



**Borgo San Lorenzo**

[www.comune.borgo-san-lorenzo.fi.it](http://www.comune.borgo-san-lorenzo.fi.it)

## WHY VISIT BORGO SAN LORENZO?

The Tuscan city of art, Borgo San Lorenzo, is characterised by its cultural and architectural heritage. Enchanting villas, noble buildings, churches and castles: buildings that still today preserve works of art and artefacts of great historical value. The countryside, woods, rivers and those uncontaminated green spaces make it ideal for those who love nature and open air activities.

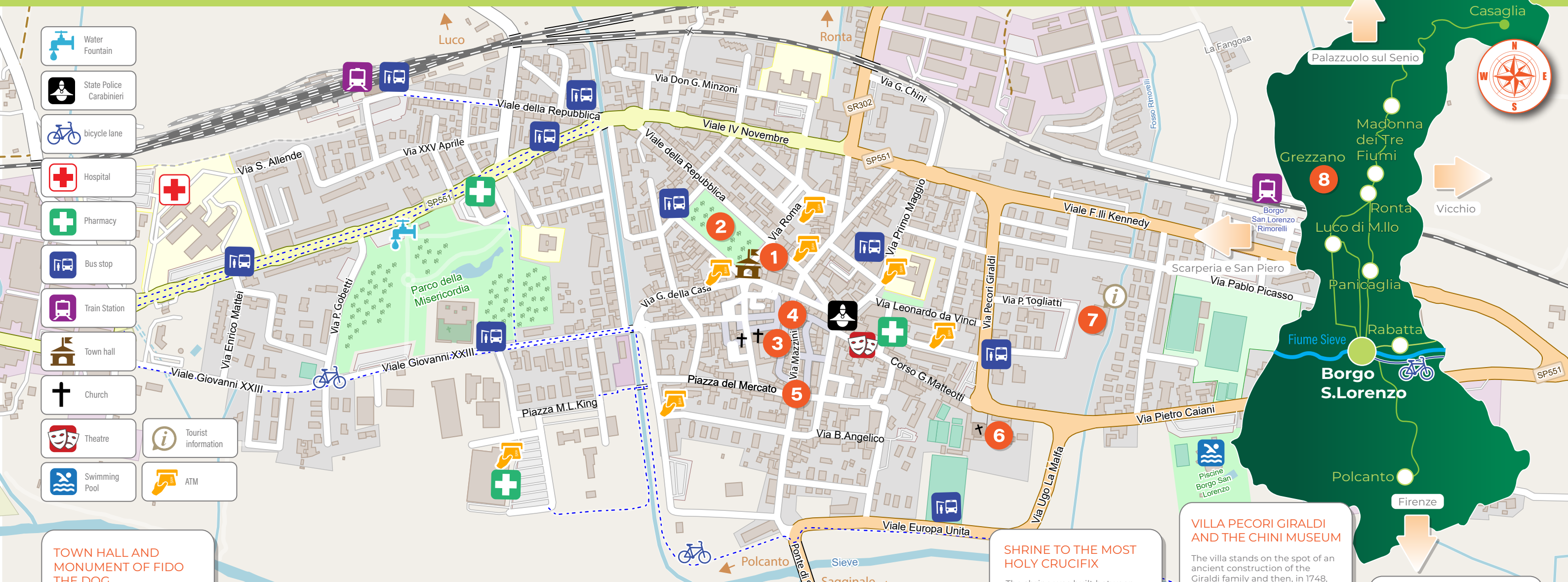
## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The original nucleus of the town was formed around an Ubaldinian courtyard, which towards the first half of the tenth century came partly under the dominion of the Florentine bishops to whom it rebelled in 1273. A theatre of struggles between Guelphs and Ghibellines, it faithfully followed Florence's alternating fortunes. In 1351, the walls were built, of which there are now few remains and two doors. In the Grand Duchy period, it was modernised but later damaged by the 1919 earthquake and the 1943 bombings.

## USEFUL INFORMATION

Hospital: 055 84511  
Medical services: 0573 454545  
State Police (Carabinieri): 055 845 3900  
Local police (Polizia Municipale): 055 845 7086  
Tourist Office: 055 845 6230 – 055 845 27185/6  
Borgo San Lorenzo pro-site (proloco):  
[www.prolocoborgosanlorenzo.it](http://www.prolocoborgosanlorenzo.it)

Medical emergency  
**118**  
Police emergency  
**112**



### TOWN HALL AND MONUMENT OF FIDO THE DOG

The town hall was built between 1926-1931 upon a project by A. Lorini and Tito Chini. Its interior is characterised by decoration, ornamentation, frescoes and glass windows in the typical Chiniianian style. On the first floor, the fresco of St. Lawrence stands out in the room across from the Mayor's office. To the right of the building is the monument of Fido the Dog (Salvatore Cipolla, 1957), the symbol of the loyalty of a dog from Luco di Mugello, who became famous for having waited at the bus stop around 14 years for his beloved owner to return.

### DANTE'S SQUARE AND THE MONUMENT OF THE FALLEN

In front of the town hall, Dante's Square hosts the public gardens, at the centre of which is the monument of Borgo San Lorenzo's fallen soldiers of the Great War, commissioned by Count Pecori Giraldi to the Mugellan sculptor Giorgio Rossi (1926-1927).

### PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE

It is the largest of the Florentine county's Romanesque buildings, built before the year 1000. It was enlarged in 1263, around which year the bell tower with its irregular hexagonal footprint also seems to date. The parish church hosts in its presbytery the Madonna on a panel attributed to Giotto, which is the only work of the great artist from Vicchio that is present in the Mugello.

### THE CLOCK DOOR (OR TOWER)

Situated in Piazza Cavour, it was most likely part of the old castle's defence fortifications even before the fourteenth-century walls were built. Here, the first public clock was placed, as a 1503 map preserved in St. Catherine's Monastery can attest. A small fourteenth-century loggia is recognisable on the left-hand side of the tower, on whose elegant octagonal columns rests a cross vault.

### FLORENTINE DOOR

The Florentine Door is found in via Mazzini (also known as Malacoda) and connected to the Mirradi Door, which has now disappeared. Built with stones from the river, it is 30 fathoms high and supported by a large round arch made of sandstone. Damaged during the 1919 earthquake, it preserved until a few decades ago the Guelph battlements. It was restored by the local government in 1997.

### SHRINE TO THE MOST HOLY CRUCIFIX

The shrine was built between 1714 and 1743 by the Florentine architect Girolamo Ticciati to host a painted wooden crucifix, attributed to the school of Giovanni Pisano (XIV century), left here in 1400 by several German pilgrims fleeing the plague. Hosted in a deep recess above the high altar, it is concealed by a large canvas by Giuseppe Bezzuoli (1837) depicting the consoling angel that brings peace to the population of Borgo hit by the earthquake in 1835. The parish was rebuilt in its current formation following the second earthquake in 1919. The interior has the structure of a Greek cross, coated in precious marble.

### VILLA PECORI GIRALDI AND THE CHINI MUSEUM

The villa stands on the spot of an ancient construction of the Giraldi family and then, in 1748, became the property of Count Antonio Pecori. The family donated the building to the Borgo San Lorenzo council in 1979. The façade is typical of the Renaissance, while the interior decoration, including the Chini Museum, are testament to the Liberty style that the Chini family brought to the Mugello. Inside, the villa hosts: the Chini Museum with a collection dedicated to the artistic history of Galileo Chini and his family; the Chini contemporary: an exhibition space dedicated to contemporary art and visual languages – the Children's Museum with 7 rooms dedicated to the little ones.

### HOUSE OF ERCI COUNTRY CIVILISATION MUSEUM

The old farmhouse, immersed in the green Mugellan hills, is today a museum and laboratory in which the memory of the ancient country world of the Tuscan-Romagna Apennines is preserved and valorised. The museum is the result of the profound passion and constant commitment of the volunteers from the Erci Group, who for almost forty years work to ensure that the history, values and knowledge of the territory and its people are not lost.

