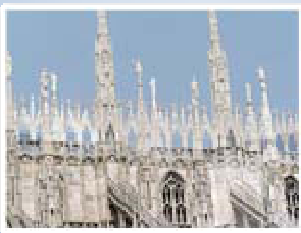


MILAN

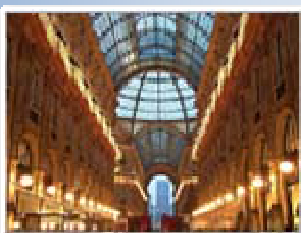
Milan (Italian: Milano) is the second largest city of **Italy**, located in the plains of **Lombardy**. It is the capital in the **Province of Milan**, as well as the regional capital of Lombardy.

Milan is renowned as one of the world capitals of design and fashion. The English word millinery, referring to women's hats, is derived from the name of the city. The Lombard metropolis is famous for its fashion houses and shops (such as along via Montenapoleone) and the **Galleria Vittorio Emanuele** in the Piazza Duomo (reputed to be the world's oldest shopping mall). The city hosted the World Exposition in 1906 and will host the Universal Expo in 2015.



Il Duomo : Milan's layout, with streets either radiating from the Duomo or circling it, reveals that the Duomo occupies the most central site in Roman Mediolanum, that of the public basilica facing the forum. Saint Ambrose's 'New Basilica' was built on this site at the beginning of the 5th century, with an adjoining basilica added in 836. When a fire damaged both buildings in 1075, they were rebuilt as the Duomo.

La Scala : One of the world's most famous opera houses. The theatre was inaugurated on 3 August 1778, under the name Nuovo Regio Ducal Teatro alla Scala with Salieri's Europa riconosciuta. La Scala's season traditionally opens on 7 December, Saint Ambrose's Day, the feast day of Milan's patron saint. The La Scala Museum contains an extraordinary collection of paintings, drafts, statues, costumes, and other documents regarding opera and La Scala's history. La Scala also hosts the Accademia d'Arti e Mestieri dello Spettacolo.



Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II : The Gallery is a covered double arcade formed of two glass-vaulted arcades at right angles intersecting in an octagon. The street is covered over by an arching glass and cast iron roof. The Gallery connects two of Milan's most famous landmarks: The Duomo and the Teatro Alla Scala.

Santa Maria delle Grazie Church : Our Lady of Graces (Italian: Madonna delle Grazie or Nostra Signora delle Grazie) or St Mary of Graces (Italian: Santa Maria delle Grazie) is a devotion to the Virgin Mary in the Roman Catholic Church. Churches with this dedication often owe their foundation to thankfulness for graces received from the Virgin Mary, and are particularly numerous in Italy.

Bagatti Valsecchi Museum: A late 19th century aristocratic mansion with Italian Renaissance art collections.

Castello Sforzesco : Houses several of the city's museums and art gallery collections. Home to the museums of applied arts, ancient art, historical musical instruments, prehistory, Egyptian art and fine arts.

Musée des Sciences et des Techniques Léonard de Vinci : One of the most important museums and techno-scientific world called Leonardo da Vinci in tribute to the Italian scientific genius of the fifteenth century. The museum exhibits more than 15 000 works divided into 28 sessions set on 40 000 m²: industry, motors, astronomy, machines of all kinds, sailing, photography, optics, automotive, aviation, navigation, computing, energy, physical.

Pinacoteca di Brera : One of Italy's most important art collections and one of the foremost collections of Italian paintings.

USEFUL INFORMATION

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