803 and built Cattedrale di San Vigilio and Torre Vanga, a 13th-century tower by the river.

From 1545 to 1563, Trento hosted the Council of Trent. It met in the cathedral and in Santa Maria Maggiore and launched the Catholic answer to the Protestant Reformation. Shortly before the Council, Bishop *Bernardo Cles* added a Renaissance palace to Buonconsiglio Castle. Rich families covered their houses with frescoes, as you can still see on Palazzo Geremia and along Via Belenzani.

In the 19th century Trento belonged to the Austrian Empire. The Austrians ringed the city with forts, and it joined Italy only after the First World War. *Cesare Battisti*, born in Trento, campaigned for union with Italy. He was executed by the Austrians at the castle in 1916, and his mausoleum now stands on Doss Trento.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Italy at a glance:

CURRENCY
EUR €

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY



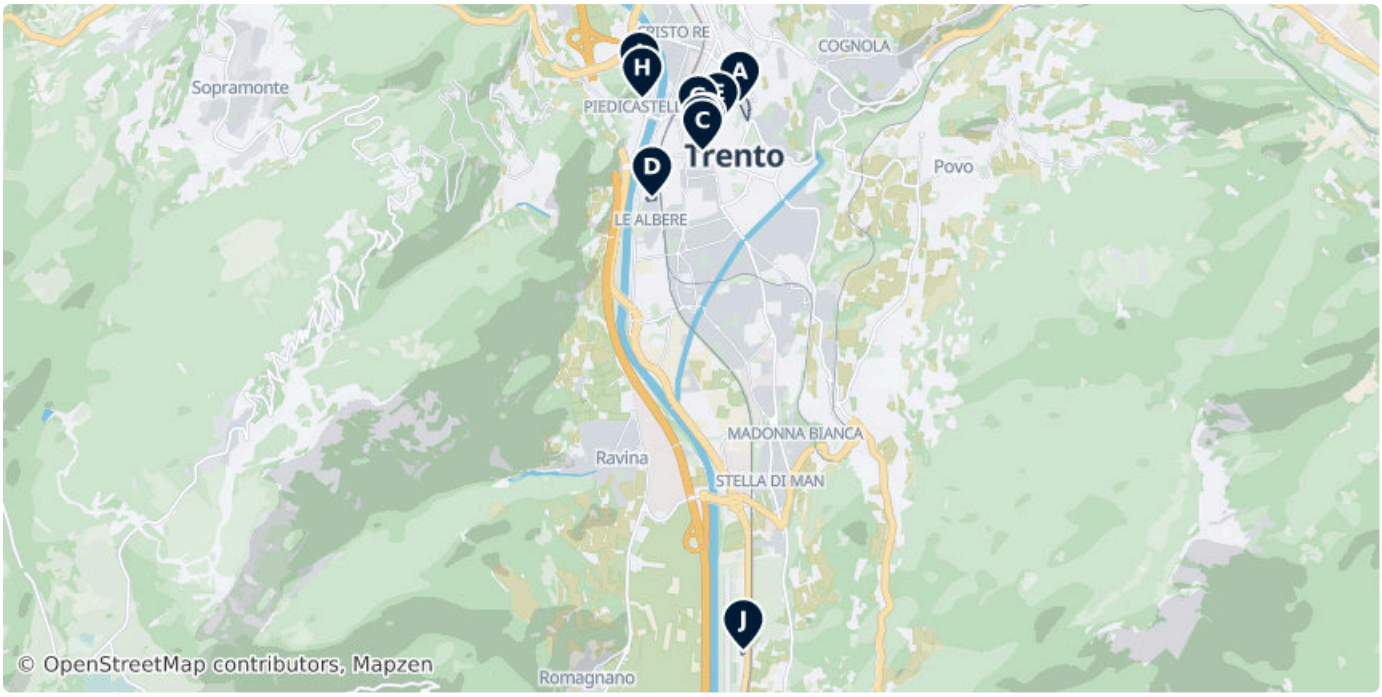
Type C / Type F / Type L
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
Italian

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Trento Essentials

The sights that define a first visit to Trento: the prince-bishops' castle, the cathedral square, Roman remains under the streets, the MUSE science museum and the hill of Doss Trento.





A Buonconsiglio Castle

Residence of Trento's prince-bishops for centuries, with the frescoed Cycle of the Months in Torre Aquila and the Renaissance Magno Palazzo.

Via Cardinale Bernardo Clesio 5, 38122 Trento, IT (46.07142, 11.12648)

Tu–Su 10:00–18:00

buonconsiglio.it/index.php/it/Castello-... , +39 0461 233770



B Piazza del Duomo

The city's main square, framed by the cathedral, the Neptune Fountain and Renaissance houses with painted façades.

Vela, 38122 Trento TN, Italy (46.06738, 11.12142)

piazzaduomotrento.com/en



C Trento Cathedral

Romanesque cathedral where the Council of Trent opened in 1545. Remains of an early Christian basilica lie beneath it.

18 Piazza del Duomo, Trento 38122, Italy
(46.06691, 11.12156)

cattedralesanvigilio.it/it/



D MUSE

Science museum designed by Renzo Piano, with floors on Alpine nature, evolution and sustainability. Good for families.

Corso del Lavoro e della Scienza 3, 38122 Trento, IT
(46.06262, 11.11483)

Mo–Su	10:00–19:00

muse.it



E archaeological underground area of Sas

Remains of the Roman town under Piazza Battisti: a paved street, city walls, houses and mosaic floors.

6 Piazza Cesare Battisti, Trento 38122, Italy
(46.06946, 11.12364)

Mo	Closed



F Tridentine Diocesan Museum

Sacred art, the cathedral treasury and Flemish tapestries in the medieval bishops' palace on Piazza del Duomo.

Piazza del Duomo 18, 38122 Trento, IT
(46.06748, 11.12188)

Mo	10:00–13:00, 14:00–18:00
Tu	Closed
We–Su	10:00–13:00, 14:00–18:00

museodiocesanotridentino.it, +39 0461 234419



G Palazzo Geremia

Renaissance palace on Via Belenzani, known for the scenes painted across its façade.

20 Via Rodolfo Belenzani, Trento 38122, Italy (46.06914, 11.12094)



H Gallerie Piedicastello

Two former road tunnels at Piedicastello turned into a free space for history exhibitions.

SS12, 38122 Trento TN, Italy (46.07176, 11.11353)

Tu–Su 10:00–18:00

museostorico.it/location/le-gallerie/, +39 0461 1747000



I Cesare Battisti's mausoleum

Circular monument on the hill of Doss Trento, with wide views over the city and the Adige valley.

Via Dòs Trento, Trento 38122, Italy (46.07318, 11.11316)

Mo–Su 07:30–19:30

comune.trento.it/Aree-tematiche/Turismo/Visitare/Altri-si...



J Gianni Caproni Museum of Aeronautics

Historic aircraft from the early decades of flight, shown in a hangar at the Trento airfield south of the city.

Via Lidorno 3, 38123 Trento (46.02080, 11.12699)

Forts of the Trento Fortress

Austro-Hungarian forts and batteries built in the 19th and early 20th centuries on the hills around Trento, plus the medieval Torre Franca. Most are reached on foot or by bike and offer wide views.

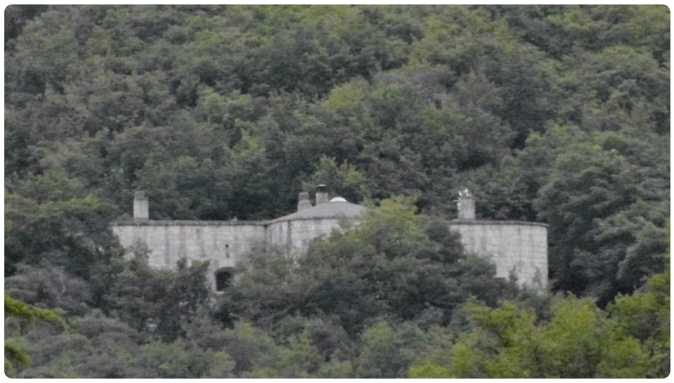




A Bus de Vela Fort

Austro-Hungarian road block on the Vela pass road west of the city, restored and open for visits.

Via al Pasièl, 38123, Italy (46.08358, 11.07233)



B Forte Doss di Sponde - Batterie Doss di Sponde

Austro-Hungarian battery built in the early 1860s above the Vela valley.

22 Strada di Soravàl, 38123, Italy (46.08067, 11.07234)



C Forte di Mezzo - Obere Batterie Mattarello

Ruined battery of the Mattarello defence line on the hills south of Trento.

Strada dei Forti, 38123, Italy (45.99856, 11.13128)



D Forte Alto

Ruined upper fort of the Mattarello defence line, reached by forest trails.

38123, Italy (45.99801, 11.13519)



E Forte Doss Fornas

Austro-Hungarian battery that formed part of the Trento fortress ring.

(46.00251, 11.15539)



F Forte Brusafer

Austro-Hungarian battery, also called Batteria Brusaferro, in the Trento fortress network.

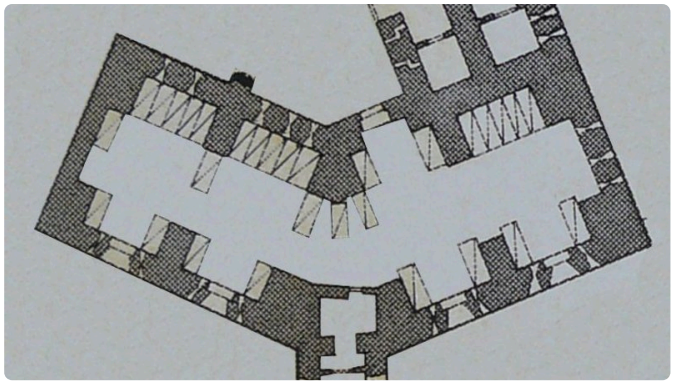
38123, Italy (46.01625, 11.15525)



G Forte Romagnano

Austro-Hungarian fort above the village of Romagnano, part of the Trento fortress complex.

(Unnamed Road), 38123, Italy (46.02549, 11.10597)



H Batteria Roncogno

Austro-Hungarian battery near Celva, guarding the Roncogno pass east of the city.

100 Località Passo Cimirlo, Cimirlo 38123, Italy (46.07084, 11.18516)



I Forte Casara

One of the forts of the Trento fortress system on the hills around the city.

38121, Italy (46.10048, 11.14874)



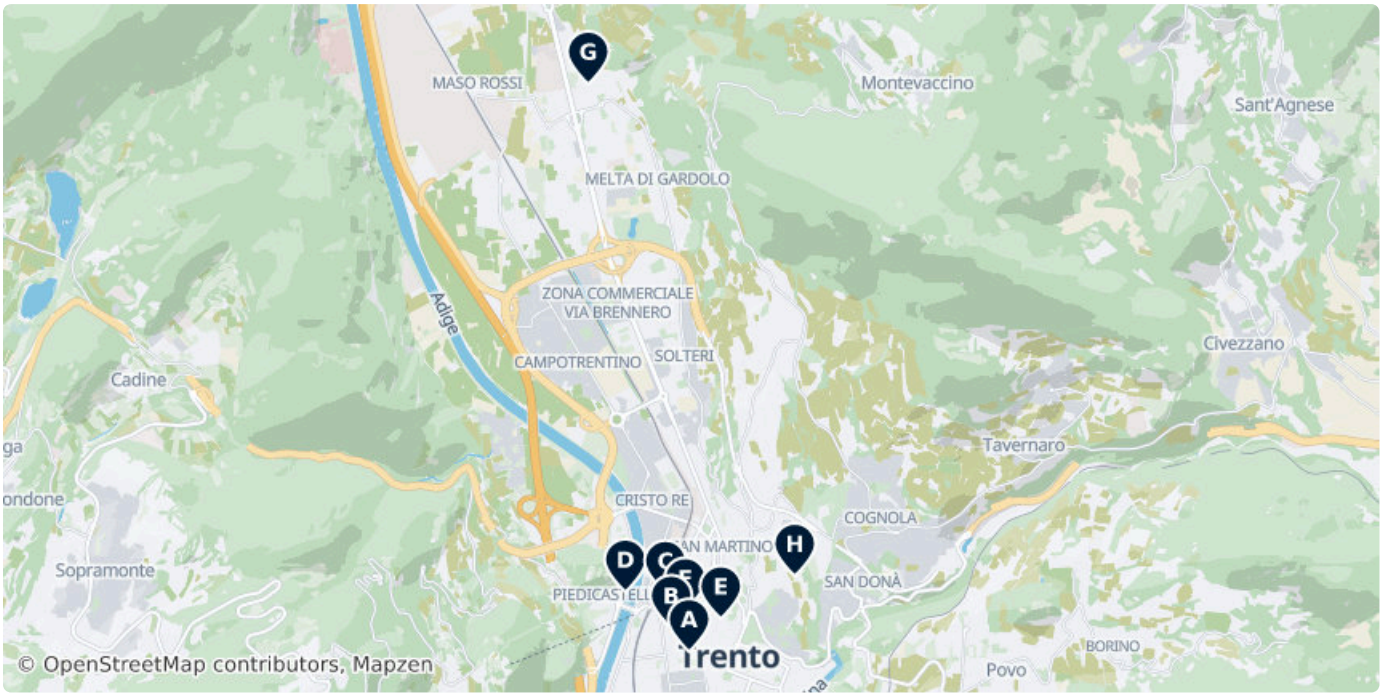
J Torre Franca

Medieval castle tower in Mattarello, south of Trento.

11 Via del Castel, Mattarello 38123, Italy (46.00565, 11.13142)

Historic & Religious Sites

Explore Trento’s key historic and religious landmarks, featuring the Romanesque-Gothic Trento Cathedral, churches integral to local religious life, and shrines that reflect the city’s deep cultural and architectural heritage. These sites highlight Trento's ecclesiastical history and its role in significant religious events.





A Trento Cathedral

Trento Cathedral is a Roman Catholic cathedral in Trento, northern Italy.

18 Piazza del Duomo, Trento 38122, Italy (46.06691, 11.12156)

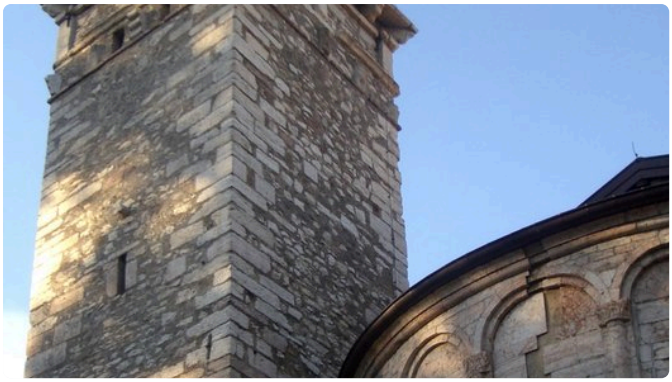
cattedralesanvigilio.it/it/



B Santa Maria Maggiore, Trento

The Church of Santa Maria Maggiore is an important place of worship in the city of Trento, and the site of the Third Session of the Council...

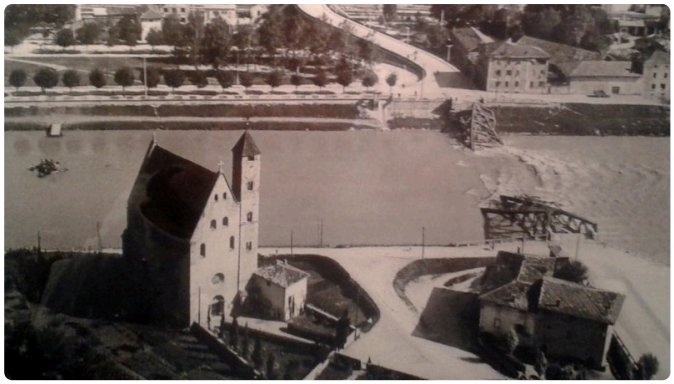
19 Piazza Santa Maria Maggiore, Trento 38122, Italy (46.06863, 11.11967)



C Abbazia di San Lorenzo

Catholic church formerly linked to the Benedictine Order, later associated with Franciscan friars.

4 Via Andrea Pozzo, Trento 38122, Italy (46.07117, 11.11906)



D chiesa di Sant'Apollinare

Located in the Piedicastello district, this church serves the local Catholic community.

62 Lungadige Marco Apuleio, Trento 38122, Italy (46.07126, 11.11485)

santapollinare.tn.it



E Santi Pietro e Paolo

Important parish church within Trento with historical significance.

18 Piazzetta dell'Anfiteatro, Trento 38122, Italy (46.06930, 11.12491)



F chiesa di San Francesco Saverio

Catholic church situated in Trento's historic center.

57 Via Roma, Trento 38122, Italy (46.06991, 11.12115)



G Chiesa della Visitazione di Maria Santissima

2 Piazza Libertà, Trento 38121, Italy (46.10836, 11.11094)

H XI Gesù Inchiodato

Shrine dedicated to the depiction of the crucified Jesus.

12 Via delle Laste, Trento 38121, Italy (46.07242, 11.13270)

DATA SOURCES

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