

Brescia introduction at a glance

Brescia is a city where history, culture, and viticulture converge to create a uniquely captivating destination. This hidden gem is steeped in a rich heritage, from ancient Roman ruins and medieval fortresses to Renaissance squares and splendid museums, each narrating the enduring saga of human civilization in this area.

Beyond its historical and cultural allure, Brescia is also famed for its proximity to the Franciacorta area, renowned for producing the exquisite Franciacorta wine. This sparkling wine epitomizes the region's commitment to viticultural excellence, adding a refined touch to Brescia's diverse attractions. With its blend of architectural marvels, vibrant modern life, and the serene beauty of nearby lakes Garda and Iseo, Brescia offers a compelling mix of experiences for travelers seeking the essence of Italian lifestyle and the taste of its celebrated wines.

City Walking Tour

1. Piazza della Loggia

Start your tour at Piazza della Loggia, a beautiful example of Renaissance architecture in Northern Italy. Piazza della Loggia is surrounded by elegant buildings, including the Loggia itself, which serves as the town hall. The square also features an impressive astronomical clock from the 16th century.

2. Duomo Vecchio (Old Cathedral) and Duomo Nuovo (New Cathedral)

A short walk leads to the adjacent cathedrals. The Duomo Vecchio, also known as La Rotonda, is notable for its circular shape and medieval architecture. Right next to it, the Duomo Nuovo impresses with its baroque façade and imposing size.

3. Teatro Grande

An important cultural venue in Brescia, the Teatro Grande is known for its rich history and architectural beauty. It has been a cornerstone for the performing arts in the city since the 17th century, hosting opera, ballet, and theater performances. Visiting hours Friday from 1.30pm to 7.00pm, Saturday from 10.00am to 1.00pm and from 3.30pm to 7.00pm. Tickets can be bought online [here](#) or at the theater counter.

4. Piazzale Arnaldo

Named after Arnaldo da Brescia, a local religious reformer and patriot, this square is a popular meeting place in the city. It is surrounded by cafes and historical buildings, offering a glimpse into the city's vibrant social life. Good place to stop for a coffee or aperitivo.

5. Parco archeologico di Brixia romana

This archaeological park showcases the rich Roman heritage of Brescia, known as Brixia in ancient times. Visitors can explore ruins that include a Roman forum, temples, and a theater, offering insight into the daily life of Roman Brescia. Site is open Monday to Saturday from 10:00-18:00. More info on guided tours [here](#).

6. Brescia Castle

Head uphill to the Castle of Brescia, offering panoramic views of the city. Brescia Castle is a formidable medieval fortress offering panoramic views of the city and its surroundings. Inside, it houses museums that delve into the history and archaeology of Brescia. Entrance to the castle park is free. The opening hours are Monday to Sunday 6:00-23:00. If you want a guided tour check [here](#).