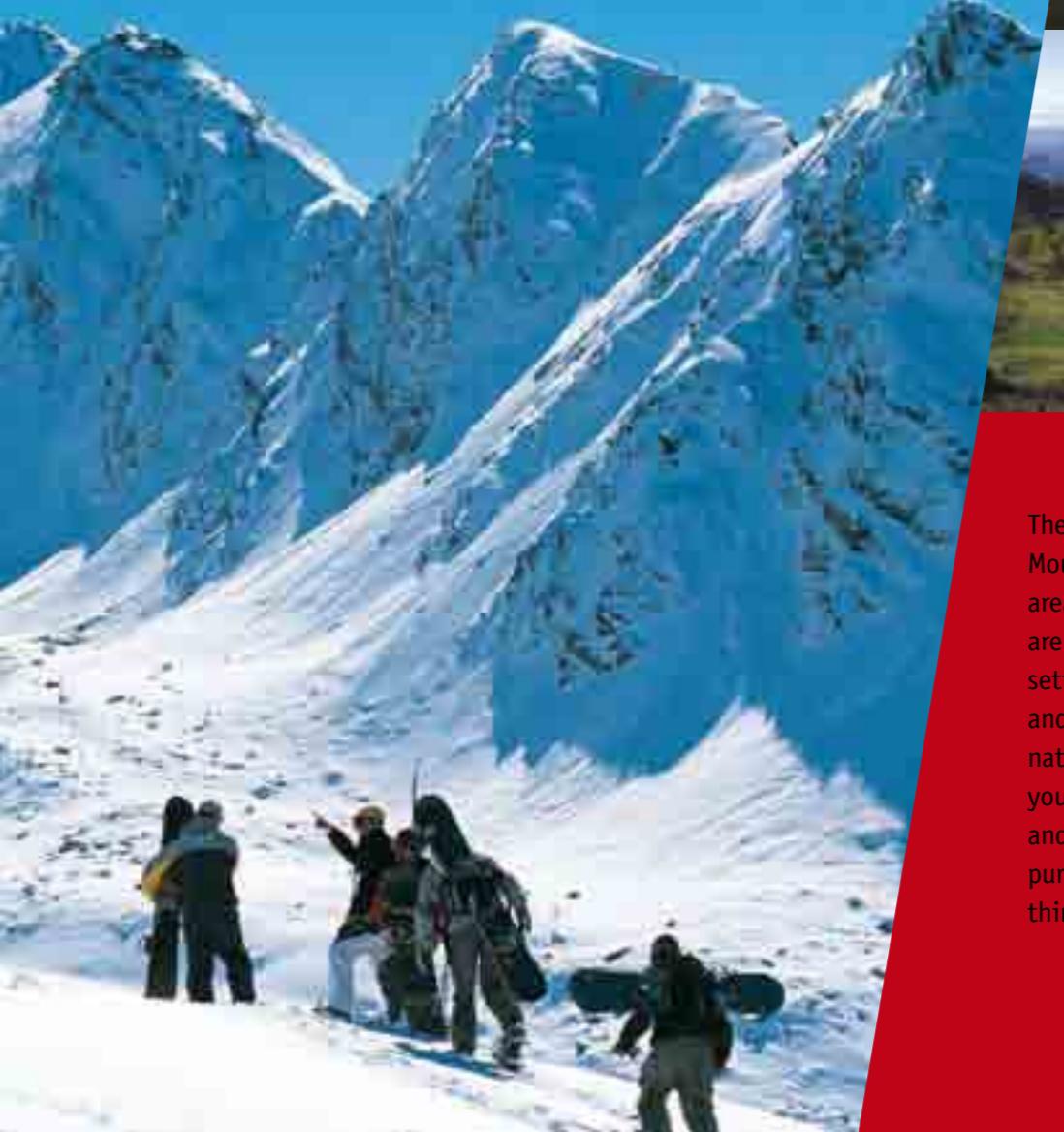


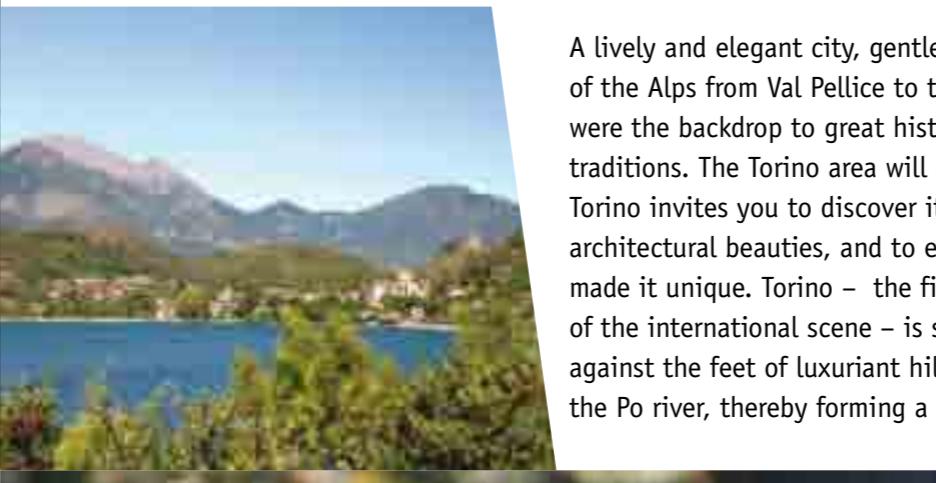
# Torino in & around



# Torino in & around. One unique area.



The Olympic Mountains and Royal Mountains surround the Torino area with a chain of peaks that are silhouetted against a relaxing setting of woods, fields, lakes, parks and protected reserves. If you love nature and sport, they will leave you breathless: both in summer and in winter you will be free to pursue your passions and do the things you enjoy most.



A lively and elegant city, gentle hills, crystal-clear lakes and the imposing ring of the Alps from Val Pellice to the Canavese valleys, pristine landscapes that were the backdrop to great historical events and that still guard millenary traditions. The Torino area will gift you with extraordinary experiences. Torino invites you to discover its broad tree-lined avenues, rich in artistic and architectural beauties, and to enjoy the many little pleasures that have always made it unique. Torino – the first capital of Italy, today again at the centre of the international scene – is surrounded by vegetation: it gently leans against the feet of luxuriant hills and is encircled by the winding course of the Po river, thereby forming a marvellous whole with its surrounding areas.



# A great present between past and future.

Elegant buildings and magnificent palaces, ancient beauty and contemporary art: in Torino and its surroundings you will take a fascinating journey through time. From the Roman traces in Susa to the medieval vestiges of San Martino of Cirié church, from the gothic lines of Pinerolo cathedral to the triumph of baroque with works by Carlo and Amedeo di Castellamonte, Guarino Guarini and Filippo Juvarra, among which the Palace of Venaria Reale, Palazzo Carignano, the Basilica of Superga and the Ducal Castle of Aglié. But Torino is always looking ahead. The Olympics were an opportunity to deservedly regain its place in the foreground, as can be noticed by admiring the works of the most famous architects of our time: the Palavela, restored by Gae Aulenti, the Palasport Olimpico by Arata Isozaki, Santo Volto church by Mario Botta and the Arco Olimpico (Olympic Arch), the symbol of the city renewed.

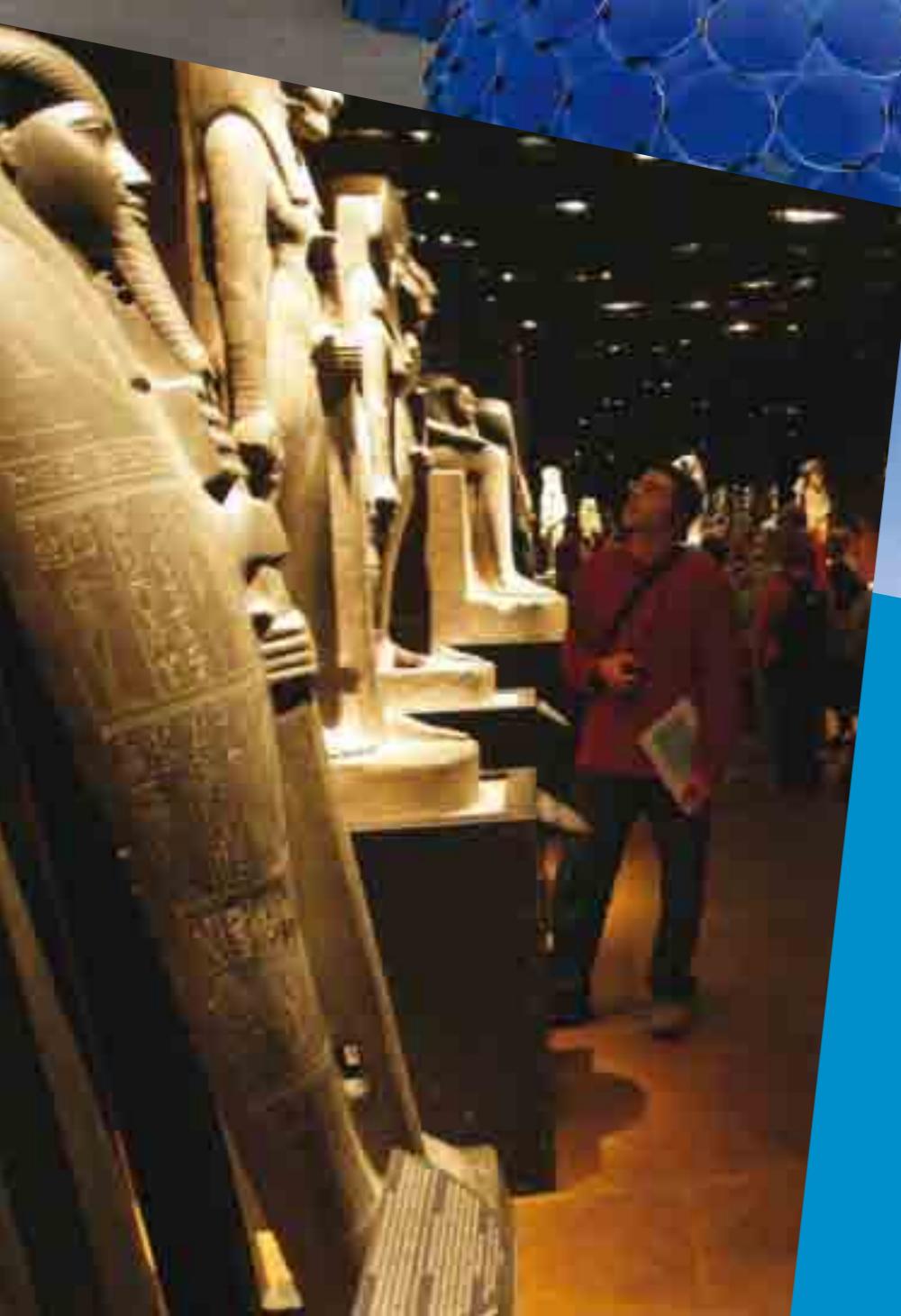
This region guards many architectural masterpieces: abbeys, fortresses, castles and monuments are representative of an illustrious past and extremely deep-rooted traditions. Here you can also find interesting religious, linguistic and cultural minorities: to discover the Occitan, Franco-Provençal and Waldensian history and traditions just walk around the many mountain villages and visit the numerous ethnographic museums.

## did you know?

The **Mole Antonelliana**, characterized by a highly original profile, is the symbol of Torino with its height of 167 metres. A glass lift travels through the giant vault and leads to the panoramic shrine: from up there the view of the city and of the mountains is breathtaking.

Because of its capability to reinvent itself, Torino was proclaimed **World Design Capital** for 2008: a rich programme of activities will make it possible to develop the theme of flexibility with internationally acclaimed events and the participation of all the most prominent experts in the area.

# Over 80 museums for an extraordinary visit.



This is today's – and tomorrow's! – Italian capital of art with internationally renowned institutions, such as GAM (Gallery of Modern and Contemporary Art), Museo d'Arte Contemporanea del Castello di Rivoli (Rivoli Castle Museum of Contemporary Art), Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo and Fondazione Merz, all venues for great exhibitions and precious permanent collections. Furthermore, you have only to walk around the city and the surrounding towns to admire works by world-famous artists.



Many doors wide-open on surprising worlds with over 80 museums, in and outside Torino, to get to know your fields of interest in further depth or make new discoveries. In the striking setting of the Mole Antonelliana you will find the Museo Nazionale del Cinema (National Museum of Cinema): this is the only place it should be, as it was in Torino that Italian cinema was born at the beginning of the twentieth century. Would you prefer to glance at a less recent past? The Museo Egizio (Egyptian Museum) is the second most important in the world (after the one in Cairo) and it boasts a prestigious mounting by Dante Ferretti, the Oscar-winning set designer. If, on the other hand, you wish to admire a fantastic collection of Italian and Flemish art, you should go to the Galleria Sabauda.

**did you know?**

The **Torino Royal Armoury** has one of the richest collections in the world. It was inaugurated in 1837, has firearms and steel weapons, valuable medieval pieces, examples from the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, many Napoleonic memorabilia and the armours that used to belong to Savoy sovereigns.

The **Pinacoteca Giovanni e Marella Agnelli** in Lingotto houses selected works from Canaletto to Modigliani, from Matisse to Balla. It is the venue for remarkable temporary exhibitions and the best point where to observe the famous Bolla (Bubble) by Renzo Piano, which seems to hover above the Torino skies.

# A collection of surprises.



Art isn't the only masterpiece in the area. The Museo del Gusto (Museum of Taste) in Frossasco offers an ideal journey across food history through traditional cooking, world food and eating habits, with close examination of food in art, in music, in films and in advertising. It is in collaboration with this exhibition pole that the Museo della Menta e delle Erbe Officinali (Museum of Mint and Official Herbs) in Pancalieri was born, the best way to get in contact with a typical product of the area.

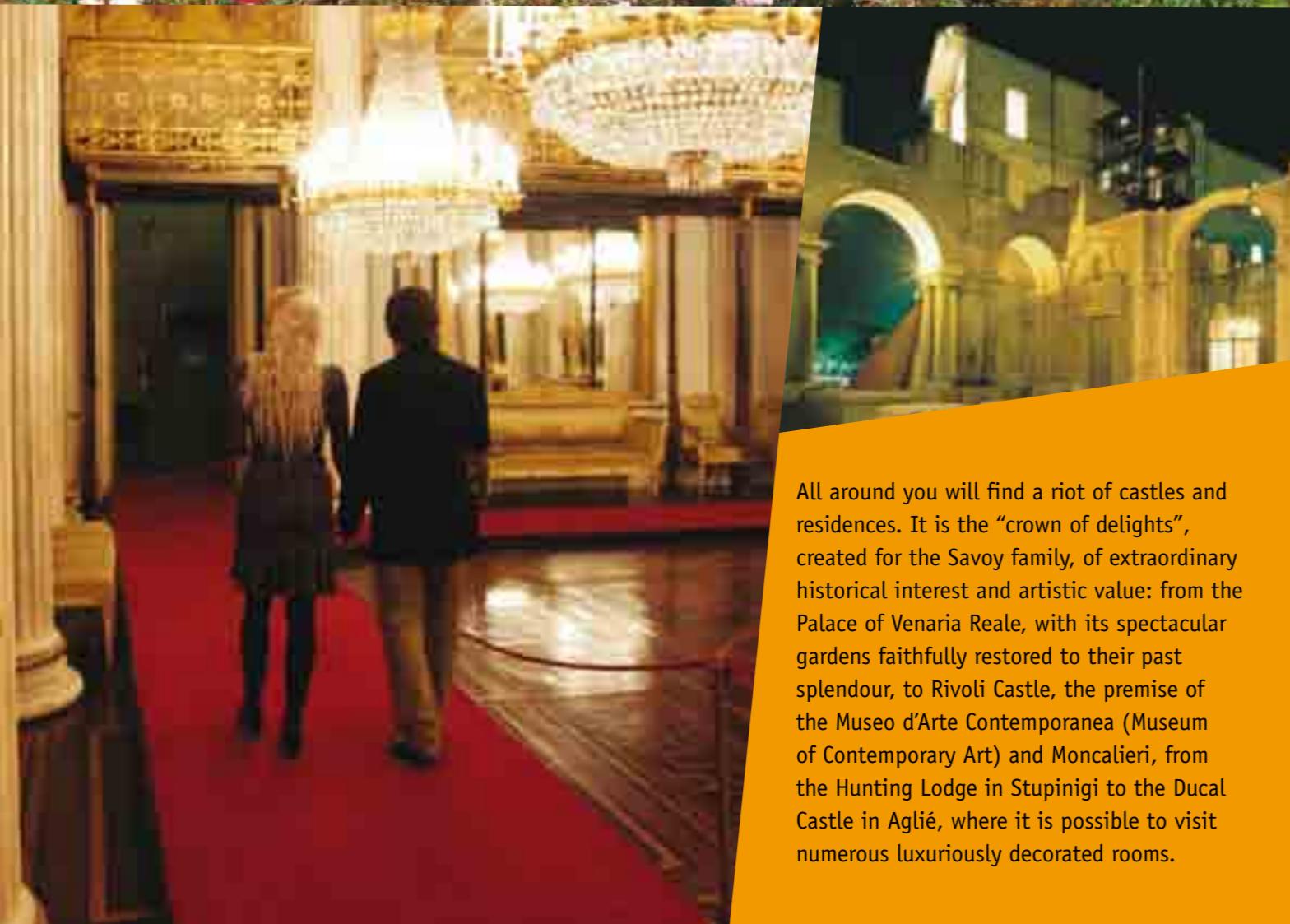
The museums of the province of Torino offer a few real jems. Villa Remmert in Cirié, a wonderful example of Art Nouveau, hosts temporary exhibitions of remarkable interest in a very charming setting. The MACAM (Open Air Museum of Contemporary Art in Maglione) is really unique: the works are exhibited in the squares, on the walls and on the outside surfaces of the houses. There are 164 sculptures, installations and frescoes by artists from all over the world. Torre Canavese is also a "painted town": along the streets you can admire creations from the ex Soviet Union and from the Canavese region, for an ideal "twinning". The MaAM (open-air Museum of Modern Architecture in Ivrea) is a must for those wishing to discover the projects of modern and rationalist architecture, which arose in connection with the great experience of Olivetti.

## did you know?

There are very many **ecomuseums** in honour of material culture: from Villaggio Operaio Leumann (Leumann Workers Village) in Collegno to the Ecomuseo del Rame (Copper Ecomuseum) in Alpette, from the Scopriniera (Discover the Mine) in Prali to the Ecomuseo della Castagna (Chestnut Ecomuseum) in Nomaglio and the Ecomuseo delle Guide Alpine (Ecomuseum of Alpine Guides) in Balme. Visits where one discovers places filled with poetry, interesting and entertaining for children as well.

The **Museo Storico dell'Arma di Cavalleria** (Historic Museum of the Cavalry Corps) in Pinerolo makes it possible to admire relics covering the period between 1861 and today: uniforms, decorations and baggage wagons, carriages and armoured vehicles, as well as a vast collection of photographs.

# Elegance is queen.



All around you will find a riot of castles and residences. It is the "crown of delights", created for the Savoy family, of extraordinary historical interest and artistic value: from the Palace of Venaria Reale, with its spectacular gardens faithfully restored to their past splendour, to Rivoli Castle, the premise of the Museo d'Arte Contemporanea (Museum of Contemporary Art) and Moncalieri, from the Hunting Lodge in Stupinigi to the Ducal Castle in Aglié, where it is possible to visit numerous luxuriously decorated rooms.



## did you know?

**Venaria Reale Palace** is a whole of exceptional proportions: 480,000 square metres on which the greatest architects of the baroque period worked. This masterpiece has just been reopened to the public after long and careful restoration works on both the buildings and the gardens. Don't miss the installations by Giuseppe Penone, a master of Arte Povera.

The **Ducal Castle in Aglié** is an elegant baroque construction designed by Amedeo di Castellamonte and Ignazio Birago di Borgaro. The park is divided into an English-style area and an Italian-style one, wonderful examples of landscape architecture.

# A land of dames and knights.



All of the Torino area is dotted with fortresses and castles, indelible signs of history going by, fascinating memory of those who inhabited these places. The Fort of Exilles stands out sternly at the centre of the Valle di Susa: it was built in 1155 to check the border; among its most famous prisoners it boasts the mysterious *Iron Mask*. Higher up, in Bardonecchia, you run into the Fort of Bramafam, an example of a military construction from the end of the nineteenth century. In Val Chisone there is the Fort of Fenestrelle: it was wanted around 1720 by Vittorio Amedeo II and is the largest fortified structure in Europe and the largest brickwork after the Great Wall of China.

Pralormo Castle was built for defence purposes in the fourteenth century and was turned into a residence and representation building in the second half of the nineteenth century, when the small rose garden, already quoted in a text from 1574, became a romantic English-style park, which is to this day a must for flower lovers, especially when the bulbs of "Messer Tulipano" bloom. Masino Castle, heritage of FAI (*Fondo per l'Ambiente Italiano* – Italian Fund for the Environment) dominates the uncontaminated plain of the Canavese area. The richly furnished salons and the spectacular park perfectly portray the period between the seventeenth and eighteenth century, but the history of this castle goes even further back: the ashes of Arduino d'Ivrea, first king of Italy, are kept in the internal chapel. Mazzé Castle is an imposing complex made up of two factory bodies built between 1200 and 1800. The Museo della Tortura (Torture Museum), conceived in collaboration with Amnesty International, is located in the old medieval dungeons: it is a unique collection which brings one to reflect upon the limits of human savagery and to deepen one's knowledge of a dark period of history.

## did you know?

The imposing "castle with red towers" in Ivrea was built in 1358 upon the orders of Amedeo VI di Savoia, known as Conte Verde, in the high part of the town, which had been the centre of political and religious power since the Middle Ages. In 1676 lightning fell on the donjon, bringing about an explosion that caused many deaths and irreparable damage to the tower itself, which has been severed ever since.

# Small art cities.



The vast area around Torino is dotted with real jewels: small art cities where one runs into marvellous works and spectacular landscapes, superb vestiges of past splendour and refined examples of craftwork, the pleasures of good food and great wines.

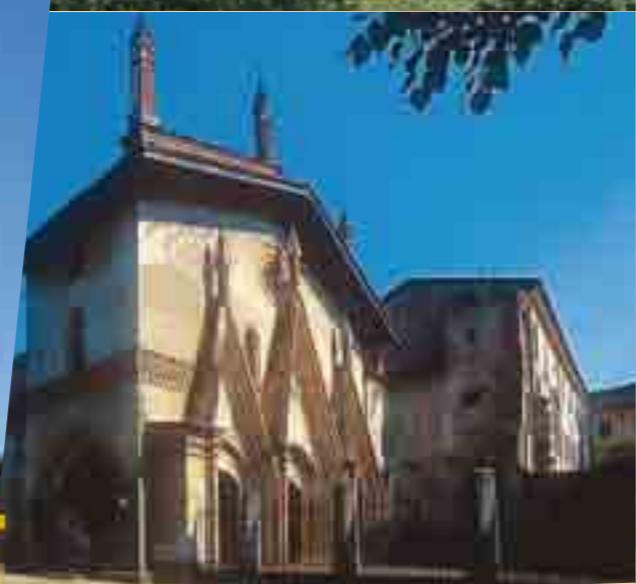
These towns, immersed in nature and easy to reach from Torino, will put you in touch with the extraordinary local traditions, the fruit of the industrious skills of the peoples who have always lived in these areas. West of Torino you will find Rivoli, the medieval town of Avigliana, Giaveno and Susa, but also Pinerolo, Torre Pellice and Cavour, that rises in the centre of the plane with a magnificent fortress.

Just beyond the hills of Torino you can discover Chieri and its long history in the textile industry; to the south there are the towns of Moncalieri and Carmagnola, while in the Canavese and Valli di Lanzo areas you mustn't miss Chivasso, Ivrea – where you can go from the fourteenth century Conte Verde castle to modern works of rationalist architecture – Aglié, Rivarolo Canavese, Cuorgnè, Cirié with its wonderful gothic cathedral and Lanzo Torinese. These small art cities are ideal for those willing to come across masterpieces that are not so famous, but also for romantic couples and for families with children.

**did you know?**

The eco-historical museum system of the **Waldenses** will allow you to get to know the story of Waldo's followers, who were not granted civil or political rights until 1848. The heart of the Waldensian culture beats in **Torre Pellice**, where the Museum, the House, the Temple, the Cultural Centre and the Library are located.

# Spirituality on the pilgrims' footsteps.



Torino has always had a strong religious vocation, which you can perceive in many highly important sacred places. The Shroud, the cloth in which it is said that Christ's body was wrapped, is kept in San Giovanni Battista's Cathedral. The Consolata Sanctuary, with a very unusual gallery of hand-painted ex-votos, and the Maria Ausiliatrice Basilica, founded by St. Giovanni Bosco, the educator who committed his life to young people, are the protagonists of popular devoutness. Many churches in Torino are also art-history jewels, such as San Lorenzo, with the surprising cupola by Guarino Guarini and Gran Madre di Dio, in neoclassical style.

Since the Middle Ages, Piemonte has been a privileged way of reaching Rome, the centre of Christianity. *Via Francigena* has a profound meaning in the history of faith and it crosses the area with two paths rich in monasteries, abbeys and churches that the pilgrims used to rely on as intermediary stops. You can visit them to discover evocative beauties in a peaceful atmosphere: from Sacra di San Michele – an imposing fortified monastery from the eleventh century that dominates the entrance into Valle di Susa and is the symbol of Piemonte – to the Abbey of Novalesa, from Sant'Antonio di Ranverso to the Carthusian monastery of Montebenedetto, from the Romanesque complex of Pieve di San Lorenzo and Battistero di San Giovanni, in Settimo Vittone, to the San Martino di Paerno church tower, in Bollengo.

**did you know?**

**Sacro Monte di Belmonte**, built in the eighteenth century and declared "World Heritage" by UNESCO in 2003, is a sanctuary around which a devotional itinerary, punctuated by thirteen chapels dedicated to the Mysteries of the Rosary, unfolds. For believers, but also for those who are just seeking peace and spirituality, the **sanctuaries of the Valli di Lanzo**, gems built by faith in the immensity of the mountain landscape, are a must to explore.

The **Museo Diocesano d'Arte Sacra** (Diocesan Museum of Sacred Art) in Susa presents works of considerable historical and artistic prestige: objects from the Treasures of the Cathedral, from the Treasure of Madonna del Ponte church and from the Treasure of the diocese in Susa.

# A spectacle of snow and ice.



Do you want to relive Olympic emotions? Do you want to measure up against the icy slopes that saw the Olympic athletes shine? The venues built in Torino for the occasion are a heritage that is now at the service of citizens and tourists: Palavela and Stadio del Ghiaccio are now able to host international events and skating enthusiasts.

Stretches of white snow, slopes of shining ice, blue skies, sparkling air... The Alps of Torino offer you a spectacular landscape right from the first snowfall. Since the Olympic Games spotlighted these places, every winter-sports lover has dreamt of measuring himself against the slopes and the facilities in which champions from 84 countries competed. You are spoiled for choice: the Olympic Mountains include the Susa, Chisone, Germanasca and Pellice valleys. The Royal Mountains, on the other hand, are further north and are made up of the Valli di Lanzo and the Canavese areas, with the Orco, Soana and Chiusella valleys: marvellous landscapes that reach their peak with Gran Paradiso National Park.

In Torre Pellice there is a solid hockey-playing tradition: thousands of spectators regularly crowd the Palaghiaccio to watch the competitions. For those who want to enjoy themselves with broomball, a very unusual team sport, the ideal place is the Palaghiaccio in Pinerolo, open also for amateur and competitive skating. As well as these venues, built for the 2006 Games, you can take advantage of various outdoor facilities and skating rinks.

## did you know?

**Gran Paradiso National Park**, which originated from the game preserve created by king Vittorio Emanuele II to protect the Steinbock (at the time in danger of extinction), is the oldest in Italy. The small village of Ceresole, which gave the king the right over the area, has been titled "Reale" (Royal) since then.

Val di Viù, Val d'Ala and Val Grande are reunited under the denomination "**Valli di Lanzo**", authentic sets of woods and streams, rocky peaks, stretches of snow and enchanting villages just a few kilometres away from Torino.

# Having fun at high altitudes.

If you love to ski this is your ideal destination: sparkling slopes, with technologically advanced ski-lifts and a system of programmed snowmaking that makes it possible to have always perfect snow, over 100 km of runs for cross-country skiing for experts and beginners, snowparks for the evolutions of snowboarding lovers. The daring off-piste skiers, may want to practice freeriding and mountaineering skiing on spectacular itineraries, that can also be reached by heli-skiing. Do you have an unlimited reserve of energy? Here some slopes are lighted for night-time skiing. And if you love speed, abandon your skis and get on a snowcat. Don't forget, though, that in this area you can practice all winter sports. To immerse yourself in nature, take up walks with snowshoes, also known as "ciaspole", or experience the excitement of the sled dog, the sleigh pulled by dogs. It will thus be possible for you to penetrate into the natural sanctuary of the woods, to admire breathtaking views and breath in the pure air of these valleys in total silence. If you are discreet, you will also be lucky enough to spy wild animals in their natural habitat.

**Vialattea** is a vast skiing area that unites Pragelato, Monginevro, Sauze d'Oulx, Claviere, San Sicario, Cesana and Sestriere: 400 km of slopes, 60% of which have programmed snowmaking, 4 snowparks, 12 ski schools, 50 km of slopes for cross-country skiing, an endless amount of paths to cover with "ciaspole" (snowshoes) and a fun park area for children.

Very many activities and events to enjoy your stay the most: every winter the area changes into a real snow-amusement park.

The Bardonecchia area is made up of the areas of Jafferau, Melezet and Campo Smith: it offers 100 km of slopes and a highly modern snowpark with a half pipe. The ski stations of Pragelato, Prali, Pian del Frais and Pian Neiretto offer all kinds of comforts in a welcoming alpine dimension.



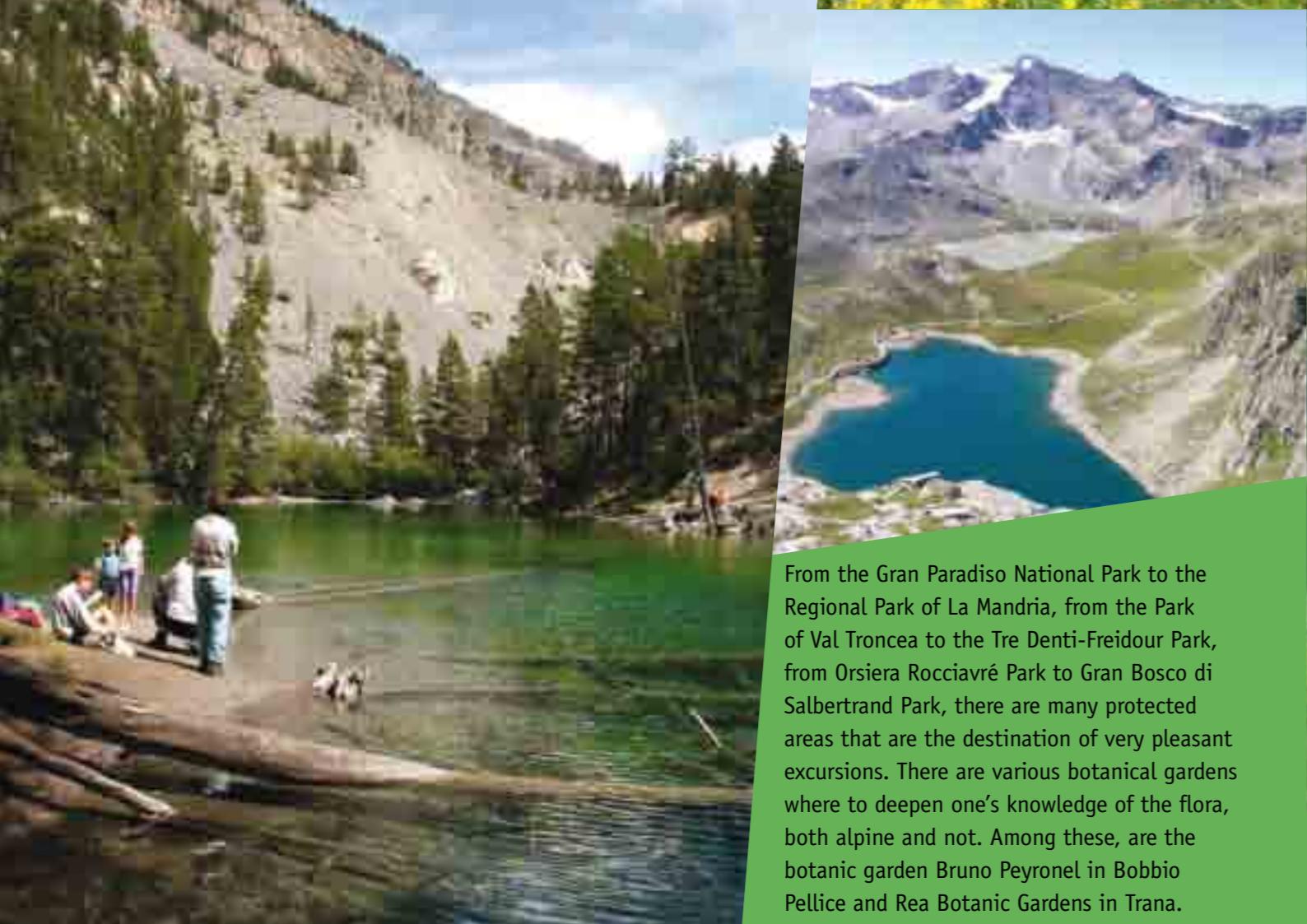
Ice can also give you much satisfaction. Evocative outdoor slopes are side-by-side with the facilities for enthusiasts of speed and figure skating, hockey and curling; to test your limits, on the other hand, there is nothing better than ice climbing, that is climbing on ice falls; while for daring races that are impossible elsewhere, ice slopes for cars have been set up.



## did you know?

In Cesana, the brave can use the **Olympic bobsledding slope** to whizz down at 100 km an hour, an exciting and totally safe activity: they are driven by professional pilots. The runway of one of the Olympic springboards in Pragelato can also be used by children for snow-tubing, very entertaining descents on special rubber dinghies.

# The colours of nature, the pleasure of summer.



From the Gran Paradiso National Park to the Regional Park of La Mandria, from the Park of Val Troncea to the Tre Denti-Freidour Park, from Orsiera Rocciavré Park to Gran Bosco di Salbertrand Park, there are many protected areas that are the destination of very pleasant excursions. There are various botanical gardens where to deepen one's knowledge of the flora, both alpine and not. Among these, are the botanic garden Bruno Peyronel in Bobbio Pellice and Rea Botanic Gardens in Trana.



Summer light is ideal for appreciating the variety of landscapes surrounding Torino: from the imposing Olympic Mountains to the pristine Royal Mountains; the *Anfiteatro Morenico di Ivrea* (Morainic Amphitheatre of Ivrea) must also be mentioned, a very unusual geologic formation born from the shifting of Balteo glacier, that hosts the Provincial Park of Candia Lake, Lake Viverone and the Five Ivrea Lakes, true natural jewels. Two other beautiful stretches of water are the Lakes of Avigliana, at the entrance to the Valle di Susa: the smaller of the two is surrounded by cane thickets, fields and woods, while the bigger one is ideal for water sports.

The hills of Torino surround the eastern side of the city, reaching an altitude of 720 metres. An enhancement project has made it possible to create a network of paths and itineraries connected to the parks of the region: a unique trip through nature with various scenic points, allowing wonderful walks or bicycle rides straight from the city centre.

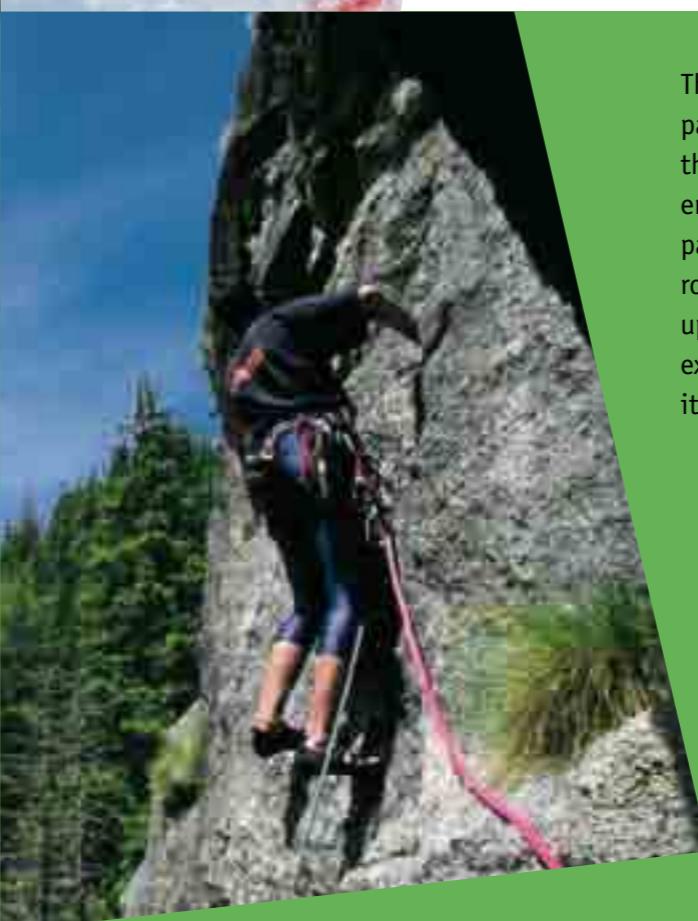
## did you know?

Include in one of your excursions the **Ponte del Diavolo** (Devil's Bridge) in **Lanzo Torinese**: it is about 16 metres tall with a "donkey's back" span of about 37 metres and it was such a daring job to accomplish that according to legend it was built by the devil himself in just one night.

# 360° of sports.



All water sports can also be practiced in Torino and its surroundings. The first Italian rowing club was founded here in 1863: the athletes of historical clubs and rowers of every age measure up against the Po river, in the heart of the town, or in the spectacular setting of Lake Candia. To throw oneself into the steep slopes for rafting and canyoning, it is enough to venture into the valleys, rich in swift torrents. On the Lago Grande in Avigliana you can also practice water skiing, sailing, motor-boating and sport fishing. And don't forget that there are wonderful streams throughout the province for fishing.



The Olympic Mountains and Royal Mountains offer a broad range of possibilities for sport and free time also in summer. Are you a golf enthusiast? Choose among the many golf courses at your disposal: there are ten mantles of grass in the province of Torino. Do you love trekking? You can walk along the paths marked out for different levels, but also visit artistic beauties with the initiative *Trekking in città*. Do you find horse-back riding relaxing? Numerous itineraries, from the plane to the mountains, will make you relive atmospheres of bygone times amidst the colours and smells of the area.

Do you aim high up by nature? Mountaineering and climbing will allow you to conquer rocky counterforts and imposing peaks. And...back with our feet on the ground: those who wish to hover in the skies can practice paragliding and hang-gliding. If, on the other hand, you prefer to explore the underground, there are many caves of remarkable interest for speleologists: in the high Valle di Susa the area of Monte Seguret has a series of large caves, while in the Valli di Lanzo there is the longest cave in Italy ever formed in the calcareous schist, Borna di Pugnetto.

There are many itineraries for bicycle lovers: long cycle paths that start in the city, fantastic mountain slopes for the fittest, paths and mule tracks for mountain-biking enthusiasts, who can enjoy many exciting routes with panoramic views or breathtaking descents along the downhill routes of the Olympic Mountains Bike Park, where one goes up by ski-lift. Horse-back riders will also be satisfied, with extremely well-maintained riding grounds and exciting itineraries through nature.

did you know?

If you want to **go up to the mountain peak the old-fashioned way**, you can benefit from the initiative *Me na vòta* ("As in old times" in local dialect): the programme consists of a journey by bicycle from the plane, through the hills, up to the head of Val d'Ala (one of the Valli di Lanzo) or up to Gran Paradiso park, the only "4,000" that is entirely Italian. From there you climb up along the paths that made mountaineering history.

# All the taste of tradition.



Do you want to taste local specialties? Look for "I Prodotti del Paniere della provincia di Torino", a brand created to include all the agricultural and food products that are part of the historical tradition of the area and are the fruit of artisan processing with local raw materials. In the Paniere there are many PAT (*Prodotti Agroalimentari Tradizionali* – Traditional agricultural and food products); DOP (*Denominazione d'Origine Protetta* – Protected Denomination of Origin) and DOC (*Denominazione d'Origine Controllata* – Registered Designation of Origin) products, true certified delicacies.

*Tomini elettrici* (white cheese with spicy sauce), *agnolotti al sugo d'arrosto* (pasta filled with meat, in a roast sauce), *fritto misto alla piemontese* (a blend of fried meats), the great *bollito misto* (boiled meat with boiled vegetables) and the highly original *bagna caoda*, a sauce made with garlic, olive oil and anchovies, which is eaten with local vegetables: a trip to Torino is a trip...through taste. The tables of the region are in fact sumptuously laid with dishes not to be missed: local hors-d'oeuvres, tasty first courses, cheeses, *salumi* (salami and cold pork meat), excellent quality meat and desserts that have made history.

There are endless opportunities to taste these delicacies: trattorias (small restaurants), wine-bars and restaurants dot every part of the town and its surroundings: pick the one that suits you best.



## did you know?

**Stelle del Piemonte** is a unique project of its kind: a team made up of the best chefs in the region, that Regione Piemonte chose as ambassadors of Piedmontese excellence, is a protagonist of gourmet and cultural events in Italy and all over the world.

It is said that "*grissini*" were created to help the young Vittorio Amedeo II, who was particularly delicate in health. This crunchy and digestible bread, with its typical oblong shape, is said to have been good for him, and since then it has been a local specialty.

# Scents and flavours of great wines.



A long tradition in the treatment of alpine aromatic and officinal herbs has produced unmistakable liqueurs and distillates: *Genepy*, the very old *Grappa di Chiaverano*, *Elisir del Prete*, *Serpoul*, obtained from maceration in wild thyme alcohol, *Barathier*, a potion made up of seven varieties of flowers and herbs, and *Ghinivert*, a liqueur made from alpine herbs in Val Chisone.



There are no two ways about it: the Turinese know how to enjoy life! Just observe them at "aperitivo" hour: groups of friends, colleagues leaving the office, couples and families... they all join this joyful ritual in wine-bars, cafés and their terraces. You must also sip a glass of wine or a cocktail with many savoury delicacies, for a snack before dinner to discover the flavours of the area: "*tagliere di salumi e formaggi*" (board of salami and cold pork meat and cheeses) to be eaten with "*grissini rubata*", vegetable pies, grilled peppers, "*acciughe al verde*" (anchovies with green sauce) and "*vitello tonnato*" (meat with tuna sauce), an unusual blend of meat and fish that has become a classic.

Your visit is the right occasion to savour famous Piedmontese wines, such as Barolo and Barbaresco and the excellent DOC (Registered Designation of Origin) wines from the region: Carema, which comes from the steep mountain slopes, the fresh and fruity Doux D'Henry, dry or sweet Freisa, Bonarda, Cari and Erbaluce, the first white wine to receive this acknowledgement 40 years ago, Ramie and finally Caluso Passito, a well-balanced and velvety toast for the best desserts.

## did you know?

**Erbaluce** is a grape that has been described by experts since the seventeenth century. With a careful selection during the harvest, only the healthy and ripe bunches of grapes are chosen to produce Passito: the grapes are placed on rush matting or hung from the peduncle in ventilated rooms ("passitaie") and left to wither until March, when they are pressed.

The **vini del ghiaccio** (ice wines) from the Valle di Susa, very sought-after and enjoying great international success, come from an extreme form of wine-making: the harvest takes place in the heart of winter, when the temperature at night often goes below zero. The result is a wine with special qualities of sweetness, balance and aromatic concentration.

Many cocktails that people drink all over the world are made with **vermouth**, a spiced white wine invented precisely here by Benedetto Carpano in 1786. To discover the formula and the production system, just visit Museo Carpano.



The *gofri* are typical crunchy wafers from the Chisone and Germanasca valleys, baked between two iron plates shaped like a bees' nest. They used to be served for popular feasts, but now this delicacy is eaten all year round with *salumi* (salami and cold pork meat), cheese, jams and marmalades, chocolate or honey.

# Tasty treats.

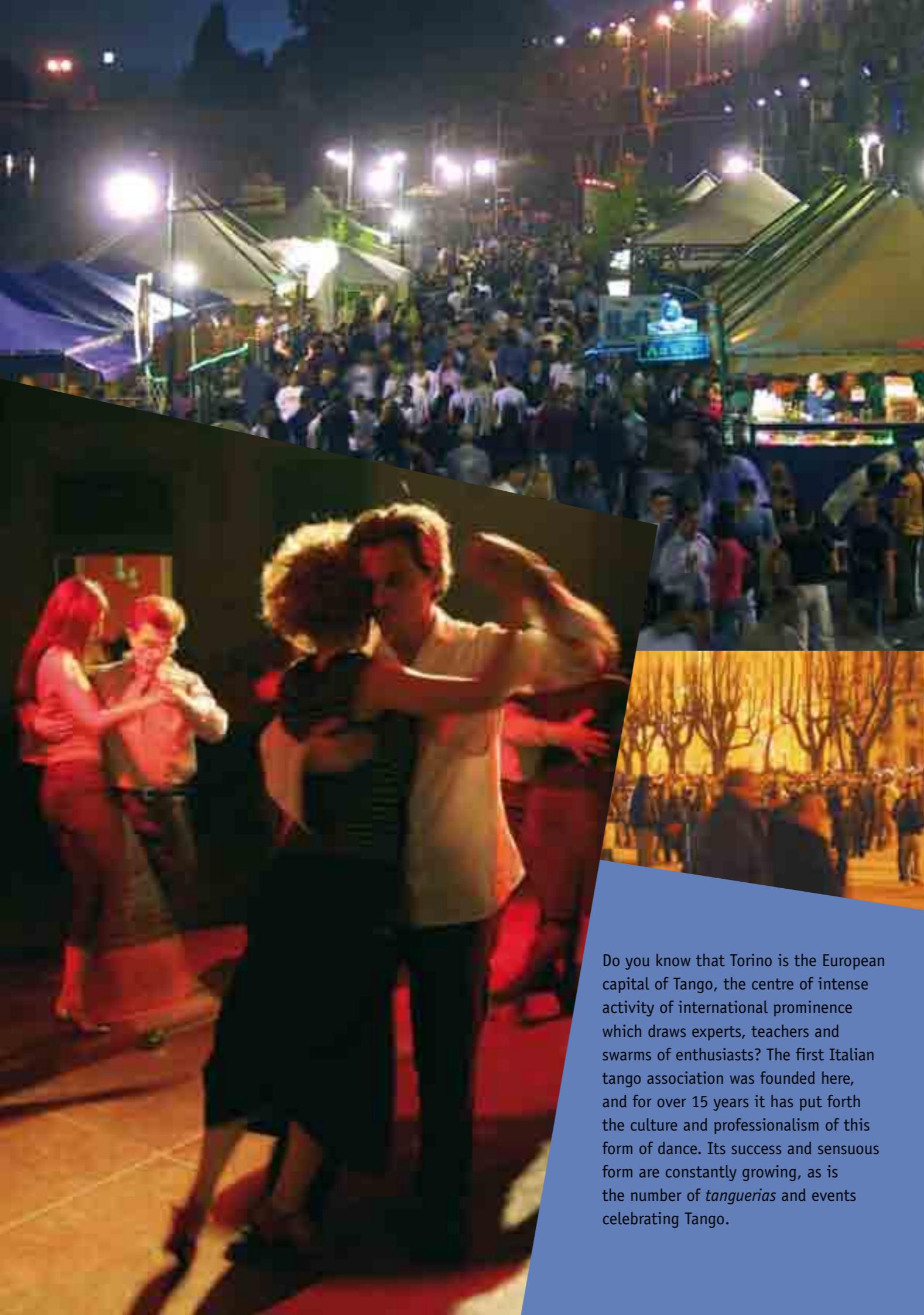
Filled pralines and perfumed cakes, original little biscuits and tasty drinks... those who love sweets will find heaven here: no other place can boast such a deep-rooted tradition, craftsmen so creative and such a widespread passion for chocolate and pastry-making. Come and enjoy delights that have become famous all over the world, including the "*gianduotti*", that originated in Napoleonic times from the balanced blend of cocoa and "round and gentle" hazelnuts. Go into one of the many historic cafés under

the arches or into the gracious little squares, imagine you are an elegant dame from the nineteenth century or a character from the Risorgimento and enjoy a *bicerin* (coffee with chocolate and milk cream), the drink officially recognized as "traditionally Turinese", but also a hot chocolate with cream or the tantalizing *zabaglione*. You can savour them with locally produced biscuits, like the tiny *Nocciolini* from Chivasso, *Torcetti* from Lanzo and the *Canestrelli*, with different local variations all over the province. If you feel like savour a very special treat, taste the *Focaccia di Susa* on the mountainside and the *Focaccia di Chieri* on the hillside.

**did you know?**

Thanks to the generosity of nature and respect for ancient crafts, the **honey** produced in the province is excellent quality. You can find chestnut, rhododendron, linden and wildflower honey, among others.

# Night and day without ever stopping.



Do you know that Torino is the European capital of Tango, the centre of intense activity of international prominence which draws experts, teachers and swarms of enthusiasts? The first Italian tango association was founded here, and for over 15 years it has put forth the culture and professionalism of this form of dance. Its success and sensuous form are constantly growing, as is the number of *tanguerias* and events celebrating Tango.

After enjoying the excellent food and delicious wines that the area offers you for *aperitivo* and for dinner, choose how to spend the rest of the evening: you can listen to classical music, pop and jazz, chat in the wine-bars, watch theatre performances or dance until dawn. In the city, the Po, Murazzi, Borgo Dora and Quadrilatero Romano host trendy meeting-places where art and music, food and design form a whole that makes the night even more sparkly, while in the neighbourhood you will find pubs, bars and discos where thousands of people meet up to share joyful moments: join them for a lively and fascinating experience.

## did you know?

**Quadrilatero Romano** is the oldest part of Torino and it summarizes all its history: from Roman domination to the Risorgimento, through the Middle Ages. This area of town, which once was in the outskirts of the city, is today one of the trendiest to spend the evening.

**Palazzo delle Feste in Bardonecchia**, built at the beginning of the twentieth century as a big amusement salon, has been completely renovated: its outside appearance, in Art Nouveau, has remained unaltered, but the rooms are now equipped with the most advanced technologies for performances and events.

The **Via Borgo Dora** area also offers new world flavours, as well as the historic "trattorie" that keep ancient traditions alive, new world flavours in the numerous multi-ethnic shops. **Cortile del Maglio** is particularly interesting to visit before a tasty dinner; a giant industrial find dominates the centre of this courtyard. Furthermore, every year, throughout the month of December, it hosts a traditional Christmas market.

**Casa Olimpia** in Sestriere, a former roadmen's house renovated on the occasion of the Winter Olympics to become "Casa Provincia", now hosts a rich programme of events.

# Choose how to spoil yourself.



For all lovers of green tourism, the Olympic Mountains, the Valli di Lanzo and Valli del Canavese offer many opportunities for a totally relaxing holiday, a stone's throw away from the art treasures of Torino and its surrounding area: holiday farms immersed in the greenery where you can savour healthy food and live in contact with nature.



There is nothing better than shopping in a city that has 18 km of arcades. The arcades of Torino were built in the sixteenth century for the walks of the royal court and today they make every wish come true: from the great "Made in Italy"

brands, to food-and-wine delicacies, from the offers of fine antiques to cafés in which to take a break. You also mustn't miss Porta Palazzo, the largest open air market in Europe, a riot of colours and perfumes. In the mundane resorts of the valleys, you will also get satisfaction out of fashionable accessories, knowingly crafted objects, delicatessens and sporting equipments. And for a relaxing treat before a sparkly evening, you have at your disposal the well-being centres of many hotels, as well as charming Turkish baths: an experience you mustn't miss to fully enjoy your Turinese experience.

did you know?

Torino and all the towns of its province regularly **host fairs and flea markets**, rich in typical manufactured articles and bits-and-bobs. The Piedmontese go there a lot and you will also be able to spend pleasant hours hunting for odd objects and food-and-wine treats.

The **Balòn**, the biggest antique market in Torino, is every Saturday: there you can find objects that are not only exquisitely manufactured, but also extremely rare, such as old pens and watches, tin toys and precious books, furniture and carpets from every age. There are interesting opportunities also in the antique shops, concentrated in Via Maria Vittoria and Via della Rocca.

# International events and local pleasures.



Around here there is always something curious to do: exhibitions, appointments, historical commemorations and traditional holidays alternate all year round, in the towns as well as the valleys. In February you can't miss the "Storico Carnevale di Ivrea" (Historic Ivrea Carnival) with the famous "Oranges Battle"; for sports lovers, there are various events to take note of, like the skiing World Cup, snowboarding, bobsleighing and skeleton on the Olympic Mountains and the World Canoeing Championships in Ivrea. Do you want to treat yourself to the food of the gods? In February "CioccolaTò" is for you. If you also want to delight your mind, in May you have an appointment with your favourite authors at the "Fiera Internazionale del Libro" (International Book Fair) and in November with the *Torino Film Festival*. Finally, from November to January, *Contemporary Arts Torino Piemonte* turns the city into an open air museum with "Luci d'Artista", lighting installations by the most important international artists.

Summer in the Torino province is so rich that it is impossible to name all the initiatives: music, theatre, outdoor cinemas... performances of all kinds to enjoy the green of the parks or the marvellous sets of the "piazze". To discover excellent local products visit the "Rassegna dell'artigianato del Pinerolese" (Pinerolo crafts fair), to taste authentic mountain products there is "GustoValsusa", a fair for the gluttonous spreading from May to November, the "Mostra regionale della Toma di Lanzo e dei formaggi d'alpeggio" (Regional exhibition of the Toma di Lanzo and of mountain pasture cheeses), which takes place in July in Usseglio. Autumn also offers a vast choice. Here we shall just recall the commemoration of the legendary story of the *Maschera di Ferro* (Iron Mask), who spent twelve years in the prison of Pinerolo, "Tuttomele" (Apple Fair) in Cavour and the "Sagra del Cavolo Verza" (Verza Cabbage Fair) in Montalto Dora.

## did you know?

Does a shiver run through your spine when the curtain rises? Torino invites you to choose between opera at Teatro Regio, the concerts of MITO Settembre Musica, of the Orchestra Sinfonica Nazionale della RAI and Associazione Lingotto Musica, Eurojazz Festival in Ivrea and many **theatre and dance** performances.

In October the **Salone del Gusto** and **Terra Madre** bring to Torino professionals and enthusiasts of the best food-and-wine production in the world. This event, which takes place every other year and is now at the seventh edition, offers the opportunity to get to know every aspect of this topic through workshops and tastings: raw materials, homemade products, great wines and local specialties.

The Olympic Mountains offer **sport** enthusiasts many intoxicating opportunities. "Tour dell'Assietta" is a spectacular mountain-biking race that takes place on the highest military road in Europe, covering six hills above 2,000 metres. The Pinerolo International Horse Shows are worth mentioning, as well as the Carton Rapid Race on the Dora Riparia river and the Cesana-Sestriere race for historic cars.

# Great surprises for little ones.



This winter do you want to take your kids skiing? Choose the destinations of the Olympic Mountains and Royal Mountains and you will be delighted: ski schools with specialized teachers, descents with bobsleighs, sledges and dinghies, equipped areas conceived specifically for the little ones and the possibility of alternating sport with curious visits to castles, fortresses and ecomuseums.

Travelling with children in the Torino area is a real pleasure: there are very many entertaining possibilities for families. Kids who are interested in nature can start with the rich collection of stuffed animals, insects and minerals in the Museo di Scienze Naturali (Natural Science Museum), continue by visiting the Museo della Frutta (Fruit Museum), where faithful reproductions from the nineteenth century can be admired, and then go on to discover the exciting history of the conquest of peaks at the Museo Nazionale della Montagna (National Mountain Museum). And if the desire to walk among marmots, steinbocks overtakes them, you can go to the Canavese and Valli di Lanzo areas, where the *TurismoBambino* programme offers the little ones itineraries and initiatives in nature and in search of local culture, from ancient crafts to medieval habits.

For the enthusiasts of starry skies, the Parco Astronomico Infini-To (Infini-To Astronomical Park) reveals the mysteries of the universe. A come Ambiente (A for Ambiente – Environment) is, on the other hand, an interactive museum that makes it possible to learn, through games, the many useful rules of environmental education, while the didactic laboratories of Rivoli Castle, GAM (Civic Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art), Palazzo Bricherasio, Fondazione Accorsi and Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo are conceived for all the children who love art. If they are fond of the seventh art, the Museo Nazionale del Cinema (National Museum of Cinema) is the ideal place to discover the secrets of images in movement, right from the beginnings of the "magic lanterns".

## did you know?

In the **Museo della Scuola e del Libro per l'Infanzia** (School and Childrens' Books Museum), in Palazzo Barolo, one is thrown into the 1881/82 school year, the year in which the book Cuore takes place: it is exciting for children, but no doubt for their parents as well.

For kids wishing to plunge into the past, the most exciting experience is a visit to the **Borgo Medievale**, in the Torino Valentino Park. It was built as a pavilion of the Esposizione Generale Italiana Artistica e Industriale (Italian General Artistic and Industrial Exhibition) of 1884 and inspired by original models from Piemonte and the Valle d'Aosta from the fifteenth century. There are many activities for the little ones, with a dense programme of workshops, lessons, parties and events.

# Tourism for everybody.

The province of Torino shines for the accessibility of the tourist offer: the physically challenged can enjoy most of the artistic and landscape beauties in the area thanks to the commitment of institutions and associations. The initiative *Turismabile* has rated the attractions on the basis of their accessibility for the hearing-impaired and visually-impaired. In many points of interest, specific itineraries have been created and specialized personnel is present. Everybody can discover the marvels of Torino and its surroundings, from the Mole Antonelliana with the Museo Nazionale del Cinema (National Museum of Cinema), to the Museo Egizio (Egyptian Museum), from Fondazione Accorsi to Rivoli Castle with the Museo d'Arte Contemporanea (Museum of Contemporary Art), from the Fort of Fenestrelle to the Scoprinimiera (Discover the Mine ecomuseum) in Prali and the Museo Diocesano (Diocesan Museum) in Susa.



# Holidays à la carte.

## Torino+Piemonte Card

**Torino+Piemonte Card** offers you the keys to the city... and the whole region. For a period varying from 2 to 7 days you can move freely amongst the beauties of Torino and Piemonte, while saving money. Free admission to more than 160 cultural sites as well as free transportation on public and tourist means of transport in Torino. Furthermore there are reductions on many cultural and sporting activities and a Junior Card at a special rate for under 18.



## Weekend in & around Torino

**Weekend in & around Torino** is an extraordinary opportunity to turn your weekend into a true vacation. Choose where to sleep from the many participating hotels in Torino and surrounding area and benefit from this formula featuring two nights -breakfast included- and a 2-day Torino-Piemonte Card for each adult, as well as many wonderful surprises. And if you decide to stay one night more, take advantage of even better rates!

## Tour in & around Torino

**Tour in & around Torino** is the solution to the dilemmas of every traveler: better be alone or in good company? Choose among the various itineraries proposed: in Torino enjoy the tour of the historical centre and of the Museo Egizio (Egyptian Museum) or pick one of the many Theme Tours. And don't miss out on the chance to take a beautiful trip out of town to discover abbeys and castles, ecomuseums and forts.



## Made in Torino. Tour the Excellent

**Made in Torino. Tour the Excellent**, A unique route to discover the productive excellence of the city and the surrounding areas. For the first time in Italy, the main town in Piemonte and its province open up the doors of their most prestigious companies to offer you a glimpse of their methods and secrets: from the automotive world to the stars of design, from the crafting of pens to the aerospace adventure and the temptations of food and wine. An itinerary lasting about three hours, on board a bus, with Torino's industry taking the leading role.

## ChocoPass

**ChocoPass** is your passport to the endless seductions of chocolate: the delicious set of coupons offers you 23 tastings to be savoured in 3 days. Gianduotti, pralines, cakes, biscuits, ice creams and hot chocolate: the best chocolate production awaits you in the historical cafés and patisseries of Torino. And for an aristocratic treat give in to the temptation of the Merende Reali: the gourmand appointments that conquered the Savoy court.

## did you know?

Many tourist and accommodation facilities are equipped for users with special needs, from the motor disabled to the sensory disabled, to those who need constant medical care.



## did you know?

There are many sporting activities that the disabled can practice in this area. In the beautiful setting of the *Anfiteatro Morenico di Ivrea* (Morainic Amphitheatre of Ivrea) there are 9 itineraries without barriers, while in Ceresole Reale the Gran Paradiso National Park has made the itinerary "I sensi in gioco" ("The senses at play") usable; it is one of the first Italian nature paths that are equipped also for the visually-impaired and partially-sighted.

Furthermore, in the whole area you can find horse-racing clubs and schools of mountain biking with specialized instructors. Finally on the Olympic Mountains one can learn and practice numerous sports: tandem-skiing, uni-skiing, dual-skiing and skiing for the visually-impaired, downhill skiing, paragliding, water skiing, hand biking and quad.



## Gourmet in & around Torino

**Gourmet in & around Torino** is an alluring occasion to enjoy our best food and drink tradition at convenient prices. Choose from the menus specially intended for "Tavole del Sapore": the participating restaurants in and around Torino propose delicious local specialties and international cuisine accompanied by cordial and friendly hospitality. Make the most of this great opportunity!

## City Sightseeing Torino

**City Sightseeing Torino** is a true companion of your journey in Torino. Thanks to this "panoramic" double-decker bus you can discover the city's many souls, planning your visit according to your interests. The whole tour, featuring a 6-language audio system, takes one hour but you can hop-on and hop-off whenever you wish. Take it...easy!



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