

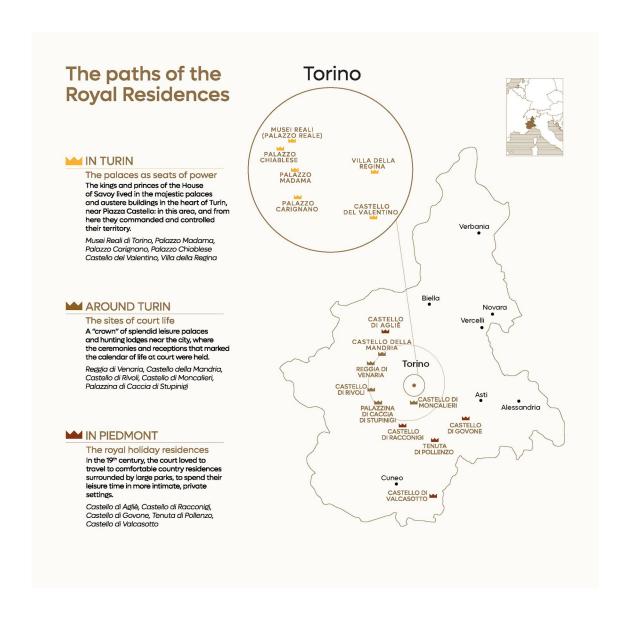
## The Residences of the Royal House of Savoy

Art, Nature and History in Piedmont

Turin is home to a number of Castles and Royal Palaces of remarkable historical and artistic value, which are part of an architectural and urban design plan intended to create an ideal frame around the city. They are known collectively as the *Crown of Delights of the House of Savoy*, a definition dating back to the time when they were built, between the 16th and the 17th century, indicating a group of leisure estates that doubled as centers of power and territorial control for Savoy dukes and kings.

The Crown of Delights consisted of around fifteen fabulous palaces comprising gardens and artworks which, together with the others scattered in **Piedmont**, competed for beauty and grandeur with the most opulent European royal residences of the time.

Some of them were gradually abandoned and would eventually disappear, but most of them are still in place today and have become part of **UNESCO's World Heritage Sites**.













La Venaria Reale is the gateway to a monumental complex dating back to the mid-17th century: the estate consists of an 80,000 sq.m. Palace, 60 hectares of gardens, 3,000 hectares of fenced and protected parkland (the Park of La Mandria) and the adjoining Old Town. Together they make up a single architectural and environmental continuum that offers a shiny example of European Baroque.

All the other Royal Residences of the Crown of Delights are no less magnificent: starting from those within Turin – the impressive and opulent Royal Palace, a former control center that today houses the must-see collections of the Turinese Royal Museums – all the way to the nearby, splendid Palazzo Chiablese, Palazzo Madama – known as Casa dei Secoli (House of Centuries) with its Museum of Ancient Art –, Palazzo Carignano – the birthplace of the first kings of Italy which today houses the Museum of the Risorgimento –, the fairy-tale Villa della Regina (Villa of the Queen) which stands on top of a hill, and the beautiful river residence of Castle of Valentino. A stone's throw from Turin, you will find the imposing Castle of Moncalieri, a place of memorable events, the Palazzina di Caccia of Stupinigi, a hunting residence of inestimable artistic value embellished by the scenographic spaces conceived by the genius of Filippo Juvarra, such as the Castle of Rivoli, home to one of the most prestigious contemporary art museums in the world as well as the famous Cerruti Collection.

The majestic **Castle of Agliè**, in the Canavese area, and the cozy **Castle of La Mandria**, near La Venaria Reale, with their parks and historical heritages, are like treasure chests that tell historical events of different eras up to the early twentieth century. Not to mention, on the road towards the Langhe and beyond, the **Castle of Racconigi**, among the last and most appreciated Savoy residences in Piedmont where you can still breathe the atmosphere of the past, and the enchanting and secluded residences of **Govone**, **Pollenzo** (the headquarters of the University of Gastronomic Sciences and of the Wine Bank) and **Valcasotto**.



Today, almost all the Royal Residences of Savoy are open to the public and are offered as a single package, a new must-see "exotic destination" for Italian tourism to live a different cultural experience that endures time: they can be visited in stages and they definitely deserve a few weekends. It will be well-spent time, in full relaxation, surrounded by historical and natural beauties, accompanied by the local delicacies that abound in these areas.

#### **INFORMATION**

residenzerealisabaude.com

#### **HOW TO VISIT ALL LOCATIONS**

Royal Card *Your key to the Royal Residences*Abbonamento Musei Piemonte (Piedmont Museums Pass)

#### **HOW TO GET HERE**

The Royal Residences of Savoy are located in Turin, in its surroundings, in the Canavese area and towards the Langhe of Piedmont

#### By car

Tangenziale (Ring Road) of Turin, highways and state roads towards Canavese and Langhe

#### By Bus

Urban and suburban GTT routes by GTT "Venaria Express" by GTT "Rivoli Express"

#### By plane

Sandro Pertini International Airport in Caselle Torinese

#### By bicycle

The Royal Residences of Savoy are partially included in the cycle route known as the *Corona Verde* (Green Crown).







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