

History

Already in the XII century the centre of Dolceacqua was known as "Duzzana", a name of possible Celtic origin. It is two parts divided by the river Nervia and linked by the Medieval bridge. The eastern part at the foot of the castle sloping to the river was named "Terra" whilst the western part was called "Borgo" since it stood outside the enclosing walls. It has been proved that man was already present in Dolceacqua in prehistoric times. Traces of Roman settlements have also been discovered. Written records of the town date back to the time of the Counts of Ventimiglia. The town was acquired in 1270 by Oberto Doria, founder of the family of the name. The destiny of Dolceacqua was to be tied to the Doria family for over five centuries. The Dorias, who made Dolceacqua the capital of their territory, enlarged their estates adding other towns such as Apricale, Peraldo, Isolabona. During the struggles between the Guelphs and the Ghibellines, Dolceacqua always remained proudly ghibelline, opposing the Guelphs from Ventimiglia and the Grimaldis from Monaco. These struggles only came to an end when Luca Doria and Francesca Grimaldi married. In 1559 the Doria's territory was further extended to include Rocchetta Nervina and its castle. During the struggles between the Republic of Genoa and the house of Savoy, the Dorias, who had sided with Genoa, were defeated in 1634. Only at the cost of territory again, won by them had been elevated to the status of "marquisate". In 1745 during the war of Succession between France and Austria, the Dorias sided with Savoy and Austria. The castle of Dolceacqua was almost entirely destroyed in a devastating french siege. It was three years after the Dorias could return to Dolceacqua and live in the mansion next to the parish church. In 1794 they welcomed Napoleon Bonaparte with general Massena. The last member of the Doria family died in 1902.

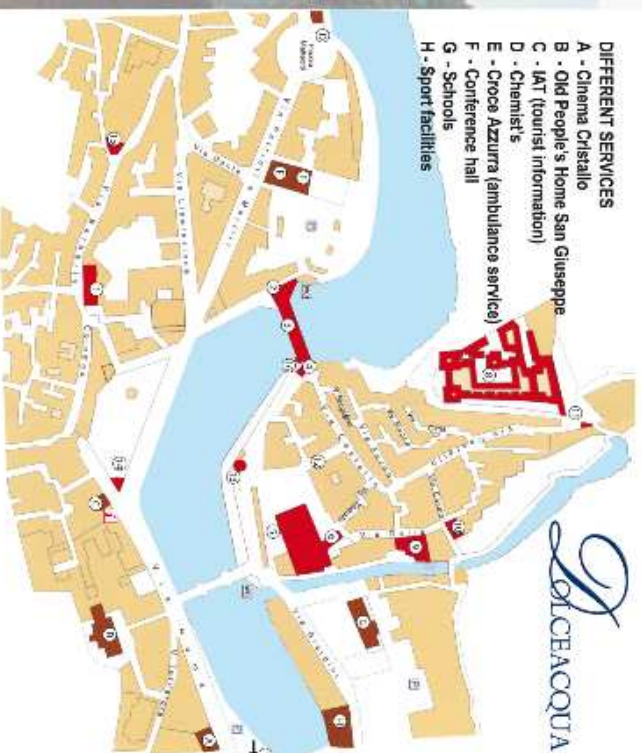
General information:

Dolceacqua (51 m above sea level, 2100 inhabitants)
 bus connections from Ventimiglia Railway station.
 Motorways exits Ventimiglia or Bordighera.
 Distances: 9 km from Ventimiglia
 10 km from Bordighera
 22 km from Sanremo
 29 km from Monte Carlo

The vineyards planted around the town in typical terraces give the well-known "Rossese" and "Vermentino" wines, also the olive oil production is of outstanding quality. Typical dessert: la michetta.
 Events: Music concerts, theatre, folklore.

Guided visits to the Doria Castle / open days and information:
 0184 206666/ 351183

Library: open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday.
 Information: 0039 3382776233



- DIFFERENT SERVICES**
- A - Cinema Cristallo
 - B - Old People's Home San Giuseppe
 - C - IAT (tourist information)
 - D - Chemist's
 - E - Croce Azzurra (ambulance service)
 - F - Conference hall
 - G - Schools
 - H - Sport facilities

- 1 Oratorio di San Sebastiano; 2 Oratorio di S. Filippo Neri; 3 Ponte Vecchio; 4 Le "Scasasse";
- 5 Parochiale di Sant'Antonio Abate; 6 Palazzo Doria; 7 Chiesa di San Giorgio; 8 Castello dei Dorias;
- 9 Palazzo Luigina Garosio; 10 Visionarium 3D; 11 Porta Luca; 12 Via Giraldi; 13 Monumento al gombo; 14 Monumento alla Liguria agreste; 15 Cappella di S. Michele; 16 Porta Castello

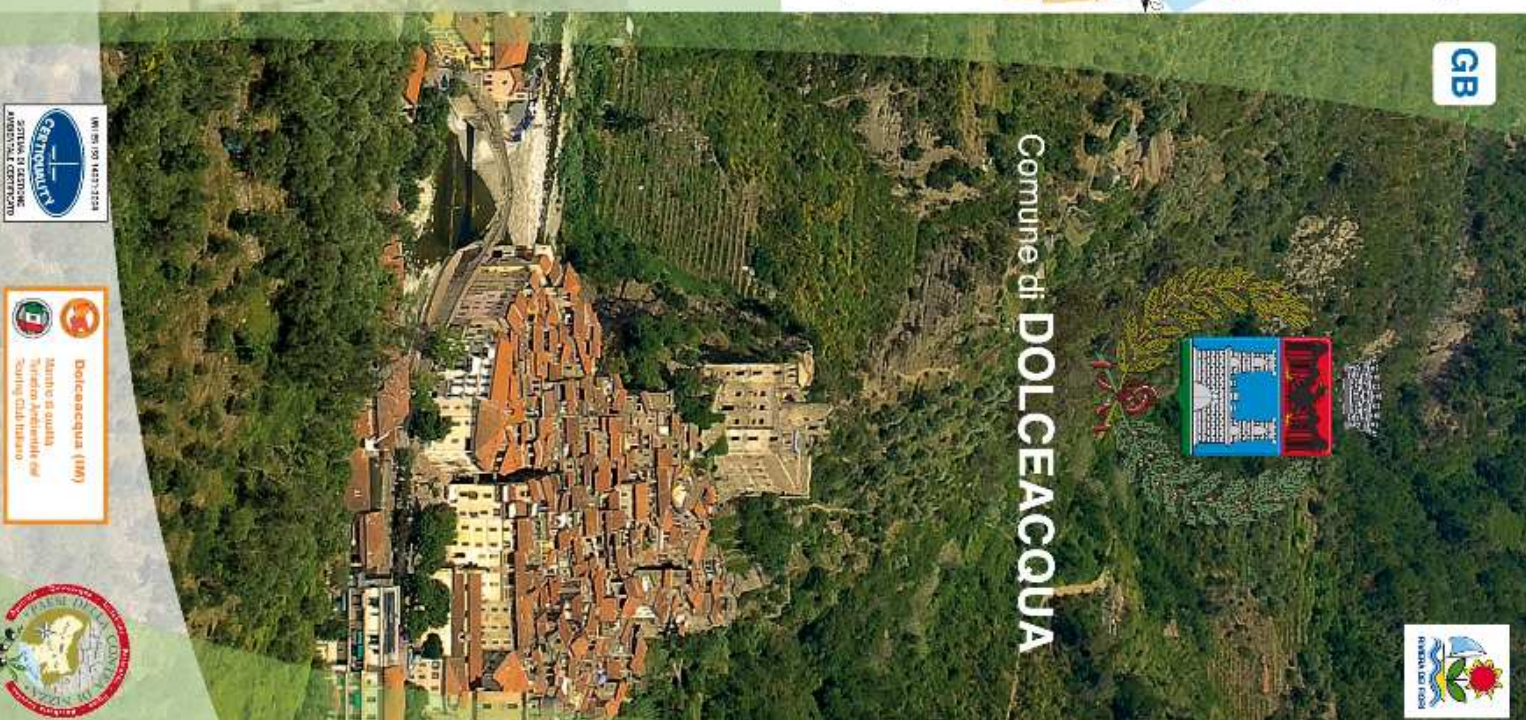


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Comune di **DOLCEACQUA**



1

THE ORATORY OF ST. SEBASTIAN:
 on the ancient goldsmiths' route is in seventeenth century style. Inside there is a statue attributed to Anton Maria Maragliano (Genoa 1664-1741). Every year, on 20th January, the procession of St. Sebastian with the presentation of a laurel adorned with coloured communion wafers take place.



2

THE CHURCH OF ST. FILIPPO NERI:
 with its original interior in late baroque style belongs to the Cornieri family. It is situated in the part of the town called "Borigo". Both the church and the bridge are symbols of Dolceacqua.



3

THE OLD BRIDGE:
 portrayed by Monet during his stay in Bordighiera in 1884, is the symbol of Dolceacqua. Its 33 metre single span was built on the ruins of a previous bridge in the 15th century.



4

THE "SCASASSE":
 the most mysterious "caviglio" in Dolceacqua, links the entrance to the village across the medieval bridge to the church square, which slopes down to the Nervia river. It is thought to have been a strategic defensive point.



5

ST ANTONIO ABATE:
 The parish church was built in 1471. A tower of the ancient enclosing wall was employed as the base for the clock tower. In the 19th century it had three aisles. The polyptic of St. Devote of Ludovico Brea, dating from the beginning of the sixteenth century, is kept in the church. Above the Rosary altar there is the series of the "Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious Mysteries".



7

7

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH:
 It is located at the entrance of the "Borigo" near to the cemetery. The crypt houses the Dorcas family tombs. The structures and the decorations in the front and on the right side of the church are those of the original 11th century romanesque parish church. The bell tower is almost entirely in romanesque style. Originally the church had only one aisle; other 2 were added during the romanesque period.



6

THE DORIA MANSION:
 It is situated close the parish church and is called "Palazzo della Camineta". It belonged to the Dorcas as the family crests and decorations of the stone portals show.



8

IL CASTELLO DEI DORIA:
 It overlooks the whole village, and it therefore played an important social role. In 1270 Oberto Doria, the founder of the family, bought the original circular tower from the Counts of Ventimiglia. In the 15th century the defensive bastion of the eastern side and the quadrangular towers overlooking the village were built. In the 16th century Stefano Doria changed it into a splendid residence. It was destroyed several times.



9

PALAZZO LINGINA GAROSCIÒ:
 Here is: the library, the picture gallery, the historical and the national seat of "Paesi Bandiera Arancione".

