VAT Most stores participate in the Value Added Tax program in which Non-European citizens may be entitled to reclaim a portion or all of the taxes paid (depending on the total purchase price). It is your responsibility to inquire as to whether or not the store participates in VAT refund program if the purchase qualifies for a refund.

Global BLUE Shop where you see this Global Blue - Tax Free Shopping sign and ask for your tax refund receipt. To qualify, there are minimum amounts, per store, per day, so please ask the retailer for details. Show your purchases and Global Blue receipts to Customs officials when leaving the EU. Have your Global checks stamped and collect your cash at the Global Blue cash refund office.



### la Rinascente

Genova, Via E. Vernazza 1

The ultimate spot for shopping leisure. The most prestigious brands in men's, women's and children's fashion. Accessories, underwear, cosmetics and homeware in a high class shopping experience with a perfect mix of quality and variety. The shop is a short distance from the most picturesque places in the city. Show this map at la Rinascente store in Genová to receive 10% off



# *la*Rinascente

Milano, piazza Duomo

The Milano shop is in piazza Duomo, just a ston throw from the Cathedral. Here you'll find floors featuring an elegant and contemporary fl throw from the Cathedral. Here you'll find 10 floors featuring an elegant and contemporary flair with the widest range of exclusive brands under one roof in town. A great selection of prestigious brands in men's, women's and children's tashion, accessories, underwear, cosmetics, design and nomeware. And when you are dropping from shopping, go up to the 7th floor and find a gournet area with bars, restaurants and a food market. Show this map at la Rinascente store in Milan to receive 10% off \* on your purchases.





Look for this sign or flag in all of our preferred shops.

Beware of "similar" signs at store fronts.

If the store is not mentioned on this map, then the store is not part of our

PORT EXPLORER & SHOPPING MAP GUARANTEE Shop with confidence as all the merchants on our Preferred Shopping Program have been carefully selected and that each offers a 60 day guarantee to our cruise line guests. This guarantee is for repairs and exchanges. Please note the following conditions apply to the guarantee: Guest negligence or buyer's regret is excluded. Price paid for merchandise or verbal claims/agreements between merchant and guests will not be grounds for returns. Only jewelry appraisals from gem laboratories or independent graduate gemologist appraisers not affiliated with jewelry retailer, or rug appraisals from certified non-commercial carpet experts will be considered for valuation claims. Watches and other brand merchandise may not be returned as they carry International brand warranties. Guests are responsible for all postage returns and appraisal fees.

Please contact us at Europeshopping@rccl.com if any queries arise after your purchase from our preferred shops on shore. We will do our best to facilitate a solution on your behalf.

This information has been compiled for the convenience of our guests and is intended solely for that purpose. While we work to ensure that the information contained berein is correct, we cannot accent responsibility for any changes that may have taken place since printing

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# Genoa, Italy

### PORT EXPLORER and SHOPPING GUIDE

**GENERAL INFORMATION** Genoa, located on the northwestern coast of Italy, is the capital of the Liguria region. Nestled between the Gulf of Genoa and the base of the Apennines mountains, the city is one of the largest in Europe with approximately 700,000 inhabitants. This international port of call is the principle seaport for Italy and is a commercial and industrial center. In 2004, Genoa was proclaimed the European Capital of Culture.

Genoa has always been a port city above all else and has a special connection to the sea. This is the birthplace of Christopher Columbus and home to the powerful merchant traders and ruling Doges. The wealth accumulated from centuries of maritime trade is reflected in architecture throughout the city. Surrounded by walls built to protect from raiding pirates, Genoa has many Baroque churches, frescoed palaces, and beautiful plazas built during the height of its mercantile empire. The symbol of the city itself, the Lanterna Lighthouse mirrors the special relationship Genoa has with shipping and the sea.

Modern Genoa is a city of contrast where modest homes stand next to magnificent palaces. The maze of alleyways of the historic old quarter is a world apart from the futuristic aquarium. Genoa is a city evolving and taking great care to preserve its historic heritage.

**SHORE EXCURSIONS** To make the most of your visit to Genoa and surrounding areas we suggest you take one of our organized Shore Excursions. For Information concerning tour content and pricing, consult your Shore Excursion Brochure or contact the Shore Excursion Desk. When going ashore, be advised to take with you only necessary items and secure any valuables onboard.

**LOCAL CUSTOMS** Bargaining: Most items have fixed prices, but it may be possible to get a discount on a large purchase. It is normal to bargain at markets, except for food items.

Tipping: Generally a 10% service charge is added to restaurant bills, however, as this amount doesn't all go to the waiter, it is normal to offer a 5% tip to the waiter in addition to any service charge. For taxi drivers, a 5-10% tip is acceptable.

**LOCAL CUISINE AND DRINK SPECIALTIES** Pasta is most widely associated with Italian cuisine and there are many types as well as sauces to accompany them. The signature dish of Liguria is Pesto, a simple sauce consisting of basil, garlic, pine nuts and pecorino. Seafood is found regularly on Genoese tables. Focaccia flat bread is a local specialty and can be topped with cheese, olives

Throughout Italy there can be found many coffee bars, often without seating, where Espresso or Capuccino are the thing to drink. Chianti is a popular wine of Italy, but each region produces a number of very good quality wines. Bottled water is recommended.

**LOCAL CURRENCY** The unit of currency in this port of call is the euro. Most stores accept major credit cards.

POST OFFICE AND TELEPHONE FACILITIES There is a Post Office available at the pier where one can purchase stamps, postcards and phone cards. There are also phone cabins available, working either with phone cards or coins. The main Post Office in Genoa is located off Piazza De Ferrari.

**TOURIST INFORMATION** The main Tourist Office is located at the Porto Antico. Additional offices are located at the train station. Stazione Principe and at Stazione Marittima near the cruise termi-

**TRANSPORTATION** A few taxis will be available at the pier. It is important to negotiate a fare before departing. Some taxi drivers may accept U.S. dollars.

There are two principle train stations, Stazione Principe and Stazione Brignole. Train service in Italy is reliable and relatively inexpensive. The old guarter is best discovered on foot. However, please take note that Genoa is built on hills.

#### **USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES**

No • No Good Day • Buon Giorno Good -bye • Arrivedderci Thank-you • Grazie You're Welcome • Prego







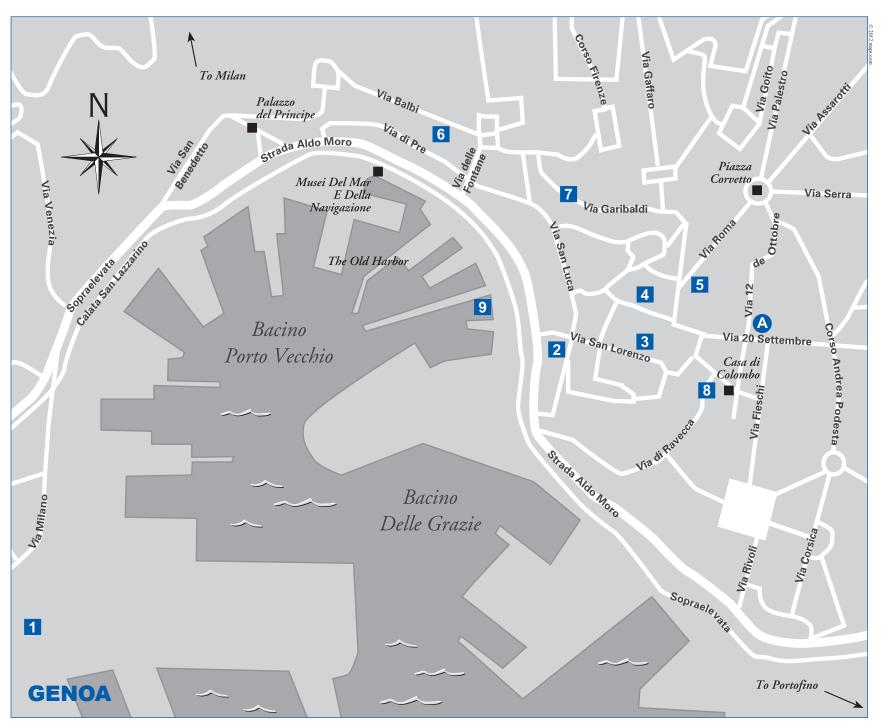






## The SIGHTS and SHOPPING of GENOA and MILAN

- The **LANTERNA** is a lighthouse that was constructed on a rock outcropping in the harbor in the 1500's and has since become the symbol of the city. Standing at approximately 360 feet high, its light can be seen as far as 40 miles away.
- 2 CATHEDRAL OF SAN LORENZO is probably the most notable of the medieval churches in the city. Constructed in the 12th century, the present edifice was built upon the foundation of an earlier structure. The dome and bell tower were added later. Built in Pisan style, the cathedral is famous for its black and white marble that decorates the exterior. The Cathedral contains the chapel housing the bones of St. John the Baptist.
- PALAZZO DUCALE with its neoclassical façade was the seat of the first Genoese Doge and the site of the Government of the Republic of Genoa for centuries. This elaborate palace has been painstakingly restored to its original splendor. Today it is host to concerts, exhibitions and cultural events.
- 4 PIAZZA S. MATTEO, located near Palazzo Ducale is one of Genoa's most beautiful squares. On the small piazza are former Doria family palaces and the Church of San Matteo. Built in 1125, the church has an alternating black and white marble façade and contains the tomb and sword of Italian admiral and statesman Andrea Doria.
- 5 PIAZZA DE FERRARI is the location of the Opera Theatre Carlo Felice and the 13th century Palazo Ducale. Once the residence of the Genoese Doges, the Palazzo is adorned with fountains, statues and frescoes by Corlone and Tiepolo. Piazza De Ferrari is close to one of the main shopping areas
- GALLERIA NAZIONALE DI PALAZZO REALE is an enormous structure that is one of the most important examples of a stately home in Genoa. Formerly a royal palace, it is know home to a gallery featuring the works of Tintoretto and Van Dyck. The rooms are richly decorated and many contain original furniture. The Mirror Room is modeled after the Hall of Mirrors at Versailles.
- VIA GARIBALDI was once known as the "Golden Road" because of the elegant residences constructed on this street by the city's wealthiest merchant families. Many of the opulent mansions are now home to museums and art galleries. Most notable of which are the red and white palaces and Town Hall. Within the historic Town Hall valuable artifacts such as Paganini's violin and Columbus' manuscripts are kept.
- **PORTA SOPRANA** was once the main entrance for the city. The huge arched gateway has two towers and was constructed in the 12th century as part of Genoa's defenses.
- **GENOA AQUARIUM** is one of the largest of its kind. The modern structure offers the opportunity to discover a rich world of marine life. Natural environments from all over the world are accurately reproduced in vast tanks. Sharks, seals, dolphins, penguins and fish of all shapes and colors can be found at the unique facility.



### **Beyond Genoa**

**CARIGNANO HILL** overlooks the city and provides panoramic views of Genoa and the coastline.

**PORTOFINO** is a fashionable storybook town known for its charming streets, villas of the rich and famous and picturesque bay. Its calm green waters attract luxurious yachts and in the Piazzetta, people like to sit and chat at the many cafe tables. Portofino has exclusive boutiques, a decorative square, colorful homes and it is a great place to relax and watch the world go by.

**SANTA MARGHERITA** is linked to Portofino by one of the most attractive winding roads along the coast. The town has a bustling harbor and seaside esplanade with cafes, bars and restaurants. The beach at Santa Margherita is one of the most popular on the Italian Riviera.

**RAPALLO** located south of Portofino, overlooks the Gulf of Tiguillio and is known for its views of the ocean and surrounding hills. A famous resort town, Rapallo has year round mild weather, a 6th century Baroque Cathedral and a cable car that climbs the mountain to the 16th century sanctuary of Montallegro.

### A

### LA RINASCENTE - Via E. Vernazza, 1, Genoa

The ultimate spot for shopping leisure and the most prestigious brands in men's, women's, and children's fashions, accessories, underwear, cosmetics, and housewares. Enjoy a high class shopping experience with a perfect mix of quality and variety. La Rinascente is just a short distance from the most picturesque places in the city. Open every day; tax refund office. Show your Port Explorer and Shopping Guide to receive 10% off on your purchases. (exclusions may apply, the discount cannot be combined with other promotions.)



#### LA RINASCENTE S.P.A - Via Washington, 70 - 20146 Milano

The Milano shop is in Piazza Duomo just a stone's throw from the Cathedral. Here you'll find 10 floors featuring an elegant and contemporary flair with the widest range of exclusive brands under one roof in town. A great selection of prestigious brands in men's, women's and children's fashion accessories, underware, cosmetics, design and homeware. And when you are dropping from shopping, go up to the 7th floor and find a gourmet area with bars, restaurants and a food market. Tax Refund service. Show this map at La Rinascente store in Milan to receive 10% off on your purchases.