

MAGIC

The Gathering

GRAND PRIX VERONA



GP Verona 2013 Travel Guide

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Summary

| | |
|---|----|
| Introducing Verona..... | 5 |
| - Language and communication | 5 |
| - Italian numbers..... | 5 |
| - Simple sentences..... | 5 |
| - General tips..... | 6 |
| Get to Verona | 7 |
| - Flights | 7 |
| 1) Verona Airport (Catullo) | 7 |
| 2) Venezia Airport (Marco Polo) | 7 |
| 3) Bergamo Airport (Orio al Serio)..... | 7 |
| - Trains..... | 7 |
| - Cars | 7 |
| The Event Site | 8 |
| - Location | 8 |
| - How to get there..... | 8 |
| Hotels | 9 |
| - Staff Hotel | 9 |
| - Hotels near the event | 9 |
| - Cheap accommodations..... | 10 |
| Visiting Verona..... | 11 |
| - A Proposed Tour..... | 11 |
| - Center map | 13 |
| - Monuments or buildings | 12 |
| - Close cities..... | 17 |
| - Public Transportation | 18 |
| Food and Drink | 19 |
| - Food..... | 19 |
| - Drink | 19 |
| - Nightlife..... | 19 |
| Local Games Stores | 20 |

Introducing Verona

Verona is a city (pop. ~250,000) in northeastern Italy's Veneto region most famous as the setting for Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. Though close to the more popular tourist destination of Venice, many people consider Verona a more relaxed and pleasant place to visit. There are many tourists, but the number of tourists per square meter is lower.

- Language and communication

Local language is Italian (obviously).

In high school people study either English or French, so you should expect to be understood if you speak any of these language. Do not expect high English proficiency especially in elderly people. Verona is a touristic city, so you may find a higher probability of people speaking a good English, especially in the city center.

- Italian numbers

| | | | | | | | |
|----|---------|----|-------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|------------|
| 1 | Uno | 11 | Undici | 21, 22... | Ventuno, ventidue... | 200 | Duecento |
| 2 | Due | 12 | Dodici | ... | | 300 | Trecento |
| 3 | Tre | 13 | Tredici | 30 | Trenta | ... | |
| 4 | Quattro | 14 | Quattordici | 40 | Quaranta | 1000 | Mille |
| 5 | Cinque | 15 | Quindici | 50 | Cinquanta | 2000 | Duemila |
| 6 | Sei | 16 | Sedici | 60 | Sessanta | ... | |
| 7 | Sette | 17 | Diciassette | 70 | Settanta | 10000 | Diecimila |
| 8 | Otto | 18 | Diciotto | 80 | Ottanta | 100000 | Centomila |
| 9 | Nove | 19 | Diciannove | 90 | Novanta | 100000000 | Un milione |
| 10 | Dieci | 20 | Venti | 100 | Cento | | |

- Simple sentences

| English | Italian | English | Italian |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>See you tomorrow!</i> | A domani! | <i>How're you doing?</i> | Come va? |
| <i>See you soon!</i> | A presto! | <i>How are you?</i> | Come stai / state? |
| <i>Goodbye!</i> | Arrivederci! | <i>We're feeling fine.</i> | Ci sentiamo bene. |
| <i>Good morning!</i> | Buongiorno! | <i>Hi! / Bye!</i> | Ciao! |
| <i>Good afternoon!</i> | Buon pomeriggio! | <i>Where are you from?</i> | Di dove sei? |
| <i>Good night!</i> | Buonanotte! | <i>Pleased to meet you!</i> | Piacere di conoscerti! |
| <i>Where is the toilet?</i> | Dov'è il bagno? | <i>Thanks!</i> | Grazie! |
| <i>We have been here for a week.</i> | Siamo qui da una settimana. | <i>Do you need an Italian judge?</i> | Volete un arbitro italiano? |

- General tips

International phone code: +39

Time zone: GMT +1

Safety: Verona is a safe place, but please remember always to take care of your wallet and phone in crowded places and on public transportation.

Emergency call: 112 (police), 118 (ambulance), 115 (fire)

Smoking: smoking is prohibited in public spaces (bars, restaurants, train stations, hotels, etc) but not outdoors or on reserved spots.

Tips and service: tips are never mandatory in Italy. If you are particularly happy for the service you received, you may leave a tip directly to the person who served you.

Money: you can use your euros freely. :) In Italy people usually have cash, but credit cards are accepted too (Visa everywhere, American Express seldom).

Electricity: current is at 230V and 50Hz, there are a couple of different plugs (type C and type L)



Get to Verona

- Flights

1) Verona Airport (Catullo)

Link: http://www.aeroporto.verona.it/index_en.asp

Airlines: <http://www.aeroporto.verona.it/en/voli/compagnie.asp>

Distance: **12 km**

Transportation to Verona: buses will take you from **Verona** Airport direct to Verona railway station. It costs **6 €**, and you can buy the ticket directly from the bus driver.

2) Venezia Airport (Marco Polo)

Link: <http://www.veniceairport.it/core/index.jsp?language=en>

Airlines: <http://www.veniceairport.it/save/servizi/compagnieAeree.jsp?m=010104>

Distance: **135 km**

Transportation to Verona: bus from airport to Venezia S. Lucia train station, train to Verona costs about **19 €** and takes about 1:10 hours (fast train - "Freccia Bianca") or about **7.50 €** and 2:15 hours (slow train - "Regionale").

3) Bergamo Airport (Orio al Serio)

Link: <http://tinyurl.com/sacbo>

Airlines: <http://tinyurl.com/sacbo-airlines>

Distance: **120 km**

Transportation to Verona: bus from airport to Bergamo train station, train to Verona costs about **10.00 €** and takes 2:00 hours (slow train - "Regionale").

- Trains

Verona has a single major train station (*Verona Porta Nuova*) and is connected to most Italian cities. From the station there are plenty of buses connecting to most areas.

Link: <http://tinyurl.com/trainticket-IT>

- Cars

Verona is served by two major motorways: **A4** (Milano - Venezia that is west-east connections) and **A22** (Brennero - Modena that is north- south).

Parking is usually free unless you find spots limited by blue lines. In such situations you have to buy a ticket from a machine along the road. Tickets last usually for a couple of hours max; if you want to park longer, you need to buy a second one after the first has expired.

The Event Site



- Location

Verona Fiere – Hall 1

Link: <http://www.veronafiere.it/index-en.php>

(Entrance between the PalaExpo Building & the Verona Fiere tower at the right)

Viale del Lavoro 8

37135 Verona

Italy

- How to get there

By car: <http://www.veronafiere.it/Information/Getting-to-Veronafiere/By-car/>

By bus: take number 21, 61 or 83 from train station.

Hotels

- Staff Hotel

Hotel Corte Ongaro Residence Hotel

Link: <http://www.corteongaro.it>

Address: Via Scuderlando 40 - Verona

Phone: +39 045 820 42 60

Email: info@corteongaro.it

Getting to the tournament: <http://goo.gl/maps/XG7VH>

- Hotels near the event

Crowne Plaza Hotel Verona - Fiera

Link: <http://www.crowneplazaverona.it/>

Price for twin per night: 100 €

Address: Via Belgio 16 - Verona

Phone: +39 045 493 33 33

Email: Info@crowneplazaverona.com

Getting to the tournament: <http://goo.gl/maps/kF4t5>

Hotel San Pietro

Link: <http://www.hotelsanpietroverona.it/>

Price for twin per night: 90 €

Address: Via Santa Teresa 1 - Verona

Phone: +39 045 582 600

Email: info@hotelsanpietroverona.it

Getting to the tournament: <http://goo.gl/maps/RrWkk>

Hotel Fiera

Link: <http://www.hotelfieraverona.biz/>

Price for twin per night: 75 €

Address: via Zannoni 26 - Verona

Phone: +39 045 820 44 85

Email: info@hotelfieraverona.biz

Getting to the tournament: <http://goo.gl/maps/KyH5U>

Hotel Cristallo

Link: <http://www.hotel-cristallo-verona.com/>

Price for twin per night: 60 €

Address: Via Scuderlando 122 - Castel D'Azzano (Verona)

Phone: +39 045 852 09 32

Email: info@cristallovr.com

Getting to the tournament: <http://goo.gl/maps/ttDsJ>

- Cheap accommodations

Youth Hostel "Villa Francescatti"

Link: <http://www.ostelloverona.it/english.html>

Price for person per night: 18 €

Address: Salita Fontana del Ferro 15 - Verona

Phone: +39 045 590 360

Email: info@villafrancescatti.it

Getting to the tournament: <http://goo.gl/maps/dlKHG>

Backpackers Hostel Verona

Link: <http://hostelverona.net/backpackers/index.html>

Price for person per night: 24 €

Address: Piazzale L.A. Scuro 12 - Verona

Phone: +39 393 946 06 82

Email: info@hostelverona.net

Getting to the tournament: <http://goo.gl/maps/Elzx4>

Visiting Verona



Verona was a Roman city, and many Roman ruins have been preserved, notably the Arena. Most of the historical sights to see today date from the past 800 years. If you are keen on art history, Verona offers a golden opportunity to see the transition of Western European art from late medieval to early renaissance styles, with its rich offering of 12-Century churches and art museums. Verona's military importance has also left city fortifications and an excellent castle. Look out for architectural details related to the Scaligeri (or della Scala) family, who ruled the city from the 12th-14th Century - their family emblem is a ladder, and appears in many places around the city (*scala* is Italian for 'ladder').

- A Proposed Tour

This is a quick tour of Verona, that probably you may manage in half a day by foot. The starting point is the tournament location.

Walk always straight from the location (Viale del Lavoro -> Corso porta Nuova) until you reach Piazza Brà, where you may find and visit The Arena (3 km from location). Take Via Mazzini, this is one of the streets with the most amount of shops and halfway through you may turn right in Via Cappello to find Juliet's House (700 m from The Arena) or left for Piazza delle Erbe (700 m from The Arena). Close by be sure to stop also in Piazza Dante (100 m from Piazza delle Erbe), Torre dei Lamberti (in Piazza Dante) and Scaliger Tombs (100 m from Piazza Dante). Finally walk across the Adige river up to Castel San Pietro for a great view of the city center (1.6 km from Scaliger Tombs). On your way back to the location, just west of The Arena you may also find Castelvechio lying on the Adige river (600 m from The Arena).

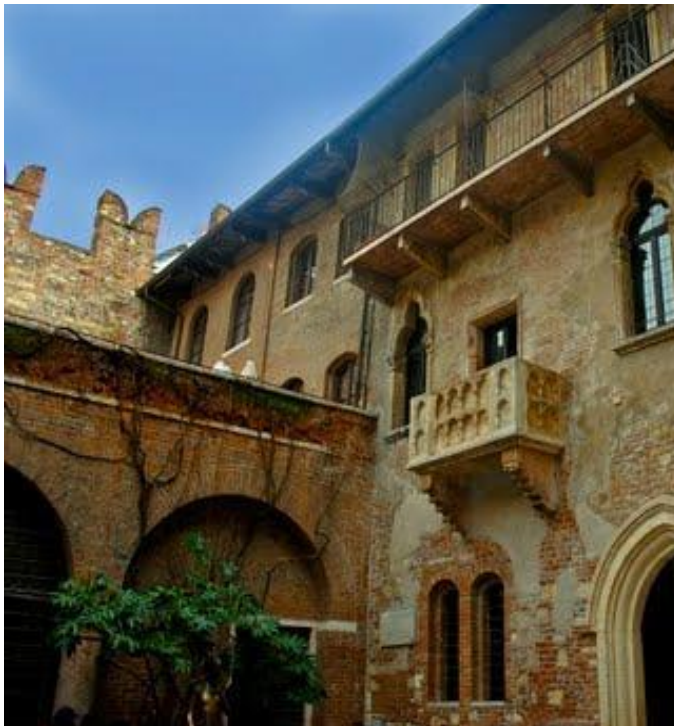
Below you find a short description of each monument and a few more.

Tour Map: <http://goo.gl/maps/2t7v8>

- Monuments or buildings

The Arena: an enormous, spectacular Roman amphitheatre, crumbling on the outside but still functioning today. It was erected in the 1st Century AD in an elliptical shape, and is the world's third-largest amphitheatre to survive from antiquity. Much of the outer ring was damaged during the earthquake of 1117 but the inner part is still intact. If you can, plan your trip during the Opera season and see a performance in the Arena. Off-season you can visit the Opera during the day.

Roman Theatre. (*Teatro Romano*), across the river on the hill, in the north-east of the city. Here theatre performances still take place. It is also the seat of the **Archeological Museum**, which was formerly a church of the Gesuati order.



Juliet's House (*Casa di Giulietta*), Via Cappello, just off Piazza delle Erbe. Supposedly the location of the famous balcony love scene from Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. The house is a major destination for tourist pilgrimage, as the tiny courtyard is normally packed with lovestruck teenagers photographing each other on the famous balcony. In fact, the house has no connection with Shakespeare's fictional characters - although the house is old, the balcony was added in 1936 and declared to be "Juliet's house" to attract tourists. You can visit the house itself (4€ entry) - it contains a sparse collection of Renaissance frescos rescued from other demolished palaces, and the bed from Zeffirelli's 1968 movie, but not a lot more.

The balcony overlooks a tiny courtyard containing a statue of Juliet. There is an unbelievable amount of graffiti and general scrawling on the walls, floor, seats, anything that will hold ink - there is a tradition of writing love messages to Juliet, and visitors leave notes, trinkets and bits of chewing gum fashioned into love hearts. Juliet's house is a popular romantic shrine, but its popularity belies its value; compared to some of the treasures around Verona, Juliet's house has very little to offer.

Juliet's Tomb, at the Capuchin Church, which also houses the **Antonian Fresco Museum**.

- Center map



Higher resolution version: <http://tinyurl.com/verona-map>

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Castelvecchio. A 14th-century, red brick, fortified castle on the banks of the river Adige. The main castle buildings house the **city art museum** which is packed with a rich collection of medieval sculpture and Renaissance paintings. As well as the museum, the extensive castle ramparts are great for exploring - ideal for families with children who enjoy running around castle fortifications. The Castelvecchio has an adjoining bridge over the river which is open all the time - walk over the bridge for some fantastic views of the castle on the river.

Castel San Pietro (*St Peter's Castle*), across the Ponte Pietra (*Peter Bridge*). Climb the steps up the hill above the Roman Theatre to Castel San Pietro. This former Austrian barracks dates back to the Austrian occupation of the left bank, and while the building is not open to the public, the views from the hill over Verona are spectacular. Go up in the early evening and enjoy a romantic sunset for free!

Piazza delle Erbe. Home of the Forum in Roman ages, this is still a focal point of the city. It is a frame for the 'Britney Verona' fountain, the 14th century 'Gardello Tower', and a market that, while picturesque, seems to have become another tourist cliché during its recent refurbishment.

Lamberti Tower (*Torre Lamberti*) - completed in 1463, this is the tallest of Verona's towers. The unmistakable clock tower looms over Piazza delle Erbe, and you enter via the palace courtyard. Although there are 238 steps to the top, there is a lift! Views from the top are breathtaking.

Scaliger Tombs (Italian: *Arche Scaligere*) is a group of five Gothic funerary monuments in Verona, celebrating the Scaliger family, who ruled Verona from the 13th to the late 14th century. The tombs are located in a court of the church of Santa Maria Antica, separated from the street by a wall with iron grilles. Built in Gothic style, they are a series of tombs, most of which are in the shape of a

small temple and covered by a baldachin. According to the French historian Georges Duby, they are one of the most outstanding examples of Gothic art.

Porta Borsari. The remains of a Roman gate, dated 2nd Century AD, but is almost certainly older.

Giardino Giusti. One of Italy's most important renaissance/mannerist gardens, with grottos, fire-breathing masks carved into the hillside etc.

Verona Cathedral. (*Duomo*) was built to replace an 8th-century church which was destroyed in the earthquake of 1117. Consecrated in 1187, the church features an ornate marble Romanesque façade by the Veronese architect Nicolò; its pillars are supported by two griffins. Stone reliefs around the door include Biblical scenes. The smaller side door is also worth a look - medieval carvings include Jonah being swallowed by a whale. Inside, the nave has many Gothic alterations, and oil paintings around the side chapels include an Assumption by Titan. The Romanesque baptistery adjoining the chapel of Sant'Elena is preserved, with its exquisite marble font and collection of medieval paintings.

San Giorgetta. A tiny chapel immediately next to Sant'Anastasia. Easily overlooked, this church is richly decorated with early Renaissance frescoes depicting the walled garden of the Virgin Mary.



Basilica of St Zeno (*San Zeno Maggiore*), located slightly outside the centre. A 10-15 minute walk from the Castelvechio, but well worth the walk, as it is possibly the richest in devotional artwork and historical preservation in Verona. The church is dedicated to Verona's patron saint, Zeno, a 4th-century North African and a keen fisherman who was ordained Bishop of Verona in 363. Zeno's tomb lies in an atmospheric shrine in the church undercroft, and he is also commemorated with a grinning medieval statue of Zeno in full episcopal robes, dangling a golden fish on the end of a fishing rod. The entrance to the church is graced with a ornate Romanesque façade by Nicolò; like the cathedral, this church was erected after the earthquake of 1117. The church itself was a centre of European pilgrimage for centuries; pilgrims were greeted by huge 10-metre frescoes of St Peter, patron saint of pilgrims. Visitors across the centuries have left their mark - pilgrims happily inscribed graffiti in the frescos, and signatures dating from 1390 survive to this day. There is also graffiti left by the invading Austrians in 1865.

- Close cities

Venezia: if you have never been to Venezia, this is your chance to go there. I believe no presentation is needed. :)

Transportation to Venezia: train to Venezia costs about 19 euro and takes about 1:10 hours (fast train - "Frecciabianca") or about 7.50 euro and 2:15 hours (slow train - "Regionale").

Link: <http://wikitravel.org/en/Venice>

Sirmione: a small town in the heart of Lago di Garda (Garda Lake) rich in history and an amazing landscape. Be sure to visit the Grotte di Catullo (Catullo's Caves).

Transportation to Sirmione: train to Desenzano del Garda - Sirmione costs about 9 euro and takes about 20 minutes (fast train - "Frecciabianca") or about 4 euro and 30 minutes (slow train - "Regionale"). Then you need to take a bus for Sirmione.

Link: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sirmione>

Gardaland: this is the biggest amusement park in Italy, don't forget to try the Blue Tornado!

Transportation to Gardaland: train to Peschiera del Garda costs about 9 euro and takes about 12 minutes (fast train - "Frecciabianca") or about 3 euro and 17 minutes (slow train - "Regionale"). Then you need to take a free shuttle for Gardaland (one every 30 minutes).

Link: <http://www.gardaland.it/resort/index-en.php>

- Public Transportation

The only public transportation in Verona is by bus.

Tickets cost **1.30 €** and are valid for a 90 minutes ride on any number of buses. Tickets are sold at shops and newsstands. You may also buy a ticket on the bus but it costs **1.50 €**.

You may purchase a 10-tickets carnet for **11.70 €** or a one-day pass for **4 €**.

Rides are available between 6AM and 8PM (may be reduced on Sunday) and there are night buses (8PM - 12PM).

Routes and maps: <http://tinyurl.com/atv-buses>

Timetables (click on the route of interest): <http://tinyurl.com/atv-tables>

Please, note that timetables on the website could be not up-to-date: if needed, double check on your arrival.

Taxis are also available, but they are quite expensive.

Food and Drink



Italy is the capital of Food and in Verona you can eat very good Italian food with exceptional local good wines. The Veronese are keen eaters of horse-meat (*cavallo*), a local speciality. *Pastisada de caval*, is a dish of braised horse meat, as is *Picula de Caval*. There are many restaurants in the city of any kind, from ethnic food to pizza. Below you may find a few selected choice, but feel free to walk in city center and choose a restaurant of your own choice!

- Food

[Italian Food] La Cantina del 15, Corso Castelveccchio 15
[Italian Food] Vecio Macello, Via Macello 8
[Italian Food] Trattoria Dal Gal, Via Segala Don Gregorio 39/A
[Italian Food] Osteria Il Bertoldo, Vicolo Cadrega, 2/A
[Pizza] Grotta Azzurra, Via Scuderlando 87
[Pizza] Carpe Diem, Via Murari Brà 49
[Asian] New Moon, Via Tombetta 11
[Asian] Ai Mori, Stradone Santa Lucia 44
[Fast Food] McDonald's, Viale del Lavoro 25; Stazione FS; Corso Porta Nuova 14
[Steakhouse] Roadhouse Grill, Viale del Lavoro 23

- Drink

[Bier House] Kulmbacher Bier-Haus, Via G. Marconi 72
[Bier House] Oktoberfest Stube, Stradone Maffei 8
[Bier House] Paulaner, via L. Pasteur 26

- Nightlife

[Club] Berfi's, via Lussemburgo 1
[Club] Alter Ego, Via Torricelle 9

Local Games Stores



Midian

Link: <http://it-it.facebook.com/midian.verona>

Address: Via Giosuè Carducci, 32 - Verona

Phone: +39 045 801 31 56

Getting to the tournament: <http://goo.gl/maps/fMmxy>

Games Academy Verona

Link: <http://www.gamesacademy.it/Frontend/Negozio/verona>

Address: Circonvallazione Oriani, 2 - Verona

Phone: +39 045 590 827

Email: verona@gamesacademy.it

Getting to the tournament: <http://goo.gl/maps/ZFXzs>

I Giochi dei Grandi

Link: <http://www.igiochideigrandi.it/>

Address: Via del Perlar, 25/A - Verona

Phone: +39 045 800 03 19

Email: info@igiochideigrandi.it

Getting to the tournament: <http://goo.gl/maps/0JSpS>