



Work by Andrea Ferreri, 1673, called 'Madonna grassa' by the bolognese people

BASILICA DI SAN LUCA

The church standing today was built by Carlo Francesco Dotti between 1723 and 1757, as a replacement for the previous XVth century church. The two outside tribunes were completed by his son Giovanni Giacomo in 1774. In accordance with Bolognese tradition, the outside structure looks devoid of any emphatic or vigorous decorations and is characterised by the simplicity of the curved profile supporting the dome. The indoor elliptical structure broadens into a Greek cross ending with the main altar standing before the chapel of the Virgin.

Among the artists whose works decorate the church are Guido Reni (third altar on the right), Donato Creti (second chapel on the right), Giuseppe Mazza (S. Antonio da Padova's chapel), and Guercino (high sacristy). In 1930 Ferruccio Gasparri built a one-pylon cableway which went over the 220 meter drop between via Saragozza and the Sanctuary. As a result, devotional walks became fewer and fewer, which arose controversies that ended with the suspension of the cableway service.



Via di S. Luca 36

Tel. +39 051 6142339

Morning: 7.00 a.m.-12.30 p.m.

Afternoon: 2.30 p.m.-5.00 p.m.

(from October to February)

2.30 p.m.-6.00 p.m. (March)

2.30 p.m.-7.00 p.m. (from April to Sept.)

On Sundays and holidays the Sanctuary is also open from 12.30 p.m. to 2.30 p.m.

«Byzantine icon dating back to the 11th and 12th centuries, venerated on the Hill of 'La Guardia' since the end of 12th century

HOW TO GET TO THE SANCTUARY OF THE MADONNA DI SAN LUCA

ON FOOT

Get to Porta Saragozza and follow the arcade. You can get to Porta Saragozza by bus n° 20 (from the city centre) or by the buses n° 32 and n° 33 (from the railway station).

If you want to shorten your walk, you can take the bus n° 20 and get off at the Meloncello Arch at the foot of the hill.

BY BUS

A minibus run by CoSePuRi links Villa Spada to the Sanctuary of the Madonna di San Luca. * You can get to Villa Spada from the city centre by the bus n° 20 (bus stop: Villa Spada).

BY TOURIST BUS

Get to Porta Saragozza, then drive along Via Saragozza as far as Villa Spada. Turn left into Via di Casaglia, then follow the signs to San Luca.

*MINIBUS TIMETABLE

From Monday to Saturday: departure from Villa Spada - Via di Casaglia: at 7.00 a.m. - 7.30 a.m. - 8.00 a.m. - 9.00 a.m. 12.00 p.m. - 12.30 p.m. - 1.00 p.m. - 1.30 p.m. - 2.00 p.m. - 5.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. - 6.30 p.m.

From October 1st to March 3rd also at 5.00 p.m.

From April 1st to September 30th: also at 7.00 p.m.

On Sundays and holidays: departure from Via Saragozza 191/2 (opposite Villa Spada). From 8.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. and from 3.00 p.m. to 5.40 p.m. every 20 minutes. From March 1st to October 31st: also at 2.00 p.m. - 2.20 p.m. - 2.40 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. and 6.20 p.m.



IAT Piazza Maggiore 1/6

IAT Railway Station, Piazza Medaglie d'Oro 1

IAT Airport G. Marconi, via Triumvirato 84

tel. +39 051 239660 - +39 051 251947 - +39 051 6472113



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Sanctuario presso la tipografia del Comune di Bologna

www.studioblog.it

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ROUTE TO THE SANCTUARY OF THE MADONNA DI SAN LUCA

Serving as the destination of many religious pilgrimages linked to the devotion of the Madonna, the Sanctuary of the Madonna of San Luca is one of Bologna's most well known symbols. Situated atop Guardia Hill, the Sanctuary also serves as a reassuring visual landmark for Bolognese people returning to their town.

touristoffice@comune.bologna.it
www.bolognaturismo.info



MUSEUM OF THE BEATA VERGINE DI SAN LUCA

The museum of the Beata Vergine di San Luca, located inside the old wall Porta Saragozza, was established in order to make Bologna's inhabitants and visitors alike aware of the devotional, historical, artistic, and cultural heritage linked to the image of the Madonna and Child, said to be 'of San Luca', which is kept within the Sanctuary of the same name on Guardia Hill.

The museum's location is an ancient tower-shaped wall which dates back to the XIIIth century. The complex, which was originally equipped with an avant-corps and a draw-bridge, was entirely rebuilt in neo-medieval style in 1858 in order to make the entrance of the procession of the Madonna into Bologna more solemn.



Piazza di Porta Saragozza 2a

Tel. +39 051 6447421

Tuesday to Saturday:

9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

Thursday: 9.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.

Sunday: 10.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.

Entrance: free

www.museomadonnasanluca.it



VILLA SPADA AND THE HISTORIC DIDACTIC MUSEUM OF TAPESTRY

Villa Spada stands on the Zambecari marquises' ancient estate in the part of the building called 'Casino Zambecari'. It was first mentioned in 1774. The exact date of the present building is still uncertain, it is built completely different from the previous one, as it is much bigger and crafted in neo-classical style. The villa has housed the Historic Didactic Museum of Tapestry since 1990.

The museum contains an artistic heritage of rare importance. Not only does the museum have educational aims, but it also contributes to the development of proposals, studies and research for tapestry and other crafts in general.

Today the museum houses over six thousand pieces, which amongst them include Italian, Middle Eastern, Asian, and other non-European fabrics. Lace, embroideries, fringes, bows, upholsterer's tools and accessories, such as sewing machines and upholstery nails, are exhibited on the three floors of the villa.



Via di Casaglia 3

Tel. +39 051 6145512

www.comune.bologna.it/iperbole/museotappezeria

Tuesday to Sunday: 9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

Entrance: for a fee

<<Constantinople: needlework from the end of the XVIIth century



THE MELONCELLO ARCH

One can begin the walk up to the Sanctuary of the Madonna of San Luca by beginning at the Meloncello Arch situated along via Saragozza. The arch was designed by architect Carlo Francesco Dotti, who was most likely assisted by Francesco Bibiena, a stage designer. With its curved plan and massive use of free columns, this arch, together with the open area outside the basilica, is the only outdoor example of baroque architecture in Bologna.

THE PORTICO

Measuring 3,796 meters in length, the portico that links the Sanctuary and the town is the longest in the world. Since 1433, this portico has been providing shelter for the annual procession which carries the Byzantine Madonna and Child to the cathedral in town during Ascension week. The construction of the portico began in 1674 with the Bonaccorsi arch by Gian Giacomo Monti at the old gate of Porta Saragozza. Monti is also the architect of the final design of the portico at the foot of the hill, which is characterised by an extremely pleasant and simple style, later imitated by Carlo Francesco Dotti, his successor from the second decade of the XVIIIth century. The final hilly stretch, designed by Dotti, is instead characterised by the dynamic succession of different perspectives and vanishing points up to the final view of the Sanctuary.

Callisto Tanzi



Silver coin of ten 'paoli', minted in Bologna in 1796