
MILANO

THE BEST OF MILAN IN A DAY

15 THINGS TO DO AND SEE


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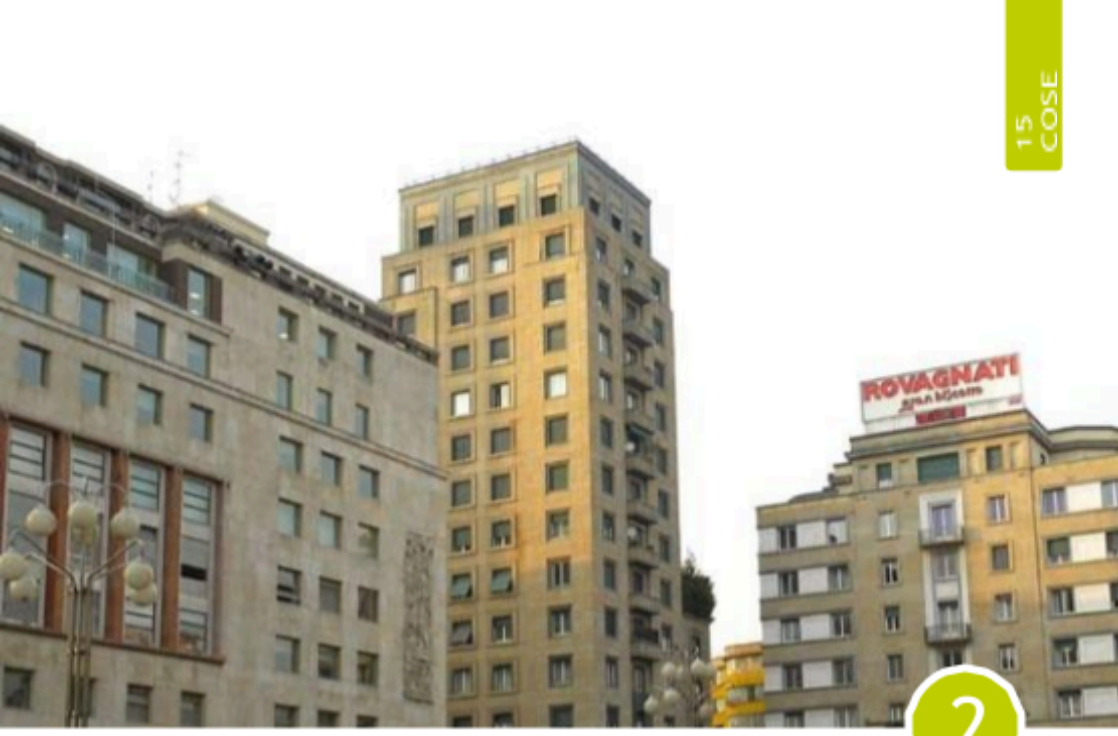


1

LOOK AT THE STARS IN PORTA VENEZIA

Admiring the stars in the heart of Milan, even during the day? To do this, just go to the CIVICO PLANETARIO ULRICO HOEPLI in the Indro Montanelli public gardens (formerly called Giardini di Porta Venezia): greet the statue of him, but do not disturb him because he is typing. Walk among the plants: you will find a cedar of Lebanon or a thorn of Judas. Finally, don't miss the astronomy lessons, also available in English at the Planetarium. So you too can say, like Dante, "And so we went out to see the stars".

Do you want to look at a mansion full of pink flamingos? You have it right next to it: it is Villa Invernizzi, a 5-minute walk from the Gardens. For thirty years full of flamingos, it is still one of the hidden beauties of Milan.



2

SEE THE FIRST SKYSCRAPER IN MILAN IN SAN BABILA

In Piazza San Babila you can… play “avoid the pedestrian”. This area is always crowded with passers-by and tourists, at any time of day. Raise your eyes to the first skyscraper in Milan, the SNIA VISCOSA TOWER, 60 meters high. Stop for a moment at the fountain in the center of the square: it represents Lombardy and its name is "The mountains, lakes, rivers of Lombardy" - as long as that of its author, Luigi Caccia Dominioni. At the end of the square, almost hidden, is the building that gave rise to its name: the Basilica of San Babila.

Do you want to see where the paninari were born, those of Milan in the Eighties, with the bomber, the sweatshirts, the jeans, the slicked-back hair, between Drive In and the Duran Duran? Go to the Il Panino bar in the Liberty square: it is right behind San Babila. The first paninari gathered here.



3

CLARIFY THE VOICE AT THE SCALA

Here Paganini and Verdi's Nabucco debuted and with them the most important names in all music. We are talking about the TEATRO ALLA SCALA, which since 1778 is “the most beautiful theater in the world” (says Stendhal). Do you know who composed the inauguration work "Recognized Europe"? Antonio Salieri, Mozart's archenemy. In the Scala there is also ... Dante's hand. In fact, the name comes from the lost church of Santa Maria della Scala, built by a Scala family, Dante's patrons in the last years of his life.

Don't wake up Verdi! It is said that in the last days of the Maestro's life, who was staying there near the Grand Hotel et de Milan, the ground outside the Scala was covered with straw so as not to annoy him with the noise of the carriages that passed continuously.



4

HIT FORTUNE IN THE VITTORIO EMANUELE GALLERY

Elegant: the GALLERIA VITTORIO EMANUELE is a Milanese noblewoman with pearls. It was built by Giuseppe Mengoni in 1864 who, however, was unable to see its inauguration in 1878, because it fell from one of the scaffolding before the end of the works. A must, the "balls of the Bull": it is a mosaic placed in the right arm (for those coming from the Scala), not far from the dome. Beating them bringsluck, but be careful how you do it. You have to place the heel of the foot, make 3 turns on you and the luck is yours!

Before going to the Duomo, take a detour from the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele and buy yourself a panzerotto from Luini: they are so good that it received the Ambrogino d'Oro as a prize.



5

NOTICE THE SPOOLS OF THE CATHEDRAL

"Lungh 'me la Fabrica del Domm" indicates a work that never ends and refers to the infinite history of the CATHEDRAL OF MILAN: from 1386 until 1774, the year in which the famous Madonnina, the symbol of Milan, was placed on top (O mia bela Madunina is really her). Looking at the 135 spiers, the 200 bas-reliefs, the 2245 statues, the 55 stained glass windows and the 96 gargoyles that run all around you will understand that it was worth it. From the Duomo derives the saying "eat a ufo", that is, a latch: A.U.F. ("Ad Usum Fabricae") was the inscription on the boats with the materials of the Cathedral, which entered the city without paying taxes. A latch, in fact

There are 3 Madonnina statues in Milan: one on the Cathedral, another one on the top of Pirelli skyscraper and the last one at the 43° floor of the Lombardy Building. This is because the statue has to be settled on

the highest spot of the city.



6

TOUCH THE STONE OF THE FAILURES IN PIAZZA MERCANTI

In all the Italian cities of the Middle Ages the most important church and the Palazzo del Comune were always close by, and Milan was no exception. Here then is PIAZZA MERCANTI with the Broletto, the ancient Town Hall (now located in Palazzo Marino in Piazza della Scala). Look at the beautiful buildings in the square, each one different from the other: such as the Loggia degli Osii, the Palazzo dei Giurenconsulti, the Palazzo delle Scuole Palatine. In the middle there is a well with a stone: it is the Pietra dei Failiti, where Milanese traders convicted of bankruptcy used to settle. They were the judge of the magistrates ... and the insults of passers-by.

Under the Broletto you can play… on the wireless telephone. Whisper something with your face turned to two diagonally opposite columns and your secrets will reach the other person.



7

GO TO VIA TORINO WITHOUT SHOPPING

The most foolish thing you can do in VIA TORINO? Go through it all without almost shopping! It will take a bit of effort but it can be done: just take a look at its churches. Like the Temple of San Sebastiano, with the shape of a cylinder, which is both a church and a civil temple (both the Governor of Milan and the Bishop Carlo Borromeo wanted it). Or the church of San Giorgio al Palazzo, which has 3 statues on top. Or Santa Maria presso San Satiro, which from the outside looks like a normal church but hides a secret inside.

Enter Santa Maria near San Satiro (check the timetables) and take a good look at it: nothing strange? The back wall, which seems very long but instead… is 95 cm! It is a trompe-l'oeil, an optical illusion of that genius of Bramante!



9

LISTEN TO A CONCERT IN SAN LORENZO MAGGIORE

Do you want to listen to music properly? Go to SAN LORENZO MAGGIORE: the mix between the central plant and the grandiose organ - restored by a famous organ builder, Pietro Bernasconi, in 1884 – is perfect. Going outside, have fun counting the columns: there are 16 and they come from pre-existing Roman buildings. Almost the entire church is built from reused materials: an art of recycling ante litteram, in the pre-Christian era. If you hear someone say "let's meet at the Columns", go there, like the real Milanes

The park of the 2 churches connects the San Lorenzo church with the Sant' Eustorgio church. A peacefull place in the heart of the city, with cultural and musical events.



9

BECOME ROMANTIC ON THE NAVIGLI

Do you want to take a romantic walk and remember Venice in Milan? Go on the NAVIGLI. There are 5 in all, rich in greenery and farmhouses: the Naviglio Grande, the Martesana (these two are the most famous), Bereguardo, Paderno, Pavese. Their story begins because of the "fault" of the Duomo: it was decided to build it with the precious Candoglia marble, but it had to be transported from the quarry on the Toce river to Milan, so the Navigli were born. Since then a lot of water has passed under the bridges, also thanks to the hand of Leonardo, who designed the locks. Go to the Vicolo dei Lavandai for a photo shoot, take a walk, have a look ... and maybe leave us a sigh.

Take a cruise on the canals and explore Naviglio Grande and Naviglio Pavese, the architecture and the history of these places.



1

MEASURING THE TWO BELLS OF SANT'AMBROGIO

Why in SANT'AMBROGIO the two bell towers, called "dei Monaci" and "dei Canonici", are of different heights? Because they belong to two eras: the first, on the right, is the lowest and oldest (8th century), the other is from the 12th century. There are other curiosities in Sant'Ambrogio: between the sarcophagi and the early Christian inscriptions in the courtyard of Ansperto, the chessboards and the bronze snake, this millenary church hides many secrets. One thing is certain: the church, with the nearby Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, is truly beautiful.

Anyone who knows the "Ambrogino d'oro" automatically becomes a Milanese DOC: it is a recognition that the Municipality of Milan delivers every year on 7 December to those who have made a valuable contribution to the city.



1

DISCOVER THE ENIGMA OF THE CENACLE IN SANTA MARIA DELLE GRAZIE

Santa Maria delle Grazie guards the center of all Milanese mysteries: Leonardo da Vinci's Last Supper. To get there, the ideal is to walk along Corso Magenta starting from the Bar of the same name, without neglecting Via Vincenzo Monti which, among the trees and buildings, is one of the most elegant streets in Milan. Continue to Santa Maria delle Grazie: it is the second Italian monument to have been included in the Unesco list and of course the credit is also due to Leonardo and his Cenacle, which is an enigma starting from the technique with which it was painted, different from the fresco and less durable, so much so that the last restoration took 22 years. But it's nice like that, including cracks.

Where is the "real" Da Vinci Code hiding? It is in the Ambrosiana Library, near the Duomo. This is the Codex Atlanticus, a 402-page puzzle with fragments of Leonardo's papers, sent by the master to hisdisciple Melzi and reconstructed by the humanists Giovanni Ambrogio

Mazenta and Pompeo Leoni.



1

GO THROUGH THE EYE OF THE NEEDLE OF CADORNA

It's actually easier said than done: first, because the eye is at the top. Second, because the space is not as large as it seems. We are talking about the sculpture "THE NEEDLE, THE THREAD AND THE KNOT" created by the Swedish artist Claes Oldenburg together with his wife Coosje van Bruggen: the needle and the thread are a tribute to Milanese fashion, the 3 colors (green, red and yellow) instead symbolize the first 3 metro lines. These 18 meters in fiberglass at the time had aroused much controversy: in our opinion, on the other hand, they give a nice touch to the whole square. Brava Gae Aulenti, who designed it.

Do you want to taste the Milanese delight par excellence, the panettone (or rather, the panetùn)? The right place to go is Pasticceria Marchesi, in via S. Maria alla Porta 11 / a: here the panettone is sold all year round.



1

PURING THE CATS OF THE SFORZESCO CASTLE

You cannot pass by the SFORZESCO CASTLE without stopping for a moment by its cats, who are its guardians. They stand between the ditches, on cannonballs, in front of the entrance and with the Sempione Park in the background. Stretch your gaze and you will also see the Arch of Peace: according to Hemingway it is aligned with none other than the Arc du Triomphe in Paris. Stop here for an aperitif or, even better, try a brunch: there is no better place to start this Milanese ritual. But the Sforzesco Castle has much more: the 4 corner towers and the middle one (the Torre del Filarete, which in recent years becomes green for San Patrizio), the Museums and the Trivulziana Library. In the nineteenth century it was in ruins and it was decided to destroy it: thank goodness it has not been done!

When love is ... explosive. Bombarda, a Swiss arquebusier in the pay of the Sforza and with a deadly aim, to take revenge on the French

soldiers who were annoying his fiancée, blew up the Tower itself.



1

FEELING A CURSED POET IN BRERA (AND RECOVERING IN CORSO COMO)

BRERA is as bohemian and intriguing as a Rimbaud poem. To immerse yourself in its atmosphere, we recommend starting from the courtyard of the Pinacoteca, where you can admire a statue of Napoleon, so toned that it is the envy of the best models in circulation. Train yourself to smell the smells of the world at the Botanical Garden, get lost in the alleys, in the typical shops, in the bars and in the views of the neighborhood ... to conclude with a flourish in Corso Como, which has some of the most famous places in Milan to drink (Hollywood and Loolapaloosa, to name two).

Do you want to better enjoy the poetic atmosphere of Brera and Corso Como? Go to via Brera 32 at Jamaica, the artists' bar, and to 10 Corso Como, a place and temple of art founded by Carla Sozzani. But first, stop by Eataly in Piazza XVV Aprile: there you will find the best of Italy

enclosed in one place.



1

LOOK AT THE SKYLINE OF THE SKYSCRAPERS FROM PIAZZA GAE AULENTI

Do you want to fully enjoy the most metropolitan area of Italy, between Garibaldi, Porta Nuova and Isola? Then make yourself comfortable on one of the circular benches of the central fountain in PIAZZA GAE AULENTI and look around: here is the tallest skyscraper in Italy, the Cesar Pelli A tower, with its two "younger brothers" B and C; the futuristic Vertical Forest (two towers, D and E), 17 floors of trees, solar panels; the Diamante tower; the Residential Towers.

From Piazza Gae Aulenti go to the nearby Eataly, where you can find the best of Italy in one place: pasta, meat, oil, wine ... the choice is yours, the taste is always the Italian one!

TRANSP ORT

MOVE TO MILAN IN COMPLETE CONFORT

WHAT TICKETS CAN YOU TRAVEL IN MILAN? HERE IS THE INFORMATION YOU NEED.

BY BUS, TRAIN, TRAM OR METRO

Milan is well connected by bus, tram (the "surface vehicles"), subway and train. Then there are the railway passers-by, high-frequency trains. You can use different types of tickets: think about how long you stay in Milan and choose the one that suits you best!

TYPES OF TICKETS TO MOVE IN MILAN

1

Urban ticket

Cost: 2,20 € - Valid for 90 minutes from validation

"It allows you to travel throughout the municipal area of Milan. The ticket is valid on all surface vehicles and metro. (From the Atm website).

"Permette di viaggiare su tutta l'area (Dal sito Atm).

Daily ticket

Cost: 7,60 € - Valid for 24 hours from validation

2

3 day ticket

Cost: 15,50 € - Valid for 3 consecutive days from validation

3

10 travel booklet

Costo: 19,50 € - Valid for 10 trips, each of 90 minutes from

validation
(It cannot be used by more than one person at the same time).

Children under 14 do not pay for the ticket.

You can pay all the transport in Milan with credit card or contactless devices.

BY BIKE

Do you want to go around Milan by bicycle? There is BikeMi, the bike service sharing of Milan.
There are 2 types of subscrition:

DAILY = 4,50 €

WEEKLY = 9 €

Both subscriptions include the first half hour of free use and then the charge of € 0.50 every 30 minutes of withdrawal, up to a maximum of 2 hours.

TO FIND OUT MORE: website BikeMi >

OUR TOP

5

HERE ARE THE TOP 5 OF EVERYTHING, TO LIVE TO THE BEST INSIDE AND OUTSIDE MILAN

THE 5 FACES OF MILAN: ITS DISTRICTS

Milan is many things in one: ancient and metropolitan, very fast and suspended, chic and a little rough.
We guide you to discover all the faces of Milan, in its 5 main districts.

1 THE NAVIGLI

Do you feel like artists? Take paper, pencils and colors and go to the Navigli: there you can get lost for
hours staring at the bend of a canal, a farmhouse along the river, or simply passers-by. Alternatively,
enjoy the walk: if the day is nice, it will be priceless.

CHOICE WHY: to live like painters on the edge of Milan, between greenery and farmhouses.

2 BRERA

Why is Brera so called? It is said to derive from "braida", which means uncultivated land: in short, here it was a somewhat wild land, quite the opposite of what it is today. If you pass it, don't forget to let the gypsy read the cards, but then accept her response!

CHOICE WHY: to feel like Hemingway in the streets of Montmartre.

3 ISOLA

Skyscrapers and historic factories such as Tecnomasio Brown Boveri: this is Isola, one of the historic districts of Milan that has changed its appearance a thousand times over the years. Go to the Moiazza cemetery, where illustrious "Milanese" (Milanese DOC) like Cesare

Beccaria, Manzoni's grandfather, and Giuseppe Parini rest.

CHOICE WHY: to understand the double face of the city, the ancient one and the metropolitan one

4 CORSO COMO

As short as it is alive, Corso Como, between Piazza XXV Aprile and Porta Garibaldi station, is one of the most glamorous streets in Milan. To be enjoyed at aperitif time, if you happen to be there during the day, take a trip to Cargo, a furniture megastore that has a black cat as its symbol: at Pecora Verde, we can only appreciate!

CHOICE WHY: to feel at the center of the Milanese Movida, in any season of the year.

5 VIA PAOLO SARPI

The area that was once called "the village of the Ortolani" now it is known as Chinatown, although in reality the Chinese have been in Milan since the 1920s. Stroll (here it is a pedestrian zone) for the shops and restaurants, and if you happen again in February, stop by for the chinese New Year, a party of colors and luck.

CHOICE WHY: to fill up on soy noodles and oriental clothes and explore the Milan cosmopolitan.

A DAY OUTSIDE MILAN

What's outside Milan? A lot, a lot. Here is the best of what you can see within a day, with useful numbers and addresses. A tip: always check the opening hours and, in the case of restaurants and wineries, book them in advance.

1 BUBBLES BETWEEN BERGAMO AND FRANCIACORTA

• Five kilometers of walls, towers and bell towers: this is how it appears from afar Bergamo Alta, the oldest part of the city, with "one of the most fascinating squares in the world" (according to Le Corbusier).
• Have lunch at the Trattoria La Colombina and after a visit to the city take the funicular and go up to the San Vigilio hill: the view is spectacular.
• Do not miss the "wine pilgrimage" of Franciacorta, go without fail: Ca 'del Bosco, Barone Pizzini, Berlucchi. If you prefer shopping, the Franciacorta Outlet Village is your temple. You will return to Milan rich in history, wine... and maybe some shoppers.

ADDRESSES AND USEFUL NUMBERS
• For lunch - Trattoria La Colombina: via Borgo Canale 12, Bergamo Alta (BG) Tel: +39035261402 - www.trattorialacolombina.it
• Ca 'del Bosco winery: via Albano Zanella 13, 25030 Erbusco (BS) Tel. +390307766111 - www.cadelbosco.com
• Cantina Barone Pizzini: via San Carlo 14, 25050 Provaglio d'Iseo (Bs) Tel. +390309848311 -

www.baronepizzini.it
• Cantina Berlucchi: piazza Duranti 4, 25040 Borgonato (BS) Tel. +39030984381 - www.berlucchi.it
• Franciacorta Outlet Village: piazza Cascina Moie 1/2, 25050 Rodengo-Saiano (BS) Tel +390306810364 - www.franciacortaoutlet.it

2 VALEGGIO SUL MINCIO: A DAY IN THE MIDDLE AGES

• Do you want to spend a day that tastes of the Middle Ages? This itinerary it is for you. Start from the Sigurtà Garden Park in Valeggio sul Mincio between Milan and Verona: 600,000 square meters, 1 million tulips and many other flowers and colors.
• Look up, you will see medieval towers and mills: go there, it is Borghetto, a hamlet of Valeggio and one of the most beautiful villages in Italy, ideal for your lunch.
• In the afternoon, move to Sirmione between the panorama of Lake Garda and the Scaligero Castle: Cangrande della Scala also passed through here, much celebrated by Dante in the Comedy. You will come back with many emotions and beautiful photographs, this is guaranteed.

ADDRESSES AND USEFUL NUMBERS
• Sigurtà Park: via Cavour 1, 37067 Valeggio sul Mincio (VR) Tel. +390456371033 - www.sigurta.it
• Scaligero Castle: via degli Scaligeri, 37067 Valeggio sul Mincio (VR) Tel. +390457951880 - www.valeggio.com

3 ROMANTIC DAY BETWEEN VERONA AND THE LAKE GARDA

- Verona is one of the most beautiful examples of Italian cities, small and precious as a ruby. Before making a pilgrimage to the places of Romeo and Juliet, Casa di Giulietta in the lead (see Zeffirelli's film), stop for a coffee or an aperitif in Piazza delle Erbe, the oldest.
- Pay homage to the Arche Scaligere, a gothic marvel, and to the Arena, which carries within itself the sound of gladiators.
- In the afternoon, the lake awaits you, with the beaches of Desenzano sul Garda and Malcesine offering panoramic views worthy of Pulitzer photography. In the end, Verona will never seem the same again.

4 CHIC TRIP TO THE BORROMEE ISLANDS

• Do you want the best example of such chic Italian gardens? Go to the Borromean Islands in Lake Maggiore: it is not for nothing that the head gardener Gianfranco Giustina was awarded last year by the British Royal Horticultural Society).
• You will discover treasures such as a centuries-old Himalayan Cypress (on Isola Madre) or the rare collection of "fire flowers".
• For lunch, go to the Trattoria Imbarcadero dei Pescatori on the island of the same name: they will pick you up directly by boat!
• In the afternoon, the romantic melancholy of Stresa's Farewell to Arms: you will be so inspired that you will write a few lines of poetry,

ready to use on greeting cards.

ADDRESSES AND USEFUL NUMBERS

• For lunch - Isola dei Pescatori landing stage: via Lungolago 12, 28838 Stresa (VB) Tel. +39 032330329 - www.imbarcaderoisolapescatori.it
• Borromean Islands: 28838 Stresa (VB) Tel. +39032330556 - www.isoleborromee.it

5 A DAY WITH FAMILY:

DISCOVERING THE CETACEANS

• From Milan to Genoa in one day? It can be done and it will be a beautiful one experience, especially in the family.
• Move by train and from Genoa Porta Principe go to the Porto Antico, where the most exciting of surprises awaits you: a motor ship that will take you to meet dolphins and whales!
• On board you will find expert biologists who will explain everything about cetaceans: bottlenose dolphins, dolphins, zifi, raspberries ... and if you are lucky, you can meet them live!
• You will return to Milan with many images in your head!

ADDRESSES AND USEFUL NUMBERS

• Genoa: Calata Mandraccio - Porto Antico area, 16128 Genoa (GE) Tel. +39 0284194705 www.pecoraverde.com
NB: this tour takes place on Sundays!

THE 5 BEST AREAS FOR SHOPPING

How do you feel today, in terms of mood, style and… wallet? Whatever be the answer, you are in Milan so a little healthy shopping is a must. Here are the 5 areas to go to.

1 VIA MONTENAPOLEONE AND VIA DELLA SPIGA

They call it "The Quadrilatero della Moda" or "Quadrilatero d'oro", from it sparkles so much: the area between via Montenapoleone, via della Spiga, via Manzoni and Corso Venezia is the Mecca of fashion.
Walking around without returning with at least one bag is like going to Oktoberfest and asking for a mineral.

GO THERE IF… you are down in the dumps and want to console yourself. But go there even if you are in good spirits, the consolation always applies, from Tiffany on down.

2 CORSO BUENOS AIRES

1.2 kilometers long, over 320 stores: Corso Buenos Aires is infinite and, as far as the shops are concerned, very democratic because it combines expensive and high-end shops with the points of sale of international chains and low-cost brands. You can also find really everything here, from clothing tohousehold items, from books to electronics: just ask and you will have.

GO THERE IF… you have forgotten something and need to get dressed from head to toe.

3 VIA TORINO AND CORSO VITTORIO EMANUELE

They are the closest shopping streets to the Duomo and they are both long history: that of via Torino is written in the churches, that of Corso Vittorio Emanuele is in the fragments of the ancient Terme Erculee. You will find some of the stores of the most famous chains, but arm yourself with patience and avoid trolleys, because they are always very crowded.

GO THERE IF... you are looking for young shops for all budgets with a view of the Duomo.

4 BRERA

It is the second "Quadrilatero della Moda", that of via Brera and its neighbors via Mercato, via Pontaccio, via dell'Orso, made up of shops of perhaps not international fame, but with their own precise identity. Walk the streets and be guided by chance or inspiration. After your tour of Brera, rest assured that you will have exhausted the list of Christmas gifts for the next 3 years.

GO THERE IF ... you need to give a proper gift or you need some color.

5 CORSO VERCELLI

You want to go shopping in Milan but the center is too crowded, Corso Buenos Aires too long, the Quadrilatero too chic and Brera too alternative? In short, if the rest doesn't appeal to you, take your shopping trip to Corso Vercelli, between Cadorna and the Pagano gardens: among other things, this is one of the areas where commerce has a long history.

GO THERE IF ... you want to spend a few hours shopping without doing gymnastics among other passers-by.