

SERVICES

bookshop | English audio guides | differently-abled access | cloakroom | guided tours | library | photographic archive | hystorical archive | event venue rentals

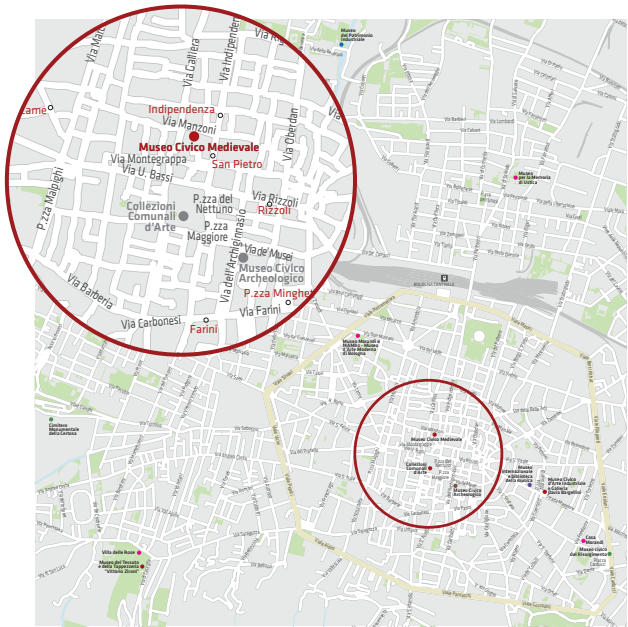
how to get there

From railway or bus station:

on foot> from Piazza Medaglie d'Oro continue through Via Indipendenza and when near San Pietro Cathedral turn right into Via Manzoni (penultimate side street before Via Rizzoli/Ugo Bassi) or, in alternative, walk along Via Galliera until the crossing with Via Parigi and turn left into Via Manzoni | approximately 1,2 km

by bus> lines 27, 11, and A. Bus stop: Indipendenza and San Pietro

by car> underground parking structure at Piazza VIII Agosto and then take the bus or proceed on foot



design> fabrizio passarella



Museo Civico Medievale
(Medieval Museum)
Via Manzoni 4 | 40121 Bologna
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museiarteantica@comune.bologna.it
www.museibologna.it/arteanticaen



From Tuesday to Sunday and Holidays: 10 am > 6:30 pm
closed: Mondays (except Holidays), Christmas Day,
New Year's Day, May 1st

Full fee € 5 | Reduced fee € 3
Free admission for Card Musei Metropolitan Bologna
holders and on the first Sunday of every month



Museo
Civico
Medievale



MUSEI CIVICI D'ARTE ANTICA

The Istituzione Bologna Musei | Musei Civici d'Arte Antica is comprised of three separate museums: the **Museo Civico Medievale** (Palazzo Ghisilardi), the **Collezioni Comunali d'Arte** (Palazzo Comunale), the **Museo Davia Bargellini** (Palazzo Davia Bargellini) and the **Museo del Tessuto e della Tappezzeria 'Vittorio Zironi'** (Villa Spada).

Palazzo Ghisilardi is home to the organization's headquarters, and it provides the ideal instruments for the promotion of the collections which are conserved within.

Its facilities include an educational room that provides intensive cultural and pedagogical activities, exhibition halls that periodically host temporary exhibitions significant to local history. The museum has also a well-equipped restoration studio for the regular restoration of objects belonging to the museums' collections as well as to other institutions.

Inside the building, furthermore, is a well-endowed, research library. It contains more than 19,000 volumes, the majority of which treat themes relevant to art history from the Medieval era to the 19th Century, including a significant section from the Cesare Gnudi Collection.

It also features almost 200 titles of specialized magazines pertinent to the history of Medieval and Modern art. A photographic archive that retains millions of images of the three museums' holdings and an archive that documents the history of the collections from the 19th Century to the present are also located within the Palazzo Ghisilardi. In addition to these conservation and educational initiatives, the Musei Civici d'Arte Antica support scholarly work that promotes research and the translation of an array of publications including catalogues of the permanent collections, exhibit catalogues and periodicals.



Updated to March 2018

MUSEO CIVICO MEDIEVALE
Medieval Museum



Since 1985 the Civic Medieval Museum has been housed in the Palazzo Ghisilardi, one of the most important buildings from the period when Bologna was under the dominion of the Bentivoglio family (1446 – 1506). The exhibits in the museum come from several important private collections that date as far back as the seventeenth Century. They include the encyclopedic *Cabinet of Natural Curiosities and Wonders of*

the Marquis Ferdinando Cospi, as well as General Luigi Ferdinando Marsili’s collection of weapons and other objects, and the eclectic collection of the artist Pelagio Palagi. The most important objects in the museum provide a sense of the Bolognese medieval life and range from exemplars of high medieval craftsmanship of the seventh through ninth centuries to the large statue of *Boniface VIII* in gilded copper plate, which was executed by Manno Bandini da Siena (1301) to commemorate the effort made by the Pope to bring an end to the war between Bologna and Ferrara. Near the statue of *Boniface VIII*, a large cope with *Stories of the Life of Christ* is on display. This is one of

the most significant surviving examples of *opus anglicanum*. During the Middle Ages it was a common practice in Bologna, as in other major university cities, to dedicate sculpted funerary monuments to the professors who taught at the insti-



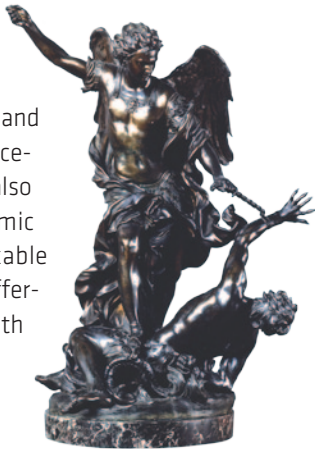
Triptic with Madonna and saints by Jacopo della Quercia).

The museum’s collections are also enriched by a wide range of ivories from France and Italy such as the precious *Triptic* of the Embriachi workshop. Inside the rooms are precious glass handicrafts from Murano, stained glass works of ecclesiastical or private origin, refined collections of medieval, renaissance and oriental weapons and armours (daggers, greatswords, fire and shock arms).

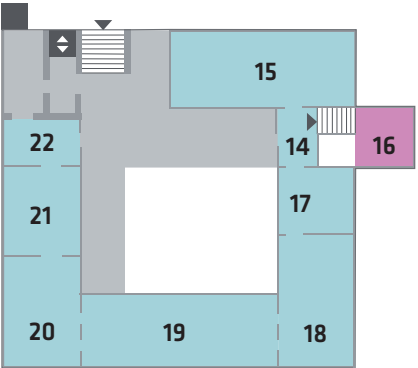


tution. The museum holds a number of monumental tombs, many of which portray the teacher as he lectures to his students (*Tomb of Bonifacio Galuzzi*, by Bettino da Bologna, *Ark of Giovanni d’Andrea*, fragments of the *Ark of Giovanni da Legnano* by Pier Paolo dalle Masegne). Along the itinerary we can see important examples of the Tuscan sculpture school in Bologna (Giovanni di Balduccio’s *Saint Peter Martyr*,

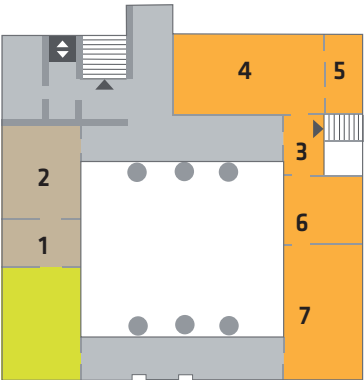
An interesting section of Oriental and Middle Eastern art (sculptures, ceramics, inlaid and metal works) is also hosted in the museum. The Islamic collection is a small but remarkable group of exhibits coming from different countries between the thirteenth and seventeenth centuries. Numerous and rare objects from the court of the Bentivoglio family (*Bentivoglio Parade Shield*, *Bentivoglio Horn*, a glazed *Pair of flasks*) are displayed together with significant exemplars of refined fifteenth-Century Ferrarese craftsmanship. Much space in the museum is given over to Renaissance and Baroque bronze sculptures by artists working in Bologna (such as the model for the statue of *Neptune* by Giambologna, Algardi’s *Saint Michael Archangel*, Bernini’s *Bust of Gregorio XV Ludovisi*, Menganti’s *Bust of Gregorio XIII Ludovisi*). This type of art is also represented by a large collection of small bronzes and plaquettes from late fifteenth to sixteenth centuries. An important section is dedicated to the art of Bolognese illuminated books work, with celebrated examples of choir books, statutes of the art guilds and liturgical books from the thirteenth through sixteenth centuries, among which is the well-known *Register of the Drapers’ Society* (1411) depicting the view of the market in Piazza di Porta Ravennana.



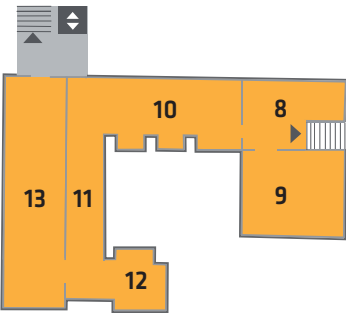
FIRST FLOOR



GROUND FLOOR



BASEMENT



- Tickets
- Museum’s history
- Middle Ages in Bologna
- The collections (sculptures, bronzes, arms and armours, glass and ivories)
- Illuminated books