



What is Lanfranchi Palace Museum



Lanfranchi Palace Museum

Lanfranchi Palace Museum is an important museum in **Matera**.

Matera is a very beautiful and important city in **Basilicata**.

Basilicata is the name of the Italian **region** where Matera is located.

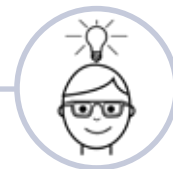
A region is a part of Italy. There are 20 regions in Italy.



Lanfranchi Palace Museum is part of the **National Museums of Matera**.

Two more museums are part of the National Museums of Matera:

- **Ridola Museum**
- the **Former San Rocco Hospital**.



Find out what are the National Museums of Matera on page 33



Ridola Museum



Former San Rocco Hospital



Inside Lanfranchi Palace Museum there are many paintings.

At Lanfranchi Palace Museum you can see:

- artworks of a very long time ago
- artworks of a long time ago
- artworks of a short time ago.

The artworks of a short time ago are called **contemporary artworks**.

The paintings are shown in some of the halls on **Ground floor and Floor 1**.

Inside the palace there are:

- the **halls of Sacred Art**

Sacred Art is the religious art.

Here you can see artworks that show you the lives of Jesus Christ and the saints.



- The **halls of the collection of Camillo d'Errico**.

Here you can see the paintings of the **collection** of Camillo d'Errico.

A collection is the set of objects or artworks that someone keeps at home to watch and study them.

Camillo d'Errico was a man who loved artworks.



- The **halls with the artworks by Luigi Guerricchio**.

Here you can see the paintings by Luigi Guerricchio.

Luigi Guerricchio is a painter of a short time ago.



- The **halls with the artworks by Carlo Levi**.

Here you can see the paintings by Carlo Levi.

Carlo Levi is a painter of a short time ago.





What are the National Museums of Matera



The **National Museums of Matera** are new,
and they are formed by:

- Ridola Museum
- Palazzo Lanfranchi
- the Former San Rocco Hospital.

The National Museums of Matera talk about the history
of **Basilicata**.



Un caro giovane, tutto cuore, tutto impegno,
tutta svegliezza, e la cui dolce compagnia
mi ha fatto più forte la mia dimora.

A dear young man, all heart, all openness,
all goodness, and whose sweet company
made my home happier.

in occasione dell'inaugurazione del
Museo di Storia e Geografia

The history of Lanfranchi Palace Museum



A very long time ago Lanfranchi Palace was a **seminary**. _____

A seminary is the school of priests.

Vincenzo Lanfranchi had this palace built.

Vincenzo Lanfranchi was the **bishop** of Matera.

A bishop is the head of the **Christians** of a city.

Christians are the persons who pray to Jesus Christ.



People from Matera called this place Lanfranchi Palace to remember bishop Vincenzo Lanfranchi.



A long time later, the seminary was moved to the **Cathedral** of Matera. The Cathedral is the most important church in the city.

Some time later, Lanfranchi Palace became a school open to everybody.

Many important persons studied or taught at this school, like **Giovanni Pascoli**.

Giovanni Pascoli is a very famous **poet**.

A poet is someone who writes **poems**.

A poem is a set of very beautiful words.

A poem can talk about:

- Emotions like love, joy or sadness
- Important things that happen to someone
- Important people or those you love.

When they closed the school, Lanfranchi Palace became a museum.

The history of Matera



Matera is a very beautiful and important city in Basilicata





Matera is famous because a very long time ago many people used to live in houses dug into **tuff**.

Tuff is a stone that is easy to cut.



Those houses were like **caves** and had few rooms.

A cave is a big hole in the rock.



A long time ago the land near Matera became dry and plants couldn't grow well anymore.

Then **farmers** became very poor and started digging their houses into tuff.

Farmers are the people who cultivate the land.

To cultivate means to plant plants to grow fruit, vegetables and **cereals**.

Cereals are used to make bread.

In Matera there are many houses dug into tuff.

They are divided into 2 **neighbourhoods**:

- the **Sasso Barisano**
- the **Sasso Caveoso**.

A neighbourhood is a part of the city.

Those neighbourhoods are called **Sassi**

because houses were all dug into tuff there.

Sassi means stones.



Besides the caves where farmers lived, in Matera there were

- the caves where people made bread
- the caves where people went to pray.

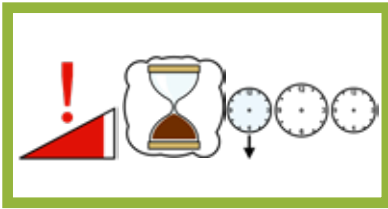
Today in Matera people don't live in the caves anymore.

Those caves are very important though, because when you visit them you can understand how the houses of the farmers were like.

Today many people visit Matera and its Sassi.



A very long time ago



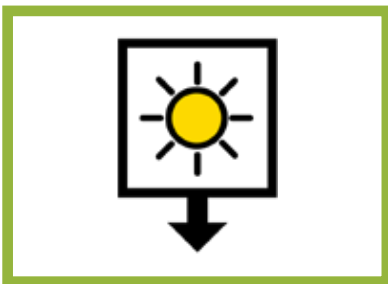
Many farmers lived in Matera.



The farmers have become poor because the land was dry and there was little food.



The poor farmers made their houses in the Sassi of Matera.



Today



Today farmers don't live in the Sassi anymore. Many tourists go to Matera to see the Sassi.