

INFORMATIONS ON BRESCIA

Brescia, located between Milan and Verona, has been Italian Capital of Culture 2023. The city has so much to offer: first of all its ancient history, because as Roman Brixia, located along the Via Gallica, was among the most important cities in northern Italy.

HOW TO GET TO BRESCIA

From Bergamo Airport to Brescia, 50km

You can reach the city of Brescia from Bergamo Orio al Serio airport with "Autostradale bus service" (<u>autostradale.com</u>, tel. +39 035 322915 / +39 02 30089000, € 12 one way, first ride 5:10am, last ride 10:30pm, duration about 60 min) which arrives to **SIA bus station in Brescia** (Via Solferino 6, platform no. 24).

Alternatively, you can take the ATB – Azienda Trasporti Bergamo shuttle (<u>www.atb.bergamo.it/en</u>, tel. +39 035 236026, \in 2.30 one way, first ride 5am, last ride 00:30am, duration 17 min) to Bergamo train station (Piazza Marconi, 7, 24122 Bergamo, tel. +39 035 247950), and then reach Brescia's train station with a Trenord local train service (info and timetable: <u>https://www.trenord.it</u>, \in 4.80 one way, first train at 5:50am, last train at 11pm, duration 60 min).

From Verona Airport, to Brescia, 60km

You can reach Brescia from Verona airport with the **Aerobus** service offered by **ATV** – **Azienda Trasporti Verona** (<u>www.atv.verona.it</u>, tel. +39 045 8057922) which takes you to **Verona Porta Nuova train station** (\in 6 one way, first ride 5:15am, last ride 10:50pm, duration 15 min). The station is connected to Brescia's train station through both regional and high-speed trains (<u>https://www.trenitalia.com/</u>, with fares starting from \in 7.05 and duration between 35 and 53 min).

From Milan Linate to Brescia, 85km

As you exit Linate airport, take the **Starfly** bus service by **Autostradale** to **Milan Centrale train station** (<u>https://autostradale.it/</u>, tel. +39 02 30089000, € 5 one way, first ride at about 7:45am, last



ride 10:45pm, duration 25 min, tickets can be purchased on board or online at <u>https://www.airportbusexpress.it</u>). Once in "Stazione Centrale", choose one of the **regional or high-speed trains which stop in Brescia** (<u>https://www.trenitalia.com/</u>, from \in 7.30, duration between 35 and 65 min).

From Milan Malpensa Airport to Brescia, 140km

Take the **Malpensa Shuttle** from Malpensa airport to **Milan Centrale train station** (<u>www.malpensashuttle.it</u>, tel +39 02 58583185, \in 8.00 one way, 24-hour service, duration 50 min, tickets can be purchased online). Once in "Stazione Centrale", choose one of the regional or high-speed trains which stop in Brescia (<u>https://www.trenitalia.com/</u>, from \in 7.30, duration between 35 and 65 min).

In case you need a private transfer please give us all the flight details to give you the right total.

When in Brescia Station

You can check the availability for the taxi and the costs calling **Radio Taxi Brixia** tel. +39 030 35111, 24/7 or download their app here: <u>https://www.taximove.it/</u>

Public bus services and a metro line are available as well.

To check routes and fares: https://www.bresciamobilita.it/en/bresciapp

HISTORY OF BRESCIA

The origins of Brescia date back to 1200 BC, when a first settlement was built near Colle Cidneo, the high hill which the city later developed around.

In the 7th century BC the Cenomani Gauls settled in, making Brixia (Brescia) their capital. Subsequently, between the 3rd and 2nd centuries BC, following clashes with Romans, Brixia began the process of annexation to the Roman Republic, which culminated in 42 BC, when the city inhabitants obtained full Roman citizenship.

From 402 to 493 it suffered numerous barbarian invasions, including those of Alaric's Visigoths and Attila's Huns, passing later under the domination of Theodoric's Ostrogoths and acquiring a key importance in the Ostrogothic kingdom. From 568 it became an important duchy of the Kingdom of the Lombards.



Proclaiming itself an autonomous municipality as early as the 12th century, it ended up under Visconti (Milan) domination and then was absorbed, with the dedication of 24 November 1426, in the Mainland Domains of the Republic of Venice. Remained linked to the Venice Republic until the end of 1797.

Many Venetian Republic sculptures and signs can still be found around the old centre of the city.

Annexed to the Kingdom of Lombardy-Veneto, during the Risorgimento it was the scene of the ten days of Brescia, before arriving at the annexation to the Kingdom of Italy in 1860.

In 1932, through the demolition of the popular Pescherie neighborhood, on behalf of the Duce Benito Mussolini, Piazza della Vittoria was built in fascist style by the architect Marcello Piacentini, who built the first "skyscraper" in Italy (55 mt tall), the Torrione, which is among the very first skyscrapers in Europe.

During the Second World War, with the creation of the Italian Social Republic, informally known as Salò, Brescia became the seat of some ministries.

The city experienced reconstruction and the economic boom uninterruptedly from 1948 to 1975, with whom the city equipped itself with numerous infrastructures.

Furthermore, in 1972, Brescia was the first city in Italy to be equipped with district heating.

WHAT YOU CAN VISIT IN BRESCIA

Brescia Castle

Brescia Castle is a medieval fortress symbol of the city. The building stands majestically on Colle Cidneo, close to the historic centre. It is accessed through a sixteenth-century portal, flanked by the bastions named after Saints San Faustino and San Marco, which leads to a square with a great view of almost all the city.

An original old steam locomotive has been rebuild there, for an historic preservation purpose.

Opening hours: from Dawn to evening

https://www.bresciatourism.it/en/things-to-do/castle-of-brescia/

Brixia, Archaeological Park of Roman Brescia

Among the best preserved routes in Italy, is the Roman Brescia Archaeological Park, now appointed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. The main attraction is the Capitolium, a Capitoline Temple dating back to 73 AD, dedicated to the cult of the "Capitoline Triad", Roman Gods Jupiter, Juno and Minerva.



Below it, the structures of a sanctuary have been partially preserved, dating back to the first decades of the 1st century BC.

Next to the Capitolium stands the Roman theatre, dating between the 1st and 3rd centuries AD, beautifully preserved and still in use for some representations during the year.

Opening hours: closed on Mondays / holidays and weekdays 10:00 - 18:00

https://www.bresciamusei.com/en/museums-and-venues/brixia-roman-archaeological-area/

Santa Giulia Museum

The perfect place to take a journey through the history, art and spirituality of Brescia is the Santa Giulia Museum, set up in a monastic complex of Lombard Kingdom origin.

A UNESCO heritage site, it presents thousands of works on approximately 14 thousand square metres, ordered chronologically and thematically, from the 4th millennium BC to the eighteenth century.

Opening hours: Thursday and Friday 6.00pm – 10.00pm / Saturday, Sunday and holidays 10.00am – 9.30pm (access preferably by reservation)

https://www.bresciamusei.com/en/museums-and-venues/santa-giulia-museum/

Old Cathedral and New Cathedral

In the very centre of the city, in Piazza Paolo VI, also known as "Piazza dei due Duomo" (Two Domes Square), you can find the Summer Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta - or the New Duomo, with its baroque façade with the majestic dome, and the Winter Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta (the Old Duomo), with a magnificently peculiar cylindrical structure from the Romanesque era.

Duomo Vecchio opening hours: closed on Mondays and Tuesdays; Wednesday – Saturday 9:00 – 12:00 / 15:00 – 18:00; Sunday 9:00 – 10:45 / 15:00 – 18:00

Duomo Nuovo opening hours: holidays 8:00 - 12:00 / 15:00 - 19:00; weekdays 7.30am - 12.00pm / 3.00pm - 7.00pm

Piazza della Loggia, Piazza Vittoria and Piazza Mercato

A few steps from the two cathedrals, there are 3 squares: **Piazza della Loggia**, of Venetian style, dominated by the Palace of the same name; **Piazza Vittoria**, with the installation of the suspended rhinoceros, that sports a 1930s brutalist architecture and **Piazza Mercato**, which houses monuments from different eras, from the 15th to the 20th century.

https://www.bresciatourism.it/en/visit-brescia/city-of-brescia/



Typical dishes and desserts from Brescia

Among the typical dishes we find casoncelli, a variant of the classic ravioli (stuffed pasta), filled with meat or vegetables; the Brescian skewer, composed of a base of birds and pork rolls, enriched with chicken, rabbit and potatoes; beef with Rovato oil, prepared with a cut of beef shoulder.

https://www.bresciatourism.it/en/cat-cosa-fare/food-and-wine

In Brescian cuisine, an honourable mention is also deserved by the very traditional Master Iginio Massari's "Pasticceria Veneto", a laboratory full of masterpieces, to admire and taste.

Patisserie Veneto opening hours: holidays 7.45am - 1.30pm / 3.00pm - 7.30pm; weekdays 7.45am - 1.30pm / 2.30pm - 7.45pm

Touristic informations

https://www.bresciatourism.it/en/useful-information/tourist-offices-brescia-and-province/